



In Harmony

Newsletter of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir
Number 62 Season Two July to December 2018

PATRON:

His Excellency
The Honourable Hieu Van Le AC
Governor of South Australia

VICE PATRONS:

Peter Goers OAM
Jeffrey Kong

PRESIDENT:

John Wilksch

VICE PRESIDENT:

David Turner

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

William Shaw OAM

ACCOMPANISTS:

Edward Kriek
Alex Burney (Assistant)

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR:

Colin Campbell

SECRETARY:

George Willcox
(0407 724 584)

TREASURER:

David Burney

COMMITTEE:

John Arnold
Geoff Syme

CONCERT MANAGER:

Selwyn Lipscombe

PUBLICITY:

Graham Harness

ALMONER:

Colin Styles (0418 663 495)

LIBRARIAN:

Terry Helbig

WEBMASTER:

Peter Schulze
(Peter@pkschulze.com)

LIFE MEMBERS:

Myfanwy James
Edward Kriek
Margaret Lambert
William Shaw OAM
Genty Stevens
Colin Styles
Len Turner
Denis West

Choir practices are held every
Monday from 7.30 pm to 9.45 pm
at Immanuel Lutheran Church,
139 Archer St, North Adelaide

WEB ADDRESS:

amvc.org.au

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Singing is good for you; and singing in a choir doubly so. I find it lifts your spirit and is a wonderful antidote to becoming a grumpy old man. I sometimes get annoyed at things like the ever increasing complexity of modern technology or the state of politics in our country, and a whole host of other things as well, but I never feel grumpy nor do I feel old after a choir rehearsal or a concert. "Celebrating Choral Excellence" is the motto of our choir. That's not always easy to achieve but it's ever so rewarding and uplifting when we know we have achieved our best.

Our year began once again in an uplifting way with three (one more than last year) highly successful Fringe Festival concerts, singing the music of Gilbert and Sullivan operas. The first two were at St. Stephen's Lutheran Hall in the city on March 3 and 9, and the third at the Unley Town Hall on March 11. Andrew Turner joined us as soloist.

On April 20 we went to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital where we performed some favourite numbers to passersby at a lunchtime concert in the foyer. Several days later we sang at the Anzac Day Commemoration at the Cross of Sacrifice alongside the Women with Latitude choir and accompanied by the Australian Army Band - Adelaide.

At the beginning of the year we had three new members join us, and some more subsequently as a result of our "Bring a Friend Night" on April 30. This is wonderful and we welcome these brothers into our midst, but we still need to continue publicising and inviting others to join us.

Unlike last year when at the Annual General Meeting many changes took place in the membership of the Committee, at this year's meeting on March 19 the status quo largely prevailed. The President (yours truly), Secretary (George Willcox), Treasurer (David Burney), along with Committee members Geoff Syme and David Turner were re-elected, while John Arnold and Selwyn Lipscombe continued in their two year term. Re-elected also were Concert Manager Selwyn Lipscombe, Librarian Terry Helbig and Almoner Colin Styles. The committee position of Publicity Officer was left vacant but an AMVC Friend, Graham Harness, subsequently agreed to take up the position vacated by Stephen Wilson. Graham is a music-lover and retired secondary school-teacher with communication skills. Our Webmaster Peter Schulze will be mentoring Christian Pollnitz in relation to all matters to do with the AMVC web page.

Currently we are in the final stages of rehearsal for our "Music from Heaven" concert with guest choir Illumina Voices at Burnside City Uniting Church on June 3 (see page 3). We are also looking forward to an enjoyable social evening with family and friends at our Mid-Year Dinner on June 8 (see page 3). A feature of the second half of the year will be a joint concert with the Victorian Welsh Male Choir at Burnside City Uniting Church on September 14 (see page 2). When looking to the future, put the date of Saturday December 1 in your diary for our end of year Christmas Dinner (see page 3).

John Wilksch

Introducing **Don Orchard**, a valued member of the Choir's Second Tenor Section. Don was born on 30 December 1934 at the then Blackwood Hospital, the third child of first generation South Australians.

"I attended Mitcham Primary School and Unley High School before Adelaide University where I studied Civil Engineering full time and then Economics part time.

In early 1956, I joined the Engineering and Water Supply Department (now SA Water) as a base grade Engineer. After spending 18 months in the Drawing Office, I moved to field construction, operations and maintenance work, initially based in Adelaide, but subsequently with periods based at Mt Gambier, Port Lincoln, Crystal Brook and Robertstown. I returned to the city in 1969 and worked at more senior levels before moving to the SA Treasury in 1979.

In Treasury I was responsible for providing analysis and priorities for the State's Capital Works Program. I retired from that position in 1993.

Just before moving to Port Lincoln in 1965, I met Jenny in Adelaide. Courting her from 650 km away was not an easy task – my car worked overtime on many weekends – but the effort proved to be successful. We married in February 1967, by which time I was based at Robertstown, a very small country town, and a big shock to a city girl. Nevertheless she coped well, and the first of our three daughters had arrived by the time we moved back to the city in 1969. A house in Wattle Park became our family home until we moved to Living Choice Fullarton in 2015. By then our three girls were long since married and we now have 6 grandchildren.

My musical life began when I was about 7, with my mother ensuring that I learn to play the piano. While reasonably proficient at junior levels, I stopped playing at age 15 when the required hours of practice conflicted with my studies. I never considered resuming the piano in later life, but in 1983 I was heard to mutter that "I reckon I could nut out a hymn on a harmonium" when we lost our church organist. This led to me becoming the organist/choirmaster of a small Anglican church in Kensington Gardens, a post that I held for 30 years. By 2013, however, my arthritic fingers were telling me that it was more that time to give the playing away.

My singing experiences began at primary school with, of course, "The Song of Australia", something that all school children in SA got to know. Before High School I also spent 2 years in the Adelaide Boys' choir. During my 5 years at High School I sang in both the school choir and the annual school opera program.



Thus, by the end of my school years, I had a great love of classical music, and especially of choral works. However study and work pressures meant that I had little time to sing other than in local church choirs, and that came to a stop when I left Port Lincoln. Then in 1979 a choir was formed at our church at Kensington Gardens, and we affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM, SA Branch). This led to singing at annual festivals and with other church choirs when not on organ duties. I am still a member of that organisation.

Last year, following some years of "Singing your own Messiah" at Coriole winery, I was talked into joining in the "Big Sing" for the Mozart Requiem. Regular practice for that performance restored some (but not all) of my "lost" top notes. Thus when Denis Harper suggested that I join AMVC, I thought "Why not", and here I am. I'm having a ball!"

The Welsh are crossing the border and we'll sing them a welcome!

We are looking forward to a visit later this year from the Victorian Welsh Male Choir, who will be our Guest Choir at an AMVC concert:

On Friday evening 14 September at 7.30 pm
At Burnside City Uniting Church, 384 Portrush Road, Burnside
Tickets: \$25 / Concession \$20 / Children under 12 free
Book at amvc.org.au and follow prompts to trybooking; or through George on 0407 724 584; or from Choir members; or at the door

Please note this special concert in your diary. It will be an evening of splendid choral music and friendship, and proceeds will be donated to support Ronald McDonald House in North Adelaide. The House provides a 'Home away from Home' for the families of seriously ill children, who are being treated at the Women's and Children's Hospital, a short walk from the House.

Music from Heaven

Great songs from the sacred music repertoire

- PRESENTED BY:** The Adelaide Male Voice Choir, with guest artists Illumina Voices
- WHEN:** Sunday 3 June 2018 at 2.00 pm
- WHERE:** Burnside City Uniting Church, 384 Portrush Road, Burnside
- TICKETS:** \$25 / Concession \$20 / Children under 12 free
Available from George on 0407 724 584; or book at amvc.org.au and follow the prompts; or from Choir members; or at the door
- AFTERNOON TEA:** Our famous afternoon tea will be available at interval

Adelaide Male Voice Choir Mid-Year Dinner

A wonderful winter feast of good food, music and fun, with door prize and raffle

You are warmly invited to join us for an enjoyable evening
Make up a table (maximum of 10 persons) or we can place you with a friendly group

- WHEN:** Friday 8 June 2018 at 6.30 pm
- WHERE:** Graduates Restaurant, Regency Park TAFE Complex
(Entry from Gate 2, Days Road, Regency Park)
- COST:** \$60 per person. Includes:
Drinks during the evening (beer, wines, fruit juices and soft drinks;
please note: no BYO or other bar facilities available)
Pre-dinner canapes
3 course meal with choices
Petit fours and tea and filtered coffee
- BOOKING:** Bookings are essential. Please contact David Burney on 0416 001 402 or email burneyd@gmail.com. Payments should be made by Monday 28 May (no refunds after 28 May).
Please provide information on food allergies to David Turner on 8381 3644 or email dit@internode.on.net. by 28 May.

AMVC Christmas Entertainment and Dinner

Yes, it's time to plan ahead, as the busy year rapidly rolls on!
Here is advance notice of our very popular Christmas function, so that you can put it in your social calendar and be assured of a very enjoyable end-of-year celebration

- WHEN:** 7.00 for 7.15 pm on Saturday 1 December 2018
- WHERE:** The Junction, 470 Anzac Highway, Camden Park

Further details about booking and costs will be confirmed later, but it is sure to be a fun night with good company, great food, entertainment, and prizes. Check with a Choir member or the Choir website (amvc.org.au), to make arrangements. Bookings are essential.

Dates for Your Diary

SEASON ONE

June

Sunday 3	2.00 pm	Concert Music from Heaven	Burnside City Uniting Church 384 Portrush Rd, Burnside
Friday 8	6.30 pm	Mid-Year Dinner	See Page 3, Bookings Essential
Monday 25	7.30 pm	Last rehearsal Season One	

SEASON TWO

August

Monday 6	7.30 pm	Rehearsals resume Season Two	
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September

Saturday 1	2.00 pm	Concert for Polish Community	Brighton Secondary School Brighton Rd, Brighton
Friday 14	7.30 pm	Concert with Victorian Welsh Male Choir	Burnside City Uniting Church 384 Portrush Rd, Burnside
Sunday 23	2.00 pm	Concert for Unley Library	Unley Town Hall Unley Rd, Unley
Sunday 30	2.00 pm	Concert	Carinya Homes 39 Fisher St Myrtle Bank

October

Tuesday 9	1.00 pm	Lunchtime Concert	Flinders St Baptist Church Flinders St Adelaide
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November

Thursday 29	7.00 pm	Concert	Glynde Lutheran Homes Avenue Rd, Glynde
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December

Saturday 1	7.00 for 7.15pm	Christmas Dinner	See Page 3; Bookings Essential
Wednesday 5	7.30 pm	Christmas Carols	Mary Potter Hospice Calvary Hospital, Nth Adelaide
Tuesday 11	7.00 pm	Christmas Carols	Hope Valley Lutheran Homes Grand Junction Rd, Hope Valley

These details are accurate at the time of printing, but sometimes dates and venues have to be changed because of unavoidable circumstances. Further concerts and events will be announced as arrangements are confirmed. Please go to our website (amvc.org.au) or ask a member of the Choir.

AMVC donation to Australian Craniofacial Unit Women's and Children's Hospital

The Choir, in keeping with its long history of raising funds for charity, presented a Benefit Concert in November last year for the Australian Craniofacial Unit. Our President John Wilksch, Director of Music Bill Shaw and Concert Manager Selwyn Lipscombe recently presented the donation cheque to Professor David David. Peter Schulze was also present and took photographs to record the presentation.

The highly-developed surgical skills of Professor David and his team have transformed the lives of many patients since the Unit was established in 1975. Thank you to our AMVC Friends who attended the Benefit Concert and enabled us to make a contribution to support the fine work undertaken at the Unit.

