

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2022



Back in the swing



Photo: Art Ledovsky

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CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Coordinator's Cadenza

Tracy Gralton, Music Parents' Committee Coordinator



Welcome to all music families both new and old. I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Music Notes. Many thanks to Matt Stack for producing our quarterly newsletter, and indeed to everyone who has volunteered to be involved with the work of the Music Parents' Committee in 2022.

We have a strong committee and great teams, who will work throughout the year fundraising and supporting the music program. We have teams who manage front-of-house and stage setting at concerts; people who stock and serve in the kiosk and bar; we have fantastic photographers who record all the special events, and others who look after big events like the ABODA festival. They will all be asking for a little bit of help during the year, so whenever you see a request to sign up for a roster or some baking, please consider responding. If every family helps out once or twice a year, our combined efforts will ensure we give valuable support to our own kids, their wonderful teachers and this excellent school.

MPC Roles 2022

MPC Coordinator	Tracey Gralton	Front of House Coordinator	Natalia Bigaj
Secretary	Shree Kannan	Front of House Team	Tomoko Fukuda
Treasurer	Fatos Kursunlu	Ext Events Catering Coordinator	Anna Mills
Music Notes Editor & Designer	Matt Stack	P&C Liaison; Licensed Events	Tracey Gralton
Music Notes Photographer	Art Ledovsky	Festivals Sausage Sizzle Coordinator	Steve P
Music Notes Photographer	Scott Arnold-Eyers	Stock & equipment	Mieke Chang
Music Notes Photographer	Naki Kursunlu	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Coordinator	Sarah Brown
Stage Crew Coordinator	Gavin Woods	General Committee	Vanessa Chappell
Stage Crew Coordinator	Allan Hart	General Committee	Penny McNiff
Stage Crew	Jason Liew	General Committee	Baiba Dzelme
Stage Crew	Chris Power	General Committee	Yuridah Mulyadi
Stage Crew	Benedix Andy	General Committee	Sefton & Madga Upton
Festivals Team Coordinator	Naomi Chapman	General Committee	Susan De Ruyter
Festivals Team Coordinator	Ileana Rinaldi	General Committee	Richard Person
School Concerts Kiosk Coordinator	Vivienne Travlos	General Committee	Aileen Reid
School Concerts Kiosk Coordinator	Alina Corke	General Committee	Geoff Styles
RSA Holder	Won Park	Facebook Coordinator	Kelly Bradley
Bar stock	Ryan Labuschagne	Entertainment Book Coordinator	Kristy Sills

From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



Welcome to our 50th year as a specialist music program!

I would like to recognize and thank the ensemble directors who have made our rehearsals meaningful and positive this term. Nevertheless, it is challenging, and there have been health impacts on the choir conductors in particular. As you are aware, we intend to celebrate our 50th Anniversary with a spectacular concert on June 27, provided we can return to regular, full ensemble rehearsals early in Term 2. We cannot prepare repertoire to an appropriate standard without full rehearsals.

Thanks to Tracey Gralton (alumni) for assuming the mantle of MPC coordinator. There are few people with more Churchlands in their blood - Tracey may have been in that role back in 2003 when I became head of music.

Churchlands Senior High School was 10 years old when the first Year 8 specialist music students arrived for lessons. They were the class of 1976 and included Allan Meyer, Principal Clarinet WASO, Wendy Clark, Associate Principal Flute MSO, music teachers, performers, and composers including Philip Jones, Carol Jodrell, Karen Russell, Grant Rickman, and Alan Burnfield.

The class of 1977 is no less accomplished, boasting amongst its alumni Mary-Anne Goyder, famous as a musical director of the Massed Choir Festival, and Bruce Herriman, Principal of IMSS, as well as Chris Turpin, Principal Timpanist, MSO.

And that is looking only at musical professionals, to say nothing of those who went on to excel in other fields but retained music as a special part of their lives.

Each year has its alumni who become musical leaders, teachers, and role models, and I have no doubt our current students will make their mark in the world in good time. Others join a community orchestra or sing with a community choir.

We walk in the footsteps of these giants, who, in 1972, 1982, 1992, 2002, 2012, or 2022, relied on parents who got them to choir, encouraged them to practice, and helped at concerts. These giants had teachers who nurtured and conductors who inspired. Music is the soul at Churchlands, and much that is special about Churchlands is due to the impact of music students on the school's culture. This is their legacy, and we must celebrate and protect it.

Term Two 2022 – Save the Dates!

- Wed 27 April
Students Return to School

Fri 17 June
Chamber Ensembles Concert 3:45pm
- Mon 2 May
Music Parents' Committee Meeting Choral Studio 7:30pm

Mon 20 June
Symphony Orchestra – Opus Concert at Perth Concert Hall 7pm
- Tue 10 May
Meet the IMSS Teacher Night 7pm

Fri 24 June
Concert Camp (Anniversary Concert rehearsals if required. All students may be needed.)
- Mon 30 May
Music Parents' Committee Meeting Choral Studio 7:30pm

Mon 27 June
50th Anniversary of CSHS Music School @ Perth Concert Hall
- Wed 1 June
Intermediate Concert 7pm

Fri 1 July
Last day of Term 2
- Thu 2 June
Junior Concerts - 6pm & 7.30pm

Leadership Camp

Article; Jess Van de Ploeg

At the start of the year, the schools’ student leaders were lucky enough to go to Rottneest for three days!

68 students completed activities in regard to leadership, team bonding and planning for 2022. Music captains Alfie Cronin and Sarah Chappell were part of this group and ran a session with the music leaders as part of the camp.

Our music captains did a fabulous job guiding all of the thoughts and ideas. They have set themselves up for a great year ahead!



“Going to Rottneest with the other student leaders was such a beneficial experience. We were able to bond with younger years, brainstorm ideas for what we would like to do this year and build on our leadership skills as Music Captains. One idea that was created on camp was to have meetings to meet other students playing the same instrument. So far, we’ve had the pleasure of meeting some of the saxophone and oboe students!” - Sarah

“The Student leadership camp to Rottneest this year was a blast! Not only was it great fun, but it was also a very productive and worthwhile experience. All the students on the camp were so enthusiastic about being the best leader they can in the year ahead and they blew me away with how many brilliant ideas they had when we had the planning session. I came back from the camp even more pumped for the year ahead and grateful for the opportunity to be part of such an amazing leadership team, especially representing the school of music!” - Alfie



Greetings from Tokyo

Article; Glenn Robinson

Yuta Uemoto was one of our Music Captains in 2021, studying cello at school, as well as being a fine jazz pianist. Some may remember his incredibly fun improvisation “battle” with fellow peer jazz pianist Flavio Colonetti during the Jazz Twilight concert held in the Concert Hall last year. He was recently accepted into the Tokyo University of the Arts in the Department of Musical Creativity and Environment. He sent Mr Robinson a short message:

“The entrance exam contained many things that I had learnt over the years in the music program and I cannot thank you and the music staff enough for always preparing such positive and thoughtful music lessons. Had I not received my music education at Churchlands, I am sure that I would not have been accepted into the university. I am so grateful to the music department at Churchlands and hope the music events can be held this year even through the COVID outbreaks.” - Yuta

We wish Yuta all the best in his studies in Japan.



Cherry blossom season in Ueno Park



At front gate of campus

About The Department Of Musical Creativity And The Environment

In work based on individually chosen Projects, students develop diverse values and sensibilities while learning the fundamentals of music theory. In addition, while the program does not provide full-fledged practical training in artistic fields adjacent to the field of music, students do learn new methodologies and historical concepts and consider various nodes of expression from the perspectives of both the creator and the audience. They also gain fundamental knowledge and real-world approaches to various cultural contexts and gain experience with actual art management.

To integrate these various areas, students take part in a wide range of activities, including practical training in media and technology, audio experience in studios and concert halls, and content creation. Typical classes address music and technology, cultural environmental theory, introduction to recording technologies, physical art theory, and cultural studies, all taught by full-time faculty.





Meanwhile in rehearsals . .

Photos: Art Ledovsky



Perspectives

Article: Jess Van de Ploeg

The annual Performing Arts Perspectives on March 28 is an important educational event on the annual calendar of Year 11 and 12 Performing Arts students. It's an inspiring display of talent, showcasing a selection of the highest standard of year 11 and 12 student performance.

The highest scoring students are invited to audition and from these, exceptional performers are chosen by a panel made up of representatives from the relevant professional arts area and education sector. Two of our own Top 5 Instrumental students from 2021 Flavio Colonetti and Aiden Labuschagne were both invited to perform at Perspectives this year. Unfortunately Aiden had to withdraw due to injury, however Flavio performed accompanied by current Year 12 bass player Amy Skellern and Year 10 drummer Joel Driberg. We are super-proud of all of our students!



Centre – Churchlands band making waves

Recent finalists in the Scholarpalooza Battle of the Bands comp, Centre are making a name for themselves gigging at some of Perth's top live music venues.

Year 11 and 12 lads, Jesse, Connor, Alfie and Harry are all GATE music students, getting a name for themselves in Perth's gig scene as an all-original Indi -pop band. To date they've played at Mojos, Nannup Music Festival, YMCA HQ, Clancy's Freo and the Indi bar.

Their next gig is at the YMCA on Friday 8th April – it's an all ages venue. Come down and check them out as Mr Robinson did recently.



Alumni Feature – Steve Fenner

Steve was in the first cohort of 32 Year 8 music students at Churchlands in 1972. Both the school and the music program were different back then. None of the students had learned their orchestral instrument before; a few had learned piano. Steve remembers that when the music program first started, the violins and other instruments took many weeks to arrive, so the violin teacher gave each student a wooden stick to practice posture and bowing. Of course, as in all stories of the olden days, the students were very grateful for those sticks, not like the children of today. Steve thinks he has probably kept his practice stick somewhere to remind him of the enterprising spirit that started the Churchlands School of Music.

There were no special music facilities or rooms: only one music teacher, one record player and one piano. In fact, the music teacher was also their form teacher and taught them English and Social Studies (now known as HASS) as well. Instrumental lessons took place before school in vacant classrooms. Students kept their instruments at their feet during classes or at the back of the room. When the clutter became intolerable the cleaners surrendered a small cupboard used for cleaning implements which became instrument storage.



Orchestra was a combined effort with Perth Mod. The Mod music programme was well established and at first, a handful of junior Churchlands students joined their ensembles on Saturday mornings. But then, as the Churchlands Music Program expanded and the Churchlands players became more senior, the centre of gravity shifted. There was some grumbling when Perth Modern School parents had to start driving their children to Churchlands for rehearsals of the WA Combined Music Schools Symphony Orchestra. Steve was leader of the orchestra in 1976.

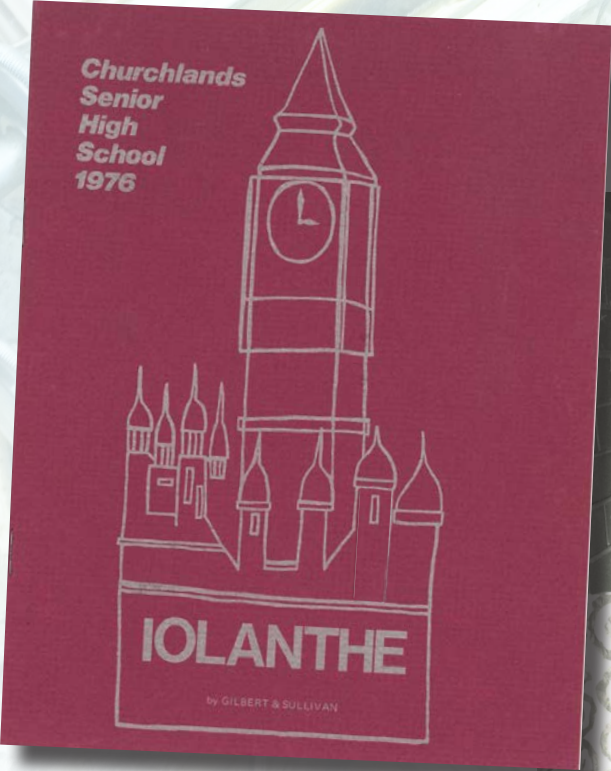
Steve went on to study medicine and is now a psychiatrist at various Perth hospitals. He still sings in a choir every week. His eight children have all attended Churchlands, some even achieving an honorable discharge from the music program! His eldest son Tim was Head Boy in 2004, and youngest son Gerry was Music Captain in 2014. Steve has travelled as a parent chaperone on three music tours and probably holds some sort of record for attending Churchlands School of Music events.



Steve Fenner in front of the new gym around 1974

Music Memories

Contributor: Tracy Gralton



(Above) Programme cover and
(Right) Preparing costumes for the
1976 school production



Principal's Postlude

It is incredibly pleasing to return to Churchlands SHS. The sense of community is so noticeable when you leave this arena even for the briefest of times and has created a strong pull on my desire to return for a few more years.

Music education, particularly concert and ensemble practice has resulted in a particularly challenging start to this year. However, in interpreting the Minister's statements as "where practicable" we have ensured cross year groups can continue to practice with maximum (up to 32) ensemble participation. Creative music teachers ensuring the wearing mouth guards at all times except when appropriate for "mouth guarded" wind instruments they have ensured the best possible safety protocols for all students. This has resulted in our students continuing to receive an outstanding and rounded musical education.

This term has been critical in the planning for the 50th anniversary special concert scheduled for June this year which will feature current and past students and will be a worthy celebration. Fifty years in a specialty area is an amazing outcome and the first in Western Australian public Education. We will celebrate it appropriately alongside the 60-year anniversary of Churchlands SHS since it first opened its doors in 1962.

Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful break from the schooling support load and, like you, I look forward to a sense of normality returning in the very near future and hopefully this starts at the beginning of term two.

Neil Hunt, Principal CSHS



Noticeboard

CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ADMINISTRATION

There have been some changes to our admin team in Music. We will now be job-sharing the Music Secretary Role, so please note our new email address is

Music.admin@churchlands.wa.edu.au

CSHS MUSIC PARENTS ON FACEBOOK!



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

www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/

CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ON YOUTUBE!



The School of Music has its own YouTube channel! Go to youtube.com and search for "Churchlands SHS School of Music". It's a perfect way to share some of your child's musical achievements with friends and family.

JOIN THE MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

Being part of the committee supporting the CSHS School of Music is a great way to connect with other music parents and be more involved with your child's music school journey.

Join us at the next MPC meeting on Monday 2 May at 7.30pm in the Choral Studio, or contact

mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

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

Please email hi-res photos to: mstack23@gmail.com

REMINDER TO PARENTS

CSHS is only able to provide supervision for 20 minutes after the conclusion of a rehearsal or concert. Ensure you have arranged for your child to be collected 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 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 instruments.

INSTRUMENTS 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 playable or easily serviced instruments off to the Music Office marked:

"Attention Mr Robinson: Donation!"

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*TDCs apply