



**July 2023**

A newsletter for all choristers in Western Vic. &

Founder: June Roberts

Editor: Helen Lyth

3/13 Balmoral Crescent

Rippleside 3215

Phone: (03) 52786058

Email: [hlyth@westnet.com.au](mailto:hlyth@westnet.com.au)

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

## Inside...

Reports from our Choirs .....	1
ACABELLAS .....	1
THE COLAC CHORALE .....	2
HAMILTON SINGERS.....	2
Hamilton Eisteddfod adult choir results .....	2
GEELONG WELSH LADIES CHOIR.....	3
WONDROUS MERRY.....	3
FOOTPRINTS THE CHOIR .....	4
CORYULE CHORUS.....	4
GEELONG HARMONY CHORUS.....	4
MOUNT GAMBIER CHORAL SOCIETY .....	5
WINDFIRE CHOIR and MUSIC AT THE BASILICA .....	5
THE GISBORNE SINGERS.....	6
TIDES OF WELCOME.....	7
THE GEELONG CHORALE .....	7
STOP PRESS - The Festival of Voices in Hobart 2023 .....	7
Editorial .....	9
CHORAL CALENDAR.....	10

## Reports from our Choirs

### ACABELLAS

Acabellas are heading to the *Festival of Voices* in Hobart this week to enjoy a week of singing, 10 performances and lots of fun and friendship. There will be 48 of us joining in song.

Belinda Densley leads Acabellas singing groups and is currently collecting data on the therapeutic benefits of group singing for her PhD. Any singing group leaders who would like to know more about the project and/or may willing to be interviewed please contact Belinda on [acabellas@live.com.au](mailto:acabellas@live.com.au).

#### Belinda Densley

Belinda's report Festival report and photos arrived just in time to be included in this edition of the Vine – See Page 7

## The Choral Grapevine

### THE COLAC CHORALE

After the challenges all choirs have faced over the last few years, the **Colac Chorale** was delighted to finally present a concert in St John's Church Colac, with its wonderful acoustics, on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

The concert was entitled *Two of a Kind* and each pair of songs dealt with an emotion. For example, *Over the Rainbow* and *Sing a Rainbow* showed optimism, *The Ash Grove* and *Where the Green Willows Grow* referred to people finding solace in nature, and *Shenandoah* and *Ashokan* expressed "I Sang my heart out". The capacity audience responded appropriately to show their appreciation.

The audience was also delighted by our guest artists, **The Geelong Youth Orchestra String Quartet**, who, in keeping with the concert theme, played two pieces by Mozart, two Hiyiko dances and a couple of Beatles hits – *Eleanor Rigby* and *Yesterday*. The quartet comprises Seth Latham, Kelly Nankervis, Angus Fuller and Olivia Sagor. They played with great maturity and musicality.

Interestingly, three generations of one family performed at our concert. Our conductor Johanna Latham was joined by her mother, our accompanist, and also by her son Seth, as first violin in the quartet.

A communal afternoon tea, where we received many appreciative comments about our concert, was a fitting finale for our performance.

Read the CGV report about *Two of a Kind* [here](#).

Gwenyth Knox

### HAMILTON SINGERS

The **Hamilton Eisteddfod** has been and gone. This helped us polish up a few of our favourites and we were truly blessed to receive some places too. This firms our work and encourages us to keep trying and doing our best in every endeavour.

At the moment we are having a couple weeks off for some rest, but very soon we shall be back at learning a new work for the **Hamilton Symphony Orchestra** concert, to be presented here in Hamilton in September. This is a completely new work for us. It is a medley of some four Ukraine folksongs which are fun to learn. On August 19<sup>th</sup> we host a choral workshop and the details of this are included in the [Choral Calendar](#). Come along and join us in a day of wonderful singing with the lovely Douglas Heywood.

Getting to rehearsals is a challenge for us and pretty soon some of us may require a boat to leave our homes. Once we tackle the elements though, rehearsals are always enjoyable and rewarding. May you all enjoy your singing and events.

Beth Tonissen

### Hamilton Eisteddfod adult choir results

#### **SECTION: 147 Open The Promenade of Sacred Music Gospel or Sacred Song Group.**

Sponsored by The Hamilton Eisteddfod

1st The Hamilton Singers (Wannon)

2nd Footprints the Choir (Hamilton)

2nd The Hamilton and Alexandra College Festival Voices (Hamilton)

9/06/2023 4

#### **SECTION: 146 Open Male, Female or Mixed Choir.**

Sponsored by The Hamilton Eisteddfod

1st The Hamilton Singers (Wannon)

2

<https://thechoralgrapevine.wordpress.com/>

July 2023

## The Choral Grapevine

2nd Footprints the Choir (Hamilton)

## GEELONG WELSH LADIES CHOIR

Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir celebrates 25 years this year.

Our next performance is on Sunday 30th July at 2.30pm at the Potato Shed, with special guests **Mixed Signals** Barbershop-style quartet. Tickets available from the Potato Shed \$28 and \$25 for concession. Get in now to buy as they are selling fast. (Tickets also available by phone 03 5272 4226).

Freda Wright, Secretary 0413 406 433

## WONDROUS MERRY

In June **Wondrous Merry** were performance ready for a concert *Songs and Bells at the Monastery*. We were looking forward to welcoming our friends and followers to our first full public concert since 2019! Alas! The dreaded Covid hadn't finished with *Wondrous Merry*. After feeling ill and going home during our final rehearsal, one of our members tested positive the following morning. Undaunted, we pressed on, with a final run through (in full N95 face masks) on the Thursday before the concert. Mary had a scratchy throat. Marie was 'saving her voice'. None the less, even though our basses were unavailable, we had a good sing. Our own three tenors, without bass support, gave a beautiful rendition of their new song, *John Ball*. Marie and Helen went to handbell practice the next morning, both keeping the other ringers safe by wearing their masks\*. By that evening there were three more casualties – and, sadly, the decision had to be made. It was with huge disappointment that we cancelled the performance. We sent messages to those who had pre-booked tickets and all our friends, and turned away a dozen or so people who turned up anyway to our new venue – *The Monastery* in Breakwater, Geelong. On Sunday, Helen, who had been feeling smug, did a RAT test, 'just to be sure', as she was travelling to Ballarat with friends. A faint red line – leading to a cancelled trip and a week's isolation. In all five or our dozen or so singers were infected, along with sundry family members. We will reschedule our concert – waiting for member and venue availability – so we have no date set yet. Keep a watch on the Choral Calendar for this.

Other than our *Songs and Bells* concert, **Wondrous Merry** has three performances scheduled before the end of the year. The first is Geelong College's term *Choirs Concert* in the Keith Humble Centre at Geelong College, on **Monday Sept 11 7.30pm**. As part of Music at the Basilica's **Windfire Festival 2023**, we are presenting a free lunch time concert on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 12.30 at St James Anglican Church, 47-55 Collins Street, Drysdale. Finally, we are once again performing at *Jam for Refugees* at St Paul's Church, La Trobe Terrace, Geelong on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. This is a full day showcasing music of local musicians to raise money for refugees. We expect **Wondrous Merry** to be performing at around 5pm. All these concerts are open to the public.

An update on our singers. The Covid has gone, at least for the time being. We're back in rehearsal, with Marie taking a little longer after other health issues caused the cancellation of her trip to the UK and Europe, but we'll soon be up to full strength. We hope to welcome you to one or more of our performances soon.

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings and would welcome visitors from other choirs to come along and join us if they're in Geelong.

\*The N95 masks seem to have worked – no handbell ringers were infected after our practice.

Helen Lyth 0409 903 214

## FOOTPRINTS THE CHOIR

**Footprints the Choir** has resumed activities since the COVID lockdowns, cancellation of events and cessation of face-to-face choral gatherings during 2020 and 2021.

We lost some members during that period but there remains a committed core of choristers who enjoy meeting, singing, and supping each week (new members welcome).

At our Tuesday evening rehearsals, we have been re-establishing our singing voices, our listening ears, increasing our repertoire and again rising to the challenge of live performance.

In 2022 we donned our colours of fire outfits to entertain the crowd with our session on stage at the biennial Cavendish Red Gum Festival (having been cancelled in 2020).

Another invitation received was to sing some well-known songs for the Car Club rally at the Pastoral Museum.

This year, and last, we sang with other local choristers and musicians at the Hamilton Anzac Day commemoration ceremony.

We enjoyed preparing four pieces and competing in our recent Hamilton Eisteddfod and were encouraged by our successes and the crowd's responses - our guest bagpiper was a popular addition in our Celtic inspired song.

Footprints has also been invited several times to provide a bracket of musical entertainment for the patrons at the local, monthly farmers market in the lovely outdoor surrounds of the Hamilton Institute of Rural Learning (HIRL) complex.

As the year progresses, we hope to reestablish our musical visits to aged care residents, which were well received in the past. We are also currently exploring other musical opportunities and collaborations in the district, to further develop our abilities and community involvement.

Fran Agar Choral Director

## CORYULE CHORUS

Our winter concert was a sell-out. For the first time ever, we welcomed local aged-care residents who arrived in minibuses. Pre-COVID, the choir would go into the aged-care facilities to perform but, with over thirty choristers and the logistics of RAT requirements, it was easier for the residents to come to us.

Coryule Chorus will present their next concert on October 12 as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival. Mark the date in your diary now. The choir is currently taking a well-earned rest but will be back in full swing at the end of winter.

Full details of our next concert will be posted on our Facebook page and website a little closer to the date.

Joan Kelly, Publicity, Coryule Chorus Website: <https://www.coryulechorus.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083597670948> Text Joan: 0401 458 370

## GEELONG HARMONY CHORUS

Our first year back to "normal" Region 34 Convention and Competition in May this year saw a small but mighty group of singers from Geelong Harmony Chorus perform on stage after the covid hiatus. We rose to the occasion, shined in the opportunity, and sang with all our hearts. The joy of being together again with 800 other delegates was evident in abundance. Our quartets did extremely well with *Three Docs & A Diva* comprising of Michelle Roy, Emily Edwards, Emily Moriarty and Deb Elea taking first place in the Open Category with a highly commendable grade and *RiSE* quartet taking out the most improved quartet trophy.

**Geelong Harmony** has welcomed four new members in the last few years, but many long-time previous members have also moved on. We are looking for more new members to come and join us and we have been attending local markets as well as running a few Open Rehearsals to try to recruit. We are inviting interested women singers to our next Open Rehearsal on Monday 24 July. We would love to see lots of new faces there in the hope that we have more singers join our wonderful chorus.

Michelle Roy has been our Musical Director since 2022 and she has brought her excellent musical skills to our chorus. She is guiding and teaching the group weekly to further develop our vocal and choral skills, as well as having lots of fun. Michelle began learning music as a young child, initially learning keyboard and flute but found singing was her greatest attribute. She is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts and has performed in musical

## The Choral Grapevine

comedies, opera and as a solo artist. Michelle has had an approximately 30-year relationship with Sweet Adelines Australia (SAA). She was the founding director of a men's barbershop group, the *Bay City Conchords* and has sung in 5 a cappella quartets. She is currently the regional Communications Coordinator for SAA.

Corina Hassett (Performance and Events Manager) Mob: 0409 923 814pf



Figure 1 Geelong Harmony Chorus at Brisbane Symposium 2023

## MOUNT GAMBIER CHORAL SOCIETY

It's been a while for our group, but I am hopeful we are on the way now. We as a community group will be celebrating 90 years of singing, in 2023. We are planning our birthday event for Saturday October 7th in the Wehl Street Theatre, Mount Gambier with several special invited guests. Will send further information a little closer to our event.

Cathryn Rochow, PRESIDENT Mt Gambier Choral Society

## WINDFIRE CHOIR and MUSIC AT THE BASILICA

**Music at the Basilica** and **Windfire Choir** are pleased to announce that we have awarded a vocal scholarship to Zinaida Kabylis-Tukavkin. Zinaida is a young soprano from Winchelsea, who has been studying with Lee Abrahmsen for the last five years. We are looking forward to Zinaida joining us for our Christmas concert in December and our Easter concert in March 2024.

## The Choral Grapevine

The **Windfire Choir's** next 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. Rehearsals for this concert will start on 25 October. Please contact Jane on 0447238432 if you would like to sing with us. New members are always welcome.

The next concert presented by Music at the Basilica Inc. will be *Cloudburst* featuring Melbourne based choir **Polyphonic Voices**, under Artistic director Michael Fulcher. This is on Sunday 30 July, at 3.00pm at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Geelong. The concert derives its name from a work by Eric Whitacre - *Cloudburst*, which will be performed by the choir during this concert. The work evokes the percussive impact of a sudden rainstorm in the desert – the text by Mexican poet Octavio Paz speaks of the rain awakening humanity to its connection with the earth and responsibility to care for it. One of the highlights of this concert is Rollo Dilworth's *Weather: Stand the Storm*. This is a sweeping modern epic that incorporates blues and African American spiritual elements as it positions the senselessly violent death of George Floyd and the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement against the backdrop of the isolation, inequality and confusion created by the COVID-19 pandemic. This performance is an Australian premiere.

The **14th 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.

For more information on concerts and the Windfire Music Festival visit our website

<https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/>

Jane Bashiruddin

## THE GISBORNE SINGERS

The Gisborne Singers performed Mozart's *Requiem* in April/May. The first performance was in the very comfortable new concert venue at St Mary's Anglican Worship Centre in Sunbury. The following week was a sell-out performance at local favourite Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church in Kyneton. For the first time in three years the choir was able to provide their famous afternoon tea following this performance. With artistic director Luke Severn and soloists Merlyn Quaife (soprano), Kristen Leich (mezzo soprano), Michael Petruccelli (tenor) and Teddy Tahu Rhodes (baritone), there were many accolades from the audience.

The choir then participated in the inaugural Woodend Winter Arts Festival Choral Marathon on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June. We were first on stage in a succession of performances by seven choirs from all over Victoria. The indoor performance was followed by an a cappella outdoor performance outside the 1853 Mechanics Institute (now an antique store) in High Street Woodend. Many of the choristers then returned to the indoor performances of other choirs. Choristers found it enjoyable and useful to hear new repertoire and to observe the varying choral disciplines that are present in different choirs. Choristers then soaked up the street vibe in the shadow of buildings floodlit with the work of a local artist before gathering together as a massed choir under the iconic clock tower to perform *No Time*, a traditional US camp meeting song conducted by **Australian National Choral Association** (ANCA) Victorian/Tasmanian President, Jenny Mathers. The Big Sing was a great success and the whole day provided a great opportunity for camaraderie amongst choir members.

The Singers are currently preparing for their winter Cabaret on Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>. The Cabaret is usually an "in-house" event for friends and family and allows the choir to sing lighter numbers as well as individuals to perform in small ensembles or solo. Hidden talent is often revealed! Hidden talent is often revealed!

Following Cabaret, the next major performance will be Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes which includes four hand piano accompaniment with Anna Zuidland (formerly Clarke), the choir's talented accompanist, and Elyane Laussade, esteemed guest pianist. The concert will be a one off performance at the Church of the Resurrection in Macedon on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October. The church was rebuilt after the Ash Wednesday fires and features a full height stained

## The Choral Grapevine

The church was rebuilt after the Ash Wednesday fires and features a full height stained glass window by Leonard French. Tickets are available through TryBooking.

Our choir is steadily growing, and we have been fortunate to have acquired a number of tenors and basses. However, like most of the other choirs we are always looking for new choir members.

Enquiries: [www.gisborne.harmonysite.com](http://www.gisborne.harmonysite.com) or phone 0408 156 263.

[Alison Kinghorn](#)

## TIDES OF WELCOME

*Tides of Welcome* are celebrating their 20th anniversary with a performance at the Queenscliff Uniting Church on September 10th with the Tides of Welcome supported by both Wayne Jury and Sarah Carroll. There will also be a major performance involving the choir and all four previous choir directors plus Wayne (our current director) during the *Queenscliff Music Festival* on the last weekend in November.

[Paul \(Bud\) Jones](#) 0487 391 451

## THE GEELONG CHORALE

Our year has been busy with two major programmes. The first culminating on the day of the coronation of King Charles III was *Music for Royal Occasions*. This attracted a large audience for those who wanted to immerse themselves in regal music ahead of the coronation later the same day: May 6th. Rather than simply presenting coronation music, the Chorale included a reflective mixture of royal weddings, funerals and “enthronings”. (CGV report of this concert [here](#).)

Currently, the Chorale is rehearsing for a performance of *Requiem* by W.A. Mozart with orchestra and soloists. With increased membership for this substantial work, the Chorale is looking forward to presenting this magnificent work on August 20th at 2.30 pm at Uniting Church on Yarra Street.

The committee is currently putting the finishing touches to a program for presentation on December 9th. Details of this program will be on our webpage in the very near future.

The Chorale continues to be led by Allister Cox OAM with Kristine Mellens as accompanist.

[Ken George](#)

## STOP PRESS - [The Festival of Voices in Hobart 2023](#)

by Belinda Densley of Acabellas [www.acabellas.com.au](http://www.acabellas.com.au)

The 2023 Festival of Voices in Hobart treated 2000 singers to a banquet of song, community and beauty. It was my privilege to escort a group of 48 singers from **Acabellas** to the festival where we performed ten times, and enjoyed the performances of so many vocal groups from around the world.

The highlights were innumerable but here are five that spring to mind that might capture a part of the experience and inspire singers considering a trip in future years.

### 1. The Singing Spaces

Across the five days we performed across diverse venues including the Hobart Airport (as an arranged performance to arriving travellers), the heritage listed Hobart Town Hall, the iconic MONA gallery, the bustling FarmGate market,

## **The Choral Grapevine**

the acoustically generous Elizabeth Street Mall, Hobart Library, Hobart Brewing Company and the sensitive Singers' Lounge. The latter venue was part of Salamanca Arts Centre and transformed into a deeply respectful place for singers to celebrate one another's sound under lights. The festival organisers thoughtfully programmed our group so that by merely showing up to our planned performances we toured the highlights of the beautiful harbour town of Hobart.

### **2. The Local Community**

Hobart has a similar sized population to Geelong and yet there was something so intimate about wandering around the town. As the singing leader of Acabellas I had the opportunity to compere our gigs and share a few stories about the group and our songs. In return I was frequently approached by people in the street who had seen us at one venue or another and wanted to thank us for being in town. I was struck by the gratitude shared with me by locals for bringing original music to Hobart which locals proudly advocated as a thriving, creative place. Children performing on stage with us was a highlight as well as the audiences lustily joining us by invitation in selected songs.

### **3. The Diversity of Vocal Groups**

I have read there are 96 Sankrit words for love and in English there is a lonely one. This inadequacy of language is also true for singing groups which are typically called 'choirs'. The diversity in presentations of songs was mind blowing and soul satisfying. A quartet of young German women in the Singer's lounge evoked mythical magic. A strong chorus of men dressed in college jackets rendered the most sensitive and complex arrangements and willingly taught us the parts when we combined to flash sing. Teenagers paying rapt attention to their conductors shaping notes and maintaining silences brought tears to the eye.

More striking for me was not the diversity of groups but diversity within groups. My hopes for humankind and the potential for peace was incredibly buoyed as I saw the composition of each group. Not an identity marker - be it ethnicity, gender, sexuality or age - seemed to underlie any group. Instead, there was a palpable uniting thread of singing - of the need to sing. When the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Chorus sang 'We Belong' by Pat Benatar I felt so proud to be a part of the assembled company which was bristling with that very notion - we belong.

### **4. The Collective Energy**

The energy of the collective requires noting. I truly believe if the mental health of the singing community, and the audiences, was sampled at the beginning of the festival and at the end there would be significant change. It wasn't and I can't claim it to be true but it felt like there was a sense of pride and purpose. The Emergency Services Medical staff of Tasmania recently rebranded their wellbeing programme - C.R.A.G. - Celebrating Resilience and Grit and they formed a choir. They rehearsed for 8 weeks, entered and won the Festival Corporate Choirs Challenge and they were voted the People's choice. It was obvious why. As well as being delightfully funny and entertaining the audience was so pleased to see people who work so tirelessly in complex conditions sing. When you know, you know. Singing makes such a difference. When I was introduced in the Singer's Lounge as a PhD candidate researching group singing there was a spontaneous round of applause and multiple connections made by leaders wanting to contribute wisdom to my project. We singers hold something really special and the collective energy when that was being shared was so warm and peaceful.

### **5. The Rewilding**

On a personal note, Acabellas is celebrating a year of Rewilding. This notion is taken from environmental sustainability and was first introduced to me via an anecdote about women planting a section of the Sahara with vegetation that grew so lush it brought the rains. On a community level, it felt like rewilding of ourselves was needed as well. Post Covid, the idea of travelling interstate to sing clearly appealed to many people in our singing community



## The Choral Grapevine

with attendance in such a high number. A community sharing concert involving all our singers was hosted before we left and, along with friends and family, we raised \$1160 for Koala Clancy to expand the rewilding concept. Being away with the singers and seeing them so happy will stay in my heart and soul for many years to come.

The Festival of Voices happens each year in Hobart. <https://festivalofvoices.com/>



Figure 2 A Capellas at The Festival of Voices in Hobart

## Editorial

Concerts, workshops, rehearsals, eisteddfods, festivals, symposiums – the list goes on. Choirs are in full singing-mode after three years of disruption. Congratulations to all our choirs. Some feel battered with loss of membership as people move on. However, there is an increased interest in singing from many people as we once again resume social contact and musical enrichment. Now is surely a time to welcome new members.

Several local choirs were represented in the energising workshop with Stephen Taberner at Queenscliff in June. Singers also can participate in a workshop at Hamilton with Doug Heywood on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to **Hamilton Singers** for hosting this. (Stephen Taberner's group, *The Spooky Men's Chorale*, are performing at the Melbourne Recital Centre on July 29<sup>th</sup>.)

When did you last attend a choral performance as part of the audience? One thing I notice is that few singers seem to attend other choir's performances. Time and distance may be an issue, but listening to others perform is both entertaining and educational. I was delighted to attend **Colac Chorale's** *Two of a Kind* concert recently, and enjoyed the **Geelong Chorale's** "royal" performance. A real highlight was *Vox Angelica's* sell-out concert, *Atmosphere* – celebrating the Clarice Beckett exhibition at Geelong Art Gallery. (This concert is being repeated in September at St Paul's Church.) I always enjoy performances by the **Australian Chamber Choir**, and recently revelled in **Polyphonic Voices** collaboration with Melbourne Chamber Orchestra in works by Vivaldi. (**Polyphonic Voices** present a concert, *Cloudburst*, in Geelong on July 30<sup>th</sup>.) For those who feel remote, many performances are now online. If you're lucky, you may also be able to attend multi-choir events, such as *Sweet Adelines* symposium, (attended by *Geelong Harmony Chorus*). Choirs work to be at peak performance fitness for this annual event.

## The Choral Grapevine

Just in is Belinda's report about the Festival of Voices held in Hobart. This is excellent wrap up of the Festival and answers so eloquently the question "Why do we sing?".

I remind everyone that the newsletter is only part of the *Choral Grapevine*. Reports of your performances are welcome at any time, as well as diary dates and concert information. I try to keep the website and Facebook page updated. The CGV is only as good as your contributions can make it.

Helen

## CHORAL CALENDAR

Date, time, venue	Performance details
Saturday July 15 <sup>th</sup> 6.30pm. Kyneton Mechanics Institute Hall	<b>CABARET – <i>The Gisborne Singers</i></b> All tickets \$45. Bookings <a href="#">Trybooking</a>
<b>Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 11am,</b> Geelong Regional Library, Little Malop Street, Geelong	<b>GEELONG HARMONY CHORUS MINI CONCERT</b> Free
<b>Monday 24 July, 7.30pm,</b> Western Heights Uniting Church Hall, 31 Douglas Street, Geelong West	<b>GEELONG HARMONY OPEN REHEARSAL</b> All welcome to attend this free event.
<b>Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm</b> The Melbourne Recital Centre	<b>THE SPOOKY MEN'S CHORALE</b> – 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>
<b>Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2.30pm</b> The Potato Shed, Drysdale	<b>THE GEELONG WELSH LADIES CHOIR IN CONCERT</b> directed by Jeanette John. Tickets from <a href="#">The Potato Shed</a>
<b>Sunday 30 July, at 3.00pm</b> The Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Yarra Street, Geelong	<b>CLOUDBURST – <i>Polyphonic Voices</i></b> (chamber choir) directed by Michael Fulcher on featuring recent works dealing with environmental and social sustainability. Tickets \$45/\$40 from <a href="#">trybooking</a>
<b>Saturday 12 August at 3PM,</b> Sterling Place Community Centre DUNKELD	<b>SISTINE CHAPEL – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August, 10am</b> The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hamilton	<b>CHOIRS IN HARMONY: A WORKSHOP</b> 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@hamiltonsingors.org.au">secretary@hamiltonsingors.org.au</a>
<b>Saturday 19 August at 3PM</b> Church of the Resurrection MACEDON	<b>SISTINE CHAPEL – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August,</b> Ballarat	<b>DAWN TO DUSK <i>The Ballarat Choral Society</i></b>
<b>Sunday August 20, 2023, at 2.30pm,</b> Wesley Uniting Church, Yarra Street, Geelong	<b>THE MOZART REQUIEM <i>The Geelong Chorale</i></b> conducted by Allister Cox. Bookings <a href="#">Trybooking</a>

## The Choral Grapevine

Date, time, venue	Performance details
<b>Wednesday and Thursday 30th and 31st August,</b> 7.30pm, Geelong Performing Arts Centre, Little Malop Street, Geelong	<b>THE BARBER OF SEVILLE – Opera Australia</b> , featuring <i>The Geelong Youth Choir</i> as the children’s chorus. Bookings <a href="https://geelongartscentre.org.au/whats-on/all-events/the-barber-of-seville/">https://geelongartscentre.org.au/whats-on/all-events/the-barber-of-seville/</a>
<b>September 10<sup>th</sup>,</b> Queenscliff Uniting Church	<b>TIDES OF WELCOME 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT.</b> Tides of Welcome will be supported by both Wayne Jury and Sarah Carroll
<b>Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>,</b> 7:30pm Keith Humble Centre, Geelong College, Aphrasia Street Newtown.	<b>CHOIRS CONCERT –</b> Featuring <i>Geelong College Community Choir, Wondrous Merry</i> and other local choirs. Tickets at the door.
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of September,</b> 5pm St Paul’s Church, La Trobe Terrace, Geelong	<b>ATMOSPHERE – Vox Angelica</b> conducted by Tom Healey Featuring <i>Elegy for Clarice Beckett</i> by Kym Dillon, specially commissioned to accompany the Geelong Gallery Clarice Beckett exhibition. Tickets <a href="#">Trybooking</a>
<b>Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>,</b> <b>12.30</b> St James Anglican Church, 47-55 Collins Street, Drysdale	<b>WONDROUS MERRY –</b> a free concert <b>Windfire Festival</b>
<b>Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>,</b> Wehl Street Theatre, Mount Gambier	<b>90 YEARS OF SINGING! Mount Gambier Choral Society</b> celebration concert to celebrate the choir’s 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday, with several special invited guests. More details as they come to hand.
<b>Thursday, 12 October,</b> St James Church Hall, 55 Collins St, Drysdale	<b>SENIORS FESTIVAL CONCERT – Coryule Chorus</b> Full details on <a href="#">web page</a> and <a href="#">Facebook</a> closer to the date. <a href="https://www.coryulechorus.com/">https://www.coryulechorus.com/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083597670948">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083597670948</a>
<b>Saturday October 14,</b> <b>8.00pm</b> Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St Geelong	<b>EXCELSIS CHOIR</b> Director – Tom Buchanan <a href="https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/">https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/</a>
<b>Sunday October 15,</b> <b>3.00pm,</b> Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St Geelong	<b>MELBOURNE WOMEN’S CHOIR</b> Director – Faye Dumont <a href="https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/">https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/</a>
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm,</b> The Potato Shed, Drysdale	<b>A FABULOUS AFTERNOON WITH GEELONG HARMONY</b> This event is to celebrate Seniors Month and includes a fabulous afternoon tea. Tickets: \$35/\$25 (conc.) \$25 (children) Bookings <b>The Potato Shed</b>
<b>Sunday 22 October at 3PM</b> Christ Church CASTLEMAINE	<b>BUCKINGHAM PALACE – The Australian Chamber Choir</b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October,</b> St Paul’s Church, La Trobe Terrace Geelong	<b>JAM FOR REFUGEES –</b> A ten-hour musical extravaganza featuring Geelong musicians and musical groups, including quite a few of our choirs and singers. All funds raised at the “Jam” will be donated to CRAG (Combined Refugee Action Group of Geelong) for their much-needed legal fund. Neither “Jam for Refugees” nor CRAG has any overheads, so you can be assured that every cent donated will go directly to assist refugees. More details as they become available.
<b>Saturday 28 October at</b> <b>3PM Thomson</b> Memorial Church, TERANG	<b>BUCKINGHAM PALACE – The Australian Chamber Choir</b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>

## The Choral Grapevine

Date, time, venue	Performance details
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> October, Church of the Resurrection in Macedon	<b>BRAHMS LIEBESLIEDER WALTZES – <i>The Gisborne Singers</i></b> More program, time and booking details as they come to hand. Booking with Trybooking
Saturday 4 November at 3PM Church of the Resurrection MACEDON	<b>BUCKINGHAM PALACE – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> 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	<b>BUCKINGHAM PALACE – <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> 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	<b>BAROQUE CHRISTMAS <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> 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	<b>BAROQUE CHRISTMAS <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <a href="https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/">https://www.auschoir.org/2023-concerts/</a>
Saturday 9 December at 3PM Thomson Memorial Church TERANG	<b>BAROQUE CHRISTMAS <i>The Australian Chamber Choir</i></b> conducted by Douglas Lawrence. <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 Joseph Hie</b> , featuring Oratorio de Noel, Op 12 by Saint-Saens and Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams. With The Geelong Youth Choir. 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

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

**Apollo Bay:** Apollo Bay Community Choir **Ballarat:** Ballarat Choral Society, U3A Choristers Ballarat, Vox **Berri:** 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, Geelong College Community Choir, 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, **Queenscliff:** Tides of Welcome, **Torquay:** Surfside Singers **Warrnambool:** Cantori, Warrnambool Christ Church Choir, Merri Singers, Red Tent Singers, Tin Shed 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.