



# METNOTES



Issue 38

May 2008

**Newsletter of the  
Metropolitan Male  
Choir of SA for the  
Friends of the Choir**

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## Festival of Male Choirs 2008

The recent Festival of Male Choirs, held in the Adelaide Convention Centre on Sunday March 30th, and the Barossa Arts and Convention Centre Tanunda on Sunday 6th April was an unqualified success. 1568 seats were sold for the Adelaide concert, and the Tanunda concert was a complete sell out, with an audience of 894. From the reports we have received from our audiences, the concerts were enjoyed immensely. Thank you to all our Friends of the Choir for their support of this event.

We would also like to thank the linchpin of the concerts, John Thompson of the Metropolitan Male Choir, for the many hours he put into all the detailed arrangements. His hard work and dedication to the task made sure both concerts ran smoothly and efficiently.

Thanks are also due to the choristers from the other seven participating choirs, K & N Brass, and our wonderful guest artists. Siahli Schmaal wowed the audiences at both concerts, and Welsh pianist Rhodri Clarke was a great hit with our Adelaide audience.

## Welcome back Allan Huddleston

After a period of sickness, and the sad loss of his wife Pat, Allan Huddleston is back at the helm, running the Friends of the Choir support list. Welcome back Allan. We would like to thank Milton Lewis, who so ably took over the reins in Allan's absence.

## Proms Concerts 2008

The next major events, on this year's calendar are the two Adelaide Town Hall Proms on August 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. They are always very popular with our Friends of the Choir members, so we suggest that you book your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Cut out the booking form at the bottom of this page and send it, with payment, to **Allan Huddleston at 55/33 Sylvan Way, Grange, SA 5022**. His telephone number, should you wish to reach him, is 8355 0160.

**If you are paying by cheque, please make it payable to "The Metropolitan Male Choir of SA Inc"**

EVENT	PRICE	NO. OF TICKETS	TOTAL COST
Sunday August 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 2 pm Capri Cinema Film Afternoon "Ladies in Lavender"	\$10 per person		
Proms Concert Adelaide Town Hall 7.30 pm Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2008	Dress circle \$30 Stalls \$20 Gallery \$15 Restricted View \$10	DC S G R	
Proms Concert Adelaide Town Hall 2.00 pm Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2008	Dress circle \$30 Stalls \$20 Gallery \$15 Restricted View \$10	DC S G R	

**Purchaser's Name .....**

**Address.....**

## Film Afternoon

Our very popular Film Afternoon is coming around again, this time on Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The film this year is called "Ladies in Lavender", starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith.

As usual one of the Capri's organists will be playing for us, and the choir will be singing a bracket of songs on stage.

Tickets are \$10 each, and an order can be placed together with your Proms booking if you wish

## Carnegie Hall Gala Concert

One of the great advantages of joining a Choir is that opportunities arise to perform in places that would never be available to the individual singer. How else would our members get to sing in the Royal Albert Hall, the Sydney Opera House, Salzburg Cathedral, down the Big Pit mine in Wales and so on.

Through our association with Melody Music, a UK based concert promotion company, we have been invited to send members on an individual basis to sing in the Massed Choir's Gala Concert in Carnegie Hall, New York on the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. The guest artist for the evening is Bryn Terfel with our own Rhodri Clarke being the pianist. We were indeed fortunate to obtain Rhodri's services for our own Festival of Choirs.

Six members of the Choir, together with their wives, will represent the MMC at the concert. Our Musical Director will experience again what it is like to sing with the rank and file in the second basses.

## New Choir CD

We announced in our last MetNotes that we hoped to start putting together another CD of our music in February. Unfortunately the time ran away from us and it did not happen. However, we are now planning to start recording in June. We will include some of those new songs we have been singing at our concerts, including You Raise Me Up, What Would I Do Without My Music, Kings Of Swing and many others.

## New Zealand Tour 2009

As reported in our last MetNotes, the Metropolitan Male Choir is planning a concert tour of New Zealand in the second half of 2009.

We have now been invited to participate in the tenth birthday celebrations of the National Male Choir of New Zealand. This is to be held in Nelson on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Consequently we have adjusted our tour dates, and it is anticipated that we fly out of Adelaide for Auckland on October 11<sup>th</sup>, and fly home from Christchurch on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

The choir will take part in six concerts in both the North and South Islands during that period.

## Choir 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

Just as we thought arrangements were going smoothly for this important event on Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>, the announcement of the imminent closure of the Mitsubishi factory threw a spanner in the works.

Our predicament, in having to find an alternative venue, was minor compared with the workers who have to find new jobs, but none-the-less, it required a bit of quick work by President Bruce and a small band of helpers to visit a number of possible venues and choose those suitable for our birthday celebrations. It came down to a choice of two, and the one decided on by the Management Committee is the Tropeano Function Centre, Tapley's Hill Road, Fulham Gardens..

There is plenty of room for the 250-300 anticipated guests from our choir, the Wollongong Lamplighters choir, and a few Friends of the Choir. It has ample car parking, a good stage, a good sound system, and drinks will be available at bar prices. A two course dinner will be brought to our tables, and the cost will be \$35.50 per person.

There will be plenty of music from the two choirs, and we will be offering a limited number of tickets for this event to our Friends of the Choir later in the year.

## Haydn in Gigi

Haydn Madigan from our Second Tenor section is on leave from the choir to appear in the Therry Society's production of Gigi in June. It is on at the Arts Theatre from June 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, and Haydn is taking the role made famous by Maurice Chevalier. Why not go along and give him some support?

## Our New Guide Dog

The Metropolitan Male Choir has supported Guide Dogs for the Blind for several years. Our last dog, Troy, is now working with a University student in the NT, and we have been allocated a new dog, Hudson, to sponsor. We all wish Hudson well, and look forward to meeting him at The Proms in August.

## New Choir Members

The Metropolitan Male Choir is always looking for new members. We recently welcomed Eugene Chaplin, and Alex Daniel to our 'family'. We wish them many happy years singing with us.

## Diary Dates for 2008

**25 May** PSA St Andrew's Glenelg

**15 June** PSA Rosefield UC

**22 June** PSA St Ignatius Norwood

**26 June** Golden Grove Matinee Concert

**3 Aug** Capri Cinema Film Afternoon

**Sat 30 Aug and Sun 31 Aug**  
Annual Proms Concerts

**14 Sept.** PSA Unley Senior Citizens

**21 Sept.** PSA Elizabeth Grove UC

**12 Oct.** PSA Colonel Light Gardens UC

**Sat 18 Oct.** 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

**2 Nov** PSA Strathalbyn UCA

**9 Nov** PSA Morialta UCA

**22 Nov** Elder Hall Christmas Celebration

**7 Dec** 'Celtica 2008' Pt Adelaide