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www.apollochoir.com



A Few Notes

News about the BRISBANE APOLLO MALE CHOIR

What! no hall?

The Annual General Meeting of the Apollo Choir was held at the Shaftsbury Centre at Spring Hill, but with a difference. As our members arrived at the venue, it became obvious that another group were using the hall. Some very confusing and upsetting comments were exchanged with the occupants until it became obvious the hall had been leased to a new manager who was using it as a theatre production unit. The new manager, vaguely aware of our use of the hall, had made no attempt to contact us, leaving us without a meeting place. He did, however, find an upstairs room for us to have our meeting so it took place as planned.

A call to the Manager, Jack Bradford, the following day didn't shed much light on what had happened; he had been too interested in what he was doing with the theatre group and it hadn't occurred to him to try to contact us.

Emergency accommodation was found by the secretary (at Sunnybank Uniting Church) till a new meeting place could be found. As this item was being prepared, a possible location at Kelvin Grove was being investigated.

We have been using the Spring Hill premises for over 20 years and it was not pleasant to be evicted in this manner. The choir, however, accepted the situation and resolved to move forward into a busy year of concerts.



The existing members of the Executive, with the exception of Jackie Carroll who did not re-nominate, were re-elected at the A.G.M. Bill Reekie has taken on the job of treasurer and will happily accept your \$30 annual subs. if you have not already paid.

One of his first tasks is to provide Public Liability Insurance for the choir so we can enter into a rental agreement for our new rehearsal venue.

About people.

Viv Rees is back singing after his heart operation and convalescence.

Jeffrey Foreman joined us at the first rehearsal of the year. We hope he will stay and give strength to the Baritone section.

Laurie Prentice has moved to a new home out Aspley way and will have to travel further to rehearsals than before.

Michelle has moved home also and will be commuting from Ipswich for practice and concerts.

Jackie Carroll will be getting married on the 10th May and the two Choirs; Apollo and Serenatas, will combine to provide music during the ceremony.

Ted McLean will be taking some time out to attend to home related matters. We hope he will be back by June.

Vale- George Barker.

The first meeting of the Apollo Choir for 2008 was, unfortunately, to attend the funeral of their friend and long time member, George Barker. George stopped singing early in 2007 as his hearing prevented him from making a full contribution to the choir, as he had previously. The service was held at Pinnaroo Crematorium on Friday, 1st. Feb. and 19 members attended and sang during the service.

George's fine military record was remembered by mates from the regiment he had served with, while others remembered his work with the bookselling trade that he was a part of. The overflow crowd of mourners showed the loss they all felt at George's departure.

The Choir remembers the dedication and contribution that George made over the years, and share with his family their sorrow at his passing.

Thanks, George.



The Sunnybank Uniting Church invited the Apollo Choir to have free use of the Church building while we are searching for a new home.

They regard our activity in the community amongst the retirees and aged as a form of service and therefore deserving the support of this church. We expect to be there until the second week of March, so another 2 or 3 long trips to Sunnybank are to be negotiated before the Choir moves into a new venue. Our thanks to the Minister, Andrew Ross, and his staff for the welcome he has given to us in the tight spot we found ourselves in..



The Brisbane Apollo Male Choir is a member of the Australian National Choral Association.

News about Henry

The following is part of an E-mail bulletin sent out by Diana Howell to tell us the latest on Henry's health

All has been quiet for the two weeks following Henry's discharge from the Prince Charles Hospital on 24th January. Most of you are aware that he had his heart surgery on 12th December (replacement aortic valve and ascending aorta), and that he suffered a stroke during this operation. He was making a good recovery in Rehab, especially in Speech Pathology as they were aware that he wanted to go back to teaching singing in due course.

The two weeks at home were difficult, with sleep at night still being a major issue. His GPs did their best with different prescriptions, and tweaking the drugs, x-rays etc. However, early on last Saturday morning, Henry felt he couldn't breathe properly, so I took him to the Royal Brisbane Hospital which is close to us. He is still there, having been admitted to their Coronary Care Unit on the Saturday evening. A chest x-ray showed that he was full of fluid (heart failure), so he was immediately put on IV drugs to help remove the fluid. He is still having this medication. The most alarming problem is that there is a leak in the new aortic valve; apparently part of it has come adrift - and this has created a leak in the mitral valve. The doctors are doing every test imaginable to determine if this is due to an infection, and expect to start antibiotics very soon. However, it seems inevitable that Henry will have to have further heart surgery to correct the new valve. - - - - -

All the Choir members wish Henry, Diana and the girls the best as they go through this worrying period. Our prayers are with them all.

Coming Up- Concerts.

Wednesday 27th February ;
MASONIC CARE-SANDGATE 10.00 am
60 Wakefield St, SANDGATE

Wednesday 12th. March;
BRIG-O-DOON RETIREMENT VILLAGE 10.30 am
6 Oswin St, ACACIA RIDGE

Monday 17th. March;
TERRY BRAE IONA COMPLEX
129 Brookfield Rd. KENMORE

March 21-24th. Easter.

Wednesday 9th. April;
REDCLIFFE CITIZENS CULTURAL CLUB
C.W.A. Hall. REDCLIFFE.



COVERING UP

The labels with the emblem (pictured) on the front of our red music folders have been around for a long time and some are showing their age. A new sticky replacement label is now available from our Librarian, Alex. See him if you would like to "refresh" your cover. The label is based on a good quality photo taken of our tie badge.



Pemulwuy National Male Voice Festival

We received a reply from Julie Christiansen to our inquiry asking for further information about the ANZAC Weekend Festival.

Dear Michelle & David,
My sincere apologies for overlooking a response to your email. It is terrific to hear about your work with the Apollo Male Choir. I am certainly impressed with the number of performances you have lined up for 2008! Obviously the maturity of your choristers doesn't dampen their enthusiasm. We would love to accommodate you in the festival..either as an ensemble, or, if the commitment is too great for some..perhaps there are those who would like to register as individuals?

In brief the adult schedule is:

Thursday 6:30 registration (Brisbane Girls Grammar School)

7:00pm – 9:00pm rehearsal and welcome supper

Friday morning ANZAC Day Service

Friday afternoon til 5:00pm rehearsals

Saturday 9:00am – 5:00pm rehearsals

Saturday evening Concert 7:0-0pm - 9:30pm (Brisbane Grammar School)

Sunday Massed Choir rehearsal 1:30pm (Brisbane City Hall)

Festival Finale Concert 4:00pm – 6:00pm (Brisbane City Hall)

Ensembles have the option to perform at one of the concerts or in the case of some, they are electing to take part in the massed choir component only.

As it was my error not to have returned a response to your query before Christmas, I would like to honour the early bird registration rate of \$30 per singer, should you wish to take part.

I can forward music to you as soon as we receive your forms. We will also provide a CD with individual part- audio files to assist with the learning

I hope this encourages some of you to consider your involvement the festival. Our website is updated regularly with the list of other ensembles taking part

www.pemulwuy.org.au

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With this information we should be able to come to a decision about the amount, if any, of our participation in this big event.

If you always do what you have always done, then you will always get what you have always got.



Stop Press.

We have found a new home

On Thursday morning, a delegation from the Apollo choir met with Father Rod Winterton from the Kelvin Grove/Enoggera Anglican Parish to inspect the hall at St. James in Kelvin Grove Rd. The group, comprising Michelle, Margaret, Ross, Bill, and David were satisfied that the hall would fill all the requirements needed for a rehearsal venue.

Some features:

There is a driveway from Kelvin Grove Rd. into the hall parking area. The driveway is narrow but will be widened sometime in the future as part of the ongoing improvements of the Church.

St. James Church is next door to a Catholic Church located on the corner of Davidson St and Kelvin Grove Rd.
(Ref—Map 139 UBD)

There is a piano on the small stage in the hall but we have permission to have our piano on the stage also. A small room, which is lockable, has been given to us for use as our storeroom/library. Alex should have much more room than previously to arrange and relocate the music. The church, at a meeting last Sunday, accepted our offer to pay \$20 per night and put on one fund raising concert per year for the Church.



Preparations.

Before we start practice at the hall, we need to :

Clean out the small room to be used as the library.

Contact the Manager at Quarry St. to inform him we are moving all our "stuff" and fixing suitable times.

Arrange for the pick up from Quarry St and delivery to St. James of the piano and the filing cabinets etc.

(this means finding times when Ed. , Alex, and David can open Quarry St and also open St. James hall.

We estimate this could take two weeks so we plan to use the Sunnybank church for two more rehearsals.

Plan on starting at St. James Church hall on Tuesday 11th. March, unless told otherwise.



St. James Church, which is adjacent to the hall..
Note the narrow driveway into the parking area from Kelvin Grove Rd.

There is sufficient information for you to enrol, using the form below. I have removed the sections on travel, accommodation etc. that do not concern local singers. Michelle will discuss this on Tuesday night in light of the E-mail –page 2

Pemulwuy - Registration Form - Individual

If you have any queries regarding the filling out of this form please contact

1 Personal Details

Surname: _____ Given Name: _____
Address: _____ Suburb: _____
State: _____ Postcode: _____ Country: _____ Home Phone _____
Mobile: _____ Email address : _____
I would like to be contacted via: Email Other
Status: Secondary School Student Tertiary Student Employed full time/other
Voice part:
 Tenor 1 Tenor 2 Bass 1 Bass 1 Not sure
I currently sing in an ensemble: No Yes: Ensemble Name _____
Are you under 18 years of age during the festival? Yes » Date of Birth _____ No
Please indicate your approx age bracket 19-21 22-30 30-40 40-50 over
I give permission for my name and voice part to be listed on the Pemulwuy website Yes
I give permission for my voice to be recorded as part of the Pemulwuy Highlights CD Yes
I would like to know more about how to become part of the volunteer team for the festival: Yes No

2 Emergency Contact

Full Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Mobile _____
Please list any medical conditions you have (that we should know about) _____

7 Payment

\$30 ~~\$10~~ Registration
 \$26 x _____ # attending Men's Breakfast – Saturday
TOTAL ENCLOSED Cheque/money order payable to 'Brisbane Birralee V
 Credit Card » Type Visa Master
CARD #: _____
EXPIRY: _____ / _____ (MM/YY) SIGNATURE _____

CARD HOLDER'S NAME _____