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A Few Notes

News about the BRISBANE APOLLO MALE CHOIR



St. Martins is always a pleasant venue to visit with lots of open space within the grounds and a spacious entertainment area flooded with natural light. Our visit on April 15th was no exception. An excellent turn up of members entertained the

enthusiastic audience from the nursing home and the one hour seemed to go very quickly. Margaret's piano solo to finish the concert was enjoyed by choir members and residents as well. We visit there again in September.



The residents relax as they enjoy the concert.

Oasis Resort

Sunday 4th. May, we visited the Oasis retirement resort in Bracken Ridge. This is the home of Cec. Rule, one of our tenors, and his wife, Leisha; and is also the home of Geoff Herbert, who has appeared on stage with the Apollo Choir on many occasions. Geoff played two Cornet solos during the concert and was joined by another friend from former years, Elaine Jolly.

Elaine had featured with us in our two City Hall concerts in Nov 04 and May 05 as well as other many concerts during this time.

The resort is one of the newer ones we have entertained in this year and has good acoustics. We will look forward to another concert there next year.

"Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic."



Coming Up.

Tuesday 13th. May **Southernndon Lodge** 10 for 10.30am
 351 Days Road, GRANGE.
 Tuesday 20th. May **"Coffee & Cake"** 9 pm
 Finish practice early, then supper.
 Sunday 25th May **AVEO Taringa** (Forest Place)
 1 Moore St. TARINGA 1.30 for 2 pm.
 Thursday 29th. May **Indooroopilly Senior Citizens**
 60 Stamford Rd. Indooroopilly. 10. for 10.30 am

POSITION S VACANT :

The Apollo Choir requires a **PUBLICITY OFFICER** .

This position seeks a person with drive and enthusiasm to promote the activities of the choir during this and next year.

2009 is the year the Choir has its 125 th. birthday, and the committee has decided to plan a big promotion campaign and concert to celebrate the occasion. The Publicity Officer will plan the activities and publicity surrounding this special event and will work with the committee in the preparation leading up to the celebration. Would all those with suitable qualifications please see Ross Lovell or Ed. Lang for further information.

HISTORIAN.

The Apollo Choir is also seeking the services of an Historian. This position has been vacant since the death of Paul Herron and needs a person willing to collect and catalogue all the available historical material about the choir.

Sigmund Romberg was born on July 29th, 1887 in Nagykanizsa, Hungary. Although sent to Vienna by his parents to study engineering, he immersed himself in the world of Viennese music.

He moved to New York in 1909, and soon found work as a pianist in cafes, forming his own orchestra in 1912. He gained work as a house composer to J.J. & Lee Shubert, and wrote "The Whirl of the World" in 1914. Other shows followed; *The Midnight Girl*(1914), *The Passing Show*(1914), *Dancing Around*(1914), and *Maid in America*(1915). By 1917, Romberg had composed 275 numbers for 17 musicals and revues. His first great success came in 1917 with *Maytime* -an Operetta. His next success was *Blossom Time*, followed by one of his greatest - *The Student Prince*, in 1924. It included "The Drinking Song" and "Serenade".

In 1926, Romberg teamed up with Oscar Hammerstein II and Otto Harbach for the *Desert Song*, and with Hammerstein for *New Moon* in 1928, which featured the standard "Lover come back to me". He continued to compose music for Operettas after 1930, however none met with favour, for the vogue for Operettas on Broadway had been eclipsed by musical comedy. Through the 1930s he wrote the scores for several movies, and the song "When I grow too Old to Dream" came from this era. Romberg died in New York in 1954 while working on the Movie "The Girl in Pink Tights". This great musician was featured in a film on his life "Deep in my Heart".



The
Marriage
Of

Jackie Carroll
and
Denise Meys



On May 10th. we joined with the Serenata Singers (Michelle's other Choir) and celebrated the Marriage of Jackie Carroll and Denise Meys. Jackie is a member of both choirs and met Denise when he first joined the Serenatas . The Choirs combined during the service to sing the John Rutter composition, *For the Beauty of the Earth*. Rev. Archie MacNicol , minister of the Ann St. Presbyterian , conducted the service, which had a Scottish feel to it. After the service Rev. MacNicol played *Amazing Grace* on the bagpipes as Mr. and Mrs. Carroll mingled with their friends at the front of the Church . The Choirs provided a guard of honour as the couple made their way to the wedding cars.



The committee wishes to thank Alex for the extra work he put into the move and relocation of music earlier this year. His usual task in managing our library was made more difficult with the big move. The committee also wishes to thank John Lloyd for cleaning all the ceiling fans and roof lights in the new hall. He did this because he was concerned the dust could create health problems for us and other users of the hall- especially children—Thanks , John and Alex.

"Age is not important unless you're a cheese."



Final run through with the two choirs in the church hall adjoining the Ann St. Church. The combined sound is impressive— we think Michelle might have plans for a combined concert sometime this year.



The Guard of honour across the front of the Church



and down the side of the Church, where the Bridal Car was waiting.

All the Intelligence and talent in the world can't make a singer. The voice is a wild thing. It can't be bred in captivity : " Willa Cathar"

COMMITTEE NOTES

The committee met on Thursday, May 8th. at the home of Ed. Lang. The following matters were discussed:

Finances- Bill presented a forward estimate of our finances. With the extra rental this year, the cost incurred with moving, the need to insure (liability insurance) because we now rent a hall, and other expenses higher than normal, we could spend more than we earn in 2008. Various ways were mentioned to increase our income and these will be developed by the committee as the year progresses.

Singing: Michelle was pleased with the quality of singing- would like more voices at concerts (average 16) but realises not all are available all the time. Rehearsals going well (av. 19) ; pleased with having some new members — can we find some more? .

Web page : Proving very useful — our booking for the Christmas concerts came via the web site. Sec. finds it useful when making concert bookings.(The customer finding suitable dates from the schedule on the web before contacting sec.) Sec. to record a few rehearsals and, if suitable soundtrack is achieved , a "click here" and listen to the Apollo choir link will be added.

The committee aims to hold a concert this year to raise funds and also gain experience in promotion etc. so the big **125 years concert** next year will go more smoothly. (see positions vacant-previous page) Discuss with the leaders at St. James Church a possible date for the **fund raising concert** we are holding for them this year.