

MusicNotes

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC PARENTS' COMMITTEE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 2018

Fabulous Finale: Farewell to our Year 12 Music Students



Aaron Dungey accompanied by Lisa Rowntree - Photo: Fiona Birt

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CSHS SPECIALIST
MUSIC PROGRAM
SINCE 1972



CHURCHLANDS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Convenor's Cadenza

Annie Halse Smith, MPC Convenor



Here we are at the conclusion of another year. I'm sure time really does fly. In that time, so much has been accomplished within the School of Music. It is always the way. **The music students and their teachers achieve so much** within the school year and the **Music Parents Committee** is happy to have been there to be able to support their magnificent efforts.

The MPC have again worked tirelessly to achieve our purpose of supporting the School of Music. **I extend a huge thanks** to the wonderful committee who have given up many hours to fundraise or support our music students. **Thank you also to each of you who have volunteered your time** to assist the MPC in their endeavours. We really couldn't do it without you all - thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Please continue to volunteer next year and beyond.

Together we can accomplish great things.

As the year draws to a close, so does my time as Convenor. I have immensely enjoyed working with Glenn and his staff and our Committee and all the volunteers. I personally would like to say **a big thank you to everyone for all of the support** I have received. I look forward to supporting and mentoring whoever takes on this rewarding role in 2019. Please contact me if this is something you might consider taking on.

I wish you all a very relaxing holiday and a very Merry Christmas!



"Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of persons working together" Paul Ryan

Music Parents' Committee 2018

EXECUTIVE

Convenor: **Annie Halse Smith** ahalsesmith@gmail.com

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Donnie Speirs weedgie@iinet.net.au

Chamber Music Series Catering Coordinator: **Tracey Gralton**

tgralton@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

FIRST GENERAL MEETING 2019

When? 7:30pm Monday 25 February 2019

Supper and wine served from 7:10pm

ALL music parents are welcome!

Hear Music Director Mr Glenn Robinson's vision for the year and Principal Mr Neil Hunt's welcome

Where? Green Room, opp. Concert Hall

MPC meetings are held on Monday of weeks 2 and 7 during term

FESTIVAL

Festivals Organising Team: **Penny McNiff** vontrapp@wxc.com.au;

Julie Pegrum pegrumej@gmail.com;

Naomi Chapman greenwayfamily05@iinet.net.au

Car Parking Coordinator: **Hendrik Overmeire (mentor)**

overmeire@iinet.net.au

BBQ Coordinator & Supervisor: **Amanda Vanderputten**

vander@amnet.net.au

COMMUNITY & FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Meet the Instrumental Teacher Night Catering Coordinator:

Vanessa Chappell vchappell@bigpond.com

Bunnings Innaloo Sausage Sizzle Coordinators: **Natasha Guest**

paulandtash2009@hotmail.com

School Ensemble Workshops Sausage Sizzle Co-ordinator:

Naomi Chapman greenwayfamily05@iinet.net.au

GENERAL MPC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marina Biddle, Kelly Bradley, Nandita Naroth, Jennifer van den Hoek

from the Director's Desk

Glenn Robinson, Director of Music

Term Four has always been a full one in the School of Music, with **Oktoberfest, Remembrance Day, Chamber Ensembles Concert, Music Graduation, School Graduation, the Christmas Concert**, as well as many smaller events where we provide background music at functions, or our students participate, like **Dr Meegan-Lowe's Cellorama** (78 cellists?) in our Concert Hall.

These events only happen with the support of your **children's music teachers**, who are generous with their time. I also would like to thank the **music team**, which includes the theatre technician and manager, the classroom teachers, ensemble directors, accompanists, clerical support, and of course, our vast team of instrumental and vocal teachers.

Many of us have seen the recent ABC documentary, **"Don't Stop The Music"** with its emphasis on the transformative potential of a well-structured music program. Most of our parents understand that potential and consequently support the demands we make of their children. That support doesn't need to be onerous and time consuming, and can be demonstrated in simple ways, like **encouraging regular practice**, providing music resources to your child when necessary (tuner, music stand, sheet music) and providing an appropriate place to practice. **Powerful support is being at your children's concerts**, which sadly is not as universal as you might think; I feel sad for the children who give their all in a performance knowing that there isn't anyone in the audience who is there just for them.

A lot of good discussion was generated by "Don't Stop The Music", and the quote below from the **interview by Russell Torrance of Dr Anita Collins**, reinforces the messages that we got from the late **Richard Gill**. This is one of my favourite quotes from that interview:

"They're going to get it wrong way more than they will get it right, and that is actually the power of the process. You have the power to persist and just keep going and going and going and you will get it."

And our job as a parent is just as important as the teachers at the school and the school leadership...

...particularly when it gets frustrating, and they go "I'm not having fun anymore, I want to give up", and I'm sure there are parents out there who have heard that...and we often say "Well, you're not having fun, it's meant to be fun, it's alright to give up." It totally makes sense, however I ask the question, "What message is that sending to our kids?" "When something gets hard it's okay to give it up?" I don't think that's the message we want to send. And I really encourage parents to say... "Great, fantastic, do you know how much your brain's growing right now? It's doing something really hard and its figuring how to get past it. Keep going at it."

And for kids who even one comment is the difference between giving up and keeping going, and the parent is the most important person to give that comment, that will be a turning point in not just their musical development, but in your relationship with your child."

https://youtu.be/Bg6W_plx1bc

"Music is worth teaching for its own sake. It is worth teaching because it is good. It is worth teaching because it is unique. It is worth teaching because it empowers children spectacularly."

Richard Gill TEDx Sydney 2011

To help our music parents, particularly our newer ones understand and reinforce good and time efficient practice and study techniques, we have invited **Michael Griffin** back to present talks to our Year 7 and 8 music students next year on March 6, and following that with a presentation aimed at music parents on March 7 from 6-7pm. Michael made a great impression last time he was with us and I hope as many parents as possible can hear him this time.

I would like to wish all of our music families, both incoming and outgoing, the very best for the Christmas and New Year. **Thank you for your support in 2018 and don't let the music stop.**



Save the Date!



Monday 4 February
Tuesday 5 February
Fri 22 - Sun 24 February
Monday 25 February
Monday 18 March
Sunday 7 April
Thursday 11th April
Friday 12th April
Thursday 25th April

First day of Term 1
Ensemble Rehearsals Commence
ABODA Conducting Clinic
MPC First General Meeting
MPC Meeting
Music ATAR Performance Rehearsal Day
Senior Concert
Last day of Term 1
ANZAC Day Service and Parade



WAYACHAMP 2018

by Jack Taylor - Year 9

This year's Western Australian Young Artists Chamber Music Program (WAYACHAMP) was once again a blast, with great mentors and fun ensemble and team work. I took part in this event along with a number of other Churchlands string players. The program was led and arranged by **Sophie Curtis**, who was also there as a cello mentor. In the WAYACHAMP, we got to perform in two small chamber groups as well as a whole string orchestra. **Shaun Lee-Chen** was a prominent string mentor and he also led one of the two orchestras. Under his direction, we were able to go above and beyond and perform some fun, fast **baroque music** - his specialty. This has been my second WAYACHAMP and won't be my last. I'd recommend this opportunity to anybody who wants some more exposure to and experience with chamber music, as well as heaps of fun.



Top: Jack Taylor and Zoe Hawksworth (year 9)
Below: Alice Hawksworth (Yr 8) - left



Chamber Orchestra led by Shaun Lee-Chen Photos: Fiona Birt

OKTOBERFEST

by Michael Biddle - Year 11

After having travelled to Germany earlier this year on an awesome **Music Tour**, we were honoured to perform for a local German Community at a **Family Oktoberfest Fun Day** to conclude a month of festivities. We arrived on a warm Sunday afternoon, dressed in traditional **Oktoberfest costume** and played our music to a joyous and supportive community. The atmosphere was magical, a true **German Beer Garden experience**. Almost like we were back in Germany again.



Bottom L-R: Michael Biddle, Joe Shore, Dillon Clegg,
Oliver Stark, Jeremy Alderson, Claire Newton, Shunsuke
Kogo, Lochlan Turner Photos: Marina Biddle



CHAMBER GROUPS CONCERT

Sunday 23rd November in the Paul Latham Auditorium was the perfect setting for our hard-working Year 7-10 musos to get together in their small chamber groups and perform for family and friends. Having given up numerous lunchtimes to practice, this was indeed a worthwhile finale. It was also a fabulous opportunity for the students to see their peers perform, which is not possible at the larger concerts.

Six or seven small groups, from **brass trios to string quintets**, showcased a variety of chamber arrangements to the delight of their proud parents and grandparents. Watching these small groups work so well together really highlights the talent of our fabulous kids. **Heartfelt thanks to the dedicated music teachers** who generously give up their spare time to provide these valuable opportunities.

by Fiona Birt - Music Parent



Photos: Fiona Birt





Concert 2018

Photos: Fiona Birt

Service with a Smile

Each year the MPC organises a handful of Year 11 Music Students and their parents to help serve supper to the graduating students and their families. It is a fun and rewarding evening providing an opportunity for the Year 11s to do something special for their departing Year 12 friends, as well as participate as an audience member while the top five students perform on their instruments. **A big MPC thank you** to all of the wonderful parents and Year 11s who helped make this wonderful event run smoothly and deliciously!!! It is these kinds of volunteering activities that help to build our thriving music community.

The MPC also provides the funds to purchase an **engraved medallion for every graduating Music Student**. It is an absolute pleasure to be able to do this and to help honour the commitment, dedication and hard work of these incredible students. This is only made possible by all of **the fantastic volunteers** who help the MPC in our fundraising efforts.

Thank you everyone and

**CONGRATULATIONS
to all graduating Year
12 Musos!**

by Annie Halse Smith
MPC Convenor

Year 6 Parents Info Night

by Fiona Birt - Music Parent

Wednesday 7th November saw CSHS welcome a keen bunch of **Parents** of our incoming 2019 Year 7 students. This **Information Night** is an annual event to welcome parents and provide an overview of the CSHS school system. Director of Music **Glenn Robinson** led the music session by outlining the music program for each year, the opportunities available to music students (including the renowned Music Tour for senior students), and setting out the expectations of the School.

MPC Convenor, **Annie Halse Smith** followed with a warm welcome and an introduction to the vibrant **Music Parents Committee (MPC)**. All music parents were encouraged to assist during the year with the many fundraising activities the MPC coordinate. Parents were reminded that all money raised directly benefits our children, and every little bit of help is highly appreciated. Parents can help by putting their name down on parking, kiosk, or front of house rosters! Volunteering is rewarding as well as a lot of fun, and is a great way to get to know other music parents.

Left: Annie Halse Smith. Below: New music parents



2018 Music Award Winners

Music Department Award: *Joe Shore*

Ex-Music Students' Award Symphony Orchestra 1: *Daniel Drieberg*

Ex-Music Students' Award Wind Orchestra 1: *Stella Sawyer*

Paul McGeorge Memorial Prize: *Aaron Dungey*

Top Instrumental Student: *Aaron Dungey*

Music Parents' Committee Award – ATAR Dux: *North McLevie*

Music Department Award – Cert III Dux: *Madison Mount*

Music Department Award – Cert II Dux: *Brendan Stewart-Richardson*

Music Department Choral Award Soprano: *Genevieve Arnold*

Music Department Choral Award Alto: *Jiyou Yang*

Music Department Choral Award Tenor: *Tom Toovey*

Music Department Choral Award Bass: *Henry Lawie*



Jiyou Yang



Alvin Lee



Jiyou Yang



Abigail Chong with Marinto Liegat



Jiyou Yang



Aaron Dungey



Daniel Drieberg



Tom Toovey



Rachel Clegg & North McLevie



2018 Year 12 Music Graduates - Photos: Fiona Birt

Year 12 Presentation Night

GONDWANA VOICES TOUR

On the last week of holidays and during the first week of school, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend the **Gondwana Voices Northern Queensland tour** in which we travelled from Rockhampton to Cairns. The **Gondwana National Choir program** is an auditioned national choir program in Sydney held over two weeks in January. This year I was offered a place in their leading treble choir, **Gondwana Voices**, and therefore was offered to attend this tour.

For the first five days of tour, we were based in Rockhampton or **Yeppoon** (a town on the coast not far from Rockhampton). I was billeted in Yeppoon and had the luxury of living next to the beach. For our first five days, we rehearsed and rehearsed and rehearsed in a private school in **Rockhampton**. We were given lots of beautiful music in languages ranging from Finnish to Hungarian. The process was made a lot easier by our fantastic conductor **Mark O'Leary**, who led Voices along with **Lyn Williams** in January. Once we had learnt all of our repertoire, we moved on and learnt more with the **Songfest Choir**, made up of local singers aged 6-12. We had the pleasure of joining with the **Gondwana Indigenous Choir** which was led by Lyn Williams, and learned their songs along with some dances. This definitely



pushed us out of our comfort zones! Once all our rehearsing was finished, we put on a concert in the **St Joseph's Cathedral** with the **Songfest Choir** and the indigenous choir; our first performance went fantastically!

After performing in Rockhampton, it was time to get on the road and start travelling. Our first stop along the way was **Mackay** which was a two hour bus trip from Rockhampton. Upon arriving Mackay, we immediately rehearsed with the **Mackay Songfest Choir** and put on a concert that afternoon! Our time in Mackay was short-lived, but it was one of my favourite places on tour. Next stop was **Townsville**, which a four hour bus ride made bearable with a quick stop in Bowen and a visit to the beach. During our time in Townsville, we climbed **Castle Hill** to see the view of **Magnetic Island** and the town, rehearsed with the Townsville Songfest Choir, put on a concert in the **Sacred Heart Cathedral** and spent a day at Magnetic Island where we spent most of our well-deserved break on the beach.

After bidding Townsville goodbye, we had a brief stop in **Innisfail** where we put on a concert in the Innisfail Shire Hall. The remaining time on tour was spent in **Cairns**, rehearsing with the **Indigenous Choir** and the **Cairns Songfest Choir** and going to the **Kuranda Skyrail National Park**. Our last performance was held in the **St Monica's Cathedral** with all the choirs, which was followed by an emotional night where we realised that our time on tour had come to an end.

This experience with **Gondwana Voices** was my first ever music tour and it was one of the best musical experiences I have had. I will treasure it forever. But my travels with Gondwana are not over yet; while I was on tour, both **Erica Jones** (another talented singer who attends Churchlands) and I received the incredible invitation to **tour with Gondwana to Berlin** next year to perform in the **Berlin Philharmonie Concert Hall** with the Berlin Radio Orchestra!

If there are any talented or motivated singers who are out there, I would **strongly recommend auditioning** for this amazing choir program in the future as you could tour around the world, meet amazing singers from all across the country, develop so much as a musician and have the absolute time of your life.

by Phoebe Tait - Year 10

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY FOR MUSIC STAFF!



A massive thank you to all the **Music Parents of 2018**. Your generous donations of **nearly \$1,500.00** have delighted the amazing CSHS School of Music staff with a Nespresso coffee machine, a \$500 dinner voucher for 300 Acres, photography sessions, wines, jams, oils, teas, biscuits, chocolates, cakes and even some well received "Gluten Free" savoury snacks. It is a fantastic way to show our thanks and appreciation of their commitment to our beautiful and talented children. Special thanks also to MPC Treasurer **Rachel Clegg** for the fantastic work she has done purchasing items and assembling the hampers so beautifully.

"Music touches us emotionally, where words alone can't."

Johnny Depp



REMEMBRANCE DAY



On the 11th of November, the Churchlands Senior High School Memorial Band and four of Churchland's vocalists – **Guy and Nicola Archibald, Erica Jones and Annika Wilson** – attended the beautiful Remembrance Day service at Kings Park marking the **100th Anniversary since the end of World War 1 (WW1)**. Here, we performed before, during and after the service and payed our respects to the fallen soldiers and their families.

The official service commenced at 11am, with speeches from **Kim Beazley** – Governor of WA – and many other important figures such as dignitaries, representatives from Ex-Service Organisations, Cadets and the RSLWA. When the laying of the wreaths commenced, we - the Churchlands vocalists – were privileged to be able to place a wreath at the foot of the Cenotaph, before wreath laying was opened to the general public.

The band played many classic songs from World War 2, such as **'It's A Long Way To Tipperary', 'Here You Lie' and 'Brown Slouch Hat'**, which had all the old-timers in the audience singing along. There were tears from current soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families, and many people approached the school band to thank them for their performance during the service. I remember one woman who approached the vocalists, and thanked us in tears for the service saying, **"It means so much to me to see the children getting involved with things so important."** One man even approached **Ms Walker** – the CSHS Marching Band conductor – asking for an autograph!

It was a wonderful day at Kings Park and a privilege to have performed at this prestigious occasion. **Thank you, Ms Walker, the Memorial Band, and everyone who contributed to the beautiful service** for making it such a special day for so many people.

by **Erica Jones** - Year 10

Photos: Michelle Porteous, Caron Walker and Alicia Robinson



Rohan Dean and Robert Robinson



Caron Walker conducting Memorial Band



Memorial Band

NOTICEBOARD



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 www.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.

Check it out!

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

<http://learning.e-lr.com.au>

Student login: *student.cshs.wa* Password: *cornet*

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!



MUSIC PARENTS

Do I have your preferred email address?

Help me keep you in the loop with events and other MPC happenings!
ahalsmith@gmail.com

PARENTS AND STUDENTS

MusicNotes: 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@inet.net.au

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.

Principal's Postlude

Mr Neil Hunt



As this year draws to a close, the school has a focus on 2019 when our **enrolment numbers will be around 2900**. Of these, there will be approximately 540 incoming Year 7 students, many of whom are budding musicians. **The music staff is characterised by stability** and their initial role will be in mentoring these students into

the culture of our music program. It is now anticipated that they will be the last of the "super groups" of enrolments into Year 7, as enrolments for the following year will be closer to 400.

Term 4 is a hive of activity, with staff and students engaged in a number of events including celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, which is acknowledged as **Remembrance Day**. Music students were also involved in the **Year 12 final Assembly**, the **Christmas concert**,

auditioning for roles in a range of ensembles and of course many have been involved in the audition and practice for **next year's musical - "Wicked"**.

Looking back on the year the highlight for our senior students was undoubtedly the **European music trip**. Salzburg was a highlight for many, as a number of these students formed part of the cast for "The Sound of Music" the previous year. Students were also engaged in their relevant **Concert Seasons** and achieved outstanding success in their **Festival performances**.

I wish all of our music students, friends and family a very **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**. My best wishes for the future go to those students who have now completed their secondary schooling, and I look forward to 2019 and the return of the remaining music students at Churchlands SHS.

