

Noosa Chorale Tune in

The Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc

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Chorale rarin' to baroque and roll

Adrian King describes Noosa Chorale's *Concertedly Baroque* concert in May as "music to uplift the soul" but the choir's enthusiasm at rehearsal is practically lifting the roof at The J!

The singers have taken to the superb choruses of the Bach *Magnificat* and Handel's *Dixit Dominus* with a willingness that has music director Adrian reaching for superlatives.

"We are only seven weeks into practise with 12 to go and, although both works are technically challenging, already the choir is producing some glorious singing.

"Add our five accomplished Brisbane soloists and the 21-piece Noosa Sinfonia and our audience can expect an afternoon of entertaining brilliance."

And, certainly, the singers are enjoying themselves. Here are some comments from a quick survey we did of the choir.

Soprano Debbie Boyles: "I love baroque music. Our progress is amazing, all thanks to Adrian and our wonderful Janet."

Fellow soprano, Valerie Cozens,



Noosa Chorale singers Handelling Bach very well. Front row, from left: Debbie Boyles, Jonathan Anstock and Carol Monks. Behind them are Valerie Cozens and Ian Jobling. (Photo/Cal Webb)

commented: "This lovely baroque music is a joy to sing once mastered."

Tenor Ian Jobling: "Singing Handel's *Messiah* has been a joy on several occasions but his *Dixit Dominus* is wonderfully stimulating. It will be a terrific performance at the J in May."

Bass Jonathon Anstock: "Producing and sharing this music with the

Chorale is a wonderful experience."

Soprano Pamela Turnbull is one of our newer members (see Pamela's story on P2) and she had this to say: "The wonderful harmonies from the soloists, the Chorale and the orchestra will, I am certain, take the audience to an emotional high.

"It will be a joyous and colourful sound."



One performance only
Saturday 26 May, 2pm
The J Theatre

book
now

Pianist Pamela makes a key change

After a lengthy career as a piano teacher and professional accompanist, Noosa Chorale soprano Pamela Turnbull felt last year it was time she made a key change in her musical life.

“I decided to join the other side. I just felt I wanted to sing.”

Pamela had just come to Noosa last April from Ocean Grove in Victoria and she heard about the Chorale from stories in the local Press.

“My husband, James, and I had retired, following careers in education, and we wanted a warmer climate. Noosa had been a regular holiday spot for us since 1984 so we bought a house in Noosa Waters last year.

“I read the choir was performing works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert in its Viennese Masters in its May concert and I decided to give it a try.”

Pamela, who studied at the Royal

Academy of Music in London to concert pianist level, says that since joining the Chorale she has met a “very interesting and diverse range of people. It is a very caring and happy atmosphere.”

“I’ve found it heartening and uplifting to hear and be part of the harmonies and the sounds you work towards. They often bring tears to my eyes. It’s a wonderful feeling.

“Being an accompanist, I’ve always been on the other end of so it is a lovely change to be expertly trained and conducted by our music director, Adrian King. I feel privileged.

“I now use a different skill and I’m thoroughly enjoying it. I now play the piano for leisure and pleasure.

“I’m particularly looking forward to *the Concertedly Baroque* concert on in May. I love being challenged vocally. The chosen works of Handel and Bach are magnificently orchestrated.



Pamela Turnbull (Photo/Ann Milland)

“The wonderful harmonies from the soloists, the Chorale and the orchestra will, I am certain, take the audience to an emotional high.

“It will be a joyous and colourful sound.”

CHORALE CALLING Babette Urban, Eumundi

All my life I have dreamed of joining a choir, so naturally I was excited to discover the Noosa Chorale in 2003, two minutes up the road from where I worked and a short drive from Eumundi where I still live. Little did I know that the Noosa Chorale was established in 1994, one year after I started my job... so I was surprised to learn that it had sung and performed for a whole nine years without me!

I found being part of this choir was fun, uplifting, relaxing and inspiring, not to mention the great camaraderie amongst a group of like-minded people. My first concert in June 2003 was Opera Gloria, music of Verdi and Puccini. I was thrilled to be learning and singing such magnificent music.

Over the years the Noosa Chorale has sung various genres of music, performing a couple of concerts per year, usually accompanied by local orchestras. The Chorale also sings for community and special events, for example



Photo: Babette Urban

Anzac Day, Citizenship ceremonies, the annual lighting of the Hastings St Christmas Tree, and even a Flash Mob appearance in Noosa. For ten years we have presented the popular Wassail - a Christmas concert during which we spread festive cheer and serve Christmas fare.

Our next concert will be beautiful Baroque music from Handel and Bach, and will be performed at The J, Noosa Junction, by the Noosa Chorale with soloists and orchestra, on Saturday 26 May, 2pm (one performance only).

See noosachorale.org.au for bookings or to maybe even join?

Babette just loves singing with Chorale!



Babette Urban has been singing with the Chorale since 2003 and loving every minute of it, first as an alto, and now with the tenor section. So much so, that she recently wrote about it in *The Eumundi Green*, her local community magazine, that serves Eumundi and the hinterland.

(above) Babette Urban with Moby (left) “Chorale Calling”, by Babette Urban.

Reprinted courtesy of *The Eumundi Green*, 28 Feb 2018, Page 9

<http://www.eumundigreen.com.au/the-magazine/>

Debra and Fran sing for Vinnies, Red Cross

Local charity St Vincent de Paul is better off to the tune of \$10,000 thanks in part to two Noosa Chorale members, soprano Fran Wilson and mezzo soprano Debra Schneider.

And next month the two singers will perform in another fundraiser, this time for the Red Cross.

Both Fran and Debra were soloists in the choral work *Mozart Vespers* when the Chorale presented its *Mozart meets Jenkins* concert in 2013.

"We knew straightaway that our voices blended well and we decided to sing together," said Debra. "I asked a friend of mine, Susi Fox, who plays piano, if she would accompany us. We practised at each other's homes and our trio *Artistri* was born."

Said Fran: "Our first concert was at St Peter's Catholic Church in Coolumberrig. It was a fundraiser for St Vincent de Paul and we shared the stage with the church's community choir and the Pacific Chamber Players.

"There were 400 there and we raised \$4000. We have done it twice since.

"We've also sung for community groups in various parts of the Coast, including Gympie. We never charge a fee.

"Most of our repertoire is from opera or lieder but we love to surprise our audience with some jazz or folk music."

Fran became a choir member in 2011, having sung in choirs and a cappella vocal groups in Canberra and Melbourne.

Her opera roles include Mercedes from Bizet's *Carmen*, Lucy Lockit from Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* and understudy to Cherubino in the *Marriage of Figaro* by Mozart.

Debra joined the Chorale in 2007. Previously, she sang with The Queensland Choir, Opera Queensland Chorus and the Brisbane Concert Choir.

Following success in state-wide classical competitions, Debra decided to try something different, and had leading roles in musicals. She also toured as part of a Gilbert & Sullivan ensemble.

The third member of *Artistri*, Susi Fox, is a former Chorale member, singing in *The Armed Man* in 2015. She also has another connection with the choir through Chorale accompanist, Janet Brewer... A specialist in music styles ranging from rock n' roll to the classics, Susi recently played keyboard with Janet as part of the band for Mad About Theatre's production of *A Chorus Line*.

Artistri is at Laguna Retirement Village on April 27 commencing 10am. Tickets \$20, includes high tea, sandwiches, scones. Fundraiser for Red Cross.



Romance was in the air when Fran Wilson (left), Susi Fox and Debra Schneider presented "Songs of Love" at Noosaville Library on Valentine's Day last month. Borrowers laid down their books to join library staff and members of the audience to listen to works by Mozart, Handel, Schubert, Bach and Offenbach. Noosa Chorale patron, Gail Spira, said afterwards she had particularly loved the choice of songs. "It's wonderful to have two such accomplished singers in our choir." (Photo/Jo Fagan)



The Fawcett Noosa Branch of the 'Red Cross' invites you to a "Classic English" High Tea (floral) at Laguna Retirement Village (Forum Room) Lake Weyba Drive, Noosaville on Friday, 27th April 2018 10.00am - Noon Lucky door prize & raffles Guest Speaker & Classical Singers

Tickets \$20 each (limited)
Phone: Jan on 54740636



New series heralds Chorale's 25th anniversary next year

We're only nine months away from celebrating Noosa Chorale's 25th year of its founding by Noosa barrister and patron, Joe McMahon.

A silver anniversary of golden tones ringing out 25 years of performances of classics ranging from masters like Mozart, Bach and Handel through hits from Broadway musicals, trad jazz, war songs, Christmas carols, English folk songs and much, much more.

And all evoking praise from internationals like viola player and composer Brett Dean whose opera *Hamlet* last week opened to rapturous applause at the Adelaide Festival after a successful debut in the UK.

Brett, who was living in Noosa in 2000, was invited by Leonard Spira to play in the Occasional Orchestra which accompanied the Chorale's *Mozart Requiem* and this is what he had to say:

I have played the *Mozart Requiem* with all sorts of people, including von Karajan in Berlin: "I was amazed that such an energetic and enriching sound could come from such a small community."

International pianist, Piers Lane was in the audience when the choir presented *Judas Maccabaeus* in 2002 for the inaugural Noosa Long Weekend.: "Fantastic, very impressed," he said.

Starting with each issue from now until

the end of 2019, your Tune In editorial team will select highlights from those wonderful years since 1994.

They will be shown in a series of memorable flashbacks of some of the Chorale's most stunning and compelling concerts as well as community appearances like Anzac Day, Citizenship Ceremonies and Hastings Street carols.

Here now is our Tune In report from its issue of July 2, 2009, on the 15th anniversary concert in May. The full issue is on our website:

<http://www.noosachorale.org.au/tune-in-newsletter.html>

15th Anniversary Concert, Handel's Coronation Anthems, Firework Music and Charpentier's Te Deum



Your selection of works offers fantastic concert programs for the Noosa community to take part in and enjoy as an audience.

Many thanks. Jacqui

What a brilliant effort this concert was by everyone. *Zadok The Priest* was a blast off and set the tone for the rest of the concert. Some comments from the music director will convey some of the feelings felt around the auditorium:- The members of the choir worked very hard in learning the music which was a completely different style of singing and genre to the Fabulous Faure and Christmas Wassail Concerts. The many polyphonic florid melismas, contrasting with the homophonic style plus the changes of tempi all were executed by the choir with positive assurance and

confidence. The voice parts were well balanced, and the chorister's dedication, commitment, perseverance and enthusiasm were a credit to them.

The excellent standard they attained at the two performances was superb. Many favourable comments were made to me after the performances by the audience and orchestra

Of the soloists:-

The soloists were Louise Kennedy soprano, an old friend of the societies, Karina Gough soprano, Anna

Smith alto and Kyle Hunter tenor, both contacts from the Conservatorium and Michael Strasser bass. Their part in the performances was not large, but the voices blended well and they performed with integrity and professionalism which suited the genre and style.

And of the orchestra:- the Noosa Sinfonia, most ably led by Trish Corben. They played with a professional standard and supported the choir and soloists effortlessly and impeccably.



It soon became obvious to all that Doug's Bach was worse than his bite.

Sunshine Coast Choral Society
Conducted by Adrian King
2pm Sunday 22 April 2018
At Gregson and Weight Chapel
Wises Road, Buderim
Bookings—Phone Colleen 5472 7652
Or visit www.suncoastchoral.org.au

In remembrance of the end of World War 1 in 1918
Wearing of medals is invited

Requiem

Composed by Sir Karl Jenkins

Conducted by Adrian King
with The Choral Society Chamber Orchestra

2pm, Sunday, April 22, 2018

