

From the President

Member Welfare

Ken McInnis

We wish Ken well as he pursues further medical advice in Sydney regarding the viability of his donated kidney and repercussions thereafter. We certainly hope that recent suggestions that the kidney could still be OK prove to be true.

John Prout

Welcome back John after a prolonged absence.

Australian War Memorial

Please add your name to the AWM gig for Friday 18th March. The hymn will be O God Our Help In Ages Past.

Brumbies

Your committee discussed the challenges of recent times and a proposal has been put to Brumbies General Manager, Michael Thomson, for consideration for trialling at the next game v Waratahs on 26th March. You will be informed as soon as the Brumbies respond. Eddy Stevens and I will be having lunch with Michael and our Patron Ian McLean next Tuesday.

Blazer Voting

69 of the 77 financial members of the ARC voted in the ballot. 42 (approx 60%) voted in favour of introducing a blazer, 27 (40%) voted against.

Your committee has established a sub-committee to carry out the following brief in respect of introducing a blazer: to pursue questions of style, cut, colour, buttons, feasibility of detachable ARC logo, costs, quotes, assurances of continued supply after the initial bulk order, timeline for research, probable arrangement of physical displays of shortlisted options for members' benefit, consideration of uniforms of other ACT Men's Choirs, and recommendations to the committee.

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The sub-committee will be headed by Vice President Eddy Stevens and will include committee members Peter Cole and Keith Jones, Uniforms Officer Peter Scott, and members Robert Macaulay and Frank Bergersen.

Wollongong Regional Tour

Please notify Max Brennan of your intention to participate in the Wollongong regional visit with the Arcadian Lamplighters on the weekend of 21-22 May. Max needs indications of your attendance, whether your partner will accompany you, whether you will be interested in taking up places on a coach, and whether you will need group motel accommodation. Complete Max's sheet at practice.

Currently, it would appear that too few are interested in coach travel. The deadline for indication of taking up coach seats has to be next Tuesday's practice 15th March.

Annual Fundraising Concert

Bookings have been made at the Hughes Baptist Church Hall for Thursday afternoon, 13th October and Saturday afternoon, 15th October for our Annual Fundraising Concerts. The Thursday afternoon will target the Aged Care market and the Saturday afternoon will target the normal market.

Please consider your work and diary commitments and endeavour to be available for BOTH concerts that week to assist in our own fundraising.

Annual Retreat

Your committee has tried to provide a significant lead time to enable you to plan your commitments accordingly. Our Retreat weekend has been booked once again at Goulburn Conservatorium for 17-18 September.

Choir Promotion

Remember to access the promotional e-flyers for display wherever you note an opportunity. This was a major element of last

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year's Forum to enhance promotion and recruitment so use the resources now made available please. An order is being currently processed for 300 hard copies as well.

Wagga Wagga City Rugby Club Mens Choir

The Wagga Wagga City Rugby Club Mens Choir will be joining with us again this year on Saturday 26th March for the Brumbies v Waratahs match. However, due to the unavailability of both their MD and accompanist, those who come will join with us in our repertoire. Mick Rice will be advising them of repertoire to help familiarise them for the day. I know we will make them welcome. More details later.

Canberra Services Club Membership Renewal

I expect that everyone, like me, has received a reminder notice from Canberra Services Club that renewal of memberships is due by the end of March. Can I suggest that you hold off (unless you particularly wish to renew anyway of course) renewing that membership because your committee is currently exhausting the POSSIBILITY of taking up an alternative practice venue. Nothing is certain or confirmed at this time but we expect to make a decision soon and we can all renew at CSC if the status quo maintains. Watch this space.

UNIFORM SUPPLIER

Supply of our uniforms has been taken by:

Workin Gear

Paragon Mall

Gladstone Street (between Wollongong Street & Maryborough Street)

FYSHWICK ph: 6280 5885

Costs:

Blue chambray shirt with ARC logo	\$57.45
Blue polo shirt with ARC logo	\$26.95
Gabardine taupe (fawn) trousers	\$42.50

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Other uniform items are available through our Uniforms Officer, Peter Scott:

ARC tie	\$20.00
Blue spray jacket with logo	\$32.00
Camel colour broad brimmed hat	\$26.00

Black shoes, black socks, black belt to be supplied by you.

NB: it is NOT acceptable for members to wear "close resemblances" of the above items. You are expected to purchase the designated items so that the integrity of our uniform is assured.

Antarctica Conference

Jeff Brownrigg from the University of Canberra addressed us last practice about the background behind his research on the music of the Antarctica expedition of 100 years ago and his concept of a concert to support his research paper and his hope to transmit to the Antarctic bases. Dates still to be finalised but likely end of June sometime.

Choir Committee News

Thank you for your attention to guidelines mentioned recently about communicating with your committee. It is necessary to contact only one member of the committee.

Please do not direct your submissions to our Musical Director, Andrea. Whilst Andrea is an ex-officio member of the committee, she is rarely able to attend meetings and she has commitments and responsibilities in other directions and she often has difficulty responding adequately to individual approaches. Please direct submissions about musical direction, repertoire, performance, practice etc to the President or Mick Rice as Coordinator of Practice and Performance. Your submissions will be taken up with Andrea and the Repertoire Committee by this channel.

From the London Gig 2012 Sub Committee

The 2012 London Concert music books are being distributed and are available for \$5 from Rick Dresser.

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The Repertoire Committee will distribute its revised indexes including details about London repertoire early next week for you to refresh your folders.

Male Choir Association of Australia

The Male Choir Association of Australia Annual General Meeting was held in Canberra last Saturday and we are delighted to recognise Alastair Crombie as the new President of the MCAA. Congratulations Alastair.

With the expectation that the next MCAA Concert will be held in Melbourne in Oct-Nov 2012, the MCAA needs to know if you are likely to participate in that concert and whether your partner will accompany you southwards.

Many completed the Expression of Interest sheet at last practice. You will have only next practice to show your interest as this indication has to be returned to the MCAA in about 10 days time. It is not binding but purely an indication for planning purposes at this early stage.

Hall Village Brass Band - Just A Song At Twilight

Sunday 20th March at 5.00pm

Hall Primary School grounds, Victoria Street, Hall. Free entry, Gold coin to the Band and Hall School Museum. Museum opens at 3.00pm

Bring a rug or a chair, a chicken sandwich and a drink and the neighbours. Relax and enjoy the music - the Waltz, martial style, popular songs and music from the theatre.

Many Parts in Tune

Paul