

From the President

Brumbies Season

2011 Brumbies Season is over for us. Last Friday night was an unexpected buzz and most reactions appear to have been favourable. Thank you to the 26 members who were able to attend and participate on the pitch and in the precinct. Enough said about the belated win and bonus point, all to no avail. Roll on 2012.

In writing to Brumbies General Manager, Michael Thomson, to thank him for his efforts in organising our appearance on the pitch, a number of issues were raised and briefly reviewed about Season 2011 from the choir's viewpoint. These will be taken up again before the next season begins which, being a non-World Cup year, the timings and duration will be different, more of that later.

The notable point at this time is that Michael informed me that he will be leaving the Brumbies in the next couple of weeks. In his own words, the Australian Rugby Union made him an offer too good to refuse to take up a position with them in Sydney. I have taken the liberty of assuring Michael that the ARC has appreciated the support and encouragement he has provided to the ARC in his two years in the job and we wish him and his family well in Sydney.

I was a bit slow off the mark and neglected to ask if likely favours for the ARC might emanate from an ARU perspective!!

Australian War Memorial

Notice is also given that Steve Hooper, our recent regular liaison in Ceremonial and Events Section at the AWM finished up yesterday to take up a position in the Department of Defence. Again, our thanks and appreciation has been passed on. We will be dealing predominantly through Alissa Gabriel from now on.

The AWM has advised that it will NOT be resuming Carols at the Memorial in 2011.

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Songs for Antarctica Concert

We now have all 6 Sib files for this concert. They are fairly simple unison songs so I encourage all to work on all of them at home so that we need only polish them (and avoid "note bashing") at practice.

This gig was always promoted as one where we would use books and sing in unison so please familiarise yourselves with the single melody for each of the six songs and make up one small folder with only the pages of words so efficiently prepared by Ian Johnson recently. Thanks again Johnno.

Antarctica Conference

Saturday 25th June at the ANU School of Music, Band Room, Peter Karmel Building, from 8-9.45pm, assemble at 07.30pm.

NOTE: Andrea has stipulated that each member should prepare the black covered, thin folder containing the words to the six songs for next Tuesday night's practice, the final practice before the performance.

Tickets available at the door \$15 full, \$10 concession, students free. See the following link

<http://www.music.anu.edu.au/events/antarctica-music-festival>

Part 1: Canberra Girls Grammar School Choir and Australian Rugby Choir present Antarctica related songs.

Part 2: Performance artist, Cheryl Leonard (USA), presents natural sounds and instruments collected in Antarctica.

Sib files from Andrea have been distributed for the proposed songs. Continue to practice from these please.

Retreat 17-18 September in Goulburn

Please ensure that you can attend this weekend traditional retreat. This year we expect to need practice not only for our Concerts but also for the Police Memorial Service and the Heart Foundation Service.

As we expect to be provided very soon with the Oceania Confederation's repertoire choices for the 2012 London Concert, we are hopeful of including some of that in our concerts.

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Plenty of notice has been given via the forecast calendar so try to do your part to complete the arrangements and planning that are well underway.

Remember, try to attend both days but if you can attend only one day, that is fine also. Numbers on the sheet last Tuesday were in the high 20s which is a great start so please endeavour to enter your name ASAP.

Our Annual Fundraising Concert in October

Mick Rice has offered to once again coordinate the concerts. A group of members has volunteered to assist him. Gig sheets are on the table to indicate your intention to participate in either or hopefully both concerts.

Remember, the new dates, times and formats for these concerts have been born principally out of members' suggestions and the encouragement has been to give enough notice to organise personal arrangements so that you may participate in both but especially the Thursday commitment.

I have appreciated the notice given by a couple of members so far of their inability to participate - understood. Plans are proceeding. Gig sheets will on the table to indicate your intention to participate in either or hopefully both concerts.

Remember that **David Kilby** is to be Master Ceremony at the Saturday afternoon concert.

Annual Recognition Dinner

Don't forget to mark you diaries up now for this very important night. It will be held again at the ANU Hall. Final details will be available soon from Mr Vice.

Uniform

The black blazer from Workin Gear with the ARC pocket patch was on display at the last practice. Eddy Stevens has just about concluded arrangements with Workin Gear in Fyshwick regarding price, ordering, measuring, paying for and collecting the new blazers. Final details expected soon.

Regarding when the new blazer will be worn, your committee resolved at its last meeting that "for the 2011-2012 period it is proposed that the blazer be worn at the Annual Fund Raising Concerts,

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the ARC Dinner, the 2012 London Concert, the MCAA Festival proposed for Melbourne 2012, and the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies at the AWM. All other gigs will be considered on their merits."

Subsidisation of purchase of blazers

Your committee confirmed that the choir will pay the cost of the pocket ARC logo insert (approx \$12 each), the insert to be returned should a member leave the choir. After discussion, the committee agreed there should be no subsidy from the choir for the jacket itself. It was reaffirmed that should any member have hardship in meeting the cost of the blazer or any other uniform items, that he is able to discuss a suitable arrangement, privately and confidentially for payment with Treasurer Rick.

With the imminent introduction of a blazer, it is timely to repeat notices placed previously, that it is not acceptable for members to wear "close resemblances" of the stipulated uniform. Such notices have been made following mention of such concern by several members in last year's uniform survey, and endorsed by your committee. The black blazer will be a specific one from Workin Gear with patch pockets and uniform buttons, and members must not presume to wear a close resemblance. The integrity of our uniform can then be assured.

Annual Subscription & Annual General Meeting

Annual subs will become due on 1st July and must be paid before the AGM on 9th August 2011 for members to be eligible to vote at that AGM. Your committee resolved to keep annual subscriptions at \$25 per member per year and practice night fees at \$5 per night. Please pay your annual subs at the door ASAP.

All committee positions will become vacant at the AGM. Nomination forms will be available soon for all positions. Please consider if you wish to nominate for a committee position.

Winter Break

Our final practice will be on Tuesday 28th June and we will resume Tuesday 19th July which is a week earlier than the end of school term and the end of the holidays.

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London 2012 Concert

Those members intending to participate in this overseas venture should make themselves aware of the part practices that have begun or will soon begin. If you have missed the earlier advice, please contact Rick Dresser to find out where and when practices for your part will be available.

London Gig Books

If any chorister has copies of the London books and they are not going to London, the choir will buy the books back and make them available to a few intending travellers who failed to purchase the material. Please see Rick Dresser if you can help out.

Regards

Neil

Training 14 June Addendum

From David Dixon, the Music Theme is Football Songs.

Flower of Scotland

Land of My Fathers or Calon Lan

We Are the Champions

When The Saints Go Marching In

Remember

This Warble and others are available on the website.

Sibelius files

Members should note that all converted Sibelius files remain the property of the Australian Rugby Choir and must not be transferred to third parties other than other financial members of the ARC.

Many Parts in Tune