

# MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 2025

## Chorale Lagoon



Photo: Naki Kursunlu

### IN THIS ISSUE

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Coordinator's Cadenza .....    | 2  |
| From the Director's Desk ..... | 3  |
| Senior Concert.....            | 4  |
| Intermediate Concert.....      | 5  |
| Junior Concert.....            | 6  |
| Chamber Ensembles.....         | 7  |
| ANZAC Day 2025.....            | 8  |
| Battling Bands.....            | 9  |
| Student Highlights.....        | 10 |
| Noticeboard.....               | 12 |



**CHURCHLANDS**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# Coordinator's Cadenza

Vivienne Travlos, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



The team is growing solidly 😊 Thank you to the stalwart Tomoko, Tracey, Yana, Matt and Alina, who come what may, keep the kiosk stocked, monies counted, Music Notes collated, helpers trained up and enjoying the experience of volunteering in our Music Parent Committee (MPC).

Thank you for the many hours spent by Elaine, Eileen, Ichina and Joe creating and supporting new busking opportunities this term. The concert teams on stage, front of house and kiosk somehow found the hours and hands on deck to support the smooth running of our Term 2 concerts. All efforts sincerely appreciated.

The goal of the MPC is to enhance the educational experiences of CSHS music students through three main undertakings:

- Providing services to support School of Music events and staff
- Fostering connections among parents and carers to build a rewarding and supportive community
- Raising funds to provide resources to the School of Music.

The Music Tour 2026 team is taking good shape. Subcommittees in communications, fundraising, secretarial, busking and Quiz Night (pencil-in Saturday 2nd May 2026) are settling in to various tasks ahead of departure 25th June 2026. Please do reach out if you would like to contribute to committee tasks. Do keep an eye out for a variety of fundraising events and activities in the months ahead.

Term 3 is the busiest term on the MPC calendar, with two ABODA festivals spanning four days each as well as our three school concerts. These events certainly solidify relationships and peer support amongst our parent team.

Please sign up to help at ABODA kiosk and sausage sizzle – our most lucrative fundraiser of the year:

- Senior Bands Thurs 7th – Sun 10th August
- Junior Bands Thurs 11th – Sun 14th Sept.

The music teachers have a wish-list of rare and special instruments which we’re hoping to purchase with funds raised. Sign ups can be found in each Friday Bulletin and via the Churchlands SHS Music Parents Facebook page.

Our next meeting to fine-tune all things ABODA and Term 3 concerts is at 7pm on Monday 28th July in the Choral Studio – all are very welcomed!

Grateful for all new and old hands on deck!

## Save the Dates! Term Three 2025

|                               |   |                           |  |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| Tue 22 July                   | Students return to school                                   | Mon 25 August             | MPC Meeting 7pm in Choral Studio             |
| Mon 28 July                   | Music Parents’ Committee (MPC) Meeting 7pm in Choral Studio | Fri 29 August             | Senior Concert 7pm Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall |
| Sun 3 August                  | Jazz Festival   | Wed 3 Sept                | POGS Concert                                 |
| Thu 7 August - Sun 10 August  | Senior Band and Orchestra Festival                          | Thu 4 Sept                | Intermediate Concert                         |
| Tue 12 August                 | Year 12 ATAR Recital Night Taryn Fiebig Concert Hall        | Fri 5 Sept                | Junior Concert                               |
| Sat 16 August - Sun 17 August | Classical Guitar Festival                                   | Thu 11 Sept - Sun 14 Sept | Junior Band and Orchestra Festival           |
|                               |   | Fri 26 Sept               | End of Term Three                            |

# From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



I begin by thanking our wonderful Music Parents for the tremendous support you’ve given our program this semester. Your encouragement—getting your children to practise, arrive punctually to rehearsals and concerts, and present themselves so well—is a cornerstone of our program’s success.

Term 2 is always busy. It began with the ANZAC Sunset Service, parade, and numerous dawn services, all of which featured student performers. Our regular concerts were of an excellent standard and well attended. If you haven’t yet accessed the concert photo archive, please follow the link on the back of this newsletter. The concert videos are available on our YouTube Channel. Unfortunately, the Senior Concert was not recorded. Other significant musical highlights this term included:

- The Year 11/12 Recitals – with over 50 outstanding performers
- The Chamber Music Concert – again, remarkable young musicians
- The Opus Concert – a combined schools’ percussion ensemble featuring many of our senior percussionists
- Our Chamber ensembles were in high demand, performing at several community events.

At the inaugural Jazz Club WA Battle of the Bands, Churchlands ensembles placed 1st and 3rd. Meanwhile, our jazz specialists Claire Chesney and André Bourgault du Coudray are currently attending classes and workshops in New York, helping ensure our jazz tuition reflects global best practice.

Eight of our jazz students also performed as soloists in the SIMmering Big Band Student Showcase—their confidence and musicianship were truly impressive.

Finally, a warm welcome to Jeremy Duhig, who joins the Classroom Music team. Jessica van de Ploeg is taking over from me while I move to a different role for the rest of the year.

## Indian Pacific – James Ledger

The Symphony Orchestra had the privilege of performing Indian Pacific by local composer James Ledger at the Senior concert earlier this term. Mr Ledger generously rehearsed with the orchestra over several weeks and conducted the piece on the night, offering students the rare experience of being led by the composer himself. His time, patience, and expertise made it a truly rewarding experience. James is also a dad to one of the Symphony Orchestra members, principal double bassist Mardi, so this was an extra special moment for them both.

James is Chair of Composition at UWA’s Conservatorium of Music and a renowned composer with works spanning solo, chamber, and orchestral music. He’s collaborated with leading ensembles, won APRA Art Music Awards, and released two ARIA-winning albums with Paul Kelly. His latest work, The Light Fantastic, was commissioned by WASO.

Indian Pacific, composed in 1996, was James’ first orchestral piece, inspired by the train crossing Australia. It features a persistent chugging rhythm and unique percussion, including a piece of railway track played with metal beaters.

The students rose to the challenge of this complex work, made even more special by having the composer himself guide and conduct them.





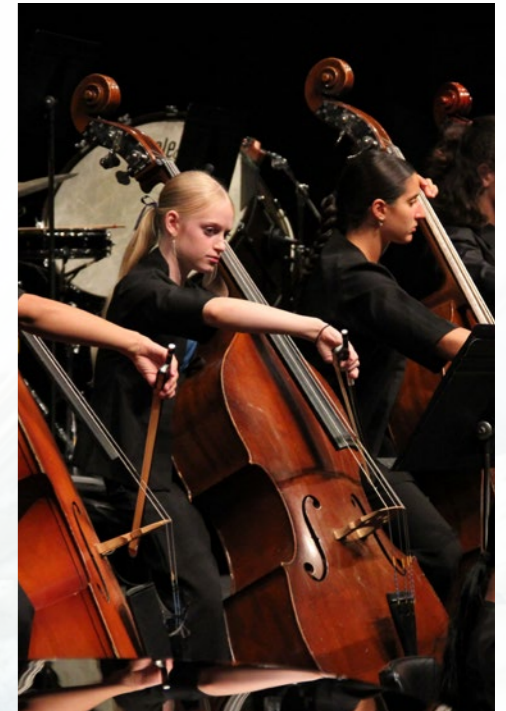
## Senior Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)   
Photos: Naki Kursunlu and Matt Stack




## Intermediate Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)   
Photos: Naki Kursunlu




# Junior Concert

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)   
Photos: Naki Kursunlu



# Chamber Ensembles

[MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)   
Photos: Matt Stack






# ANZAC Day 2025

MORE PHOTOS HERE   
 Photos: Naki Kursunlu



# Battling Bands

MORE PHOTOS HERE   
 Photos: Matt Stack

## CSHS Battle of the Bands



The Outlaws (winners of \$500 prize)



The Great Emu War



The Cupcakes



Radioactive Pizza

## Battle of the Bands – Traditional Jazz

The Jazz Club WA invited Perth schools to join a Battle of the Bands for traditional jazz groups, aiming to inspire young musicians and celebrate the roots of jazz. Traditional jazz, also known as Dixieland or New Orleans Jazz, features collective improvisation and classic instruments like banjo, tuba, and clarinet, made famous by legends like Louis Armstrong.

Mr Bourgault formed a Year 10 group, while student Patrick Kew created his own band. Both Churchlands groups passed auditions and performed at the Jazz Club WA. The audience danced all night, and students were deeply moved by the experience, especially sharing the floor with the crowd during the house band’s set.

Congratulations to Patrick’s Peanuts and The Borg Collective, who placed 1st and 3rd respectively. It was a proud moment that connected students with Perth’s jazz community and deepened their appreciation for jazz history.

**Patrick’s Peanuts:** Justin Wang, Harrison Parker, Patrick Kew, Jerry Tsao, Owen Shaw, Jordan Carly

**The Borg Collective:** Cade Flemming, Indiah Reidy, Rachel Owi, Noah Horan, Aaron Pelc, Jacob Upton



# Student Highlights

## Strike a Chord

The Mikajlo Trio - Putu, Jaslyn and Kyla from Churchlands Senior High School are a piano trio (violin, cello & piano) who are a group of friends who met last year in the school music program.

In 2025 they decided to try out for a place in Strike-A-Chord, a national chamber music competition for school students organised by Musica Viva Australia, in which 12 groups will be selected to play live at the National Final at the Melbourne Recital Centre. As part of this process Musica Viva offered candidates a free coaching session to help prepare their performance.

Last month the trio had an hour session working with Musica Viva's recommended coach Semra Lee-Smith. They gained a lot of confidence in working on dynamics and expressions on their piece, and we are in no doubt that it improved their performance. Semra had a very encouraging way of making them realize and understand the intentions of their music.

We wish Putu, Jaslyn and Kyla every success in their Musica Viva Strike-A-Chord entry. Regardless of the outcome, we are proud of their achievements to raise their standards and express their music so cohesively as a team!



## Kids in the community

On Friday 20th June a string quartet comprising of Sara, Shaun, Ari, Diana performed at Frasers in Kings Park for the Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) Annual Excellence Awards. It's an event that highlights the incredible people who make a lasting difference in the lives of children, young people, and families.



## Smoke on the Snow

In September 2024, Amy Skellern's original composition *Smoke on the Snow* premiered at Callaway Auditorium as part of the University of Western Australia's annual Ransom Prize competition. Composed for strings, percussion, and saxophones, the piece responded to the theme of *Noir*.

*Smoke on the Snow* unfolds as a three-part murder mystery. The opening section, *A Question Emerges*, begins with the discovery of a body in the snow by a lone detective. In *A Whisper of Truth*, clues are pieced together, gradually revealing the identity of the killer. The final section, *Betrayal*, delivers an emotional climax as the detective realises the murderer is someone he once loved.

Amy was honoured to receive both the People's Choice Award and the 2024 Dorothy Ellen Ransom Prize for Most Outstanding Musical Composition.

[Click here to listen to an audio recording of \*Smoke on the Snow\*](#)



## Primary School Outreach

At the beginning of 2025, we created a Primary School Outreach Program to reach out to primary schools beyond the catchment area of Churchlands SHS. This was aimed at encouraging young musicians to chase their ambitions in music by auditioning in our GATE music program!

On Friday 6 June, 30 of our wonderful Year 12 musos ventured out to 6 primary schools across Perth, where they gave a presentation and performance, showcasing their musical talent. For some, this was a unique opportunity to return to their former primary school and give back to their community after coming so far in the Churchlands GATE program.

A big thank you to Mrs. Chesney for her support and guidance throughout this journey. Her help made everything run so smoothly, and ensured the experience was enjoyable for everyone. We truly appreciate her dedication!



## Busking

Fundraising for the Music Tour to Europe in 2026 builds up steam with busking at Scarborough Beach and Westfield Innaloo. Well done to the MPC coordinators, parents and students giving it a go!

# Noticeboard



## 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/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CSHSmusicparents/)

## CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ON YOUTUBE!



Use this QR Code or search for the "Churchlands SHS School of Music" YouTube channel to rewatch and share all of the main concerts and fabulous extras.



## JOIN THE MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

All music parents are welcome and encouraged to join in and help the committee support the CSHS School of Music. It's a great way to connect with other music parents and get involved with your child's music school journey.

Please come to the Term 3 MPC meetings on Monday 28 July (week 2) and Monday 25 August (week 6) at 7pm in the Choral Studio. Look out for updates in the weekly Music Bulletins emailed on Fridays.

## CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHY

We ask that you do not take photos or videos during the school concerts. Our dedicated volunteer photographers will take high quality images throughout the performances, to be published in the Music Notes newsletter. All photos are available to download at this QR Code, or look for these icons: [MORE PHOTOS HERE](#)



## YOUR MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes is a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love to feature your contributions of student stories and photos.

Please email hi-res photos to: [mstack23@gmail.com](mailto:mstack23@gmail.com)



## CHURCHLANDS MUSIC PARENTS COMMITTEE

MEMBER # C11493921



Please join in with MPC fundraising by quoting our member number when you take your eligible empties to a CFC recycling depot!



## Please support our Churchlands Music Parents Committee Entertainment Book Fundraiser

WE ARE FUNDRAISING WITH **entertainment**

## Discover Value and Share Meaningful Experiences in 2025

Unlock up to \$20,000 in value instantly across Australia, New Zealand and Bali with The Entertainment Membership.

Single City Membership  
**ONLY \$70**

Multi City Membership  
**ONLY \$120**

We get 20%  
of your Membership



Click here or scan QR code to find out more!