



# OUR STORY



Celebrating  
21 years of singing



# OUR STORY

HASTINGS CHORISTERS  
1990-2011



HASTINGS  
CHORISTERS  
*'sharing the joy of song'*

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# Foreword

This book chronicles the story of Hastings Choristers from its formation in 1990 to 2010. This community organisation itself followed earlier choral activity in Port Macquarie; the Port Macquarie Choral Singers, under the direction of Frank Johnson.

As Hastings Choristers was approaching its 21st year, it seemed appropriate to document the activities of the organisation in celebration of its 'coming of age'. As you read through the pages of this book, it becomes clear just how much the choirs of Hastings Choristers have contributed to the cultural life of Port Macquarie and beyond.

Compiling this book was a formidable task. In the earlier years, as with most community groups, record keeping was secondary to survival. The organisation was fortunate to have several founding members still within its ranks who were able to corroborate earlier activities.

But it can be surely said that this book would not have eventuated had not three people accepted responsibility for steering the development from start to finish. Their contribution was enormous. They had between them personal knowledge of the organisation over the 21 years, archival skills, story-writing skills, and, as will be evident from the quality of the layout and graphics, superb computer skills. They are Anne Molver, Jenny Reeve, and Dave Johnson.

Much as it is a history of Hastings Choristers, this book is equally a testament to its Musical Director for the whole twenty-one years, Robyn Ryan. Her uninterrupted leadership and dynamism are clearly the major reasons why Hastings Choristers has triumphed.

Ian Barnard  
14 April 2011

President 2007-08, Chorister 2005-2010

# About Our Story

## Introduction

Our Story has been two and a half years in the making, with several interludes when those involved took a rest. These periods were not without benefit, as they gave us ample time to sort out, date and classify all the information we gradually received. This resulted in some rewriting at times!

The sources of information were many. Most of the minutes of committee meetings have been located and filed, together with publicity items from newspaper cuttings that people had kept, as well as concert programs, posters, flyers and any other related material.

Photographs were gathered from commercial photographers, material acquired for the Hastings Choristers own web page, snaps of rehearsals or choir parties, and concert goers.

The best of the many photographs have been incorporated into the text. Some of these, particularly from earlier years, will be of better quality than others.

One of our most difficult jobs was trying to put a date and venue on photographs, newspaper cuttings, concert programs and documents – as the year very rarely appeared on these!

## Structure of Our Story

Our Story starts with a general overview of the past twenty-one years called “Our Story so far ...”

This is followed by year-by-year descriptions of choral and social events. These descriptions include the best of the many associated photographs and programs.

The performances given by the Hastings Choristers of the twenty one years is a remarkable achievement for a community choir.

At the end of Our Story you will find a list of the concerts held each year, their venues, and the names of major works that were performed.

Finally there is a list of all recorded members, showing the year that they started with the Hastings Choristers and the year they stopped singing with us. This list was drawn from the rehearsal attendance records for each year together with names of singers in concert programs. Sadly, a number of our past members are now deceased – they are all remembered fondly.

We hope that this book will be an interesting record of the Hastings Choristers, and also a reminder to members and audiences of the enjoyment they have had over the years.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank all the collaborators in the production of this history, and the committees who have maintained faith in its viability – it has been a combined effort by many people.

My sincere thanks go to Jenny Reeve, without whom our spirits might have flagged, and who with Fae Lister and Gerry Jeffrey, helped with the planning, shared in the writing of the first drafts, and whose memories were invaluable. Also many thanks to all the choir members who searched their garages for past photographs, publicity and records. Thanks also to Dave Johnson, without whose guidance, publishing and computer skills it would not be the publication it is today.

I also thank Ian Peterson who has helped guide us through the project and funding arrangements, and to PMA Communications Group (previously Paul McCarthy Advertising) for the design of the cover and for print production management.

Anne Molver  
29 April 2011

Our Story Coordinator, Chorister 1990-2010

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# Our Story – so far ...

## Introduction

The Hastings Choristers is a community choir formed in 1990 to promote the art and practice of choral singing in the Hastings region. It has developed over the past 21 years to become a dedicated group of singers who have a wide experience of choral styles and music repertoire, and is well known and respected in the wider choral community both in NSW and nationally for excellence and good organisation.

This choir has been very important in the Hastings Region, giving great pleasure to its audiences, many of whom are regular supporters. The enchantment, joy and satisfaction of such singing can bring goose bumps and tears to the singers as well as emotional responses from members of the audience.

The choir would not be in the shape or position it is after 21 years, if it had not been for the many dedicated committees and members, and the inspiration and drive for excellence of its Musical Director over the whole period, Robyn Ryan OAM.

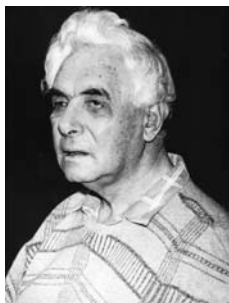
## Previous choirs and how Hastings Choristers began

Port Macquarie has a long history of choral singing.

The Port Macquarie Choral Society was formed in 1978 and officially disbanded in March 1985. In December 1984, this group joined with the Kempsey Choral Society to perform the *Messiah*, conducted by Kay Lane, in Kempsey and Port Macquarie. For this joint performance the Port Macquarie singers were rehearsed and directed by Robyn Ryan.

Frank Johnson then stepped in and directed the Port Macquarie Choral Singers in June 1985 until the end of 1989 when he retired for health reasons. The Singers performed a number of concerts in Port Macquarie and Taree, including some of Frank's own compositions.

Tony Langshaw then approached Robyn Ryan to take on the choir but she felt unable to do so due to her



Frank Johnson 1990.

workload. Tony then twisted Robyn's arm again by saying that they would share the responsibility – so she reluctantly agreed. However, Tony was promptly transferred to Sydney which left Robyn on her own!

The singers were consequently delighted when Robyn said that she was still willing to take over the position. She gave the group a new image and musical direction with the newly-named Hastings Choristers being born on 22 March 1990, drawing in singers from a wider circle.

## Incorporation, aims and objectives

The constitution for the Hastings Choristers was drawn up and adopted on 25 May 1990.

Hastings Choristers was then formally incorporated in 1992 (registered in 1997) and adopted the Department of Fair Trading Model Rules at the 2004 Annual General Meeting.

In 1996, a Hastings Choristers sub-committee clause was introduced to the rules, to allow the Hastings Youth Choirs to be run under the banner of the Hastings Choristers.

Our aim at the start of this journey was:

*"To promote and encourage the art of choral singing."*

Our objectives are:

*"To enjoy making music together, to provide our audiences with quality choral concerts covering a broad range of musical styles and periods, and to foster enthusiasm and interest in singing in young people."*

## Patrons

Patrons have been very important to the Choristers, giving them great encouragement as well as considerable support over the years.

Our first very loyal and generous patrons were Roger and Heather Dalhanty from 1991, as well as Wendy Machin during her time in the district. In 1997-8 Neville and Joy Hinds also became patrons.

Paul and Mary McCarthy became our patrons in 2005 and since that time have given us an enormous amount of help and promotional assistance, which they continue to provide.



Through their company, PMA Communications Group (PMACG – previously Paul McCarthy Advertising), they have supported us by designing and printing concert posters and programs.

PMACG ran an important branding workshop in 2007 to help us develop and promote the image of Hastings Choristers.



*Paul and Mary McCarthy enjoying the 2008 Christmas party.*

## Sponsors & fund raising

Many individuals, organisations and governments have been very generous in contributing to the funds of the Hastings Choristers over the years.

In 1997 a concerted effort was made to raise funds, as it was obvious we were not going to be able to grow or develop using membership fees and concert proceeds alone. This effort has continued right through to the current day, with a variety of sponsors donating to special concerts, while others helped fund specific items, such as the risers, or to the general operation of the organisation.

It is not appropriate to mention each by name here, but we would like to thank them all sincerely for their contributions in both cash and kind. Without this assistance the choir would not have been able to develop to its full potential.

## Friends & helpers

Members of the community have always risen to the occasion when asked to do a job for us, such as the many times we have had to transport the risers to a performance venue, or arranging flowers, helping with catering or front-of-house management.

Some became Friends of the Choristers while others were partners or family, who undertook innumerable jobs to help in the smooth running of concerts from sweeping the hall after a performance to producing splendid teas and cooking at a BBQ.

It is difficult to name all these valiant helpers individually and we also appreciate that partners of Choristers often help in many unsung ways. We are really grateful for all their participation, which added to our own and public enjoyment of the occasion.

## Social activities

Choir members have shown a great sense of camaraderie from the start and always enjoy letting their hair down. There have been social breaks for coffee and tea each term, wild after-concert meals and Christmas parties where we have made our own entertainment, plus many other events. At one stage we went on country picnics which brought all the families into the fold and were most enjoyable.

One of the prime benefits has been the sense of caring, support and involvement which has developed and flowed from membership, and where new friendships were founded.



*Choristers at Rejoice! party 2001 (Michael Matthews)*



*Christmas Party 2010 (Tim Pearson).*

## Management

Management of the organisation has fallen on the hard working shoulders of four executive committee members and three general members. With the Musical Director, they have been responsible for planning concerts, rehearsals and financial control.

Many other Choristers have assisted in ancillary roles. The most important and ongoing of these being Jenni Searson (music librarian), Adele Miles (newsletter producer since 1997) and Michael Matthews (our web manager since 2001) – a fantastic job by all.

Other roles developed over the years include roll keeper, wardrobe officer, concert coordinator (or stage manager), health and safety officer, rehearsal coordinator, social organiser, and archivist.

The important role of publicity officer has been difficult to fill. In the early days, the role was ably undertaken by Colleen Smee then by Marie van Gend. Ian Peterson has helped us enormously since 2009, by taking on this role.

## Financial

The treasurer's job has evolved over the years from a simple monetary record to a highly sophisticated compilation of individual concert results, overall receipts and expenditure and balanced, reconciled books in preparation for the Auditors. This process gained impetus when Ray Cugley was treasurer, perfected by Gerard Rollo and continued by Walter Schellenberg and Nelly Wagemaker.

It is getting increasingly difficult to make a profit each year in spite of good budgeting, as costs continue to rise, particularly using better venues and advertising, while audiences are reluctant to pay higher prices.

Auditors have been many over the years, as the regulations of Incorporation demanded. The first auditors were associated with the choir in some way, while the latter had full accreditation.

Many Government grants have been applied for, with some being received while others were unsuccessful. This is always an arduous and time-consuming job although essential if we are to keep going financially. We are very grateful to the people who have taken this role on over the years.

In the early years most funding was sought for workshops. We were successful in obtaining funds from the NSW Ministry for the Arts and the Arts Council NSW (through their regional body).

The Hastings Council in 2001 and 2002 generously supported the first two choral festivals. These festivals were very beneficial to the district, attracting new people and promoting the area. We have also needed to raise funds from the local community, sponsors, patrons and well-wishers to help promotion and production of major concerts.

The funds to purchase risers in 1998 came from the Port Macquarie Base Hospital Trust and through monies generated from performances by Hastings Choristers and Hastings Youth Choirs. This was a major achievement with continuing benefits to this day, freeing us from the need to hire risers from the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, or tottering on school gym benches to elevate the back row of the choir.

Membership term fees, initially very small, have continued to rise in response to rising costs of running the choirs. These may be approaching their limit, especially for pensioners and retirees on fixed incomes. At the same time Government support and grants are increasingly more difficult to secure unless they favour specialist groups.

To give back to the community in some way, we have sung at many charitable functions, Christmases in the park, golf courses, local events, seminars and

weddings. We are no longer able to provide support to as many charities as in the past, except when contributing by singing, and are now charging for performing at weddings and other private events.

The only solution appears to be to increase the numbers of singers, increase the size of audiences, or lower our expectations and hence production costs – a difficult proposition while we maintain our standard of excellence and fulfil audience expectations.

## Image



*Our first logo for the Hastings Choristers (1994-2006).*



**HASTINGS  
CHORISTERS**

*'sharing the joy of song'*

*The current logo  
(2006-present).*

The Choristers adopted their first logo in 1994.

The Choristers joined the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) in 1998 and their logo has been used since that time on programs and posters.

A competition was held in 2001 to develop a new logo, however none of the ideas provided the required image for the Choristers.

The current logo (above right) was developed by Paul McCarthy Advertising in 2006 and appears on all concert programs and posters and on Chorister's letterhead.

The Choristers have worn many different uniforms. In the early days we wore black or white tops with all black bottoms of individual taste. We also tried dotted skirts for the women, which made conducting difficult, so they were abandoned.

We have often worn all black with scarves for women and bow ties or pocket handkerchiefs for men. One Christmas concert tee-shirts in festive red and green were worn, and for *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* earthy autumn coloured tops were worn over the usual black trousers.

In recent years the design of a new uniform has been discussed many times. However this has been a difficult decision as they must suit all body shapes and sizes. Additionally, sufficient quantities to suit all need to be readily available.

The wonderful colourful vests made by Vera Matsinos in 1993 are still used occasionally, but have to be stored by a member with a spacious house. New black tops were planned for 2009 but did not eventuate until 2010. The glittery scarves were a labour of love in the making by some choir members but looked stunning in the final concerts.

The Choristers now have a good professional stage presence with their impressive uniforms and many vocal talents.

There is a perception in the community that the Choristers are either a Church choir or an amateur group of “oldies”. The continuing search for new members of the Choristers is an ongoing but essential task and there is a special need for more male voices as well as younger singers.

The choir must learn how to project its image and activities more effectively, including the use of the newer computing technologies to make recordings of concerts accessible through the internet.

### The choirs

Hasting Choristers began as a single community choir. Its numbers have ranged from about 40 to 80 depending on the work being performed. Small groups have formed from the main choir since 1994.



*Choristers at the Bizet and Bubbles concert in 2000.*

In 1998 a small female group was formed called Cantabile whose numbers have ranged from 10-14 keen singers who often sing with the main choir.

The Hasting Choristers and Cantabile have performed extensively in Port Macquarie and in many other locations and are nationally respected choral groups. The main choir was named Cantorus in 2004.

There have been other combinations of voices, such as Ex Audi (SATB) from 1998-2000 and an occasional male chorus and barbers shop group (2002).

A Youth Choir was begun in 1995 by Robyn Ryan to give young people in the area experience in choral singing and performance in public.

This evolved into the Hastings Youth Choirs – Cherubs (4-6 years), Melodic Minors (7-11) and



*Cantabile in the Cantabile & Friends concert in 2006.*



*The original Hastings Youth Choir members in 1996.*

Vivace (12-18) – to train them in voice production and musicianship.

From 1996 they sang with the adult choirs when the program content was suitable, and exceptional youngsters sang solos. They were very popular with audiences and held their own concerts in retirement villages and other public venues.

The Youth Choirs have been run by a subcommittee of Hastings Choristers with a separate operational committee of parents. Qualified conductors were employed to instruct the three choirs. Scholarships were available to help talented children participate.

Unfortunately due to lack of numbers the Youth Choirs were placed in recess at the end of 2008. They had been very successful for 13 years, with many youngsters gaining a good start in singing tuition.

Some schools have developed their own choirs over time, reducing the need or desire to attend another choir and hence declining numbers. We hope to revitalise the Hastings Youth Choirs when appropriate.

Bel Canto, who performed with us so successfully from 2005 onwards, are one example of a good school choir from Tacking Point Public School. They were selected to perform at the 2010 ANCA Choralfest - a high honour indeed!



*Bel Canto Youth Choir at Choralfest 2010 (Lyn Cook).*



## Our Musical Director, Robyn Ryan OAM

Robyn Ryan has been the Musical Director since the Hastings Choristers started in 1990 and continues to date. Robyn's goals are to develop a high standard of choral singing, extend and diversify our choral repertoire, challenge talented musicians, recruit young voices, give pleasure and satisfaction to members and audiences and improve the cultural experience in the Hastings.

Robyn moved from Deniliquin to Port Macquarie in 1979 where she had previously directed numerous school choirs and a SATB community madrigal group. Having taken on the Hastings Choristers in 1990, Robyn was invited to be guest conductor for an 800-voice choir at the Sydney Opera House in 1992, as part of the NSW Primary Schools Choral Concerts.

In 2000 Robyn received an Australia Day award from the Hastings Council for her work with the Hastings Choristers.

In 2002 Robyn was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for

*“service to the community, particularly as a contributor to the musical and cultural life of the Hastings and Camden Haven District”*

and presented to her in Sydney by Her Excellency Marie Bashir, the Governor of New South Wales.

Robyn has kept up to date with choral trends by attending workshops and conferences both in Australia and overseas, and has been a leading influence on the choral music scene. As well as conducting a variety of school choirs she has a private studio teaching piano and voice.

Over the past twenty one years the Hastings Choristers have benefited enormously from her enthusiasm and expertise as musical director in leading us through a diverse range of musical styles and repertoire.

Robyn has managed to develop the choir from an amateur group of singers to a well-respected and professional organisation, with the assistance of many enthusiastic and active committee members. At the same time she has managed to balance our choral sound in many different venues, ranging from school halls and churches to the wonderful acoustics of the Glasshouse – quite a feat.

Musically there have been phenomenal highs starting with the Mozart *Coronation Mass* in 1991, which initially daunted singers but ended in increasing their sense of confidence and singing ability.

Since then the Choristers have sung in German, French, Latin, Italian, Xhosa, Swahili, Swedish, and



Robyn Ryan OAM at Roto House (Hydro Photographics).

have often managed to produce great soloists from within the membership.

Singing with other choirs and big orchestras in both the Sydney Town Hall and the Opera House has been a wonderful learning experience.

The Hastings Choristers are now well recognised in Australia as a professionally run choral group that host touring choirs from both overseas and interstate. The choirs continue to present a wide variety of programs to suit different audiences, while experimenting with new technologies and venues.

In 2010 the Hastings Choristers hosted the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) National Conference in Port Macquarie at the Glasshouse – surely a great feather in our cap. The fact that the ANCA event was held in Port Macquarie was entirely due to Robyn's reputation and associations nationally, and her organisational and professional skills with the Hastings Choristers.

In early 2010 Robyn felt that she should scale back her activities somewhat to allow another choral leader to take the helm and bring new skills and direction to the Choristers. Advertisements have been placed for a new Musical Director but a suitable person has not yet been found. Robyn is nobly continuing into 2011 to allow for more time and to keep up our momentum. This history of 21 years is very much a story of Robyn's contributions to the Choristers.



1993 Sounds Australian concert program.

## Musical styles & choir development

Over these 21 years the Hastings Choristers have grown from a group of singers who may have had formal training plus a few church choir members and those that liked to sing in the bath.

The members of the Hastings Choristers are now a well-developed group of SATB singers who have gained some ability to read music and knowledge of different music styles. Most of us are now able to sing at a high standard from a large repertoire and appreciate the strict discipline required by the Musical Director.

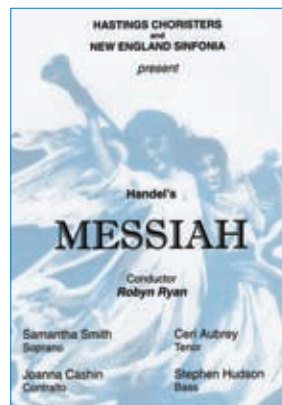
The concert **Choral Magic** in 2005 was a good example of what choral music is all about, covering light pieces from musicals, beautiful melodic songs from around the world and some unforgettable moments from the classics. It also included some Barber Shop arrangements and Italian Motets.

In doing the research for writing Our Story, one feature that came out constantly was the choir members who were highlighted in our newsletter. These Choristers of the Month all expressed a sense of privilege and honour in belonging to a special group of people.

Our development seems to have been over five year periods, the first five years being one of growth in numbers, repertoire and quality of sound. We delved into different sound production in 1993 with Australian music followed by a South African Suite in 1994 and gospel singing in 1995.

A small choir was started in 1994 as well as a ladies choir. In 1995 we began inviting other choirs to sing with us at **Sunday Sing** – this developed into the first **Choral Festival** in 2001, and later **Choral Kaleidoscope** concerts. Choral workshops helped us enormously in this period.

In the second five years up to 2000 the choir's musical abilities grew fast. In 1998 Robyn reported that *"great strides had been made in sight reading and singers had more confidence in using dynamics"*.



2000 Handel's Messiah concert program.

By the end of 1999 *"a beautiful sound was developing"*. By 2000 we had improved our skills to perform *"an unsurpassed standard of excellence in choral singing, precision in diction and a beautiful tone"* in Handel's *Messiah*, supported by the New England Sinfonia.

The small female choir Cantabile were formed in 1998 to extend the abilities of more able musicians with much success. We also experimented with other small groups from time to time.

We contributed to the Grafton Cathedral Music Festival in 1997 and some members were able to travel to Armidale in March each year, from 1998 onwards, to training weekends for singers and instrument players arranged by the Armidale Music Foundation. These were very beneficial to the participants as well as good fun, culminating in a performance of a major classical work.

While concentrating on choral classics, the choir branched out into lighter opera and theatre music in 1998 with **Musical Magic** accompanied by a band. Lighter varied items were presented in the following year in **Show Stoppers** and in our tenth year we celebrated with a sparkling concert **Bizet and Bubbles**.

The Hastings Youth Choirs first joined performances with the adult choirs in 1996 in **Sing Joyfully** and **Sing Noel** as well as having their own concerts.

In the third of the five-year periods up to 2005 we honed our event management skills as well as choral improvement by holding training and music making weekends in **Choralfest 2001, 2002, 2004 and 2006**. These were coordinated by dedicated members supported by a willing band of volunteers.

These weekends of song for up to 200 participants provided five or six different musical style workshops. The weekend's program included a concert by one of Australia's top choral groups to enhance singers' appreciation of what is possible. A grand final concert with several of the participating choirs



2001 and 2006 Hastings Choral Festival Brochure covers.



2010 ChoralFest Registration Form.

presenting items followed by all the choirs singing songs previously studied during the weekend.

We continued offering at least one lighter concert each year to provide variety, as well as some combined performances with other small groups including youth choirs and instrumentalists such as the young guitar ensemble Fretful Fingers.

2002 was the year the Hasting Council was awarded City of the Arts status and to celebrate with them we revisited Australian music with a **Made in Australia** concert which included several compositions by past and present composers including *Dreamsong* composed by Colin Spiers, which was commissioned by the Hasting Heritage Committee.

Travelling became popular, with 2004 taking us by bus to Sydney to sing in the Town Hall with the Beethoven Society, other choral groups and the SBS Youth Orchestra – this was a great thrill.

2005 was the year we sang the Mozart *Requiem* at the Sydney Opera House with the Japanese Goodwill Mission choir and their famous conductor Takeshi Yamagami. What an amazing experience!

During the past five years up to 2010 we improved our French in 2006, and shared a Japanese Cultural Exchange concert with the Sanzanami Choir. We sang of travel and the high seas in **Journeys** and

had a memorable concert of *Messiah Choruses* in the Baptist Church with Heather Moen-Boyd on the beautiful pipe organ in 2008.

In 2009 we finally performed in the newly completed Glasshouse and celebrated with two concerts, the first with a wide ranging repertoire from popular classics to Broadway, and the second in December with a variety program including local dance groups.

Between the two concerts some members participated in the very moving play **A Bright and Crimson Flower** set in a prisoner of war camp. It was a powerful experience.

The final year of Our Story included a huge undertaking in administration and volunteering when we hosted the Australian National Choral Association's **ChoralFest** held for five days at the Glasshouse. This involved many associated workshops, three international conductors and over 700 choral singers. Thirteen top auditioned Australian choirs and one visiting choir from the USA performed *a capella*.

The whole event was successfully coordinated by Adele Miles with the assistance of Kerryn Lawrence, who organised the volunteer army of helpers. Helen Pain played a major role in organisation and stage managed all of the choral events.

The weekend ended with the massed choir concert **Big Sing**. Both Cantorus and Cantabile gave performances during the week and at the final concert, which were “*a big leap forward musically*” and performed without music.

Earlier in 2010 we gave a moving performance of **Flanders Fields** with organ and trumpet. Our sound was “*well balanced and of high standard and the poetry reading and physical artistry was very emotional*”.

The year was completed with a **Christmas in the Glasshouse** concert – a sell out performance of old and new Christmas music.



Choristers performing in the Glasshouse in 2009 (Nigel Barber).



## Rehearsals

Choir rehearsals always start with warm ups – some stretching and relaxing exercises led by John Thompson or Brian Jones, followed by voice warm ups, to improve breath and voice control and voice range. This tends to clash with our socialising and mini meetings much to the upset of some members and our patient Musical Director!

Section Leaders were introduced early in the choir's existence – one for each of the four sections – and have proved invaluable as an extension of Robyn's knowledge of rehearsal attendance, progress in learning parts, and numbers for concert performances. The leaders have often organised extra part rehearsals when they can find a piano player in their numbers.

Roll keepers have maintained the attendance records faithfully since the start. This has proved invaluable as we learned the names of all newcomers and their contact details. The best attendances have been mentioned and rewarded early the next term as an additional incentive to members!

Periodically we have had an assistant or temporary Musical Director, when Robyn was absent on holiday or attending family duties. Miriam Lattimore was the first in 1993, Sheridan Howden in 1996 and again in 2001, Josh Salter in 2006 and Rose Wallin in 2010. They have given us a fresh insight into choral singing in an often very relaxed atmosphere, but we always welcomed Robyn's demands for standards and quality when she returned!

Accompanists have often been hard to find and are welcomed with open arms when they arrive. This is a very difficult and demanding job, requiring both talent and practice, as well as dedication while the choirs struggle with their notes. Often it has fallen on Robyn to try and conduct while also playing the accompaniment, a very stressful position. Our most treasured accompanists have been Miriam Lattimore and Lydia Wills. We are also very grateful to others who gave of their time and expertise.

## Venues – concerts & rehearsals

Over the years we have sung and rehearsed in many different venues as they have become available. The growth in venue quality and size almost mirrors the choir's growth.

The overall problem has been the lack of a permanent home. We never had a centre such as the Council provided for the Town Band and have always had problems with storage of risers, music, keyboards and documents.

For a rehearsal venue we had a brief beginning at Westport High School hall before using the old wooden Uniting Church hall until 1991 followed by the Presbyterian Church hall for 1992-3.

Following this we used the Hasting Public School Waiora in 1994, the 'Mac' Adams Centre in late 1994 and 1995. In 1997 we tried the old Civic Centre and the Salvation Army Hall from 1997.

We were at St Paul's High School from May 2003 and in 2006 finally moved to our current home in the MacKillop Senior College, where we can now store the risers under the stage and have the use of a locked storage room.

We are very grateful to all the different organisations who have allowed us to use their facilities, often at nominal cost.

Concert venues have been equally varied ranging from the Lake Cathie Church to the Glasshouse.

We performed at the old Civic Centre (where the audiences were lucky if they could see the heads of singers), the Kendall School of Arts hall and several of the town's High Schools including Port Macquarie High School (which accommodated large audiences with enough chairs). MacKillop Senior College was used several times when limited audience numbers were anticipated.

We also performed in later years in the Uniting Church, the Baptist Church (with its wonderful organ), the historic St Thomas' Church (with splendid acoustics and seating in box pews), the Salvation Army Citadel, and occasionally in St Agnes' and the Presbyterian Church.

## Workshops & training

In the first ten years workshops were held almost every year, with Charles Colman in 1992, Stephen Leek 1993, James Cox from USA 1995 (Gospel), Philip Mathias in 1996, Geoffrey Chard 1997 (preserving the mature voice) and Malcolm Dalglish in 2008.

The workshop presenters in the four Choral Festivals between 2001 and 2006 took over voice and style tuition.

To gauge our improvement and have an incentive we sang at several eisteddfods in the early years with excellent success in a limited field.

# 1990 – the start



EVENTS	
3 September	Hastings District Eisteddfod
23 December	Christmas Carols Service
24 December	Carols By Candlelight

## Introduction

On 22 March 1990 a meeting of 27 singers was held at Westport High School to elect a committee for the formation of The Hastings Choristers under the musical direction of Robyn Ryan.

The executive officers were: Joy Davis (President), Gerry Jeffery (Secretary), Marjorie Peatfield (Treasurer) and committee members Ray Bailey, Fred Bowman and John Rigg, with Robyn as Musical Director. John Thompson became Deputy Leader later in the year.

Among these singers were 18 members of the Port Macquarie Choral Singers who had performed in Port Macquarie over the previous four years with Frank Johnson, Musical Director. Frank retired in December 1989 after entertaining music lovers in Port Macquarie and Taree with choral concerts, including many of his own compositions.

At the April meeting, discussions were held regarding Annual Subscriptions, Criteria for Performance (testing of singers), a Patron for the choir, and the need for a Publicity Officer and Auditor.

In May members were given copies of the proposed Constitution, each section was discussed and adopted with additions as requested by members. The annual fee was decided at \$30, our uniform was discussed and we were on our way. This meeting was followed by a choir rehearsal.

Our first practice venue was the old Uniting Church hall, where we rehearsed every week. Accompanists were Gwen Harrison and Miriam Lattimore. At the end of the year Robyn noted that the improvement in sound over the first year had been quite remarkable.

In November a final decision was made about our uniforms, thanks to Adele Miles and Leanne Wilkinson. White blouses and spotted skirts were chosen and made up, with the men in bow ties.

## Hastings District Eisteddfod

On 3 September 1990, we competed in the Choral Section of the Hastings District Eisteddfod Society and were awarded First Prize, singing *Bless This House* and *Gavotte for Bach*. Below is the Award Certificate for our prize – not a bad result for a first year effort.



## Christmas Carols & Carols by Candlelight

Our carol program was sung at three different venues including Lake Cathie on 23 December (see the hand-written program on next page).

On 24 December a small group of the choir contributed to **Carols By Candlelight** at the Hibbard Sports Field (see poster on next page).

We also sang at two weddings and a service at the Presbyterian Church.



# Christmas Eve

MONDAY, 24th DECEMBER 1990

## CAROLS

BY

## CANDLELIGHT

from The Sound Shell

Compered by Anthony Watts

CAROLS START 7.30 p.m.  
SANTA ARRIVES 8.30 p.m.

Featuring: HASTINGS MUNICIPAL BAND — TANIA CASSIDY  
ROSEMARY DICK — JILL ADAMS — CHORAL SOCIETY


FREE ADMISSION

**HIBBARD**  
SPORTS CENTRE  
BOUNDARY ROAD, HIBBARD PHONE 83 1999

Season's Greetings

from the  
Directors, Management  
and Staff

**R.S.L.**  
CLUB LIMITED  
For the information of members and their guests  
Short St., Port Macquarie, Phone 83-1999



*Christmas Carols Service* 23.12.1990 *NAKE CATHIE*

Procession - chn. with candles \* Once in Royal

Welcome - Rev Perry

Carol \* While Shepherds watched

Isiah -

Choir < Come to the manger  
Coventry Carol

Carol \* Child in the manger

Luke < Charlie  
Leuce

Carol \* Silent Night

Prayers of the faithful - children  
we respond "Lord hear our prayer"

Carol & Away in a manger

Homily - Rev Perry

Carol - Hark the Herald

Benediction - Rev Perry

Carol \* Joy to the World.

Choir is called Hastings Choristers - we  
should have about 20 of them tonight,  
unfortunately some have other functions.

## Foundation Members

This list of 42 Foundation Members of the Hastings Choristers was compiled in 1991. A • symbol denotes members of the former choir, the Port Macquarie Choral Singers, under the direction of Frank Johnson.

Frank Arts		Adele Miles	
Frank Ashby		Anne Molver	•
Ray Bailey	•	Kath Munday	•
Jean Beechey		Aperasa Nabainalyu	
Fred Bowman	•	Joan Newton	
Paul Clarke		Gwen O'Dea	•
Joy Davis	•	Marjorie Peatfield	•
Michelle Denton		June Quirk	
Mark Denton		John Rigg	
Cynthia Dickson	•	Peter Rose	
George Dickson	•	Robyn Ryan	
Greta Dunlop	•	Jill Smith	•
Beryl Ferrett		Lorraine Smith	•
Ralph Ferrett		Jess Stacey	
Ross Garven		Margaret Teale	
Margaret Hanlon	•	John Thompson	
Gwen Harrison	•	Bert Watson	
Gerry Jeffery	•	Max Walker	
Irene Johnson	•	Pat White	•
Bon Knight	•	Leanne Wilkinson	
Norma Macleod		Maree Winter	

# 1991 – year of growth



## CONCERTS

26-27 July	Mozart Concert
8,16 December	Christmas Concerts

## OTHER EVENTS

1-2 June	Charles Colman Workshop
----------	-------------------------

## Introduction

At the beginning of 1991 we had 38 members, 20 of whom were present at the Annual General Meeting on 21 March to elect a new committee.

The executive was again headed by Joy Davis (President), with Margaret Hanlon (Treasurer) and Gerry Jeffery (Secretary). Committee members were John Thompson, Ralph Ferrett and Fred Bowman.

Section leaders were appointed to help with the learning of parts and Miriam Lattimore continued as accompanist.

John Thompson provided warm-up exercises before rehearsals. These have improved our singing posture and sound, as well as giving us plenty of light-hearted humour. Ralph Ferrett not only acted as Librarian, but was asked to lead us through the maze towards Incorporation with Ray Bailey's help.

We changed our rehearsal venue from the old Uniting Church Hall to the Presbyterian Hall for the second half of the year.

We were again successful at the Hastings District Eisteddfod in September with *The Silver Swan* and *Dona Nobis Pacem* from the *Coronation Mass*, however the win was without a great deal of competition.

Roger and Heather Dalhunty and Wendy Machin became patrons of the Hastings Choristers during the year.

## Charles Colman Workshop

On the weekend of 1-2 June, Charles Colman conducted choral workshops for us with the assistance of an Arts Council NSW grant, contributing to our improved sound and confidence for the first major concert.



Choristers at the Workshop.







*Soloists and Choristers at the Mozart Concert.*



*Mozart Concert flower arrangements by Vera Matsinos.*

## Christmas Concerts

The Camden Haven Arts Council invited us to perform in Kendall on Sunday 8 December.

Our final concert for 1991 was at the Presbyterian Hall in Port Macquarie on Monday 16 December.

*“Not only did they entertain the audience with dulcet tones in four-part harmony, they also raised \$500 for the Smith Family, their nominated charity for 1991.”*

The program included new and old carols with performances by the full choir as well as by the women section only and by soloists.

Chris Rashleigh, Marie Winter, Frank Ashby, Jim Matsinos, John Thompson and Miriam Lattimore all sang solo items. Miriam together with Gwen Harrison and Hilja Siren were the accompanists.

Bob Munro was compère for the evening. After the concert a sumptuous supper was served, made possible with the assistance of the View Club.

# 1992 – baroque music



CONCERTS	
5 April	First Patrons Concert
18-19 July	Go for Baroque
22 November	Camden Haven Arts Council Concert
4-6 December	Handel's Messiah
OTHER EVENTS	
1-2 December	NSW Primary Schools Choral Concerts

## Introduction

1992 was an exciting year full of beautiful music. We had a continuing association with Charles and Dorothy Colman from Armidale who provided the choir with a workshop weekend and increased exposure to choral singing in different venues. We were also exposed to singing with an orchestra for the first time in July.

New blood was brought into the management with Chris Rashleigh being voted President, Gail Barber as Secretary, and Melanie Rashleigh on the committee. Joy Davis took on publicity which was very welcome. Our performance venue was changed to Port Macquarie High School.

We participated in three sections of the Taree Eisteddfod and were awarded a Highly Commended ribbon in September. The year concluded with a program of Christmas Songs in Wauchope, and a wedding in November.

Hastings Choristers became an Incorporated Association on 28 January 1992 (but were not registered until 1997 due to an oversight). The final rules were presented to the full membership at the Annual General Meeting.

## First Patrons Concert

Hastings Choristers shared a concert at Port Macquarie High School with the Port Macquarie Hastings Municipal Band, under the direction of Shirley Goodbar on 5 April (see program below).

Our 20 singers found it a bit overwhelming performing with a band of wind players including horns, trumpets and trombones, not to mention the drums, but it was fun.

**FIRST PATRONS CONCERT**  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 5 1992  
PORT MACQUARIE HIGH SCHOOL

**PORT MACQUARIE  
HASTINGS  
MUNICIPAL BAND INC.**

\*\*\*\*\* PROGRAM \*\*\*\*\*

**MANHATTAN BEACH** John Philip Sousa  
Manhattan Beach was a popular and famous New York summer resort in the 1890's and Sousa's band often appeared there during the season. This march was dedicated to the resort's proprietor in 1893.

**PANIS ANGELICUS** Cesar Franck arr. Band  
This Belgian composer who spent most of his life in France is considered one of the great writers of church music for voice and instruments. Panis Angelicus was composed in 1872 and remains a world-wide favourite in the sacred repertoire.

**GEORGIA ON MY MIND** Roger Carmichael  
An old favourite from the big band era by one of the great popular song writers of the 20th century. Keith Hoddles takes the band for this one featuring trombonist Colin Brown.

**TODAY'S WIND ENSEMBLE**

<b>FLUTE</b>	L. Drysdale	<b>TRUMPET</b>	D. Blinco
	S. Elderkin		B. Rostron
	J. Pittorino		B. Neepson
	F. Senguen		
<b>CLARINET</b>	M. Clarke	<b>TROMBONE</b>	R. Gredhoe
	N. Stophouse		M. Gibbons
			D. McFar
<b>SAXES</b>	T. Goshkin	<b>EUPHONIUM</b>	C. Billemeijer
	D. Herbert		T. Shalton
	I. Watts		
<b>HORNS</b>	S. Brown	<b>TRBAN</b>	F. Corrigan
	N. Griffin		D. Malcolm
	A. Billemeijer	<b>DRUMS</b>	G. Griffin
			E. Irvine
			G. Malcolm
			S. Malcolm

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** S. Goodbar  
**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:** K. Hoddles

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE HASTINGS CHORISTERS PRESENT**

**TWO SOUNDS**  
Kylie  
Who Goes Laughing! 18th century

**ROMANTA** ... traditional  
**SINGLE GIFTS** ... Copland  
**OLD SO LIVED THE WORLD** from Stainer's "Crucifixion"  
**MEANS TO SELL** ... Colin Brown  
**GO FOR BAROQUE** ... Carl Strommen

**Life Be in it.**

Thank you for attending our First Patrons Concert today. Our second Patrons Concert will be held in July. If you are not yet a Patron of the Municipal Band we invite you join. The cost is only \$10.



## Go for Baroque

Our first major concert of the year, **Go for Baroque** (see program below), took place on the weekend of 18-19 July at Port Macquarie High School Auditorium.

It was preceded by a rehearsal with the Armidale orchestra on the weekend of 29 June. Some people stayed at Charles and Dorothy Colman's guest house, while the rest of us had a hilarious time at a local Armidale motel – a great bonding exercise.

Robyn directed and conducted the performances, with the Choristers combining with The New England Sinfonia led by violinist Errol Russell, with Keith Power (harpsichord), and Graham Maddox (oboe). We were thrilled to have Janette Kearns from Melbourne as soprano soloist again.

The first half of the concert included choral and instrumental works by J.S. Bach, G.F. Handel and H. Purcell with various soloists from the Choristers and Sinfonia performing.

The main work was Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the Choristers and Sinfonia combining and Janette Kearns, Miriam Lattimore and Jeannine French as soloists.

The concert ended with the *Gloria* from Haydn's "Nelson" Mass with Janette Kearns, Jeannine French, Chris Rashleigh and Jim Matsinos as soloists.



Rehearsal for Go for Baroque.

*"Go for Baroque"*

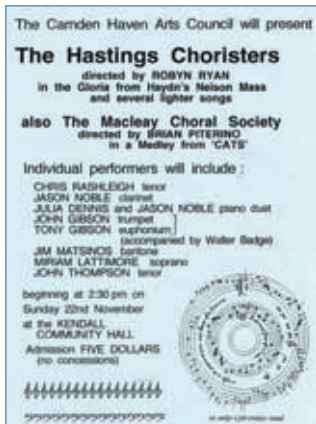
*Hastings Choristers - Armidale Sinfonia*  
in association with Hastings Arts Council Inc.  
18<sup>th</sup> July - 8.00pm 19<sup>th</sup> July - 2.00pm  
Port Macquarie High School Hall

HEY HO JESU PRICELESS TREASURE BREAK FORTH GO FOR BAROQUE	Round J.S. Bach J.S. Bach Strommen...Hastings Choristers Nine	
WHERE E'ER YOU WALK PASSING BY OMIRA MAI FU NON LO DIRO COL LABBRO HARK THE ECHOING AIR I ATTEMPT FROM LOVE'S SICKNESS THERE'S NOT A SWAIN ON THE PLAIN	G.F. Handel G.F. Handel...Chris Rashleigh. G.F. Handel G.F. Handel...Jim Matsinos. H. Purcell H. Purcell H. Purcell...Janette Kearns.	
HARPSICHOID SONATAS K380 - Andante Comodo K114 - Cor Spilite - Presto K - 24 Presto	D. Scarlatti...Keith Power.	
CARIO MIO BEN PER LA GLORIA D'ADORARVI SEBEN CRUDELE	Giordani...Jim Matsinos Bononcini...Chris Rashleigh Caldara...Janette Kearns	
CONCERTO , OBOE, VIOLIN AND STRINGS Allegro Adagio	J.S. Bach Errol Russell Violin New England Sinfonia	
INTERMISSION		
SHEPHERD ON A ROCK F. Schubert.....Jason Noble, Clarinet Janette Kearns, Soprano Robyn Ryan, Piano		
GLORIA A. Vivaldi...Hastings Choristers , New England Sinfonia		
1. Gloria in excelsis Deo Choir 2. Et terra pax Choir 3. Laudamus te Miriam Lattimore , Janette Kearns 4. Gratias agimus tibi Choir 5. Propter magnam gloriam tuam Choir 6. Domine Deus Janette Kearns 7. Domine fili unigenite Choir 8. Domine Deus agnus Dei Jeannine French, choir 9. Qui tollis peccata mundi Choir 10. Qui Sedes Miriam Lattimore 11. Quoniam tu solus sanctus Choir 12. Cum Sancto Spiritu Choir		
GLORIA - " NELSON" MASS J. Haydn Hastings Choristers , New England Sinfonia, Jeannine French Janette Kearns Chris Rashleigh Jim Matsinos		

## Camden Haven Arts Council Concert

A concert for the Camden Haven Arts Council was held in Kendall on 22 November 1992. The choir sang the *Gloria* from the “*Nelson*” Mass and several lighter songs. Chris Rashleigh, Jim Matsinos, Miriam Lattimore and John Thompson performed solos, and there were four young instrumentalists.

The Macleay Choral Society directed by Brian Piterino completed the program with a medley from *Cats*.



THE HASTINGS CHORISTERS			
The Camden Haven Arts Council will present			
The Hastings Choristers			
directed by ROBYN RYAN			
in the Gloria from Haydn's Nelson Mass			
and several lighter songs			
also The Macleay Choral Society			
directed by BRIAN PITERINO			
in a Medley from 'CATS'			
Individual performers will include:			
CHRIS RASHLEIGH tenor			
JASON NOBLE clarinet			
JULIA DENNIS and JASON NOBLE piano duet			
JOHN GIBSON trumpet			
TONY GIBSON euphonium			
(accompanied by Walter Budge)			
JIM MATSINOS baritone			
MIRIAM LATTIMORE soprano			
JOHN THOMPSON tenor			
beginning at 2:30 pm on			
Sunday 22nd November			
at the KENDALL			
COMMUNITY HALL			
Admission FIVE DOLLARS			
(no concessions)			

## NSW Primary Schools Choral Concerts

Robyn Ryan conducted an 800-voice choir at the Sydney Opera House on 1-2 December during the **NSW Primary Schools Choral Concerts**, which involved more than 4000 students performing over an eight night season.

At this time Robyn was attached to the Oxley Education Resource Centre providing support to two clusters of schools covering creative and performing arts.

## Handel's Messiah

Our second concert for the year was performed in three venues, Armidale on 4 December after a morning rehearsal, Port Macquarie on the 5th, and Coffs Harbour on the 6th (see program on next page).

Charles Colman conducted the massed choir of 80 singers and the New England Sinfonia. Soloists came from the Queensland Conservatorium.

The venues were the Armidale School Chapel, the Port Macquarie High School and St Augustine's Catholic Church in Coffs Harbour.

The choir travelled in shared cars as some members found bus travel round the bends to Armidale did not agree with them. The concerts were a wonderful musical and social experience for all members.

Bob Munro reported in a newspaper article that


*"A capacity audience last Saturday night in the Port Macquarie High School auditorium forgot the humidity to enjoy what must surely have been the most ambitious performance of Handel's great work yet heard here. ... All concerned with the production deserve our warmest thanks and congratulations."*

The two major concerts for the year enabled us to set aside a contingency fund for the future as well as give donations to several charitable organisations.



Rehearsal for the Messiah.





**TASARTS**  
presents

# Messiah

An Oratorio  
by George Friderik Handel (1685-1759)

The TAS Singers  
The TAS Chapel Choir  
The Hastings Choristers  
(Director Robyn Ryan)  
The New England Sinfonia  
(Leader Errol Russell)  
with  
Shelli Gilhorne (Soprano)  
Brownen Haydock (Alto)  
Paul Mc Mahon (Tenor)  
Mark Donnelly (Bass)

Conductor: Charles Colman

Friday, December 4, 1992  
Saturday, December 5, 1992  
Sunday, December 6, 1992

The Armidale School Memorial Hall  
Port Macquarie High School Hall  
St Augustines Catholic Church,  
Coffs Harbour

**Messiah**

1 Sinfonia

2 Recit. *Comfort ye my people*  
Airs: *Ev'ry valley shall be exulted* \_\_\_\_\_ Tenor

3 Chorus: *And the glory of the Lord*

4 Recit. *Then saith the Lord*  
Airs: *But who may abide the day of his coming?* \_\_\_\_\_ Bass

5 Recit. *Behold a virgin shall conceive*  
Air and chorus: *O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion* \_\_\_\_\_ Alto and chorus

6 Recit. *For behold, darkness shall cover the earth*  
Airs: *The people that walked in darkness* \_\_\_\_\_ Bass

7 Chorus: *For unto us a child is born*

8 Pastoral Symphony

9 Recit. *There were shepherds abiding in the fields* \_\_\_\_\_ Soprano

10 Chorus: *Gloria to God*

11 Air: *Rejoice greatly, O daughters of Zion* \_\_\_\_\_ Soprano

12 Recit. *Then shall the eyes of the blind*

13 Air: *He shall feed his flock* \_\_\_\_\_ Alto and soprano

14 Chorus: *His yoke is easy and his burden is light*

*(End of Part I Short pause)*

15 Chorus: *Behold the Lamb of God*

16 Air: *He was despised* \_\_\_\_\_ Alto

17 Chorus: *Surely he hath borne our griefs*  
*And with his stripes we are healed*

18 Recit. *All they that see him laugh him to scorn* \_\_\_\_\_ Tenor

19 Chorus: *He trusted in God*

20 Recit. and Air: *They rebuke him because his heart* \_\_\_\_\_ Tenor

21 Chorus: *Lift up your heads, O ye gates*

**Interval**

22 Chorus: *The Lord gave the word*

23 Air: *How beautiful are the feet* \_\_\_\_\_ Soprano

24 Air: *Why do the nations so foolishly rage together?* \_\_\_\_\_ Bass

25 Chorus: *Let us break their bonds anew*

26 Recit. *He that dwelleth in Heaven*  
Airs: *There shall break them* \_\_\_\_\_ Tenor

27 Chorus: *Hallelujah!*

*(End of Part II)*

28 Air: *I know that my redeemer liveth* \_\_\_\_\_ Soprano

29 Chorus: *Since by man came death*

30 Recit. *Behold I tell you a mystery*  
Airs: *The trumpet shall sound* \_\_\_\_\_ Bass

31 Chorus: *Worthy is the Lamb*  
*Blissing and honour*  
*Amen*

# 1993 – Australian music



CONCERTS	
18-19 September	Sounds Australian
16 December	Christmas with the Choristers
OTHER EVENTS	
19-20 June	Stephen Leek Workshop
December	Christmas Concerts

## Introduction

For 1993 John Thompson took over the reins as President, supported by Gail Barber ongoing secretary, and Melanie Rashleigh as treasurer. Ralph Ferrett continued his sterling work as librarian. Miriam Lattimore was appointed Assistant Musical Director when Robyn was away.

Both Miriam and Robyn attended the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) conference in Southport, a most rewarding few days hearing some fantastic choirs, catching up with new techniques and building a choral network for the future.

The year started with notices being placed in school newsletters and Church bulletins with a view to attracting new and younger voices after our very successful 1992. This led to students from Beechwood and Westport Primary taking part in the Sounds Australian production.

We discussed the possibility of purchasing our own risers as the school benches had proved pretty scary for adults! Our choir uniform was again reviewed during the year, and the wonderful offer by Vera Matsinos to make vests for everyone was accepted. They were to be worn for the first time in 1994.

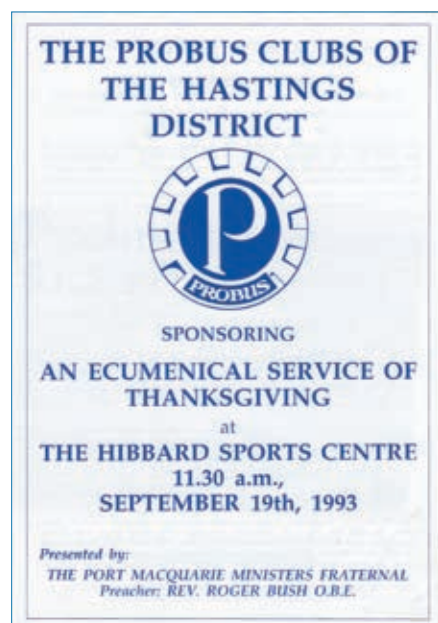
1993 was our year for Australian music. We competed at the Taree and Hastings Eisteddfods and sang at the Probos Convention (see right) under the Big Top in September.

The first part of the year was set aside for new sounds and techniques, which upset some members and enthralled others once they had mastered them and could feel the realistic results. Our early rehearsals were filled with staccato shouts, off-key cries for help and sound improvisation, all in preparation for the main work *Voyage* in our next major concert.

## Stephen Leek Workshop

In June well-known Australian composer and conductor Stephen Leek gave us a weekend workshop on contemporary Australian choral music performance, including one of his own compositions.

This was made possible with a grant from the NSW Ministry for the Arts. By the time it was finished we had learnt a great deal about the techniques required for producing the necessary dramatic impact of the sounds and words.



## Sounds Australian

This all Australian program took place at the Port Macquarie High School Auditorium on 18-19 September.

It featured well known songs by Australian composers, a bracket of light hearted pieces sung by a small group of ten choristers, and Stephen Leek's recent work *Voyage* set to William Hart's poetry depicting a shipwreck which was an exhilarating experience. The program was rounded off with *Drovers* and *Cutty Sark* when we were joined by the talented school children and New England Sinfonia.

The New England Sinfonia, led by Errol Russell, played Errol's *Viola Concerto* written in 1992, and James Penberthy's *Oboe Concerto* with Graeme Maddox on oboe.

Catering was coordinated by Pat Thompson while Vera Matsinos decorated the hall.



SOUNDS AUSTRALIAN CONCERT		NEW ENGLAND SINFONIA WITH ERROL RUSSELL, VIOLA	
ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR		VIOLA CONCERTO Errol Russell	
BEECHWOOD AND WESTPORT STUDENTS		HASTINGS CHORISTERS TEN	
A GRAY DAY	Colin Brumby/John Freeman	FREDDIE THE FISH	Martin Wesley-Smith/
SEA CHANT	Peter Sculthorpe/Roger Covell	PIGGIES	Peter and Martin Wesley Smith
HASTINGS CHORISTERS		MY DOG HAS FLEAS	and Ann North
BLESS THIS HOUSE	May Brahe/Helen Taylor	CLIMB THE RAINBOW	
WIDE BROWN LAND	May Brahe/Dorothea Mackellar	from 'Songs for Kids'	
	Arr. M. Lattimore	COUNTRY GARDENS	Percy Grainger Arr. Tall
THIEF OF THE MOON	Lindsay Aked/ Kenneth Slessor	WALTZING MATILDA	Arr. Ian Cooper
MADWRIGGLE	Lindsay Aked/Lewis Carroll		
	from 'Scenes from Alice'		
DREAMS TO SELL	Colin Brumby/ Thomas Lovell Beddoes	HASTINGS CHORISTERS	
SOFTLY O MIDNIGHT HOURS		VOYAGE Stephen Leek/ William Hart-Smith	
O COME EMMANUEL	Ralph Morton/Latin text	1. "...sails..."	
MIRIAM LATTIMORE		2. "...that last day..."	
BUSH NIGHT SONG	William James/Richard Bayliss	3. "...doves..."	
JIM MATSINOS		4. "...the voice of the sea..."	
THE STOCKRIDER'S SONG	William James/ Richard Bayliss	HASTINGS CHORISTERS, STUDENTS and NEW ENGLAND SINFONIA	
THE NEW ENGLAND SINFONIA WITH GRAHAM MADDOX, OBOE		DROVERS	Stephen Leek/ Roland Robinson
OBOE CONCERTO	James Penberthy	CUTTY SARK	Stephen Leek/ Ethel Anderson
			both from 'Voices of a Land'
INTERMISSION			

## Christmas with the Choristers and Christmas Concerts

Our final concert, **Christmas with the Choristers**, was held on 16 December at the newly built Baptist Church. It was found to be an excellent acoustic venue, but a difficult location.

During December we also sang at the Governors Retirement Resort in remembrance of a wonderful bass, Frank Ashby. We also sang at the Port Macquarie Golf Club presentation night and at Roto House for the Hastings Arts Council Christmas Party.



Choristers rehearsing at the Golf Club.

# 1994 – year of rejuvenation



CONCERTS	
17 June	An Evening Of Music
17-18 September	Spring Classics
4 & 9 December	Concerts for Advent
OTHER EVENTS	
21 October	Sounds Baroque
12 November	Of Art And Love

## Introduction

In 1994 the Choristers went from strength to strength, with new members including young people (year 8 and upwards) joining us throughout the year. The quality of music and sound and professionalism of the choir continued to encourage this increase in numbers. We had 34 members for **Spring Classics**.

In March the executive changed to John Rawson (President) and Fae Lister (Secretary) with Melanie Rashleigh continuing as Treasurer.

During the year our public profile also improved with the introduction of a Choristers logo (see below) and very colourful vests made by Vera Matsinos. These vests were very well received by both the choir and audiences (see above and on next two pages).

There was a continuing dilemma to find a permanent accompanist. We had some great pianists but commitment was a problem for regular practices. Walter Badge helped us out for the first three terms while we rehearsed at Hastings Public School on Waniora Parkway.

We then moved to the 'Mac' Adam Centre which was somewhat inconvenient as it was the permanent band rehearsal space necessitating moving all the

furniture and stands before and after our practices, and it was very hot.

The committee introduced definitions of the various duties and roles of Office Bearers at this time, and it was decided to formally introduce positions such as librarian, attendance roll keepers and other helpers. It was suggested that we develop a Friends of the Choristers group. Our need for new risers was again raised, the Choristers having been unsuccessful with one grant application.

We were saddened by the passing of Margaret Hanlon, one of our long time Choristers, during the year. Margaret was our first treasurer, as well as a very active member and with her husband Dennis was always willing to assist with performances and committee duties. Dennis was our auditor in 1990, 1993, and 1994.

In May 1994 we achieved first prize at the Taree Eisteddfod singing *Soldier Boy* and *Fiddler Man*.



*Our first logo for the Hastings Choristers.*



*Choristers on stage and on the way home.*



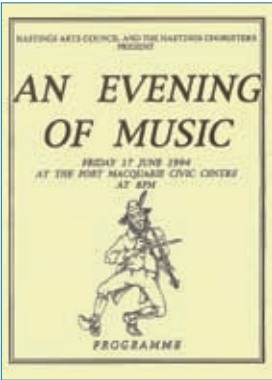
An Evening Of Music

Friday 17 June 1994 saw the Choristers opening the Hastings Festival of Arts, performing a variety concert at the Port Macquarie Civic Centre. This concert was presented by the Hastings Arts Council and Hastings Choristers, and promoted by the Hastings Community Arts and Cultural Centre Association – a year after the Hastings Council’s first working party on the Glasshouse was established.

Young instrument players from the Hastings performed during the first half of the concert, including Amber Glynn, a sixteen-year-old multiple-award winning pianist.

Hastings Choristers took over for the second half, beginning with the ever popular *We’re the Choir* and with *Irish Blessing* as the finale.

The small ladies group proved to be a popular addition, and looked as though it would become a permanent group adding to the high profile of the Choristers.



PART 1	PART 2
1. Jason Noble - Piano. Dead in a Sea Op.27 No. 3 - Chopin	HASTINGS CHORISTERS <i>We're the Choir</i> - Russell art: Lorna Dunne Bay - Old Irish No. art: Linda Spence Keep Your Grogg - Rhythmic art: Andy Thomas Lullaby - George Gershwin Bach: Minuet Lark The Crooked Sinner - Sea Chorus art: Robert Sand
2. Amy McElwain - Piano. Fugue in D - Bach Fugue - Adagio The Fugue - Adagio	CHORISTESS 11 Country Garden - Percy Grainger art: Tall Bruch: The Fish - Martin Vinsky-Smith Allegro - Martin Vinsky-Smith Huller: Duet Walking Mistle - art: Ian Cooper
3. Hannah Baylis - Recorder. Art. by Hilda Ross Solemn in C - Baroque Adagio, Allegro: Lorna Spence	HASTINGS CHORISTERS The Lord - Andrew Lloyd Webber: Lark Lullaby: David Rogers, Robert Petch All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates
4. Jason Noble - Clarinet Sonata - Debussy	HASTINGS CHORISTERS The Lord - Andrew Lloyd Webber: Lark Lullaby: David Rogers, Robert Petch All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates
5. David McLaren - Cello. Accompanied by Hilda Ross Sheep May Safely Graze - Bach	HASTINGS CHORISTERS The Lord - Andrew Lloyd Webber: Lark Lullaby: David Rogers, Robert Petch All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates
6. Anna Barrow - Piano Pavane in D minor - Debussy	HASTINGS CHORISTERS The Lord - Andrew Lloyd Webber: Lark Lullaby: David Rogers, Robert Petch All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates
7. Andrew Glynn - Piano Clair de Lune - Debussy Valse Caprice - Debussy Valse Caprice - Debussy Valse Caprice - Debussy	HASTINGS CHORISTERS The Lord - Andrew Lloyd Webber: Lark Lullaby: David Rogers, Robert Petch All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates All Things Bright and Beautiful - John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates Lullaby: John Bates

Spring Classics

This was our major concert for the year, featuring soloists Janette Kearns, Jenny and Geoff Warnock from Armidale, and Chris Rashleigh our past president from Melbourne.

Two performances, on 17-18 September, were held at the Port Macquarie High School Auditorium.

The *Missa in Augustus* (popularly known as the “Nelson” Mass) by Haydn was the major work, with the New England Sinfonia led by Errol Russell.

The first half included items by the full choir, and two smaller sections, the Female Voices and the A Capella Ten (SATB). The accompanist was Meredith Norman.



SPRING CLASSICS	HASTINGS CHORISTERS and NEW ENGLAND SINFONIA
HASTINGS CHORISTERS JULY 1994 1. <i>We're the Choir</i> - Russell art: Lorna 2. <i>Dead in a Sea</i> - Op. 27 No. 3 - Chopin 3. <i>Country Garden</i> - Percy Grainger art: Tall 4. <i>Bruch: The Fish</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 5. <i>Allegro</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 6. <i>Huller: Duet</i> 7. <i>Walking Mistle</i> - art: Ian Cooper	1. <i>We're the Choir</i> - Russell art: Lorna 2. <i>Dead in a Sea</i> - Op. 27 No. 3 - Chopin 3. <i>Country Garden</i> - Percy Grainger art: Tall 4. <i>Bruch: The Fish</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 5. <i>Allegro</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 6. <i>Huller: Duet</i> 7. <i>Walking Mistle</i> - art: Ian Cooper
HASTINGS CHORISTERS AUGUST 1994 1. <i>We're the Choir</i> - Russell art: Lorna 2. <i>Dead in a Sea</i> - Op. 27 No. 3 - Chopin 3. <i>Country Garden</i> - Percy Grainger art: Tall 4. <i>Bruch: The Fish</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 5. <i>Allegro</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 6. <i>Huller: Duet</i> 7. <i>Walking Mistle</i> - art: Ian Cooper	1. <i>We're the Choir</i> - Russell art: Lorna 2. <i>Dead in a Sea</i> - Op. 27 No. 3 - Chopin 3. <i>Country Garden</i> - Percy Grainger art: Tall 4. <i>Bruch: The Fish</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 5. <i>Allegro</i> - Martin Vinsky-Smith 6. <i>Huller: Duet</i> 7. <i>Walking Mistle</i> - art: Ian Cooper



Spring Classics with the Hastings Choristers.



Hastings Choristers in colourful vests made by Vera Matsinos.

## Sounds Baroque

The **Sounds Baroque** Musica Viva Concert on 21 October in the Baptist Church was a rare treat for Hastings residents. The program – Songs and Interludes from the 17th and 18th Centuries – was jointly sponsored by the Hastings Arts Council and Hastings Choristers.

The group consisted of Jennifer Eriksson (viola da gamba), Howard Oberg (flute and recorders), Anthony Jennings (harpsichord), and Jennifer Bates, Australia's best known soprano.

We were not singing but it gave us an experience to remember.

Presented by the  
**HASTINGS ARTS COUNCIL INC.**  
and  
**HASTINGS CHORISTERS**  
**SOUNDS BAROQUE**

*Jennifer Bates soprano, Howard Oberg flute and recorders, Jennifer Eriksson viola da gamba, Anthony Jennings harpsichord*

**At the Port Macquarie Baptist Church,  
McIntyre Close**  
**FRIDAY OCTOBER 21 1994**  
**at 8 pm**

Bookings at:  
The Childrens Express, Galleria, William Street — 83-8877

TICKETS: ADULTS \$15 — MEMBERS \$13 — STUDENTS \$5  
Enquiries: Robyn Ryan, 85-5879/85-2944

Sponsored by:  
MUSICA VIVA  
THE ARTS COUNCIL OF NSW  
PORT MACQUARIE PRIVATE HOSPITAL

## Of Art And Love

This concert was presented on 12 November by Jim Matsinos accompanied by Robyn Ryan and highlighted another aspect of the talent and dedication the choir had to offer the Port Macquarie community.

**OF ART AND LOVE**  
de l'art et de l'amour  
von Kunst und Liebe  
d'arte e amore

Fund raising Concert for  
West Port Primary School Building Fund.

**JIM MATSINOS**  
*Baritone*

Associate Artist: Robyn Ryan piano

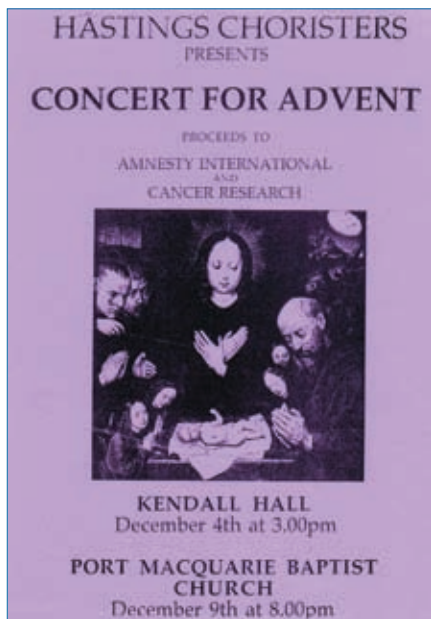
**Saturday, 12th November 1994 at 8.00pm**  
Baptist Church: McIntyre Close, Port Macquarie  
Tickets: \$12 Adults \$10 Concessions \$5 Students. Supper included  
Port Macquarie Music Centre. Port Macquarie High School. West Port Primary School.

(J Matsinos appears as part of M.Lit. Program in Visual Arts within the Dept. of Theatre Studies at U.N.S.W.)

## Concerts for Advent

The Christmas program, **Concerts for Advent** was performed in Kendall School of Arts on 4 December and again at the new Baptist Church in Port Macquarie on 9 December. The Church is always a popular venue due to the lovely acoustics.

A wide variety of Christmas music was sung and very well received by a large audience. The proceeds of the concerts went to Amnesty International and Cancer Research.



# 1995 – our fifth birthday



CONCERTS	
8-9 April	Handel's Messiah
30 July	Sunday Sing
8,11 December	Sing Christmas
OTHER EVENTS	
6 February	5th Birthday Party
30 July	Workshop with James Cox
4 November	Les Miserables

## Introduction

1995 was another year of growth for the Choristers, both in membership and musical achievements. John Rawson continued as President, supported by Fae Lister as secretary, and Anne Molver the new treasurer.

Our pianist this year was Lavina Walters-Roozemonid. Her contribution was greatly appreciated by all. Coral Willows helped out.

The nucleus of the Hastings Youth Choirs was started in 1995 by our musical Director Robyn Ryan, in an effort to bring choral singing to the younger generation.

We tried out several performance venues as Robyn felt that the Port Macquarie Primary School hall and Wauchope RSL were unsuitable. It was clear that other venues needed to be researched. It is always a gamble with concerts to choose the right venue, and members were asked to be on the lookout for better choir-friendly venues in the future.

One very rewarding and exciting outing taken by some 60 choir members and friends was to the performance of **Les Miserables** in Taree on 4 November.

The professionalism and performances of this production were fantastic and we were delighted to witness two of our very own choristers, Jim Matsinos and John Thompson, perform the two leading roles. They were a credit to the Hastings Choristers.

## 5th Birthday Party

A party was held to celebrate the completion of our fifth year on 6 February at our rehearsal venue, the 'Mac' Adam Centre, with a cake and some light-hearted singing, and included invited guests. It was an enjoyable evening.

A record of five years history in photos and memories compiled by Joy Davis was presented to Robyn and very well received.



*Foundation Choristers cutting the cake (above) and 1990-95 book (below).*





# Handel's Messiah

Two major performances of the *Messiah* were presented in April on Palm Sunday weekend 8-9 April at the Port Macquarie High School. Janette Kearns and Chris Rashleigh returned as soloists, with Caroline Miller and Laurie Pulley.

Both performances were extremely well received by sell-out audiences and set the very high standard of music which has become the signature of the Choristers under the excellent tuition and baton of Robyn Ryan.

The Armidale Sinfonia under the direction of Errol Russell accompanied our *Messiah* performances and added to the professional presentation.

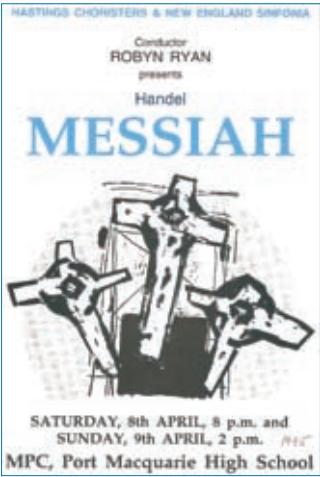
Les Lewis wrote in a newspaper article that

*"Any of those fortunate people who heard the performance of the Hastings Choristers on Saturday and Sunday last, in their rendition of Handel's Messiah, will tell you that there is a wealth of talent right here in Port."*

Neil Easton, from the NSW Conservatorium of Music, also wrote that

*"Recently, Port Macquarie was privileged to have two performances given by the Hastings Choristers, very ably supported by the New England Sinfonia. The large choir sang, as usual, with great dedication and discipline thanks to the tireless efforts of conductor Robyn Ryan. The district owes much to this talented lady, who gives so much of her time helping singers."*

The program was dedicated to Margaret Hanlon, a foundation member of the Choristers.



Choristers rehearsing for the Messiah.

Choristers plus soloists singing the Messiah.

## Workshop with James Cox

James Cox (USA) gave a workshop before the Sunday Sing concert (see next article) which was well received and assisted us with singing Gospel music.

James gave us the print music of *River in Judea* which we subsequently performed in the concert. This music is still enjoyed by the Choristers to this day.

A grant towards tutors fees and travel costs was received from the Ministry of the Arts NSW, and provided a great contribution to our future training.



Choristers enjoying James Cox's workshop.

## Sunday Sing

We enjoyed a lovely day of singing with The Salvation Army Songsters, Macleay Choral Society, A Capella Ten and several vocal soloists on 30 July at Port Macquarie Primary School hall.

The soloists were Dianne Hale (soprano), Josh Salter (boy soprano), Brian Pittorino (tenor), John Thompson (tenor) and Jim Matsinos (baritone).

A broad selection of favourite songs were presented by the choirs and soloists, the program ending with everyone singing *We gather here*.

The camaraderie between the choirs was a high point for the Choristers.



Programme	
<b>HASTINGS CHORISTERS</b> <i>Conductor: Brian Hale</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>DIANNE HALE</b> <i>Soprano</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)
<b>JOHN THOMPSON</b> <i>Tenor</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>JIM MATSINOS</b> <i>Baritone</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)
<b>THE SALVATION ARMY SONGSTERS</b> <i>Conductor: Brian Hale</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>A CAPPELLA TEN</b> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)
<b>JOHN THOMPSON</b> <i>Tenor</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>BRIAN PITTORINO</b> <i>Tenor</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)
<b>MACLEAY CHORAL SOCIETY</b> <i>Conductor: Brian Hale</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>CHORISTERS</b> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)
<b>MACLEAY CHORAL SOCIETY</b> <i>Conductor: Brian Hale</i> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)	<b>COMBINED CHOIR</b> "Hallelujah" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano) "Let's Sing" (Soprano)

## Sing Christmas

This program was performed on Friday 8 December at Wauchope RSL and at the Port Macquarie Baptist Church on Monday 11 December. The program included items by children from Westport Primary Senior Choir and the Hastings Youth Choir.

Audience numbers for these Christmas concerts were a bit disappointing although they were well received in both venues. Also Robyn as Musical Director felt that our performance was not as professional as it should have been.

Proceeds from both venues went to funding the Life Education vans.



# 1996 – getting better

## SING JOYFULLY



### CONCERTS

28 April Sunday Sing II

22-23 June Sing Joyfully

19 December Sing Noel

### OTHER EVENTS

20 May Workshop with Philip Mathias

16 November Afternoon of Music

December Christmas Events

## Introduction

This was a trying year for our Musical Director Robyn as her husband Frank had to have treatment in Sydney, giving her new priorities.

To prepare for the possible need for a replacement director it was agreed to pay a per night practice fee, and pay the accompanist. Sheridan Howden was appointed temporary conductor for the third term, and Miriam Lattimore to be pianist when available to replace Coral Willows. The rehearsal venue remained the 'Mac' Adam Centre.

Ray Cugley took over as president, supported by the previous year's secretary and treasurer. The committee was expanded to assist in the smooth running of the choir, particularly in the areas of fund raising, publicity, concert organisation, attendance keeper, and a chat sheet. A Responsibilities of Choir Members sheet was drawn up.

All these activities were aimed at increasing the professionalism of the choir in every aspect of our presentation to the public. We also applied for membership of the Australian National Choral Association.

We were grateful to Westport and Port Macquarie Primary Schools for the loan of their risers. As they were designed for children the committee made the decision to purchase adult size risers at considerable cost the following year.

To help fund this cost, a sponsorship program was instituted. We hoped that this would enable us to do things in a way that will complement the standard of our singing.

The Hastings Youth Choir made a formal request to be part of Hastings Choristers Incorporated, as junior

members. Rules were set for them to be run as a sub-committee with a \$1 nominal fee to be levied for membership, and one committee member to attend the Hastings Choristers meetings. They contributed to three of the Hastings Choristers concerts, during Youth Week and at a presentation evening for Red Shield Appeal workers.

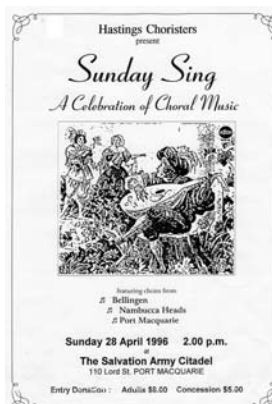
Our year was not all hard work as we managed to squeeze in a picnic at Anje and Fred Sipkes' farm at Byabarra in May.

In November we contributed to a Royal Blind Society concert, **Afternoon of Music**. Our choir attendance was poor and sadly some of the men's parts were missing completely.

## Sunday Sing II

This was our first concert for the year (see program and pictures next page), held on Sunday 28 April at the new Salvation Army Citadel. It was in a similar format to last year, with six choirs booked in including the Bellingen Aka Bella group, Nambucca Valley Singers, Bellingen Choral Group, Salvation Army Songsters and Hastings Youth Choir – over 160 singers altogether. Bob Munro was an able compère.

The performance showed our improved presentation and professionalism, ending with the massed choirs singing *We gather here together*.







Bellingen Choral Group.



Nambucca Valley Singers.



Aka Bella.



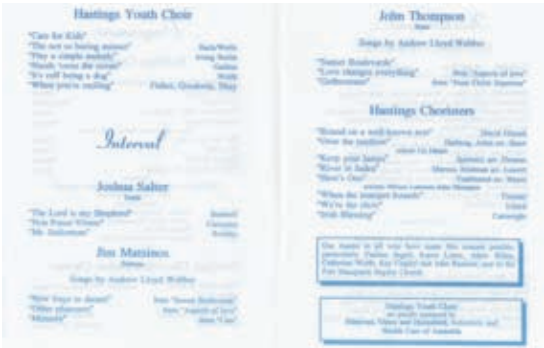
Hastings Choristers rehearsing at the 'Mac' Adams Centre.

## Sing Joyfully

Our first major concert for the year was held at the Baptist Church on 22-23 June. The Hastings Choristers, Ladies Chorus and Hastings Youth Choir contributed to the program, together with solo items by Jim Matsinos, John Thompson and Joshua Salter.

We were glad to have the accompaniment of a string group arranged by Lavina Walters-Roozemon for one item.

Although the Hastings Youth Choir had only been in existence for less than a year, they had developed well and performed regularly singing at their own events and joining with the Choristers for others.

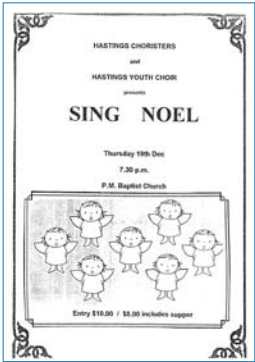


Hastings Youth Choir – in rehearsal.

## Sing Noel

Our third concert for the year was held at the Baptist Church on Thursday 19 December to a full house. The Youth Choir again participated and looked as good as they sounded with their new vests and festive bow ties. Ron Mapstone accompanied the community carol singing on their wonderful new pipe organ.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed participating in the *Twelve Days of Christmas*. It was a fun and memorable evening.



PROGRAMME	
HASTINGS CHORISTERS	HASTINGS YOUTH CHOIR
"Halekyl! Peto Tia Rona" Traditional hymn	The Three Drivers William James
"People, look East" Christopher Smart	"Gipsy Carol" William A. Perry
"Sil, Sil, Sil" Author: Carol an. Norman Laid	"Oro Gracia" Isabel Stern
"Today the Virgin" words: Walter Thiele, music: John Towner	"The Angels' Song" Mary Saunders
"And there were shepherds" from "Christmas Carols" J.B. Shaw	YOUR TURN!
"Trenches" words by the children of a French village, John Jackson	"O Come all ye faithful" "Away in a Manger" "Hark! the herald angels sing" "The twelve days of Christmas"
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" John Laid, an. David Williams	"The Twelve Days after Christmas" William A. Perry
"I est né le divin enfant" French traditional song	FINALE
"Behold a silly tender babe" words: Robert Southwell 1593-95, music: John Bennett	"Sing along merrily on high" words: G. Thompson, Tune: Pussie Song
"Zither Carol" Grove song an. William Burgess	"Rocking" Grove song an. David Williams, with verses: Norman Laid, Andrew Clark, Michael Hunt, John Laid
"The Shepherd's Farewell" from "Christmas Carols" J.B. Shaw	"Angels' Carol" John Hubbs
"Sing we now of Christmas" French song, an. John Laid	"We wish you a merry Christmas" West Country song, an. A. Housh
"The First Noel (Pachelbel's Canon)" 1680, Latin, William Kierulff	
"Deck the halls and all that jazz" words: Carol an. Robert Southwell	

## Workshop with Philip Mathias

We had a great evening on Monday 20 May with Philip Mathias, from the Newcastle Conservatorium and choir master at Newcastle Cathedral. This workshop was made possible with a grant from the NSW Ministry of the Arts.

After learning some notes from Fauré's *Requiem* they were effortlessly converted into beautiful music. We also tried out some unusual carols.

The link with Newcastle Cathedral would benefit us in the next year when we shared performances.

## Christmas Events

Christmas was a busier time than usual, with performances at Settlement City Shopping Centre, **Christmas Singalong** in the Bourne House auditorium, **Carols by Candlelight** on the Town Green and some members sang in St. Agnes Church as a prelude to Midnight Mass.

The Choristers' Christmas Dinner was held on 16 November at the Marion Centre, ably organised by Adele and Robyn Miles.



Choristers performing and enjoying Christmas Dinner.



# 1997 – sponsors & funding



CONCERTS	
13 June	Fauré's Requiem
24 August	Daffodil Day Variety Concert
22-23 November	Handel's Messiah
18 December	Sing out for Christmas
OTHER EVENTS	
14 June	Inaugural Grafton Cathedral Music Festival
15 July	Australian Voices

## Introduction

1997 was one of the busiest years for the choir to date. The concert repertoire was extensive and performances included Harvest Festival, Kidsing, Fauré's *Requiem* (with performances in Port Macquarie, Grafton and Newcastle), The Daffodil concert in August, two Nuptial Masses, one being that of Brodie, daughter of John Thompson our past president and regular warm-up specialist, and the *Messiah*.

A Sponsor's Soiree was held at Robyn Ryan's home to say thank you to all those businesses that supported our sponsorship drive. The sponsors included Roger Dulhanty Pty Ltd, Searson Shannon & Co, Stacks the Law Firm, Westport Bowling Club, Potts Davis Duncombe Pty Ltd and Priest McCarron Sork.

We also had the opportunity to sing in the *African Sanctus* with David Fanshawe in Newcastle after an introduction to the work from Philip Mathias in April, however Jenni Searson was the only chorister able to give it the required commitment gaining an unforgettable experience.

Ray Cugley continued as president, with Fae again secretary and the treasurer changing to Lavina Walters-Roozmond. Lavina was a violinist who came to Port Macquarie from Armidale. Graeme McRaid was vice-president. Our newsletter was officially launched in March with the versatile Adele Miles as editor.

In the previous years we had been successful in obtaining funding for workshops. For 1997 we applied for a grant from the NSW Ministry of Arts for a Choral Expo to give us the opportunity to commission an original work, with activities concentrated into a week promoting choral music.

Unfortunately the grant approved was insufficient to carry out our plans.

The Ministry of the Arts then accepted our proposal for Geoffrey Chard to conduct a workshop while he was in Port Macquarie for the *Messiah*. Those who were able to attend benefited greatly from his expertise, which was focused on preserving the mature voice. The idea of a Choral Expo with other choirs was suggested again for 1998 but our proposal was not accepted.

From the third term we were grateful to be able to move to the Salvation Army Hall for rehearsals. This provided a more comfortable venue than the 'Mac' Adams Centre and helped when we had no accompanist. We were also grateful to West Port Public School for the use of their choir risers, however they were not suitable for adults and this prompted the committee to continue fund raising to purchase our own risers. It was proving to be a lengthy undertaking!

Our visiting choir in July was the Australian Voices who were billeted by our members. As always Stephen Leek managed to inspire not only his singers but all of us by a varied and exciting program of choral pieces. Musically we gained much especially as they performed some of our repertoire, and their great uniforms caused many of our members to want a change!

Our performances through the year were very well attended and appreciated by the local audiences and the trips away were interesting and enjoyable to all. Robyn commented that our *Messiah* in 1997 was the best choral work we had produced in seven years, with a sound resembling double our numbers.



Fauré’s Requiem

On 13 June, at the Baptist Church, the Hastings Choristers, Hastings Youth Choirs, St Nicholas Junior Choir and Christ Church Cathedral Choir from Newcastle performed individual brackets of songs for the first half of the program.

This was followed by the two senior choirs combining for the main work, the Fauré *Requiem*, with Philip Mathias as organist. Miriam Lattimore and Jim Matsinos were the soloists – this was a rare treat. Robyn Ryan was the conductor.

Afterwards we billeted the visitors for the night before setting off in cars, without the Hastings young people, for the Inaugural Grafton Cathedral Music Festival.

Early in November we travelled by bus and car to sing the Fauré *Requiem* at Newcastle Cathedral with the Cathedral choirs and orchestra, conducted by Philip Mathias.

Bob Munro wrote in the Port Macquarie News (18 June 1997) that

*“A large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed a rare treat – four choirs presenting an evening of fine singing, including a wonderful performance of Fauré’s Requiem. We have come to expect high standards from Robyn Ryan’s Hastings Choristers and again we were not disappointed. They were joined by another*



Soloists Miriam Lattimore & Jim Matsinos at the Fauré Requiem Concert.

*fine choir, from Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle under their director and organist, Philip Mathias.”*  
and

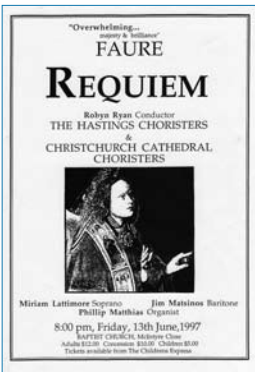
*“The audience’s enthusiastic response was a measure of the success of this union of the two choirs.”*

Inaugural Grafton Cathedral Music Festival

We presented a similar concert on Saturday evening the 14th in the Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton, as part of their Inaugural Cathedral Music Festival.

As well as the excitement of singing with the Newcastle choir it was a fun time and a beautiful sunny day for the drive.

Grafton residents were kind enough to give us billets for the night.



PROGRAMME	
<b>Hastings Youth Choir</b> Conductor: Robyn Ryan Accompanist: Miriam Lattimore <i>Seagull</i> Stephen Lark <i>Song for a Russian Child</i> Khoo <i>Dodi Li</i> Chen	<b>Felicity Crowe</b> Solo Accompanied: Philip Mathias <i>Sorata in G for Flute Op. 1 No. 12</i> Suzuki: Matsino Large: Allgier, Allgier
<b>Hastings Choristers</b> Conductor: Robyn Ryan Accompanist: Miriam Lattimore <i>Here's one</i> Trad. arr. Mark Hayes <i>Indian Prayer</i> Trad. arr. Roger Emerson <i>Island Songs</i> Stephen Lark <i>Mosley and Turtle: Trade Winds: Morning Tide</i> <i>Halleluja pelo teu roxo</i> Adrian Reid	<b>Christ Church Cathedral Choir</b> Conductor: Philip Mathias <i>This joyful Easteride</i> Trad. Arr. Philip Leiper <i>Ave verum corpus</i> William Byrd <i>Magnificat in C</i> C.V. Stanford
<b>St. Nicholas Choir</b> Conductor: Trisha Mathias <i>The Lord's Prayer</i> (from <i>Adrian Sanctus</i> ) David Fendrave <i>For the beauty of the earth</i> John Ruter (Piano: Felicity Crowe)	<b>Interval</b> 15 minutes <b>Combined Chorus</b> Conductor: Robyn Ryan Soloists: Jim Matsinos Soprano: Miriam Lattimore <i>Requiem</i> Op. 48 Gabriel Fauré



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**DAFFODIL  
VARIETY CONCERT**  
Fundraising Concert for Cancer Research  
under the direction of  
**Robyn Ryan**



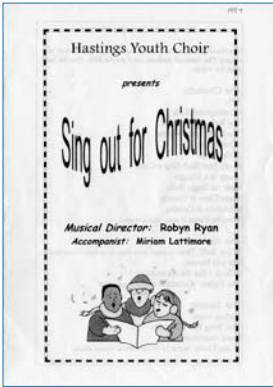
**Jeffie County (Superior) Sheridan Howard (Superior)  
John Thompson (Conner) Dan Matheson (Hartney)  
Mark Babin (Fruitland) Neil Smith (Lang) Band  
Hastings Chorus and Hastings Youth Choir**

**Sunday 24th August, 1997 at 2pm**  
Rehearsal Group 10.00am, Lord Bruce, Post 10.00am  
33 Junction, Tickets available at show



## Sing out for Christmas

The Hastings Youth Choirs gave a concert of popular Christmas songs at the Salvation Army Citadel assisted by contributions from soloists and the Hastings Choristers. Robyn Ryan conducted and Miriam Lattimore was the accompanist.



<p>Compare: Jennifer Fisher</p> <p>The Hastings Youth Choir would like you to join with them in singing <i>The National Anthem and Cate for Kids</i>. (See the back page for words)</p> <p><b>The Cherubs:</b></p> <p>Jelly Morningtown Ride The Reluctant Dragon The Earth is our Mother Silent Night Little Lamb Every Year Shall Sing a Carol Away in a Manger Hear the Jingle Bells Santa Claus is Coming Christmas is Coming Must be Santa (duet: Tiana Magnus)</p> <p><b>The Juniors:</b></p> <p>Wipe, Sniff, Drop (duet: Anne Clark, Erica Taylor, Laura Hord) Cat and Mouse I Think I See the Animals The Piglets' Christmas (duet: Laura Hord)</p> <p><b>The Seniors:</b></p> <p>Surfing round This Song Has a Melody Piano Angelous Water Under Snow is Weary (duet: Joanna Adams)</p>	<p><b>Ken Carlie (Baritone):</b></p> <p>Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas <i>Juniors and Seniors Combined:</i> It's a Small World Dish a Deer (Soloist: Julia County) Walking in the Air O Come All Ye Faithful Jesus Child (duet: Karla Walsh, Joanne Walker, Josh Suter, Chris Morrell) Do You Hear What I Hear? See Amid the Winter Snow Angels Song Ode Gratias (duet: Andrew Clark, Michael Hord)</p> <p><b>Hastings Chorists:</b></p> <p>Sing We Now of Christmas People Look East Still, Still Rejoice and Glory to God (duet: Julia County) Jingle Bell Swing (duet: Josh Suter, Chantal Gerard-Brown) Twelve Days of Christmas - with audience help!</p> <p><b>All Choirs:</b></p> <p>Noel, Noel / Have a Happy Christmas</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>~~~~~</p>
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# 1998 – musical magic



CONCERTS	
24-25 April	Fauré's Requiem
4-6 July	Musical Magic
21 August	Daffodil Day Variety Concert
5-6 December	Carolfest

## Introduction

There was a new management team for 1998. John Thompson became president, Ray Cugley took on being treasurer, and Gerry Jeffery was our experienced secretary. Graeme McRaidl continued as vice-president. Heather and Roger Dulhunty remained our valued patrons.

The year commenced with much extra activity. Firstly two weddings in March, both with excellent feedback. Members had the opportunity to attend a workshop of music making on 27-29 March for orchestral musicians and choristers throughout NSW at New England Girls School in Armidale, learning and performing the *Carmina Burana*. Fae Lister and Gerry Jeffery were our two representatives. These workshops are held at the same time every year with regular attendances from members of Hastings Choristers. On 5 April we performed for the Camden Haven Music Festival at the Kendall School of Arts hall.

The Castle Singers from Wartburg College at Waverly Iowa USA, under the direction of Dr Paul Torkelson, visited Port Macquarie on 30 April and thrilled us with their lively vocal jazz at the Salvation Army Citadel.

During July it was decided to purchase our own Wenger Risers using the funds provided by the Port Macquarie Base Hospital as well as our own. After much dedicated research by Ray Cugley, the order was placed for four risers to be delivered in time for the Christmas concert. These have since proved invaluable.

Cantabile, our wonderful female ensemble, was formed providing an extra challenge for the more accomplished singers. The Friends of the Choristers, a voluntary support group, was also formed to help with all activities associated with concert performances.

## Fauré's Requiem

To commemorate Anzac Day, the full choir performed excerpts from Fauré's *Requiem* at St Matthew's Anglican Church and at the Presbyterian Church in Wauchope.

The whole work was performed at Port Macquarie's St Thomas' Anglican Church at 9 am before the Anzac Day march. This was a very special performance.



Robyn at Lake Cathie preparing for a concert.



Musical Magic

The Hastings Youth Choir and Choristers started rehearsals in April for this big production. Jim Matsinos was the producer, Robyn Ryan the musical director and music was provided by a talented band.

On 4,5 and 6 July we presented four performances of **Musical Magic** at the Port Macquarie High School Auditorium (see next page for program and pictures). We borrowed five sets of Wenger Risers from Sydney through ANCA.

With guest artists and soloists from within the Hastings Choristers and Hastings Youth Choir, we performed music from *Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats*, *Oklahoma*, *Porgy & Bess*, *Les Miserables* and Gilbert & Sullivan operettas.

The hard-working Friends of the Choristers, Pat Munro, Robyn Miles and our Musical Director all

combined to create a very successful and enjoyable concert – undoubtedly the highlight of 1998.


David Meidling wrote in the Port Macquarie News (10 July 1998) that

*“The truly memorable performance by the Hastings Choristers of excerpts from best loved musicals was promoted as Musical Magic and that is exactly what it was – magic.*

*Readers who were unable to attend one of the four performances missed out on what was arguably the best ever show put on by this very talented group. The final bracket of items from Les Miserables was the highlight of the show but all items were very much appreciated by the enthusiastic audiences.”*

We had an enjoyable supper after the show, with choir members providing platters.

THE HASTINGS CHORISTERS  
in  
TOP LINE SOLOISTS  
present  
**MUSICAL MAGIC**  
excerpts  
from best loved Musicals



Saturday 4th July, 8.00pm, Sunday 5th July, 2.00pm & 8.00pm,  
Monday 6th July 8.00pm, 1998  
Port Macquarie High School MPC  
Adults \$12.00, Concessions/Groups \$10.00, Children \$5.00  
Tickets available from The Childrens Express

HASTINGS CHORISTERS MUSICAL MAGIC			HASTINGS CHORISTERS MUSICAL MAGIC		
ANNE KEE BURDEN	No business like show business	John Thompson: Chorus	JENNY CHRIST SUPERSTAR	Shirone	Chorus: John Thompson, Richard Schuman, Heidi Moore
CATS	Memory	Ron Mansfield, Jonathan Sailer: Chorus		I don't know how to love him	
THE SOUND OF MUSIC	Music	Wynne Lattimore, Marie Van Gend, Chorister Brandon, David Campbell, Ron Mansfield & children, Jonathan Sailer: Chorus, Sherry French: Chorus	JUCKLE & HIDE	Once upon a dream It's a dangerous game This is the moment	Trish Williams, Trish Williams, John Thompson, John Thompson
PORGY AND BESS	Summertime	Wynne Lattimore: Chorus	PUNNY FACE	I'm Wonderful	Chorus
THE SECRET GARDEN	The girl I mean to be Lily's eyes How could I ever leave?	Laura Reed, John Thompson, Jim Matinson, Di Balle	SHOWBIZ	Eggs upon the velvet stage Can't help think that man	Trish Williams, Trish Williams, Sherry French
WATCH YOUR STEP	Play a simple melody	Chorus	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	Waking you wake someone here again	Di Balle
GLIDER	Music	Chorus, Brandon, Jonathan Sailer, Jim Matinson	ASPECTS OF LOVE	Love changes everything Other pleasures	Richard Schuman, Chorus, Jim Matinson
EVITA	Don't cry for me Argentina	Trish Williams	CALL ME MADAM	It's a lovely day today	Julia Cooney, Michael Reed, Chorus
THE MILEAGE	I've got a little bit The sun when says There's a love in the air	Jim Matinson: Chorus, Wynne Lattimore, John Thompson, Wynne Lattimore, Jim Matinson, Chorus	MURDER WIDOW	I like Love unspoken	Di Balle, Jim Matinson, Di Balle
OKLAHOMA	I've just a girl who can't say no Meets a man who Oklahoma	Trish Williams, Ron Mansfield, Richard Schuman, Chorus	LES MISERABLES	Music	Chorus, Sherry French, Ron Williams, Jonathan Sailer, John Thompson, Di Balle



Choristers and Soloist John Thompson rehearsing for Musical Magic (Hydro Photographics).

## Daffodil Day Variety Concert

A Daffodil Variety Concert for Cancer Research was held on 21 August at Port Macquarie RSL Auditorium featuring Port Macquarie Hastings Band, Hastings Youth Choir, Hastings Choristers and the Black Satin Swing Band.



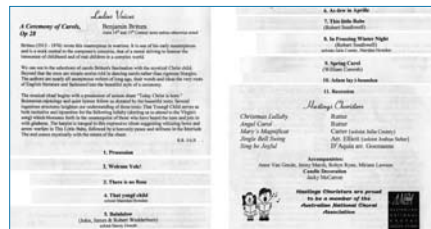
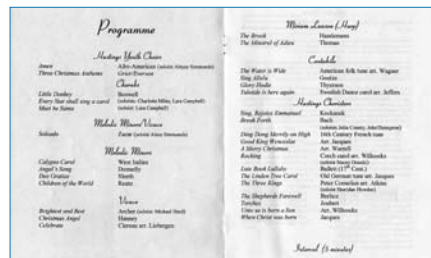
*Choristers rehearsing for Musical Magic.*

# Carolfest

Our final Carolfest concert for 1998 was held at the Baptist Church on 5-6 December and included the Hastings Youth Choirs and the Choristers with Miriam Laws on her lovely harp. Anne van Gend was the accompanist on this occasion. As usual the HYC's Cherubs stole the show.



We wound up 1998 with a Christmas party at Robyn's home on 14 December.



*Cherubs, Melodic Minors and Vivace get ready for Carolfest.*



# 1999 – year of cancellation



CONCERTS	
19-20 June	Show Stoppers
12 September	Restoration Appeal
19-20 November	Sing, Be Joyful!
OTHER EVENTS	
19 February	SCU Graduation Ceremony
28 March	Camden Haven Music Festival
23 October	Let the Children Sing!

## Introduction

Our Musical Director labelled 1999 as the 'Year of Cancellation!' John Thompson was still in the chair, helped by Marie van Gend secretary, and Gerard Rollo as treasurer. They all had to be very imaginative and versatile.

The committee agreed on 2 March 1999 that an annual membership fee of \$10 should be introduced at the next Annual General Meeting, to apply to singing (in addition to term fees) and non-singing members.

Our entry to the **Taree Eisteddfod** was cancelled due to lack of numbers, the fundraiser concert was postponed to September, **Musical Magic** was scaled down to **Show Stoppers**, and the **Last Night at the Proms** with Armidale Orchestra was cancelled due to their clash of dates. Despite these disappointments our hardworking director and committee came up with a full program which developed untapped choir talent and improved our choral sound.

We were hampered by the lack of a rehearsal accompanist again, and were very grateful to Rose Dyer for coming to our rescue many times.

The year began with a small group singing at the Southern Cross University's graduation ceremony, followed by enthusiastic singers making their way to Armidale in March for the Verdi *Requiem* organised by the Armidale Music Foundation - a weekend of choral and orchestral workshops under the guidance of Piroska Varga and Richard McIntyre, with a memorable and exciting final performance.

At the end of March we participated at the Camden Haven Music Festival in Kendall Hall with a light, bright program which was greatly appreciated by the patrons.

## Show Stoppers

The concert was held on Saturday (two performances) and Sunday 19-20 June 1999 at the Salvation Army Citadel. It was a quite different style of concert with a varied program of lighter items involving the full choir, small ensembles, solos and duets showcasing some of our previously untapped talented members, and proved highly successful.

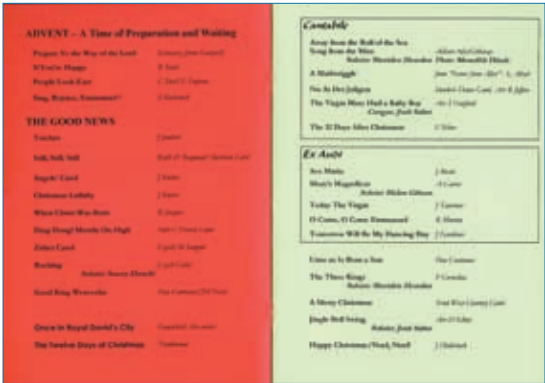
After the show we celebrated in style at Café 66 and all had a great time.





Restoration Appeal

This was a concert of sacred and secular songs, rescheduled from May to Sunday 12 September 1999, and proved very successful giving a good boost to the restoration fund for St Thomas’ Church.



Restoration Appeal rehearsals.

Let the Children Sing!

The Hastings Youth Choir gave a concert called **Let the Children Sing!** on 23 October at the Seventh Day Adventist Church.



Rehearsing for Sing, Be Joyful!.

Sing, Be Joyful!

This concert was held on Friday and Sunday 19-21 November at the Uniting Church, and proved to be a lovely Christmas concert full of traditional and lesser known carols.

Cantabile sang a few favourites including carols, and a new SATB group Ex Audi, consisting of two to four singers of each voice presented five beautiful songs. The quality of our choral sound was much improved with some good tone colour.

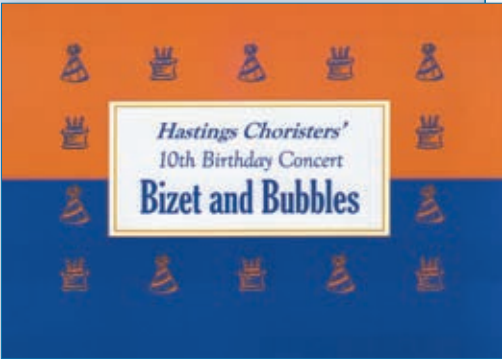
Christmas Carols

The Chorister’s Christmas Party was held on 21 November in the Marion Centre, after **Sing, Be Joyful!**

A concert of carols with the Hastings Band in Settlement City shopping centre was such a successful event that it has since been repeated several times.

This was the end of the singing year, but a small enthusiastic group also sang at a concert preceding Midnight Mass in St Agnes Catholic Church on Christmas Eve.

# 2000 – our tenth birthday



CONCERTS	
27 February	The 19th Century Proms
8-9 April	Bizet and Bubbles
21 May	Vocal Delights
1-2 July	Weddings & All That Jazz
9-10 December	Handel's Messiah
OTHER EVENTS	
18 June	Picnic at Byabarra
18-25 December	Christmas Events

## Introduction

The year 2000 was our tenth year since the Hastings Choristers started in 1990. The executive remained the same as for 1999, giving good continuity in a big year, again being led by John Thompson with Leanne Wilkinson as Vice President.

Our birthday celebration event was the Bizet and Bubbles concert held during April. The year 2000 saw three other important concerts held – The 19th Century Proms, Weddings & All That Jazz and Handel's Messiah.

All of these events were a great success and complemented by fun social events. The Picnic at Byabarra and various after-concert gatherings helped us with the task of enjoying ourselves.

## The 19th Century Proms

The first concert of 2000 was a fundraiser held on 27 February at St Thomas' Church with the money raised going to the Church Restoration Appeal.

The Choristers and Cantabile (below) joined in a concert of musical instruments and songs as played from 1828 onwards. The program (see below left) contained some well-loved pieces including clarinet, oboe and a string trio.



Cantabile (above) and Choristers (below) at St Thomas' Church (Michael Matthews).

The 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Proms	
PROGRAMME	
1. Overture: 1856 Walker Pipe Organ Rosina Dyer	INTERVAL – 15 minutes
2. The Hastings Choristers Conductor Robyn Ryan	6. Church Sonata: Opus 1 No 10 ..... A.Cornell Arcangelo String Trio.
Danny Boy ..... Old Irish air, arr. Spewack Deep River ..... Traditional Spiritual, arr. Spewack Lamb Of God ..... Based on 'Pavane' by Faure, arr. Peke Don't Nubis Paces ..... Mary Lynn Lightfoot Here's One ..... Feldman, arr. Hayes (Bruce Nelson, oboe)	7. Clarinet Concerto (2nd Movement) ..... W.A.Mozart KV522 Deborah de Craeff with 'K' clarinet
3. 19th Century Music in St Thomas' Church "Old Hundred" ..... From Geneva Psalter, 1551 (A48 No.10) "Tallis' Chant" ..... Thomas Tallis 1505-1540 (A48 No.480) Danzell ..... John Danzell 1730-1789 (A48 No.147, 2nd tune) Deborah de Craeff, 'C' clarinet (1838, restored) Rosina Dyer, Saxophone (1830, restored) Lesley Gray Thompson, first violin Evelyn Payne, second violin Margery Wright, cello	8. 'Au Fond du Temple Saisi' ..... Georges Bizet, from Les Noces de peines (The Reed Fishers) Julie Thompson, tenor & Jim Matzinos, baritone
4. Demonstration of 1856 Walker organ barrels John Dyer	9. Cantabile Away From The Roll of The Sea ..... MacGillivray, arr. Calvert Song For The Monk ..... MacGillivray, arr. Calvert Maderiggle ..... L. Aked Accompanist Robyn Ryan
5. 1828 Schaeffer (Stuttgart) Clarinet Gavotte in C ..... G.F.Handel Andante in C ..... W.A.Mozart Deborah de Craeff	10. The Hastings Choristers Hymn To Freedom ..... Peterson, arr. Read The Lord Bless You and Keep You ..... John Rutter
Thank you for your support. You are cordially invited to join us for afternoon tea in the Church Hall after the performance.	



# Bizet and Bubbles

Bizet and Bubbles, our tenth birthday celebration concert, was performed on 8-9 April in the Port Macquarie High School Auditorium. The special guest for the occasion was Geoffrey Chard, with his accompanist Betty Maitland.

To quote our Musical Director, “musically Bizet and Bubbles was important because of the choir’s greatly improved vocal tone”.

The women dressed up in elegant sparkling black, while the men were spruced up in their dinner suits.

The Saturday night performance was a big celebration with balloons and streamers descending from the ceiling at the end of the final chorus. Patrons and choir then enjoyed a champagne supper.

The Hastings Choristers at the Bizet and Bubbles Concert.



**Hastings Choristers' 10th Birthday Concert**

**Bizet and Bubbles**

Starring international opera celebrity  
**Geoffrey Chard**  
with the  
**Hastings Choristers**

Celebrate the Choir's 10th birthday with opera favourites and other vocal sensations.

Place: Port Macquarie High School Auditorium  
Date: Saturday April 8, 2000 Time: 8 pm  
Sunday April 9, 2000 Time: 2 pm

Tickets: Available at Port Macquarie Information Centre.  
Saturday – All seats \$15 (to include a champagne supper)  
Sunday – Adults \$12, Concessions \$10, Children \$8

HASTINGS CHORISTERS INC., PO BOX 4474, PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

**HASTINGS CHORISTERS' FAVOURITES**

Donny Boy  
Daisy Bell  
Soldier Boy  
Fiddler Man  
Oce  
(Over a Chordless)  
My Favourite Things  
(from The Sound of Music)  
The Rhythm of Life  
(from Sweet Charity)

see Linda Speers  
see Linda Speers  
John Butler  
John Butler  
M Hamilton & K. G. G.  
R. Rogers & G. Hammett  
C. Coleman & P. Field

**EX AUDI**

Let's begin again  
And so it goes  
The Goodbye

John Butler  
Billy Joel  
Frederick Bridge

**GEORFFREY CHARD**

Advertising in Wine  
Kissing in the rain  
Cheer Maxine's

Eider  
Lehar

**JOHN THOMPSON and JIM MATTHEWS**

As Friends go  
From the Heart of the Matter

**HASTINGS CHORISTERS' - OPERA CHORUSES**

Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves  
The Aerial Chorus  
Bridal Chorus

Ann Williams  
from R. Thompson  
from Lehmann

Verdi  
Verdi  
Wagner

**Finale**

Tormentor's Song  
Geoffrey Chard and the Hastings Choristers

Carmen  
Bliss

**CANTABILE**

OP OTHER LANDS

Away from the end of the road  
Song from the Minstrel

A. McGilley  
A. McGilley

**SOUTH AFRICAN SUITE**

Take a walk  
Sundown  
Cello Suite

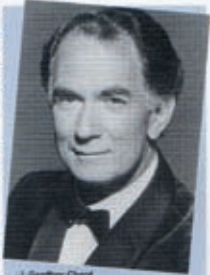
South African Suite  
South African Suite  
South African Suite

**GEORFFREY CHARD**

Schubert's  
Australia  
Clay of the Chordless  
New Notes  
Baths Hymn of the Republic

A. Arden  
J. K. K.

**Geoffrey Chard** was a founding member of *The Australian Opera* in 1956 and has had a long and distinguished operatic and concert career in Australia, Europe and the UK. Geoffrey has performed at *Covent Garden*, *Glyndebourne* and with the *Welsh National Opera* in many principal roles. Returning to Australia in 1982, he has appeared regularly with the *ABC symphony orchestras* and *State Opera Companies* throughout Australia. In 1988, Geoffrey was awarded an *AM* in the *Australia Day* honours for his contribution to opera. He has also won several *Green Room Awards* for his work in theatre.



J. Geoffrey Chard



## Weddings & All That Jazz

This concert was held in the Port Macquarie Uniting Church on 1-2 July. The highlight of the program was part of Longfellow's poem *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* set to challenging music by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor.

After the interval small groups including Cantabile,

Ex Audi and soloists performed songs relating to weddings which added a very light touch to the program. John Dyer's eye-rolling caused instant hysteria for the Musical Director.

Many Choristers went on to celebrate together at Café 66 with champagne and orange juice left over from Bizet and Bubbles while their young all sat together and seemed to have a great time.



Weddings & All That Jazz at the Uniting Church (Michael Matthews).

THE HASTINGS CHORISTERS present		Weddings & Musical Director: Robyn Ryan		All That Jazz Accompanist: Marian Lattimore	
<b>Weddings &amp; All That Jazz</b>  Saturday 1st July 2000 - 8.00pm Sunday 2nd July 2000 - 2.00pm Uniting Church, Sherwood Road, Port Macquarie		<b>HIAWATHA'S WEDDING FEAST</b> Samuel Coleridge-Taylor      Text by H W Longfellow Soloist: John Thompson		 Michael Matthews and Male Chorus John Thompson & Helen Latham Cantabile John Thompson, Helen Latham, Marian Lattimore, John Naylor	
<b>Interval</b> Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin Richard Wagner Cantabile Bridegroom's Chorus from Das Eisechke Carl Maria von Weber Cantabile Waiting at the Church Leigh-Pemberton The Girl That I Marry Irving Berlin from Annie Get Your Gun Cantabile The Bride Johannes Brahms Cantabile Gullage Frederick Bridge Cantabile Two-part Graham McArthur		Get me to the Church on Time Leonard Cohen from My Fair Lady West Side Story Duo Bernstein from Soundtrack We're Only Just Begun H Williams/Walton Brightly Dances Our Wedding Day Gilbert Sullivan from The Mikado You're Just In Love Chorus from Call Me Madam Chapel of Love Medley Marie van Dael, Adele Miller, Keri Fane Richard Swinson Et Audi and Chorus Richard Swinson			



Rehearsals for Weddings & All That Jazz (Michael Matthews).



# Handel's Messiah

9-10 December saw us back in Port Macquarie High School Auditorium for this wonderful exhilarating work (see program below). It is so good to sing and well loved by choristers and audiences that we perform it every two or three years.

This year the performances were dedicated to the memory of Margie Brown, a wonderful musician and dear friend who had recently lost her battle with leukaemia.

We travelled by bus to Armidale a week before to rehearse with the New England Sinfonia. The bus trip was a bonding time – full of excitement on the way up and quieter on the way home.

As quoted in the Musical Director's Report for 2000 *"using some home and away soloists and the New England Sinfonia we presented two delightful concerts which received great acclaim."*

*"... The Sunday performance was nothing less than stunning. The chorus attained an unsurpassed standard of excellence in choral singing with superb attention to detail, great precision in diction and a beautiful choral tone. Soloists with developing young voices from Newcastle and Armidale, who were students of Christopher Allan, gave sincere and musical interpretations of some of Handel's most challenging writing."*

*"... Opportunity was given to six of our chorus to perform a solo or duet. Each of them performed beautifully one item which, when combined with singing all the choruses made for a big vocal weekend for them. Special thanks to Fran, Leanne, Joshua (timpanist extraordinaire), Peter, Helen and Miriam – you did us proud!"*

A Christmas party at Lincoln Green Café followed Sunday's *Messiah* performance, with a floor show by members that provided great entertainment.

# Vocal Delights

On 21 May we sang at the Salvation Army Citadel in order to raise funds for Torchbearers for Legacy. The program included *In Flanders Fields* sung by us for the first time, a very poignant piece just before Anzac Day, which drew tears from many in the audience and choir. The Hastings Youth Choirs joined in.

# Olympic Torch Relay

In term three the main choir took a break, while Cantabile prepared for the Olympic Torch Relay concert with *Celebrate This Day Together* and three South African pieces accompanied by Josh Salter on a hand-drum. The performance was held at Westport Park.

**HASTINGS CHORISTERS  
and  
NEW ENGLAND SINFONIA**

present

**Handel's  
MESSIAH**

Conductor  
**Robyn Ryan**

**Samantha Smith**  
Soprano

**Joanna Cashin**  
Contralto

**Ceri Aubrey**  
Tenor

**Stephen Hudson**  
Bass

Saturday 9 December 2000, 7.30 pm  
Sunday 10 December 2000, 1.30 pm  
**PORT MACQUARIE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

Air	<i>I know that my redeemer liveth</i>	Soprano
Chorus	<i>Since by man came death</i>	
Recitative	<i>Behold, I tell you a mystery</i>	Bass
Air	<i>The trumpet shall sound</i>	Bass
Air	<i>If God be for us</i>	Soprano
Chorus	<i>Worthy is the lamb that was slain/Amen</i>	

**Dedication**

Messiah 2000 is dedicated to the memory of **Margie Brown**, a wonderful musician and dear friend who recently lost her battle with leukaemia. Margie's talents were manifold and her generosity in sharing them with our community will long be remembered. No doubt she is playing her viola and harp in a better place right now.

**Samantha Smith** completed her Bachelor of Music Honours degree at Newcastle University in 1997, attaining first class honours and becoming the first music graduate in the university's history to be awarded a University Medal. Samantha has been a soloist under several conductors at the Newcastle University Conservatorium, and has performed many leading roles including *Nero* in Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea*. Her first CD, a complete recording of song cycles by Richard Madden, was released by Move Records in March 2000. Samantha has a studio of 25 students, and is co-founder of two prominent ensembles, Frog Song Vocal Ensemble and The Armidale Vocal Ensemble (AVE). She is in the final stages of PhD studies at the University of Newcastle researching and performing operatic music of the late 18th century.

**Ceri Aubrey** has been described as a "brilliant, 'Italian' tenor who will probably end up being a lyric with a spinto edge". He has spent 15 years singing with various choirs and is now a soloist with the Newcastle University Choir. He has performed in *Amie* at the Newcastle Civic Theatre, and with Hunter Opera in various roles, including *"Don Ottavio"* in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. He played *"Nadir Pao"* in *The Mikado* and the evil villain Monostatos in *The Magic Flute*.

**Joanna Cashin** is a contralto of over 20 years experience, dating from NBN Children's Choir to more recent principal roles with Opera Hunter, including *Violence* in *The Merry Widow*, *Donna Anna* in *Don Giovanni* and *Mrs Pigeon* in *Merry Wives of Windsor*. This year, Joanna has played *Pina* in the Newcastle Gilbert & Sullivan Players' production of *The Mikado*, and is also soloist in the Newcastle University Choir's performance of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. She is also an accomplished pianist, and has studied French Italian and drama to enhance her performance skills.

**Stephen Hudson** is a "light" baritone who has been singing in public since he was 9 years old. He has won many firsts in eisteddfodau including the City of Sydney Eisteddfod. He is a member and soloist of the Newcastle Christ Church Cathedral Choir. Stephen recently toured the UK with the Newcastle University Chamber Choir. He has performed in *Carmina* and *Eljah*, and had a principal role in opera Hunter's *Les Misérables*. At present he is undertaking a Bachelor of Music degree at Newcastle Uni-

**The New England Sinfonia**  
Leader: **Errol Russell**

**Harpichord** – Keith Power  
**Violas** – Errol Russell, Kate Chapman, Rachel Donaldson,  
Elizabeth Hutchinson, Rachel Menzies, Eliza Shaw, Michelle Windos.  
**Violins** – Chris Cunningham, Olivia Gosip, Laurie Polley.  
**Cellos** – Claire Chapman, Sue Metcalfe.  
**Double Bass** – Wendy Griffiths

**Trumpet** – Wayne Elliott  
**Oboe** – Graham Maddocks  
**Timpani** – Josh Salter

## Choir Picnic

Later in the year, on Sunday 18 June, Anje and Fred Sipkes welcomed many of us to their garden and paddocks for a picnic (see pictures next page). Their garden has often been in the Open Gardens scheme and was a pleasure to visit, though not open to the public in 2000.



Picnic view and strolling around the property (Michael Matthews).

## Carols, Angels & Midnight Mass

Christmas for the Choristers started with leading the Carols by Candlelight concert at Westport Park from the back of a semi-trailer.

The following evening we joined with the Youth Choirs and Town Band in the Christmas Angels concert. We led with a few well-loved carols.

A sprinkling of Hastings Choristers also led a celebration of Midnight Mass at St Agnes - no one dropped their candle while processing in the dark and it sounded quite glorious.

## Weddings Party



Party at Café 66 after Weddings & All That Jazz (Michael Matthews).

Some final words on the year 2000 from our Musical Director

*"The year finished on a real choral high thanks to the hard work of all members. Over the months it has been heartening to hear the sound grow and change as the voices became more focussed. We must build on that and really work on refining the sound".*



## 2001 – first choral festival



Photo: Michael Matthews

CONCERTS	
6-8 April	Music To Die For
26-27 May	Hastings Choral Festival 2001
23 September	Tea For Two At 2
8-9 December	Rejoice!
OTHER EVENTS	
21 October	Last Night of the Proms
10 December	Carols at Lincoln Green
19 December	Carols on the Fairway

# Introduction

John Thompson again led the management team, ably assisted by Gerard, by now an experienced Choristers treasurer, with Adele Miles and Meredith Hinds vice president and secretary respectively.

Adele had a dual job as she was also on the small and highly efficient sub-committee working with Marie van Gend on the big event for 2001- the Inaugural Hastings Choral Festival.

We also managed our usual three concerts during the year.

A logo competition was held and entries voted on during the year, however the committee decided that none of the ideas would quite fit the bill. Our web page was also started up during the year by Michael Matthews.

## Music To Die For

We started 2001 rehearsing for this concert (see program below). The program consisted of beautiful short mainly sacred pieces in the first half with soprano soloists Miriam Allen and Miriam Lattimore.

After the break we sang *The Requiem* by John Rutter which had some quite challenging sections for us to learn.

Miriam Allen was the soloist for three concerts, Friday night in Port Macquarie Uniting Church, Saturday in Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree, and back to the Uniting Church for Sunday afternoon, held on 6, 7 and 8 April.

Sharing cars for travelling to Taree was another time for getting to know fellow choristers. We nearly left one member behind in Taree – she had to sing for her release after being locked into the toilet block!



Hastings  
Choristers  
present...

# Music To Die For...

**Conductor**  
**Robyn Ryan**

**Music To Die For...**

**Friday 4 April, 2003 – 8 pm**  
Uniting Church, West Musquarts

**Saturday 5 April, 2003 – 8 pm**  
Our Lady of the Rosary, Tave

**Sunday 6 April, 2003 – 2 pm**  
Uniting Church, West Musquarts

**Musical Director:** Robyn Ryan

**Accompanist:** Miriam Lattimore

**Programme**

**Jesu, joy of man's desiring** *from Cantata 147*

**Dono Nobis Pacem**

**Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love**  
*Based on Psalm 95 by G Faure*

**Locus Iste**

**Pie Jesu** *from Requiem*  
*Solists: Miriam Allan and Miriam Lattimore*

**Laudate Dominum** *from Fuguerne solenne de confesseur*  
*Solists: Miriam Lattimore*

**Ave Maria** *from Requiem*  
*Solists: Miriam Allan*

**CANTANTILE 1**

**Agnes Dei** *Colin Brumby*  
**Simple Gifts** *Stephen Leak*  
**The Lord is my Shepherd** *Javier Busto*

**Indian Prayer**

**In Flanders Field**

**Hymn to Freedom**

**The Lord's Prayer** *from African Sanctus*

**J S Bach**

**ML Lightfoot**

**arr Petter**

**A Bruckner**

**A Lloyd Webber**

**Mozart K.339**

**J S Bach/Gounod**

**G Faure**

**R Emerson**

**Jacobson-Emerson**

**O Peterson**

**D Fanshawe**

**Supra Sanctus: Miriam Allan**

**Requiem**

**Agnes Dei**

**Simple Gifts**

**The Lord is my Shepherd**

**Indian Prayer**

**In Flanders Field**

**Hymn to Freedom**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Requiem**

**John Rutter**

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**In Flanders Field**

**Hymn to Freedom**

**The Lord's Prayer**



# Inaugural Hastings Choral Festival

Lots of hard work for many months by a small sub-committee was well rewarded by a rip-roaring successful weekend on 26-27 May (see below for program). The event even made a small profit which was good news.

The event was held in the Port Macquarie Civic Centre with workshops in the old Art Gallery, old Court House and other venues nearby.

A separate great team of helpers provided participants with a very welcome tea with biscuits, lunches, and

a BBQ for those who wished in the evening. It was a very big weekend and lots of friends assisted with various jobs such as minding workshop rooms and looking after presenters.

We learnt several massed choir items in the plenary sessions and enjoyed performing them in the concert on Sunday afternoon. Seven choirs attended and all sang a few items in the concert.

There was a lot of good feedback from participants which made the sub-committee keen to do another the following year with a few improvements such as longer time for workshop sessions.

### Hastings Choral Festival 2001

**A WEEKEND OF SONG**

Saturday 26 – Sunday 27 May 2001

Port Macquarie Civic Centre, Clarence St Port Macquarie from 9 am 26 May

**The weekend's activities...**

**THE PLAN:** Our aim is to gather choral singers together to share a weekend of fantastic workshops with every participant singing in a massed choir at a concert. This concert will be a satisfying celebration of choral singing for the whole community.

**WHO CAN ATTEND?** Individuals as well as whole choirs are welcome. Sessions are geared to both experienced and inexperienced choral singers.

**FOOD?** Planning and chorusing are included. Lunch and dinner on Saturday are extra and optional. Lunch feeding is not provided. All events are in the Port Macquarie CBD so local buses are fine. **WHERE TO STAY?** Contact the Port Macquarie Hastings House Information Centre, phone 080 025 830 or email [enquiries@mhhouse.com.au](mailto:enquiries@mhhouse.com.au)

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>(Most at the Civic Centre)</b>
9.00	Registration
9.30	Massed choir rehearsal
10.30	Workshop 1
11.00	Workshop 2
11.30	Lunch
12.00	Workshop 3
12.30	Workshop 4
14.00	Afternoon tea
16.30	Massed choir rehearsal
17.30	Barbecue dinner

<b>Sunday</b>	
9.00	Hotting up
9.30	Massed choir rehearsal
11.00	Technical rehearsal
12.00	Free time
14.00	<b>THE CONCERT</b>

**Children on Sunday (Meet at the PCYC)**

9.30	Registration & morning tea
10.00	Workshop
11.30	Free time
14.00	<b>THE CONCERT</b>

### THE WORKSHOPS

**A. SAY IT LOUD, THE BLACK A CAPPELLA SOUNDS**

*At the Old Court House* With Stuart Davis  
Hastings and Dylan a capella style, with one of the members of the unit

**B. SING INTO A FINE VOICE**

*At the Old Court House* With R. K. Braggins  
Learn how to sing higher notes and better phrasing in all kinds of music by building on your natural technique. You'll have fun while singing more beautifully.

**C. RENAISSANCE RECROSS**

*At the Regent* (in Italian) With David Reeves  
From High Renascence to Renaissance with a little bit of Stravinsky along the way...

**D. PLAYING AROUND WITH FORTS AND SIGHTS**

*At the Old Court House* With Peter Tait  
Sing songs from the library with lyrics by Mozart, Schubert and Haydn and finish with chorales from the 16th century.

**E. AFRICA SINGS**

*At the Blackhouse* (in Italian) With David Reeves  
Let yourself go as you explore African rhythms using vocal improvisation and traditional African percussion including the jembe.

**Kids' Chorus: Fun on Sunday**

*At the PCYC* With St. Paul's Macquarie With Peter Tait  
This singing American choral chorale, along with other members, will explore improvisation and singing songs to work with young people. Participants should have their own (orally) prepared and musically challenging. This gives a presentation at the Sunday afternoon concert.

**CHILDREN ATTENDING ON SUNDAY**

Between 7 and 17 years of age are most welcome to participate in a special program. Please note the children registered for Sunday's workshop and concert MUST be supervised AT ALL TIMES by their Parent/Teacher or parent. (Children accepted on responsibility for unsupervised children)

### Presenters

*Hastings Choral Festival 2001 is proud to bring on the world's professional choral musicians for our workshops and massed choir:*

**David Ramsey**

The winner of the ABC's Youngest Young Conductor of the Year in 1995, David has immense experience with choral music, both as a conductor and as a soloist. Among other appointments he has been Music Director of the Brisbane City Opera and the Kings College Choir at the University of Queensland. He has also composed numerous choral anthems, radio settings and hymns.

**Christopher Allan**

Christopher serves as the University of Newcastle Faculty of Music and is the Associate Music Director of the Newcastle University Choir. As a soloist he has been a member of the King's College and a soloist with many major choral groups. He has regular work with Opera Australia and is touring with the Australian Chamber Orchestra. He has also composed many solo and chamber works.

**Stuart Davis**

Stuart is the Sydney Academy Association in Sydney in 1990 and is currently the student director of the National Choir at the State of Victoria, as well as the director of the community choir. He also has some experience with singing in church and organizing concerts. A singer himself, Stuart has learned many songs on TV and the radio.

**Pam Gethick**

Pam is currently on a one year teaching fellowship at Ashton and Sydney Grammar School. She is from the United States and has completed her doctoral studies in choral conducting at Yale University. She has extensive experience with singing both children's and adult choirs.

**Sarah Reeves**

A musician and educator, Sarah has been a member of three a cappella choirs and has directed a community-based a cappella choir in Newcastle for the past two years. Sarah has wide experience in running workshops and seminars and is a regular staff of her own music store.



The main venue for the Choral Festival.



Choral Festival participants enjoying a well earned break.

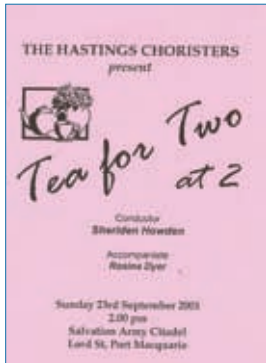


Choral Festival participants enjoying refreshments.

## Tea For Two At 2

Sunday 23 September at the Salvation Army Citadel saw us presenting a light, bright concert featuring many favourites from the Cole Porter and George Gershwin era.

Our Musical Director was on leave so Sheridan Howden trained the singers and wielded the baton.



Rehearsing for Tea for Two at 2 (Michael Matthews).

## Last Night of the Proms

The choir was invited to take part in the Last Night of the Proms in Newcastle on Sunday 21 October. This was a fun event with a massed choir including Newcastle Conservatorium singers and orchestra conducted by Dr David Banney.

## Rejoice!

The Rejoice! Christmas concerts (see program on next page) were held in the Port Macquarie Uniting Church on 8-9 December. John Rutter's beautiful *Dancing Day* was a highlight, performed by Cantabile and a few extra voices.

The hauntingly beautiful harp accompaniment provided by Genevieve Lang completed this special piece.

On Sunday evening the Christmas party was another fun event and a good meal was had at the Lincoln Green Café.



Choristers Rejoicing! (Michael Matthews)



## Carols at Lincoln Green

A delightful short concert of carols was performed by the Youth Choirs at Lincoln Green on 10 December.

## Carols on the Fairway

On the 19th of December, the Carols on the Fairway concert was held at the Port Macquarie Golf Course in December with the Port Macquarie Hastings Band.

Excitement was added by the strong winds causing some discomfort to the camels.

## Rejoice! party



Choristers at Rejoice! party (Michael Matthews)





# 2002 – consolidation



CONCERTS	
22 February	174th Anniversary of St Thomas'
4-5 May	Hastings Choral Festival 2002
29-30 June	Made In Australia
21-22 September	Songburst
14-15 December	Handel's Messiah

OTHER EVENTS	
26 January	Robyn Ryan OAM
30 June	Farewell to Gerard Rollo
15 December	Christmas Party

## Introduction

Kerryn Lawrence was the new president for 2002, supported by Mark Garrett as vice president. The secretary and treasurer continued from last year.

One could call this the “year of consolidation” as we had the **Second Hastings Choral Festival**, building on the skills developed last year with added improvements, and run by the same team. The theme of Australian music was reintroduced for one concert and we finished with a resounding *Messiah* in Armidale and in Port Macquarie.

## Robyn Ryan OAM

An Order of Australia Medal for Robyn Ryan, our Musical Director, was announced in the Australia Day 2002 honours list in recognition of her “*service to music and cultural life in the communities of Port Macquarie and the Camden Haven.*”

This well-deserved award was celebrated by recommenders on



Australia Day celebrations.

Australia Day. The medal was presented to Robyn on 9 May 2002 by Her Excellency Marie Bashir, Governor of New South Wales, at a special function.

Further information is contained in the section on Robyn Ryan in “Our Story – so far ...” earlier in Our Story of the Hastings Chorists.



Presentation Ceremony for Robyn Ryan OAM.



Order of Australia Award.





174th Anniversary of St Thomas'

The first night back at the beginning of a new year is always exciting. The atmosphere is really alive as people greet each other after a six-week break.

We went straight into rehearsing for a concert in St Thomas' Anglican Church on 22 February 2002 to celebrate its 174th anniversary.

Marie-Cecile Henderson and John Thompson were soloists and Carol Irving played the church's 1828 Schaeffer wooden clarinet with Rose Dyer on the 1856 pipe and barrel organ and 1838 seraphine.



Soloists John Thompson and Marie-Cecile Henderson (Hydro Photographics).

Second Hastings Choral Festival

Preparations for the **Second Hastings Choral Festival** on 4-5 May followed.

This time we had a choice of four out of a possible six workshops, each of 90 minutes duration, which proved better than the shorter time allocated in the previous year.

Another feature of the weekend was an excellent Saturday evening concert by The Australian Voices conducted by Stephen Leek.

Stephen and his young singers also led the Festival massed choir on Sunday afternoon. Marie van Gend wrote the words for the *Festival Song* which Stephen was commissioned to set to music. It has since been sung on many different occasions.

Christopher Allan, David Banney and Sarah Reeve returned as presenters by popular request. They were joined by Rachel Hore exploring world music, Susan Stott teaching the art of Barbershop singing and Janette Kearns conducting Master Classes which were very educational to hear and see.



Barbershop workshop for women.

Hastings Choral Festival 2002

THE WORKSHOPS

1. **Barbershop Workshop** (9.30-10.30 am)

2. **World Music** (10.30-11.30 am)

3. **Barbershop Workshop** (11.30-12.30 pm)

4. **World Music** (12.30-1.30 pm)

5. **Barbershop Workshop** (1.30-2.30 pm)

6. **World Music** (2.30-3.30 pm)

7. **Barbershop Workshop** (3.30-4.30 pm)

8. **World Music** (4.30-5.30 pm)

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378. **World Music** (2.30

## Made in Australia

We did not have much rest this year, as the end of June (29-30) saw us on stage for **Made in Australia**, a concert in celebration of Australian music.

We were joined by the Youth Choirs' Melodic Minors and Vivace, as well as a young guitar orchestra Fretful Fingers under the direction of Julie Olzomer, local teachers Iain Pole on flute, Melinda Atkins and David Gwilliam on saxophone.

Cameron Marshall from the ABC was the Master of Ceremony for these concerts and helped to keep them flowing.

The **Made in Australia** concerts were dedicated to Katie Wood a much loved lady and soprano who was tragically killed in a car crash earlier in the month. We sang at her funeral in Kempsey.



## Songburst

Again we were hard at work preparing for performances on 21-22 September. This was a spring profusion of favourite opera and musical songs with guest soprano Marie-Cecile Henderson. The men's Barbershop Quartet was a huge hit.



*Cantabile in performance (above)  
and the Barbershop Quartet (below).*



## Handel's Messiah

In the fourth term we were once again rehearsing this great oratorio. Choristers always seem to return for this much loved work.

On 8 December we were bussed to Armidale for an 11 am rehearsal with the Armidale Symphony Orchestra – a Baroque orchestra. After lunch and a quick change of clothes we sang all the choruses in the Armidale Catholic Cathedral.

On the next weekend we gave two concerts in the Port Macquarie High School Auditorium with four lovely soloists: Marie-Cecile Henderson (soprano), Caroline Vercoe (contralto), Wolf von Kehler (tenor) and Ian Fisher (bass) (see program below).



Part One		Part Two	
1. Hastings Choristers	Chorus	1. Hastings Choristers	Chorus
2. Bass	Tenor	2. Bass	Tenor
3. Soprano	Contralto	3. Soprano	Contralto
4. Bass	Tenor	4. Bass	Tenor
5. Soprano	Contralto	5. Soprano	Contralto
6. Bass	Tenor	6. Bass	Tenor
7. Soprano	Contralto	7. Soprano	Contralto
8. Bass	Tenor	8. Bass	Tenor
9. Soprano	Contralto	9. Soprano	Contralto
10. Bass	Tenor	10. Bass	Tenor
11. Soprano	Contralto	11. Soprano	Contralto
12. Bass	Tenor	12. Bass	Tenor
13. Soprano	Contralto	13. Soprano	Contralto
14. Bass	Tenor	14. Bass	Tenor
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16. Bass	Tenor	16. Bass	Tenor
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98. Bass	Tenor	98. Bass	Tenor
99. Soprano	Contralto	99. Soprano	Contralto
100. Bass	Tenor	100. Bass	Tenor





*Choristers at the Kooloonbung Creek (Hydro Photographics).*

**Farewell to Gerard Rollo**

After the **Made in Australia** concert on Sunday a party was held at Café 66 to farewell our marvellous treasurer Gerard Rollo whose work was taking him to Brisbane.



*Presentations and serenade to Gerard (Michael Matthews).*

**Carols by Candlelight**

What seemed to have been one of the busiest years ended with **Carols by Candlelight** at Port Macquarie Golf Club complete with camels and wise men.

**Christmas Party**

Our Christmas Party for 2002 was held at Tacking Point Surf Club where drinks and nibbles were enjoyed on the new deck overlooking the sea, before a spit roast and of course our famous floor show contributions by various members. There were several new lyrics written on topical subjects put to well known tunes!



*Christmas Party people (Michael Matthews).*

## 2003 – creatures great and small



*Photo: Nikki Dures*

CONCERTS	
4-5 April	Hope In Harmony
20-21 September	All Creatures Great and Small
6-7 December	Glad Tidings (Sydney)
13-14 December	Glad Tidings
OTHER EVENTS	
21 September	All Creatures Party

## Introduction

Kerryn Lawrence nobly continued as president in 2003 ably supported by Michael Matthews (vice president), Gillian Brotherston (secretary) and Nelly Wagemaker (treasurer).

Three big concerts were planned for 2003 with the aim of maintaining a reasonable budget surplus. Every year the choir committee faces large expenses associated with running the organisation. Venues for both rehearsals and performances have to be paid for, along with the cost of music, insurance, fees for the Musical Director, accompanist and soloists, publicity, and other sundry costs. This we managed to achieve with a surplus to go towards equipment items and a “rainy day”.

A sub-committee of the Choristers looked into our constitution, in particular the operation of Hastings Youth Choir (HYC) and its relationship to the Hastings Choristers. The administrative arrangements between these groups were confirmed at the 2004 Annual General Meeting.

We were very lucky to be able to move to the auditorium at St Paul's for all rehearsals from May 2003. The school also gave us space to store some of our equipment.

In July Cantabile were treated to an enjoyable workshop given by the *a capella* group The Hummingbirds.

In September some members participated in the Blessing of the Animals with the Port Macquarie Town Band directed by Glen Moore.

Choir members were socially active during the year giving people the opportunity to get to know one another and share some time together.

They met for a Bago Vineyard musical afternoon, a function at the Port City Bowling Club and of

course the Christmas party after the last December concert. This year it was a BBQ held at Robyn and Frank's home. BYO drinks and meat with members' contributions of salads, breads and desserts for all to share. A lovely low cost all inclusive way of celebrating the end of an eventful year. Floor show items were again a feature.

We sang at two funerals and a wedding during the year.

Marian Ramm, an alto member of the choir who had not been with us for very long but was an inspiration with her enthusiasm and commitment, died during 2003. Many members sang at her funeral, as well as one at St Agnes.

Sadly our patrons, Roger and Heather Dulhunty both passed away during the year and will be a great loss to us and the community.

Our **All Creatures Great and Small** concert in September was dedicated to the memory of Roger, Heather and Marian.

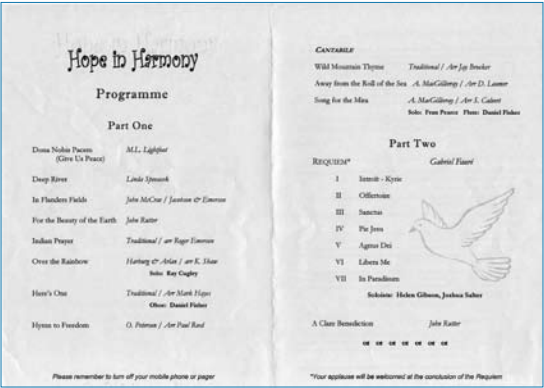
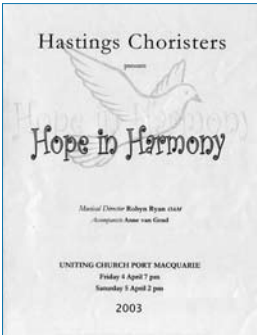




Hope In Harmony

Our first concert of 2003 was held in the Port Macquarie Uniting Church on Friday and Saturday 4-5 April 2003. The major work for the concert was the lovely *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré with our members Helen Gibson and Josh Salter as soloists and the very talented Anne van Gend accompanying.

The main choir and Cantabile also presented some shorter sacred and secular items. The choral sound was of a high standard and though we were repeating the *Requiem* performance, members found it very satisfying and stimulating.



Helen Gibson Soloist (Hydro Photographics).

All Creatures Great and Small

Two performances took place at the Uniting Church on September 20-21, a week after the Blessing of the Animals, carrying on the theme with fun songs about animals, insects and children.

Hasting Youth Choir members joined in and upstaged the adults, particularly the Cherubs who performed a bracket of delightful solos in their wonderful red uniforms and stole the show.

Cantabile and a smaller SATB ensemble also did us proud. *Rubber Ducky* was a definite crowd pleaser.



Cherubs (Nikki Dures).



*Blessing of the Animals at St Thomas' Church.*



*Horse with Rider (Michael Matthews).*



*Collection of Bears (Michael Matthews).*

## All Creatures Party

This party was held after the **All Creatures Great and Small** concert on Sunday at the Lincoln Greenery Café where some of the creatures performed.



*Just practising (Michael Matthews).*



*What have we here? --- Some bears! --- More bears!!  
(Michael Matthews).*



*Party goers enjoying the entertainment (Michael Matthews).*



## Glad Tidings

**Glad Tidings**, a sacred program for Advent and Christmas, was spread over four performances.

The first two were in Sydney on 6-7 December, at St Vincent's Catholic Church at Ashfield and an evening performance at All Saints at Hunters Hill – two beautiful churches where we produced great choral sounds to small audiences.

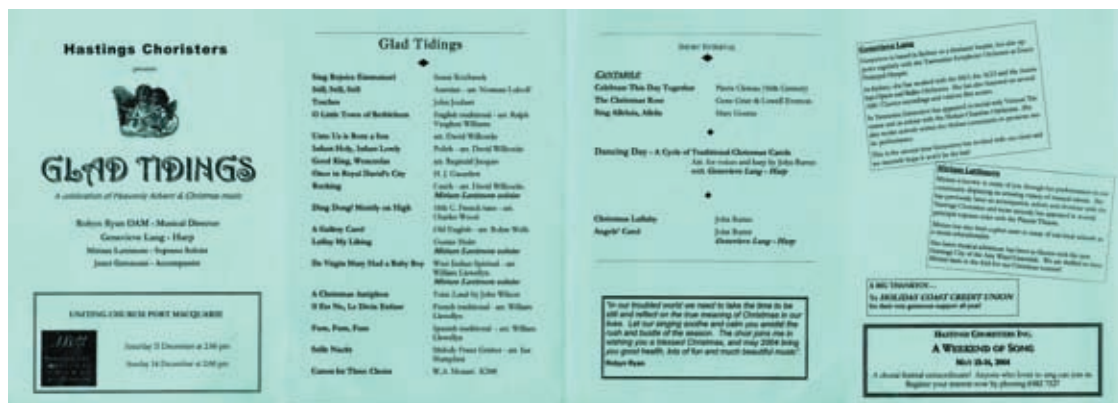
An enlarged Cantabile group were superb singing John Rutter's *Dancing Day* with harp accompaniment by Genevieve Lang which delighted audiences.

We travelled by bus to Sydney for the first time. This proved a convivial exercise with a bit of accidental excitement on the side on the return journey. There was also a shopping spree at Birkenhead Point.

The two concerts in Port Macquarie were held at the Uniting Church on Saturday and Sunday 13-14 December 2003. By that stage the repertoire was well consolidated and everyone really enjoyed the performances.

We were delighted to hear Miriam Lattimore's lovely solo voice again after a spell with the Players Theatre.

Musical Director Robyn and the whole choir were very happy that Janet Geronomi was able to be the accompanist for the last two concerts. Not having a regular accompanist has proved to be difficult this year.



*Choristers rehearsing in the Kooloonbung (Hydro Photographics).*

# 2004 – housekeeping



CONCERTS	
7-9 April	Crucifixus
15-16 May	Hastings Choral Festival 2004
6-7 June	That Jazz!
31 October	A Viennese Connection
27 November	Viva la Musica
OTHER EVENTS	
19 June	Inaugural Dinner Dance
13 December	Lessons and Carols

## Introduction

Mark Garrett took over as President with Martyn Tizzard acting as vice president. The secretary and treasurer continued from 2003 which helped in this continuing consolidation phase.

We had the **Third Hastings Choral Festival** and managed a Dinner Dance as well as the usual concert performances.

2004 was a very busy year for the Choristers as, apart from our performances, a lot of housekeeping was undertaken. We adopted a new Constitution based on the Model Rules at the Annual General Meeting in February.

The main choir was given the name Cantorus to give it an official identity. Discussion continued on a new logo, and new riser backs were purchased. We moved to MacKillop for rehearsals. The operation of the Youth Choirs was also considered.

The lack of a regular accompanist was a continuing problem and put extra pressure on Robyn as musical director, however Robyn Carter and Ron Mapstone were able to come to the rescue at times.

We welcomed Paul and Mary McCarthy as our new patrons during the year.

Hastings Youth Choirs had a difficult year, but still hold performances at Bunnings, Settlement City and Nursing Homes in Port Macquarie, and were well received as usual.

The busy year concluded with a simple service in the Baptist Church on Monday 13 December with Ron Mapstone accompanying us on the organ and John Dyer reading the lessons.

Robyn Ryan mentioned that Cantorus *"had never sounded better and the choral tone was stunning."* The magnificent organ sound inspired everyone.

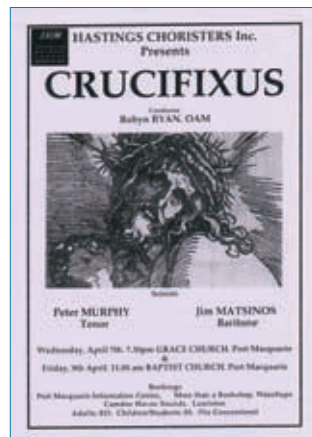
The choristers Christmas party on 17 December was again held at Robyn and Frank's home – a convivial affair of BYO BBQ.

## Crucifixus

Our first concert of the year was performed on Wednesday evening 7 April and on Good Friday 9 April at 11 am. The venues were the Grace Church and the Baptist Church respectively.

Peter Murphy and Jim Matsinos were soloists with additional soloist Ray Cugley. Robyn Ryan was accompanist for the *Crucifixus* with Baptist Church organist Ron Mapstone for the community hymns. Both were stirring, beautiful performances with the sounds in both churches bringing tears to many in the choir and audiences.

These concerts were dedicated to the memory of soprano Margaret Scott.





Chief organisers were Kerryn and Gillian who did a fabulous job with many choir members assisting with the associated chores. This contributes to the camaraderie and cohesiveness of the choir.

The *a capella* group Hummingbirds gave a concert on Saturday evening.

Attendance was good as our festivals are very popular and well organised. Members of the Beethoven Society of Australia were particularly impressed by the choral standards of our groups.

Afterwards the Choristers continued with a BBQ at MacKillop which was enjoyed by all.



*Massed choirs rehearsing.*



*Festival attendees and helpers.*

[illegible]

*Massed choirs in Festival Concert.*



Choristers relaxing at the post-Festival BBQ and (some of them) working afterwards!



Dinner Dance attendees and entertainment.

## That Jazz!

Two matinee performances of **That Jazz!** were held on Saturday and Sunday 26-27 June 2004 at MacKillop Senior College.

They were shared with the Port Macquarie Hastings Band under the baton of Glen Moore with guest soloists Ron Polson, Jim Matsinos, Laura Herd and Laura Bereicua. Cantorus and Cantabile each presented brackets of jazz standards.



## Inaugural Dinner Dance

On 19 June a great night was had by those who attended our first Dinner Dance which was held at the Racecourse – much dancing and many fun items were presented.

Jenny Tucker and her team did a great job with the organising and decorations.



Dinner Dance venue.





## A Viennese Connection

At the end of October we travelled by bus to Sydney to rehearse and perform with the Beethoven Society of Australia, joining them and members of the Willoughby Choir for parts of the Mozart *Requiem* and the finale from Beethoven's *9th Symphony*.

This was very stirring and for many of us it was a thrill to sing with the SBS Youth Orchestra in the Sydney Town Hall for the first time. As our newsletter editor said *“an unforgettable experience and a true highlight in the history of the Hastings Choristers”*.

Apart from the joy of singing in a big group we had fun staying at the Y on the Park with several amusing tales to recount about being propositioned by taxi drivers and park sleepers on early morning walks.

*The Beethoven Society  
of Australia*

presents



*A Viennese Connection*  
MOZART, BEETHOVEN & FRIENDS

*Sydney Town Hall*  
Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2004

*A Viennese Connection*

**Program**

**First Hall**

Frans van Sappé	Overture Light Cavalry	SSS Youth Orchestra
Musart	Concerto for Flute, Strings & Harp	Laila Engle Flautist
Musart	Requiem: Slow Int., Rise Transcendental Confidant, Lamentation, Serenade	Chorus and Orchestra
Schubert	Symphony No.2 Finale	SSS Youth Orchestra

**Second Hall**

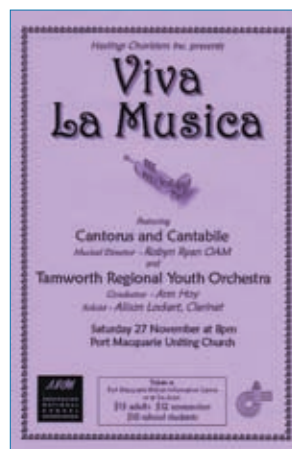
Musart	Overture Marriage of Figaro	SSS Youth Orchestra
Haydn	Like one goes to town From the Barber of Seville	Jacqueline Davis Conductor
Tchaikovsky	Larghetto's aria from Eugene Onegin	Norman Foster Tenor
Puccini	Un bel dì, vedremo from Madama Butterfly	Penelope Miles Soprano
Mozart	Der Haffgängerlein von der Maga Flute	David Oliver Baritone
Beethoven	Violin Concerto: First	Dr. Miles Violinist
Beethoven	Finale from 9 <sup>th</sup> Symphony	Chorus and Orchestra

[illegible]

# Viva la Musica

Saturday 27 November 2004 found us back in the Uniting Church to present **Viva la Musica** with the Tamworth Youth Orchestra as guests, conducted by Ann Hoy.

Some of their members enjoyed Choristers' hospitality with a meal and a shower before the evening concert.

[illegible]

*Viennese Connection performance at the Sydney Town Hall (Beethoven Society of Australia)*

# 2005 – our fifteenth year



*Photo: Michael Matthews*

CONCERTS	
27 March	Mozart Requiem
4-5 June	Choral Magic
27-28 August	Gala Night Of Song
17 December	Handel's Messiah
OTHER EVENTS	
11-13 March	Puccini's Missa di Gloria
28 May	May Madness
21 August	Mahler Symphony No 2 (Armidale)
4 September	Mahler Symphony No 2 (Sydney)
12 December	Christmas Music by HYC
18 December	Christmas Dinner & Party

## Introduction

The executive for 2005, our fifteenth year, was chaired by Gillian Brotherston, with Gary Snow vice president. Nelly continued not only as treasurer, but had to pick up a lot of the secretarial work when secretary Sue Holland suddenly disappeared.

It was an exciting and special year, with three major concerts and several out of town events in which members participated. The events were in March and August/September enabling members to complete our rehearsals and concerts too. They not

only contributed to skills development and musical enrichment, but were great fun socially. Josh Salter assisted with rehearsals when Robyn was on holiday.

Early in February we had a photographic shoot on Oxley Beach on a very windy evening. Some beautiful group photographs resulted as we posed barefoot amongst the rocks and sand (below and at end of 2005). New images have to be taken quite often for publicity purposes and changes in membership.

On 5 April we celebrated our fifteenth birthday at a supper at MacKillop.



*Choristers at Oxley Beach (Hydro Photographics)*



## Puccini's Missa Di Gloria

On 11-13 March some of us travelled to Armidale for a weekend to sing Puccini's joyful *Gloria*.

Armidale is such a lovely place in autumn and the singers' tutor Paul Holley turns a crash course into fun as well as improving our sound and technique. The performance on the last afternoon gives a great sense of achievement added to the joy of singing with an orchestra.



*Choristers on the road and during a break in proceedings  
(Gerry Jeffery).*

## Mozart Requiem

In late March most of the choir journeyed by bus to Sydney to sing the Mozart *Requiem* (see pictures below). The performance was given by a group of singers from Japan, members of the Beethoven Society and the Hastings Choristers together with four excellent soloists.

We were supported by the Sydney Concert Orchestra conducted by Takeshi Yamagami. Rehearsals were held at The Conservatorium on Saturday.

We stayed at the Y in the Park sharing dormitory rooms for four. This made for a lot of fun and good bonding as we got to know each other better.

Easter Sunday 27 March was very exciting as we entered the Opera House by a special entrance, joined forces in the Green Room (which is in fact blue), rehearsed and were later led through many passages to take our places in the choir stalls of the Concert Hall for a late afternoon performance.

For Cantorus this was our first performance in the famous Opera House so it is notable as a very special event in the history of the choir. We arrived back in Port Macquarie at midnight, very tired but happy.

Robyn Ryan was very proud of her group's performance,

*"We have learned from this experience that we are up there with some of the best choral groups in the country and we are looking forward to experiencing more opportunities like this one."*



*Performing in the Sydney Opera House (Nelly Wagemaker).*

## May Madness

On Saturday 28 May we had our second dinner dance at Port Macquarie Golf Club.

It was again co-ordinated by Jenny Tucker and greatly enjoyed by all who attended, though numbers were down from the previous year.



Choristers enjoying May Madness.

## Choral Magic

Our first major concert for the year took place on the first weekend in June in the Uniting Church.

We were joined by Cantabile, various youth choirs and soloists. The performances started with brackets from two of the Hastings Youth Choirs, and Tacking Point School's Bel Canto. These groups proved quite difficult to co-ordinate in the Church venue.

They were followed by Cantabile accompanied by Andrew Peters on viola da gamba which added a new dimension. Cantorus sang excerpts from the Mozart *Requiem* and Puccini's *Missa di Gloria* and some short choral pieces. Jim Matsinos, John Thompson and Laura Herd sang solo items.



Choral Magic			Cantabile		
Hastings Youth Choir (Chorus)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	A. Matsinos	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Hastings Youth Choir (Soprano)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Hastings Youth Choir (Alto)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Hastings Youth Choir (Tenor)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Hastings Youth Choir (Bass)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Hastings Youth Choir (Solo)	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt
Conductor: Peter Jones	Winton van der Bilt	Winton van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt	Simon van der Bilt



Gillian, Ann and Jan in Hyde Park (Michael Matthews).



Bel Canto from Tacking Point High School (Hydro Photographics).



## Gala Night Of Song

We celebrated our fifteenth birthday on 27-28 August at the old Civic Centre, making history by giving the final concert before its demolition, using the same venue as we did for our first big concert in June 1991 in honour of Mozart.

Our dress was glamorous black with men in dinner suits and bow ties. Champagne flowed with fancy nibbles before the concert. Many ex members were invited to celebrate this special occasion with us.

Cantorus opened the concert with songs as diverse as a Bach *Sanctus*, the Negro spiritual *Steal Away* and the spectacular African piece, *Dubula*. This was followed by some wonderful solo performances from local stars Laura Herd, Jim Matsinos, John Thompson and Peter Murphy.

Guest soprano Narelle Yeo then gave a beautiful rendition of *Send in the Clowns* and all joined in singing favourites from opera and musical theatre.

The nearly 600 people who attended these concerts were effusive in their praise.

*"The best concert I have been to in this town."*  
*"I don't remember the last time I enjoyed myself so much."* and  
*"You people just seem to get better every time I hear you."*

were just some of the comments made as people left the Civic Centre.

It was certainly a weekend to remember and a fitting celebration of the fifteen years of fine music that the Hastings Choristers choirs have brought to this region, under the musical direction of Robyn Ryan OAM.



Performance Finale.



And one of our Birthday cards!



# Handel's Messiah

Our last major concert for 2005 was this Christmas favourite, performed in the Baptist Church on 17-18 December with a Chamber Orchestra led by Julien Dupont together with four wonderful soloists.

This work is always well received by our audiences and is loved by the singers. It is a challenge requiring plenty of practice, but brings back lapsed members as well as attracting new choristers.

*"Rob, it was simply beautiful."*

*"During Hallelujah I was really emotional – it was a special moment."*

*"This is a very professional standard of choral singing."*

*"Fabulous choir and such warm welcoming people."*

– just some of the many similar comments received.

Our Christmas party was held at the Masonic Lodge Hall, where we feasted on a good roast dinner, followed by our renowned floor show acts and songs.



*Performing the Messiah in the Baptist Church.*

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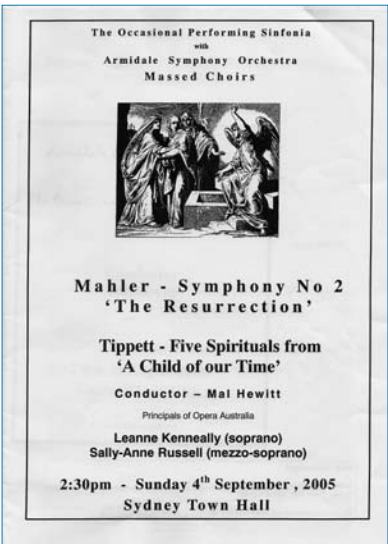
## Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "The Resurrection"

On 21 August and 4 September a few of our members sang Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* in Armidale and in the Sydney Town Hall, with The Occasional Performing Symphony from Sydney and the Armidale Symphony Orchestra.

These orchestras joined with a massed choir drawn from fifteen community choral groups, all conducted by Mal Hewitt.

## Christmas music by HYC

Hastings Youth Choirs sang Christmas music at the Base Hospital, the Governors Retirement Resort and at Bellevue Gardens Retirement Village, giving much pleasure to patients, residents and staff.



Choristers at Oxley Beach (Hydro Photographics)



Robyn Ryan adjudicating in Albury Eisteddfod.

# 2006 – connections



CONCERTS	
6-7 May	Hastings Choral Festival 2006
15-16 July	French Connection
9-10 September	Viva la Voce
5 November	Cantabile & Friends
2-3 December	Rejoice And Be Merry
OTHER EVENTS	
21 August	Japanese Cultural Exchange Concert
26 November	Vale Ray Cugley

## Introduction

The executive in 2006 was headed by John Thompson with Ian Barnard as vice president, Gerry Jeffery as secretary and Nelly Wagemaker as the experienced treasurer. Committee members were Gail Barber, Anne Molver, and new member to the job Linda Robertson.

We registered for the year at the end of January to help the treasurer, and ended the day with a BBQ at Town Beach.

John Burman developed our Occupation Health and Safety (OH&S) policy.

In mid-March some members went to Armidale to experience the choral and orchestral workshops before a thrilling performance of the *Gloria* by Francis Poulenc. This helped enormously with our French pronunciation.

Hasting Choristers sponsored **You're the Voice**, the first Youth Choral Festival, on 17 March at St Joseph's Regional High School.

We had applied to participate in the ABC choir of the year with the first round to take place in April. However, we were forced to withdraw as we could not guarantee attendance at other times.

In September the Hasting Youth Choirs gave performances at several Retirement Villages.

A wedding was postponed from early November due to illness. It was finally held at St Agnes Church the same Saturday as our final concert weekend with solo delights from Nina Mestric and John Thompson, before a large and joyful nuptial Mass.

## Hastings Choral Festival 2006

Our **Fourth Hastings Choral Festival** was held in early May (Saturday and Sunday 6-7) and was the first big event for the year. It was organized by Gillian, Kerry and Rob. The Festival Brochure (see below) incorporates our new logo used for the first time here.

Workshops were held in Jazz, Gospel, Bach, Gregorian Chant and Music Theatre, and it was again a great success. Tony Backhouse's choir Heavenly Lights gave us a concert on the Saturday night.

The **Voice Magic** concert ended the weekend with several choirs performing and then finally all joining in for massed choir items.

The MacKillop Performing Arts Centre was again an excellent venue and many Friends of the Choristers helped with catering and introducing presenters.

These festivals, though hectic, are also a time of sharing and bonding.



[illegible][illegible]

*Festival participants.*



*Choristers at the harbour with the Alma Doepe! (Hydro Photographics).*





Viva la Voce

This concert was performed on 9-10 September – again in the Uniting Church.

Jim Matsinos joined Cantorus for a lighter musical miscellany of many styles. We all enjoyed items by young singers Sarah Topfer, Laura Bereicua and Jamie-Lee McDonald.

**Viva la Voce**

**Ruby Ryan - Musical Director**  
**Lydia Wills - Accompanist**

**Joe Salter - Assistant Conductor**

**Cameras**  
Ave Maria  
Waiting Madly  
Ave Verum Corpus  
Blue Skies

**Sarah Topfer**  
All Things Bright and Beautiful

**Laura Bereicua**  
My Favourite Things

**Jim Matsinos**  
On the Street Where You Live  
Ours Upon a Dream  
Island in the Clouds  
Tears a Rainstorm

**Jamie-Lee McDonald**  
Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again  
Sometimes When We Touch

**Ensemble**  
And So It Goes  
Goodbye

**Interval - 10 minutes**

**Male Chorus**  
Stonemasons  
Lullaby

**Female Chorus**  
Lullaby

**Cameras with Jim Matsinos**  
Ave Maria  
Waiting Madly  
Ave Verum Corpus  
Blue Skies

**Cameras**  
August Love  
Lord's Prayer  
Nubia  
Power Word  
A Chorus Brought Down

**John Thompson**  
Time to Say Goodbye (For a Partner)

**A Musical Partnership**  
Jim Matsinos and Ruby Ryan have long combined their musical talents to enrich our community. In 1988 they produced The Prince of Persia as the first production for the opening of the Players Theatre. They worked together with the Port Macquarie Players in a concert 'model' and performed for the official opening of the new Court House. They have appeared in numerous recitals, including twice in Brisbane and Port Macquarie, raising money for charities such as Life Education and the Cancer Council. Their last production in Port Macquarie was The Mists before the demolition of the old Civic Centre.

Jim has worked closely with Ruby in directing a number of chorale presentations for Hastings Choristers over the years, as well as performing as a soloist and as a member of the choir with the band. Some memorable moments include Jim singing the Blue Skies in Maria's Coronation Mass and the Rose Requiem. Fans of the Choristers will remember Musical Magic as one of their most popular concerts, with Jim assisting Ruby extensively with the organisation and, of course, being one of the soloists. Rumour has it there could be another musical from this year next year!

The Hastings Choristers is delighted to work with Jim once again to bring you Viva la Voce.



Laura Bereicua (soloist) and Lydia Will (accompanist).



Cantorus in full flight in Viva la Voce.

Cantabile & Friends

This Cantabile & Friends concert was held on 5 November at the Kendall Community Hall.

The hall was filled with beautiful sound from the group Cantabile who performed to huge acclaim. The Friends included the Iintombi Zicula girls ensemble from St Columba Anglican School, Bel Canto from Tacking Point Public School, the Les Hommes male ensemble, pianist Lydia Wills and many other solo performances.

**IINTOMBI ZICULA**  
For the Beauty of the Earth  
You Raise Me Up  
Angels We Have Heard  
Oh Holy Night

**John Walker**  
Graham & Leland, arr. R. Emerson  
W. B. Williams (arranged), arr. Anne Briggs  
Henry Mayfield, arr. Samuel Beckett

**John Walker & Jack Walker**  
John Walker  
John Walker

**CANTABILE**  
Ave Maria  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night

**POCO BEL CANTO**  
The Secret Garden  
The Secret Garden

**CANTABILE**  
Ave Maria  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night

**LES HOMMES**  
Ave Maria  
Ave Maria  
Ave Maria

**CANTABILE**  
Ave Maria  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night

**POCO BEL CANTO**  
The Secret Garden  
The Secret Garden

**CANTABILE**  
Ave Maria  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night  
O Holy Night



Cantabile before and during performance at the Kendall Community Hall.

# Rejoice And Be Merry

On the weekend of 2-3 December we gave our final two performances for 2006 at the Uniting Church.

These were memorable for the Rococo String Quartet (Sydney Conservatorium) who played the Corelli *Christmas Concerto*. Bel Canto and Poco Bel Canto joined Cantorus and Cantabile for beautiful Christmas carols and songs.

The program was dedicated to the memory of Ray Cugley.

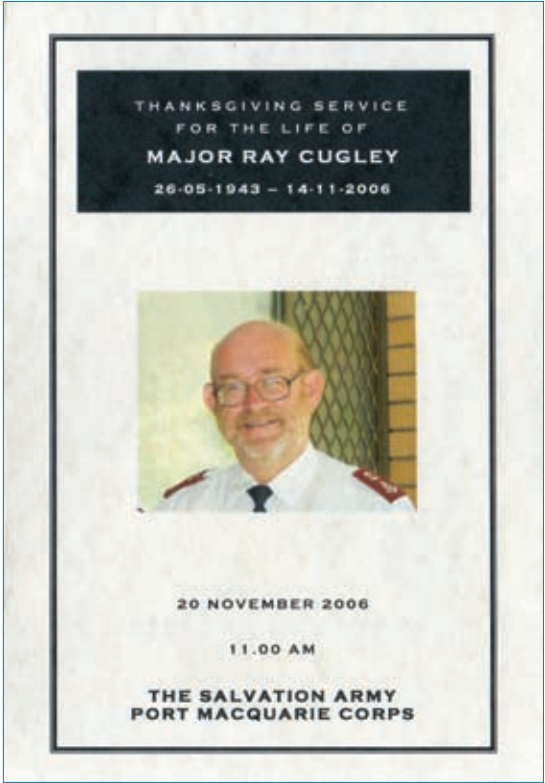


# Vale Ray Cugley

On Sunday 20 November we sadly attended the funeral service for Ray Cugley and sang *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*.

Ray's sudden death was a very great shock and loss to us all. He had a magnificent bass voice and was the leader of that section. He had held office as treasurer, president and committee member as well as being a frequent soloist.

We all miss his quiet reliability, dignity and humour.



Choristers Rejoicing at the Tacking Point Surf Club.





# 2007 – branding



Photo: Hydro Photographics

CONCERTS	
26-27 May	Puccini Plus
25-26 August	Get Happy
15-16 December	A Classic Christmas
OTHER EVENTS	
26 January	Australia Day on Town Green
8 March	You're the Voice
24 September	HYC at Bellevue

## Introduction

There were changes to the executive in 2007. Ian Barnard took over the presidency, with Helen Pain as vice-chairman, Shirley Graham as secretary, and Nelly Wagemaker undertaking her final year as treasurer. Committee members were Gail Barber, Linda Robertson and Barb Spencer.

Three major events were held this year for Cantorus and Cantabile. The Youth Choirs were also active and delighted us with carols at our Christmas party.

We started the year with a marquee on Town Green on Friday 26 Jan in order to promote the Hastings Choristers and Youth Choirs. This might not have been very rewarding in attracting new memberships but made the public more aware of us and was a fun activity.

Early in the year some members attended the Armidale Music Foundation's tenth weekend and sang Stanford's *Songs of the Fleet*.

Cantabile sang at a fundraising concert for the Town Band in the Players Theatre. They also had a cameo performance on the Town Green and sang at a function at Port Panthers to launch a Men's Shed.

The Brisbane choir Resonance of Birralee paid us a visit on 23 June when Paul Holley, their conductor, gave us a workshop followed by an exciting concert. A week later the Ragazzi Boys Choir from the USA sang for us, supported by Bel Canto Choir from Tacking Point Public School.

On 8 September 2007 a planning meeting was held at Ian's house in Laurieton to assess the direction of the choir in 2008 and beyond, including budgets and documentation. This followed the format of a similar planning meeting at the same venue in December 2006.

A Branding Workshop was held during December at our patron's premises - Paul McCarthy Advertising – to help us reassess our future direction and image. We are continually grateful for all the assistance that Paul and Mary McCarthy and their business provide to us.

## You're the Voice

The Choristers again sponsored the **You're the Voice** Festival of Song for High School children in the mid north coast. It was held in March at St Joseph's Regional High School.



THE PRESENTERS AND THEIR WORKSHOPS		
<p><b>RACHEL HORE</b> A WHOLE NEW WORLD (from April to December)</p> <p>A favourite from last year's festival, Rachel leads choral workshops throughout Australia and overseas. She has conducted big musical choir events such as the Woodford Folk Festival Free Choir and the Melbourne Melbourne Chorus. She has also directed the Tasmanian kids choir, made a CD of original songs, sung on a lot of stages and travelled as far as Samoa and the Singapore Desert to learn a new song. See her website, <a href="http://www.rachelhore.com">www.rachelhore.com</a></p> <p>"I walked off the theatre as if I were a pro singer, for a short time, it felt like I was that performing as Rachel's friend. I was a bit of a star at Woodford and I'll be back!" (Helen Smith, 15)</p>	<p><b>PAUL HOLLEY</b> OZZIE OZZIE OZZIE (from April to December)</p> <p>Paul Holley is a graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music where he studied conducting. His ability to relate to young people has allowed him to create some extraordinary choirs in Brisbane and Mount Isa. One of these, The Striker Strikers, made up of teenage boys, won the 2006 ABC Classic FM Choir of the Year. He also works with the Gondwana Voice Chamber Choir and is Director of Choral Music at Brisbane Girls Grammar School. If you love singing, Paul will take you places you never dreamed you'd go to!</p>	<p><b>SARAH REEVE</b> Oll Oll Oll Body percussion and rhythm</p> <p>Sarah Reeve is a top music educator and has run workshops with High School age students for many years. She has also led extremely popular workshops at the Hastings Choral Festival. Sarah's teaching will combine drama, body percussion, improvisation and plenty of energy and experimentation. Sarah has recently accepted a position at the prestigious Hunter College of Performing Arts.</p>

## Puccini Plus

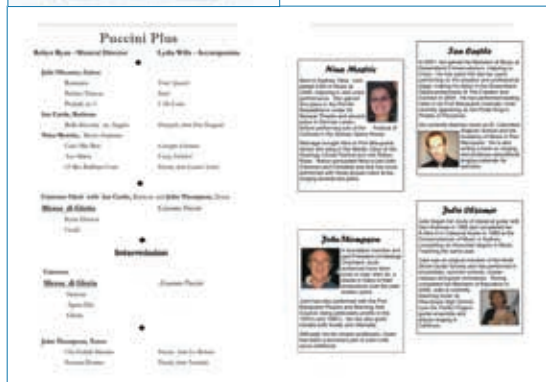
Our first concert was presented at MacKillop College on two days during the weekend of 26 May.

The main item was the exhilarating *Messa di Gloria* by Giacomo Puccini. It was a hard work to learn but well worth the effort as it is so beautiful and operatic.

The program included a set of guitar pieces played by Julie Olzomer and songs by soloists Ian Castle, Nina Mestric and John Thompson. Lydia Wills was the accompanist.



Later in the year, a group of Choristers joined the Beethoven and Sydney University Graduate Choirs in a performance of Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* in St James Church, Sydney.



*Puccini Plus performance.*

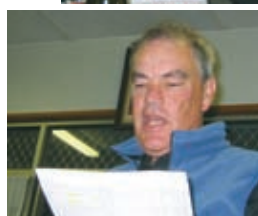
## Get Happy

On the weekend of 25-26 August we gave two performances of **Get Happy**, a very cheerful lighter concert held at MacKillop College.

It was a great success with many soloists performing, as well as Melodic Minors and Vivace from the Hastings Youth Choirs.



*Advertisement for more youth choristers  
(Focus Magazine July 2007).*



*At the Get Happy party held at MacKillop*



## HYC at Bellevue

Clare Lane was the Coordinator of the Hastings Youth Choirs.

All the three Youth Choirs sang *Sing for Spring* at Bellevue Gardens Retirement Village at the end of term three.



*Melodic Minors, Cherubs and Vivace  
at Bellevue Gardens Retirement Village (Penny Gallagher).*

## A Classic Christmas

Two afternoon concerts were held on the weekend of 15-16 December at the Port Macquarie Uniting Church.

Cantorus and Cantabile choirs performed sublime Christmas music by Handel, Bach, Fauré, Rutter, and Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*. Lydia Wills accompanied the singing, and Miriam Lawson excited everyone on the harp for *Cantique de Jean Racine* and *Angel's Carol*. Naturally Robyn Ryan wielded the baton.

The performances were opened by Vivace from the Hastings Youth Choirs.

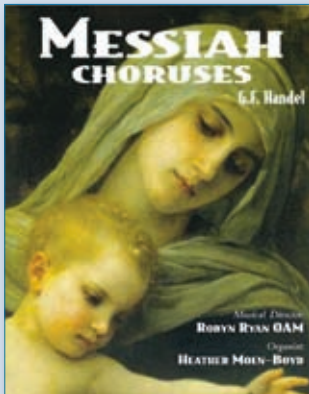
2007 ended with the usual celebrations at Tacking Point Surf Club, a great venue for sharing Christmas cheer and good fellowship.





*Hastings Choristers at Roto House (Hydro Photographics).*

# 2008 – life members



CONCERTS	
24-25 May	Journeys
21 September	Choral Kaleidoscope
20-21 December	Messiah Choruses
OTHER EVENTS	
29 March	Into the Sky
8 June	Lyric Competition
23 July	Thanksgiving Service for John Alan Dyer
21 December	Christmas Party

## Introduction

The executive members remained Ian Barnard, Helen Pain and Shirley Graham, with the addition of Walter Schellenberg as able Treasurer. Committee members were Gail Barber, and Nicholas Kable and one vacancy (Sylvia Scott, our active concert coordinator, became a committee member during the year).

Other roles that were taken on by Jenni Searson (Librarian), Adele Miles (Newsletter producer), Sue Creech (Publicity), Michael Matthews (Web master), John Burman (Health), and Linda Robertson and Theres Sterndale (Membership and Attendance register respectively). Without all the wonderful additional contributors to running the choir over the years, the organisation would be very stretched.

Life Membership Policy and Procedures were presented at the Annual General Meeting – a new acknowledgement of outstanding individual contribution.

Two events were planned for the Glasshouse Entertainment Centre this year, but best laid plans do not always come about! In June our Musical Director was auditioning for Trial by Jury planned for 2009, which did not happen. Some members again participated in the Armidale Music Foundation choral and orchestral weekend in March when Gustav Holst's *Hymn of Jesus* was performed.

Robyn managed to fit in a Schubertiade Festival in Austria and the 8th World Symposium of Choral Music in Copenhagen with 31 other Aussies in June, returning with some Scandinavian songs for us to learn!

Cantabile joined spring concerts with the Town Band on 19-20 September at the Players Theatre.

## Into the Sky

We started learning some very different folk music composed by Malcolm Dalglish in preparation for a workshop and concert planned for the end of March with the Young Voices of Melbourne directed by Mark O'Leary.

The **Into the Sky** concert was held at MacKillop Senior College Hall on 29 March and featured the hammer dulcimer, an unusual and interesting instrument, played by Malcolm. Cantorus, Cantabile and Bel Canto choirs all participated.

Members also billeted pairs of the visiting young singers for Friday and Saturday nights, a visit which was long enough to get to know them and enjoy their company.



*Into the Sky Tour Poster (Young Voices of Melbourne).*

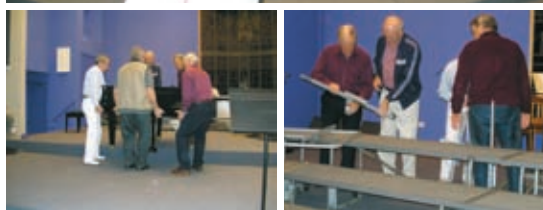
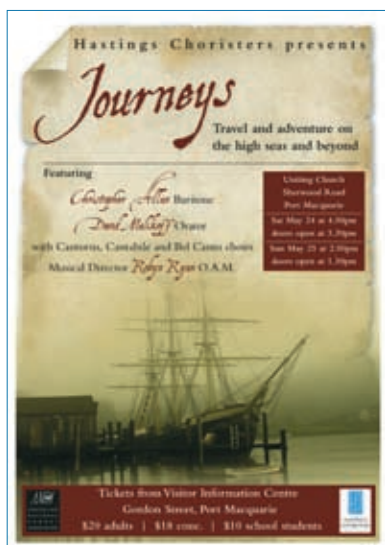


## Journeys

Our first full concert for 2008 was held at the Port Macquarie Uniting Church on 24-25 May.

As the title suggests all items related to travel and some of the emotions associated with it. David Malikoff was guest orator, and Christopher Allen, baritone, joined Cantorus for *Songs of the Fleet*, music by Charles Villiers Stanford to poems by Henry Newbolt.

Cantabile, Bel Canto from Tacking Point Primary School and soloist Christopher Allen each presented a bracket of songs.



*Final rehearsals for Journeys (Barbara Spencer).*

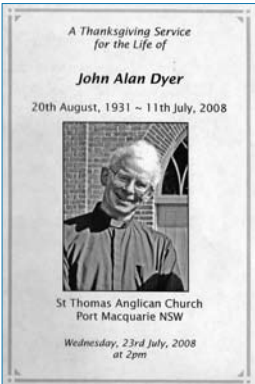


*Rowing skull for a Journey performance (Barbara Spencer).*

# Thanksgiving Service for John Alan Dyer

A good representation from the choir sang for the funeral service of past member John Dyer in St Thomas' Anglican Church on Wednesday 23 July.

John had sung bass with us for many years and we all enjoyed his mischievous grin. His wife Rose, a strong alto, sang with Cantorus and Cantabile and has accompanied us on many occasions.



# Choral Kaleidoscope

The day after Cantabile had sung with the Town Band they joined in a day of song at MacKillop Senior College Hall on Sunday 21 September.

Eight choirs contributed, including one from Wingham. Several young talented soloists also contributed, three of whom were to perform in the NSW Schools Spectacular in November.

This was a bright and breezy concert after a BBQ lunch which culminated with two massed choir items, which were rehearsed in the morning.

Afternoon tea was served after the concert. The day was voted to be a resounding success.



Choral Kaleidoscope		Short Interval	
SCAS SENIOR CHOIR Marie van Gend	Musley from Les Miserables Soloists: Ananda Hopkins (Soprano) Alva Negeen (Soprano) Gemmae (Baritone) Anna Spence (Tenor) Tom Wilson (Bass) Karl Boudard (Tenor)	LOW RUMBLES Marie van Gend	Heart of races Eye of the Tiger Architecture in Historic Pattern, Sullivan
HASTINGS YOUTH CHOIR Dyane Mulla	Life is Fun Soloists: Murphy, Vincent, Tatjana & Brother	JAMIE CARROLL Robyn Ryan	Consider Yourself Oliver Bart
JAMIE CARROLL & JACK REGGIE Robyn Ryan	Subsidiary Abasi Enkaye Zulu Freedom song Leonard Cohen and S. Kase	STACCATO Robyn Ryan	Waiting Waitless I can see clearly now an: Paddy
WINGSONG Brenda Kees	Electricity Billy Elliot Elton John	LAURA BEREICIA Robyn Ryan	See Chant Listen to the rain Peter Southworth Jerry Eales
JACK REGGIE Marie van Gend	Who will buy? Throne Waste Ye	CANTORUS Robyn Ryan	Nothing A Chorus Line
JAMIE-Lee JOHNSON Marie van Gend	Whatever happened to my past? Mandy Patinkin's Sparrow Doppel 1988	MASSO SINGERS Robyn Ryan	Pin Joss In the Mood Andrew Lloyd Webber Andrew Lloyd Webber South African an: Nelson
BEL CANTO Robyn Ryan	300 Miles Penny Lane American folk song an: C.C. Miller Lennon & McCartney An: Dreyer	Afternoon tea will be served after the concert An accompanist is: Robyn Ryan, Melissa Fitzgerald, Janet Gossens Doreen: Mark Spence	

# Lyric Competition

Variations on a round by Henry Purcell was set to words by various choristers who thought they were lyricists.

The competition was fierce but adjudicator Pat Wilson determined the winners as follows:

- First Prize to Gerry Jeffery;
- Second Prize to Fae Lister; and
- Third Prize to John Burman.



Lyric competition winners (Barbara Spencer).



Publicity Hastings Happenings 17 September 2908).

## Messiah Choruses

Just before Christmas on the weekend of 21-22 December, two concerts were given in the Baptist Church, accompanied on the church's beautiful pipe organ by Heather Moen-Boyd. It was really well received by audiences, and the singers were inspired to new heights.

The concert began with Heather playing a *Prelude* by John Rutter after which four young singers gave us some delightful Christmas music. Excerpts from Handel's *Messiah* were performed by Cantorus assisted by soloists Miriam Lattimore and Helen Pain with Heather on organ.

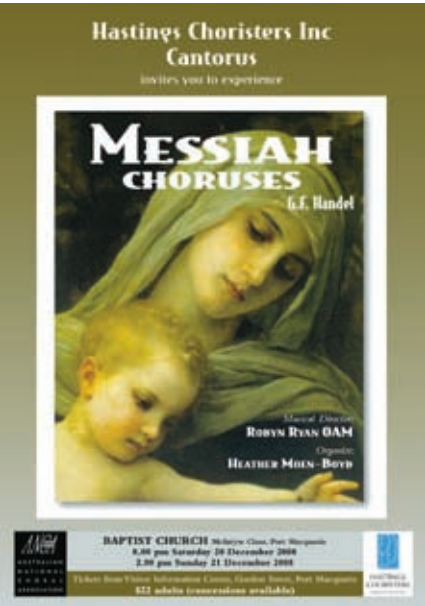
*"Rarely have I enjoyed music more! The performance tonight was wonderful."*

and

*"The best performance by the Choristers – it blended as a true choir."*

were some of the many tributes received.

The Christmas party followed the last concert at Tacking Point Surf Club, together with much rejoicing and revelry. And so ended a very busy year!



## Christmas Party



*Choristers performing at and enjoying their Christmas party.*



# 2009 – Glasshouse at last



CONCERTS	
9-10 May	Haydn True
5 July	Choral Kaleidoscope 09
31 Oct - 1 Nov	Bach to Broadway
20 December	Christmas at the Glasshouse
OTHER EVENTS	
7 June	Haydn's The Creation
8 September	A Bright and Crimson Flower
12 December	Carols by Candlelight
20 December	Christmas Party

## Introduction

Helen Pain stepped up to be President, Gail Barber became Secretary and Walter Schellenberg was again our very able Treasurer. Committee members were Jenelle Pearson, Nicholas Kable and Sylvia Scott.

We welcomed the start of 2009 on 2 February with a social BBQ and wine, followed by the Annual General Meeting and a short rehearsal. Our first Life Memberships were presented to John Thompson, Jenni Searson, Adele Miles, Nelly Wagemaker and Robyn Ryan.

In the expectation of the Glasshouse being completed, we booked concert dates for later in the year. Sadly the Youth Choirs went into recess at the start of the year due to lack of numbers.

2009 turned into a very big and difficult year, with many negotiations with Council staff on hiring the Glasshouse, initial sound tests and preparing and rehearsing suitable programs for a larger and more diverse audience.

On 28 September we had a "Black and Bling" photographic shoot in the Glasshouse followed by tea in town and a rehearsal in the CWA rooms.

## Haydn True

This was held on Mother's Day weekend 9-10 May in the Baptist Church and proved a great achievement for Hasting Choristers and very rewarding financially.

The Occasional Performing Sinfonia (TOPS) orchestra from Sydney conducted by Mal Hewitt provided the music, supplemented by two local string players.

Pre-concert talks were held on both days introducing the items on the program. Choir-made scones were offered with tea after the concert on Sunday afternoon.

The program (see next page) opened with Haydn's *London Symphony* played by TOPS with Mal Hewitt conducting. This was followed by Haydn's *Trumpet Concerto in E flat* with our talented Jason Heise on the D trumpet. His performance was sensational.

The second half of the program was the *Missa in Angustiis "Nelson" Mass in D Minor* with Cantorus and a vocal quartet comprising Nina Mestric, Miriam Lattimore, John Thompson, and Ian Castle.

Performing with the orchestra was a challenge with only one combined rehearsal in the morning. Our conductor, Robyn, had a hard time keeping all the different sections together!





## Bach to Broadway

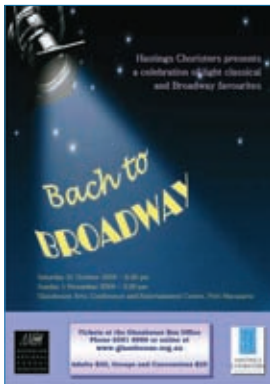
This was our very first concert in the Glasshouse, held on two days, 31 October and 1 November.

It was very exciting, but tinged with a degree of nervousness as we knew that with the good acoustics of the Glasshouse any mistakes would stand out. The first venue rehearsal was a big learning experience, as details of sound, placement on stage and other issues had to be ironed out, and we were left feeling a bit disheartened. The second venue rehearsal a few days later was a great relief as all went well.

We welcomed three rising stars from Sydney who had all been in the NSW Schools Spectacular and Talents Development program. Julie Goodwin had just completed a season as leading lady in Phantom of the Opera in Australia and Asia. Unfortunately Julie was ill on the weekend and had to pull out of both concerts.

The program was rearranged slightly, and her sister Jodie and the gorgeous Robert McDougall both stepped in to sing some extra items. Robert is a delightful person and won many hearts amongst the Cantorus members. Three favourite local soloists, John Thompson, Amanda Gordon and Laura Bereicua also presented items.

There were many accolades afterwards and some comments that the Choristers should have had a larger share of the program. We wore black and bling and looked very smart. Miriam Lattimore accompanied us through rehearsals and in the Glasshouse.



## Christmas in the Glasshouse

Christmas in the Glasshouse was presented on Sunday afternoon 2 December (see program below and picture on next page). It was decided to have only one performance and open the whole theatre. The result was a full house and perhaps a few disappointed patrons who tried to book too late.

New glittery scarves in Christmas colours were worn by the women over black outfits, with pocket hankies in the same fabric for the men. This was evidently quite stunning for the audience, as the curtained opened to reveal Cantorus standing tall and still with books all opening together on cue, creating a highly professional start to a tightly-run program.

The Glasshouse staff were a great asset and the building and its facilities helped lift the performance to a new height. Good stage managers working with Master of Ceremony John Tingle also contributed to the smooth and efficient running of the program.

Aleyce Simmonds, now a country and western singer visiting Port Macquarie, was guest artist after many years away. Aleyce had been in the Hastings Youth Choirs and had sung solos years ago before her family moved to Tamworth.

Three local Dance Studios presented items in this extravaganza along with presentations by many other local soloists. Cantabile presented a bracket of songs.

The wonderful Robyn Carter came from Sydney to accompany us, as she has on several other occasions in the past.







*Choristers performing in Christmas at the Glasshouse (Nigel Barber).*

## Christmas Party

Once again the Chorister's Christmas Party was held at the Tacking Point Surf Club after the Christmas in the Glasshouse performance.

The theme of the party was "Hastings Choristers Ultimate Presentations" and "hiccup" prizes were awarded to worthy recipients.

The penny whistle competition and Rose's illuminated headware were some of the highlights of a memorable evening held in true Choristers style.



*Choristers performing and being awarded at the Christmas Party (Tim Pearson).*

# 2010 – Choralfest in Port



CONCERTS		OTHER EVENTS	
24-25 April	In Flanders Fields	8 May	Trivia Extraordinaire
20 June	Cantabile & Friends	19 July	Christmas in July
7-11 July	Choralfest 2010	31 October	Sydney Town Hall Celebration
19 September	Musical Kaleidoscope	11 December	Christmas Carols Service
19 December	Christmas at the Glasshouse	19 December	Christmas Party

## Introduction

The executive for 2010 saw some changes. John Thompson took over the Presidency, supported by Simon Morsley as Vice Chairman, Jenelle Pearson as Secretary and Chris Sheen our new Treasurer. Committee members were Libby Hopley, Rose Wallin and Helen Pain.

Helen later resigned from the committee due to other commitments. Simon resigned as Vice President in July due to being away a lot, and Nelly Wagemaker stepped into his shoes as well as covering for John who was travelling in Term 3. Ross Adam joined as a committee member on Simon's resignation, as well as taking on the Concert Coordinator job which was a great relief.

Life Membership was presented to Michael Matthews at the Annual General Meeting in February in recognition of the many duties he has taken on over the years, including webmaster and section leader for the basses.

Following the success of a BBQ to start the year in 2009, the idea was repeated on the first night back at rehearsals, to welcome many new prospective members, many of them passing auditions to give us new sopranos, altos, and basses but unfortunately no new tenors.

Some excellent publicity in January and February editions of Focus magazine helped attract new, younger talent.

Our major effort this year was to host **Choralfest** in Port Macquarie for the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA). It was a great honour for our choir, as it was the first time it had been held outside a capital city.

A massive amount of work was done by many of our members who rose to the challenge of organising such a huge event. More on this event later in this section.

We did not rest on our laurels after **Choralfest**, finishing off the year with two more concerts, **Musical Kaleidoscope** and **Christmas at the Glasshouse**. We sang at a couple of other functions including Cantabile who sang at the Diamond Jubilee of the Ordination of Father Leo Donnelly.

Robyn Ryan has given us fantastic musical direction throughout our twenty-one years history. During this time Robyn has contributed so much to the local and larger community providing us all with a really high standard and breadth of wonderful choral music.

Robyn decided, however, that it was time she thought about retiring and handing over the reins to allow another leader to guide our continuing choral adventures, bringing in new skills and direction.

An advertisement was placed in the ANCA magazine before **Choralfest** as well as other publicity but no one suitable has yet been found, much to our continuing relief!

In Flanders Fields

Preparations began for a concert dedicated to the fallen in all wars, which was held on the weekend of 24-25 April in the Baptist Church.

Solos by Heather Moen-Boyd on organ, Josh Salter (baritone) and Jason Heise on trumpet, were part of the first half of the program with items from Cantorus and Cantabile choirs. Heather accompanied on the church organ and piano.

After the interval Cantorus sang the beautiful *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré. Between the sections John Tingle recited appropriate poems enhanced by slides projected overhead.

A flag-covered coffin with lantern and slouch hat added to the solemnity of the performance. After the *Last Post* and *Reveille* Ian McMaster played a lament on the bagpipes while poppies were laid on the coffin, drawing tears to many eyes.

We felt we had done well but our Musical Director said that “we had reached new heights and was overwhelmed by our sound and teamwork”.

We received many accolades and tributes, including

*“Your concert In Flanders Field was a very beautiful tribute to all the fallen. I found the music breathtaking and very moving.”*

And so it was a good start to the year.

Afternoon tea was provided by choir members, and money raised from the sale of programs and gold coin donations for tea raised nearly \$500 for the local branch of Legacy.

Many of us celebrated over dinner on Sunday evening at Lighthouse Village’s Village Café.

Cantabile & Friends

On Sunday afternoon 20 June, Cantabile gave a lovely concert and afternoon tea to patrons at Tacking Point School.

This concert featured Nina Mestric, and Carol Irving playing clarinet. Both concert and tea were very well received and made a healthy profit too!



Trivia Extraordinaire

A fund raising Trivia Night was held at Tacking Point School on Saturday 8 May, and hugely enjoyed by those taking part.





## Choralfest 2010

**Choralfest** was held between 7 and 10 July, occupying every space in The Glasshouse complex, together with Rydges Hotel, the historic Court House, Port Macquarie Public School and St Thomas' Church hall.

There was a real buzz around the centre of town with participants and choir highly visible in their uniforms as they lined up at the stage door, doing warm-ups and stretches!

Both Cantorus and Cantabile contributed to the singing, Cantabile gave a short *a cappella* performance on Thursday morning. Cantorus sang on Saturday afternoon as well as at the Welcome Ceremony on Wednesday.

Members of the Hastings Choristers also contributed to the **Big Sing** concert on Saturday evening, a three and a half hour marathon, when Delegates, Big Singers (singing participators) and young members of the Honour Secondary Choir along with many other singing choirs, performed items learnt in the last few days. All of this plus a few speeches added up to the biggest Glasshouse event to date.

**Choralfest 2010** was declared a great success, and credit was given to our organisation of this complex event. Many members of the Hastings Choristers played important roles in planning, managing and performing in **Choralfest 2010**.

Helen Pain was an energetic member of the managing committee and stage managed all the concerts that were held during the festival.

Adele Miles was the Coordinator for the whole event and was assisted ably by Kerry Lawrence, who also managed the army of volunteers.

Thanks also go to the people who billeted visiting choristers and the many volunteers who contributed in so many ways.



### What is Choralfest?

Choralfest 2010 is a four-day event, July 7-10. The conference's purposes are to promote artistic excellence, cooperation, and exchange by bringing together the finest choral and choral leaders for seminars, reading sessions, and performances, to facilitate the dissemination of choral repertoire, research, recordings, and other related material and information, and to achieve the meeting's purpose in Australia.

#### Choice of 3 options:

- Conference Delegates**  
Full access to whole conference including all activities, student access, daily breakfasts and evening meals.
- Big Sing Participant**  
Experience the thrill of being in a massed choir while doing part of the National Conference with some workshop sessions and recordings.
- National Secondary School Choir**  
(Open to all 9-12 students in Australia)

#### Choralfest 2010 will include:

- Welcome ceremony and concert
- Professional development sessions
- Conducting Masterclasses
- Workshops, seminars, reading sessions, discussion groups
- Open rehearsals with renowned conductors
- Daily Conferences
- Conference dinner

### Picturesque Port Macquarie

A coastal conference escape, Port Macquarie is where delegates can combine the pleasures of an idyllic waterfront setting with a premium conference venue. Port Macquarie is a picturesque seaside location where delegates can relax, recharge & return fully energized and refreshed from some of the best choral conductors in Australia. Port Macquarie has spectacular beaches only a short walk away and a brand new Performing Arts Centre in the Glasshouse.

### Keynote Presenters

Three international conductors will be the keynote presenters for Choralfest 2010:



**JING LING-TAM**  
(USA)  
Jing Ling-Tam, Professor of Music, is the USA Director of Choral Studies. As one of America's most sought after choral conductors, she has garnered international recognition in North America, Europe and Southeast Asia. A compelling musician, Prof. Ling-Tam has conducted 40 State and Major Chorus throughout the United States.



**JENS JOHANSEN**  
(DENMARK)  
Jens Linde was born in January 1987 to Jens Johansen, who has conducted the choir ever since. Besides conducting, he also finds time to arrange new songs. At the University of Aarhus, he lectures include "Singing for Profound Choir", "Conducting Contemporary Choir 1" and "Music Theory and Analysis". In addition, he also teaches "Conducting Contemporary Choir 2" at the Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus.



**BRUCE ROGERS**  
(USA)  
Professor Bruce Rogers is the Director of Choral Activities at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. A position he assumed in 1989. In this role, he oversees the department's various vocal and choral programs, which span the entire spectrum of choral - from classical to pop. He directs Mt. San Antonio College's award-winning Chamber Singers and the nine vocal jazz ensembles, Singapassion.



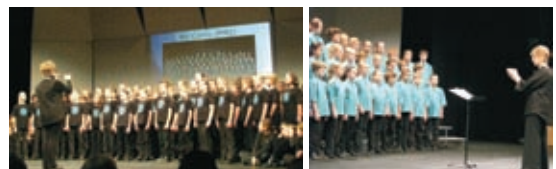
John Thompson and Robyn Ryan at the Glasshouse (Lyn Cooke).



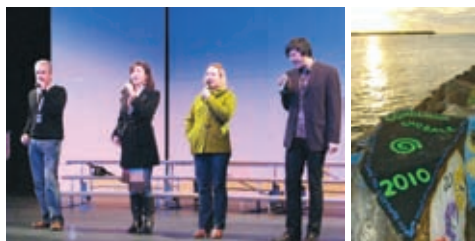
Chorister's logo on stage, Robyn Ryan, Helen Pain and various Choralfest delegates at the Glasshouse (Lyn Cooke).



Cantorus and Cantabile on stage at the Glasshouse (Lyn Cooke).



Bel Canto and Tacking Point choirs at the Glasshouse (Lyn Cooke).



*Idea of North on stage at Choralfest and Gondwana Chorale leaving their mark (Lyn Cooke).*



*Some well-known Choralfest helpers (Lyn Cooke).*

## Christmas in July

After **Choralfest** was all over, we celebrated a successful festival with a wind-down dinner at Eastport Bowling Club.

## Sydney Town Hall Celebration

Ten members of Cantorus spent a weekend in Sydney rehearsing and singing at the **Sydney Town Hall Celebration Concert** in the Sydney Town Hall in October, which was in aid of the Sydney Children's Hospital Burns Unit.

## Musical Kaleidoscope

Rose Wallin filled in as Musical Director for this event, giving Robyn a well earned rest.

It was held at MacKillop Senior College hall on 19 September. Six choirs and various soloists took part with light songs including an item performed by

Queens Lake Village  
Voices and Cantabile.

Accompanists were Robyn Ryan, Lydia Wills, and Rose. It was a very enjoyable afternoon of music culminating in massed choir items, and included afternoon tea.

Rose married Scott during the term break and became Rose Wilson.



## Christmas at the Glasshouse

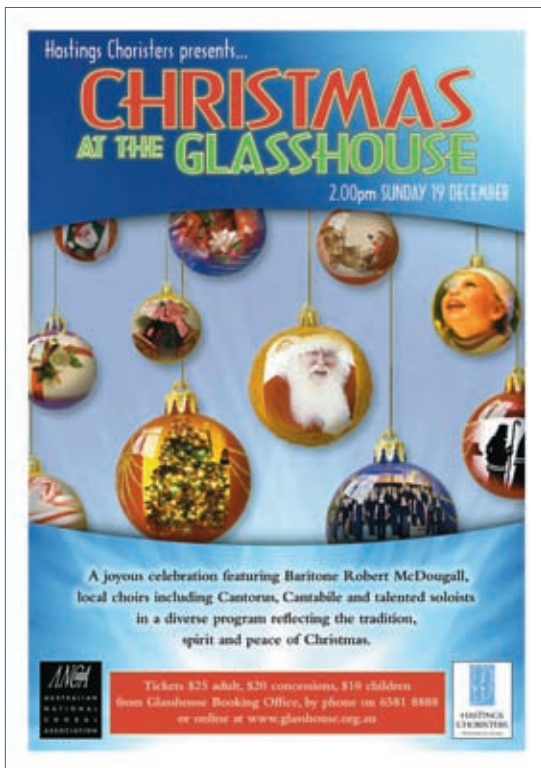
Our final concert for the year was held on 19 December 2010 at 2.00 pm. It was a big day with rehearsals for soloists from 9.00 am, followed by Cantorus and Cantabile choirs later.

Well decorated Christmas trees were on both sides of the stage giving a festive air.

Guest soloist Robert McDougall once again charmed a full house as well as the performers.

Other soloists were Laura Bereicua, Nina Mestric and young Stella Hannock whose mother sings in Cantabile. Michael Scott, recently appointed manager of the Conservatorium Mid North Coast, played two pieces on the flute during the concert.

Before the performance started Cantabile enthralled the foyer crowd for forty minutes singing without music. It was a stunning performance, and their obvious enjoyment gave the audience a chance to reciprocate making it all very exciting.



## Christmas Carols Service

Cantorus led the Christmas Carols Service at Westport Park on 11 December, a lovely fine night after many days of rain.

## Christmas Party

Once again the Chorister's Christmas Party was held at the Tacking Point Surf Club and usual conspirators succeeded in leading all to have a fabulous time.

The highlight was the performance of the *Hallelujah Chorus* using words (or part words) written on paper and holding them up at (mostly) appropriate times.

Various competitions involved balloons and reindeer antlers while John and Cantabile combined singing new words to an old theme.



Ha - le - lu - jah at the Christmas Party (Tim Pearson).



Christmas Party at the Tacking Point Surf Club (Tim Pearson).





*Christmas Party at the Tacking Point Surf Club (Tim Pearson).*

# List of Concerts & Major Works

Note: Concert venues are in Port Macquarie (PM) unless otherwise indicated.

Date(s)	Concert Title	Major Work	Venue
26-27 July 1991	Mozart	Mozart: <i>Coronation Mass K.317</i>	Civic Centre
8,12 December 1991	Christmas Carols		Kendall School of Arts & Presbyterian Hall
5 May 1992	First Patrons Concert		PM High School
18-19 July 1992	Go for Baroque	Vivaldi: <i>Gloria</i>	PM High School
22 November 1992	Camden Haven Arts Council Concert		Kendall School of Arts
4-6 December 1992	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	Armidale School, PM High School, St Augustine Catholic Church, Coffs Harbour
18-19 September 1993	Sounds Australian	Stephen Leek: <i>Voyage</i>	PM High School
16 December 1993	Christmas with the Choristers		Baptist Church
17 June 1994	An Evening of Music		Civic Centre
17-18 September 1994	Spring Classics	Haydn: <i>Missa in Augustus ("Nelson" Mass)</i>	PM High School
21 October 1994	Sounds Baroque		Baptist Church
4,9 December 1994	Concerts for Advent		Kendall School of Arts & Baptist Church
8-9 April 1995	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	PM High School
30 July 1995	Sunday Sing		PM Primary School Hall
8,11 December 1995	Sing Christmas		Wauchope RSL & Baptist Church
28 April 1996	Sunday Sing II		Salvation Army Citadel
22-23 June 1996	Sing Joyfully!		Baptist Church
19 December 1996	Sing Noel		Baptist Church
13 June 1997	Fauré's Requiem	Fauré: <i>Requiem Op.48</i>	Baptist Church
24 August 1997	Daffodil Day Variety Concert		Salvation Army Citadel
22-23 November 1997	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	PM High School
18 December 1997	Sing out for Christmas		Salvation Army Citadel
24-25 April 1998	Fauré's Requiem	Fauré: <i>Requiem Op.48</i>	St Mathew's and Presbyterian Churches, Wauchope & St Thomas' Church
4-6 July 1998	Musical Magic		PM High School
21 August 1998	Daffodil Day Variety Concert		RSL Auditorium
5-6 December 1998	Carolfest	Britten: <i>A Ceremony of Carols Op.28</i>	Baptist Church
19 June 1999	Show Stoppers		Salvation Army Citadel
12 September 1999	Restoration Appeal		St Thomas' Church
19-20 November 1999	Sing Be Joyful!		Port Macquarie Uniting Church
27 February 2000	The 19th Century Proms		St Thomas' Church, Port Macquarie
8-9 April 2000	Bizet and Bubbles		Port Macquarie High School
21 May 2000	Vocal Delights		Salvation Army Citadel
1-2 July 2000	Weddings and All That Jazz	Coleridge-Taylor: <i>Hiawatha's Wedding Feast</i>	Uniting Church

Date(s)	Concert Title	Major Work	Venue
9-10 December 2000	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	PM High School
6--8 April 2001	Music To Die For	Rutter: <i>Requiem</i>	Uniting Church
26-27 May 2001	Hastings Choral Festival 2001		Civic Centre
23 September 2001	Tea For Two At 2		Salvation Army Citadel
8-9 December 2001	Rejoice!		Uniting Church
22 February 2002	174th Anniversary of St Thomas'		St Thomas' Church
4-5 May 2002	Hastings Choral Festival 2002		Civic Centre
29-31 June 2002	Made In Australia		Uniting Church
21-22 September 2002	Songburst		Uniting Church
14-15 December 2002	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	PM High School
4-5 April 2003	Hope In Harmony	Fauré: <i>Requiem Op.48</i>	Uniting Church
21-22 September 2003	All Creatures Great and Small		Uniting Church
6-7 December 2003	Glad Tidings		St Vincent's, Ashfield & All Saints, Hunters Hill
13-14 December 2003	Glad Tidings		Uniting Church
7,9 April 2004	Crucifixus	Stainer: <i>The Crucifixion</i>	Grace Church & Baptist Church
15-16 May 2004	Hastings Choral Festival 2004		MacKillop Performing Arts Centre
26-27 June 2004	That Jazz!		MacKillop Performing Arts Centre
31 October 2004	A Viennese Connection	Beethoven: <i>Choral Symphony No. 9</i>	Sydney Town Hall
27 November 2004	Viva la Musica		Uniting Church
27 March 2005	Mozart Requiem	Mozart: <i>Requiem</i>	Sydney Opera House
4-5 June 2005	Choral Magic		Uniting Church
27-28 August 2005	Gala Night Of Song		Civic Centre
17-18 December 2005	Handel's Messiah	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>	Baptist Church
6-7 May 2006	Hastings Choral Festival 2006		MacKillop Performing Arts Centre
15-16 July 2006	French Connection	Poulenc: <i>Gloria</i>	Uniting Church
9-10 September 2006	Viva la Voce		Uniting Church
5 November 2006	Cantabile & Friends		Kendall Community Hall
2-3 December 2006	Rejoice And Be Merry		Uniting Church
26-27 May 2007	Puccini Plus	Puccini: <i>Messa di Gloria</i>	MacKillop Senior College Hall
25-26 August 2007	Get Happy!		MacKillop Senior College Hall
15-16 December 2007	A Classic Christmas	Britten: <i>A Ceremony of Carols Op.28</i>	MacKillop Senior College Hall
24-25 May 2008	Journeys	Stanford: <i>Songs of the Fleet</i>	Uniting Church
21 September 2008	Choral Kaleidoscope		MacKillop Senior College Hall
20-21 December 2008	Messiah Choruses		Baptist Church
9-10 May 2009	Haydn True	Haydn: <i>Missa in Augustus ("Nelson" Mass)</i>	Baptist Church
5 July 2009	Choral Kaleidoscope 09		MacKillop Senior College Hall
31 Oct - 1 Nov 2009	Bach to Broadway		Glasshouse
20 December 2009	Christmas at the Glasshouse		Glasshouse
24-25 April 2010	In Flanders Fields	Fauré: <i>Requiem Op.48</i>	Baptist Church
20 June 2010	Cantabile & Friends Concert		Tacking Point Public School
7-10 July 2010	Choralfest 2010		Glasshouse
19 September 2010	Musical Kaleidoscope		MacKillop Senior College Hall
19 December 2010	Christmas in the Glasshouse		Glasshouse



# List of Choristers

This table includes past and present singing Members of the Choristers with start and end dates. Some people may not have sung every year while others may only have sung at one concert. The years when individual members were absent are not shown. Non-singing members have not been included and Hastings Youth Choirs members are included only if they have performed in the senior choirs.

We take no responsibility for errors or omissions. This list was drawn from our rehearsal attendance records and the names of singers included on our concert programs.

A number of people on this list are now deceased and we take this opportunity to remember their contributions.

Michael Abbott	1993
Mary Abell	2004-2005
Ross Adam	2010
Patricia Adamson	2003
Michelle Allen	2000
Frank Arts	1990
Frank Ashby	1990-1993
John Ausburn	2000-2001
Ray Bailey	1990-2008
Tanya Bajda	2001-2004
Annette Baker	2008
Bridget Balk	1998-1999
Gail Barber	1992-2010
Ian Barnard	2005-2010
Tracy Barron	1999
Mandy Bartholomew	2000
Melissa Beal	1993-1995
Joan Beechey	1990
Melissa Beddie	2000
Gillian Bennett	2002-2010
Mary Biden	2009-2010
Margot Biggs	2001
Valerie Billing	2002-2003
Coby Bleys	1994-2001
Opie Blyth	2000-2001
Fred Bowman	1990-1992
Leanne Broadley	2006
Bill Brooke	2001-2002
Bree Brown	2000
Stan Brown	2000
John Burman	2006-2010
Linda Burn	1996-2010
Phillip Burns	1991
Dianne Campbell	1997-1999
Trish Campbell	1998
Ted Campbell	1995-2000
Celia Carroll	1998-2006

Robin Carter	2005
Ian Castle	1995-1997
Jan Castle	1997
Rebecca Castle	1997
Evelyn Chee	2009-2010
Andrew Clark	1998-2000
Paul Clark	1990
Tony Clark	1998-1999
Elaine Clarke	1994-2009
Geraldine Clarke	2008-2010
Mairie Clarke	2003-2006
Wendy Clifton	1995
Joshua Coombes	2000
Sara Coombes	1997-2003
Suzanne Cooper	2009
Tom Cornish	2000-2005
Julia County	1994-1998
Desiree Craggs	2002
Ron Craggs	2002
Sue Creech	2007-2010
Terry Crossley	2003-2010
Ray Cugley	1995-2006
Barbara Curtis	1999-2002
Elizabeth Dargin	1993-2001
Mark Davidson	1994
Carol Ann Davis	2002-2007
Joy Davis	1990-1995
Jayne Davison	1998
Mark Davison	1994
Christina Dawson	2003
Janet Dawson	2002-2007
Elise Debreceeny	1998
Helen Denton	2000
Mark Denton	1990
Michelle Denton	1990
Peter Denton	2000-2008
Cynthia Dickson	1990-1991

George Dickson	1990-1991
Karin Dienmann	2000-2001
Stacey Donchi	1998-1999
Gianna Douglas	1995-1996
Lois Ducat	2002
Elizabeth Duff	1993-1995
Joe Duncanson	2001
Greta Dunlop	1990-1991
Rosina Dyer	1998-2009
John Dyer	1998-2004
Tony Edwards	1996-2001
Brian English	1997
Bruce Erwin	2008
Melissa Evans	2008
Jacqui Everett	2005-2007
Belinda Faddy	1991
Beryl Ferrett	1990-1995
Ralph Ferrett	1990-1995
Jeanette Fliesgarten	1998-2010
Dennis Foletta	2000-2001
Wendy Foreman	1994-2001
Barbara Foulds	1996
Janine French	1992-1993
Anita Frystak	2010
Marjorie Frystak	2010
Josephine Galante	2004
Mark Garrett	2000-2005
Ross Garven	1990-1992
Ann Gibbs	1998-2010
Mark Gibbons	1993
Helen Gibson	1992-2009
April Goodear	1993
Amanda Gordon	2007
Brett Gosham	2010
Liz Gould	1994-2004
Lachlan Graham	2005
Shirley Graham	2002-2009

## Our Story – Hastings Choristers 1990-2010

Janet Greenham	2010	Alana Jenkins	2004	Michael Matthews	1999-2010
Anthony Greenland	1993	Irene Johnson	1990-1996	Kelly Meacham	2005-2009
Paul Groeneveld	1997-2010	Isobel Johnson	1991-1993	Nina Mestric	2006-2010
Fay Hall	2005	Leanne Johnson	2000	Daphne Middleton	1997
Trish Hamilton	2000	Kristy Johnston	1998-1999	Elaine Middleton	1997
Dorothy Hamnett	2001-2004	Brian Jones	2000-2010	Jean Middleton	1997
Margaret Hanlon	1990-1994	Nicholas Kable	2005-2008	Adele Miles	1990-2010
Heather Hannock	2004-2010	Leone Keller	1992-1995	Tara Miles	2002-2005
SL Harden	1996	Belinda Kennedy	2000	Glenys Miller	2004-2006
Judith-Anne Harris	2004-2010	Rob Kenna	2010	Ralph Millett	2001-2010
Gwen Harrison	1990-1991	Dawn Kenny	2003-2007	Anne Molver	1990-2010
Kate Harrison	1992-2008	Chris Kerin	1995-1996	Ronda Moon	1998
Margaret Harrison	1995-1998	Peg Kershaw	1996-1997	Glen Moore	1995
Jana Hartman	1999-2001	Deb King	1991	Suzanne Morey	2008
John Hawxwell	1995	Harry Klose	2000-2008	Dayna Moritz	2009
Val Hayden	2002-2010	Bon Knight	1990-1994	Simon Morsley	2009-2010
Kaylee Hazell	1998	Theresa Kunaeva	2005	Elaine Mosby	2003-2004
Grant Heaton	1991-1998	Marcia Lancaster	1995-2003	John Mullin	2002-2003
Keith Heddles	1994-1995	Stephanie Lane-Johnston	2010	Kath Munday	1990
Jill Heffernan	1999	Melinda Lattimore	2002	Jim Munro	2005-2006
Frank Helmut	2000-2008	Miriam Lattimore	1991-2008	Jan Murphy	1993-1995
Kathy-Ann Henderson	2008-2010	Ros Lattimore	2000-2002	Laura Murphy	1998
Judy Henry	2007-2008	Kerryn Lawrence	1999-2010	Peter Murphy	2000-2003
Wyn Henshaw	2000	Trish Lawrence	2008-2010	Elliot Murray	2004-2007
Michael Herd	1998-2000	Keef Leech	2007	Aperasa Nabainalyu	1990
Meredith Hinds	1998-2010	Beate Linckelmann	2005-2006	Jenny Nalder	1998
Guy Hingston	2005	Fae Lister	1991-2010	Johann Nalder	1998-2000
Helen Hingston	2005	Karen Lister	1995-1996	Shakira Nalder	1998-2000
Sue Hollard	2004-2005	Laura Lowbridge	1995	Tricia Newman	1999-2008
Willem Holvast	2002-2003	Penny Lyons	1998-1999	Joan Newton	1990
Libby Hopley	2009-2010	Margaret Mace	1998-2001	Justin Neely	1991
Anne Horton	1996-2001	Norma Macleod	1990-1993	Gwen O'Dea	1990
Anne Horneman	1995-1996	Keith McCabe	1997	Ann O'Donnell	1995
Belinda Howden	1997-1998	Craig McCarthy	1991	Simone O'Neill	2004
Sheridan Howden	1996-2001	Max McCrow	2000-2009	John O'Reilly	2009-2010
Lionel Hudson	2010	Noreen McDonald	2003	Julie Olzomer	2007-2008
Brenda Huettner	1999-2000	Jan McKenna	2010	Mike Olzomer	2001-2003
Fiona Hughes	2010	Brian McKinnon	1994	Marjorie Page	2005-2009
Debra Hull	1997	Lisa McLaren	1991	Helen Pain	2005-2010
Monica Hunt	2000-2010	Graeme McRaid	1997-1998	Kathryn Parle	2005
Marie Hutchison	2001-2007	Maureen Mallyon	2008-2010	Hugh Parsonage	2004
Kitty Hynson	1997-2002	Ros Mangold	1998	Liz Patience	2002
Pauline Ingall	1996-1999	Soo Manthey	2004-2007	Melissa Payne	1993
Carolyn Ireland	2000-2008	Brian Manton	2002-2007	Fran Pearce	2000-2010
Christy Ismay	2006-2010	Jill Manton	2002-2007	Jenelle Pearson	2007-2010
Wendy Jamison	2003-2010	Ron Mapstone	1993-1996	Marjory Peatfield	1990-1992
Emma Jay	1998-1999	Peg Marriot	2000	Narelle Petith	1994-1995
Gerry Jeffery	1990-2010	Cameron Marshall	2007-2010	Karen Phillips	2010
Shana Jefferies	1997	Jim Matsinos	1991-1998	Brian Pittorino	1994-1995

Jenni Potts	1995
Heidi Potts	1995
Susie Potts	1995
Catherine Poyner	2000
Letty Presser	1991
Jim Price	1997
Lorna Price	1997
Arthur Priebbenow	1995
Catherine Proctor	1994-1995
Diane Proctor	1994-1996
Kirsti Purss	1997-2003
June Quirk	1990-1993
Alissa Ralph	1995
Roslyn Ralph	1995
Marian Ramm	2002
Carol Randall	1996
Chris Rashleigh	1991-1993
Melanie Rashleigh	1991-1994
John Rawson	1992-1999
Elaine Reardon	1998
Jenny Reeve	1997-2010
John Rennes	2000-2010
Margaret Richardson	1997
John Rigg	1990-2004
Barbara Riordan	1991
Linda Robertson	2005-2010
Ben Robinson	2008
Dianne Robinson	2002-2003
Gerard Rollo	1998-2002
Peter Rose	1990-1995
Dorothea Roselius-Jones	2002-2010
Addriana Rozada	2009
William Rumbel-Simes	1993
Robyn Ryan	1990-2010
Josh Salter	1994-2008
Rhonda Sampson	1995-2003
Richard Sampson	1992-2003
Dianne Sanders	2000
Anthony Sarks	2006
Walter Schellenberg	2007-2010
Steve Schimanski	1999
Alison Schmidt	1998
Margaret Scott	2003
Sylvia Scott	2007-2009
Jenni Searson	1994-2010
Deirdre Sedman	1997-2001
Richard Sedman	1997-2000
Paula Sen Gupta	2009-2010
Bill Shannon	2007-2009

Chris Sheen	1998-2010
Rosemary Shelley	1999-2009
Jan Shepherd	2006
Norma Simpkins	1994
Anje Sipkes	1992-2006
Hilja Siren	2006-2010
Karen Skala	2000-2009
Patricia Sloman	2006
Randall Smallwood	1991-2008
Colleen Smee	1997-1999
Erica Smith	1999
Jill Smith	1990-1992
Lorraine Smith	1990
Lyn Smith	1999
Pam Sneddon	1998
Gary Snow	2004-2009
Jan Snow	2008
Carol Sorensen	2009-2010
Trevor Speers	1997
Barbara Spencer	2004-2010
Jodie Spooner-Ryan	2008
Jess Stacey	1990-1992
Theres Sterndale	2000-2009
Cheryl Styles	2007-2010
Rachel Taylor	2004-2007
Warren Taylor	2009-2010
Margaret Teale	1990
Bridgid Thew	1995
Christine Thompson	2003
John Thompson	1990-2010
Owen Thompson	2000
Martyn Tizzard	2002-2010
Alvena Townsend	2000-2001
Don Townsend	2000-2002
Leslie Trafford	1998
Jenny Tucker	2001-2010
Janet Twyford	1998-2010
Jeff Twyford	1998-2001
Anne van Gend	1998
Marie van Gend	1997-2006
Henny Van Woudenberg	2005-2010
Nelly Wagemaker	1998-2010
Margaret Waite	2004-2006
Clare Walker	2010
Max Walker	1990
Rose Wallin	2010
Fay Walsh	2000-2001
Kaylee Walsh	1999

Lavina Walters-Roozemoed	1996-1997
Greta Warner	2002
Fran Waters	1992
Alun Watkins	2000-2002
Danielle Watkins	2001-2004
Bert Watson	1990-1992
Catherine Webb	1992-1996
Eleanor Weber	2005
Jim Weber	2005
June Weir	1993-1999
Giri Weissman	1993
Pamela Wells	2000-2002
Meghan Welsh	1998
Susan West	2009-2010
Sharon Westman	1999-2001
Pat White	1990-1991
Barbara Wigg	2006
Phillip Wigg	2006
Carolyn Wilkes	1998-1999
Leanne Wilkinson	1990-2004
Isobel Williams	1996-2003
Lauren Williams	2002
Sue Williams	1997-2002
Kylie Willows	2005
Maree Winter	1990-1992
Maggie Wolk	2007-2008
Katie Wood	2000-2002
Richelle Wright	1993-1995
Margaret-Anne Young	1996-2000





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