



Male Choirs Association of Australia

MCAA FESTIVAL – 13th to 15th October 2017

Let All Men Sing

BULLETIN No. 3

For circulation to all participating choristers

1. From the President – Neil Kinsey

Dear Fellow choristers,

You should by now have received the songbooks and we apologise for the delay in getting them to you. You may already be aware that there was considerable difficulty in getting copyright approval for a few of the songs which subsequently delayed the printing process.

Our Music Adviser Rachel Campbell has resigned from her position due to other commitments, and I am pleased to advise that Lucas de Jong has been appointed Music Adviser in her place. Lucas is known to many of you as he produced the rehearsal tracks for the last festival and he intends to do the same for this one so a big thankyou to Lucas.

We have recently discovered that there are some errors in the song versions printed in the songbooks and so Lucas, and Paul Whiting (MD, Ku-Ring-Gai MVC), have corrected these errors and you will be receiving another bulletin next week containing links to replacement pages and the audio rehearsal tracks.

Our Treasurer, Dave Bryars, has been working feverishly to secure festival sponsors and he has secured Destination Wollongong who have provided us with a link to all accommodation in the Wollongong area. We strongly encourage choirs to use the link when planning their visit, as the sponsorship offer will be boosted if more choirs book through this website link.

Click on this link www.visitwollongong.com.au/book-now or call 1800 240 737.

Dave will also be issuing invoices to Choirs in the near future for the cost of the songbooks. You may be aware that purchasing copyright for songs is expensive as we have to buy at least 400 of each song and they often cost about \$1.00 to \$2.00 each, so when multiplied by 13 songs you will appreciate that there is a huge cost that needs to be recovered. In addition there is the cost of printing the songbooks and arranging additional digital copies, so we hope you will understand that we need to pass on this cost.

To appreciate the enormity of this festival, the hiring of the Wollongong Entertainment Centre, the addition of audio/visual facilities and the cost of ticketing etc will amount to about \$45,000. Consequently we are mindful of setting a ticket pricing structure that will cover costs but also not deter our potential audience. A huge thank you to Dave Bryars and the Festival Organising team for their efforts so far.

As mentioned in the previous bulletin, we have engaged Richard Gill AO as the Festival Conductor and he is extremely well credentialed and regarded in the music fraternity. We believe he will make a significant contribution to the quality of our performance.

We look forward to your full support of this coming Festival, as Wollongong is a very attractive city and we believe you will enjoy the event and the camaraderie of other choirs.

Kind regards

Neil Kinsey
MCAA President

2. Festival Location

Wollongong Sports and Entertainment Centre

<http://wsec.com.au/page/wec-overview>



The WIN Sports and Entertainment Centres comprises the WIN Entertainment Centre (WEC) and WIN Stadium.

The WIN Entertainment Centre (WEC) includes the main auditorium, the Premiers Room and 3 expansive venue foyers. A Foreshore Plaza is adjacent to the eastern end of the Centre and is overlooked by The Illawarra Brewery.

Seating a maximum of 6,000 in tiered theatre style seating, the main auditorium has the flexibility to be reduced to various configurations and is ideal for hosting concerts, dinners of 300 plus, or for hosting a conference on one side of a dividing curtain and catered events or exhibitions on the other.

A modular concert and presentation stage, quality PA system, TV quality lighting, first-class kitchen and catering facilities and, a dream location, complete the picture for this unique entertainment facility.

A bus drop-off bay suitable for 5 buses at any one time, an easy walk from hotels, rail transport, the City Centre and shops, and its proximity to Lang Park and City Beach (both of which are only 20 paces away!) make it a facility which is accessible and a joy to attend.

WIN Entertainment Centre is well equipped with accessible seating areas, lifts and ramps (where necessary) has a hearing loop facility and disabled parking can be easily arranged.

3. Indicative Program of Events

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Friday 13th October 2017	Travel/Arrival	Get to Know Wollongong Take up some tour/s suggested by Destination Wollongong, or just enjoy the sea front and city.	5pm – 7.30pm WELCOME Richard Gill <i>MCAA Executive and MCAA Music Directors welcome our esteemed Guest Conductor and discuss the Rehearsals and Concert.</i>
Saturday 14th October 2017	Concert Rehearsal (9.30am to 12.00pm) Rehearsal of Concert with Guest conductor, accompanist and band. <i>WIN Entertainment Centre (Auditorium)</i>	Workshops (2.00pm – 4pm) Still to be arranged. Workshops with Richard Gill and MDs. Potentially for MCAA MDs, Choristers and other interested local singers. WEC Function Rooms	Festival Official Dinner/Buffer (6.30pm – 10.00pm) Choir members and other stakeholders and supporters join together potentially with local guest artists performing. <i>WIN Entertainment Centre (Auditorium)</i>
Sunday 15th October 2017	Concert Dress Rehearsal (9.30am to 12.00 noon) Dress Rehearsal of Concert with Guest conductor, guest artists, accompanists, band and technical. <i>WIN Entertainment Centre (Auditorium)</i>	CONCERT (2.30pm to 5.00pm) Concert with Guest conductor, guest artists, accompanists, band. <i>WIN Entertainment Centre (Auditorium)</i>	Travel or Stay Choir members free to travel home or stay to participate in post-Festival camaraderie, or local touring.
Monday 16 October 2017	Travel home		

4. General

We will be issuing additional bulletins to update you on our progress but in the meantime we wish you all well and happy singing.

Warm regards

The 2017 MCAA Festival Committee