

# MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 2019

## Year 12 Presentation Night

Photo: Fiona Birt



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# Convenor's Cadenza

## Penny McNiff, MPC Convenor



*Feedback from the Music Parents Survey* - Thank you to the 113 parents who answered our survey questions about their attitude to volunteering – this is about 25% of our families, so a great response, thank you! What was very clear is that we all have different points of view, due to our own circumstances and the ages of our children.

*The Summary* - Some parents were unaware that we do not have enough volunteers for many events – we always need volunteers! The suggestion was made 'why don't you get students to volunteer?' We regularly have students at ABODA Festivals, in the café. However, some need more supervision than others and their errors in calculating change and serving coffees can be costly. MPC fundraising makes a valuable contribution to the School of Music. This year we donated \$25,000 for a set of 4 new timpani. However, it is not the only purpose. For example, some parents would prefer to donate money instead of volunteering. We can do this for

some things, such as beverage donations. However, the cost would be astronomical if we had to pay staff in the evenings for Front of House, Stage Crew, Kiosk, Bar. These are all critical roles for the smooth running of concerts and external events.

Some parents value the opportunity to volunteer, as they find it fun and also it is really the only way to meet other parents in high school. We expect every family to volunteer for just 2 hours per semester. This spreads the load and is reasonable for most families. The big ones are the two ABODA weekends, in August and September, where we need more than 125 volunteers for each Festival. We have three parents who do an incredible job running the roster and providing the food for adjudicators, so you just need to put your name down. New members are always welcome on the MPC. Merry Christmas and see you next year!

### Keep in touch

Follow what's happening with the Music Parents Committee:

**Facebook** - [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

Convenor: **Penny McNiff** [mpc@churchlandspc.com.au](mailto:mpc@churchlandspc.com.au)

Treasurer: **Lana Ledovsky** [lane@ledovsky.com.au](mailto:lane@ledovsky.com.au)

Secretary: **Elisa Peterson** [elisa.peterson@gmail.com](mailto:elisa.peterson@gmail.com)

### Supplementary Admin Roles

P&C Liaison: **Tracey Gralton** [tgralton@gmail.com](mailto:tgralton@gmail.com)

Facebook Coordinator: **Kelly Bradley** [kelly@blackrover.com.au](mailto:kelly@blackrover.com.au)

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### Concert Hall Events

Events Hospitality Liaison: **Jodie Tajeddine** [tajeddine.jt@gmail.com](mailto:tajeddine.jt@gmail.com)

Bar Stock Liaison: **Ryan Labuschagne** [family@labuschagne.com.au](mailto:family@labuschagne.com.au)

Concert Hall Stock & Equipment Liaison: **Meike Chang** [jackmeike@iinet.net.au](mailto:jackmeike@iinet.net.au); **Amanda Vanderputten** [vander@amnet.net.au](mailto:vander@amnet.net.au)

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School Concerts Front of House Coordinators: **Michelle Porteous** [michellewn@icloud.com](mailto:michellewn@icloud.com)

School Concerts Stage Crew Coordinators: **Hendrik Overmeire**

[overmeire@iinet.net.au](mailto:overmeire@iinet.net.au); **Dave Fudge** [fudgefamily@upnaway.com](mailto:fudgefamily@upnaway.com)

School Concerts Kiosk Coordinators: **Christina Kerr** [cpanovrakou@hotmail.com](mailto:cpanovrakou@hotmail.com)

Chamber Music Series Catering Coordinator: **Tracey Gralton** [tgralton@gmail.com](mailto:tgralton@gmail.com)

### Annual General Meeting 2020:

**When?** 7:30pm Monday 17 February 2020

**ALL music parents are welcome!**

*Light refreshments provided. This is one of the best times to meet other music parents and be entertained by some of our talented music students.*

**Where?** Green Room

*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

While another wonderful school year of music-making is drawing to a close, we still have students proudly representing our school while busking to raise funds for their music tour.

Highlights this term included the State Remembrance Day Commemorative Service at Kings Park (plus numerous buglers around the metropolitan area), the Oktoberfest Family Day, Year 11 Practical Exams, the Year 12 Music Presentation Night, the Christmas Concert, and our new Accelerando in Churchlands program.

The Christmas Concert was a tinsel draped conclusion to the formal performances and rehearsals for the year, raising almost \$460 for charity in the process. My particular thanks to the music teachers and parents

schedules sent out by the time you have read this.

A very shiny set of four Timpani arrived on December 16, purchased for \$23,000, raised by our music parents over the year. Our percussion students will be able to use professional quality equipment, with our ensembles sounding better as a result. Thanks to the MPC for the ongoing support for our program and our young musicians.



We are also fitting out one of our storerooms as an extra instrumental teaching room. The school has supported us in this by covering the cost of window treatments, air-conditioning, and acoustic panelling. This will add to our flexibility in being able to best support our terrific instrumental teaching staff.

I would like to wish all of our music families, both incoming and outgoing, the very best for the Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your support in 2019 and we are looking forward to doing it all again in 2020.

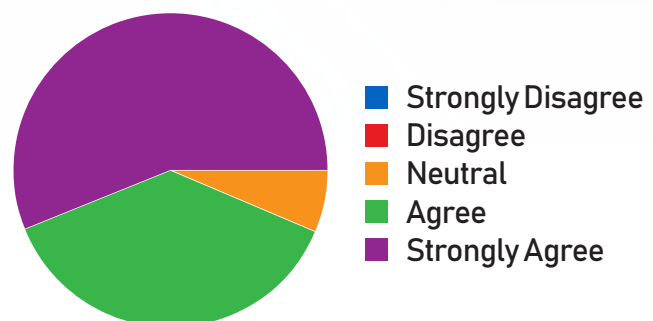


who supported the event (and the clean-up!).

We tried a new approach to helping our Year 6 GATE students prepare for high school, with our "Accelerando in Churchlands" program. It involved open rehearsals and targeted activities that involved parents and students. It seems to have been very successful and we will look at doing it more comprehensively next year.

Our 2020 ensembles started well and will in most cases start their 2020 rehearsals in the first week back. There will have been more information on rehearsal

**My child participated in the Accelerando into Churchlands program and this has helped them feel better about attending high school**



## Save the Date!



**3 February** First Day of Term 1  
**4 February** Ensemble Rehearsals Commence  
**11 February** Year 12 Music Photo  
**17 February** MPC AGM

**16 March** MPC Meeting  
**18 March** CSHS Jazz Concert at Freo Social  
**8 April** Senior Concert  
**9 April** Last Day of Term 1



# Gondwana Voices Berlin Tour 2019

Article: Erica Jones

On the 9th of October 2018, Phoebe Tait and I received the news that we had been chosen to participate in Gondwana National Choral School's Berlin Tour 2019. As previous Gondwana choristers, we were so excited to realise we would be touring Germany with our dearest NCS friends as part of one of the most prestigious youth choirs in Australia.

The journey began when we auditioned for Gondwana NCS in August of 2018, which resulted in our place in the top Gondwana choir for our age, and an invitation to perform in Germany with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra in the famous Berlin Philharmonie. We learned some of our tour pieces while we were at Gondwana 2019 in January, including Brett Dean's *Vexations* and *Devotions* – an extremely long and challenging avante-garde piece written for a choir and symphony orchestra – and then were sent home to learn the rest of our pieces alone for the four months leading up to the tour.

Phoebe and I, along with four other choristers from Perth, flew to Sydney on the 10th of May to join the rest of our touring choir for three days of rehearsals. We stayed with other choristers from the tour for these three days, which allowed me to make some new and very close friends whom I still talk to every day. After these three days, we set off for London.

We stayed in London for three days also, with one day of sight-seeing and shopping, and two days of rehearsals and a performance in the beautiful London Swiss Church before getting on another plane to Germany.

After landing in Berlin, we drove to our first destination – Radeburg. All choristers stayed with many different volunteering host families while we went sight-seeing and performed in an amazing church in Dresden. Sadly, we only spent one night with our host families before moving on to Leipzig.

In Leipzig we again stayed with host families, but this time, it was the families of the children in the amazing Leipzig Opera Children's choir. We were all very excited to meet fellow choristers, and we all gave a grand performance with the choir on our last day of our two days in Leipzig.

Finally, we made the hours-long drive back to Berlin, where we stayed in a hotel for a week, taking the metro every day to reach our rehearsal and performance venues to rehearse for the reason that we were in Berlin – our final performance of *Vexations* and *Devotions* with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra in the Berlin Philharmonie. During our rehearsals there we met the esteemed Australian composer who created this piece, Brett Dean (we were all a little starstruck), and under the command of the famous conductor Vladimir Jurowski (another fan-girl moment), we performed with the symphony orchestra to a full house in the Philharmonie, and left that night with many tears of both joy and sadness as the tour had come to a close.

We were all a mess when we flew our separate ways the next day, but our three week tour brought all us closer than we had ever been, and we made connections and memories that we will never forget. To everyone in Gondwana NCS Berlin Tour 2019 choir, I love and miss you all, and I hope to tour with you again soon.





# Hugh Jackman Concert

Article: Mirelle Hopwood



Seven very fortunate boys had the experience of a lifetime performing at RAC Arena in Hugh's world tour.

James Strutt, Shuni Kogo, Cameron Taylor, Oliver Klimczak, Oliver Stark, Daniel Hill Almeida and Oliver Lane shared centre stage with Hugh, The Australian Girls' Choir (including Churchlands students Caitlin Adriansz, Hallie Paul) and a cast of international singers and dancers.

Unfortunately the boys' offer to meet Hugh for a game of cricket after the show was declined, however, Mrs Hopwood and Mrs Greig were very happy coming away with a spectacular hug.











Year 12 Presentation Night





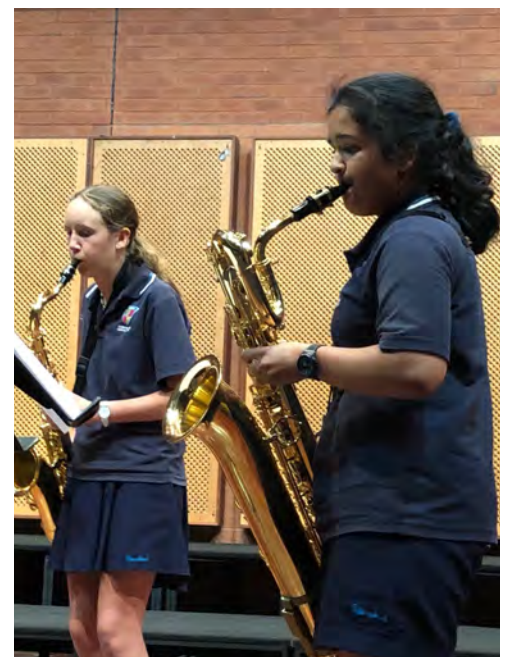
# Chamber Ensembles Concert

Article: Shreeya Naroth

On Friday 8th November, Churchlands SHS' music department held its Semester 2 Chamber Ensembles Concert in the Paul Latham Auditorium. There were a variety of ensembles showcased from different year groups, from string quartets and brass quintets to wind and even a saxophone quartet. Families and friends came to watch, and we also had some Year 6 GATE Music students come along to watch and see what they're in for next year. Very well done to all performers and those involved!

Participating in concerts like the Chamber Ensembles Concert is not only hard work – it is also fun! It involves lots of practice with your musician friends, as well as collaborating and cracking a few jokes! The number of performers in a chamber ensemble is quite small but it allows more cooperation and collaboration between not only teachers and students but with other musicians of a similar calibre too. As a performer, it was a delight to watch the talented ensembles perform.

Chamber music allows the development of music skills and is a great opportunity to develop experience in performing. It increases confidence as well as the great skill of controlling nerves, which is great for personal development and even for future jobs that involve public speaking or performing for an audience. Because of the size of the ensembles, everyone plays a vital role and has a unique responsibility in the piece. Many hours of practice go into the preparation for these concerts which would not be possible without our dedicated and awesome music and instrumental teachers, thank you. Also, thank you Mrs Chesney, Mrs Van and Mrs Hawsworth, for organising the concert. Looking forward to next semester's chamber concert!





# Merry Christmas to our Music Staff!

On December 9th, the wonderful MPC representatives arrived at the Music Department with arms swelling full of Christmas Hampers! Sonia Siamos, mother of Lauren, Year 7 cello, did an incredible job of purchasing and wrapping ALL the presents for 41 IMSS and classroom teachers and School of Music staff.

We are overwhelmed with the generosity of the parents who have gifted us with beautifully wrapped wines, yummy goods, and vouchers. Words are never enough, but from all of us, a sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of you.

We will really enjoy our breakfast together, a chance for us to celebrate another busy but rewarding year guiding your children through the Music Program. They are a terrific group of young musicians and we are grateful for the privilege of teaching them and being a part of their musical journey. A great Music Program is a partnership between parents and music staff, so thank YOU all for being supportive of our program. Have a wonderful Christmas and summer break and see you bright-eyed and bushy-tailed in the New Year!



## Former Student News

Article: Penny McNiff

### ***Former Student Carves out Successful International Career in Jazz***

Former student Chris Grieve made a surprise visit to Churchlands in December. Chris has been the Lead Trombonist for the past twenty years for the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, Europe's foremost contemporary jazz ensemble. He is also a jazz lecturer at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS), in history, jazz theory, composition and improvisation. He was previously the Director for the RCS Big Band and is skilled in arranging for small groups through to Big Band.

The international man of jazz developed his love for trombone during his time as a muso at Churchlands and is looking forward to coming back to Perth in August next year, where we hope to secure his expertise at the School of Music for workshops in jazz and composition.





# Year 12 Presentation Night



**Music Department Award:** James Strutt & Oliver Lane

**Ex-Music Students' Award Symphony Orchestra 1:** Michelle Ng

**Ex-Music Students' Award Wind Orchestra 1:** Cass Evans-Ocherern

**Paul McGeorge Memorial Prize:** Lisa Smith

**Top Instrumental Student:** Lisa Smith

**Music Parents' Committee Award – ATAR Dux:** Daniel Hill Almeida

**Music Department Award – Cert III Dux:** Bethany Smith

**Music Department Award – Cert II Dux:** Brianna Lewis

**Music Department Choral Award Soprano:** Sofie Kerr

**Music Department Choral Award Alto:** Kate Roux

**Music Department Choral Award Tenor:** Oliver Stark

**Music Department Choral Award Bass:** Cameron Taylor









# Noticeboard



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



**CSHS School of Music on YouTube!**

## WANTED

Unloved, spare or surplus musical brass, woodwind or string instruments for children at a disadvantaged school wanting to experience the magic of making music. Please drop the instruments off to the Music Office marked:

**"Attention Mr Robinson: Donation!"**

Playable or easily serviced instruments only, please.

### MUSIC RESOURCE

The School of Music has an ongoing subscription to an online music education resource for students' use. Check it out at [learning.e-lr.com.au](https://learning.e-lr.com.au)

Student login: student.cshs.wa Password: cornet

### 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

Music Notes: 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.

### 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!**

## Principal's Postlude

Mr Neil Hunt

As 2019 draws to a close we are governed by planning for 2020 which includes farewelling and welcoming new music staff, timetabling for both incoming and existing musos and of course planning for the next major music tour.

As with the rest of the school, planning is centred on accommodating another large influx of very talented year 7 students. Though our overall enrolments are down by around 70 with Bob Hawke College commencing in 2020, the proportion of music students (non-GATE) has decreased more significantly given the loss of strong primary music programs in Mt Hawthorn, West Leederville and Wembley Primary Schools. We farewell two highly talented music teachers in Nikki Turner and Tim Forster but have recruited very well to add to the current very talented team of music educators.

There has been no break from music activities during this planning time as students and staff have been engaged in hosting several events such as Remembrance Day activities, the Christmas Concert, year 12 final assemblies, auditions and of course the Year 12 Music Presentation Night. I was privileged to attend this event to present graduating certificates to all Year 12 musos and enjoyed five wonderful performances from our top instrumental students.

In reflecting on 2019 our music students have been engaged in so many events to which they have brought their talents. They have been involved in their respective concert seasons, achieved great success in their festival performances and of course who could forget their wonderful contributions to our musical "Wicked" which received outstanding reviews. However more than this, is the many voluntary hours our musos of all year groups have contributed to their community outside of the four walls of school.

Finally, I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year and to those students who have now graduated I wish you every success in your life's journey.