



ACT Branch

ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC

PO Box 6070 O'Connor ACT 2602

www.rscm-act.org



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2010

AGM AND NEW COMMITTEE

The Branch AGM was held at All Saints' Ainslie on the 14th March 2010. The 2010 committee elected at that meeting was as follows:

Chair: Gemma Dashwood

Vice Chair: Bill Fraser

Treasurer: Ron Muffet

Committee Members: Geoff Wells, Nigel Poole, Graeme Brown

At the meeting, a vote of thanks was given to Bill Fraser for all his hard work as Chair over the past 2 years. Bill took up the position at a very crucial time and without him the Branch probably would not still be in existence.

At the following committee meeting, the remainder of the Secretary's term was allocated by the committee to **Julia Golding**, and as well as welcoming Julia the committee happily accepted the nomination of **Catrionia Bryce** onto the committee. Both these women have solid church music experience and we welcome their input to the Branch during the forthcoming year and beyond.

Membership 2010

Membership for 2010 is now due, and enclosed with this newsletter is a membership form. Please complete and return as soon as possible. We need to inform RSCM UK of our numbers as they charge us according to our level of membership.

You will be pleased to note that we have decided to leave the fees for 2010 the same as 2009.

Option for Affiliate Choirs to Advertise on our Website

A new section of the branch website is currently under development which gives Affiliate Choirs an opportunity to advertise to potential choristers.

On the 2010 membership form, those joining as Affiliate Members can indicate that they would like their details on the website and our webmaster, Nigel Poole will be in contact to obtain the details for publication.

ABN 15957330863
www.rscm-act.org



Events for 2010

The dates for your 2010 diary are as follows:

2nd May 3pm: Hymnfest at Wesley Uniting Church.
See below for advertisement.

11th July: National Council of Churches Forum.
See below for advertisement

17-18th July: Composition Competition Finalists' Concert.
St John's Wagga. It is intended that an "ad hoc" choir will be gathered to learn the new works, and to travel to Wagga to perform them. There will also be an opportunity to join in singing the Sung Eucharist the following morning.

September TBA: Organ Ramble, Duntroon

October TBA: Church Music Choral Classics Concert
A concert of some of the most well loved Church Music Choral Classics to be performed by local RSCM members. Performances will include Allegri's *Miserere*, Tavener's *The Lamb*, Bach's *Wir Eillen* and others.

TBA: Youth Course
St Paul's Anglican Church, Manuka

December 3rd: Christmas Party.
To be held at Gemma Dashwood's house. The evening will include the customary trivia night.

January 4th-11th 2011: National Summer School, Bathurst.
Visit the RSCM (NSW Branch) website for further details.



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Wesley Uniting Church Choir - Affiliated Fifty Years

The choir of Wesley Uniting Church, Forrest, this month celebrates fifty years' affiliation with the RSCM. This is the second ACT choir to have achieved this landmark with All Saints', Ainslie, marking this milestone last August.

Wesley was originally the Methodist National Memorial Church, and changed its name to Wesley Uniting Church in June 1977 following the union of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches.

To mark the occasion, Wesley Choir is hosting a Hymn Festival on Sunday, May 2nd, at 3.00pm in the Church. Personal Members and members of affiliated choirs are invited to celebrate with us, singing hymns old and new!

Choir for Council of Churches Meeting

The triennial National Forum of the National Council of Churches in Australia will be held in Canberra from July 9th - 13th. An Ecumenical Service is planned on Sunday 11 July at 7.30pm in Wesley Uniting Church, Forrest. Present will be 17 National Heads of Churches together with 100 other representatives from the 17 members churches of the NCCA. It should be a grand occasion and will include the commissioning of the new NCCA President, who will be elected that weekend - likely to be one of the current Heads of Churches.

RSCM ACT Branch has been invited to provide a choir to lead this Service. Whilst details of the music and rehearsals are yet to be finalised, you are invited to register your interest/availability with the conductor of the Choir, Matthew Stuckings via stucks@hotmail.com or 0404 136 959. This will be a good opportunity to demonstrate the RSCM at work to an ecumenical setting.

Website

Don't forget to check our website every so often (www.rscm-act.org) - it contains details of upcoming events as well as the **chat forum**.

The 2010 RSCM (ACT) Composition Competition

This year's task is to set the ancient sacred text *Hymn to the Virgin* to music. The rules and regulations are available on the website along with the text. Please note that it is not necessary to set the entire text.

Entries close 1st June.