

## Chorale thanks Bendigo Bank

The Chorale is delighted once again to have the support of the Tewantin Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank in the form of ongoing sponsorship of our activities for another year. Beginning in 2008 this has been a fruitful and mutually beneficial partnership of two community organisations.

On being presented with a cheque for \$2000 from Tewantin bank manager Wayne Hoens, Chorale president John Davies acknowledged how important this support had been in keeping membership of the Chorale affordable and accessible to the community.

"It also allows us to make live performances of major works affordable to a large number of people. "Our concerts are challenging and I believe we punch above our weight for a community choir in a regional town in Queensland."

Those sentiments were shared by Wayne, who was keen to add what sponsoring Noosa Chorale meant to the Community Bank.

"Most locals know our branches for the support we show our community," he said.

"What makes my job so gratifying is not only being part of these sponsorships, but developing relationships as strong as one we enjoy with Noosa Chorale. Their concerts are just wonderful and the quality of their work is further magnified by the fact that these talented choir members live right here in Noosa. We look forward to supporting Noosa Chorale for years to come," Wayne added.



Noosa Chorale president John Davies (left) and Wayne Hoens, Manager, Bendigo Bank, Tewantin

## Classic gems for concert, says Conductor Adrian

JIM FAGAN

Reprinted courtesy of YLM (Your Local Mag)

Noosa Chorale music director Adrian King admits that a perfect pleasure for any conductor is selecting special music for special concerts.

And he agrees he has indulged himself with his selections of works from the western world's greatest classical composers for the choir's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Concert this month.

"All of the music brings back lovely memories for me. Works such as Mendelssohn's *Elijah* performed by us in 2007, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* (2008), Haydn's *Creation* (2009), Mozart's *Requiem* (2010), Brahms *Requiem* (2011), Verdi's *Requiem* (2013) and Handel's *Messiah* in June this year 2014 are the cornerstones and foundations of the choral repertoire that is accepted today.

"And with additional gems like *Music from the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*, a Beatles Medley and Puccini's *Gloria* I believe our audiences will be delighted with this intensely musical program.

"Also, no musical celebration of any stature would be complete without Beethoven's *Choral Symphony*. Completed in 1824, the symphony is

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## From the President

Dear readers,

The excitement is gathering pace now as the Chorale throws itself into frenetic (or is that frantic) practice for the Gala Concert. It's been a tremendous encouragement to have the sponsorship from Bendigo Bank, Tewantin Community branch awarded for another year. This, on top of the Noosa Council's support for our concert, has really shored up our efforts and brought out the top notes from all sections of the choir.

With tickets selling fast, and the involvement of a large cast of choristers, soloists, musicians, stage crew and volunteers, and of course Adrian to bring the whole performance together, we're all eagerly looking forward to putting on a concert to be remembered for the next 20 years.

Special thanks are due to Jim Fagan's journalistic efforts in this issue of *Tune In*, and to the generous permission granted by YLM to reprint articles from their October special feature on the choir.

Regards to all,

John Davies, President

Baritone Jeffrey Black's journey to international operatic stardom started as a boy soprano in the early 70's.

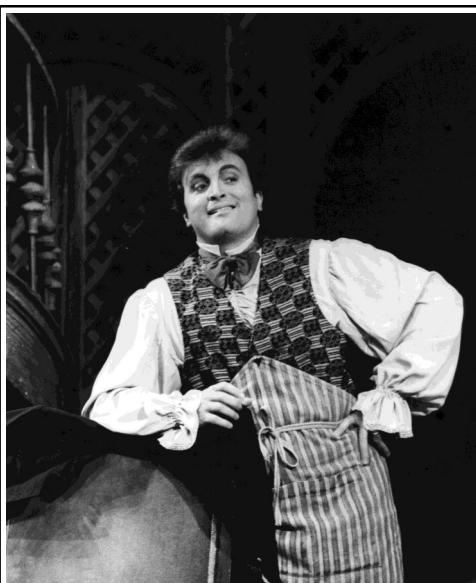
"My voice was breaking and my music teacher at Churchie (Brisbane's Anglican Church Grammar School) told me he wanted to give me lessons every few weeks as he didn't want me yelling my lungs out on the football field," he told YLM last week.

With a voice ready to be further developed, Jeffrey finished school and went to the Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane and from there to Sydney as principal artist with Australian Opera. From there his career has embraced the world's concert platforms and major Opera Houses like La Scala Milan, London's Covent Garden, New York Met, Paris, Munich, Buenos Aires, the list goes on.

Along the way he has sung more than 100 different roles with divas like Kiri Te Kanawa, Joan Sutherland, Yvonne Kenny and the face of the New York Met, Renee Fleming.

In two weeks' time Noosa Chorale fans will have the chance to hear Jeffrey's lyric baritone as he is one of four guest opera singers appearing at the choir's Gala Concert on October 18-19. This is the choir's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and the program includes a selection of the finest choral works it has presented during those years.

Among the famous compositions Jeffrey will feature in are Verdi's Requiem, Carl Orff's Carmina Burana and Beethoven's Choral Symphony (Ode to Joy). He is looking forward to singing with the Chorale and seeing Noosa again. "My family used to go on holidays in Noosa and Noosaville but I've been away from



Jeffrey Black is Figaro in this New York Metropolitan Opera House production of The Barber of Seville. Photo: Winnie Klotz and John Pennino, Metropolitan Opera archivist

Australia for many years. I'm sure Noosa has changed a lot."

Asked if he had any operatic characters he liked playing, he said his "calling card roles" were Figaro in *The Barber of Seville* and Count Almaviva in *The Marriage of Figaro*. "I've probably done about 20 performances of the Barber and about 140 of the Count all over the world.

"Probably my favourite is the title role in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. I did it quite a lot in America and also in Sydney. I love the Russian modality, the harmonic language and also the character. He is quite fascinating. I had to learn the role in Russian and it took me a considerable amount of time to learn it.

"The first time I performed it was in San Diego with American soprano Renee Fleming. She had a child and I also had a

child about the same age and they were both in prams. I well remember one morning we were both pushing our respective babies in prams backwards and forwards on the promenade, practising and speaking our roles in Russian and getting odd looks from passers-by.

"The first thing I did with Dame Kiri was when we were husband and wife in the *Marriage of Figaro* at The Met and later, when Kiri was doing a world tour, we appeared in Brisbane, then Centennial Park in Sydney, concerts in some of the castles in the northern hemisphere such as Hampton Court in London and the King's Summer Palace in Stockholm. We had a great time together."

Jeffrey's home has been in London for most of his career and he has come home to Brisbane for family reasons. He has done the full circle and is back at Churchie, this time as director of music. "I was looking at doing other things in the arts' field and when this opportunity came up it was too good not to put my hat in the ring.

"I was extremely fortunate with my time there as a schoolboy and a young man as the music experience I had led me into my career as a professional opera singer. Music can be a stimulating and masculine pursuit but in an all-boys school it's not an easy sell. I just feel I ought to at least give the young men the best opportunity I can."

Does this mean his opera career is over? "By no means. The commitment required for rehearsals and performances can take some months and I've just started this contract. I'm not saying I won't accept an engagement but it would have to be approved."

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one of the best-known works of the repertoire of classical music. Among critics, it is almost universally considered to be among Beethoven's greatest works, and is also considered by some to be the greatest piece of music ever written.

"The symphony was the first example of a major composer using voices in a symphony. The words are sung during the final movement by four vocal soloists and

a chorus. They were taken from the *Ode to Joy*, a poem written by Friedrich Schiller in 1785 and revised in 1803, with additions made by Beethoven. Indeed the concert commences with this joyful statement and work.

"Today, the composition stands as one of the most played symphonies in the world, and for this masterpiece of invention – and indeed the whole Gala Concert programme – the Chorale is delighted to

welcome soloists of international and national acclaim – Liza Beamish (soprano), Jade Moffat (mezzo soprano), Andrew Pryor (tenor) and Jeffrey Black (baritone)..

"Together with members of the Chorale and the Noosa Sinfonia, the performance of this kaleidoscopic programme with its extensive, wide-ranging and broad spectrum of styles will be a fitting celebration for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary," Adrian said.



## Welcome back for three favourite soloists

JIM FAGAN

Reprinted courtesy of  
YLM (Your Local Mag)

While baritone Jeffrey Black will be new to Noosa music lovers, three opera singers will make a welcome re-appearance at Noosa Chorale's Gala Concert. Soprano Lisa Beamish, mezzo Jade Moffat and tenor Andrew Pryor were soloists in June last year when the choir combined with the Sunshine Coast Choral Society in presenting Verdi's Requiem. Andrew also appeared in the Chorale's Christmas Wassail last December and in June 2012 featured in the choir's highly acclaimed War, Peace and Glory concert which included Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man.

### LIZA BEAMISH

After studying opera in London, Vienna and Sydney, Liza's stratospheric top notes have placed her much in demand throughout her career, for the specialist role of Queen of the Night in Mozart's Magic Flute.

She toured England in this role for a year, and went on to perform it at the Sydney Opera house, Opera Queensland and on tour in NSW and South Australia with Ozopera (the touring branch of Australian opera.) She performed a leading role in Mozart's Don Giovanni in the Czech Republic, and was chosen to represent Australia, in 2007, at one of the world's largest music festivals in North Korea, where attendance is by invitation only.

Other career highlights have included understudying and performing the role of Carlotta with the original cast of Phantom of the Opera in Melbourne, and

performing leading roles with Opera Australia and Opera Queensland. As part of the duo The Lady and the Larrikin, Liza has performed in many towns and cities of Australia. Liza is a frequent soloist with many Queensland orchestras including the Gold Coast Pops Orchestra; Brisbane Pops Orchestra and Gold Coast Symphony Orchestra.

### JADE MOFFAT

Jade graduated with a Bachelor of Music in advanced performance from the Queensland Conservatorium in 2012, whilst also being a member of Opera Queensland's Developing Artist Program. She recently won the Australian Singing Competition's Marianne Mathy Scholarship, and is the 2014 winner of the Dame Nellie Melba Scholarship with the Melba Opera Trust.

Jade has appeared in key works like Handel's Messiah, Mozart's Requiem, Verdi's Requiem, Durufle's Requiem, Handel's Saul, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Vivaldi's Gloria and Dixit Dominus, Pergolesi's Stabat Mater, Bottesini's Messa da Requiem. Operatic roles include: Fenena in Verdi's Nabucco, Mrs Nolan in Menotti's The Medium, Principessa in Puccini's Suor Angelica, understudied Tisbe in Rossini's Cinderella.

She recently covered the role of Kate Pinkerton in Opera Australia's Madama Butterfly, and in September this year made her debut with Opera Queensland as Diane in Philip Glass's The Perfect American.

**Noosa Chorale Gala Concert. Saturday, Oct 18, at 7pm and Sunday, Oct 19, at 2.30pm at The J, Noosa Junction. Tiered seating \$38 (concession \$35), mezzanine \$30. Price includes a glass of bubbly!**

**Bookings [www.thej.com.au](http://www.thej.com.au) or 5329 6560.**

### ANDREW PRYOR

Andrew has sung in Opera Queensland productions of Lucia di Lammermoor, La Forza del Destino, Oedipus Rex, Eugene Onegin, Otello, Carmen, Parsifal, Turandot, Falstaff and Faust and has performed with Opera Australia in Madama Butterfly, the Barber of Seville and Billie Budd. He has also appeared with the State Opera of South Australia.

He is a founding member of the The Ten Tenors, and with them he has travelled extensively throughout Australia, The Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Switzerland, Germany and the United States and Canada. He has also recorded several albums with the group.

Andrew continues to perform both nationally and internationally as a soloist and with the tenor group **TENORI**. As a bit of fun, Andrew also performs with one of Queensland's top corporate show bands, The Famous Unknowns, who also tour internationally. Highlights of Andrew's career include singing at the AFL Grand Final in front of 100,000 people, and singing with the famous 41 piece 'Hollywood Orchestra' in L.A. in 1999.

## Trish has near perfect 20-year record

JIM FAGAN

Reprinted courtesy of  
YLM (Your Local Mag)

When violinist Trish Corben acknowledges the applause as she takes her seat as orchestra leader for Noosa Chorale's Gala Concert this month, it won't exactly be a new experience. Twenty years ago she led the orchestra at the Chorale's inaugural performance of Handel's Messiah and she has only missed one concert since that time.

"You could say I have a 99 per cent record," she says. "The only performance I've missed was in 1997 when I had to go overseas to visit someone who was ill."

Trish, who lives in Eumundi, gained a Bachelor of Music degree at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music and was a member of the Australian Youth Orchestra for 3 years. She taught violin and viola and directed string groups in Melbourne and Adelaide before moving to Noosa in 1992.



She is an unabashed fan of the Chorale which, she says, "always rises to the occasion." Trish has been leader of the Occasional Orchestra, the Sunshine Coast Choral Society Orchestra and in 2007, along with choir music director, Adrian

King, she formed the Noosa Sinfonia. "We call it 'the Get Together Orchestra' as Adrian tells me how many musicians he wants and when the rehearsal times are. I send out emails, we all then get together and we take it from there."

She says there will be a record number of twelve players in the violin section for the Gala Concert at The J. "Adrian has asked for a huge orchestra—56 musicians altogether." The Chorale is singing some of the most memorable choruses it has performed since its first concert in 1994. They include great classical works by composers like Puccini, Verdi, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven. Gilbert and Sullivan is also there and so are The Beatles.

Trish admits she doesn't have a favourite. "There's just so much variety. It's all such lovely music."

## What else is on?

### Keep Calm and Cabaret

3—5 October, Noosa Arts Theatre, Noosaville

<http://www.noosaartstheatre.org.au/productions/ournextproduction.aspx>

### Noosa Chorale Gala Concert

18—19 October, The J Theatre

<http://www.thej.com.au/whats-on/noosa-chorale-gala-concert>

### Geist (a concert of German song)

25 October, Good Shepherd Chapel, Noosaville

31 October, Caloundra Regional Art Gallery

2 November, Cooran Hall

[Ticket bookings](#)

### Opera at the Castle

24—26 October, Bli Bli Castle

<http://popupopera.com.au/events/4583790889>

### Double Concerti

26 October, Maleny Community Hall

2 November, Noosaville Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

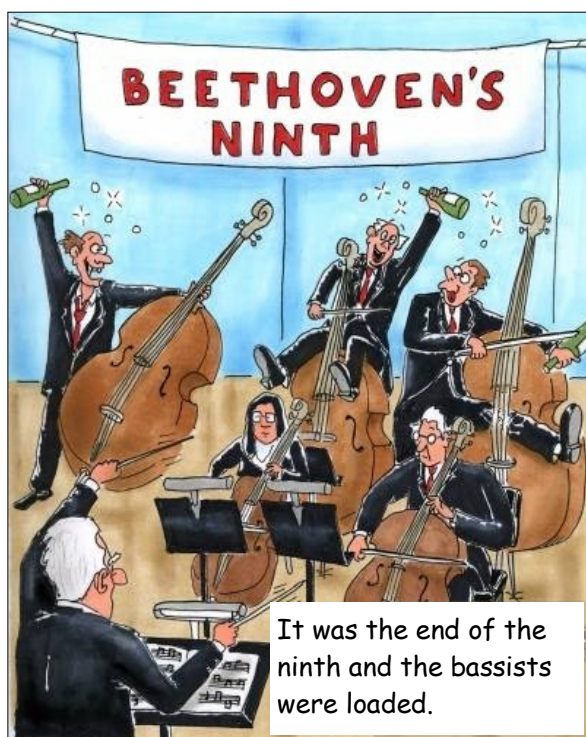
[http://noosaorchestra.com.au/?page\\_id=97](http://noosaorchestra.com.au/?page_id=97)

### My Fair Lady

Caloundra Chorale

7—30 November, CCTC Theatre, Wurtulla

<http://www.caloundrachorale.com.au/>



[www.noosachorale.org.au](http://www.noosachorale.org.au)



[www.facebook.com/noosachorale](http://www.facebook.com/noosachorale)

## Crunch time at OK Chorale

For 20 years choristers have relished a bickie or two during the rehearsal break at Tuesday night practice. In spite of a resounding agreement by the singers at a wintry rehearsal night to relinquish the bickie crunch to cut costs, our resolve since has been crumbling and things do not seem to be OK at the Chorale.

Singers have been spluttering into their bereft cuppas, and one chorister was heard to say, "Indeed, this really takes the biscuit." Hearing that conductor Adrian King had suggested a glass of port would be more beneficial for the voice anyway, Jim Fagan was moved to write this little stanza. If you feel like serenading the neighbours, it can be sung to Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" -- one of the magnificent choruses the choir will present at its Gala Concert on October 18 & 19.

Deine zauber, no biscuits dunkin'

In our tea on Tuesday nights.

Energies wavering, voices quavering

'Cos we're banned from sweet delights.

Tim Tams, ginger snaps all long gone now

Leaving only memories dear.

Chocolate fingers, Monte Carlos

All belong to yesteryear.

But what's this Mr King does tell us

Bikkies are no good for voice

Better still a glass of tawny

Or maybe four if you've a choice.

But be careful going home now

'Specially if you have to drive

RBT men out there waiting

You could be over point 05!

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Tewantin **Community Bank**® Branch



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**NOOSA COUNCIL**

For enquiries regarding Tune in, the Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc, please contact the Editor, Cal Webb.

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