

New Members...

We welcome new members Henry Bulbeck (Newport) and Jessica Earle (Parkdale) to the Society.

Society Events...

ANNUAL CUP DAY ORGAN VISIT and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 2 November, 10.30am

Meet at Ivanhoe Uniting Church, Sedden Street, Ivanhoe, **10.30am**.

Following a short demonstration, members will have the opportunity to play this Fincham/Hill, Norman and Beard instrument.

At about **11.45am** we will move to Ivanhoe Baptist Church, cnr Waterdale Road and Livingstone Street. Of interest is that the church's architect was Lawrence Warner, one of the founders of the Society.

Lunch in one of the restaurants in Upper Heidelberg Road.

At **2.30pm** we will meet at St George's Church, Warncliffe Road, Ivanhoe East, and the **Annual General Meeting** will be held there.

GEORGE FINCHAM DAY

Sunday 28 November, 3.00pm at Richmond Uniting Church, 314 Church Street, Richmond.

In this centenary year, the Society of Organists Victoria, Organ Historical Trust of Australia and Richmond Uniting Church combine to celebrate the life and legacy of Australia's foremost colonial organ builder, George Fincham (1828-1910). Join us for an afternoon of music featuring the restored 1888 Fincham organ located in the church, and a presentation on the significance and impact of Fincham and his work by OHTA Chairman John Maidment OAM. Fincham's own factory was located in Richmond a short distance from the church in Bridge Road. Reception to follow this event. Admission: Gold Coin donation, with all proceeds going to the Richmond Churches Food Centre. Enquiries: Richmond Uniting Church 9427 1282.

Other Events...

ORGAN RECITAL AT BLACKBURN UNITING CHURCH

Sunday 7 November, at 2.00pm at The Avenue Uniting Church, Blackburn, cnr The Avenue and Blackburn Road, Blackburn.

Featuring Jennifer Chou with supporting organists (past and present) of the Church. The recital will showcase the church's historic Stone organ that has recently been extended by the completion of the Clarionet rank. Entry by voluntary donation. Afternoon tea will be served after the recital.

ORGAN-ic LUNCH WITH THOMAS HEYWOOD

Monday 8 November, 1.00pm – 2.00pm at the Melbourne Town Hall

Free Admission.

One of Australia's favourite organists returns to the Melbourne Town Hall to perform a nostalgic repertoire of the finest music transcribed for organ soloist, including Offenbach, Haydn, and Tchaikovsky. Thomas Heywood first performed on the Grand Organ aged 16, made his first major recording on the instrument at 18 and performed a year-long series of concerts when he was just 20 years old. To date, he has presented over 1500 concerts around Australia to over 500,000 people.

PROGRAM:

Offenbach (1819-1880), trans. Heywood: *Overture to Orpheus in the Underworld*

Haydn (1732-1809), trans. Hall: *Andante from Symphony No.94 'The Surprise'*

Thomas Heywood (b.1974): *Humoresque for a Pedal Trombone*, Op.28

Beethoven (1770-1827), trans. Heywood: *Coriolan – Overture*, Op.62

Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), trans. Heywood: 'Garland' Waltz from *Sleeping Beauty*, Op.66

Lemare (1865-1934): *Toccata di Concerto*, Op.59

Strauss (1825-1899), trans. Heywood: *Tritsch-Tratsch-Polka*, Op.214

Melb Town Hall enquiries: www.thatsmelbourne.vic.gov.au/grandorgan Email grandorgan@melbourne.vic.gov.au Ph: 9658 9658.

CHURCH FAIR & OPEN ORGAN CONSOLE

Saturday 13 November, 11.00am - 5.00pm at St Francis Xavier Church, cnr Whitehorse & Dorking Roads, Box Hill.

The church will be open during the fair and young people will have the opportunity to discover the organ with a 'hands on' by bringing their favourite piano music to play.

THOMAS HEYWOOD CONCERTS

Sunday 14 November, 2.00pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, cnr Baillie and McPherson Streets, Horsham, Vic.

Sunday 21 November, 2.30pm at Haileybury College, 855 Springvale Road, Keysborough, Vic.

Fantasia di Bravura! On the Grand Concert Organ at Aikman Hall.

RHYS ARVIDSON RECITAL AT MOOROOLBARK

Sunday 14 November, 2.30pm at St Francis in the Fields Anglican Church, 224 Hull Road, Mooroolbark. (Melway Map 51 G1)

Rhys Arvidson will perform music by Buxtehude, JS Bach and Langlais. Afternoon tea to follow. \$15/\$10 concession (under 12 free).

Enquiries: 9761 9242.

CLASSIC ORGAN IN CONCERT – FRENCH FLAIR

Sunday 21 November, 2.30pm at St Francis Xavier Church, cnr Whitehorse and Dorking Roads, Box Hill.

Featuring local organist, Ronald Mackay, on the Makin Westmorland 34 Classic Organ. Programme of works by French Composers: March on Handel's *'Lift up your heads'*, Alexandre Guilmant; *Cantilene Religieuse & In Paradisum*, Theodore Dubois; *Bolero de Concert & Sortie in B flat*, Lefebure-Wely; *Suite Gothic*, Léon Boëllmann; *Scherzo & Toccata*, Eugene Gigout; *Carillon de Westminster*, Louis Vierne. Proceeds donated to the church.

ADVENT ORGAN CONCERT SERIES 2010 at MENTONE

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

Saturday 27 November, 5.00pm Dr Gordon Atkinson

Saturday 4 December, 5.00pm Christopher Cook

Saturday 11 December, 5.00pm Fr Nicholas Dillon

Saturday 18 December, 5.00pm Christopher Trikilis

The Catholic Parish of Mentone-Parkdale celebrates the historic 1862 Nicholson Organ installed in St Patrick's each year with a series of concerts leading up to Christmas. This important organ (formerly in the Congregational Church, Prahran) was restored and reopened in August 1999. Join us for music of the season performed by prominent Melbourne organists each Saturday throughout Advent at 5.00pm. Admission is FREE. Enquiries: 9583 2103 (office hours) or 0402 678 148.

ST AIDAN'S MUSIC SOCIETY CONCERT

Sunday 28 November, 2.30 pm at St Aidan's Church, Duggan Street, North Balwyn (Melway Map 46 F3).

St Aidan's Music Society is proud to present the prestigious Melbourne Welsh Male Choir in concert. Admission \$25 includes refreshments. Further details phone Maurice Mathers 9890 8322 or mmathers@netspace.net.au

MASTERPIECES & MINIATURES AT LYON HOUSEMUSEUM

Sunday 28 November, 3.00pm [Opening Concert is booked out]

Tuesday 30 November, 8.15pm (Repeat of Sunday Concert) at the Lyon Housemuseum, 219 Cotham Road, Kew.

Rod Junor will perform major works by composers including Bach, Vierne and Thalben-Ball together with a series of colourful miniatures to broadly explore the new Housemuseum pipe/digital concert organ as described in *Organ Australia* (December 2009) and *Organo Pleno Newsletter* (March 2010). Bookings by emailing museum@lyonhousemuseum.com.au Seating strictly limited. Donation of \$38 includes concert, light refreshment including wine and a self guided tour of the Housemuseum and Collection. www.lyonhousemuseum.com.au

Opportunities and Trading Table

ORGANIST / DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The Parish of St James the Great, Inkerman Street, East St Kilda, a small but vibrant Anglo-Catholic Parish in Melbourne seeks a Director of Music who is happy to work with a team of cantors who lead the singing at mass. The instrument is a mid 1860s Chamber Organ built in Tasmania by the famous Samuel Joscelyne – 1 manual, 8 speaking stops, 1 coupler, mechanical action. Please contact Father Roger Kelly OGS; Phone (03) 9527 1017; Email rkelly@ogs.net

ORGANIST POSITION – ANGLICAN PARISH OF JIKA JIKA

The Anglican Parish of Jika Jika seeks applications for the position of Organist at St George's, Reservoir, for commencement in January 2011. This modern church building possesses a versatile two manual, two-rank extension organ built by Dirksen (Brisbane) and renovated by Hill, Norman & Beard. The parish tradition is friendly Anglo-Catholic.

The successful applicant will be required to play the organ for the 9.30am Mass each Sunday, and to lead a small choir under the oversight of the Parish Director of Music. Opportunities exist to develop skills in choir training and organ playing. Applications from younger organists are especially welcome. Salary negotiable commensurate with experience and availability to assist with mid-week rehearsals.

For more information, or to obtain a position description, contact Dr. Kieran Crichton via email to music@jikajika.com or telephone 0407 816 321.

GREAT AUSTRALASIAN ORGANS CD

Martin Setchell's latest CD in the *Great Australasian Organs VII* series (as reviewed in the September Organ Australia) may be obtained by applying to www.organist.co.nz and costs \$30.00 Australian including postage. Any other queries could be directed to Joy Hearne.

AMERICAN REED ORGAN FOR SALE

Maker: Kimball, Chicago (est. date 1890). One manual, 5 octaves F – F, 2 sets of reeds: Bass- Diapason 8', Principal 4', Treble-Melodia 8', Celeste 8'. Treble Coupler, Bass Coupler, Forte. Knee swells. Handsome dark case. For more information, or inspection (Mornington Peninsula), contact Ken Falconer 0409 410 042 or Email: rothes@alphalink.com.au

CHORAL MUSIC: A Selection of Carols from June Nixon

Reviewed by Colin Jenkins

The following are all most welcome additions to the SATB carol repertoire. None are difficult, all able to be performed well by most church choirs, even small ones. Dr. Nixon has wisely not presented the vocal parts in open score but in 'hymn tune' style which I consider is easier for amateur choir directors and singers to read and comprehend.

The first five are published in the UK by Encore Publications www.encorepublications.com whilst 'Carol of the Star' is from Paraclete Press www.paracletepress.com in the US.

Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing?

The well known French carol is arranged in 'hymn-anthem' style with a charming, uncomplicated organ accompaniment. Each of the four verses is treated differently with two being in four part harmony. The vocal parts are of course well written, without difficult intervals.

A babe in Bethlem's manger laid

This is an arrangement with organ accompaniment of an English traditional melody in the minor mode, the first part of which may be familiar since it is found in the Australian Hymn Book with the title 'Bellman's Song'. The choral parts which will readily appeal to singers are a mix of four part and unison writing with what can be described as a descant in the first four bars of the final verse. The organist will relish the flowing accompaniment which in addition to an introduction and coda incorporates short interludes between verses. The pedalboard is not required.

Dormi Jesu / The Virgin's Cradle Song

The single page publication has the Latin version on one side and the English translation by Taylor Coleridge on the reverse. Dr. Nixon does not specifically state that it is for unaccompanied singing, however many choirs will prefer to perform it 'a capella'. Her melody is always in the soprano and ranges from A below middle C to an easily approached high G. Although it is not difficult, the sopranos will need to pay due attention to intonation, particularly in descending passages and also give attention to clean intervallic slurring in a few places. Most altos, tenors and basses should have little trouble sight reading their part. A delightful composition!

Balulalow

The composer has here set a paraphrase of words by Luther from 1567. The short two page setting employs sopranos in the first verse and four part choir in the second verse. Even a small choir will find it most accessible, discovering that it sounds quite sophisticated greatly due to the atmospheric, empathetic organ accompaniment which largely moves in fourths and fifths forming gentle seventh chords. The organ part, as in all these compositions sits well under the hands and only has a few pedal notes at the end, however it could be played on an instrument without pedals.

Harvest Carol

June Nixon has liltily set the poetry of Chatterton Dix which commences with the words 'To Thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise in hymns of adoration'. The organ accompaniment, apart from eleven easy pedal notes is entirely for manuals. Although it does not purely double the vocal parts it gives maximum support and aid to the choral ensemble. There is an effective mix of unison and part writing for the choir. The unaccompanied second verse harmonizes the unison sections from the first verse but uses the same vocal parts as in the first verse for the remainder. [A less experienced choir may benefit from a light doubling of the vocal parts by the organist.]

I enjoyed the touch of musical humour on the final page where we find the words 'which never hath an' are followed by three bars on the organ, then the words 'which never hath an ending' – all in good taste!

Carol of the Star

I was pleased to discover that Dr. Nixon's arrangement of Tertius Noble's Opus 13 No 3 has been published. I have enjoyed hearing it at St. Paul's Cathedral Melbourne several times and the composer allowed its use at the 2006 RSCM Summer School where it was an instant hit.

The words from 'Cynewulf's Christ' circa AD750 feature the refrain 'Hail Earendal' referring to the mythical name for the Star of Bethlehem.

The vocal parts are most singable and not difficult with some strikingly emphatic unison entries plus sections for sopranos only and basses only. The composer has provided an optional harmonization of the last two bars of the final verse to avoid a top A for the sopranos. Personally the harmonic structure of the optional version appealed to me although some sopranos may feel deprived of their big top A!

The organist will enjoy playing the accompaniment which sounds deceptively difficult but is not so, mostly being for manuals only.

To sum up, June Nixon's understanding of organ and choral work certainly shines through and meets the needs and requirements of choirs large or small in these creative and enjoyable compositions. Some organists may also realize the effectiveness of not having a 16 foot pedal part droning away continuously!

HISTORIC PIPE ORGANS OF MELBOURNE VOL. 1

Introduced by John Sheridan and featuring extensive interviews with John Maidment, this new DVD contains an hour of music played on the following historic pipe organs:

JAMES MOYLE	1 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT ST LINUS', MERLYNSTON.
FW NICHOLSON	2 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT ST PATRICK'S, MENTONE.
JOSEPH WALKER	3 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT ST STEPHEN'S, RICHMOND.
WILLIAM STONE	2 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT UNITING CHURCH, BLACKBURN.
ALFRED FULLER	2 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT ST MARK'S, FAWKNER.
TC LEWIS	4 MANUAL PIPE ORGAN AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE.

Phone enquiries: 9879 6368. Price: \$25 each plus postage. Postage is \$6 for the first copy and \$2 for each additional item.

To order online using a credit card: <http://www.assemble-edit.com.au/sales.html>

To order by post please mail your payment to: Michael Wallis, 96A Loughnan Road, Ringwood Vic 3134.

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, Allan Smith, on 0419 347 787.

SOV WEBSITE

The SOV website 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 (see below) keeps a list of members willing to play for weddings, funerals or locums for Sunday Services.

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. 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 (contact details below). ** When an item has been sold, or a position filled, please notify the editor to stop your advertisement. **

Society of Organists (Victoria) Directory			
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