

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | TERM 3 2020

Bands Back In Business !



The Matildas Junior Choir Photo: Fiona Birt

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Coordinator's Cadenza

Penny McNiff, MPC Coordinator



On behalf of the Music Parents Committee I'd like to say a huge "thank you!" to Hendrik Overmeire, who has just completed his final concert as a Stage Crew volunteer, after the youngest of his three children, Laura, performed for the last time as a Churchlands music student at the Senior Concert.

Hendrik was familiar with the music program, as he and two siblings were themselves "musos" at Churchlands, finishing in 1985. To celebrate his huge contribution to the Music Parents Committee, I asked him about his volunteering at school and his rise to the lofty heights of Stage Crew Co-Coordinator.

Hendrik's Epic Stage Crew Journey

What are the highlights for you of your time as a volunteer?

As part of the Stage Crew, I have enjoyed free front row seats to some really excellent performances. Watching Junior, Intermediate and Senior Concerts allows you to see the progression from wide-eyed Year 7s to performances show-casing top class musicianship.

Another highlight is bumping into former music students - and there are quite a few. As proof, I dug up a photo of the 1985 Tour Group to the World Youth Music Festival in Geneva (below). My favourite MPC Coordinator, Penny McNiff is playing trumpet, top left, while I am front right, on clarinet. I remember the school principal Paul Latham instructing us there were to be "platonic relationships only on tour".



Most students obeyed this directive, except for the "match made in percussion" Haans Drieborg (kit) and Liz Coles (cymbals) who have now been married for nearly 30 years! They have two musical sons, with Joel, currently in Year 8 at Churchlands, playing percussion.

What was your motivation to volunteer with the Stage Crew?

I have always seen it as a job that needed doing and it was a way for me to be involved in my kids' school life. It was also a trip down Memory Lane for me.

I have volunteered across various areas over the past eight years: sausage sizzles, parking coordination, festivals, committee and mostly Stage Crew. My son Tom started at Churchlands in 2012 and I started volunteering then. I met Dave Fudge, my



Below: Hendrik directs his final stage
Above: as a Churchlands music student in 1985

excellent Stage Crew Co-Coordinator, in the early days. The previous Coordinator had to drop out after his work commitments became too onerous - Dave and I didn't duck away fast enough when someone was needed to take over!

Any near-disasters or inside info on backstage shenanigans?

We never ran the piano off the stage and we always unlocked the piano in time for concerts to start. At times we had to contend with some dubious stage plans for set up - a quintet with only four seats poses a dilemma!

In terms of inside information, "What happens backstage, stays backstage"....

Any advice for music parents?

I would encourage all parents to volunteer in one of the many areas on the MPC. It was great to see a bunch of new Year 7 parents joining Stage Crew this year.

Thanks to the kids and staff for all the fantastic music over the years. To my fellow music parents, who put in the work and make the volunteering so enjoyable, and especially to my Stage Crew Co-Coordinator Dave Fudge - thank you.

And now about that vacancy for a Stage Crew Co-Coordinator - the MPC awaits you! mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



Term 3 has flown by now that we are back to regular rehearsals and concerts (with ticket limitations). Despite their disappointment due to the Music Tour cancellation, our Year 12 students did themselves credit with their post-concert skit and general enthusiasm at the senior concert. I wish our Year 12 ATAR students all the very best as they head off into the mid-semester vacation - their practical exams (recitals) will run throughout the first week of the holidays. Our Junior, Intermediate, and Senior concerts were all at an excellent standard, and videos of them may be available...one day.

While we may not have had our regular band and orchestra festivals, we have still been busy this term. Our Wind Orchestra 2 students participated in an online masterclass with Chief Warrant Officer Jeffrey A. Spenner, Assistant Director of the United States Coast Guard Band, which is an endeavour now possible because we now live in an #everythingisnowonline world.

We also had three chamber ensembles in the Strike a Chord National Chamber Music Championship run by national arts organisation Musica Viva. The Year 12 Woodwind Quintet won the woodwind prize and was invited to be the guest ensemble at an online national teachers conference woodwind workshop where they worked with the leading clarinet and saxophone performer, Mark Walton AO, in front of an online audience of hundreds of music teachers.

There has also been a focus on our tuba and euphonium players this term, and this will continue into Term 4 with guest presenters and workshops. We hope it will conclude with a performance including all of our heavy metal players.

As always, I want to thank our music parents, who supported the running of the concerts in a broad range of capacities with their usual flair.

Save the Dates!

- Mon 12 October First day of Term 4 (ensemble rehearsals resume)
- Fri 16 October Year 12 Presentation Night 7:00pm
- Mon 19 October Music Parents' Committee Meeting 7:30pm
- Sun 1 November Oktoberfest
- Wed 4 November Year 6 Parent Information Night 6:00pm
- Mon 23 November Music Parents' Committee Meeting 7:30pm
- Fri 4 December Christmas Concert 4:00pm
- Thu 17 December Last day of Term 4

Year 12 Recital Night

Article: Phobe Tait, Year 12 . Photos: Fiona Birt



Year 12 Recital night was truly a miracle this year. All throughout the year we had been rehearsing and practising with no light at the end of the tunnel, no certainty of any concerts in our final year of being in the Churchlands music program, but when we heard the news that we could perform to a reduced crowd, we couldn't have been any happier.

The Year 12 Recitals have always been a wonderful event to show our families, friends and peers how far we've come as musicians, and how we've all developed our love for the instrument we play. Personally, after hearing everyone perform, I'm really looking forward to seeing my colleagues' music careers flourish in the future. It was also the first Churchlands music concert of the year! It happened a little later than we all anticipated, but after all the commotion of the year we were simply content with everyone being happy and healthy.

There was an incredibly diverse program, ranging from Ravel, Hindemith and Poulenc to Charlie Parker, Julie London and Eloise. Such contrast shows how everyone has benefited from the education here at Churchlands and branched off in their own direction to musically express themselves how they please. It's been a wonderful six years in the music program, and the Year 12 Recital Night was a beautiful way to end it; with everyone we've shared the journey with, and to say thanks to those who have supported us along the way.





Strike A Chord

Article: Sarah Chappell. Photos: Fiona Birt

To celebrate their 75th anniversary, Musica Viva organised the [Strike A Chord](#) chamber music competition. A total of 103 student ensembles around Australia entered the inaugural competition, including three from Churchlands Senior High School. With the help of Jarrad Jenkins and Mrs Hawsworth, the chamber groups were able to record a live performance for the adjudicators and an audience made up of the Year 10 music students, parents, and special guests Mr Chapman, Mr Siwek and Mr Cross.

The first group to perform were the Year 12 Wind Quintet, consisting of Emily Chappell, Cassie Tyres, Elise Gardner, Rebecca Hong, and Cintia D'Cress. The group wowed the audience by playing a piece by Malcolm Arnold, an exciting and original arrangement of the traditional "What will we do with a drunken sailor". Congratulations to this group who won the Wind Quintet category. As a result, this chamber group was selected to participate in a national teacher's conference workshop via video link, where teachers learned how to tutor a chamber group.



Next up were the amazing Year 11 Oboe Quartet comprising of Aiden Labuschagne, Zoe Hawsworth, Bella Wong and Hannah Clark. Their interpretation of the first movement of Mozart's Oboe Quartet was extremely sensitive and musical and their ensemble skills and teamwork were evident in their fantastic playing.

Last but not least was the Year 10 Mozart Trio, playing the first movement of the Kegelstatt Trio. The chamber group, including Xin Ze Cai, Alice Hawsworth and Sarah Chappell, tried to create a scene inspired by the title of the piece, Kegelstatt, meaning an 18th century bowling alley. I'm sure all the participants learned so much from this experience, including how to be in a small ensemble, musicality, the style of the piece and balance of parts just to name a few. Lastly, all this would not have been possible if not for the ensemble directors, Ms Griffin, Mrs Cahill, Ms Arkley-Smith and Mr Neil Barclay who helped us immensely, to play to the standard that we did.



Senior Concert

Photos: Art Ledovsky





Junior Concert

Photos: Fiona Birt



The Matildas

Intermediate Concert

Photos: Art Ledovsky



Wind 4



Wind 5



Tutti Strings



Ripieno Strings

Heavy Metal in Action!

Article: Ursula Grieg



On Friday the 11th of September, the Churchlands Tuba players got an amazing opportunity to work with professional tuba player Steve Harmer. The role of a tuba player in a band or orchestra can be quite a solitary existence. While there is no doubt that the Tuba player is an essential member of a band or orchestra, there is usually only one of them per band or orchestra, and the chance to collaborate with fellow Tuba players was welcomed by them all.

We are planning a series of workshops between now and the end of the year to shine the spotlight on our Tuba and Euphonium players – the real Heavy Metal musicians in the school.



Hits From Ya 'Hood

Article: Mr Andre Bourgault

On September 23rd, Churchlands music students had heaps of fun recording with Matt Dyktynski from Mix 94.5 FM's Clairisy, Matt and Kymba show. Under the baton of Ms Chesney, the augmented **Jazz 2 Orchestra** punched out a smoking rendition of *Say A Little Prayer For You*. Tune in to hear it on the airwaves in the not too distant future, or find it on the [Mix 94.5 Facebook page](#).

The band looked and sounded great - once again our Music kids did us proud!!



Farewell to Neil Hunt

Author: Tracey Gralton

Dear Neil

The Music Parents' Committee of Churchlands Senior High School would like to express our grateful thanks for your leadership at the school over the last 17 years. Your strong support of the music program has been encouraging and enormously productive.

The administrative support for the School of Music was a major initiative early in your tenure, allowing the teachers to concentrate on educating students and freeing parents from office assistance to serve the program in other ways. The appointment of theatre and technical staff has also made a huge difference to the professionalism of concerts and events and reduced the burden on teachers and parents.

We are grateful for your personal interest in the activities of the music program: attending concerts and other performances, travelling on music tours, acknowledging and expressing pride in the talent of the students and placing a high value on the program within the school.

In particular, your drive and perseverance transformed the long campaign to build the concert hall into reality. This outstanding facility is a very special asset for the school and the music program. It was further enhanced by being equipped with a high quality Fazioli piano, an ambitious dream that you supported with an effective fund-raising strategy.

Your willingness to solve problems creatively and to offer practical and material support has greatly benefited the music program, and we are very grateful for your contribution. We congratulate you on your new appointment and offer our best wishes for your future.

You will be greatly missed at Churchlands.

Yours sincerely

The Music Parents' Committee

Principal's Postlude

Well Covid-19 certainly has affected everyone's lives to various degrees this year. It unfortunately meant that many activities we would normally have undertaken either didn't happen or happened in a different form. Having said that, it has still been an extremely busy term for our Music staff and students - and I'm sure parents too, with all the drop offs to rehearsals etc.

In terms of performances, Tuesday 11 August was the Year 12 Recital night which saw so many great performances from our talented Year 12 students as they begin heading to their final assessments and performances for the year. Two and a half weeks later my wife and I had the privilege of attending the Senior Concert. In my 10 years at Churchlands SHS I have never failed to be impressed with the quality of the performances and this year was no exception. Despite only having 250 people in the audience due to the current Covid Phase 4 restrictions, it was a very special night for all present. We are grateful to all of our talented music and IMS staff who put in countless hours with our students. Their efforts were acknowledged in a humorous but heartfelt manner in the tribute session at the end.

The following week saw two Junior concerts on Wednesday 2 September and the Intermediate Concert on Thursday 3 September. These were equally impressive and enjoyed by all participants and audience members alike.

As well as all this, the Music Department have been hard at it auditioning around one hundred Year 6 students hoping to enter the GATE Music Program in 2021. It is worth reminding parents that a commitment to enrol in the GATE Music program is a commitment to continue their music studies at Churchlands through to the end of Year 12.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the leadership and abilities of the Music Class of 2020, thank them for their contribution to the school and program over the last few years and wish them all the best in the upcoming WACE exams and into the future.

Paul Housley, Principal CSHS





To keep up to date with all the news, join the CSHS Music Parents' Facebook group.
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 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

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

YOUR MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes is a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love to feature your contributions of short articles and photos (high-resolution photos where possible)

Please email to: mstack23@gmail.com

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!

Entertainment Book Fundraiser for Churchlands SHS School of Music

Get your **MEMBERSHIP** and **SAVE** on family favourites

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With school holidays coming up and families looking for things to do, it is a perfect time to get your hands on an Entertainment Membership!

entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/83m352



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SAVE ON TREATS

School holiday treats made even sweeter when savings are involved.



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UP TO \$60 OFF DINING

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BONUS

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- ★ 2 months extra Membership FREE on Single & Multi City Memberships*
- ★ \$50 Discover Queensland holiday voucher* with every purchase Valid for bookings before 30 June 2021
- ★ WIN 1 of 5 x \$1000 WISH eGift Cards*