RS M * WestNews

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Royal School of Church Music, WA Branch

Harvest Festival of Great Hymns

Sunday 14th November

St Michael and all Angels, corner of James and George Streets, North Beach

2:30pm

Our annual Hymn Festival will be on the theme of Harvest and feature hymns and readings - everyone is welcome.

There will be readings, prayers and hymns under various titles related to growing, harvesting, sharing. Volunteers to lead a section (a reading and prayer) would be most welcome to contact Sheila Byfield at <u>swbyfield@bigpond.com</u> or phone 0447 01 690.

Attendees are encouraged to bring an offering of some produce which can be distributed to the needy. (we have I cause in mind, but if you know of a particular need, we are open to suggestions)



Chair Report

Despite the lack of a choir camp, we we blessed with a lovely choral festival at St Mary's Cathedral.

Thanks are due to Louise and Jacinta for a wonderful service in which we spent the afternoon learning some new pieces along with the St Mary's choristers and participated in the service on the same day.

RSCM voice for life awards were also presented to Elizabeth and William Baudains during the service.

We featured 'I believe' composed by Mark Miller - reprised from the Bunbury choir camp some years back.

Also, last month, we celebrated our second Spring Dinner at Parlapa, with a inspiring dinner talk from Matt Styles. The younger members present in particular, enjoyed his attention and encouragement.

See you all next Sunday!

Ken Taylor - Branch Chair



Dates for your Diary

Upcoming Events for 2021

November 14th: 2:30pm Harvest Festival Hymns St Michaels, North Perth

November 20th, 2:15pm Parish Musician's Meetup St Mary's Cathedral, Perth

Upcoming Events for 2022

February 12th, 2022 RSCM WA Branch AGM

Your Branch Committee for 2021 is:

Ken Taylor - Chair

Lucy Commander - Secretary

Sheila Byfield - Treasurer

<u>wa.treasurer@rscmaustralia.org.au</u> Catherine Baudains - Choir Camp Coordinator wa.choircamp@rscmaustralia.org.au

wa.chair@rscmaustralia.org.au

wa.secretary@rscmaustralia.org.au

Branch Committee Members

Kate Sinfield Jacinta Jakovcevic Ruth Styles Louise Bell

Please direct all correspondence to the secretary at the address above, or to: *RSCM WA Secretary* PO Box 1313 West Leederville, Western AUSTRALIA 6901

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

Choir Camp 2022

The branch committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Catherine Baudains to the role of Choir Camp coordinator.

Catherine has helped out at a number of recent camps, and her tow children have attended recent camps when we were able to run them. She has also attended camp herself having previously been based in Northam and introduced to RSCM my Pam Peters.

We are still in discussions on the final location for 2022, as we have the option of staying metropolitan or heading back to Bunbury. Once the national council has met in early 2022, we'll have a better feel of what we'll be scheduled to run our next "winter school" and this will likely play into decisions.

Wonderful to host the RSCM Choral Festival !!!

Jacinta Jakovcevic



The RSCM Choral Festival 2021 was held at the Cathedral on Sunday 1st August.

Close to 30 choristers from RSCM member churches (including some of our own Cathedral choristers – the Cathedral is also a member church of the RSCM) took part and sang for rehearsals through the afternoon and then sang for the 5pm Mass. Having had to cancel the annual Choir Camp due to the recent lockdown, it was extra special to be able to come together and sing.

They and the congregation were able to take part in some robust hymn singing (Thaxted is SUCH a great tune !!). But perhaps the highlight was the composition 'I believe' composed by Mark Miller – this contemplative piece carries the text of an anonymous author hiding in a basement in Cologne during World War II (it was scrawled on the wall) – this moving text instils such a sense of hope – Miller, himself, said of this composition: 'My hope is for this sacred gift of lyrics and song to be 'medicine for the soul' for all who hear it.'



Great to host the RSCM Choral Festival – do come back to St Mary's again soon !!! Jacinta (and our participant treble choristers pictured on the left)

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES!

Deirdre Russell OAM HonRSCM

SUNDAY 12TH December at 2.30pm at WILLETTON UNITING CHURCH, HERALD AVE, WILLETTON (turn off at the traffic lights on High Road).

Based on last year's "real" carols service, let Deirdre Russell know if you have special requests to include. Ph 9312 0560, or email <u>Deirdre.russell@raafawa.net.au</u>.

AND NEWS OF JAKE BIGWOOD, (Deirdre's grandson and ex-camper) who has been announced as one of the 2022 recipients of the Wesfarmers Arts Young Artists awards together with three other opera singers and one conductor.

Once upon a time there was Cathedral Choir – namely, the St Mary's Cathedral Choir and they ventured forth...ventured north...to Geraldton !!!

Jacinta Jakovcevic

We sang in the Geraldton 'Blessing of the Fleet' where we were on the boat with the statue of Our Lady especially carved in the 1960s for this annual event. We also sang for a fund-raiser for the Mgr Hawes Hermitage (situated not far from the Cathedral in Geraldton itself)...then we took part in a Grand Tour of buildings built by Mgr Hawes in Geraldton and Mullewa – we were in a special Cathedral Choir bus with parents and other people following us in another bus and cars too.

Here are some thoughts from our choristers about the AWESOME time we had – and we have some photos too !!



'The Geraldton trip was a nice refreshing time to veer away from the world of devices, and dive into the history of the place. There were many enjoyable experiences, but my favourite parts of the trip was taking photos in the lovely golden wheat fields, and singing Danny boy at Geraldton's St Xavier Cathedral. It was a memorable experience singing in the crypt, and the acoustics were amazing. Overall it was a very memorable and enjoyable experience, and I would love to go there again in the future.' - Kizito Mutoya



'It was a good trip! We had a marvellous time, especially in the Grand Musical Tour. I have grown closer to my choir mates and appreciated all the more the work that the whole group, including most of all, Jacinta, put in to every song we sang. I recommend going to Geraldton, Mullewa and the awesome places there.' – Michael Masbate

'Picture taking in the wheat field was awesome' - Ethan Vergara

'I really enjoyed the whole Grand Tour' - Josh Vergara

'I liked most the Grand Music Tour. It is also great to learn about, and actually see, the wonderful works of Monsignor Hawes.'- Gian Malabanan



'Geraldton was so amazing and spectacular!! And I enjoyed singing at all the different locations and venues!!' – Lucas Vernie



'I liked singing in Geraldton, and also liked Monsignor Hawes' pet dog, Dominie!!' - Noah Vernie

St Edmund's Anglican Church Wembley





To join St Edmund's for a



REMEMBRANCE DAY CHORAL EVENSONG



Thursday 11 November 2021 5.00 pm

St Edmund's Anglican Church 52 Pangbourne Street, Wembley



Light refreshments after the service in the Church Hall

For more information please contact Gloria Lygne on 9387 4507