



Organo Pleno Newsletter

Volume 70, Number 5

June 2009

Newsletter of the Society of Organists (Victoria) Incorporated
PO Box 315 Camberwell, Victoria, Australia 3124

www.sov.org.au

A 0028223J ABN 97 690 944 954

in affiliation with the Incorporated Association of Organists (UK)
PP32.7.177/0040

Patron in Chief: Professor David de Kretser AC
Patrons: The Most Revd Denis J Hart DD
The Right Revd Andrew St John DD

Secretary (Kieran Crichton), Vice President (Christopher Trikilis) 9891 3060, Treasurer (David Brown) 0432 851 216,
President (Gordon Atkinson), Newsletter Editor (Colin Prohasky). General Enquiries to Kieran Crichton (0407 816 321)

News from Council

The next Council meeting will be held on **Saturday 27 June**. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions that you'd like to bring to the attention of the Council, please contact Kieran Crichton, via email to secretary@sov.org.au or telephone 0407 816 321, by Monday 22 June.

Ros Carolane has accepted the invitation to serve on Council.

From the Secretary

Dear Friends,

The long stretch of 'green Sundays' in the Church year has arrived. For church organists this means that the high intensity of musical activities of Easter is now over for another year. The lull in weddings through the cold months means that more time is available for practice, and there is still six months of an anniversary year left with some major figures marking 'zero' years. How many of you are playing – or making the effort to hear – organ music by Mendelssohn, Haydn, Purcell, Albrechtsburger or Basil Harwood? Perhaps one of the joys of Ordinary Time is that it offers the possibility of exploring some of this marvellous repertoire without impending feasts and high days.

Since the last *Organo Pleno Newsletter* you will have received a membership survey. The purpose of the survey is to find out how your Society can serve you better. Council would like to be able to plan events that better reflect the interests of the whole membership; this can only be achieved by better knowledge of what your interests are. It is also important that Council has a better idea of the demographic spread of the membership, which is a critical issue for laying plans for the future. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey if you have not already done so; you are not asked to identify yourself on the form, so your responses will be completely anonymous. Responses need to be sent back by **Monday 15 June**.

Now, I would like to reverse the question underlying the survey. How can you serve your Society? Our Constitution was amended last year to enable postal voting for Council elections, and this process comes into effect this year. This means that nominations are now due significantly earlier than in the past. If you have something to offer the Society by serving on Council, please give strong consideration to nominating for the elections this year.

All the best,

Kieran Crichton.

COMING EVENTS

Monday 8 June – Queen's Birthday Organ Visit to the Yarra Valley. The itinerary has now been finalized; instruments will be visited at Wesley Church Box Hill, St John the Divine Croydon, St Francis in the Fields Mooroolbark, St Stephen's Warrandyte and Notre Dame Abbey, Tarrawarra. There is a special group booking for lunch at a winery in the Yarra Valley. A bus has been arranged for the day; meet at Wesley Church Box Hill at 9.30am, and the day will conclude there when the bus returns by 6.30pm.

A small number of places is still available, so book early to avoid disappointment. Cost is \$20 for SOV members, \$25 for non-members. For enquiries and bookings, contact the Secretary, Kieran Crichton, via email to secretary@sov.org.au or 0407 816 321.

Saturday 1 August, 5.30pm at the Scots' Church, corner of Collins & Russell St Melbourne – Launch of *The Southern Cross Collection: Organ Music by Australian Composers*. Prize winning pieces from last year's inaugural *New Organ Music Awards*, published as a memorial to the late Ian Harrison. Pieces from the collection will be performed on the Rieger organ by David Macfarlane and Kieran Crichton.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 24 October – Mendelssohn Day. To mark the bicentenary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47), the Society of Organists is holding a festival focusing of the life of Mendelssohn, his music, cultural milieu, and to explore the role of the organ as a progressive force in music making. The day will include performances of music by Mendelssohn and his contemporaries by prominent Melbourne organists, choirs and chamber ensembles along with papers and discussions exploring the themes of the day. The Society's Annual Dinner will be held in the evening.

Tuesday 3 November – Cup Day Organ Visit to Brunswick.
The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held during this event.

FREE THURSDAY LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Every Thursday 1.00pm to 1.30pm at St Michael's Uniting Church, 120 Collins Street, Melbourne.

A variety of organists will play during the year, including St Michael's organist, Rhys Boak.

A guide to other Sunday musical events is available at the Church, which is open every weekday.

See the website for further information: <http://www.stmichaels.org.au/st-michaels-church/music> or telephone: 9654 5120.

ORGAN RECITALS AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE

Thursday 4 June, 1.15pm Michael Heighway Organ Scholar, St Paul's Cathedral.

Thursday 11 June, 1.15pm Siegfried Franke Sub-organist, St Paul's Cathedral.

Thursday 18 June, 1.15pm Nicholas Bideler Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati, USA.

WANGARATTA CHORISTERS CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC

Saturday 13 June, 2.00pm at St Mary's Catholic Church, cnr Howard & Victoria Streets, West Melbourne.

Programs include *Aus der Tiefe* [BWV 131] – JS Bach; *Magnificat 'Regale'* – Robert Fayrfax; *Salve Regina* – Du Caurroy; *In Thy Kingdom* – Gretchaninov (Peter Manders, tenor solo); other works by Telemann, Blow, Vivaldi, Greene and Cima.

Tickets: Available from Edgars (03) 5721 3758, Origin Energy (03) 5721 2059 or at the door \$25, conc. \$20. Under 16yrs free.

For more information, visit www.wangarattachoristers.org.au

JOINT ORGAN SOCIETIES RAMBLE TO CANBERRA

Sunday 7 June to Monday 8 June (Queens Birthday Weekend)

Following the success of last year's organ ramble in Melbourne, the Organ Society of Queensland and the Organ Music Society of Sydney are organizing a joint organ societies visit to Canberra. Members of all Australian organ societies are invited to join in a rare glimpse of the rich organ culture of our national capital.

Nine organs will be visited across eight venues. Highlights of the ramble include the Ronald Sharp (1980) organ at St John the Baptist Reid, the Fincham (et al) organ at the Wesley Music Centre (1955) and the organs in the chapels of the Royal Military College, Duntroon. The instruments reflect a diversity of traditions and styles, including electronic and hybrid instruments. A special feature will be a presentation on the development of electronic organs by Jim Clinch and a recital by Marko Sever on the Allen Q-345-C+Vista in the Llewellyn Hall in the Australian National University.

To book your place, contact Geoff Lloyd by email to organsec@tpg.com.au or telephone (02) 9476 1530 or 0419 261 218. Bookings can also be made through Godelieve Ghavalas godelieve@notjustnotes.com.au, telephone (02) 9871 0825), or by contacting the secretary of your local organ society. Please advise your name, email address, a contact telephone number and your transport needs.

Bookings close on **Thursday 4 June**.

MICHAEL HEIGHWAY RECITAL AT ST JOHN'S TOORAK

Saturday 13 June, 5.00pm at St John's Church, cnr Toorak and Orrong Roads, Toorak.

Michael Heighway is a young new talent in the organ world. He is organ scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and is in Melbourne after a few months as organ scholar at St Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue in New York City. Program to include Mendelssohn Sonata I, Howells Psalm Prelude Set 1, No 1 and Hollins, Walton and Buxtehude. Entry: \$20 adult, \$15 concession – tickets available at the door.

THOMAS HEYWOOD CONCERTS

Saturday 13 June, 7.30pm at Auburn Uniting Church, 81 Oxley Road, Hawthorn.

For more information, please visit <http://concertorgan.com> Enquiries 1300 66 12 44

ORGAN-IC SUNDAY WITH JENNIFER CHOU

Sunday 14 June, 2.30 - 3.40pm, Melbourne Town Hall, 100 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Melbourne organist Jennifer Chou plays a varied program for solo organ including JS Bach, Boëly, Daquin, Eben and Mendelssohn. A highlight will be the world premiere of *The end of the illusion* : an epitaph to Jean Baudrillard by Melbourne composer David Chisholm, commissioned by City of Melbourne.

This is a FREE event. General admission seating.

Enquiries: Tel.:03 9658 9658

Email: grandorgan@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Website: www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/grandorgan

LINDSAY HUTCHINSON RECITALS IN GIPPSLAND

Sunday 14 June, 2.00pm at the Wesley of Warragul Centre (formerly Methodist Church), Victoria Street, Warragul.

Recital by Lindsay Hutchinson on the 3 manual 10 rank Wurlitzer Pipe Organ.

Sunday 21 June, 2.00pm at the Uniting Church, Lucknow / Bairnsdale.

Recital by Lindsay Hutchinson on the 1935 George Fincham two manual pipe organ, rebuilt by S J Laurie (1990).

Enquiries to lindsayh@unimelb.edu.au

A MID-WINTER CHRISTMAS

Saturday 20 June, 7.30pm & Sunday 21 June, 2.30pm at St Mark's Church, 250 George Street, Fitzroy, 3065 (Melway 2C-C9)

The Choir of St Mark's Fitzroy and associate artists. Come to St Mark's to share the spirit of Christmas. Listen to carols old & new sung by this fine choir. Admission: \$25 (Concession - \$20) to each performance. Refreshments following the performances.

Enquiries Tel: 9419 5051.

BACH CANTATA SERVICES AT ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE

St Johns Southgate presents an ongoing series of services incorporating the choral music of J.S. Bach. The 2009 program is its 12th liturgical year.

Sunday 21 June, 9.00am Sunday Eucharist (3rd Sunday after Pentecost)

Wär Gott nicht mit uns diese Zeit (BWV 14) for soloists, choir, strings, 2 oboes, horn and continuo.

Australian Chamber Choir and St Johns Bach Orchestra. Dir. Douglas Lawrence.

Sunday 9 August, 9.00am Sunday Eucharist (10th Sunday after Pentecost)

Mass in F major (BWV 233)

Der Herr is mein getreuer Hirt (BWV 112) for soloists, choir, strings, 2 oboes, 2 horns, bassoon, and continuo.

St Johns Bach Choir and VCA Bach Orchestra. Dir. Marco van Pagee.

Sunday 22 November, 9.00am Sunday Eucharist (Last Sunday of the Church Year)

Mass in G minor (BWV 235)

Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nichtig (BWV 26) for soloists, choir, strings, 3 oboes, flute, and continuo.

St Johns Bach Choir and VCA Bach Orchestra. Dir. Marco van Pagee.

There is no admission charge for services at St John's , Southgate , 20 City Rd , Southbank.

Enquiries: tel. 9682 4995 or 9370 8092. Parking available at service times.

CONCERTS AT RICHMOND UNITING CHURCH

Richmond Uniting Church, 314 Church St, Richmond.

Sunday 21 June, 5.00pm

Marion Barraclough (recorders), Reidun Turner (viola da gamba) and Mimi Chan (organ) will perform solo and ensemble music of the Baroque.

Sunday 26 July, 5.00pm

Kylie Sparkman and Owen Thompson present a program of flute and guitar music, including works by South American composers.

Sunday 16 August, 5.00pm

Pianist Freya Dinshaw will perform an exciting and varied program, including *Ballade No. 1* by Chopin and the well-known *Sonata in F major (K 332)* by Mozart.

Sunday 20 September, 5.00pm

A concert of music exploring repertoire ranging from the *Unaccompanied Cello Suites* by JS Bach to the modern and unconventional sound world of Elliott Gyger.

Admission to all concerts is by gold coin donation. Refreshments will be served after each concert in Gallery 314. Enquiries: 9427 1282.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

3.00pm Sunday June 21, South Port Uniting Church, 325 Dorcas St South Melbourne

John Bumford (Director of Music, Western Heights Uniting Church Geelong) will give the inaugural recital on the Julius Feurich grand piano. Programme features the *Suite Bergamasque* – Debussy; *Sonatine* – Ravel; *Theme and Variations (Op.73)* – Fauré; *Grande Etude de Concert no. 2* – Cécille Chaminade. Entry: \$15.

'LAST SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH' MUSIC AFTERNOONS

St Mary's Anglican Church, cnr Queensberry and Howard St, North Melbourne.

A series of 1 hour music recitals has been scheduled for the last Sunday of each month, and includes a 'cuppa.' Admission is by donation to the St Mary's Water Tank Fund. Enquiries: Phone 9328 2522.

Sunday 28 June, 2.30pm

A varied programme including music for clarinet, voice and organ.

CHRISTOPHER HERRICK 'ORGAN FIREWORKS' MELBOURNE TOWN HALL ORGANic LUNCH

Wednesday 8 July, 1-2pm Free Admission

MATTHIAS GIESEN AT SCOTCH COLLEGE

Tuesday 21 July, 7.45pm in the Scotch College Memorial Hall, Morrison St, Hawthorn.

Tickets \$20.00 / \$15.00 concession available at the door or by telephoning 9810 4219.

JOHN SCOTT MELBOURNE TOWN HALL ORGANic LUNCH

Wednesday 5 August, 1-2pm Free Admission

SCOTS' CHURCH INTERNATIONAL ORGAN SERIES

Tuesday 1 September, 6.15pm

The Scots' Church Choir and Soloists, Robin Batterham (organ), Douglas Lawrence (conductor). Works by Edward Elgar, Benjamin Britten, Felix Mendelssohn and John Rutter.

Tuesday 8 September, 6.15pm

Wolfgang Kleber – organist of the Pauluskirche, Darmstadt, Germany.

Wednesday 9 September, 2.00pm

Lecture recital with Wolfgang Kleber on the *Schübler Chorales* of JS Bach

Tuesday 15 September, 6.15pm
Tuesday 22 September, 6.15pm
Tuesday 29 September, 6.15pm

Frantisek Vanicek, organist at Hradek Kralove's University, Prague, Czech Republic.
Graham Lieschke, organist at St John's Lutheran Church, Southgate, Melbourne.
Rhys Boak, organist at St Michael's Church, Collins St, Melbourne.

SEEKING ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR

St David's Uniting Church, Newtown, Geelong, is seeking the services of an organist and choir director for Thursday night practices and Sunday morning worship services. The Church has a Taylor pipe organ, rebuilt by Hill, Norman & Beard, and is regularly maintained. An enthusiastic choir of 15 four-part voices is accustomed to sing introits and anthems, as well as special Easter and Christmas music. An honorarium is offered. Applications and enquiries should be directed to the Church Secretary, Mr Geoff Neilson. PO Box 1, Geelong, Vic 3220. Telephone: 03 5224 7700. Email: gneilson@whkdayneilson.com.au

CANTORS REQUIRED

Cantors required to lead singing at Sunday morning Mass at St James the Great, East St Kilda, on a rotating schedule through the month. An honorarium is offered. Rehearsals – Sunday mornings at 9.30am; this position offers opportunities for solo work. Contact: John Kirkham 0448 319 105.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR

A vacancy exists for a TENOR at St Paul's Cathedral. The choir sings a comprehensive repertoire, and enjoys a friendly atmosphere. Sight reading ability is essential; payment/scholarship available. For more information or to arrange an audition, contact: Dr June Nixon (june@junenixon.com)

CHORAL VACANCIES AT TOORAK UNITING CHURCH

Principal Singer positions for Alto and Tenor are required for major suburban church choir, offering solo and chorus opportunities for professional choral singers, and occasional work with other professional instrumentalists. The Choir rehearses and sings on Sunday mornings only February to December, but the Principal Singers positions are paid for 12 months. Sight singing skill required (but it will develop very fast for the right person!). You are expected to provide a solid vocal lead to other (volunteer) singers in your voice part. For all enquiries contact Andrew Blackburn, Director of Music, telephone 03 9829 0340 or 0412 221 954. Website: www.toorak.unitingchurch.org.au/indexc.htm

ORGAN FOR SALE

St. Peter & St. Andrew's Church, 67 Darnley Street, Braybrook, has a redundant Livingstone & Burg UK Electronic, valve Organ Model CH291D for sale by negotiation. While this instrument is not currently in playing order, all parts and components are present and restorable. For all enquiries – including arranging an inspection – contact Vincent Forbes by email to lanvin@alphalink.com.au or telephone 9363 5228.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES of the SOCIETY OF ORGANISTS

To promote and cultivate an interest in the organ and its music.

To promote a friendly exchange of ideas amongst members of the Society.

To assist players and encourage those who may be interested in learning the organ

To offer advice, if requested, on the rebuilding and design of instruments.

To encourage a high standard of musicianship amongst members.

MEMBERSHIP of the SOCIETY OF ORGANISTS

For a membership form, please visit our website, www.sov.org.au. Membership is not restricted to organists, and anyone with a love and interest in the organ and its music is welcome to join. If you know anyone – young or old! – who might enjoy the activities and opportunities offered by the Society, why not give them a gift subscription? Membership benefits include this Newsletter, which includes notices of coming events, concerts and other organ-related activities in Victoria, and *Organ Australia*, the national quarterly journal.

SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENT

Many members now pay their subscription by bank transfer. This is quick and easy, and saves paper; however, in a few cases the name of the member does not appear on our bank statement – which means we have no information about the person making the payment. As a consequence, reminder notices will continue to be sent. To confirm that you have paid your membership, please return the reminder with a note of the date when the bank transfer was made. For any questions, call our Treasurer, David Brown, on 0432 851 216.

SOV WEBSITE

The SOV web address is www.sov.org.au. For additional information about Society events, check the *Upcoming Events* page. David Macfarlane is the Society webmaster. Email addresses and telephone numbers for all Council members and other office bearers can be found on the *Contact Us* page.

REGISTRAR OF DEPUTIES

Warwick Lewis keeps a list of members willing to play for weddings, funerals or locums for Sunday Services. Telephone 9802 0125.

Advertising in *Organo Pleno* Newsletter

News of forthcoming events, advertisements and other items of interest are published in this newsletter free of charge as a service to members. All copy for advertisements is due by the **20th of each month**. The Newsletter is published in the first week of each month February-December. All sale items and job advertisements are carried for three issues only, subject to renewal by the advertiser. Please send all advertisements to the Newsletter Editor, Colin Prohasky, via email to newslettereditor@sov.org.au or telephone 0425 726 880. For all enquiries about including inserts (flyers, brochures etc), telephone the Secretary, Kieran Crichton, on 0407 816 321. When an item has been sold, or a position filled, please contact Kieran Crichton to stop your advertisement.