

# The Hobart Society of Recorder Players Inc.

<https://hobartrecorderplayers.com>

## Newsletter May 2022



Lunette, Castello del Buonconsiglio (Loggia), Trento  
Girolamo Romanino 1484-1562

### Reminders & Dates for your Diary:

#### Playing dates for 2022

May: 16<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

June: 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>

July: 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>

August: 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>

September: 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>

October: 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>

All sessions start at 19.30 at the Civic Club in Davey Street. Unless there are changes to Covid requirements we will, for the moment, require members to book in to ensure we have the correct number of people present. Watch out for an email in the week before each playing date.

Subscriptions are now due for 2022

Fees are as follows: Under 18 \$30, Concession \$55, Full member \$65

Please pay by bank deposit:

Westpac

BSB: 037014

Account: 266570

## Important Dates to put in your diary for 2022

- September 25<sup>th</sup> – Recording of Claire’s piece
- November Concert – date to be confirmed

## Update from Orpheus Music

The Australasian Recorder Festival 2023  
8 – 13 January Armidale NSW

Entries open July 1st

Six days of technique classes, ensembles and special interest topics and concerts.

To keep updated with information about next year’s Orpheus Music Gathering follow them on their website. <https://orpheusmusic.com.au/>

## AGM Reports

### President’s Report

2021 has been another year dominated by the COVID 19 global pandemic. Ongoing concern re health and safety has necessitated many alterations to the activities of the HSRP, but we have continued with rehearsals, social get togethers, committee meetings and a very successful end of year concert.

The February long weekend at the Langmans’ cabin in Bicheno could not be held this year, due to understandable health concerns. We instead met at the Fern Tree Community Centre (spacious enough for a safe gathering) on the weekend of February 20-21. The weekend included a variety of music, including further work on Claire’s “Circadian Rhythm“, the society’s AGM and a potluck dinner.

In March we resumed our regular rehearsals at the Civic Club, complying with regulations including pre-booking, limited numbers, social distancing and sanitising. During 2021 we actually had three conductors, Carol Samuelson, Claire Farrell and Xavier Gandy, each taking a couple of months at a time. This allowed each conductor to test and prepare pieces for the end of year concert.

One of the big problems presented by the social distancing rules was that the entire group did not fit in our usual rehearsal room. This was particularly problematic for our concert preparation and led to a search for larger venues.

On July 24 we held a successful Mid-Year socially distanced get together at the Fern Tree Community Centre. This included rehearsal of our concert pieces with our guests the Hobart guitar society, followed by a most enjoyable shared dinner. In September

and October we held several pre-concert rehearsals in St Francis Xavier's large, roomy church hall in South Hobart . As an aside, St Francis Xavier's has a new courtyard garden behind the church, inspired by the writings of the other great St Francis (of Assisi). We noted that the garden has been dedicated to the memory of parishioner Dr David Daly, a beloved member of our society, who died in 2019.

The society's end of year concert (with guest artists Guitarscape) was held at the Moonah Arts Centre on October 31. We had a surprisingly large attendance of 168, with many people having to stand and seating even in the foyer. Our featured piece was of course the world premiere performance of Claire Farrell's Circadian Rhythm. All three of our conductors were involved in the concert, in addition to Camilo Sanchez of Guitarscape who conducted our combined pieces.

Our final get-together and Christmas party was held at the Fern Tree Community Centre on December 13. Due to technical problems (we couldn't get in due to the complex security system!) some of the playing took place outside, before finally getting in for a well-deserved cuppa and Santa's presents. We had originally planned to record Claire's piece on this day, but she was ill and the recording has been moved forward to a date later in 2022.

Thank you to our three conductors, our committee and, in particular to Carol as our musical director. Throughout 2021 they have all worked really hard to ensure we followed all the pandemic rules and regulations, but still had a most enjoyable year of music.

Luz Montes  
President, 2021

## Musical Director's Report

Despite the Covid situation that we have all had to cope with over the last two years, requiring the Society to restrict numbers at rehearsals, we did have a very successful year in 2021. We had regular attendance, albeit with lesser numbers, and worked with efficiency on pieces preparing for a concert. By using other venues occasionally, we were able to achieve great results.

Unfortunately, once again, we had to cancel what had been an annual gathering at Ruth and Richard's cabin in Bicheno. Instead, we had a weekend in February using the Fern Tree Community Centre including a Pot Luck dinner on the Saturday evening where partners also came to join us.

The highlight of the year was the work and preparation on the composition we had commissioned Claire Farrell to write for us. In this composition Claire had each of our members in her mind when writing the individual parts, bringing out and highlighting the skills of those players, as well as making use of the large range of instruments the Society has.

The culmination of the year was our concert on the 31<sup>st</sup> October at the Moonah Arts Centre. We were very fortunate to share this concert with “Guitarscape”, a group we have previously joined with together in concert, this included performing several pieces combined with the guitars. During the year we had worked with three conductors, Xavier Gandy, Claire Farrell and myself, working towards our concert. Each of us brought different styles of music to the group ranging from the 1600’s to present day, including a Renaissance piece beautiful sung by Madeleine Dyer. The concert was a huge success and included the World Premier of Claire L. Farrell’s composition Circadian Rhythm.

To finish the year the Society had its Christmas celebration including Secret Santa of course.

We look forward to another successful year in 2022, navigating the ongoing Covid situation, and culminating in our end of year concert. A big thank you to all our members for their continuing support and participation.

Carol Samuelson  
Musical Director 2021

## Review of the Workshop with Robyn Mellor on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2022

The sun shone and we were all pleased after a few wet days.

Robyn Mellor, our tutor for the day, has a remarkable presence. The moment she stands behind her ‘lectern’ of musical scores we are instantly quiet. All chattering ceases. We wait for her wise musical words with anticipation. We were not disappointed.

We started out with fourteen century Spanish, O Virgo splendens, first playing tutti, then as a round. I didn’t have my tenor to hand so I missed out on this one. It pays to be prepared for any eventuality! This was followed by Du Schalksknecht by 17<sup>th</sup> century German composer Heinrich Schutz. This piece had many parts which had us all playing more thoughtfully; some needed to concentrate on the time and particularly the rests! T’Andernaken (Anon) followed, a trombone piece arranged for recorders. This was a fun piece with sometimes tricky rhythms but straight forward time. By now we were into good playing attentive mode.

During the day we played William Laws Consort Set a 5 in A minor, a fantasy and with Robyn’s gentle but firm coaching we produced a lovely sound. Bach followed, Fuga in C Major in four parts followed another piece in four parts by Vaughn Williams, a Suite for Pipes, playing the valse movement, there were many tempo changes, from lento to allegro to poco animato and back to a tempo.

I didn’t think we would be able to get through all the music which we had previously downloaded and supposed to have practised but right at the end Robyn managed to squeeze in a favourite Australian composer, Lance Eccles’s March to the Town Hall which was played with verve and enthusiasm. A lovely way to end the day.

Lunchtime was a good way to catch up with our fellow players, our first workshop since before the covid pandemic interrupted our playing routine. It was a much needed occasion for those who attended and Robyn was able to get us all together to play with enthusiasm. We were pleased to welcome Robyn's husband who joined us as a player. Thank you to the organisers. The Fern Tree Community Hall, overlooking the trees, is a pleasant and ideal venue to hold a day's recorder workshop.

Clodagh Jones

## Interesting Articles

Nicholas Lander notes a continuing series of Snippets, brief articles concerning the recorder, available on his personal website. Some are informative, some are entertaining, others are simply whimsical. Several appeared first in this Newsletter. More are in the pipe-line (so to speak).

### [Snippets](#)

- Handel and the Hype about HIP
- Smurfs and the Recorder
- Doctor Who and the Recorder
- Battles and Bambocciate
- Prof. George Halford's 'Flute Boy'
- Instrument of Torture
- Stand and Deliver!
- Leonardo da Vinci's Recorders
- A Round History of Square Recorders
- Playing with History
- Cats Chorus
- Involuntary Compositions for Recorder by Bartók