
MetNews

News of the Metropolitan Male Choir for choir members

April 2010

There have been many editions of MetNotes recently but it has been over a year since we put together a MetNews just for our choir members. So here goes

A Message from the President

We are now coming up to our busy times of the year and after plenty of practice with new and old pieces it is time to show our wares in several performances.

May will be a very busy month for us, with two community events, the Hymns for Africa and our annual Royal Adelaide Hospital Open week performance. Both these events fulfil our charter of being a Community choir as well as a performing choir. We are also singing at a PSA at Noarlunga, an outer metropolitan venue that we have not previously visited. Again, bringing the Choir to a new audience in Adelaide.

To finish off the month, will be our regular Capri Cinema choir, organ and film afternoon, which in the past has been a great fundraiser for the Choir. Thanks again to John Brimson for organising the event this year. It is now up to all of us to sell those tickets to make the afternoon a success.

In June, we again visit the Yorke Peninsula. This time to Minlaton and we need a large choir to support the local Aged Care facility and to entertain our audience. As we know, our country audiences are always most appreciative of us coming to their community. Neil Forrest is putting in a lot of time to ensure that the concert is a success.

Your Committee is always planning ahead to ensure that we have an ongoing concert program and 2011 will see us singing again at the Moonta Mines Church Heritage Service in May and later in the year, probably in October, at a series of concerts entitled "Out of the Square" at various venues in the Adelaide metropolitan area. As an added bonus, we may be visited by the Wanganui Male Choir, with whom we sang on the recent tour of New Zealand.

2012 is a big year for us as we will be joining other choirs from Australia and New Zealand to sing as the Australasian "Continent" in the special pre Olympic Male Voice Choir concert in London on 7th July 2012. Under Bruce Whitehead's Chairmanship, our travel committee has already begun to look at a tour of Canada, the USA, and possibly Ireland, based around the London event.

Which brings me to the question of fund raising. Over the years, we have done very well in this area with the enthusiastic support of you, the members, and your ladies, in very many fund raising activities. The Choir has been, and is, in good financial shape, but we mustn't slacken our efforts as costs are rising and we have several regular expenditure commitments, as well as looking towards subsidising those members who choose to take part in our next overseas tour. We want to keep our membership fees to a minimum, but to do this we must continually keep our fundraising efforts going. If you have any suggestions, in addition to what we do at present, please let the Committee know.

Col Barry, President

LONDON 2012

The Tour Committee is just about to get down to some serious planning for the 2012 tour. We have now received notification that the Olympic Concert in Alexandra Palace, London has been confirmed for the 7th July, 2012.

The Committee is currently considering Concert invitations from Choirs in the Toronto, Montreal and Boston areas while some opportunities in Ireland have recently come to our notice. If we use an "Around the World" ticket it may also be possible to briefly touch base with our choral spiritual home, Wales.

We have recently had discussions with Anita Patton and her parents, who are holidaying in Australia as they know eastern Canada well having lived in Toronto.

Our goal is to put a tour proposal, together with cost estimates, to the Choir Members for consideration by the middle of this year so you can start your personal planning in plenty of time.

NEW MEMBERS

It has been a pleasure to welcome several new members to the Choir this year. Although our recent advertising campaign generated a number of enquiries, none have thus far resulted in new memberships.

It is the Management Committee's intention to continue to invite people to join the Choir at our concerts and through various radio programmes, but it would seem the most effective method is, as always, the personal invitation.

The Committee urges you to be constantly on the lookout for prospective members and to use the membership cards, which are useful tools to inform people about the Choir, its web site and rehearsal times and location. They are still readily available from Bruce Whitehead and remember, when you are recruiting don't forget to mention the 2012 trip to London for the Olympic Concert! That may catch their attention.

ALMONER'S REPORT

Several of our members have their battles with ill health. In our 1st. tenor section, Rod Probert, Peter McMichael, Roger Tretheway, Bevan Williams and in particular, Ron Tiddy, all have their difficulties and we think of them all frequently.

Ted Thredgold, from the 2nd. Tenors, has been far from well and we look forward to welcoming him back into our midst. Chris. Charlesworth has made a very good recovery from heart surgery.

Two members from the 1st. Basses have returned to us--Frank Moore has had "double" knee surgery and Don Gill suffered a mini stroke.

The 2nd. Bass member on the sick list is Danny McNulty, and we wish him well as he awaits more surgery on his hip.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Scott Kessner (Darrel's son) and several Choir Wives----Edna Kaesler. Elizabeth Boundy, Trudie Reeve, Vera Williams, Margaret Grimes, Doreen Noblet, Jean Gagliadi and ESPECIALLY Gloria McKay-Smith.

We continue to have Enid Shurdington in our thoughts as she copes alone after years of devotion to Ralph.

The caring nature of this Choir was exemplified when 25 members sang at Paul White's Funeral-- it was greatly appreciated by the Family and all who attended. THANK YOU.

June Genders

My thanks to Colin Barry, Bruce Whitehead and June Genders, for their contributions to this edition of MetNews.

Bob Triggs

16 April 2010