

## **From the President**

### **Membership Fees & Annual General Meeting**

Annual membership fees of \$25 were due and payable on 1st July for the 2011-12 year. Thanks to the many members who have already attended to this. Please note that you must be financial to vote at the upcoming AGM on 9th August.

See notice already sent separately by Public Officer Geoff Ford about the AGM and our regulatory responsibilities as an incorporated body. Please ensure that you have noted the early 7.00 pm appointment at the Tradies before regular practice on the 9<sup>th</sup> August so that we can complete requirements for the next year. If you cannot attend please tender your apology for the minutes. Also consider whether you can stand for election to the committee.

Your committee also noted the superb job completed once again by Treasurer Rick Dresser. Geoff distributed on the 20 July, via email, the summary spreadsheet containing the audited Income Statement and Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2011. I think that this contains most of the information necessary to inform the membership of the ARC activities and financial performance over the past financial year. Rick will, of course, have details of all the accounts available for individual members perusal at the AGM. It was always envisaged that 2010-11 would be a challenging financial year for several reasons but Rick has guided the choir through to register a tiny profit. Well done, Rick.

David Dickson has decided not to nominate for a committee position in 2011-12. At its last meeting on Tuesday, your committee noted the considerable contribution that David has made to the work of the ARC over many years including a period as Vice President. His connections with sporting bodies and the Arts fraternity of the ACT and beyond have proved invaluable. Please try and express your appreciation to David when you see him as he steps back at least for one year. Thank you, David.

### **August Rehearsal Schedule**

Note that David Dickson is the first member chosen by the MD to select four favourites for the Just For Fun segment at practice. David has chosen Flower of Scotland, When the Saints Go Marching In,

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Calon Lan and We Are The Champions. Please organise your music folders so that you can access those songs next Tuesday night.

### **Community CPS Australia Ltd.**

CPS has agreed to continue to sponsor the choir for the 2011-12 year and has generously increased the amount to \$3,500. Negotiations are in train to arrange a photo opportunity for a cheque handover.

### **AWM Reserve Day & Colin Fischer's 80th Birthday**

Many thanks, to the 22 or so members, who participated in each of these gigs despite the adversities. Good performances and appreciative responses were received from all event organisers. Well done.

### **Our Retreat 17-18 September in Goulburn and Fundraising Concerts in October**

Work at the Retreat expects to focus on our October concert repertoire including recent material from the London Book, see the August Rehearsal Guide. In excess of 30 members are already listed to participate in each of these three gigs.

Please remember that the extra Thursday gig is aimed at the Aged Care community and the change to afternoon concerts was instigated at the suggestion of many members and endorsed by a show of hands early this year. So it will be important that you support that initiative to ensure a credible presence for such a major performance, or indicate an apology. A couple of members have assisted planning by an early indication of their inability to attend.

### **Canberra Choir Database**

Alastair Crombie has compiled a data base of Canberra's choirs. If you have contacts with any of those choirs, please indicate on that sheet at practice so that you can assist with distribution of promotional concert material to be available soon to those other choirs.

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### London 2012 Concert

Rick Dresser has recently sent latest information from London to prospective participants.

### Blazer Uniform Administration

Cost of the blazer has been reduced to \$148.50. Members will need to personally go to Workin Gear, Paragon Mall, Gladstone Street, Fyshwick during working hours to be measured and fitted for their blazer. You will be contacted when your blazer is ready to be collected but allow approx 3 weeks. Payment can be made at fitting or pick up.

As the first wearing of the blazer has been designated for the first Annual Concert performance on Thursday 13th October, members are advised to attend to this as soon as possible. The drop dead date is by the week ending 9th September at the latest to play safe with delivery times before the concert.

### Blazer Uniform Policy

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

**(Gentlemen - The following paragraph, subsequent to my verbal delivery of the same message at the 19 July practice, will be the only time this information will be expressed by me in this way at practice or in the Warble. This is in recognition of the fact that the huge majority of members always support committee decisions and directions irrespective of personal opinions, and in recognition of those members who highlighted such concerns in 2010 surveys and acknowledged by your committee).**

NOTE: Your committee discussed the issue of those very few members who wear close resemblances of items of the stipulated uniform. With the imminent introduction of such a prominent garment as a blazer, your committee affirmed that no discretion is available to wear other than the stipulated blazer. As President, I would not relish the task of advising any member, on the occasion of the first

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wearing of the new blazer on 13th October, that they will not be able to participate because they are wearing other than stipulated uniform, but I will not hesitate to act in that way if I am placed in that position as I will not compromise the dress standards of this choir which the majority of members have voted for.

### **Calendar Clarification of some gigs**

Please update your diaries.

Earlier notices that a Heart Foundation gig would be held on 29th September has been changed. A clash of engagements has occurred and we will continue to participate in the Police Annual Remembrance Service that day. Details will be updated on the calendar soon.

The 2011 Notional Calendar indicated uncertainty about a Melody Music Christmas Concert at the Sydney Opera House in December. Your committee has decided that we will not participate.

And to repeat, the AWM will NOT be reintroducing Carols@AWM this year.

### **Member Health Update**

Darryl is recovering very well after his recent operation and stay in hospital. He is still some time off being fit enough to return to practices and, in any case, the tubes they stuck down his throat have affected his voice to the extent that considerable recovery work is necessary to avoid having to join the tenors!

Regards

Neil

Many Parts in Tune