

# **The Hobart Society of Recorder Players Inc.**

## **Newsletter October 2018**

**Contact the Society** through our webpage

<https://hobartrecorderplayers.com>

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### **The Society is in its 45<sup>th</sup> Year**

#### **Meetings**

The Society meets fortnightly on **Mondays (7.30 – 10.00 pm)** at **The Civic Club**, 134, Davey Street, Hobart. There is ample parking at the rear of the building and entry is via the back door. **Players please arrive** early enough to help set up the room for playing. With increasing numbers we need to move furniture out and set up a double row of chairs; preferably two to a stand. Furniture moved out at the beginning of the evening must be put back before we leave!

*Special Note for New Members and Visitors about Upstairs rehearsal rooms:*

From time to time we are required to rehearse upstairs and will endeavour to let members know before hand or put up a sign downstairs to redirect people. If we forget, we apologise in advance and invite members to pop upstairs to try and find us!

**Formal Playing Dates 2018 NOTE:** Dates subject to change. Watch this space.

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> 7pm for concert  
rehearsal at St John's Church New  
Town, Newsletter

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> (party) Newsletter

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2pm, Concert, St John's  
Church New Town, 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>

February 2019, Newsletter

**Subscriptions:** Thinking of joining the Society? Subscriptions are now:

Full - \$65, Concession - \$55, Students to end of Y12 - \$30

We prefer payment by direct deposit into the Society account:

Westpac BSB: 037 014

Account Number: 266570

Please type your name and 'subs' into the description area.

If direct deposit isn't possible, please give Nicole cash at a recorder rehearsal and she will write you a receipt.

## News of Members Past and Present

(Contributions welcome for this section.)

**Carol Samuelson** sent this note on her recent Italian recorder course.

Italian Recorder Course 2018



Once again I attended our annual Recorder Corso in the lovely medieval village of Loro Ciuffenna in Tuscany. This all came about initially because I had attended one of Zana Clarke's Armidale recorder courses 14 and a half years ago. At the end of this course John Tyson, one of the international recorder tutors from Boston, was handing out flyers to come and play recorder in Italy that August, (what I silly question I thought to myself, of course I want to do that). In its 14th year this course still has 3 of the 4 original attendees but now has usually 8 – 10 attending regularly including Canadians, Americans, Italians and myself. It is a private, invited course, and because of this the group has been able to grow musically together over the years to the point where now it is considered an advanced course. This is partly due to the fact that not only do we play renaissance instruments as well as our usual baroque instruments but we read a good proportion of the music from the original facsimile music with C clefs (C clefs can be on any line of the staff) which are of course unbarred. The C clefs can at times be quite a mental exercise. For example, the following Susato music is played on an alto with the clef indicating that the second line from the bottom is C.



Our day always begins with stretching, loosening of arms, shoulders and head, sometimes followed by a conga line neck massage, which we do outside which I am sure intrigues the locals, plus a vocal warmup. Heading inside we then continue with finger exercises followed by long notes and sometimes improvising, listening of course always to our tone quality. This usually takes about an hour to complete this routine but it is so important, it makes us ready for the long day ahead. Our days are long and we cover a wide range of music, scales and more long notes. Starting at 09.00 each day we finish around 19.00 with a 2 hour break at lunchtime which is when any individual practice can be done as well as the all-important consumption of lunch for renewed energy for the afternoon. On the 8th day we have just a half day and then our concert in the early evening.

The range of music we cover is quite diverse. This year we played a number of renaissance pieces, including a selection of Susato pieces, a composition by one of our members, Italian folk songs, Holst, Telemann, hymns as well as one of Soren Sieg's African Suites. Something for everyone. The concert started with a lovely hymn which we played from memory on renaissance instruments and finished with our encore piece Funiculi Funicula.  
Carol Samuelson

**Member Arjun von Caemmerer** performed in a concert, *The Soldier's Tale*, held at Lady Franklin Gallery, 7.30pm, October 7th, 2018. Nicole Parums provided this review for the Newsletter.

Performers: Violin - Tara Murphy, Clarinet - Derek Grice, Piano - Michael Kieran Harvey,  
Words - Arjun von Caemmerer

This was a concert of anniversaries: celebrating the 100th birthday of Stravinsky's "The Soldier's Tale"; 80 years of Bartok's "Contrasts" and a premier performance of Brenton Broadstock's "An Endless Ripple" commissioned for the 50th anniversary of Australian label Move Records. Plus other works too!

The overall feeling of this concert was of dynamism and energy with a real synergy between the musicians, with Arjun's words providing thoughtful and humorous counterpoint to the musical pieces.

Stravinsky's "The Soldier's Tale" was introduced by Arjun and his retelling of the story - encounters between the soldier and the devil - provided vivid images to accompany the lively music. The playing was joyous and energetic with much communication between the musicians. In such an intimate setting it was a real pleasure to feel so close to the performers, though I found the amplified keyboard at times overpowered the violin and clarinet. The musicians' masterful control of rhythm and syncopation really brought this piece to life.

The next musical piece, Stravinsky's "Three Solo Pieces for Clarinet", was exquisitely played by Derek Grice. I'd forgotten how beautiful the sound of the clarinet is and it was a real pleasure to hear the instrument played so well and up so close. Arjun's poems "Three Pieces for Solo Cat" were a lovely evocation of the lives of cats.

Bartok's jazz-inspired "Contrasts" was just wonderful - all three musicians playing the rhythmically complex piece to perfection and the audience showing their appreciation with much enthusiastic applause. I was so impressed by the energy of the musicians - particularly as this was their second concert for the evening! I particularly loved the final movement - so energising!

Arjun's short story "Felix" was the perfect next step in this thoughtfully programmed concert. In 1940 Bartok left Hungary and emigrated to America. "Felix" is about a refugee rescued and welcomed into a new home. This is a tender and affectionate piece and was very well received by the audience. I am familiar with this lovely story and it was a pleasure to hear it read by the author.

Bartok's "Duos" (for two violins) was reinterpreted for violin and clarinet, and these dynamically suited instruments presented three pieces inspired by central European folk music. It was satisfying to hear these melodies - familiar in style to the Bartok pieces we are rehearsing for the concert.

These short pieces were followed by Arjun's own short pieces inspired by Bartok - "A Doctor's Bag". Witty, humorous and thoughtful, these 'smidgens' provoked much laughter.

The final musical piece of the evening was the aforementioned "An Endless Ripple" - a short work in memorium for the composer's son. Michael's piano playing is graceful and effortless, and this calm and soothing piece was a lovely way to end a varied and dynamic concert. Congratulations to all involved - the excellent playing and beautifully spoken and written words combined to create a well - rounded and resolved and very satisfying concert.

Nicole Parums

**Donation to the Society;** Some of you will remember past member of the Society, **Peter Mitchell**, who passed away a few years ago. Peter was a quiet but committed member of the society and his unexpected passing was a surprise to us. Peter's brothers, Tim and Michael, have donated to the Society Peter's collection of recorders, music stands and a flute. We have thanked them via email and have also organised a thank-you card signed by current members. Arjun and Nicholas will be assessing the donations: some of the items will be kept by the society and others not suitable for our use will be passed on to charity.

## **From the Librarian**

If you have any music with **red dots** please return to the librarian asap. This is our original music and may well be irreplaceable. It also means that that particular piece is not available for HSRPI to play. So, please have a look through your collections of sheet music for red dots and return these pages to Arjun, for incorporation back into the library.

This **red dot request also applies to previous members** who still have an interest in the Society and might still have music with red dots from the time they were actively playing with us. We'd love to get it back so, please make your favourite hot or cold drink and check your sheet music for red dots. If you have such music and are unable to return it please contact someone on the Committee or send a message through our website to arrange collection.

**Recent Additions to Library:** Refer to the item above relating to the donation of recorders from the estate of Peter Mitchell

## **From the Music Director**

Focus at the moment is on rehearsal for our annual concert scheduled for 4 November 2018.

## **Recorders on the Internet**

This space is dedicated to interesting/humorous/topical/educational internet sites dedicated to, or featuring, mostly the recorder.

I'm always happy to receive contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

## **HSRPI webpage**

New Website Up and Running

Nicholas has designed a new website for us and it looks fantastic! Please check it out and tell your friends:

<https://hobartrecorderplayers.com>

## **FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Newsletter Contributions:** 27 November for December.

**Committee Meetings :** If there is a matter that you think the Committee should consider please provide a note to the Secretary beforehand so it can be added to the Agenda. The next meeting will be 26 November.

**HSRPI End of Year Concert:** 2pm, Sunday 4 November 2018, St John's Church, New Town. Rehearsal in the Church 7pm Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October. A copy of the flyer advertising the concert is included below. **NOTE:** There will be a Raffle at the Concert. Nicholas has very kindly donated to the Society a framed print to be raffled at the door (see picture below). If you're interested, start collecting your coins and be sure to purchase a ticket on Sunday the 4th November!

**SSRP Soiree:** 14 November. This is the annual 'concert' of Sydney Society of Recorder Players. See the attached Invitation for more information.

**Playing at Sandown:** Tuesday 27 November. Please be there ready to set up at 1pm so playing can commence at 1.30pm.

**HSRPI Xmas Party:** Monday 17 December 2018. This will be our last rehearsal of the year. We start the evening by playing Christmas Carols, then proceed to food and gifts. Please bring a plate of food to share and a wrapped gift up to the value of \$10. The gifts will be placed in Santa's sack and distributed to members by Santa himself! Please feel free to dress up and wear hats, bells etc.

**Bicheno Weekend 2019:** Long weekend 8th - 11th February.


Come to Ruth and Richard's cabin, about 8km north of Bicheno, for a fun time with lots of music making, feasting, and time for swimming, walking or bike riding on the beach, kite flying etc or just relaxing.



There is space for tents (some can be provided), or book a place to stay in Bicheno. But do it soon! Join us from breakfast till bedtime.

More detailed information will be sent in January. If you haven't been before talk to Ruth or Richard, or someone who has been to one of these weekends, and come to have a good time.



The background of the poster is a close-up photograph of several recorders, showing their wooden bodies and metal keys. A sheet of music with black notes on a white staff is visible in the lower-left corner. Two semi-transparent circles are overlaid on the image: a larger, light beige circle on the left and a smaller, orange circle on the right. The text is placed within these circles.

# **THE HOBART SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS**

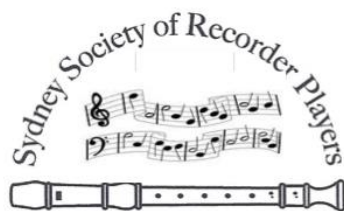
## **IN CONCERT**

**FEATURING RECORDER MUSIC  
FROM THE RENAISSANCE  
TO THE PRESENT**

**2PM, SUNDAY 4TH NOVEMBER**

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH,  
14 ST JOHN'S AVENUE,  
NEW TOWN**

**ENTRY BY DONATION**



## **A SPECIAL INVITATION TO OUR MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

**THE SYDNEY SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS  
IS HOLDING ITS  
ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA EVENT**

# **THE SOIREE!!**

### **WHEN?**

Wednesday evening, 14th November, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Doors open for supper at 6.30pm.

### **WHERE?**

St Scholastica's College, Avenue Rd, Glebe.

Park in the surrounding streets as there is no parking available in the school grounds.

### **WHAT?**

A Soiree! Again we present an evening of wonderful performances, highlighting the versatility of the fipple flute / blockflute / flauto dolce / recorder.

### **COST?**

\$15.00 per head - FREE for HS and Primary students.

### **ADVANTAGES?**

Apart from the music and company? You can enjoy a cabaret style evening with great food and drinks while listening to items presented by members and others. You also have the opportunity to participate in some fun music making - and you don't have to watch Wednesday evening TV!

### **DISADVANTAGES?**

None that we can think of.

## **COME AND JOIN US!**

The Sydney Society of Recorder Players, PO Box 438, Glebe NSW 2037

[www.sydneystudentrecorders.com.au](http://www.sydneystudentrecorders.com.au)

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