

# MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 2019



## ANZAC Day Parade

### Churchlands bands march on

*Combined Wind Orchestra 1 & 2 Photo: Marina Biddle*

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# Convenor's Cadenza

## Penny McNiff, MPC Convenor



### Zippity Doo Dah

We have had wonderful reminders from the Music Department about making sure concert uniforms still fit each term. A certain Year 9 boy (who shall remain nameless!), made an important discovery just before the Intermediate Concert - his concert trousers were just a little bit too tight. His mother's creative solution? Colour in the zip with black permanent marker and no one will notice! And don't sit down...or stand up. Luckily he made it through the concert without providing the audience with any side-splitting entertainment. A special thank you to all the first time parent volunteers, who helped make the concerts run so smoothly this term. Thank you to all the parents who continue to volunteer as the concerts are only possible with your support. If you have any feedback or queries, please email me on: [mpc@churchlandspc.com.au](mailto:mpc@churchlandspc.com.au)

## Keep in touch

Follow what's happening with the Music Parents Committee via:

**Facebook** - Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/groups/CSHSMusicparents](https://facebook.com/groups/CSHSMusicparents)

**Email** - Send us a message at [mpc@churchlandspc.com.au](mailto:mpc@churchlandspc.com.au) to be added to our mailing list

## Music Parents' Committee 2019

### Executive

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### Next Meeting:

**When?** 7:30pm Monday 29 July 2019

**ALL music parents are welcome!**

*Hear Music Director Mr Glenn Robinson's updates on the Music program.*

**Where?** Choral Studio

*MPC meetings are held on Monday of weeks 2 and 7 during term*

### Festival

Festival Organising Committee: **Julie Pegrum** [pegrum.family@outlook.com](mailto:pegrum.family@outlook.com); **Naomi Chapman** [greenwayfamily05@iinet.net.au](mailto:greenwayfamily05@iinet.net.au); **Jenny Lourens** [jennifer@lourens.com.au](mailto:jennifer@lourens.com.au); **Shona Vigus** [shona.vigus@bigpond.com](mailto:shona.vigus@bigpond.com)

Festivals Sausage Sizzle Coordinator: **Amanda Vanderputten** [vander@amnet.net.au](mailto:vander@amnet.net.au); **David Pollock** [dpollock2807@gmail.com](mailto:dpollock2807@gmail.com)

### Community & Fundraising Events

Instrumental Teachers Night Catering Coordinator: **Jodie Tajeddine** [tajeddine.jt@gmail.com](mailto:tajeddine.jt@gmail.com)

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Coordinator: **Tash Guest** [rubules769@gmail.com](mailto:rubules769@gmail.com)

### General MPC Committee Members

**Marina Biddle, Annie Halse Smith, Tracy Taylor, Alan Lourens, Pamela Guerinoni, Rachel Clegg, Isabel Pumar, Lana Frolova**

# from the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music

We have finally reached the middle of 2019, just six months away from living underneath the sea if my childhood dreams of Sealab 2020 come to pass. I will feel a little let down if we are not.

It has been a very successful term with our students continuing at the high standard set in Term One. Over 100 of our musicians were out supporting the community at the start of term with both the Anzac Day Commemorative Parade and the Relay for Life Opening Ceremony. Under the direction of Lee Stanley, Dale Pointon, Nicole Turner, and Caron Walker, our students made an impressive display at both ceremonies. These events are particularly dear to me as we have highly trained ensembles and performing at these events provides us with a rare opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the wider community, while representing Churchlands and public education to an audience wider than the usual crowd to whom we play.

Also in the early part of the term, some of our music staff and students were involved in the production of *Wicked*. As next year is a tour year, there will be no musical production, the next one being in 2021.

Our Year 11 and 12 WACE Music students performed very well at their first semester round of recitals. As part of their ATAR music course, each of these students presents a 15 or 20-minute solo program with accompaniment where appropriate. It is always a delight to hear them reaching the standard where they can provide a mature and impressive performance. You will have the opportunity to hear many of the Year 12 students on their recital night. It is free, and it is always excellent for younger students to see and hear what is ahead of them and what they can aspire to. Good for their parents as well!

Our term finished with a trifecta of excellent concerts. The Junior Concert (many on stage for the first time), Intermediate and finally the Chamber Ensembles

Concert. Congratulations to the students, teachers, and MPC helpers who made all of these events a success.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to put your hand up to share the load with the other music parents, please consider doing so. We accomplish so much more in our program because of the very practical support we receive from the members of the MPC. There are almost 1000 parents of music students, and fewer than 100 are doing all of the work. They are a fabulous bunch to meet, do not put it off any longer! The ABODA festivals are coming up and they require many helpers. These festivals are where we welcome young musicians and their parents from other places into our school, and raise the funds that enable us to purchase pianos, timpani and other necessary equipment.

Our term finishes with Special NAIDOC Week Symphonic multimedia celebration. Kristel Hawksworth has worked very hard with the Symphony Orchestra, digital artist Jade Dolman, and didgeridoo player Olman Walley to perform Stephen Chin's *Kookaburra*. We are also lucky to be having Year 7 Oboist Alya Hunter giving a short speech on the importance to her of her Aboriginal culture.

There is no slowing in the pace next term with all of the concerts again, plus assorted festivals, exams, the Year 8/9 GATE music & Jazz camp (promises to be a lot of fun and will be a very positive event for these music students), and finishing off with the annual ensemble placement auditions.

But for now – have a great mid-year break!



## Save the Date!



- |                     |                                         |                        |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>29 July</b>      | MPC Meeting                             | <b>30 August</b>       | Senior Concert        |
| <b>31 July</b>      | Jazz Orchestra Camp                     | <b>2 September</b>     | MPC Meeting           |
| <b>1 August</b>     | Year 8 & 9 Gifted & Talented Music Camp | <b>4 September</b>     | Intermediate Concert  |
| <b>8-11 August</b>  | ABODA Senior Festival                   | <b>7 September</b>     | Ensemble Auditions    |
| <b>18 August</b>    | Choral Festival                         | <b>11 September</b>    | Junior Concert        |
| <b>24-25 August</b> | Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival      | <b>12-15 September</b> | ABODA Junior Festival |
| <b>25 August</b>    | Jazz Festival                           |                        |                       |



A shout-out to all the new families who started at CSHS this year, I hope we're all starting to settle in a bit more now that we're a few months in.

Regardless of whether the student is introverted or extroverted or how much they like the idea of school, the fresh start is inevitably daunting with so much for the student and their family to learn.

A few confessions; we might have paid some of the fees twice and a fee that was never intended for us! The jury is out on who we need to ask our many silly questions to, but we just have to hope that we'll get better at knowing how everything works a little more each week.

One of the things that has helped us has been to volunteer to help where we can. Sure the school needs lots of volunteer help but what it gives you is far greater in terms of support from other families who know how everything works.

Attend a concert, an exhibition or an assembly. Better still, attend a function that showcases some of the older students to see how they perform once they've been in the Churchlands system for a while. We attended a senior music concert earlier this year where CSHS's reputation for incredible standards was utterly surpassed. Similarly, we attended our son's junior music night recently and we just can't believe what good hands our children are in here.

Dedicated staff, impressive communication procedures, a wide range of opportunities and a sea of varied students. I can't help but feel optimistic that every student finds a pathway that works for them and hopefully guides them to be their best self.

*"After over 20 years' service in the Australian Army Band Perth, this year was my proudest yet. Our first ANZAC Day parade together."*  
**Alicia Robinson**



Robert Robinson, and his mum, Alicia.

## ANZAC Day Assembly

Photos: Marina Biddle



Bugler: James Strutt



# ANZAC Day Parade

*Photos: Marina Biddle*

Our combined Wind 1 & 2 Orchestra once again represented Churchlands admirably as they marched in the 2019 City of Perth ANZAC Day Parade. Congratulations to all the students who participated and thanks to the teachers who prepared them so well.







Photos: Fiona Birt & Art Ledovsky







Paul Duhig our "extraordinary Horn teacher" has retired after 40 years of teaching. On 3rd May all of the CSHS Horn students from Year 7 - 12 performed in a Junior and Senior ensemble to celebrate Mr Duhig's pending retirement.

They were joined by a number of Churchlands alumni, Perth Mod and Shenton, and others from around Australia and the world sent messages of thanks and congratulations.

In April a group of Horn players, some senior students and some alumni were honoured with performing at Government House when Mr Duhig received an OAM from the Governor, for his services to music, horn teaching and music education.

This milestone of incredible dedication and commitment was then celebrated with a light supper (thank you to Tracey Gralton and the caterers) and some speeches and gifts to Mr Duhig.

Having been a student of Paul's myself and now watching my own daughter learn from him, is very special, and I know I speak on behalf of all current and previous students in thanking him for all the wonderful skill, knowledge, passion and musicality he shared and in wishing "Mr Duhig" a very long, healthy and happy retirement.



## Year 12 Recital Tuesday 13 August 2019 at 7pm

The annual Year 12 Recital Night is an opportunity for all Year 12 music students to perform part of their final recital in a relaxed, informal manner for an audience of family, friends and colleagues. It is an exciting culmination of six years of dedication to the Churchlands music programme. Parents have the opportunity to listen to their son or daughter present a "polished performance" as the culmination of six years of dedication to the Churchlands music programme, together with their accompanist. Quite different to listening to them practicing and complaining in their bedrooms!!

The evening is on Tuesday 13th August commencing at 7pm in the Churchlands SHS Concert Hall and the entry is free. We welcome anyone who wishes to support our outstanding music students in their lead up to their final performance exams.

Inspiring young Western Australian musicians since 2011

## WA Young Artists Chamber Music Program 2019

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### WHAT WE OFFER

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Places are strictly limited.

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### WAYACHAMP GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

Pre-formed groups will have the chance to win a full scholarship (up to 4 members). The winning group will be chosen on the basis of their submitted recording.

For more information contact:

**Director - Sophie Curtis**

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# Alumni Profile – Nicholas Allen

Article: Ursula Greig

Nic Allen is a Churchlands SHS graduate from 2006. He studied classical guitar in the GATE music program with Dr John Casey, and took TEE music under the pre-ATAR system.

Nic Allen joined the Army in 2007 and studied a Bachelor of Arts at the University of New South Wales Australian Defence Force Academy, where he also took up the bagpipes and played with the Academy Band, including graduation parades, some ceremonial services around NSW and for the Governor-General at the Graduation Parade in 2009. Nic also participated in the Academy musicals, performing chorus and minor roles in *Rent* and other musicals.

Since leaving ADFA, Nic has continued to study and to play music, sometimes in a band or to entertain his platoon in Afghanistan with guitar and sometimes in the scrub on an army exercise, giving away the position with bagpipes. Nic has lived in every state of Australia bar Tasmania since leaving high school, has travelled to Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Europe, the Middle East and Afghanistan with his work and is currently posted back to Perth.

This year his role as the Adjutant of the Western Australia Australian Army Cadets Brigade sees him undertaking an enterprise management and leadership role in the WA community, working with hundreds of volunteers and over 1,000 cadets engaged in the Army's youth development and good citizenship program in Western Australia. He has been all over the state supporting this program over the last year and a half, and volunteers with the Brigade's musical unit the 51 Army Cadet Unit Swan Regiment Drums and Pipes at Irwin Barracks Karrakatta.

Nic is currently a Captain in the Australian Regular Army, was recently admitted as a Lawyer and occasionally teaches guitar. His son Finn (3) has shown utter independence and is more enthusiastic about the dusty old bugle of his grandfather's than any of the guitars or bagpipes he sees.



## Relay for Life

Article: Lee Stanley

The combined Wind Orchestra 1 & 2 Marching Bands were delighted to be asked to take part in the Relay for Life event again this year. So, on Saturday 4th May we climbed aboard two buses and headed away from the school for what is probably the world's shortest band tour. On arrival we found Claremont Showground already buzzing with excitement. Gazebo shelters surrounded the track decorated with banners, photos of loved ones and balloons. Everyone had a reason to be there, everyone had someone to remember. Jess, the drum major and I walked the course with the organizer and I said something like 'oh, we're going clockwise this year, that will make a change' to which she replied 'yes, you were supposed to go clockwise last year too'. OOPS!

We assembled on the start line (facing the correct direction) and listened to some beautiful speeches by survivors and loved ones. Then we got the countdown. Nothing can quite describe the look on peoples faces when the (up to this point silent and static) band erupted into life and began its march. It was a real spine tingler!! We led the survivors on their first lap and to finish we made a sharp right turn through the crowd and came to a stop, leaving the crowd to complete another 12 hours of walking, running, wheeling.....

It was an absolute delight to be a part of this event in what is rapidly becoming a Churchlands tradition.





# The Wicked Orchestra

Article: Robyn Griffin

Whilst the cast for the show was finalised last year, the orchestra can not be auditioned until we have the actual music. This year, it included four separate keyboard parts. A big thank you to Jarrad Jenkins for organising the hire of the keyboards and organising the installation of the software onto the computers. And then did the keyboard players have fun. It wasn't just the musical instrument sounds but the sound effects including a lion roar that kept everyone amused.

As usual, it isn't until the orchestra joins forces with the cast that the hard work really starts as everyone realises how important every individual part within the orchestra is. It was very much a team effort...setting up all the equipment...bringing in provisions to get through the long rehearsals, counting bars rest (well sometimes) ...and even having all the birthdays on the same day (Mr Sealey, Dillon Clegg & Lisa Smith).

Here is what some of the players had to say about their experience playing in the Wicked Orchestra:

*"The music at first was so hard with 1000 key signatures and a time signature change every two bars but we all got there in the end. My favourite part about being a part of the wicked orchestra was the fact that we felt like a close family and we all made a huge amount of jokes with Mr Sealey and Mrs Griffin. The string side probably gained about 10kg with the amount of sugar that we ate and on top of that Mrs Griffin bringing in green wicked cakes.... But it was all so worth it. I recommend being a part of a musical orchestra because it was one of the best experiences and one of the happiest."* **Orchestra Leader – Momo**



*"Playing in the orchestra is always a great challenge. As my third time in the orchestra of a Churchlands musical, I can say that this one has been very special. Comprised of only Year 12 students (except Emily), we are a closely-knit team as we have been together for the past 5 years. Yes, the parts were quite challenging, but we still encouraged each other (and gave each other a hard time). By far one of the highlights of high school for me."* **Trumpet 1 - Harry**

*"Being a part of the orchestra really pushed me to improve on my musicianship and the level at which I play. Although we were annoying sometimes, it was truly fun to be part of a group that enjoyed playing music as much as I do, and I will miss doing more musical productions."* **Trumpet 2 - Miranda**





On behalf of Mr Sealey and myself, a huge thank you to the musicians in the Wicked Orchestra. You all worked so hard over the course of the rehearsals and for every single performance. The recognition you were given at the end of every performance was thoroughly deserved.

*"I was quite hesitant to audition for Wicked orchestra as I am in Year 12 and didn't think I would have time, but I can safely say that it was the best decision ever! The music was great as it was the right mix of challenging and easy which made it so much fun and it was just great music and it gave us an excuse to not study! Honestly though, Wicked was the highlight of the day- it was the only reason I was turning up to school. Wicked was amazing and I miss it so much. Thank you everyone and to Griff and Sealey!! Probably the last musical I will ever be in, but one I will definitely remember!"* **Violin - Mikayla**

*"It was always a goal of mine to play the clarinet in the orchestra of a production. After I was privileged to make it through the auditions, I was given a huge book of repertoire with four different instruments to play including the bass clarinet, E-flat clarinet and soprano saxophone. It started off looking like we weren't going to be ready for the performances, but after many hours of rehearsals with Ms Griffin and Mr Sealey's help, we managed to get the repertoire ready. The cast were fantastic to work with and everyone did such an amazing job bringing the "Land of Oz" to life. Overall, "Wicked" was a great experience that allowed me to improve as a musician and take responsibility in an orchestra, and ... I wish I could do it all again."* **Clarinets & Saxophone - Michael**

*"Playing in Wicked was a new experience for me as it was my first time participating in a musical. The music was very challenging for me as it required me to make many adjustments. With only an electric guitar, acoustic steel string guitar and a nylon class guitar, I was also required to mimic the sounds of a banjo and mandolin. Playing in Wicked was an incredible experience which taught me new skills that will help me in future musical projects."*

**Guitar - Romy**

*"This year I had the opportunity to be a part of the fabulous Wicked orchestra. This was my first time being in a musical and it was a highlight of my high school life. Even though the music was quite difficult at times with mean and unfair key signatures, the opportunity to play in smaller instrumental sections among my extremely talented muso family made this an amazingly wicked and unforgettable experience."* **Oboe & Cor Anglais - Emma**

*"At first, I was a bit worried because there were so many rehearsals which would definitely put pressure on me in terms of study. But I still took the opportunity because it is my last year and I didn't want to miss out on the fun (it is quite worth it, I promise). Getting the music was okay, I just needed to work out how to play three things at once which was a challenge but undeniably enjoyable. It's a bit sad that the orchestra can't watch the musical and play music at the same time but that also has its benefits like having picnics of food behind the curtains (thank you strings!)."*

**Percussion - Michelle**



# NOTICEBOARD



To keep up to date with all the news, join the CSHS Music Parents' Facebook group:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/)

## DID YOU KNOW...

The School of Music has its own YouTube channel? If you have not already subscribed, go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "Churchlands SHS School of Music". This is a perfect way to share some of your child's musical achievements with friends and family.

*Check it out!*

**CSHS School of Music on YouTube!**



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Check it out at

<http://learning.e-lr.com.au>

Student login: *student.cshs.wa* Password: *cornet*

## SCHOOL PICKUPS

Parents, please be mindful of local traffic when you are dropping off or picking up children.

For the safety of all, please ensure you pull over safely into one of the bays on the side of the road: **do not** stop in the middle of the road when collecting children and loading bags and instruments.

**Thank you!**



## MUSIC PARENTS

Do I have your preferred email address?

Help me keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings!  
[mpc@churchlandspc.com.au](mailto:mpc@churchlandspc.com.au)

## PARENTS AND STUDENTS

*MusicNotes*: a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love your help by contributing short articles / photos (high-resolution photos where possible).

Please email to: [alex@jumpingjigsaws.com.au](mailto:alex@jumpingjigsaws.com.au)

## REMINDER TO PARENTS

CSHS is only able to provide supervision for **up to 20 minutes** after the conclusion of a rehearsal or concert. Please ensure that you have made arrangements for your child to be picked up so they are not left unattended.

