

RSCM WA Branch and COVID-19

The originally planned event this month on the 29th March has now been cancelled.

In line with comments from the Australian Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, we are cancelling events in the short term in an effort to help with his "social distancing" strategy. While I understand that the official position in Australia currently applies to gatherings of 500 or more, it's clear that the same "common sense" applies to all gatherings.

While we may well look back at these measures and decide we overreacted, I feel it's better to be more careful at this point.

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/chief-medical-officers-press-conference-about-covid-19-0>



Welcome to 2020

Your new committee is hard at work planning for a successful 2020. There is a list of dates for your diary below. Currently, our first event is scheduled for May, subject to decisions about public events and managing the spread of COVID-19.

I am honoured, and humbled to be taking over the position of chair of the branch. I feel like a bit of an imposter, as I'm not a church musician by training (although I am part of a family of woodwind players and singers), but I appreciate the encouragement from many within RSCM, and look forward to hearing your feedback, good and bad, on how we're doing.

It is an interesting time for church music in Australia, with what appears to be at least a small renaissance of more "traditional" forms of worship - there is certainly room within our churches for many types of music, but it often feels that many parishes are simply making use of what is available to them in terms of staff and musical talent. I hope we, as an organisation, can be a helper, or at least a catalyst for some ongoing development and growth in the music of our local churches.

Ken Taylor - Chair



Dates for your Diary

At time of printing, all events are subject to advisory on COVID-19

May 17th - 2:30pm

Gospel Workshop - St Barnabas, Leederville

May 23rd - 2:30pm

Parish Musicians Meetup - St Mary's Cathedral

June 7th

Choir Camp Fundraising Concert - St Michael's Mount Pleasant

July 7-12th - Choir Camp at Great Southern Grammar, Albany

Bookings are now open for children between 8-18 at:

trybooking.com/BELXF

August 2nd - 5pm

Choral Festival at St Mary's Cathedral. Rehearsals will be held on Sun 26th and Sat 18th July

September 10th

Easy Choral Music - Location TBA

November 14th

"Come and Sing" event at All Saints Chapel, Bullcreek

Keep an eye out for more events in planning to be confirmed. We're hoping to have a dinner in early May and an "Ancient and Modern" hymn event in October.

Your Branch Committee for 2020 is:

Ken Taylor - Chair

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Lucy Commander - Secretary

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Kate Sinfield - Treasurer

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Louise Bell - Choir Camp Coordinator

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Branch Committee Members

Gillian Burbidge

Sheila Byfield

Jacinta Jakovcevic

Steven Secker

Ruth Styles

Please direct all correspondence to the secretary at the address above, or to:

RSCM WA Secretary

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Western AUSTRALIA 6901

WestNews needs your events to publicise - please forward these to westnews@rscmaustralia.org.au

