

<u>President</u>	Cec. Rule
<u>Vice President :</u>	Jim Kitchen
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Richard Hall
<u>Musical Director:</u>	Michelle Albert
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A Few Notes

News about the BRISBANE APOLLO MALE CHOIR

2010 APOLLO CHOIR PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As is appropriate for a choir, we ended 2010 on a high note. Numbers of choristers have increased, we presented 30 concerts during the year and bookings for 2011 are already close to our limit. To have so many requests for our choir to return is most gratifying and can be taken as an endorsement of our endeavours.

The start of our year proved difficult, with our Musical Director, Michelle, absent for an extended period suffering from a serious infection of her vocal chords. The choir received outstanding support at that time, from four members in particular; Margaret Munro with her dedication and encouragement, Carolyn Hall conducted at rehearsals, concerts and accompanied soloists and the choir when Margaret was unable to do so. Jim Kitchen also ably conducted at rehearsals and concerts. Cec Rule handled an increased work load at this time. Without their help we would have been in difficulties. Many other choristers were particularly supportive.

Apollo members had more than their fair share of health problems throughout the year. Knee and hip problems, cancer of the throat, gut or prostate, and other debilitating conditions have all taken their toll. Thankfully, many of these medical conditions have been successfully treated.

All the Apollo Committee members have been busy throughout the year. I give thanks to:

Secretary, Cec Rule. 2010 wasn't the easiest of years to take on the role of secretary. Under normal circumstances it is a demanding and consistent job but this year has been particularly complicated. Cec has handled all his duties efficiently and with good humour. I acknowledge the great support he has given me this year. Cec also wishes to acknowledge the help and support he received from David Pitt, our previous hard working secretary who had to relinquish the position because of aggressive treatment for throat cancer.

Treasurer, Richard Hall has handled the extraction of money for choir fees with a pleasant smile and gentle encouragement. We have ended the year with more money than we had when we started. What more can be expected from a treasurer?

Librarian, Alex McNeil is still smiling after having his patience tested so often during the year. Handling our large and increasing library of music scores is most time consuming. During each rehearsal Alex has to forego some of his vocal practice while attending to the needs of choristers.

Accompanist, Margaret Munro had the interests of the choir uppermost in her thoughts throughout the year. She gave much support to the choir as a whole, as well as to individual choristers. We are indebted to Margaret for 14 years of dedicated service.

Deputy Conductors, Jim Kitchen and Carolyn Hall. On occasions throughout the year we have called on both Jim and Carolyn to conduct at rehearsals or at concerts. The choir is fortunate that we can call on such talented musicians.

Musical Director, Michelle Albert. We were pleased to welcome the return of Michelle after her prolonged illness. Knowing Michelle, it must have been particularly difficult to have lost her voice. We appreciate her enthusiasm during rehearsals and concert performances. It can't be easy for her to encourage our geriatric group to sing like love-struck youngsters (perhaps that is why she always has a smile on her face)

As well as those mentioned above there are many choristers who worked behind the scenes with the interests of the choir and choristers at heart, many thanks to you all.

We are grateful that during the year Diana Howell, wife of our previous conductor, Henry, arranged a number of choral scores in two-part harmony. These are in addition to her previous arrangements that we often use during our concerts.

During the year Peter Elliston celebrated his 80th birthday, and, to mark this occasion the choir was invited to give a concert in his home in Jetta Gardens at Bethania. Peter is one of the longest serving members of the Apollo Choir and obtains much enjoyment from his membership.

On Sunday, 10th October, the Choir attended the St David's Society's Gymanfa Ganu (a gathering or assembly for the purpose of hymn singing). The weather was very wet and very windy resulting in reduced attendance. The presence of good numbers of choir members in the congregation, in addition to the items we presented, was much appreciated by the Society.

Most of the choristers with families and friends were able to attend the break-up function at Toombul Bowls Club on the 30th November. Unfortunately, John and Pam Hopsick and Cyril Wells were unable to join us. We were pleased that Diana Howell was able to come as an invited guest together with her daughter, Grace. A number of choristers gave entertaining items, adding to the enjoyment of the evening.

Malcolm Thorne.

31st December 2010



Committee for 2011.

President : Cec. Rule

Vice President : Jim Kitchen

Secretary : Tony Seibold

Treasurer : Richard Hall

Musical Director : Michelle Albert

Accompanist : Margaret Munro

Librarian : Alex McNeill

On the program for our first Concert this year -

The Road to the Isles

'The Road to the Isles' is actually an ancient road which leaves General Wade's military road from Stirling to Inverness at Tummel Bridge, along the northern banks of the River Tummel and Loch Rannoch roughly along the present day B846. Where today's road runs out the old road continued over Rannoch Moor towards Kings House on the A82, over the Devil's Staircase and past Kinlochleven, to meet the present A830 at Fort William.

Thomas Telford engineered what was then called the Loch na Gaul road from Fort William to Arisaig. It was completed in 1812.

Song The song we are learning at the moment is a traditional Scottish song about the road, called The Road to the Isles.

The lyrics mention locations the road passes, including (in order): the Cuillin Hills, Tummel, Loch Rannoch, Lochaber, Shiel, Ailort, Morar, the Skerries and the Lews.

Email from Julie Christiansen ANCA ---Dear Cec,

I hope plans for 2011 Apollo Men's choir hasn't been affected too much by the terrible weather we have been having!

I was wondering if there are any of your men who would like to register for **Pemulwuy!** We already have singers from every Australian State registered!

We are taking individual registrations from men who would like to sign up.

They apply online and we send the music and teaching files directly.
www.pemulwuy.org.au

It is taking place on April 29th-2nd May in Brisbane

This Choir gains some support from the Brisbane City Council



Apollo Choir Musical Director's Report for 2010

2010 has been another year of achievements for the Apollo Choir. Despite my illness and absence in the early part of the year, you soldiered on and did yourselves proud as always.

The change of committee was bittersweet for it is always sad to break up a successful team. However, the new members took to their tasks with commitment and energy and without their efforts, we could not continue. My thanks go to Malcolm Thorne for a delightful year as president. Richard Hall has done an excellent job keeping the finances in check. Cec Rule has been a thorough and dedicated secretary this past year. Thank you Cec for continuing where no one else would fear to tread. Alex thankfully, did not leave his post as librarian; you must have all pulled your socks up. Thanks also to Laurie and the coffee night helpers for keeping these going. They are always anticipated with pleasure. Thanks to our Vice President Ed and Ross, Laurie, Fraser and Peter for also participating in 2010. Please feel free to keep up the good work!

Although Keith Cuerel did not have an official position on the committee, his continued attention to details big and small never goes unnoticed and is always much appreciated.

My thanks to Margaret Munro for her continuing dedication, talent and contribution. We all know it's impossible to replace her. Carolyn Hall and Jim Kitchen were called upon more often than I would have liked due to my poor health and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. It has been a great relief to know that I left you all in such capable and talented hands.

We had what seemed like a record number of performances this last year. According to my count, it was 31. What an achievement! The St Gerard Majella Christmas concert was late in December and for me a highlight as we were privileged to sing for such a large, varied and appreciative audience. However, every concert is as important as the next, no matter how big or small the audience, and I have never tired of any of the places we go to and never will. I look forward to a busy 2011, the events calendar is looking full already and I hope we don't have too many late inclusions.

Despite the many and varied absences of a good many members, mostly due to a horror year of ill health this last year, you have managed to maintain the same high standard of singing you set in previous years. Indeed, there have been improvements that we naturally wish to build on in the coming year. Membership has seen more additions than losses, which is not only extremely pleasing but also essential to our continued existence. Never stop "flying the flag" and remember you are an ambassador for recruitment every time you go to a concert.

I hope the health of each and every member is robust this year, first and foremost as I care about each and every one of you, not just whether you are available to rehearse and perform. The struggle of one affects us all and it is a great relief to know of the continued recovery of David Pitt, and the positive outlook for Peter Schinkel in particular. Charlie McEwen has sadly been a notable absence from the bass line. (Charlie is now back-Ed.)

As much as I'd like to tell you all to take fewer lengthy holidays and stay here and sing instead, it is not something I could or would ever do. I encourage all of you to "Carpe Diem" and come back to us rejuvenated and enriched. Life is short, live it to the fullest - always. Just try to fit your adventures around our schedule.

I look forward to a great year with you all in 2011 if you'll have me. As always, I have many interesting and exciting ideas for new repertoire to share with you. I always look forward to Tuesday nights and the opportunity to indulge in and share my passion for music with such a receptive and appreciative team of people. I thank you all for this privilege. I also would like to thank you all for an excellent year of music making in 2010 and hope 2011 will be our best year yet.

Michelle Albert

Patience is a virtue that carries a lot of "wait".

In trying times, don't stop trying

2011 Concerts- First few months.

Wed. 9th March: Zion Lutheran Age Care Home 10.30 am
24 Union St, NUNDAH

Tuesday 22nd March: Lynndon Ladies Bowls Club 10.30 am
Goldsworthy St, HOLLAND PARK

Wednesday 30th March: Tarry Brae IONA Complex 10.30 am
129 Brookfield Rd, KENMORE

Tuesday 26th April : Keperra Sanctuary 7.45 pm
999 Samford Rd, KEPERRA

Wednesday 4th May: Tri Care Nursing Care 10.30 am
Crn. Webster & Rode Rds, CHERMSIDE

BrisEvent presents:

THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES

We would like to invite you to a magic moment:

**The concert of the Australian Voices
in St Stephen's Cathedral,
the 8th of April 2011**

Ticket price: \$39

Concession tickets for Pensioners and Seniors:
\$35

Concession tickets for children from 5 to 12 years
old: \$20

For any other information, don't hesitate to
contact us!

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