

In Harmony

Newsletter of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir Number 68 Season Two July to Dec 2023

PATRON: Rod Bunten

VICE PATRONS:

Peter Goers OAM Jeffrey Kong

PRESIDENT:
Peter Schulze

VICE PRESIDENT: Selwyn Lipscombe

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

William Shaw OAM

ACCOMPANISTS:

Edward Kriek Alex Burney (Assistant)

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR:

Nikolai Leske

SECRETARY: Keith Gooley

TREASURER: David Burney

David Burney

COMMITTEE: David Egarr Gerry King Alf Martin

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David Evans
Myfanwy James
Edward Kriek
Margaret Lambert
Christian Pollnitz
William Shaw OAM
Genty Stevens
Colin Styles
Len Turner
John Wear
Denis West

Choir practices are held every Monday from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 139 Archer St, North Adelaide

WEB ADDRESS: amvc.org.au

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a pleasure not to have to deal with Covid 19 restrictions this year!

We began our performance year with three Adelaide Fringe concerts "A Touch of Nostalgia and Romance" at Unley Town Hall, Walkerville Town Hall and Seeds Uniting Church, Aberfoyle Park. All venues were very well patronised and the concerts much appreciated. It was a pleasure to have Thomas Keogh, saxophonist, with us as guest artist.

We have been very pleased to welcome several new faces to our choir this year, and we hope they are enjoying the experience. Jacob Fabich is back again, after being away "on vicarage" for a period, and we are delighted to see him. The Octet has continued rehearsing and performing this year, adding variety to our presentations.

In March our AGM thanked retiring committee member John Arnold for his valuable service to the committee and welcomed David Egarr as a new member. We had great pleasure in presenting Christian Pollnitz with a Life Membership of the choir. Congratulations Christian!

The AMVC was once again asked to sing at the Cross of Sacrifice service on Anzac Day. The weather was kind and there was a good turnout of military and civilians.

At the invitation of one of our Vice Patrons Jeffrey Kong, Music Director at St August-ine's Anglican Church in Unley, the choir participated in a fund-raising concert in May for the Church's Stained Glass Windows and Organ Appeal. It was a delight to be part of a concert featuring such a variety of instrumental and vocal performances.

Our much-anticipated SA History Festival concert "Sailors, Settlers and their Songs" at the Maritime Museum in May was sold out in a very short time. Once again our members dressed the part in stripes, an assortment of headgear and the odd jug or glass (empty of course). We were pleased to have our Patron, Rod Bunten, take on an extra role with the choir for this concert—that of chorister. He joined the choir in the bass section and rehearsed and sang with us at the Maritime Museum.

On 10 June we participated in a concert at St Oswald's Anglican Church, Parkside and had the pleasure of hearing performances by some of the talented musicians of that parish. We were already acquainted with two of them, Kirsty Henning and Ted Flaherty, because they had rehearsed with the choir beforehand, providing whistle and guitar accompaniment to our segment of sailor and settler songs. Kirsty and Ted kindly travelled to Victor Harbor on the following weekend, when we repeated that segment as part of our concert in historic Newland Uniting Church to a warmly appreciative audience.

Season One ended with our very enjoyable midyear opera dinner at the TAFE Graduates Restaurant on 29 June. Thanks so much to Gerry King for his

hard work in organising this event, and special thanks to our guest artists Joanna McWaters and Andrew Turner for their very entertaining performances.

Season Two promises to be just as enjoyable, so check pages 3 and 4 of this Newsletter, as well as our website for further information as it becomes available.

Peter Schulze



Introducing Gwilym Henry-Edwards from the First Tenor section

"11th January 1947 in England was not a nice day. Amidst the wreckage of World War II, record-breaking blizzards and storms swept the country, high tides inundated coastal towns, and travel was impossible. I chose, of course, to be born in the middle of it, in Manchester.

Two years later, my father, a teacher, paid his ten pounds and we embarked on the old troop ship Asturias, bound for Australia, arriving in August 1949. Little did I know it, but my adventures had just begun. After a few years in Portland, Victoria, where my brother was born, we moved to Adelaide. I can remember Dad driving very carefully between blazing branches, as the bushfires surrounded us. Unaware of the danger, I was quite happy to watch the flames.

In Adelaide we settled in the foothills of Mitcham where my brother and sister and I explored Brownhill Creek and the National Park. I followed my father into his career as a teacher but this was not to be my profession. I tried surveying next, my mother's father's career, and this introduced me to the awe-inspiring beauty of Central Australia.

At this time, 1975, I met Sue and married with triumphal music starting with Mussorgsky - the Promenade from Pictures at an Exhibition, then the combined University Choral Societies sang Vaughan Williams "Let all the world", Mozart's "Exultate Deo" and finally, for the procession, Handel's "Zadok the Priest"! It was wonderful fun!

I hoped to settle down, but our adventures continued. I spent three years surveying in Papua New Guinea, where our eldest son was born and where I felt the first inklings of a vocation to ministry in the church.

Then we returned to Adelaide where we had bought our "for ever" house (so we thought!). Again I found myself surveying in Central Australia, a place of deep mysterious spirituality. It was there that I began to explore my vocation seriously. The next step was Selection Conference, study at the Anglican Theological College, St Barnabas', at Belair, and then ordination in 1989. So much for a settled life!

Life as a parish priest is never dull. After two years at St Columba's Hawthorn, I spent four years in Parafield Gardens, nine years in Henley Beach, and twelve years in Enmore, NSW.

Then the ordinances of the church required me to retire, and Sue and I returned to Adelaide. Only to be nabbed as Parish Priest for Port Adelaide. I retired again and tried to settle as a parishioner at St Bede's Semaphore. Then the parish priest took a position in Brisbane, and I started work again. Next time I'll hide myself more thoroughly!

My singing career followed me. First in Flinders University Choral Society, then The Port Moresby Choral Society, then the Jubilate Choir in Sydney, Quire St Nicolas in Adelaide, and now AMVC. Interestingly I began my career as a Bass, was promoted to Tenor in Sydney, and now I find myself as a First Tenor. I think that is about as high as I can go!

Two of our children inherited the adventurous gene. Aneurin, our elder son moved to the Netherlands, married, and now has two little boys. Our daughter Gaynor settled in the UK with her partner. However, our younger son, Rhodri and his family remained in Adelaide."







Singing into Spring!

Springtime is almost here, so it's time for some PSA concerts. PSA? That means Pleasant Sunday Afternoon!

Some of our Choir Friends may have memories from their childhood days of the family strolling after Sunday lunch to the park or foreshore where a band was giving a concert in the rotunda, or else going to the local church hall or workers' institute to hear a performance by a choir and soloists.

Life was less hectic then — people worked hard during the week, but Sundays were reserved for relaxation and renewal. Over time, the concept of the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Concert tended to fade a little, as work life became more demanding and as entertainment became more technology-based.

In 1985, when Bill Shaw took on the role of Music Director and Conductor of the Adelaide Glee Club (as the Choir was known at that time), he reinstated the concept of the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon concert, and also reinforced its purpose as a fund-raising event in support of community projects and charities. He also expanded the concept of guest performers at the concerts, featuring some of his talented students from the Special Interest Music Centre at Woodville High School, as well as students from other music schools and the Elder Conservatorium and young performers from State Opera and other music companies.

One of our Vice Patrons, the media personality and SA icon Peter Goers, wrote appreciatively in his *Sunday Mail* column back in September 2012 about the pleasure of attending just such a PSA concert by "the excellent and venerable Adelaide Male Voice Choir". He shared some nostalgic, as well as humorous, memories about his childhood Sundays "before we became so busy being busy".

Well, we're all happy to know that the PSA concert is alive and flourishing! The AMVC has planned four very enjoyable springtime concerts for you, with special guest soloists at each concert. We look forward to seeing you.

Please see page 4 of this Newsletter for details about this series of Pleasant Sunday Afternoon concerts, as well as other performances and events.

Advance notice of a combined choirs gala concert:

"Voices of Adelaide 2023"

Adelaide Male Voice Choir Festival Statesmen Metropolitan Male Choir

Sunday 29 October 2023 at 3.30pm Norwood Concert Hall 175 The Parade, Norwood

Please note: Information about ticket prices and booking arrangements will be available on the AMVC website (amvc.org.au), when details are finalized.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY — SEASON TWO 2023

August			
Monday 7	7.30 pm	Rehearsals resume	Immanuel Church 139Archer Street, North Adelaide
September			
Sunday 17	2.00 pm	Springtime Concert Guest Soloist: Jessica Dean (Soprano)	Fullarton Community Centre 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton
October			
Sunday 15	2.00 pm	Springtime Concert Guest Soloist: Jacob Fabich (Pianist)	Morialta Uniting Church 26 Chapel Street, Magill
Sunday 29	3.30 pm	Gala Concert Combined Choirs	Norwood Concert Hall 175 The Parade, Norwood
November			
Sunday 12	2.00 pm	Springtime Concert Guest Soloist: Marco Callisto (Organis	St Bede's Anglican Church 200 Military Road, Semaphore st)
Sunday 19	2.00 pm	Springtime Concert Guest Soloist: Jeffrey Kong (Pianist)	Brighton Church of Christ 65 Sturt Road, Brighton
December			
Wednesday 6	7.00 pm	Mary Potter Loving Tree Christmas Carols	St Francis Xavier Cathedral Wakefield Street, Adelaide
Monday 11	7.30 pm	Final Rehearsal for Season 2	Immanuel Lutheran Church 139 Archer Street, North Adelaide
Tuesday 12	7.00 pm	Carols Service	Hope Valley Lutheran Homes 1215 Grand Junction Road, Hope Valley
Thursday 14	12.00 noon	Concert by Octet for BREIF Club Christmas Lunch	Arkaba Hotel Fullarton Road, Fullarton

Information will be available soon about the AMVC Christmas Dinner, which is always a most enjoyable social and musical event.

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.