

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL **MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE** QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER **TE**

TERM 1 2017

Richard Gill inspires...

Richard Gill rehearsing with Symphony Orchestra - Photo: Fiona Birt

Convenor's Cadenza	2
From the Director's Desk	
2017 AGM	
WACO	
Spanning the Ages Concert	.6-7
Richard Gill Impressions	
Year 12 Ball	9
2016 Christmas Concert	11
Principal's Postlude	12



Convenor's Cadenza

Annie Halse Smith, MPC Convenor



elcome to our first edition of MusicNotes for 2017! Welcome to all of you, especially our new families! Sincere thanks to Emilee Hudswell for her incredible design of MusicNotes in 2016. The countless hours Emilee spent creating a wonderful publication are immensely appreciated. This year Fiona Birt has taken on the role as designer as well as editor; thank you Fiona!

"Many hands make light work" is an adage proven time and time again, and this is no exception within the CSHS music community! Churchlands music parents (that is, each one of you) are a committed bunch who value quality music education and their children's participation in it! Thank you, each one of you who has filled out a helper form, who has put their name down on a roster, or who bakes, donates drinks, waves a parking baton, rearranges the stage set, or organises a specific event. No matter how big or small your contribution, it is gratefully welcome... AND IT COUNTS!

We have a fantastic Music Parents Committee (MPC) comprising many returning and long-standing members and several new! I feel privileged to work alongside such talented and genuine people. The commitment shown by this dedicated group of parents continually astounds me. The hours put into ensuring the School of Music is supported practically, as well as financially, is truly something to marvel at! I thank each of you warmly.

We are always grateful to Principal, Neil Hunt and Director of Music, Glenn Robinson for the unwavering support they give the MPC.

The invitation is always open to you to attend any of our meetings through the year. It is a busy meeting where we handle many matters, but there is always time to meet and support each other. You are welcome anytime.

Please enjoy this edition of MusicNotes; it is a celebration of our music community and our achievements.

Happy reading!

Music Parents' Committee 2017

EXECUTIVE

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COMMUNITY & FUNDRASING EVENTS

Meet the Instrumental Teacher Night Catering Coordinator: Vanessa Chappell vchappell@bigpond.com Bunnings Innaloo Sausage Sizzle Coordinators: Brett Coombes coombesbj@gmail.com; David Jones david.jones@edgeunderwriting.com.au School Ensemble Workshops Sausage Sizzle Co-ordinator: Anita Greed (mentor) lagreed5@bigpond.net.au

NEXT MPC Meeting

When? 7:30pm Monday 15th May Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month (during term) Where? Alan Bishop Choral Studio, Lucca Street

ALL music parents are welcome!

Music Director Mr Glenn Robinson attends these meetings, armed with updates!

CONCERT HALL EVENTS

Events Hospitality Liaison: Cathy Gawen delattrecn@yahoo.fr Car Parking Coordinator: Kim Axford kjaxford@iinet.net.au Licensed Event Coordinator: TBA

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Chamber Music Series Catering Coordinator: Tracey Gralton tgralton@gmail.com

GENERAL MPC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kelly Bradley, Andrew Thorpe, David MacLean, Serly Soedianto, Donnie Speirs, Corinne McLeod, Monica Lee, Megan Shand, Emma Raine, Catherine Spoors, Marina Biddle, Anita Haar-Bellekom, Gill Kenny, Minaz Boghani, Janice Gardner, Bianca Glipo, Jodie Tajeddine, Alejandro Tearney

from the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music

Welcome to a very exciting 2017 in the Churchlands School of Music. Already we have had visits from two internationally acclaimed string quartets and Australia's foremost Music Educator **Richard Gill**. We have put on our biggest concert ever in regards to numbers on stage. We had a music "assembly" in the concert hall – practically every Churchlands music student was present, and able to listen to each other's ensembles. It was a really positive experience with the very youngest at the front to the crusty old Year 12's in the back rows.

The **ABODA Festivals** are reborn this year in a new and exciting format, with a complete change of focus in the way they are run and a real enhancement in the quality of the experience that our young performers will receive. This is the biggest change in over 40 years of school music festivals.

Monday March 27 was the date of the **Music Tour 2018** Proposal Meeting in the Churchlands Concert Hall and it was very well attended. The tour is planned to take in **Vienna**, **Budapest, Salzburg, Markneukirchen** and finally **Munich**, between June 21 and July 10 next year. The 2018 Music Tour Committee will be formed shortly. If you are the parent of a Year 10 or 11 music student, keep an eye out for tour news. Please make sure your child's passport is up to date as we will need the details very early in Term 2, 2017.

Since being given the keys to the Bio Box around 5 years ago, our Theatre Technician **James Bowman** (Jim) has provided outstanding service in the management of lights, vision, sound, filming, editing, painting, minor repairs, set design, and prop building to name a few of his diverse duties. Jim has also been tireless in his drive to improve the capacity and potential of the equipment and resources at our disposal, and is tireless in his efforts to always present Churchlands



in the best possible light. Jim is recognised for his patience and good humour, always seeking solutions and thinking a couple of steps ahead. There has been no end of tweaks, upgrades and incremental improvements to the presentation and look of our concerts, and James Bowman has been the brains behind them all. Now, sadly, Jim is leaving us, not to greener pastures, but to Sydney to be closer to family. On behalf of the music teachers and students I wish Jim and Wendy the



very best with their return to the East Coast and settling into their new home.

Another staff member departing at the end of this term is Jane Alderson who filled in while Anne Hanrahan was on Long Service Leave. Jane's "real" job is Principal Consultant Secondary Curriculum: Music, for the School Curriculum and Standards Authority and as such is the genuine Grand Fromage of WA School Music. While she has been moonlighting as a humble teacher at Churchlands we have had the benefit of her comprehensive understanding of the music curriculum, its future direction, and how to give our children the best musical experiences possible. Jane had an impressive career in the classroom before assuming the mantle of Principal Consultant, and she has enjoyed being immersed in the intense and enthusiastic music making at Churchlands. We thank her for her efforts whilst being with us and acknowledge that her delightful humour will be sorely missed.

Term 2 starts with **Anzac Day services** and ceremonies so we will have buglers, drummers, marching bands and singers out in force at various commemorative services and parades. During the vacation our students who are involved in the school production will continue rehearsing, and some of our staff will be involved in GATE music selection panels.

Thank you for your support this term.



Monday 24th April Tuesday 25th April Sunday 30th April

Tuesday 2nd May Thurs-Sat 4–6th May Monday 15th May

SAVE THE DATE

First day of Term 2 ANZAC Day parade, Perth CBD Bunnings Innaloo sausage sizzle fundraiser Meet the Instrumental Teachers School Production MPC meeting Thursday 18th MayIntermediate CFriday 19th MayJunior ConcertSunday 21st MayChamber MusiWednesday 14th JuneChamber MusiThurs-Fri 15–16th JuneSenior EnsemtMonday 19th JuneMPC meetingThurs-Sun 22–25th JuneSenior ABODA

Intermediate Concert Junior Concert Chamber Music Series 1 Chamber Music Series 2 Senior Ensembles Workshop MPC meeting Senior ABODA

2017 AGM

Another successful AGM was held on Monday 20 February in the CSHS staffroom. An enthusiastic group of parents attended from all year groups, including a healthy turnout of new parents welcoming the opportunity to meet the School of Music staff. Convenor Annie Halse Smith put everyone at ease and new friendships were formed.

Music Captain and Harpist Mina Mitric (Year 12) set the tone with a stunning musical entrée whilst the MPC provided refreshments. Deputy Principal Kate Grayson welcomed all attendees and outlined her philosophy of 'parents as partners'. Mr Glenn Robinson, Director of Music introduced the Music staff, thanked the MPC for their tremendous support and provided his insights to the year ahead.

All committee portfolio positions were declared open, nominations were recorded and a new Committee was elected. A few vacancies remain and any interested parents keen to be part of a friendly team of committed parents are encouraged to contact Annie, ahalsemith@gmail.com



Music Captain Mina Mitric plays harp whilst Music Parents mingle. Photos: Fiona Birt



🏅 Linda Oh in 'Jazz Times'; **America's Jazz** Magazine

Linda graduated from CSHS in 2001 playing Bassoon. She then went on to study Bass at WAAPA in the Jazz Department. Look at her now!

Photo: Linda Oh

CHURCHLANDS STUDENT APPLIES FOR WASO COMPOSITION PROJECT

North McLevie recently applied for the 2017 Composition Project as part of WASO's Young & Emerging Artists Program. According to Fiona Taylor (Education Coordinator for WASO),

"....this year saw an incredible pool of applicants, with over 30 from across Australia, including Ph.D candidates. While unfortunately North was unsuccessful...

North's application was of a very high standard".

As part of the program, North has been invited to the first rehearsal where the selected participants present their first work for a 14-piece chamber orchestra. This gives participants the opportunity to see the work rehearsed and workshopped by not only our Artistic Director James Ledger, but WASO musicians.

The Music staff would like to congratulate North on endeavouring to participate in such a musically satisfying opportunity for a

young composer. We hope that he sees this experience as part of the life long journey toward musical success and development. We are very proud, as he should be, of the positive feedback he has received from the WASO program staff.



IMSS AWARD WINNERS by Nawal Kurson - CSHS Marketing and Media Officer

GATE Music students from the Class of 2016, Robyn Blann and Nicholas Stapleton, were the recipients of a performance prize awarded by the State School Teachers' Union (SSTU) of WA at the Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS).

Paul Bridge, Senior Vice President of the SSTU of WA, was delighted to be able to hand out this prize to such talented young musicians; "this prize is a celebration of the excellence in public education, we are very proud to be part of the sponsorship for this award" he said.

We would also like to acknowledge their Instrumental Music teachers Tzvi Friedl and Nikki Turner who were present at the award ceremony and were incredibly proud of their students' achievements.

Robyn was very happy to receive this award and believes that "this is the perfect finale to my journey at Churchlands. I will always have fond memories of my time at school, it is such a great community".

Nicholas was equally as pleased and said he felt "relaxed and very prepared on my performance, and I am glad I choose pieces that I really enjoyed playing. I am going to miss my community at Churchlands and that sense of belonging.

Their parents were also present for the award ceremony and thanked the Music School at Churchlands. "We couldn't have wished for a better education, the love and care at Churchlands is outstanding and they obviously have put in a lot of effort", they said.

We wish them the best with their future endeavors.



Left to Right: Tzvi Friedl, Robyn Blann, Nicholas Stapleton & Nikki Turner

MusicNotes TERM 1 2017

A number of Churchlands SHS music students spent the summer holidays rehearsing with the Western Australia Charity Orchestra (WACO) 2017 for concerts which raised money for BeyondBlue.

Music Director **Sam Parry** is an ex-CSHS student who started WACO in 2008 and has raised funds for several charities. Every year, he gathers together a range of students, amateurs, teachers and professionals to form an orchestra and choir that rehearse over the summer holiday period and perform concerts in early February. in 2017 the varied program included Carnival Overture (Dvorak), Symphonic Dances from West Side Story (Bernstein), La Valse (Ravel), Four American Folk Hymns (Wilberg), and a medley from Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Menken). The performances are always fabulous, and this year was no exception, getting rave reviews from the audience.

Yasmin Omran (Yr 11), Mina Mitric (Yr 12), Kate Molloy (Yr 11) and Aaron Dungey (Yr 11) successfully auditioned and took part in WACO 2017, along with graduating students Laura Tan, Adrian Biemmi, Calen Link, Andrew Crothers, Merina Chen, Mark Warrener, Jeremy Mazurek and Lauren Joliffe.

Anyone wishing to audition for the 2018 concerts should keep an eye on the WACO website www. waco.org.au or 'like' their Facebook page.

by Ros Dungey - Music Parent





Donations needed!

The MPC is in urgent need of donations of bottled water and soft drinks for sale at upcoming events. Due to limited storage facilities and expiry dates, cash donations are preferred. This will enable our purchasers to buy stock only as needed and when it is on special.

DONATIONS can be transferred electronically to:

Account Name: CSHS P&C Ass Music Parents Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia BSB: 066 161 ACCT: 1013 3045 Reference: BEVERAGE

DID YOU KNOW...

The School of Music has its own YouTube channel? If you have not already subscribed, go to www.youtube. com and search for "Churchlands SHS School of Music"

There is an excellent range of performances including a number of items from the recent Richard Gill Concert. This is a perfect way to share some of your child's musical achievements with friends and family.

Checkit out! CSHS SCHOOL OF MUSIC ON YOUTUBE! YOUTUBE!

Congratulations to Churchlands Foundation 2017 Music Scholars

Year 7 students Bethany Jolly Fuentes and Benjamin Macdonald are this years' recipients of the Churchlands Senior High School Foundation Music Scholarship. Mr John Gillon, Board Member of the Churchlands Foundation, presented certificates at the Year 7 BBQ.

The Scholarship aims to assist with expenses related to musical studies and education.

Well done Bethany and Benjamin!





Spanning the Ages - Richard Gill conce

Photography: Neil Gomersall



Combined Symphony Orchestra and Senior Choirs





"I thought that Mr Gill was going to be one of those seasoned music purists that thought that the only way to teach music was to bore the students to death in rehearsal. Turns out, he was quite the opposite. He was funny and kept everyone entertained. He had nick-names for everyone he asked a question of. My favourite was Maxy-Moo for Max Beaton!" **Thomas (Year 7)**



"I really liked his passion for music and teaching it to students. Although he was only here for a short time, I took a lot away from it. I'm sure others did too as it was a really good experience." *Archie (Year 7)* "Mr Gill came to us with a lot of pre-knowledge about language. Personally I never thought about the language of the songs. I thought it was something we had to do. But he came to us knowing about the Latin that we had to sing and also about the pronunciation that helped improve our sound ten-fold. Without



him, we wouldn't have been able to get such great quality of sound as well as learning the story behind what we sang. Even songs we sing in English we did not quite get the story. And an interesting fact that we learnt from Mr Gill was that certain languages even have different points that we have to say. Like... English; we have a very expressive way of saying things. In other languages, like French, it is very constant. And in one of the songs we will be singing today we sing like we would be talking." James (Year 10)

RICHARD GILL Impressions

"Failure is a key function of learning. People don't go to school because they know everything. People don't go to a music class or take up an instrument because they will nail it on the first try and are already perfect. There is no room to grow if there is no room to fail.

In Music there are three types of repertoire you will encounter:

- Repertoire you understand as soon as you get it;
- Repertoire you understand after you get it; and
- Repertoire you will not understand for another ten plus years.

A piece can be all three types at once because when an ensemble plays it, everyone, each with a completely different background, will have a different understanding and interpretation of the music. As individuals and as a year group we have an opportunity to give our best shot at producing some incredible repertoire tonight and yet the end performance is only



a very small part of showcasing the work. The real showcase is the quality of musicians that our program produces and their ability to improve dramatically from when they start out in Year Seven to when they graduate as Year Twelves. If there is room to fail there is room to grow, because failure is a key function of learning. Thank you Mr Gill." **Natalie (Year 11)**

"He kind of seemed in a way what Albert Einstein would look like if he was a musician"



"Mr Gill helped us to further understand the importance of our individual interpretation and understanding of our pieces through our own eyes, rather than just telling us what the composer thought.

An example of this was when he had a few of us conduct a movement of one of our Chorale pieces. It showed us that different people conducting can make us interpret different things through our voices. Aside from this, something that really stood out for me was how he made every single person involved feel equal to one another." *Emma (Year 11)*

"The thing I liked the most was generally when something goes wrong the teacher will point it out. But Mr Gill, he did it differently. He made sure that you would figure out what was going on. He kind of seemed in a way what Albert Einstein would look like if he was a musician." *Jackson (Year 7)*

YEAR 12 BALL



It turns out our music students not only know how to play well, they also know how to party well. 'MUSOS HAVE A BALL'







Photos by HQ Photography, Stephane Carmichael, Raras Sukardi and Annabelle Gleeson

The School of Music is pleased to announce

that Richard Gill

is negotiating a return to Churchlands Senior High School from:

6-11 August 2018

Further details will be provided in due course.

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.



2016 Year 12 students studying music at WAAPA

The **Graduating Class of 2016** not only achieved marks that saw Music as the highest scoring subject in the school, but they also achieved marks that meant that Music was counted amongst their top four subjects contributing to their final WACE mark!

Many of the 2016 class have continued their music studies at university; seventeen in fact, with the majority studying at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), ECU. The Head of Classical Music at WAAPA, **Tim White**, gave Churchlands Music Staff very flattering feedback about our ex-music students, saying that "...the music students who have come to us from Churchlands this year are totally outstanding. They are perhaps the best year of music graduates ever from a single school in WA... They are an enormous credit to you and the Churchlands music department. Congrats and many thanks!"





"the music students who have come to us from Churchlands this year are totally outstanding"

Students studying at WAAPA (ECU)

BACHELOR OF MUSIC: Classical Performance Ariel Postmus – viola

Robyn Blann – violin Adrian Biemmi – violin Miranda Murray-Yong – cello (also performed in Perspectives Concert) Blake Houlahan – trumpet Jeremy Mazurek – trombone Calen Linke – horn Izaac Masters – piano

BACHELOR OF MUSIC: Jazz Performance Julius Rogers – drums Roy Shean – guitar

DIPLOMA OF MUSIC

Matt Grindrod – composition James Wayte – violin Rama Nicholson – piano/voice

Students studying Music at UWA

Mark Warrener – Horn Hayley Zehnder – Oboe Laura Tan – Cello (majors in Music + Conservation Biology) Merina Chen – Bassoon (minor in Music)

ANNIE ROBINSON COMPLETES SOMATIC VOICEWORK QUALIFICATION

As teachers, we never stop learning...

My job as voice teacher here at Churchlands has its challenges, not least of which is the requirement that I teach all contexts available for voice - **Music Theatre, Jazz, Western Art and Contemporary**. Each context has unique qualities which require different techniques and skills, and studying with Jeanie LoVetri has been a teaching and life-changing event for me. In January this year I attended an 8-day training course in **Somatic Voicework (TM) The LoVetri Method,** offered for the first time in Australia at the University of Southern Queensland in Toowoomba. Jeanie's teaching is based on the latest voice science as well as her extensive experience of singing and teaching in every style. Being a certified Somatic Voicework teacher means that I am able to offer the most up-to-date knowledge to my students and help them be the best they can be, no matter in what context they choose to perform.

by Annie Robinson - *IMSS Voice Teacher*



Festivals present an excellent opportunity for school orchestras, bands and choral groups to come together and play for an audience in outstanding venues such as Churchlands Concert Hall. Performers are adjudicated according to their level and provided with constructive feedback by a panel of adjudicators, followed by a workshop based around the constructive feedback.

CSHS will again be hosting the **ABODA** band and orchestra festivals. This year the format has changed, being split into **separate** Senior and Junior festivals. Performances run throughout each day, during which the Music Parents Committee provides food and refreshments to the constant flow of people. The MPC reaps a profit in excess of \$11,000 annually from the festivals -

all thanks to our wonderful volunteers!

Emails will be sent out closer to the dates seeking your help, with a volunteer link to doodle.com. The MPC needs lots of support, so please consider volunteering. Having many parents involved lightens the load for everyone, so even doing a single two-hour shift is of enormous help. *For more information, please check out the ABODA(WA) Facebook page or go to wa.aboda.org*

by Julie Carmichael - Music Parent

CALLING ALL PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Save Festival Dates

June 22 to 24 – Senior Band Festival June 25 – Senior Orchestra Festival Aug 31 to Sept 2 – Junior Band Festival September 3 – Junior Orchestra Festival



Christmas Concert 2016 Photos: Fiona Birt

Dooverlackies



Tapestry Strings



Perfect Pitch, directed by Annie Robinson

2017 CHURCHLANDS CHAMBER CONCERT SERIES by Karina Musto

We're excited to present some wonderful works, amazing artists and hosting you, your family and friends again this year. Once again, some of WASO's finest will be performing an exceptional programme:

Sunday 21 May 2017 – 3pm Matinee: Haydn: String Quartet Op. 76 No.4 "Sunrise", Webern: Langsamer Satz (slow movement) for string quartet, & Shostakovich: String Quartet No.8 C minor, Op. 110

Wednesday 14 June 2017– 7pm: Brahms: Sonata for violin and piano No.2 in A Major Op.100, Respighi: Adagio con variazioni for cello and piano, & Brahms: Piano Trio No.3 in C minor Op.101

Darlington Performers

Wednesday 26 July 2017 – 7pm: Traditional Irish Band: *The Robert Zielinski Trio*, Folk music from Ireland, Scotland and the Shetland Islands. Features music of the iconic Doherty family of fiddle troubadours from Co Donegal plus famous flute and fiddle music of Co Sligo.

Wednesday 30 August 2017 – 7pm: Dohnanyi: Serenade for String Trio in C major Op.10, Ledger: Three Escher Portraits, & Brahms: Piano Quartet No.3 in C minor Op.60

Wednesday 18 October 2017 – 7pm: Bozza: Rustiques for trumpet & piano, Dvorak: String Quintet no.2 in G major, Op. 77, & Saint Saens: Septet for piano, trumpet, string quartet and bass in E flat major, Op. 65

We're proud to have the 'Resident Series' chamber musicians from WASO perform for you in our Concert Hall – and introduce a few new faces, including WASO's Principal Trumpet, **Brent Grapes** and WASO Associate Principal Double Bass, **Joan Wright.** For something a little different midway through the series, the entertaining **Robert Zielinski Trio** will be performing toe-tapping Irish and Scottish jigs, highland flings and much more. To see when each of the artists will be on stage visit: www.trybooking.com.au/JXWF

<u>Tickets</u>: Standard ticket prices: \$12 students, \$29 concession, \$39 adults. Group and subscription discounts also apply. All tickets include light refreshments & the chance to meet the performers after each concert.

We look forward to seeing you there!

WHERE DOES MPC FUNDRAISING GO?

Thanks to the **excellent fundraising efforts of Music Parents** in 2016, the MPC ended the year with a cash balance of \$17,490. At its March meeting, MPC members voted to donate to the School of Music the funds to purchase the following items:

- 1x BOP DRUM KIT (replacing the oldest and most tired drum kit with this Jazz specific) (\$1,500)
- 1 X VALVE TROMBONE (\$2,500)
- 1 X TENOR SAXOPHONE (\$2,500)
- 1 X New professional quality GLOCKENSPIEL (approx. \$6,000)
- 2 X PANĠAŇINI DOUBLE BASS (\$5,390)
- TOTAL COST: \$17,390

The School of Music will present their 2017 wish list at the May MPC meeting.

MUSIC PARENTS Do I have your preferred email address? Help me keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings! ahalsesmith@gmail.com

PARENTS AND STUDENTS

MusicNoles: a newsletter for parents, by parents! We would love your help by contributing short articles / photos (high-resolution photos where possible). Please email to: fiona.birt@iinet.net.au

Principal's Postlude Mr Neil Hunt



Term One 2017 has seen the commencement of a huge cohort of young Year 7 musicians, who are now beginning to realise the commitment required to succeed in our GATE and General programs. It will not be many weeks before they will be involved in their first performance as Churchlands SHS "Musos".

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Music staff in their preparation and development of the class of 2016. Our Year 12 students provided the largest cohort of ATAR students since I have been at Churchlands and they achieved outstanding results with the cohort average rounding to 70%.

An initiative to attract Richard Gill in residence for the week

March 7 – 10 was a major undertaking. Although Richard took sick and cut short his visit, the outcomes for the music program were outstanding. Throughout Term One we also had many music students involved in our school production which will be showcased in the second week of Term Two. This is an event that the whole school looks forward to and which, I am sure, will rival many other outstanding productions.

The School of Music recently announced its **2018 Music Tour**. This event is always excitably looked forward to by students and is something that they take with them post school as an experience of a lifetime. Parents are possibly not as excited - depending on the depths of their pockets!!

All in all, 2017 promises to be another exciting music year, filled with promise, opportunities and performances which I have no doubt our students will make the most of.