



**May 2023**

A newsletter for all choristers in Western Vic. &

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The Choral Grapevine website: <https://thechoralgrapevine.wordpress.com/>

## CHORAL CALENDAR

Date, time, venue	Performance details
Saturday 6 May, 2:30pm, All Saints Anglican Church, Noble Street, Newtown	MUSIC FOR ROYAL OCCASIONS – <i>THE GEELONG CHORALE</i> conducted by Alister Cox \$35/\$30 Bookings: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1031340">https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1031340</a>
Sunday 7 May, 2pm Our Lady of the Rosary, Kyneton	MOZART REQUIEM <i>The Gisborne Singers</i> conducted by Luke Severn with Michael Petruccelli, Teddy Tahu Rhodes, Merlyn Quaipe, Kristen Leich Tickets \$55/\$45 Children under 12 free. <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=1035619&amp;">https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=1035619&amp;</a>
Saturday 7 May, 6pm The Geelong Art Gallery	ATMOSPHERE – <i>Vox Angelica</i> conducted by Tom Healey Featuring <i>Elegy for Clarice Beckett</i> by Kym Dillon, specially commissioned to accompany the Geelong Gallery Clarice Beckett exhibition. <b>Booked out</b> – The concert will be repeated 5pm, Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> of September
Sunday 14 May, 5pm Loreto College, Ballarat	MOTHER'S DAY SOIRÉE – <i>The Ballarat Choral Society</i> A fundraiser for the Ballarat Arts Foundation, on 14 <sup>th</sup> May For information and to book click <a href="#">here</a>
Saturday 20 May at 3PM Church of the Resurrection, MACEDON	MOZART REQUIEM – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Sunday 28 May, 2.30pm Millicent civic and Arts Centre	VALENTINE IN MAY - <i>The Millicent Choral Society</i> , conducted by Michael Bleby presents a concert of Love Songs
Sunday 28th May, 2PM St Johns' Anglican Church, Colac	TWO OF A KIND – <i>The Colac Chorale</i> A concert of works linked by the theme of love or life.
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2pm, The Monastery, 47-49 Tanner Street, Breakwater	SONGS AND BELLS AT THE MONASTERY - <i>Wondrous Merry</i> with guest artist <i>The Geelong Handbell Choir</i> Tickets at the door \$25 adults, children and students free.
June 6-9, Hamilton Performing Arts Centre	HAMILTON EISTEDDFOD <a href="https://hamiltoneisteddfod.org.au/">https://hamiltoneisteddfod.org.au/</a>
Sunday, June 11, Ballarat	THE BIG SING <i>Vic Opera</i> and <i>Ballarat Choral Society</i>
June 8-12, The Edge, Federation Square Register by March 26th	MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL SINGERS FESTIVAL – <a href="https://www.playitforward.org.au/events/misf">https://www.playitforward.org.au/events/misf</a>
Friday 16- Sunday 18 June, Queenscliff Town Hall	SINGING WORKSHOP WITH STEPHEN TABERNER (Director – <i>Spooky Men's Chorale</i> ) Accommodation available <a href="https://www.stephentaberner.com/store/p/queenscliff-singing-weekend">https://www.stephentaberner.com/store/p/queenscliff-singing-weekend</a>
Thursday 29 June 2023, 2pm St James Church Hall, Drysdale	WINTER CONCERT - <i>Coryule Chorus</i>
Sunday, July 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2pm, Naracoorte Town Hall	THE NARACOORTE SINGERS IN CONCERT
Friday, July 28th, 7.30pm The Melbourne Recital Centre	THE SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE – directed by Stephen Taberner, \$60/\$50 (concession) – <a href="https://www.melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/the-spooky-mens-chorale-2/">https://www.melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/the-spooky-mens-chorale-2/</a>

## The Choral Grapevine

Date, time, venue	Performance details
Sunday, July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2.30pm The Potato Shed, Drysdale	THE GEELONG WELSH LADIES CHOIR IN CONCERT directed by Jeanette John.
Sunday 30 July, at 3.00pm The Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Yarra Street, Geelong	RENEWAL - <i>Polyphonic Voices</i> (chamber choir) directed by Michael Fulcher on featuring recent works dealing with environmental and social sustainability. Tickets \$45/\$40 from <a href="#">trybooking</a>
Saturday 12 August at 3PM, Sterling Place Community Centre DUNKELD	Sistine Chapel – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 19th August, 10am The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hamilton	CHOIRS IN HARMONY: A WORKSHOP by DOUGLAS HEYWOOD, Director of Music, Carols by Candlelight at the Myer Music Bowl. All Interested Singers are Welcome. \$10.00 plus BYO Lunch Enquiries <a href="mailto:secretary@hamiltonsingers.org.au">secretary@hamiltonsingers.org.au</a>
Saturday 19 August at 3PM Church of the Resurrection MACEDON	Sistine Chapel – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Sunday 20th August, Ballarat	DAWN TO DUSK <i>The Ballarat Choral Society</i>
Sunday August 20, 2023 at 2.30pm, Wesley Uniting Church, Yarra Street, Geelong	THE MOZART REQUIEM <i>The Geelong Chorale</i> conducted by Alistair Cox.
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> of September, 5pm St Paul's Church, La Trobe Terrace, Geelong	ATMOSPHERE – <i>Vox Angelica</i> conducted by Tom Healey Featuring <i>Elegy for Clarice Beckett</i> by Kym Dillon, specially commissioned to accompany the Geelong Gallery Clarice Beckett exhibition.
Saturday October 14, 8.00pm Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St Geelong	EXCELSIS CHOIR Director - Tom Buchanan <a href="https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/">https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/</a>
Sunday October 15, 3.00pm, Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St Geelong	MELBOURNE WOMEN'S CHOIR Director - Faye Dumont <a href="https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/">https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/</a>
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October, The Potato Shed	A FABULOUS AFTERNOON WITH GEELONG HARMONY
Sunday 22 October at 3PM Christ Church CASTLEMAINE	BUCKINGHAM PALACE – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 28 October at 3PM Thomson Memorial Church, TERANG	Buckingham Palace – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 4 November at 3PM Church of the Resurrection MACEDON	Buckingham Palace – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Sunday 5 November at 3PM Basilica of St Mary of the Angels GEELONG	Buckingham Palace – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 2 Dec at 3PM Sterling Place Community Centre DUNKELD	Baroque Christmas <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Sunday 3 December at 3PM Basilica of St Mary of the Angels GEELONG	Baroque Christmas <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 9 December at 3PM	Baroque Christmas <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i> conducted by Douglas Lawrence.

## The Choral Grapevine

Date, time, venue	Performance details
Thomson Memorial Church TERANG	<a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Friday 15 December, at 7.30pm, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Yarra Street, Geelong	<b>WINDFIRE CHRISTMAS CONCERT – CONDUCTED BY</b> Joseph Hie, featuring <i>Oratorio de Noel</i> , Op 12 by Saint-Saens and <i>Fantasia on Christmas Carols</i> by Vaughan Williams. With <b>The Geelong Youth Choir</b> . Tickets \$50 Full; \$45 Seniors; \$40 Concession available from <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/CFGTN">www.trybooking.com/CFGTN</a> or at the door.

## REPORTS FROM OUR CHOIRS

### HAMILTON SINGERS

Hamilton Singers started the year with a performance of *Waltzing Matilda* at the annual Australia Day commemorations in Hamilton. After that we concentrated our efforts on material written by Warrnambool composer, Ken Stott, for concerts held just recently in both Hamilton and Warrnambool. The concerts were a great success and the buzz of singing in a mass choir with other Warrnambool choristers is something we thoroughly enjoyed. We now work towards our performances for the Hamilton Eisteddfod in early June.

Later in the year we are planning a choral workshop for singers of all sorts here in Hamilton under the tutelage of Douglas Heywood, the director of the music at the Carols by Candlelight at the Melbourne Myer Bowl each year. this should be a great event and a time of skill development.

We wish our fellow choristers a great year of singing this year.

Beth Tonissen Director, Hamilton Singers



## CHOIRS IN HARMONY

### A WORKSHOP by DOUGLAS HEYWOOD,

Director of Music, Carols by Candlelight at the Myer Music Bowl.

10.00 a.m. SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hamilton

All Interested Singers are Welcome. \$10.00 plus BYO Lunch

Enquiries [secretary@hamiltonsingers.org.au](mailto:secretary@hamiltonsingers.org.au)

### NARACOORTE SINGERS

We conducted our successful Easter concert at the Naracoorte Lutheran Church on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2 pm, followed by a good gathering for afternoon tea in the Lutheran Hall. We then followed up with a repeat performance at Longridge Aged Care for the residents there, on Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm.

Our next planned concert is to be on Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 2 pm at the Naracoorte Town Hall, followed by a repeat performance at Longridge Aged Care for the residents there, on Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm.

We then break for our winter recess until Monday Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, when we will be rehearsing with the Kingston Community Choir for a performance later in the year.

## The Choral Grapevine

We practice at the Naracoorte Anglican Church Hall, Mondays at 7 pm. [Julie Goetz](#)

### TIDES OF WELCOME

Our year kicked off with a performance at the Twilight Market in Ocean Grove in early January which was well attended.

*Tides of Welcome* have been rehearsing weekly once again on a Thursday evening under the direction of Wayne Jury with a focus being on, not only improving our repertoire, but also looking at ways to celebrate our Twentieth Anniversary.

The executive has decided to increase the numbers attending from 30 to 35 as the waiting list had grown to nearly 20 people, some of whom had been on it for a number of years. We are still very cognizant of the threat of Covid, but we feel the increase in numbers is both manageable and good for the choir and public. Despite the increase to overall membership, we still have a waiting list of around fifteen.

We have approached the Queenscliff Music Festival and are hoping that they will support us at the festival this November through a special performance including all previous choir directors.

In addition to this we are hoping to celebrate our 20th anniversary on a more local basis perhaps at the Uniting Church in September. At this we hope to include many previous members and the public.

[Paul \[Bud\] Jones](#)

Website <https://tidesofwelcome.weebly.com>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Tides-of-Welcome-677417935607881/>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/tidesofwelcome/>

### WONDROUS MERRY

After two years of Zoom chatting, rehearsing with and without masks, an ad hoc sing of Christmas carols and Wondrous Merry favourites at our end of year gathering at *Café with a View*, Wondrous Merry is finally back in full rehearsal and performance mode!

We rounded off 2022 as guest artist for the *Geelong View Club* Christmas gathering.

Also in 2022, four of our members enjoyed a weekend in Ballarat, sharing an inspiring workshop with Stephen Taberner – learning lots of new music, including the most haunting Ukrainian folk song *Plyve Kacha*. After some pronunciation help from a Ukrainian language expert, this piece is now firmly in the repertoire.

We remember with love and sadness two of our much-valued basses, Alan and John, who died in the last two years, and warmly welcome two new sopranos – Jane and Mary.

We're working hard to memorise words and music for a joint concert with *Geelong Handbell Choir* in early June. This is in the wonderful acoustics of the old monastery in Breakwater. Our music ranges from 16<sup>th</sup> century madrigals and a part-song attributed to Henry VIII through folk songs to popular songs past and present. See the Choral Calendar for details. [Helen Lyth](#)

### GEELONG WELSH LADIES CHOIR

**Twenty-five years. Something to celebrate.**

*The Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir*, formed in 1998, celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It has been such an exciting adventure with a tour of Wales and three tours of New Zealand achieved. We have proudly built strong relationships with the three Welsh male choirs in Victoria and embraced Welsh heritage and culture as our guiding principles. Many activities are planned for this year with a major focus on a concert on July 30.

## The Choral Grapevine

This event is being held at the Potato Shed, Drysdale on July 30 at 2.30. The program will celebrate the diversity of the choir membership as well as the different genre of music we sing. Supporting the ladies is the acapella quartet **Mixed Signals**, a first-class group to add to the variety. Tickets will be available through the Potato Shed booking system.

The choir is also planning a mini tour at the end of the year to connect with Welsh communities in Victoria and plan to sing in Melbourne, Ballarat, Gisborne and other townships.

The choir this year has swelled to 34 voices, and we have welcomed the new members who are excited about being involved in this inclusive choir.

Although we sing in Welsh our repertoire includes many different genres of music and always are seeking new members. For any questions regarding our choir, please do not hesitate to contact Jeanette John on her mobile or send an email via our website.

Jeanette John 0407866183

## THE GEELONG CHORALE

**The Geelong Chorale** would like to introduce our next concert - *Music for Royal Occasions*.

Over the centuries, some of the finest choral music has been composed to celebrate coronations, weddings, and funerals of members of the British Royal Family. This recital of famous and less well-known items will be a suitable prelude to the Coronation of His Majesty, King Charles III, a few hours later. Join us for this festive celebration and feel especially patriotic!

Our second concert will be on Sunday August 20, 2023, at 2.30pm. With the generous support of the Robert Salzer Foundation, we will perform Requiem by W. A. Mozart with orchestra and soloists. This great and well-known work will be performed at Wesley Uniting Church, Yarra St, Geelong. We have invited extra singers to augment the choir. We have had a great response. Any sopranos or altos who wish to participate will need to go onto a waiting list now. We are still accepting expressions of interest for any tenor or bass singers.

We are always keen to hear from any singers who are interested in joining our choir. For more information about the concerts or joining the choir, please contact our secretary, Angela West at [thegeelongchorale@gmail.com](mailto:thegeelongchorale@gmail.com).

Angela West

## THE COLAC CHORALE

Our Chorale has met again for our regular weekly rehearsals – and we have happily welcomed several new members to our choir. We are now planning and rehearsing for our concert to be held on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> May at 2:00PM at St John's Anglican Church in Colac. Our concert theme is **Two of a Kind**. The performance features pairs of songs, linked together by a connecting theme about love and life. A string quartet, drawn from the Geelong Youth Orchestra, is also participating in the program.

A warm welcome is extended to other choral groups in our region to attend the concert and share afternoon tea afterwards.

Finally, we send our best wishes to all Choral Grapevine members for a happy choral year of singing and fellowship.

Gwenyth Knox

## WINDFIRE CHOIR

**Windfire Choir** began 2023 with a wonderful performance of Rossini's '*Petite Messe Solennelle*'. Under Joseph Hie's direction, the choir interpreted this operatic work with all its drama and emotion. Choir members remarked that this was both a very challenging but very satisfying piece and a highlight to sing. Soloists Emma-Mae Rufatt, Dannielle



## The Choral Grapevine

O'Keefe, Lyndon Green and Michael Lampard sang with assurance and flair. Sonoka Miyaki (piano) and Frank De Rosso (chamber organ) were indispensable to the beauty of this performance which was highly praised by the capacity audience. Many thanks to Helen for her review of this concert which can be seen in the News section of [The Choral Grapevine](#).

Windfire's second concert will be our Christmas Concert on Friday 15 December, at 7.30pm, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Geelong, featuring *Oratorio de Noel*, Op 12 by Saint-Saens and *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* by Vaughan Williams.

The next concert presented by Music at the Basilica Inc. will be the Melbourne based **Polyphonic Voices** (chamber choir) under Artistic director Michael Fulcher on Sunday 30 July, at 3.00pm at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels featuring recent works dealing with environmental and social sustainability.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Windfire Music Festival 2023 will be held from Friday 6 October to Sunday 15 October, 2023 with many varied concerts for all music lovers. [Windfire Music Festival – Music at the Basilica](#).

We hope to see you at one of these upcoming concerts. [Amanda Fraser](#)

## BALLARAT CHORAL SOCIETY

**Ballarat Choral Society** will hold a **Mother's Day Soirée** fundraiser for the Ballarat Arts Foundation, on 14<sup>th</sup> May.

We have also partnered with the Victorian Opera for our June 11 concert **The Big Sing**. Rehearsals are in full swing at the Buninyong Masonic Hall on Wednesday evenings 7.45-10pm.

Our **Dawn to Dusk** concert date has now been finalised as Sunday 20th August. So put this in your diaries, don't miss the magical sounds in this collection of works. [Judith McQueen](#)

## GEELONG HARMONY

We have hit the ground running since January 2023 with a key focus being our first regional competition in a number of years since the dreaded Covid Pandemic. We are well primed and just about ready to hit the road to travel to Brisbane under the direction of Michelle Roy who has been our Musical Director since 2022 for Region 34 Convention and Competition 2023. We are ready to rise, shine and sing! This event will be held at Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre from 4–7 May, 2023. We have our fabulous quartet **Three Docs and A Diva** comprised of Michelle Roy, Emily Edwards, Emily Moriarty and Deb Elea also ready to take to the stage.

After convention we will focus our work on our Potato Shed show. This year it is on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. We will be presenting A Fabulous Afternoon with Geelong Harmony. Known for our close harmonies, and entertaining showmanship and a sheer joy of singing, this concert is one not to be missed. A sumptuous afternoon tea is included in the ticket price. Bookings available via the Potato Shed website.

[Corina Hassett](#) Secretary, Geelong Harmony Chorus

## MILLICENT CHORAL SOCIETY

**If you can have Christmas in July, then why not Valentine in May!** The Millicent Choral Society is presenting a concert of Love Songs on Sunday 28th May 2023, commencing at 2.30 pm in the Millicent civic and Arts Centre. The South East Concert Band will be guest artists. They are returning to Millicent after last year's very successful Variety concert. A wide collection of well-known tunes with a Love Song theme will not only, set the scene for an afternoon of musical stories of tenderness and affection, but bring back memories from past decades.

With a splendid afternoon tea served at Interval an enjoyable show is guaranteed. [Michael Bleby](#)

## CORYULE CHORUS

After 18 months of Zoom rehearsals through 2020-21, **Coryule Chorus** cautiously ventured back into the singing world - albeit masked and sanitised. With almost 100% uptake of the COVID vaccine by members we continued our rehearsals, intermittently, during the latter half of 2021, gradually becoming more or less accustomed to singing through masks. After the relaxation of COVID restrictions, 2022 saw us singing unmasked but still with a bit of distance between singers. Our 2021-22 activities included our Christmas concert, in December 2021, a Choral Workshop with Kym Dillon and four performances in 2022, culminating in carolling around the town and our Christmas carol concert in December.

2023 started off with an exciting performance in March at the Potato Shed with **The Shanties**. You can check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheShantiesChoir/>.

Also in March, we attended a stimulating and motivating vocal workshop with the talented Musical Director of Vox Angelica, Mr Tom Healey. Our second performance was in April, singing once again for the Bayview Probus Club. Future activities for 2023 include a performance at the local Biggest Afternoon Tea, a Winter Concert in June and a Seniors' Week Concert in October.

Joan Kelly Publicity Officer <https://www.choryulechorus.com>

## THE GISBORNE SINGERS

The Gisborne Singers' initiative, the inaugural **Symphonia Choralis** held in December last year was a great success. The choral festival attracted four other choirs who each performed their own repertoire on the Saturday and many choristers joined **The Gisborne Singers** and the **Bendigo Symphony Orchestra** in their performance of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* on the Sunday. Held at the Ulumbarra Theatre in Bendigo, this was the first time this great symphony had been performed in Bendigo and the packed house responded with rapturous applause. Artistic Director of both **The Gisborne Singers** and the **BSO**, Luke Severn was conductor, and guest soloists included the choir's artistic patron Merlyn Quaife (soprano), Kristen Leich (mezzo soprano), Michael Petruccelli (tenor) and Teddy Tahu Rhodes (baritone).

This year, the choir is in the process of undertaking Mozart's *Requiem* in late April and early May. The stellar line-up of soloists from the Beethoven joins the Singers again with orchestral backing from the Macedon Ranges Chamber Orchestra. Venues included the brand-new auditorium at St Mary's Worship Centre in Sunbury on Sunday April 30 and the traditional bluestone church Our Lady of the Rosary in Kyneton on Sunday May 7.

On Saturday 10 June, The Gisborne Singers will take part in Woodend Winter Arts Festival's inaugural Choral Marathon. We have an indoors then an outdoors bracket between 3:30 and 4:30pm, followed by participation with seven other choirs in the Big Sing Flash Mob as part of WWAFF's first High Street Festa. 50% of Choral Marathon ticket sales will go to the choir nominated by the ticket buyer.

Plans for later in the year include a winter Cabaret, Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzes* (4 hand piano and choir) in October at the Church of the Resurrection in Macedon and a Christmas Service of Carols, in December in Kyneton.

Alison Kinghorn

## VOX ANGELICA GEELONG CHAMBER CHOIR

**Vox Angelica Geelong Chamber Choir** has its first concert on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> of May in the Geelong Gallery at 6pm. Giving a concert in this beautifully resonant space has been an annual event now for several years. This year we were invited to give a concert as part of the stunning exhibition of the paintings of Melbourne artist, Clarice Beckett (1887 to 1935), and we will perform surrounded by her luminous canvasses. The exhibition and concert are entitled "Atmosphere", and the music was chosen to reflect the senses of calm, clarity, quietness, intimacy, melancholy,

## The Choral Grapevine

transcendence, and the subjects of morning, evening, light, rain- among other senses and subjects! We commissioned a work from Geelong's own Kym Alexandra Dillon, who has written an arresting and superbly atmospheric composition, scored for nine parts and using Beckett's own words reflecting on her approach to painting. In addition, the 27 strong choir is singing works by Parry ("Never Weatherbeaten Sail"), Calvin Bowman, Kate Rusby, Randall Thompson, Stanford's "The Bluebird", and others. We finish with Latvian composer Ēriks Ešņvalds' haunting "There Will Come Soft Rains".

The concert is sold out but will be repeated at **5pm, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of September** in the lovely acoustic of St Paul's Anglican Church, LaTrobe Terrace. We will also sing excerpts from the programme at the Jam for Refugees on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> of October (11am) at St Paul's.

Tom Healey (Director)

### EDITORIAL

Live music is back. We've all come out of three years of virtual hibernation, energised and singing better than ever! Thanks to so many choirs who have contributed to this edition. **Geelong Harmony** are in full voice for their return to singing – travelling to Brisbane later this week to participate in Sweet Adelines Australia Convention and Competition 2023. Steven Taberner presents a workshop in June in Queenscliff. As far as I know there are still places available.

I urge all our singers to not only sing in a choir but to attend the performances of others. This often energises us to sing anew. Many choirs hold afternoon or early evening concerts which makes it possible to travel further afield than our own towns and cities. Many areas have multiple performing groups. The Grapevine is about communication – between our choirs, and with our wider audience.

In 2013 I took over editing the Choral Grapevine from its founder, June Roberts. The Vine is now online, and more choirs have joined. A few have disbanded. I'm now looking for at least one other person to be involved in running this valuable resource. Currently, I am the only one with editing ability on our website and Facebook page. Should I no longer be able to continue, these will become inaccessible. If you, or someone in your choir, is prepared to be involved in running the Vine, and being a backup editor, please let me know. It is essential that we have more than one person who can edit our web sites.

I look forward to receiving your concert details, reports, posters and news, all of which will go straight up on the CGV website. Enjoy your singing, Helen



## A letter from our founder

I'm honoured to publish a letter from the founder and first compiler of the Choral Grapevine, June Roberts.

To the Choral Grapevine in 2023 - I have been thrilled to see the development of CGV since 2013 under Helen's expert leadership. Helen came to the rescue of my "baby" the CGV after I had issued it since 2003 and found the workload of producing "Quick Notes" which is an entertainment guide for Mt.Gambier, Portland, Hamilton, Warrnambool and surrounds as well as the CGV too heavy a commitment.

My Portland Choral Group folded when it lost our expert pianist and the conductor, but I still take a lively interest in CGV news.

Congratulations to Helen and her forthcoming helpers and may all singers continue to glory in the enormous musical pleasure and fellowship of choral singing. My very best wishes to you all.

June Roberts, Portland 03 5523 1054.

### Choirs in The Choral Grapevine network in 2023:

**Apollo Bay:** Apollo Bay Community Choir **Ballarat:** Ballarat Choral Society, U3A Choristers Ballarat, Vox **Berr:** Riverland Choral Group, **Bordertown:** Bordertown A Cappella Singers, **Camperdown:** Camperdown Uniting Church Choir, **Casterton:** Sacred Heart Church Choir, **Cobden:** Cobden Community Choir, **Colac:** Colac Chorale, **Deans Marsh:** Deans Marsh Singers, **Drysdale:** Coryule Chorus, The Bellarine Community Choir **Geelong:** acabellas, Bella Mama, The Geelong Chorale, Geelong Harmony Chorus, GSO Chorus, Geelong Trades Hall Choir, Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir, Geelong Youth Choir, The Gesualdo Consort, Sing Geelong, St Luke's Uniting Church Choir, St Mary's Basilica Choir, Geelong, St Paul's Church Choir, U3A Geelong Choir, Windfire Chamber Choir, With One Voice Geelong, Windfire Chamber Choir, Wondrous Merry, Vox Angelica Chamber Choir, Vox Box Community Choir **Gisborne:** The Gisborne Singers **Hamilton:** Footprints the Choir, Good Shepherd Choir, Hamilton Singers, Tabor Male Choir, **Lavers Hill:** Lavers Hill Choir, **Millicent:** Millicent Choral Society, **Mt Gambier:** Mayfair Youth Jazz, Mount Gambier Choral Society, Mt Gambier Christ Church Anglican Choir, **Naracoorte:** Naracoorte Singers, **Penola:** Southern Heritage Singers, **Port Fairy:** Port Fairy St Johns Anglican Church Choir, **Portland:** Portland Choral Group, **Queenscliff:** Tides of Welcome, **Torquay:** Surfside Singers **Warrnambool:** Cantori, Warrnambool Christ Church Choir, Merri Singers, Red Tent Singers, Warrnambool St Johns Presbyterian Choir

Please let me know if there are any other choirs in your area, so we can invite them to become part of our Choral Grapevine family.