



In Harmony

Newsletter of the
Adelaide Male Voice Choir
No. 24 Spring 2007

PATRON:
His Excellency
Rear Admiral Kevin Searce
AO, CSC, RANR
Governor of South Australia

PRESIDENT:
Colin Styles

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:
William Shaw

ASST CONDUCTOR:
Edward Ananion-Cooper

ACCOMPANIST:
Edward Krick

JOINT SECRETARIES:
David Evans
Phone: 8280 7759
Ian Milbank
Phone: 8339 1425

TREASURER:
John Winnall

COMMITTEE:
Bruce Risby
Neville Roach
John Wear
Denis West (*Librarian*)

CONCERT MANAGER:
Neville Roach
Phone: 8332 1895

ALMONER:
Sid Donnellan
8356 6302

VICE PATRONS:
Myfanwy James
Margaret Lambert
Genty Stevens
Len Turner

LIFE MEMBERS:
John Lawson
Robert McLeay

Choir practices are held every
Monday from 7.45 pm to 9.45 pm
at St Stephen's Lutheran
Church, 152 Wakefield St,
Adelaide.

WEB ADDRESS:
amvc.org.au

From the President

It is general practice these days for groups to have not only Mission Statements with Core Values but also Theme Songs. While I was thinking about 2007 and the number and variety of performances and venues we have sung at, or are yet to sing at, I thought we needed to add another song from our repertoire *How Can I Keep From Singing?* as a back up for our theme *Brothers Sing On*. This year has been a very busy one for us and I am sure that each and every one of us has enjoyed the challenges with which we have been presented.

One of the things we have really appreciated has been the variety of music that both our conductors have encouraged us to master. Those of you who have attended our concerts will have noticed this, and I feel sure it is one of the many reasons we enjoy being members of the AMVC.

SOLOISTS

This year we have been delighted to have been joined at our various concerts by our soloists. Some of them we have worked with on a number of occasions previously and we know one another well, but others have been introduced to us for the first time. Each one of these young South Australians has made a very lasting impression on us and we hope to be able to work with them again. We wish each of them many years of satisfying musical success.

Another really satisfying aspect of the year has been that we have had new members join us. We have enjoyed their company and input and we do hope that each one really feels that he is a valued member of our group.

Unfortunately on the other side of the coin a number of our members have had

a year of mixed blessings as far as their health has been concerned. We do hope that their problems will be resolved and that next year will be a better one for them.

THE REST OF THE YEAR

As busy as the early part of the year was for us, there is little respite from now until the end of the year.

The Opera Banquet on 26 October is nearly sold out, but there are a few places available for a wonderful evening. Ring 8332 0449 or 8332 1895 for bookings.

A major concert is scheduled for the **Marion Cultural Centre on Sunday November 11th at 2.00 pm**. Tickets for this event are available from Choir members or by phoning 8270 2628 or 8332 1895. I would encourage you to come to this concert. We are being joined on this occasion by soloists Deb Caddy and David Perry. It promises to be a great afternoon and we would love you to come along and bring a friend or two with you.

Concerts at Goolwa and Glynde as well as a *Bring a Friend* event for Friends of the Choir will conclude a busy and enjoyable year of singing for the members of the AMVC.

2008

Planning is under way for 2008. With the possibility of a trip to Queensland in the offing we can see that we have much to anticipate.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Colin Styles
President

Introducing PETER SCHULZE

Peter Schulze is a member of the bass section of the Choir. Here is his story in his own words.

Born in Adelaide in 1951 I was the son of a shop keeper and his wife. I was the 4th child of a family of 5. My early childhood was at Klemzig where my family owned a 10 acre property on O.G. Road. We moved to Highgate prior to my starting school at the St John's Lutheran Primary School, also at Highgate. The school had only started a couple of years before.

There were very small class sizes of 2 children in year 2, 3 in year 3 and gradually increased to 10 in year 7. In year 6, my now wife of 36 years, Kathryn appeared at the school from Manoora in the country and joined with me at a school concert to sing a duet to residents at what now is known as the Julia Farr Centre – we sang "There's a hole in the bucket".

My secondary schooling was at Urrbrae Agricultural High School. I was planning on a career as an Agricultural Advisor. After 4 years of high school a good mate of mine and I decided to sit for the entrance tests for the PMG as a Technician. The rest is history as they say. After 36 years in the company I decided to take 3 months of long service leave when our first twin grandchildren arrived. Having been away for such a time the company decided that I need not continue in their employ. This came as somewhat of a shock. A new career trying domestic cleaning did not appeal so I was offered work with a small computer company and still work there at present, although I choose to work spasmodically.

Work keeps getting in the way of caring for grandchildren, golf, fishing and travel. Kathryn and I married in 1971. We have been blessed with 3 sons of whom 2 are married and who have presented us with 5 beautiful grandchildren. Our oldest son Michael and his family live in Adelaide, where he works for the Lutheran Laypeople's League while our second son Timothy lives in Seoul, South Korea and is employed by Seoul Foreign School and is Physical Education Head Teacher. Our third son Richard and his family live in Wangaratta, Victoria where he is the Lutheran minister.

Two trips this year included Canada in May where I took 1755 digital photos and 6 hours of video, as well as the Simpson desert where it was just too "bouncy" to consider photography on any great scale. Needless to say I am still wading through the photos to get some semblance of order to be able to show anyone without boring them completely. Everyone keeps making excuses not to come around to see the holiday snaps. Can't really understand it.

From 1971 to 1979 we lived in Port Lincoln. It was a very good life where we had lots of time fishing and enjoying the "wild west". Unfortunately we needed to travel to Adelaide for regular medical issues for Tim and it became very expensive and wearing, plus we both had aging parents, so we decided to relocate back to Adelaide. We moved to where we still now live, to within 1 block of the primary school we once attended as children, so it was a joy for us to send our children to the same school and now our grandchildren.

Music has been an integral part of my life and my family. My older brother David had a vocal coach in Miss Gladys Bailey and won a television talent show Showcase in a quartet with 3 of his mates and was a regular achiever in the Eisteddfods here in Adelaide prior to taking up the ministry in Western Australia.

In the early years I was a choir member at church with my father and at youth events. I was lead vocalist and bass player in a band prior to our marriage. I was a member of choirs in Port Lincoln and back in Adelaide again. I have had a few guest appearances in local concerts as the vocalist Peter in "Peter and the Pensioners", impersonating everyone from Country and Western singers and the Beatles to Elvis Presley – yes, I wore Lycra! Also recently performed in a couple of quartet performances with Christian Pollnitz (from our Choir) and his two older brothers.

I originally joined the AMVC over 10 years ago after Kathryn spotted the advertisement in the local paper and rang Don Jessop who welcomed me with great enthusiasm. I hope to sing well into the future and look forward to the interaction with such a great bunch of chaps even though some of the jokes and quips from the bass section need some improvement from time to time. It is truly an honour to be part of such a great Choir.



Peter has his hands full when he's not at Choir

Change of Patron for the AMVC

The AMVC has been privileged over many years in having the Governor of South Australia as its Patron.

We are very grateful to the recently retired Governor Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC CVO MBE for her warmth and friendly support during her term of office, and we wish her well in all her future activities.

The AMVC is honoured that the newly appointed Governor of South Australia His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AO CSC RANR has agreed to be the Patron of the Choir. We extend a sincere welcome, and hope that he and Mrs Scarce will be able to attend some of our performances in future years.

Launch of the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health

The AMVC was delighted to accept the invitation to participate in the official launch of the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health at a function on 2 October this year in the Art Gallery of South Australia.

The Centre, the first of its kind in Australia, is based on an innovative partnership between the Freemasons Foundation and The University of Adelaide, and will be part of the University's School of Medicine. The Centre's vision is to enable men to live longer, healthier and happier lives, and its mission is to pursue innovative research programs, significantly improve health services, deliver evidence-based training programs, and disseminate the latest health information and education resources.

Mr Phil Smyth (Head Coach, Adelaide 36ers) opened the official launch, and addresses were given by Professor James McWha (Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Adelaide), Sir James Hardy, OBE (business and community leader), the Hon John Hill MP (SA Minister for Health), Mr Graham Bollenhagen (Grand Master, Freemasons of SA/NT), and Professor Gary Wittert (Mortlock Professor of Medicine, The University of Adelaide).

The AMVC provided a musical frame for the launch, giving a stirring rendition of Edward Grieg's "Brothers Sing On" at the start of the program, and closing with Sigmund Romberg's "Stout Hearted Men" and Giuseppe Verdi's "The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves". After the launch, the Choir received many enthusiastic comments about the performance. Mr Bollenhagen specifically commended the appropriate choice of music and the quality of singing and expressed the Foundation's appreciation for the Choir's participation.

The AMVC has a long history of active involvement in supporting community projects. Several years ago, in fact, the Choir put on a fund-raising concert at the Masonic Hall in North Terrace in aid of the Foundation's medical research program. It is very exciting to see how the Foundation's planning over the years has now culminated in the establishment of the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health. The Choir feels honoured to have been invited to participate in the launch of such an important initiative.

Of course, membership of the Choir is in itself a health-giving exercise—there's nothing like it for expanding the lungs, putting a spring in one's step and a song in one's heart! Add to this the benefit of lasting friendships, mutual support and community involvement, and you have a good recipe for a happy lifestyle.

The *Phantom of the Opera* hits 21! Happy Birthday to the Phantom.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical *The Phantom of the Opera* had its first commercial production on 9 October 1986 at Her Majesty's Theatre in London, which makes it 21 this October. As a birthday tribute, the AMVC will be presenting selections from *The Phantom* at our **Opera Banquet** on 26 October and at our **Highlights from Opera and Operetta Concert** on 11 November.

The original story of *The Phantom of the Opera* was written by Gaston Leroux and published in 1911. It was set in the Paris Opera House, once described by the composer Debussy as "like a railway station" from the outside and "a Turkish bath" from the inside.

Some of Lloyd Webber's most memorable melodies are from *The Phantom of the Opera*. Songs like Think of Me, Angel of Music and All I Ask of You have become and will remain well known and appreciated by countless people worldwide.

We are fortunate to have excellent soloists singing with the Choir at these two performances. They are Jillian Chatterton and David Perry at the Opera Banquet on 26 October; and Deb Caddy (who has recently sung in *Phantom* productions in Australia and overseas) and David Perry at the Highlights from Opera and Operetta Concert on 11 November.

In addition to the *Phantom* selections, there will be a variety of popular pieces from other operas and operettas at both the Banquet and at the Concert. Lots to enjoy, so see you there!

FREE FOR FRIENDS CONCERT—a new idea!

At our concert on December 3 we will have a new entry idea for the audience. The concert will be free for all audience members IF you bring a new person to our concerts. In other words, if you come to the concert either by yourself or with someone who is a member of the Friends of the AMVC, it will cost you \$5 per person entry fee. If you bring someone who is *not* on our current Friends list, you will both be able to attend for nothing. How's that for cutting costs?

The evening will be an update of our Solo Night concerts of the past, with items by the Choir and by members of the Choir singing either solo or in groups (we have a new quartet who performed at the St Stephen's concert in September). And there will be supper! Invite a friend who's not yet a Friend of the AMVC and come to the concert for FREE.

MONDAY, December 3 at 7.30 pm at St Stephen's Church.

