

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 2023

Christmas Capers



Photo: Naki Kurunsulu

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**CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Coordinator's Cadenza

Tracey Gralton, Music Parents Committee Coordinator



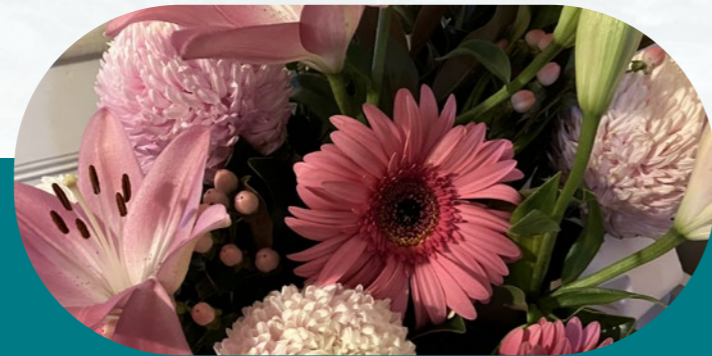
This is my last contribution as chair of the Music Parents Committee, which has been a big part of my life for many years. I have found it incredibly enjoyable to participate in the life of the School of Music in different ways over the years - it's a brilliant program and it is not only the excellent teachers and the students themselves, who mature into very special young people, it is also because there is a lively community of interested parents. Some help out remotely, others come onto campus, some have specialized skills and others generously offer time and effort.

I have made wonderful friends and I am so grateful for the current team of parents who have been both efficient and fun. The roles are numerous and the teams are strong - Music Notes editor, Facebook page moderator, kiosk supervisors and helpers, front of house and stage crew, bar team, tour committee and chaperones, external events team, photographers, bakers, stock purchasers, treasurer and secretary, are just some of the things we do!

All of this really matters. For me it's not just about Churchlands. It's that the experiences offered by the music program, in conjunction with excellent education across the school, are exactly what I think is important. I am very committed to high quality public education and believe it is the critical factor for a civilised society. The education our music students receive is the kind of thing I think should be available for all students, in different settings and flavours of course. Rich, challenging, collaborative, fun, warm, and not pretentious. Kids with a range of talents and abilities and different passions being extended and supported to do wonderful things. I loved it myself when I was a Churchlands muso and it has been a joy to experience it all again as a parent; and a privilege to support and advocate for such a great program. Long may it survive and flourish.

One of the wonderful things about the Churchlands music program is that relationships and connections endure - witness our wonderful alumni performers at the 50th concert last year.

I will stay in touch - apparently I have an open invitation to Churchlands concerts!



Tracey has most enjoyed witnessing the evolving culture of the School of Music and the impressive depth of the program. She has formed long friendships with generations of music teachers and Music Parents Committee members.

Tracey's professional work is in school curriculum and learning metrics, complementing her volunteering roles, as a tireless advocate for the value of public education. She will continue in her roles with the CSHS Board of the Foundation and the Alumni Association.

Tracey will be greatly missed in the MPC, but she has been instrumental in cultivating a strong cohort of music parents to carry on.

Thank you Tracey, you are amazing!



From the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music



This year, we experienced the excitement of an International Music Tour, bade farewell to Tracey Gralton, the music parent who predates all CSHS Music teachers, acknowledged Anne Hanrahan's contributions at Churchlands over 17 years as she retires from teaching, and mourned the passing of Paul Sealey, a member of the music family who joined the crew in 2005. It was a full and, at times, emotional year.

We warmly welcome back Jane Alderson, co-conductor of the Symphony Orchestra and the choir, as she brings her formidable teaching skills and knowledge to bear in the classroom. Jane taught at Churchlands in 2017 and rejoins us in 2024, having relinquished her position as Head of Music at Penhros College to do so. Jane is also an alumna of our program and has had two of her children pass through our program as GATE Music students.

It is my final year as a music parent, as my twins, Robert and Evan, graduate this year. I extend a special thanks to the class of 2023 for being the best group of young people I could have wished for my boys to share their high school journey with. You have given them and me memories for a lifetime.

Thanks to all who kept the music alive in 2023, especially the music parents and MPC stalwarts. And finally, our very best seasonal wishes to our music families - for you, may the music never stop.

Save the Dates! - Term One 2024

Wed 31 January	Students return to school	Fri 15 March	Twilight Jazz 6pm
Mon 5 February	MPC Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio	Fri 22 March	Year 12 School Ball
25-27 February	Jazz Camp	Sat 23 March	ATAR Music Performance Day
Mon 11 March	MPC Meeting 7:30pm in Choral Studio	Wed 27 March	Senior Concert 7pm
		Thu 28 March	End of Term 1

Farewell to Tracey

Tracey Gralton, having been truly part of the woodwork of the CSHS School of Music, will conclude as MPC Coordinator.

She started as a CSHS music student in 1976, playing bass clarinet. The specialist music program was still in its early years and a far cry from the luxurious facilities we enjoy today.

She joined the first ever Music Tour in 1978, travelling to Queensland and Canberra, before graduating in 1980

Together with husband and fellow CSHS Alumnus Steve Fenner (1976) they corralled an impressive total of 11 children through the music program between 1996 and 2023. Including the parents, the family ensemble comprised of 3 violins, 2 violas, 2 cellos, double bass, oboe, bass clarinet, trumpet, french horn and percussion!





Paul Richard Sealey
 1963-2023
Musician, Teacher, Friend

Farewell to Anne Hanrahan

Article: Glenn Robinson



As we bid you farewell, Anne, we celebrate not only a music teacher but a luminary, a conductor, a collaborative learning guru, and a queen in your own right. Your legacy will resonate through the corridors of CSHS, reminding us that the pursuit of passion and the dedication to nurturing the talents of others can create an impact that transcends time.

On behalf of the entire CSHS community, thank you Anne for your unwavering commitment, and the beautiful melodies you have brought into our lives. May your retirement be as rich and rewarding as the music you have gifted us with over the years, and may your future endeavours be filled with joy and harmony.

In 2007, Anne Hanrahan arrived at CSHS after teaching at John XXIII, bringing with her a passion for music that has resonated through our classrooms ever since. Anne is a dedicated classroom teacher who also created and led the chamber orchestra; in her time here, she has also directed the junior and senior string orchestras, and both directed and accompanied choirs, including the Galahs, Matildas and Chamber Maids. Her commitment to nurturing young musical talent has left an indelible mark on the students who had the privilege of learning under her guidance.

But music isn't Anne's only tune - beneath the maestro's baton lies a seasoned lawyer and a woman of diverse talents. Noted composer Roger Smalley even dedicated a composition for two pianos to her.

As the founding director of the Chamber Orchestra, Anne has instilled in her students the essence of ensemble playing - discipline, collaboration, and, above all, the joy of making music together. She has cultivated a sense of community through her dedication, where students learn about music and forge lifelong connections.

Beyond the notes on the staff, Anne is an integral part of the wider school educational landscape. Her collaboration with Dr Kym Tan in the CMS courses and her role as a CAT since 2016 exemplifies her commitment to the holistic development of our students. Anne's intellect, willingness to engage deeply, and her invaluable contributions have left an indelible mark on the success of whole school educational initiatives.





Year 12 Presentations

Photos: Naki Kursunlu and Matt Stack

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2023

Milios Family Awards Moss Martin-Hiller
Shreeya Naroth

Music Alumni Awards:
Symphony Orchestra 1 Ryan Sutton

Wind Orchestra 1 Robert Robinson

Birdland Jazz Orchestra Brook Craig

Paul McGeorge Memorial Prize Finlay Labuschagne

Top Instrumental Student Finlay Labuschagne

Music Parents' Committee Award for Dux of ATAR Music Harry Hopwood

Dux of Certificate 3 Music Lucy Coates

Taryn Fiebig Choral Awards: Tegan Waters
Lucy Coates
Marcel Howell
Finlay Labuschagne

The evening began with inspirational solos from the Top-5 instrumental students Finlay Labuschagne, Shreeya Naroth, Harry Hopwood, Brook Craig and Tristan Lee.

Seeing the graduating Year 12s alongside their Year 7 photos is a poignant reminder of how far they've come in the Churchlands SHS School of Music journey.

After the award presentations, the graduating class joined together for an emotional final choral farewell.





Chamber Ensembles

Photos: Matt Stack



Christmas Concert

Photos: Naki Kurunslu



Remembrance Day 2023



German Band 2023



Windjammers

During Week 7 of Term 4, ten Year 8 and 9 students got up bright and early went to Woodlands Primary School to mentor some excited young musicians. The primary school musicians belong to an ensemble called Windjammers, which is a concert band made up of Year 5 and 6 students from ten primary schools in Churchlands SHS catchment area.

The morning started with a combined rehearsal, and finished with the Churchlands students talking about and demonstrating their instruments to the attentive primary school students. This was such a valuable experience for both groups of students. The high school students were all wonderful representatives of the Churchlands School of Music, and encouraged the Year 5s to apply for the GATE Music Program. The confidence the Windjammers gained from having our high school students mentor them will have a lasting impact on these students.



Principal's Postlude

As we move into the last days of the 2023 Academic term, it is once again worth reflecting on the outstanding School of Music at Churchlands SHS. Not only did we lead the way in the full range of festival performances during term 3, but Churchlands music students were the first in Western Australia to undertake an international excursion since the COVID pandemic struck early in 2020.

Our music teachers continue to develop many of Western Australia's finest future musicians and our Year 12 data maintains our "best in the state" outcomes. However as a school that holds a cultural responsibility to WA, we have a fight on our hands to maintain such standards.

It is our challenge now, and in the future to attract those musically gifted students to Churchlands in the face of the multiple opportunities students

now have in Academic GATE programs which surround our school. This is going to take system and political persuasion otherwise the outstanding reputation Churchlands music has both nationally and internationally will become harder to maintain. This is the challenge the school and music parents now face.

In closing I hope that all families have a merry Christmas and look forward to a wonderful New Year.

Neil Hunt
Principal CSHS



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/

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.



MUSIC PARENTS

Do we have your preferred email address? Help us keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings!

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

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 along to the Term 1 MPC meetings on Monday 5 February (week 2) and 11 March (week 7) 7.30pm in the Choral Studio. Sign up for updates at mpc@churchlandspc.com.au

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!"

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

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER



Support Churchlands SHS School of Music while getting big discounts and great ideas for fun times with friends and family.

Buy before midday AEDT, Wednesday 17th January 2024 you will receive a **Bonus eGift Card** valued at up to \$40.

entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/83m352
or
cshs.entertainmentbook@gmail.com

CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHY

To avoid disturbing other concertgoers 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. Selected images will be published in the Music Notes newsletter, and all of the images are available to download at this QR Code link.



Help us reach our fundraising goal with Entertainment.

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Plus, we'll receive a 20% donation from your purchase.

Support us now

*Applies to 12 and 24 month Memberships.

