



Illawarra Choral Society News Bulletin to Members. No. 5 2016

Dear members

Firstly a reminder that rehearsal is on as usual on Mon 25 April!!

Selling tickets for the concert

Please encourage your family and friends to get their tickets this week either through Try Booking or direct sale from you. Also, be sure to return money and ticket sale details as well as unsold tickets to Irma A **before the concert!** i.e. Bring money/details ASAP but by Friday 6 May at the very latest. This is particularly important for this concert with limited seating in the church. We need to know exactly how many tickets have been sold in advance and how many are available to sell at the door.

Call for volunteers for our concert

Front-of-house

We need to ask some of our families and friends to assist us in selling tickets at the door of the church, giving out programs, ushering the audience in and helping them find seats, assisting the disabled and so on. They will get free entry to the concert. **Four or five** people should be sufficient. *Please advise me by reply email if you know someone who is prepared to volunteer.*

Transport risers

We will need to move the metal risers from the storage facility to the church on the morning of Mon 2 May. We can get into the church after 9:15 am so we would need 4 - 5 people with cars (depending on capacity) to meet at the storage place at 9:00am and drive them to the church. Lyndall Dawson is organizing this and will provide full details of collection and drop-off points to those involved. *Please advise Lyndall if you can help:*

email lyndalld@exemail.com.au or text her on mobile 0408 603 259.

Women's scarves

Our wardrobe mistress, Anne Pallas, is away but has entrusted me with the gold scarves for the women choristers for this concert. I need 1-2 volunteers from each of the sopranos and altos to take charge of the scarves for your voice part. This entails carefully ironing them (satin!!) handing them out on the day and collecting them up (check number out and in) at the end of the concert. *Please advise me by reply email if you can help.*

Choral events

Sydney Sings Messiah

Sydney University Graduate Choir will once again present **Sydney Sings Messiah** this year on Sunday 13 November. Many of us have participated in this event in previous years. It is a great experience for choristers involving hundreds of singers from choirs based in Sydney and regional NSW. I am forwarding you the entire email I received from SUGC by separate email. It will be up to you to register for this event if you are interested. I will ask in a few weeks who has registered because, if a certain number from any choir participate, their choir name will be included in the program.

Celebration Concert 2016

Meryl has received information from Mal Hewitt (Collegiate of Specialist Music Educators) about their next concert:

CELEBRATION CONCERT 2016 repertoire includes The Heavens are Telling (Haydn), excerpts from West Side Story, and opera choruses, including the finale of Turandot. Jerusalem (Parry) and Oh Come All Ye Faithful will be permanent inclusions. It was noted that it is a unique experience for all participants. There will be 30 Primary Schools involved and many community and secondary choirs as well as many individual adult singers. The date is October 30th . Not to be missed as it is a unique experience for all who participate or attend. This will be CSME's major initiative this year. All monies raised go to the Music Therapy Unit at the Children's Hospital, Westmead.

Meryl and the committee are very supportive of these wonderful events and are sure that many of you will wish to attend. However, a note of caution – please consider carefully your available time and capacity to learn a lot of new music in the same time period. We will at that stage be rehearsing for our December concert which includes Benjamin Britten's '*Ceremony of Carols*' as well as other carols and short works to fill the program.

Recruiting to our tenor and bass sections

We will always welcome new members of any gender and demographic mix. A steady stream of new members are finding their way to us but these have been mainly women over the last couple of years. So we need to find some new ways of reaching out to potential men choristers. We have put together a flyer for this purpose and will post it to the University of Wollongong "Muses" website, try to get it onto some notice boards and also to the "Men's Sheds". I have **attached the flyer** in the hope that some of you may be able to take it to your community groups or email it to anyone you know who may be interested.

Radio program

Lia R heard on the radio classic FM that Graham Abbott will be interviewing 2 conductors on "keys to music" on Sunday midday and one of them is a choir conductor. Lia thinks this might be of interest to some of us. Thanks for the tip Lia.

Don't forget to volunteer if you can help with any of the concert jobs.

Regards

Dorothy