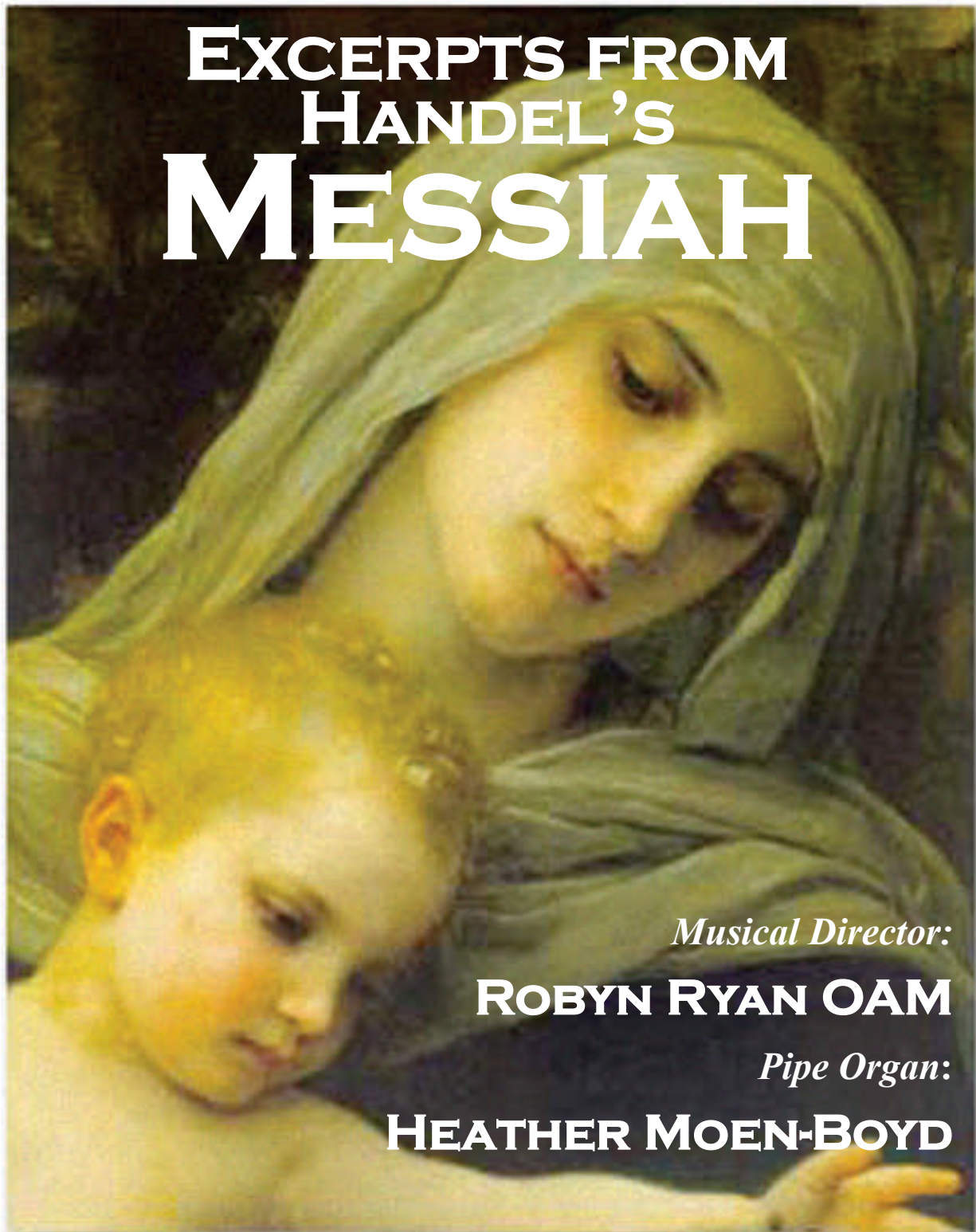


Hastings Choristers

**EXCERPTS FROM
HANDEL'S
MESSIAH**



Musical Director:

ROBYN RYAN OAM

Pipe Organ:

HEATHER MOEN-BOYD

ANCA

AUSTRALIAN
NATIONAL
CHORAL
ASSOCIATION

BAPTIST CHURCH Port Macquarie

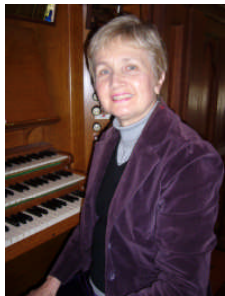
Saturday 3 December 2011 8.00 pm
Sunday 4 December 2011 2.00 pm



**HASTINGS
CHORISTERS**
'sharing the joy of song'

PERFORMERS

HEATHER MOEN-BOYD



Heather studied organ with Norman Johnston at Sydney Conservatorium, where she gained a Bachelor of Music. She also holds the A Mus A and FTCL diplomas. An experienced recitalist, she has been organist and choir director at Scots Kirk Mosman since 2006. During the recent Festival of Mosman she performed a solo organ arrangement of Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*.

Heather regularly accompanies major choral works with various choirs throughout Sydney and regional areas. Performances throughout the last couple of years have included Haydn's *The Creation*, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Stainer's *The Crucifixion*, Requiems by Mozart, Fauré and Duruflé, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*. She is excited to be working with the Hastings Choristers once again, one of several performances of *Messiah* she will play before Christmas, including those in Albury, Goulburn and Waitara.

As well as running a busy private studio, Heather is a piano tutor at Georges River Grammar School, and an examiner with the Australian and New Zealand Cultural Arts. She represented the Presbyterian Church on the editorial committee for the revised Australian Hymn Book, *Together in Song*, and she is also a chorister with the Sunday Evensong choir at Christ Church St Laurence, Sydney.

NINA MESTRIC



Born in Sydney, Nina performed in choirs during her primary and high school years. She then completed her BA Music degree, majoring in singing with repertoire including musical theatre, classical and Lieder. Having made Port Macquarie home, Nina joined Hastings Choristers and has performed in many concerts as part of Cantorus and Cantabile as well as taking on several soprano solos.

JOSHUA SALTER



Joshua performed in both the Hastings Youth Choirs and Hastings Choristers before gaining a Bachelor of Music from University of Newcastle Conservatorium. He then travelled to London to further his voice studies. In a busy 2011, Joshua has played the principal role of Giuseppe in the Newcastle Festival Opera production of *The Gondoliers*, among many achievements. Joshua has appeared as a soloist with the Choristers many times over the years and they are always happy to welcome him back.

EVELYN CHEE



Evelyn has a fine musical background having completed grade 8 in both piano and violin. However, singing remains her passion. An accomplished singer, she has belonged to many choirs around the world, including The Philharmonic Chorus, Singapore, which has won gold at international choral competitions. More recently, she was with The Harmony Singers, Dubbo, before joining Hastings Choristers.

JOHN THOMPSON



John has been a resident of Port Macquarie for 40 years and his Tenor voice has been heard extensively around the Mid North Coast and interstate. He has performed as a soloist in many choirs, stage shows and charity performances over the years. His dedication to choral singing has made him a much loved and valued Life Member and current President of Hastings Choristers.

PAUL GROENEVELD



Paul moved to Port Macquarie in 1996 and joined the Hastings Choristers to indulge his passion for choral singing. This also led to him becoming involved as a cantor at one of the local churches. Paul has been involved in most of the performances of Cantorus since then and is currently the Tenor Section Leader.

CANTORUS

Sopranos:

Adele Miles *
Shirley Aitchison
Elaine Clark
Geraldine Clarke
Anita Fryszak
Heather Hannock
Stella Hannock *
Wendy Jamison
Kerryn Lawrence *
Gwenda Lee
Fae Lister *
Nina Mestric *
Cathy Newham *
Nelly Wagemaker
Henny van Woudenberg

Altos:

Jenny Reeve *
Gail Barber
Linda Burn
Evelyn Chee *
Marjorie Fryszak
Lorraine Garland
Ann Gibbs
Meredith Hinds
Libby Hopley
Charlotte Hummel
Monica Hunt
Trish Lawrence
Maureen Mallyon *
Jan McKenna
Sue Morton
Fran Pearce *
Linda Robertson

Del Robson *
Barb Spencer
Dianne Stephen
Clare Walker

Tenors:

Paul Groeneveld *
Ruth Allen
Gillian Bennett *
Mark Collett *
Sue Creech
Terry Crossley
Adam Kennedy
Hilja Siren
John Thompson *
Martyn Tizzard *

Basses:

Michael Matthews *
Ross Adam
John Burman *
Brett Goshorn
Lionel Hudson *
Ben Robinson *
Joshua Salter
Walter Schellenberg *
Gary Snow
Warren Taylor

* *Ensemble singers*

MESSIAH, G.F. HANDEL, 1741

*Please hold your applause until Interval
and at the end of the concert.*

Sinfony (Overture)	<i>Heather Moen-Boyd, Organ</i>
And the glory of the Lord	<i>Chorus</i>
Comfort ye my people	<i>John Thompson, Recitative</i>
Ev'ry valley shall be exalted	<i>John Thompson, Air</i>
And He shall purify	<i>Ensemble</i>
Behold, a virgin shall conceive	<i>Evelyn Chee, Recitative</i>
O thou that tellest ...	<i>Chorus</i>
For unto us a child is born	<i>Ensemble and Chorus</i>
Pifa (Pastoral Symphony)	<i>Heather Moen-Boyd, Organ</i>
There were shepherds ...	<i>Nina Mestric, Recitative</i>
Glory to God	<i>Chorus</i>
His yoke is easy	<i>Ensemble</i>
Then shall the eyes of the blind	<i>Evelyn Chee, Recitative</i>
He shall feed his flock	<i>Evelyn Chee, Nina Mestric, Air</i>
Behold the Lamb of God	<i>Ensemble</i>
Surely He hath borne our griefs	<i>Chorus</i>
And with his stripes we are healed	<i>Chorus</i>

INTERVAL

Then shall be brought to pass	<i>Evelyn Chee, Recitative</i>
O death, where is thy sting?	<i>Evelyn Chee, Paul Groeneveld, Duet</i>
But thanks be to God	<i>Chorus</i>
All they that see Him	<i>John Thompson, Recitative</i>
He trusted in God	<i>Chorus</i>
Lift up your heads, O ye gates	<i>Semi-chorus and Chorus</i>
Unto which of the angels	<i>John Thompson, Recitative</i>
Let all the angels	<i>Chorus</i>
The Lord gave the word	<i>Chorus</i>
How beautiful are the feet	<i>Nina Mestric, Air</i>
Their sound is gone out	<i>Chorus</i>
Thou art gone up on high	<i>Joshua Salter, Air</i>
Let us break their bonds asunder	<i>Chorus</i>
Hallelujah	<i>Chorus</i>
Since by man came death	<i>Ensemble and Chorus</i>
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion	<i>Nina Mestric, Air</i>
Worthy is the Lamb / Amen	<i>Chorus</i>

A message from Hastings Choristers MD...

As 2011, our 21st birthday year, draws to a close I've been trying to work out what has made us survive and thrive over such a long time in a Regional area and have concluded that it is the calibre of our membership. I'm continually amazed by our dedicated and enthusiastic singers and their willingness to participate in so many wonderful choral events here and in other places.

We are an auditioned Community Choir organisation with two vibrant groups – the larger group Cantorus who you are hearing today, and our female ensemble, Cantabile. Everyone strives for excellence and seems to love a challenge and many singers volunteer for a wide variety of roles within the group, going that extra mile for our organisation. It is the people who seem to constantly put their hand up when needed that give us that edge.

Each of the four sections of Cantorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass) has a leader who is absolutely essential to the smooth running of rehearsals both large and small. I sincerely thank Adele Miles, Jenny Reeve, Paul Groeneveld and Michael Matthews for filling those roles. They make my life much easier and manage to engender a wonderful sense of team spirit within their sections – without these four people I'd be lost!

We are fortunate today to be able to present some of our fine solo voices to delight you. These people are regular choristers who, blessed with beautiful instruments, have worked very hard to perform some selected arias, duets and recitatives for your enjoyment. Josh Salter, who returns this weekend for his Bass solo, goes back a very long way in choirs in this area. I found him in a primary school choir and it is good to see his singing career blossoming. We all love having him back in our midst. And of course having our good friend and brilliant organist Heather as our accompanist once more fills us with confidence.

Special thanks to you our audience for supporting us by coming along today and I do hope you have noticed the growth in our choral sound over the years because I certainly have. Indeed this present chorus is sounding impressive and I am sure you will enjoy this fabulous Baroque program. We have in our midst a number of new members who've never sung *Messiah* before and it's been a steep learning curve for them, but their joy in the mastery of this music is palpable – I believe they are now probably hooked!

All of the Hastings Choristers join me in wishing each of you a very happy festive season and trust that 2012 will bring you great music, good health and many laughs.

Robyn Ryan



And from the President...

This performance of *Messiah* marks the end of our 21st birthday celebrations. We have had a wonderful time singing for you this year, as always, and we know you have appreciated our work. Next year's programme is on the drawing board and promises to be just as exciting.

Presenting *Messiah* is like revisiting an old friend, and this marks the 7th time Hastings Choristers has performed it. Alongside our experienced members we have many new singers having their first encounter with this very popular work. The hard work they have put in, and the anticipation they have built up, has produced such a vibrant sound - you are in for a treat.

In the past we have presented *Messiah* accompanied by various orchestras and also solo organ, which is how you will hear it today. The Baptist Church holds one of the finest organs in country NSW and has a fascinating background. Originally from the Brown St Congregational Church in Newcastle, installed in 1904, it was moved to Port Macquarie in 1975 to the former Baptist Church in Gordon St. Dismantled in 1994 and stored for four years, it was installed here, growing from its original 590 pipes to just under 1500. The driving force behind the organ was Ron Mapstone, who sang with the Choristers for many years. Today Heather will bring most of those 1500 pipes to life.

This performance is our Christmas treat to the people of Port Macquarie, and with it we wish you all a wonderful and happy Christmas.

John Thompson

JOIN HASTINGS CHORISTERS!

Have you thought about it? Have a chat to one of our members here today, then come along to our first rehearsal of 2012 on **Monday 6 Feb** at MacKillop Senior College at 7.00 pm. You will discover that singing together is amazingly rewarding.

Treats for us next year include a combined concert with the Hastings Band in the Glasshouse, a Choral Celebration, featuring a plethora of young voices (as well as us), and lots more including the opportunity to perform with orchestras in Armidale and the Sydney Town Hall.

Note the Armidale Music Foundation Choral Weekend is on 9-11 March next year. The Musical Director is Paul Holley and the work is Haydn's *Harmoniemesse*. Details will shortly be available on their website, amfchoral@org.au. Lots of our members travel to Armidale for this wonderful weekend every year.

Hastings Choristers

President - John Thompson; **Secretary** - Therese Goshorn; **Treasurer** - Nelly Wagemaker

Internet: <http://www.midcoast.com.au/~choristers> Email: hcinc@westnet.com.au

Hastings Choristers is most grateful for the continuing support of its **Patrons, Paul and Mary McCarthy**. Special thanks also to **Ian Peterson**, who has worked so hard on publicity, to **Paul McCarthy Advertising** for the printing of flyers and programs, to **Neil Allen**, our patient and efficient Stage Manager and to **Jerome at Forty Winks** who has kindly provided transport for our equipment. Finally, a big thank you to **Lydia Wills**, our talented rehearsal accompanist.