

Secretary (Kieran Crichton), Vice President (Christopher Trikilis) 9891 3060, Treasurer (Allan Smith) 0419 347 787,  
President (Gordon Atkinson), Newsletter Editor (Colin Prohasky). General Enquiries to Kieran Crichton (0407 816 321)



Gordon Atkinson welcomes members to St Ambrose Catholic Church, Brunswick, the first church visited during the Cup Day organ visit (photograph: Simon Colvin)

## News from Council

### Cup Day Organ Visit to Brunswick

Over 30 members turned out for the annual Cup Day organ visit in Brunswick, and had the opportunity to hear and play the organs at St Ambrose Catholic Church, Christ Church Anglican Church, St Andrew's Uniting Church and St Joseph's Catholic Church, West Brunswick.

Thanks to Gordon Atkinson, David Cundy, Kieran Crichton and Anthony Halliday for demonstrating the instruments.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held during the organ visit on Cup Day, Tuesday 3 November.

Nine nominations were received for Council. See page 2 for the 2010 office bearers.

## An Invitation to Afternoon Tea at the Lyon House

The Society's first event for 2010 will be a visit to Corbett Lyon's house museum, which was featured in *The Age Good Weekend Magazine*. As part of the design of the house, Corbett Lyon has installed a unique organ that includes pipe ranks with digital voices. The consultant for the organ project, Rod Junor, has written an extensive article on this instrument that will appear in the forthcoming edition of *Organ Australia*.

Corbett Lyon has invited members of the Society to visit the house and organ on **Saturday 27 February 2010, 3.30—6.00pm**.

Afternoon tea will be provided, and members are warmly encouraged to bring their music to sample the possibilities of this unique and important instrument.

*This event is free of charge to members, but bookings are required as numbers will be strictly limited.*

Bookings can be made by contacting the Secretary, Kieran Crichton, via email to [secretary@sov.org.au](mailto:secretary@sov.org.au) or 0407 816 321.

# Office Bearers of the Society of Organists 2010

The new Council held its first meeting for the 2009—2010 season on Friday 20 November, and elected the following office bearers.

<b>President</b>	Gordon Atkinson	The other members of Council are David Brown, Jennifer Chou, Alan Roberts, and Glen Witham.
<b>Vice-President</b>	Christopher Trikilis	
<b>Secretary</b>	Kieran Crichton	David Brown retired from the office of Treasurer at the 2009 Annual General Meeting, and Council thanks him for his sterling work in this important role over the last year.
<b>Treasurer &amp; Business Manager</b>	Allan Smith	
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Simon Colvin	Allan Smith has agreed to join Council, which brings the body up to 10 members and allowing the reunion of the roles of Treasurer and Business Manager.
<b>Webmaster</b>	David Macfarlane	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Colin Prohasky	The next Council meeting is to be held on <b>Friday 11 December 2009</b> . Any members wishing to raise items of business for this meeting are to contact the Secretary, Kieran Crichton, no later than <b>Monday 6 December</b> .
<b>Registrar of Deputies</b>	Warwick Lewis	
<b>Auditor</b>	Ken Barrelli	

## Can you help?

The Society is seeking to improve publicity for events in 2010. There are several events planned for 2010 that can be promoted to a wider audience, and hopefully to increase the Society's public profile. Are you able to help with any of the following?

- If you have a Facebook or Myspace page, could you link to the Society's website – [www.sov.org.au](http://www.sov.org.au) – and encourage visitors to your page to discover more about the organ and Society events by clicking on to the Society website?
- If you are able to write good copy for press releases for publication in newspapers, on the web and on radio, please contact the Secretary as soon as possible.
- If you take good photographs, bring your camera to Society events and send your best images to the Secretary.
- If you have experience in developing public campaigns, the Society would benefit from your expertise in lobbying on issues such as the future of the Casavant organ in Hamer Hall (see following page) and more frequent airing of a wider selection of organ music on ABC Classic FM.
- If you have experience in designing educational activities for teenagers and adults, please contact the Secretary to discuss how you can be involved in the development of programs to promote the organ to new players of all ages.

## GRAND ORGAN EVENT AT THE MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

### VOICES FOR DIDGERIDOO, ORGAN AND NARRATOR BY PHILIP GLASS

*Friday 4 December, 6.30pm - 8.00pm* at Melbourne Town Hall, 100 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Presented by the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne and the City of Melbourne. Enjoy a special reprise performance of music written to celebrate the reopening of the Melbourne Town Hall Grand Organ in 2001. Philip Glass' composition brings together the traditions of a distinctly European wind instrument (the grand organ), with a traditional Indigenous Australian wind instrument, the didgeridoo. Together with celebrated didgeridoo artist Mark Atkins and Wurundjeri elder Joy Murphy Wandin, Glass created a musical and spiritual message that speaks of both Indigenous and Western cultures. Presented as part of the Parliament of the World's Religions and with the original performers, this performance is the first time to experience Glass' *Voices* since its world premiere more than eight years ago.

Organist: Calvin Bowman. Didgeridoo: Mark Atkins & Ron Murray. Narrator: Joy Murphy Wandin.

Doors open at 6.00pm. Admission from \$15. Bookings 9639 0096 & [www.easytix.com.au](http://www.easytix.com.au)

The concert also features a stunning mix of Christian, Jewish and Islamic music from the Golden Age of Spain, performed by Kim Cunio, Heather Lee and Tunji Beier.

Enquiries telephone 9658 9658, email [grandorgan@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:grandorgan@melbourne.vic.gov.au) or visit [www.thatsmelbourne.vic.gov.au/grandorgan](http://www.thatsmelbourne.vic.gov.au/grandorgan)

## Care for Organ – Letter to *The Age*, published 22 November 2009

In Robin Usher's interview with Judith Isherwood, the new chief executive of the Arts Centre (*The Age*, 20/11), amid the discussion of the \$150 million refurbishment of Hamer Hall there is no mention of how the outstanding Casavant Freres organ, now 27 years old, is going to be better accommodated.

At the moment, the organ has not reached its full potential; the space given to it is inadequate, and its position in the hall is too remote from the stage and audience, thereby restricting its sound.

This organ would cost about \$4 million to build today and will require protection during the building work. Ideally it should be dismantled and stored, as is happening with the organ at Brisbane City Hall. One would hope that in the refurbishment the organ will be located more appropriately. But given that there are only seven months until work begins, some quick footwork is needed to secure the original builders and ensure the instrument is sensitively treated.

**Gordon Atkinson, Society of Organists (Victoria) Inc., Windsor;  
John Maidment, Organ Historical Trust of Australia, Camberwell.**

Note that "pipe organ" – the term used in the original letter – was edited out of the published version. The future of the Casavant organ in Hamer Hall is an important issue that should be of concern to all members of the Society. It is imperative that the organ is given proper consideration in the whole scheme of the design of the renovation of Hamer Hall, even at this late stage. The renovation must not result in perpetuating the present situation, which discourages the use of this very fine instrument for solo concerts and with orchestras.

*Members are strongly urged to join Council in lobbying the Arts Centre management to secure a better outcome for this important voice among Melbourne's organs.*

Letters promoting a more considered course of action on this issue can be addressed to **Judith Isherwood, Chief Executive, The Arts Centre, PO Box 7585, ST KILDA ROAD VIC 3004.**

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### **ADVENT ORGAN CONCERT SERIES AT MENTONE**

St Patrick's Catholic Church, cnr Rogers and Childers Streets, Mentone.

The Catholic Parish of Mentone-Parkdale this year celebrates ten years of the historic 1862 Nicholson Organ installed in St Patrick's. This important organ (formerly in the Congregational Church, Prahran) was restored and re-opened in August 1999. Join us for music of the season performed by prominent Melbourne organists each Saturday at 5.00pm (admission FREE).

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| <i>Saturday 5 December, 5.00pm</i>  | Baltazar Kurowski (Organ Scholar, St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne)  |
| <i>Saturday 12 December, 5.00pm</i> | Janet Gibbs (Director of Music, St Mark's Anglican Church Fitzroy)   |
| <i>Saturday 19 December, 5.00pm</i> | <i>Four hands, four feet</i> - Dr Gordon Atkinson and Christopher Trikalis (Director of Music, St Patrick's Mentone) performing duets. |

Enquiries: 9583 2103 (office hours) or 0402 678 148.

### **SOUTH MELBOURNE UNITING (FORMERLY DORCAS STREET PRESBYTERIAN) 150TH ANNIVERSARY**

*Sunday 6 December 4.00pm*, 325 Dorcas St, South Melbourne.

Organ Recital by Matthew Schultz and Historical Exhibition. Refreshments served. RSVP appreciated. Enquiries: 96901188

### **ORGANS OF THE BALLARAT GOLDFIELDS, DIRECTED BY SERGIO DE PIERI**

*Friday 8 – Sunday 17 January 2010*, various venues.

The 15th annual festival of fine music annual festival of fine music has as its centre the heritage organs of the Ballarat goldfields. Organists this year include David Drury, in a solo recital and with John Foster trumpet, the brilliant Czechoslovakian organist, Pavel Kohout playing Bach's mighty Passacaglia and in a duo recital with oboist Natasha Kalous, Jennifer Chou with trombone player Joseph Yu, John O'Donnell exploring the connections between Buxtehude and Bach, and Andrew Blackburn exploring piped sound with flautist Jean Penny. There will be an organ demonstration of the newly restored Fincham organ at Loreto. Opening recital, Newman Choir and orchestra in a Mass by the baroque composer, Jan Dismas Zelenka. Twenty three recitals, picnics, breakfasts and festival dinner. Brochure: (03) 5333 1195. Bookings 0429 327 097 or visit [www.Ballarat.com/organs](http://www.Ballarat.com/organs)

### **SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

*Monday 14 December, 8.00pm* and

*Tuesday 15 December, 8.00pm* at the Swedish Church, 21 St Georges Road, Toorak. (Melway Map 58K3)

The Scandinavian Choir of Melbourne gives a concert with Christmas music from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, performed in the original languages. Leader: Staffan Thuringer. Enquiries Phone 9827 5580. Admission free; there will be a retiring collection.

Choir website: <http://skut.svenskakyrkan.se/melbourne/choir.html>

### **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.

# Opportunities and Trading Table

## SUB ORGANIST – HAILEYBURY COLLEGE

Required for March 2010. Haileybury College requires a well qualified, enthusiastic organist to work with the Music Department on a casual basis. The successful candidate will have the option, when needed, to accompany assemblies and chapel services. The pipe organs at Haileybury's Keysborough precinct are the 4-manual, 63-stop Grand Concert Organ in Aikman Hall and the 2-manual, 27-stop instrument in the Bradshaw Chapel. The Sub Organist will also, when needed, be available to teach the organ scholars and accompany some students preparing for AMEB examinations. Good sight-reading skills are advantageous. Haileybury is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Candidates must be prepared to undergo child protection screening and CRC checks.

Applications with CV and contact details should reach the Director of Music, Mr Steven Bowler, at the following address by Friday 19 February 2010. Haileybury College and Haileybury Girls College, 855 Springvale Road, Keysborough, 3173.

Telephone: (03) 9213 2222. Website: [www.haileybury.vic.edu.au](http://www.haileybury.vic.edu.au)

## **The Southern Cross Collection: Organ Music by Australian Composers**

Copies of the *Southern Cross Collection* are available for the special price of \$36.00 (including postage). If you haven't got a copy yet, **why not?** Visit [www.sov.org.au](http://www.sov.org.au) to download an order form today.

## JENNY SETCHELL'S ORGAN-isms

This book could be a great Christmas present for a music-loving friend. Joy Hearne is the distribution agent in Australia for Jenny Setchell. Copies are available for sale at \$25.00 if pick up arranged, or \$31.50 by post. Please telephone Joy on 9893 3095.

## NORTH OF THE YARRA – ORGANS OF MELBOURNE

Move Records announces the release of this CD featuring Gordon Atkinson playing seven of Melbourne's finest organs in the suburbs north of the Yarra River, ranging in date and size from the oldest organ, St Linus' Church, Merlynston (c.1855 - 4 stops) to the 4 Manual Rieger organ in the Scots' Church (1998-1999 - 68 stops). Other organs include St Patrick's Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral and the Melbourne Town Hall. The repertoire includes works by Handel, Karg-Elert, Schumann and Vierne as well as works by two Melbourne-born composers, Barrie Cabena and Gordon Atkinson. Contact Move Records (03) 9497 3105 or find out more details on the web at [www.move.com.au/disc.cfm/3333](http://www.move.com.au/disc.cfm/3333)

## ORGAN BUILDING BOOKS AVAILABLE

Alan Robinson would like to dispose of the following books: *Lewis' Modern Organ Building*; *Audsley Art of Organ Building (2 volumes)*; and *The Modern British Organ - Bonavia-Hunt*, for the 'best offer'. Telephone 03 9887 3567.

## **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](http://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, Allan Smith, on 0419 347 787.

## **SOV WEBSITE**

The SOV website is [www.sov.org.au](http://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 **20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.