



In Tune

Welcome back

Fees

Semester 1 fees have not yet been determined.

Star Chorale

Committee

President

Robert Wright tenor

Vice president

Jill Forsyth alto

Secretary

Judy Downie alto

Treasurer

Chris White bass

Committee members

Lis Phillips, Maren Rawlings, Robyn Wood (sopranos), Joan McMeeken, Jenny Stengards (alto), David Grigg, Richard Ballantyne (basses)

Jane Elton Brown is a member of the Committee ex-officio

Performance Dress

Ladies: Full-length black skirt, black top with long or three-quarter sleeves, (no sparkles, please) black stockings and shoes.

Gentlemen: Black trousers and long sleeved shirt, black socks and shoes (Ladies singing tenor, please dress as for the gentlemen)

If you have news you would like included in In Tune, please let Judy Downie know.

.Welcome to Semester 1 2009!

We hope you had a happy and restful Christmas, and wish everyone good health and prosperity in 2009. Happy New Year!

This year, our main concert will be held on 20th June, 2009, again in Dallas Brooks Hall. We welcome Jane back as our conductor.

The repertoire for the concert, to be titled *Pomp and Pilgrimage*, will comprise four Coronation anthems, by Handel, plus excerpts from *The Canterbury Pilgrims*, by George Dyson. For those of you unfamiliar with these works, *Zadok the Priest* is one of the Coronation anthems, and the *Canterbury Pilgrims* sounds like great fun to sing. (I treated myself to the CD!) Some of you may have sung parts of *The Canterbury Pilgrims* with Jane previously—in her former life at MLC.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals this year will be on a **Wednesday**, rather than a Tuesday. We realise this may inconvenience some singers, but the vast majority of those who responded to our quick survey said that the change either did not affect them, or made it more likely that they would be joining us this year.

There will be a registration/social evening on January 28th, 2009, commencing at 7.30 pm. This will be held in the MLC Music School, but at this point, a precise venue cannot be advised. It will be either Flockhart Hall, or upstairs in Room 3.01 (towards the Barkers Road end of the building) or the Music Staff Room (go up the Performance Stairs and turn left).

The actual location is dependent on the needs of the school, which are not known as yet. Suitable notices will be posted for you on the night.

Ladies, please bring a plate, and gentlemen, something to drink. We are applying for a license, but if we are refused for any reason, we will be serving tea and coffee, and will ask you to keep your bottles in your vehicles!

Actual rehearsals will start in the Auditorium the following Wednesday, February 4th, at 7.30 sharp.

As we found last year, having the registration/music collection the week prior to commencement of rehearsals meant that the first rehearsal was able to start promptly, and there were no mile-long queues of people trying to register and collect music when everyone would rather have been singing!

Also, the social aspect of the registration evening means that people have more time to catch up with their fellow choristers and renew acquaintances without the time constraints necessarily imposed by a rehearsal.

In other words, please come along to the first get-together for 2009—our Registration Night!

If you have not already indicated that you will be joining us this year, please let Judy know your intentions as soon as possible—either to jdownie@bigpond.net.au or telephone 0407 055 846. If for some reason I am unable to answer the phone, please leave a message! Just your name, and yes, or no, will do.

Hiring of Music

Just a few words about hiring music.

- All choristers are careful with hired music, and this is greatly appreciated. As most of the music is hired from other choirs, we are responsible for the replacement of damaged or lost music—just as any choir which hires music belonging to the Star Chorale would be responsible for similar replacements.
- Can you PLEASE remember to mark your scores with a SOFT pencil—2B or similar. Also, can you please try to keep your pencil marks to the essentials. Some choristers erase their own markings prior to returning their scores “clean”. However, some don’t! Those of us who have come along to “rub-out” nights will know just how many markings some people use, and just how long it takes to erase those markings! (I had one Verdi score to erase where the chorister had put lines through almost every bar system except the one they were singing!) Certainly in some cases (notably the Verdi) there are a number of markings already in the scores, from previous use, so the “rubber-outers” may be complaining about other choirs habits! But please! Consider those who have to erase your markings, and don’t overdo it!
- Please return your scores promptly after the performance. Most choirs who loan us music want their scores back within 2 –3 weeks of the performance. For some reason, in 2008, we were still chasing Verdi scores in December, and a number of people have not returned their scores from the Christmas performance. This is not only embarrassing, but it makes difficulties for us should we need to hire from those choirs at some point in the future. Don’t make us have to beg or get stroppy—just return your scores ASAP!

Music for 2009

Some of you have ordered your own scores of the music to be performed in June. The scores have had to be imported from overseas, but we hope that they will arrive in good time for you to collect them on Registration night.

We have 100 copies of The Canterbury Pilgrims for hire, but hire copies of the Handel anthems are limited. For those of you with access to the Internet, the music for these anthems is available for free download from the Choral Public Domain Library, on www.cpd.org. It would be very helpful, and a great saving on time, energy and costs if you could follow the links and download your own copies. Plus, they will be yours to mark as you will!

You will be directed to an external site for Zadok—use the CPDL#1826 edition. King Shall Rejoice and Let Thy Hand be Strengthened have only one edition each, and for My Heart is Inditing, use edition no. CPDL#6903.

And another thing.....

- Surrey Hills Uniting Church has just celebrated its Centenary. **Gill Bell** (alto) has been instrumental in producing a DVD to accompany the written history of the church, with choral music provided by The Star Chorale. Well done Gill!
- **Cathy Robbins** (alto) tells me she has commenced offering services in massage therapy, incorporating elements of reflexology, Bowen therapy and Shiatsu, into the treatments. She has rooms at Fairfield Osteopathic Clinic, 298A Station Street, Fairfield, 3078. Tel: 9489 0981, mob. 0422 776 342. We wish her every success in her venture!
- **Jill Barker** (soprano) and **Linda Henderson** (alto) have both moved house. Good luck in your new abodes.

.....and on a personal note

The much anticipated grandchild arrived safely on 19th December, 2008.

She weighed in at 3.8 kg (that’s 8 lb 5 oz in old money). All the family are well, and her name is Innes Rosalie Downie. Iain (my son) tells me he found her first name on the internet—it certainly has suitable Scottish connections. Following my daughter-in-law’s Italian custom, “Rosalie” is after the maternal grandmother.

I think she’s been here before! The photo shows her on Christmas Day—not quite a week old,

There is still debate about the football team—will the Downies and Collingwood prevail over Richmond?

