

CLASSIC NOTES

www.cso.asn.au

Issue 3

Summer 2015

An exciting musical year is upon us

There is no rest for this vibrant community of musicians! During the welcomed summer holiday break, there was plenty of planning

taking place for concerts, repertoire, and administrative infrastructure.

2015 will see our Association grow from three ensembles, to five! The first of the new groups, the *Twinkle Stars*, begin the rehearsal day at 3:15pm. A high-cuteness-factor is expected and children as young as the age of two are invited to join us for singing, dancing, rhythm and most of all, becoming string-playing Twinkle Stars!!

1st Twinkle Stars rehearsal for 2015



Our first Twinkle Stars rehearsal, from L-H: Mackenzie Thompson, Asher Thompson, Gabriella Bahbah, Heidi John, Patrick John, Miah Young

At 4:15pm on the rehearsal schedule we have some beautiful music selected for the *String Orchestra*. This will range from tradition style music and will particularly feature a number of pieces by Australian

composer, Keith Sharp. These pieces will form the repertoire for the *String Orchestra* performance calendar that begins with Hills Heartbeat Festival on Saturday 21st March.

For the CSO, winter-season concerts are forecast at the Kelmscott Anglican Church with their Pipe Organ, and the revival of concerts at the Armadale District Hall. Building on the Film and Musical Theatre repertoire of 2014, this year sees famous orchestral works such as those from Amadeus, Sleeping Beauty and The Mission.

At these concerts witness guest appearances from our fifth and newly formed *Salon Orchestra*. Starting as a String Quartet base, this orchestra is formed by advanced musicians and is the only ensemble requiring an audition as prerequisite. We look forward to giving special showcase performances in 2015!

Continued on page 2

IN THIS Issue

- 1 Welcome President's Report
- 2 Legend in her Lounge Room
- 3 Our Committee
- 4 Reflection on 2014
- 5 Upcoming Events

Classic Notes

2

www.cso.asn.au

...from page 1

With a performance schedule starting as early as 6th February at the Jull St. twilight markets, the *Fiddle Group* rehearsals began in January, ensuring great preparation for this special City of Armadale event!



Nick Pearson, Peter Massey & Daniel Skelton

We are constantly modernizing the CSO *website*. Remember it is a great point of reference when letting friends and family know about what you are doing and also handy for checking when performances will be on. Visit www.cso.asn.au

Membership to all ensembles

Remember, if you are a member of the Classic Sounds Orchestra Association, you can attend as many ensembles as you like! We greatly encourage families to share music together and a family yearly membership is just \$100!

Classic Sounds Orchestra Association
223 Railway Avenue
KELMSCOTT WA 6111
enquiries@cso.asn.au
9495 1986

Our Committee

The Executive committee of the Classic Sounds Orchestra Association Inc. is Rachel John (President), Ian Charlesworth (Secretary), Troy Stronach (Treasurer) and recently appointed is Leanne Crestani (Vice President). Many other roles have been so enthusiastically filled by Linda Bickley (Wardrobe), Deborah Skelton (Events Coordination), Frans Ponjee (Transport/Events



2015 committee

Standing: Troy Stronach, Jessica Skelton, Deborah Skelton, John Grant, Linda Bickley, Frans Ponjee
Seated: Ian Charlesworth, Rachel John, Leanne Crestani

Coordination), Jessica Skelton (Grants and Fund Raising), John Grant (Music Librarian), Rachael Thompson & Leanne Crestani (Social Media), Troy Stronach (Photography, Website & Newsletter design), and Rachel John (principal conductor). It is the result of teamwork and the knowledge that any member can be called upon to help when needed, that makes this a superb, vibrant musical community.

By finalizing the *first ever Business Plan* for CSO, our amazing committee has just completed extensive short and long-term goal setting, mission statement, and visions for the future.

Continued on page 3...

Classic Notes

3

www.cso.asn.au

From page 2

As an essential ingredient to the prosperity of this great organisation, this document lends to formality, positive spirit and exciting direction for the future of the Classic Sounds Orchestra

Association.

Remember, all members are welcome to attend committee meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 30th March, 6:30pm.

Legend in her Lounge Room

Player profile - meet the Grant Family



Meet the Grant family; a family that epitomizes the founding principle of the CSO Association... families sharing music. In this issue, we meet Colleen Grant and find out just what it is like to be the wife and mother to all these musicians!

Have opportunities arisen in your family as a result of everyone being given the gift of learning music? We don't have a lot of piped music it is all fresh and different every time. They can all sing

even if mum can't! All the kids have had lots of opportunities to perform at various locations and situations.

What does the wife and mum of all these musicians get to do on a Monday evening when her family heads off to orchestra? My own stuff (usually reading or sewing without interruption) in peace and quiet plus cooking dinner for hungry musicians.

Are there times when music turns your household upside down? Arguments on who gets the music room for practice, finding enough black clothing for all to perform in, and it can get very noisy.

Do you have any tips for mums and dads trying to encourage children to persevere with their music?

1. Don't push too hard; who wants to learn, you or your child?
2. Set a standard
3. Use bribes. If the girls haven't done their practice by a set time they lose their phones till they have done it, usually Monday to Friday only
4. Reward...reward...reward...

Reflection on 2014

2014 was a year of enormous success for the CSO Association. Building on from the years past, it was a year with a contemporary-music focus, as well as providing further inspiration to audiences with "Meet the Instruments" concerts.

Continued on page 4...



Classic Notes

4

www.cso.asn.au

From page 3

In its inaugural year, the collaboration with Pioneer Village School, Sacred Heart Primary, and Southern Hills Christian College, the Performing Arts Festival was deemed a huge success. This event was a two-night extravaganza with DC Productions providing sound and lighting at the outstanding Lumen Christi College venue.

In the impromptu conductor's spot at the SmokeFree WA Kelmscott Show, Sparky the Dragon stole the limelight and certainly had us all entertained with his cheeky conducting prowess!



Something that is really special about the Christmas tradition is the invitation to all members of all ensembles to join together in our Christmas carol season. December 2014 saw the CSO completely fill the stage of the Gosnells Anglican Church and play some really joyful festive season music.



Earlier in 2014, the *String Orchestra* enjoyed some low-key performances. The second half of the year

was well spent exploring more challenging music and generally building ensemble skills.

This orchestra is ever evolving. It is lovely to have seen a number of musicians join in the latter part of the year and be inspired to be part of our orchestra family!

The *Fiddle Group* is going from strength to strength. It is becoming quite a 'gigging' style group and is now doing circuits of Aged Care Homes during Saint Patrick's Day week, Big-Cuppa-For Cancer promotions in May, the July school holidays, and the Christmas season, as well as taking private bookings throughout the year. 2014 Christmas season was celebrated with residents singing along from our new songbooks and joining in the music with percussion instruments. It was very interactive and uplifting to bring joy to so many people.



Shortly before Christmas, on the day we had all booked off work or school, our gig was cancelled due to a gastro outbreak and a subsequent room lock-down that meant we would not have an audience! Well, this did not mean we had the day off! We instead got a busker's license and headed down to the Jull Street Mall to entertain local shoppers. This turned out to be a successful impromptu (hot!) day and has now paved the way for future invitations from the City of Armadale to perform at their community events.

Classic Notes

www.cso.asn.au

Upcoming Events

March

Tue 17th - 1:30pm

Dale Cottages - St Patrick's Day
Celebrations (FG)

Sat 14th - 1:00pm-4:00pm

String Orchestra Workshop

Thu 19th - 10:00am

Seaforth Gardens - St Patrick's Day
Celebrations (FG)

Sat 21st - 12:00pm

Hills Heartbeat Festival (SO)

Sat 21st - 1:30pm

Harrisdale Festival Grounds
Harmony Week (FG)

Sat 28th - 1:50pm

Dale Christian School
Fete (SO)

April

Thu 2nd - 1:30pm

Banksia Park Aged Care

Happy Easter Afternoon Tea (FG)

Sat 18th - 9:00am-4:00pm

CSO Workshop

Sun 19th - 11:00am

Gingin Historical Railway
Heritage Month (FG)

May

Sat 9th - 10:00am

Private Wedding (CESQ)

June

Sat 13th - Matinee 2:00pm, Evening 7pm

Kelmscott Anglican Church
Pipe Organ Concert with guest
soloist Liam Dekker (CSO)

Mon 15th - 10:30am

Amaroo Village (SO)

July

Mon 18th - Matinee 2:00pm, Evening 7:00pm

Armadale District Hall
Bringing back the Musical Magic (CSO)

September

Sat 19th - TBA

International Talk Like a Pirate Day (FG)

October

Fri 17th - TBA

SmokeFree WA Kelmscott Show (CSO)

Sat 18th - 11:00am

SmokeFree WA Kelmscott Show (FG)

December

Sat 3rd - 7:00pm

Pioneer Village School
Carols @ PVS (Combined groups)

Sat 19th - 7:00pm

Gosnells Anglican Church Service
Christmas Carol Service (Combined groups)

CESQ = Chamber Ensemble String Quartet

CSO = Classic Sounds Orchestra

SO = String Orchestra

FG = Fiddle Group

Keen to develop your musical skills?

Look no further than the Classic
Sounds Music Shop, School and
Service Department for friendly
professional advice.

