

  
**Adelaide**  
male voice choir inc.  
ESTABLISHED 1884

# In Harmony

Newsletter of the  
Adelaide Male Voice Choir

No. 3 AUTUMN 2002

**Patron:**

Her Excellency  
Marjorie Jackson-Nelson  
AC, CVO, MBE,  
Governor of South  
Australia

**President:**

Mr John Lawson

**Vice-President:**

Mr Colin Styles

**Secretary:**

Mr Colin Styles  
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Flagstaff Hill, 5159  
Tel.: (08) 8270 2628  
Email:  
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**Treasurer:**

Mr John Winnall

**Conductor/Director of  
Music:**

Mr William Shaw

**Accompanist:**

Mr Edward Kriek

**Vice Patrons:**

Miss Gladys Bailey OAM  
Mr Ray Brown  
Mr Doug Karran  
Mr Len Turner  
Mrs Connie Tremethick  
Mrs Genty Stevens  
Mrs Myfanwy James

Practices are held every Monday  
at 7.45pm to 9.45 pm in the  
Hall at the rear of the Church of  
Christ, 100 Grote Street,  
Adelaide

## Do you enjoy singing? . . . We want YOU!

The choir consists of people from many walks of life who really ENJOY singing and as it has been doing continuously for the last 118 years the choir wants to share this enjoyment with others. This is quite a record and it has been brought about by the camaraderie that this enjoyment of singing brings. It is hard to maintain the commitment required with many other calls on one's time, but although the choir might only be able to field half its numbers for a concert (through sickness, holidays or whatever), it still maintains the standard set by our musical director - with the bar being constantly raised.

### Friends

Not only do choir members enjoy the singing but also the experience of going to different venues to perform in front of a wide variety of audiences. Within the last six months or so we have received many applications from audience members to become "Friends" of the choir. This really is a plus for the choir as we are now able to communicate to them via our quarterly newsletter all that the choir is doing. Very soon the choir will also have a Web page which will give details of all our concerts and other functions.

### Changes to our programme

Due to unforeseen circumstances, some of the choir's concert details have changed: the amended programme can

be found on page 8. The main change concerns the Pilgrim Church concert. It will be on Sunday, 19th May and will consist of a wide variety of songs with solos by Annamaria Beni (soprano) and Anthony Waack (baritone).

Our "Opera Concert" will now take place on 21st July and will be our Charity Concert for 2002. The opera concert/dinner has been cancelled.

The concert for the Mitcham AFA has been changed to 15th September (from 1st September).

During the long weekend in June (8th, 9th, 10th), the choir will be performing concerts in Millicent and Naracoorte.

In November the choir will hold another of the very popular Quiz nights. Come along - they are lots of fun.

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## Low-down on Don Jessop

the Royal Flying Doctor Service. This was in co-operation with the local medical practice which included Dr Cooter, who later became State President.

During his 15 years there he became a founding member of the Port Augusta Apex Club. He served in various capacities and became the President and subsequently, a Life Member.

He was elected to the City Council in 1956 and represented Pt Augusta on

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*Don has served Australia and particularly South Australia for many years and continues to do so. He quietly gets on with the job and does it efficiently and without any fuss.*

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the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association until 1966.

During his years in Pt Augusta Don was active in the Pt Augusta Music Arts Club where he became President and Conductor of the mixed choir. The choir was involved in community concerts (including singing at many naturalisation ceremonies) and performed many light operas including *The White Horse Inn* and *Naughty Marietta*. They also staged four Gilbert and Sullivan

productions, the last and most successful of which being *The Mikado*.

Don was particularly fond of *The Messiah* and the choir sang this several times.

In 1966 he was persuaded to stand for the seat of Grey, which covered approximately 84 per cent of the State. He held this seat for three years.

In 1970 he returned to Adelaide with his wife, Barbara and their three children.

He was then asked to stand for the senate, was elected in 1971 and served for nearly 17 years in that House. In that time he served on many committees and was Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and Environment.

He retired from Parliament in 1987.

He met Jim Follett who had also lived in Port Augusta. Jim invited him to join the Adelaide Male Voice Choir for the Adelaide Town Hall Concert with the S.A. Police Band. He has been in the choir ever since.

Don continued this tradition of inviting former Pt Augusta choir members: Bob Cooter, Bob Scott, Jim Thoday have since joined the choir.

These three were very active members in many productions at Port Augusta.

Since Don's retirement from Parliament he has continued as a part-time consultant optometrist in a large South Australian practice.

Besides his two daughters and one son, Don has eight grandchildren and one great-grandson!



**Don Jessop has been Deputy Conductor and Publicity Officer of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir for several years.**

Born in 1927 in Adelaide, Don attended Mitcham Primary School and Unley High School.

Don's first introduction to group music was at the Mitcham Primary School where he was a member of the Drum and Fife Band, being eventually appointed their Drum Major. The band won a number of Statewide competitions and Don was twice awarded a trophy as Best Drum Major.

As a student (and prefect) at Unley High School Don sang in the school choir.

At 18 Don joined the Adelaide Philharmonic Choir as a tenor. He sang with them for four years alongside his father Lindsay who also sang with the ABC Adelaide Singers. The conductor was Norman Chinner (a second cousin of Don's wife Barbara).

Don studied Optometry, graduating in 1948. He worked for Laubman & Pank who then transferred him to Broken Hill, where he stayed for two years. During that time he joined the Silver City Singers taking part in several musical productions. He was also the inaugural Vice-President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce (Sir Eric Neal was the Secretary).

In 1955 he purchased an Optometry Practice in Port Augusta. This led to him pioneering optical clinics with



come and join us!

don't just sing under the shower!

- ♪ Choir Practice on Monday evenings (with some extra practices before major concerts).
- ♪ Concerts: between 10 and 12 a year in the metropolitan area and country SA.
- ♪ Social Gatherings such as Dinners, Christmas Dinner, mystery trips, barbecues, etc.
- ♪ SPECIAL CONCESSION RATE FOR STUDENTS OF \$10 p.a. FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS.

Phone 8270 2628, 8276 4229, 8353 6359



# Concert at the Church of the Epiphany

At a recent concert at Crafers, guest mezzo-soprano Jessica Dean (right) enthralled choir members and audience alike with her renditions of *Softly Wakes My Heart* from *Samson and Delilah* by Saint Saëns, *Song to the Moon* from *Rusalka* by

Delibes and finished with a beautiful Irish air.

It was the choir's first engagement at this venue and we hope to sing there again in the future.

Ian Milbank (left), from our bass section, was our other soloist. This was the first time he has sang solo with the choir and he performed very well.

Jessica will be one of the guest soloists at the Charity Concert on 21st July. The others will be Tasso Bouyessis, Annamaria Beni and Anthony Waack.

The choir warmly welcomes these guest artists



## Adelaide Male Voice Choir commissions painting

The committee of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir has commissioned a painting of a familiar Adelaide landmark which will be incorporated into our programmes, written publicity, etc. This decision was made to celebrate our strong connection to Adelaide both in our name and our 118 years of participation in significant events in Adelaide and its surrounds.

Denis Noble is a professional artist and architect who lives at Bridgewater in the Adelaide Hills. He has undertaken many commissions over a twenty-five-year period, has illustrated several books and has held one-man exhibitions. His subjects are often old buildings, although boats and old cars sometimes find their way on to his sketch pad.

This illustration of the Adelaide Post Office is in his favoured medium of pencil and watercolour.

He can be contacted in Adelaide on (08) 8339 3173.



