

# A Few Notes

President Cec. Rule  
 Vice President: Jim Kitchen  
 Treasurer: Richard Hall  
 Musical Director: Michelle Albert  
 Secretary: Tony Seibold  
 3851 1850

E-mail :  
 sec-apollochoir@optusnet.com.au  
 WebPage: www.apollochoir.com

## News about the BRISBANE APOLLO MALE CHOIR



### Centenary National Seniors- Jindalee

The Jindalee Bowls Club, where the Centenary National Seniors hold their meetings, was flooded up to the roof line during the recent floods. The restoration of the building was still in progress with the kitchen area still to be completed, but the rest was back to normal. This meeting was only the second since the floods. The only thing missing was the piano.

We couldn't believe that there was no keyboard for us when we arrived there on the 2nd August for the arranged performance. After much panic and confusion about what to do, one of the locals offered the use of her keyboard for the concert. Keith, Doug Ryan, and the local lady took off the fetch the instrument from an adjoining suburb. It was collected, set up and checked out, and by 11.15 we were ready to start. (only 15 min late)

Carolyn had some trouble accompanying because there was no sustain pedal, but battled on magnificently.

The soloists were encouraged to use the microphone which they did successfully. Alan Chapman sang his first solo for us, *A Stranger in Paradise*, and was told he could sing for us whenever he wished to. Doug K. sang a song made famous by a fellow Welshman, Tom Jones, *Delilah*. We also had solos from Charlie, Keith, and Jackie with a tale from the compere, Malcolm.

No encore this time, but a firm invitation to return next year to make it 8 years in a row.



### Oxford Park

We went to the home of John and Pam Hopsick on Sunday 7th August. We were welcomed by an audience of about 50 residents and especially by John and Pam.



We started with *Stout Hearted Men*, *Song of the Jolly Roger*, and *Chariots are coming*. Doug was first soloist with *Without a Song*, followed by Keith, armed with a handful of long stemmed roses, *What a Wonderful World*. Keith presented Pam and other ladies with the roses during the solo. Following the second bracket from the choir, we had a pair of "Alan" solos. Alan Chapman first with *Stranger in Paradise* and Alan Wood gave us *I'll Walk with God*. The choir then presented their "Ladies" bracket; *Drinking Song*, *There is nothin' like a Dame*, and *Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White*. Viv Kitt brought us *Ma Lindy Lou* while Jackie harmonised with *Celtic Woman* in *You Raise Me Up*.

The Choir concluded their performance with *My Country*, *Click Go the Shears*, and *Those Magnificent Men*. Afternoon tea was served after the concert and was appreciated by all.

John Hopsick joined the choir in 1953, and resigned in 2008, an amazing 55 years as a member. He served as conductor between 1984 to 1988 and was the conductor for a special Centenary Commemorative Concert 1885-1985, held in the Ithaca Auditorium, one hundred years after the first concert performed by the choir since its formation back in 1884.

Also members at the time of that concert were Malcolm Thorne (absent from the concert) Peter Elliston, Charlie McEwan, and Ron Cuerel.



Thanks to Rob for the information supplied and Valmai for the photos from this concert.



There are no "short cuts" on the road to maturity.

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

## Serenata's Concert

Each year, the Serenata's take part in a big fund raising program with the Lions Group at the Gap. Some of the Apollo members have been involved in previous years. Should you wish to attend this years event, the details are ;

### The Serenata concert:-

**When :** Sat 29 th October 2011, approx 7pm (to be confirmed)

**Where :** The Gap Uniting Church, Waterworks Rd, The Gap (just past The Gap High School, same side) travelling west along Waterworks Rd.

Tony explored the possibility of a similar event involving a Lions group he belongs to together with the Apollo Choir with a proposed date set at 28 th April 2012.

So far the event does not look like proceeding but Tony will keep the Choir informed if plans are made to go ahead. It might be an idea to pencil in this date and keep it free just in case.

# St. James, Ipswich

At the February AGM, a decision was made to find a fellow musician devastated by the floods and make our flood relief donation to that musician.



Michelle Jacques and Son

Cec found Michelle Jacques, a

conductor in Ipswich, who was flooded to her roof line and lost everything, but also lost all her sheet music, organ, and computer, all of which she needs to recommence her choir activities. We donated \$500 to her which she used to purchase a keyboard (pictured). The Apollo Choir also undertook to present a fund raising concert, which took place on Sunday, 14th August.



A reasonable sized audience welcomed the Apollo men as they entered the St James Church to one of Sousa's marches, played on the church organ.

Malcolm compered the concert with a touch of welsh folklore, and the choir presented a fine program chosen by our Michelle. Our soloists included Jim, who did a fine job of COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE & EVERY VALLEY SHALL

BE EXHALTED, from Handel's MESSIAH.

Michelle Jacques performed with both her small choirs, using the keyboard we donated. In the final remarks made at the conclusion of the singing, we wished her well with the building up of her choirs.

She thanked us for our support both financially and by presenting the concert, and invited us back for another concert in 12 months time.

The afternoon tea was supplied by Cec's son, who runs a bakery ; "My Bakery Rules", in the Ipswich area.

Almost \$400 was raised on the day to support Michelle in her musical endeavors.



## Coffee and

**Cake** is held on the third Tuesday each month at the conclusion of a shortened rehearsal.



If you wish to impress your fellow choristers with your (or your wife's) cake or biscuit making skills, your contribution would be welcome.

Please notify Laurie (who coordinates this event) the week before so he can avoid over supply of goodies.

Coffee & Cake nights coming up are September 20th; October 18th; and November 15th.

The Christmas dinner will take place on Tuesday 6th December—more details as the date draws closer.

**Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that those who have more of them live longer.**

## The Brisbane 2011 Festival of Male Voice Praise

Saturday 17th September 7.30 pm  
at The Gateway Centre  
1052 Mt. Gravatt- Capalaba Road,  
Mackenzie.

*Enjoy an evening of Sacred Music as combined Choirs from Brisbane, Bundaberg, Melbourne, and New Zealand present a special program for you.*

Free admission—Donations taken to cover expenses.

More information :  
Website [www.bfmvc.org](http://www.bfmvc.org)



John Lloyd presented Michelle Jacques with a painting he produced illustrating her experiences of floods, loss of music, and recovery. It was on show for the audience during the concert.

## 2011 Concerts— Next few months.

Wednesday 7th September 1.30 pm  
Craigslea, West Chermshire Senior Citizens  
Safari St, WEST CHERMSIDE.

Saturday 17th September 10.30 am  
Virginia Presbyterian Church  
Cnr. Sandgate & Gympie Roads, VIRGINIA

Thursday 22nd September 10.45 am  
Brookland Village  
Cnr. Romulus & McCullough Sts. ROBERTSON

Wednesday 5th October 10.00 am  
Masonic Care Sandgate  
60 Wakefield St, SANDGATE

Wednesday 19th October 10.00 am  
Toombal Ladies Bowls Club  
70 Flower St, NORTHGATE