

WARBLE 11 November 2010

## From the President

1. **MCAA Concert Sydney.** The following decision has been handed down from the MCAA about performing with or without books:

*From the Music Adviser, Guest Conductor and the President of MCAA:*

### **SATURDAY REHEARSAL Commences at 1.30pm ends at 5.30pm**

*The difficult subject of memorisation of all songs for the Festival has been causing problems for many choirs.*

#### ***Please read this note to all choristers:***

*The MCAA prepared booklets for all participating choirs some 12 months ago in the confident knowledge that in the best male voice choir tradition, our choirs sing from memory. To those choirs and individuals who have honoured that tradition and our requests to prepare in this way: Thank you – your efforts towards making these Festivals into world class events is deeply appreciated. As part of our appreciation, these choirs and choristers will be in the front section of the massed choir at Sydney Town Hall.*

*Meanwhile, to encourage those who have for one reason or another not been able to achieve this standard and need to use their books, we DO wish you still to be involved and to sing your hearts out. You will just be singing behind the choirs and choristers mentioned in the first paragraph.*

***So we ask: do your best and don't even think for a minute of missing out on your opportunity to join in this great gathering of male voice choirs.***

**Your committee has given strong majority support to the following clarification for ARC members concerning the above announcement:**

**Because of the ARC's strong endorsement of the long-held policy that the concert would be without books, the expectation is that ARC members who participate on Sunday will do so in their respective part groups, with fellow ARC members, in that contingent at the front of the massed choirs, WITHOUT books. It will NOT be an option for ARC members to unilaterally decide to perform with books with those choirs and choristers at the rear of the throng.**

Remember that your hat with corks must be a soft hat (no Akubra type hats), able to be tucked into the back of trousers or in a pocket.

2. We will participate once again with RMC Band Duntroon in the final **Music@Midday** concert in the Canberra Theatre on Tuesday 30th November. Please add your names to the gig sheet. Assemble 9.30am for 11.00am and 12.30pm performances. Further details to come.

3. The **celebratory dinner for the late Martin Pitt of Braidwood** has been confirmed for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December in Braidwood. Organisers propose to provide us with a meal. I still like the idea of arranging for some designated drivers to transport others, both to save and share costs and allow some to indulge in the odd drink after we perform. Further information to come but please add your name to the gig sheet.

4. The **Annual Dinner on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November** continues to attract good numbers. Well done. Please try and be part of this important recognition element of our year. Please note that you must have your name and partner on the gig sheet and have paid your money to Eddy (contribution of \$35 per head) or made arrangements about payment with him by Tuesday's practice on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Eddy has to confirm final numbers with University House on Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Also, you must understand that, after 16<sup>th</sup> Nov, if you have to withdraw from participation in the dinner, your payment will stand, as the ARC will be invoiced for numbers as at that date.

5. **Nomination forms for the 2010 Patron's Award** have been distributed. Please take some time to consider your nomination of a worthy member and return your nomination to Robert Macaulay. Our Patron, Col. Ian McLean will present the award at the Annual Dinner. You must have your nomination to Robert by next Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>'s practice. Robert has to have the trophy to the engravers the next day so he will be determining the recipient after next practice.
  
6. **Before the end of 2010, fuller details and draft calendar** will be distributed to members. For the moment, please note for your diaries that the final Tuesday night practice in 2010 will be 7<sup>th</sup> December. But we will participate in the Fyfe Street Carols in Kambah on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Practices will resume on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2011.
  
7. Your committee has decided to **renew the agreement with the Canberra Services Club** for use of their facilities for our practice and storage needs for 2011. However, since the club determined that, under our current practice times, it would have to charge the ARC for room hire, we have negotiated to **change our practice times on Tuesday nights to 7.00pm to 9.15pm**. In this way, the club can close the bar at 9.00pm and carry out its end-of-day tasks while we finish practice at 9.15pm, pack up and leave, allowing club staff to lock up after us. Such an arrangement removes the need for the club to charge us room hire. It will mean that bar services will not normally be available after our practices and those who wish to indulge in an ale will need to repair to another establishment.
  
8. The committee acknowledges that this could be challenging for some members especially those who work but we hope that by providing more than two months notice of such a change that members will be able to plan and prepare their lives to be able to attend the **CSC at 6.45pm for 7.00pm starts in 2011**.

We will all test out the new regime. Members are encouraged to be vigilant in sourcing a more appropriate venue for our practices and storage if we can find one. Let your committee know.

Your committee is currently preparing the next stage of the **Uniform Survey**. It is expected to be distributed soon so as to determine a decision before the end of this year.

Practice hard. Have fun. Let's enjoy this weekend in Sydney. Regards  
Neil

As always the Warble is available in the [latest news](http://www.rugbychoir.org.au) section on our website. [www.rugbychoir.org.au](http://www.rugbychoir.org.au)

In accord

Paul