



Affiliates' Journal

Folio #1 Issue #2: 11 June 2019

Dear Affiliates

Welcome to this 2019 *second edition* of the Christchurch Civic Music Council's Affiliates' Journal. The Civic Music Council was so pleased with the response to the first edition of the Affiliates Journal. Warm congratulations to Robert Tait for putting it together so well. We trust this Winter Edition will be equally well received.



There is so much to be pleased about. The City Council group led by Kiri Jarden has published a Draft Arts Strategy – Toi Otautahi Draft Arts Strategy. It is available online for comment and citizens are invited to several Consultation meetings during June.

<https://www.ccc.govt.nz/culture-and-community/art-museums/toi-otautahi-christchurch-arts>

The Civic Music Council has been invited to participate in the final consultation in Turanga (the new City Library near the Gloucester/Colombo Streets corner – beware the street is now blocked but can be accessed from Colombo or Manchester Streets) on June 14th. Our focus is on ensuring that Christchurch is recognised as a City of Culture.

Many of you will have enjoyed the concerts in the Douglas Lilburn auditorium. Look out for Information about Organ Recitals by renowned international organists on June 9th and August 18th. They come highly recommended by Martin Setchell. We are informed by Michael Lawrence (Chair of the Concerto Competition Trust) that the James Hay [another auditorium of the Town Hall] is restored, open and the acoustic splendid. We look forward now to Music recitals there.

The Civic Music Council is so well served by the executive and splendidly supported by our most able and efficient Secretary, Carmel Brown. Thank you Carmel. Our success depends on engaging with our affiliates. We invite you to tell us about your activities and draw our attention to new members. You will note that we welcome the NZ Trio in this issue. We will support them at their Concert in the Great Hall at the Arts Centre at 1.10pm on July 11th.

Margaret E. Austin

Honoured

Congratulations to Celia Stewart, Christchurch School of Music (CSM) Music Director, for being deservedly honoured in The Queen's Birthday (June 2019) Honours with the award of Member of the NZ Order of Merit (MNZM).



The NZ Trio warmly welcomed

Christchurch is set to enjoy a “Tectonic Shift” * at the Arts Centre 7.00pm Thursday 11 July 2019. Bookings via Eventfinda (re-check periodically for the link if necessary). The Trio is the most recent new Affiliate of CCMC. Founding cellist, Ashley Brown, announced late 2018 the coming on board of pianist Somi Kim and violinist Amalia Hall (l. to r. in the photo). Visit their website for their exciting news ahead <https://nztrio.com>

* An imaginary voyage on the Endeavour with music painting a picture of its voyage and encounters between Maori and Europeans.



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The CCMC Story (Chapter two)

It can be said that everyone of us is a hero (in this context encompassing all genders) in our own best-selling novel. CCMC, its Affiliates and each of their members are no exceptions.

With “The CCMC Story” series, in this and future issues, there will be articles and photographs selected at random from archives: also resulting from submissions or meetings with the outstanding contributors involved.

Centre stage

Today's reading is about Graeme Richard Wallis, MNZM. His academic achievements underpin the remarkable list of his contributions in wide-ranging fields. They include: Adjunct Senior Fellow (Teacher Education) University of Canterbury, MusB (Hons), Dip Teaching, L(Mus)TCL, AIRMT. Following service as an executive member since 1987, he was elected President of the Christchurch Civic Music Council (CCMC), from 2006 until 2019 (when health unexpectedly and sadly meant retirement).



He is pictured with Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy during the MNZM awarding ceremony following the 2018 New Year's Honours.

Graeme is a leader of exceptional prowess following in the footsteps of a list of iconic musicians and administrators. These included the founder, Thomas Andrews, of the first ever entity of this kind in NZ and perhaps the world. Its formation followed the NZ Centennial Concerts in 1940. Many readers will know personally the more recent Presidents such as, Wallace Woodley, Peter Barton and Howard Harvey (as more obscure records can be viewed, dates and stories about these and others can be highlighted).

Leadership

Some highlights of Graeme's term as President of CCMC and leadership in a host of other entities have included:

- Chairmanship and Trustee for the National Concerto Competition;
- Secretary of The Society for Music Education Canterbury (MEC) who along with Celia Stewart and Judith Bell and the CCMC initiates the Strum Strike and Blow extravaganza involving nearly 50 city and provincial schools and over a thousand students each year;
- Music Director of the Christchurch School of Music (CSM);
- Led the 14th November 2018 CCMC's, Affiliates' and city's iconic entities' as well as Ngai Tahu's involvement commemorating the 100th Anniversary at Wigram of the signing of the Armistice;
- Secretary in the 1990's of the Town Hall Pipe Organ Fundraising Cmte; •Mus Dir. Christchurch Operatic Society;
- A term as President of the Rotary Club of Avonhead and a Paul Harris Fellow: the club helped raise \$250,000 towards purchase and installation of the Rieger Town Hall pipe organ;
- Chairmanship of the Friends of the Arts Centre;
- President of the Christchurch Schools Music Festival Association;
- Has made significant personal donations to the National Concerto Competition and helped raise funds for numerous other Rotary events.

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During the interview he recalled a job swap with Bob Perks (founder of the CSM) and the fun they both had when Bob took Graeme's class at school whilst Graeme took Bob's Teachers' College students. He also recalled enjoyment from playing bass guitar with the Viscounts at dances to raise funds for Rotary projects: he also plays double bass and lead guitar.

There are plenty of exciting times ahead for Graeme as recuperation proceeds. He and Penny, his partner for over 20 years are to wed later in 2019. Leading up to this event they are planning a number of get-togethers for family and friends. Graeme expressed how proud he was of his four children and 13 grand-children and their achievements including musical activities (e.g. Natasha being the MD for the Sound of Music).

Graeme believes passionately that "music is important" and was very encouraged that Arts Strategy consultations stemming from the Christchurch City Council's Working Party and members' document, are going ahead.

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Toi Otautahi Arts Plans

A Draft Strategy for the Arts and Creativity in Otautahi Christchurch is a City Council Project "Open for Feedback".

Friday 14 June 2019 3.15 to 5.00pm session is by invitation to appropriate members and representatives of the Arts community. This follows a number of open forums at various district venues. Friday's venue is at Spark Place, a ground floor room at Tūranga (kindly made available by the Christchurch's Public Library – the largest in the South Island – located in Gloucester Street between Manchester and Colombo Streets; N.B.: the Library per se is not a participant in the get-together.

It takes the form of CCC officers, especially Kiri Jarden (and any Councillors able to attend) and invited representatives of Arts entities expressing views to CCC Arts Advisors and tabling papers. An important step ahead is membership of a Joint Leadership Group (JLG) to drive the undertaking involving management, promotion, support and possible funding of the Arts.

Expressions in general can also be shared by visiting the City Council's website:
<https://www.ccc.govt.nz/consultations-and-submissions/>

On behalf of the CCMC current President, Margaret Austin, together with fellow executive member, Denise Murfitt, drafted a document to be presented and tabled by Denise at the Friday 14 June Arts Consultation meeting. This paper is to encourage the Arts community for the directions, management and funding it proposes and to share CCMC considerations it is believed will prosper further the undertakings.

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The CCMC Story (Chapter three)

WALLACE WOODLEY, CCMC LIFE MEMBER
QSO, MusB (Hons), BMus (London), FTCL, ARCM,
LRAM, ARCO, LRSM, FIRMT

As a representative of the (then) Christchurch Society of Registered Music Teachers, Wallace Woodley was first elected in 1970 to the Executive of the Christchurch Civic Music Council, remaining a member of the Executive until 1991 (a period of 21 years).

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He held the office of Chairman from 1981 to 1989, and was an Honorary Vice President from 1989 to 2003. He was awarded Life Membership of the Christchurch Civic Music Council in 1990.

Significant responsibilities he has held include being for many years Convener of the National Concerto Competition Sub-committee; Convener of the preliminary Town Hall Organ Fund-raising Committee set up in 1980.

He was convener for many years, from its inception in 1980, of the Ruby Hay Piano Competition Sub-committee; and Editor/Compiler of the *Jubilee Compendium*, the 50th Anniversary booklet summary of the careers of the Finalists in the National Concerto Competition during the first 49 years.

Since 1967 Wallace has been Organist & Choir Director of the Durham Street Methodist Church, and in 1995 he was elected a Life Member of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand. Awarded QSO in 2003 for services to the community, he continues to be active as a teacher of Piano Performance and a Piano Accompanist.



Wallace Woodley



Benjamin Sheen

Celebrity Concert

Martin Setchell and Roger Buckton on behalf of Friends of the Christchurch Town Hall Organ report the advent of the International Celebrity Organ 3.00pm Sundays Concert Series 2019. The Rieger Organ engaged Maurice Clerc from Dijon Cathedral, France, on 9 June and now the next one at 3.00pm 18 August 2019 is by Benjamin Sheen. He is one of Great Britain's leading young organists, now serving as Associate Organist at Saint Thomas Church in New York City. He holds degrees from the University of Oxford and the Juilliard School, is a prize-winning Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, and the 2011 recipient of the Worshipful Company of Musicians' Silver Medal. As a concert organist he has performed throughout Europe, the USA and Canada, Singapore, and South Africa. His contrasting programme features English music by Sir William Walton, Henry Smart, and Percy Whitlock, a Concert Fantasy on themes by Gershwin, the exuberant Toccata alla Rumba by Peter Planyavsky, as well as music by Mozart and Bossi. Adults - \$30, Friends of the Organ* - \$25, Students with ID - \$15, Pre-concert talk (1.45-2.15pm) - \$20 (up to 30 participants will be able to see the organ close up. **Book now at**

www.nzorgan.com *To become a member of the Friends, please contact the secretary, David Towns (03) 358 5846 or email friends@nzorgan.com

Antarctic fanfare

A fanfare to the Antarctic Spirit is the title of a feature event this year by the Christchurch City Choir. The Choir's Manager, Jody Keehan says it holds significant importance for all those who hold love for and interest in Antarctica. In December it will be 60 years since the signing of the Antarctic Treaty "in the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord." In this same spirit, the Christchurch City Choir presents Antarctic Spirit on **Saturday 29th June 7:30pm at the Douglas Lilburn Auditorium of the Christchurch Town Hall.**

A fanfare of trumpets, organ, the rise of voices in harmony evoking the majesty and mystery of Antarctica. The Christchurch City Choir along with the Christ Church Cathedral Choristers, Southern Cross Brass and soprano Helen Charlton will perform music that captures the spirit of the Ice Continent.

Concert MC, *Patrick Shepherd* is an Antarctic Arts Ambassador and the Choir look forward to singing his "Three Sea Chanties" harking back to "The Heroic Age" of Scott, Amundsen and Shackleton, and a new work "Antarctic Spirit" written by Patrick especially for City Choir. *Dr John Linker* will not only conduct the Choir but also will play "After Ulysses" on the Rieger Organ, written by Patrick Shepherd to the memory of Captain Robert Falcon Scott.



Southern Cross Brass is a composite of many of the best brass band players in New Zealand and Australia, conducted by Howard Taylor. They will present the world premiere of "The Greatest Kiwi Hero" by Fendall Hill, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sir Edmund Hillary and will join the Choir to perform the world premiere of "Antarctic Icescapes" by Dwayne Bloomfield.

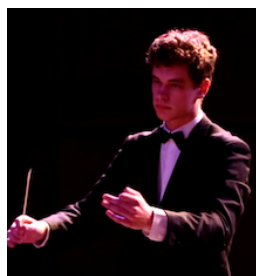
This concert will capture the Spirit of Antarctica with bold new music and glorious soundscapes. Tickets on sale now through Ticketek.

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Aquired from Jill & Angela

Risingholme Community Choir began in 1947 lead by conductor Albie Wilson. It was part of one of the groups belonging to the Risingholme Community Centre and rehearsed in the centre's theatre. In 1992 the choir became an incorporated society and changed its name to Risingholme Singers and is an Incorporated Society. After the 2011 earthquake making the theatre unusable, the choir moved to Opawa Baptist Church.

Over the years the choir has had many fine conductors and musical directors including Paul Ellis, Thomas Brown, Cherry Taylor, Jean Ebert and Murray Lennox. Murray was the choir's conductor for 11 years and brought to the choir a wealth of musical experience. The choir has been privileged to perform many of his compositions. Chris Graham became our musical director in 2012. His focus was on improving vocal techniques and the choir was challenged by many difficult arrangements and full operettas. In *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Mikado* the choir enjoyed singing and acting in costume and including movement in our performances. For the musical *Chess* in 2012 we combined with the Risingholme Orchestra and soloists from North Canterbury to perform for 2 nights at Kaiapoi High School. The choir also performed Handel's *Messiah* part 2 with the Christchurch String Orchestra. Caroline Attard led for most of 2018 until our most recent musical director, Henry Nicholson.



He is studying at Canterbury University and brings a strong musical knowledge, leadership and youth to the position. He is also an accomplished violinist and singer and has accompanied the choir in concerts when he joined the bass section last year. The first concert of Risingholme Singers this year is on the afternoon of 3rd of August at Heaton Normal Intermediate Performing Arts Centre. Choir piano accompanist is William Grubb. Also participating on Sunday afternoon 11 August in the Choral Fest at St Mary's. Story by President Jill Willmot and Angela Willmott.

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The plains are alive with the sounds of music:

Share your events and stories on the CCMC website & calendar & Affiliates' Journal.

secretary@musiccanterbury.co.nz or for the Journal, The Editor rvt@rvt.co.nz

Visit musiccanterbury.co.nz/events/ (click entries of interest for more details)

A few diary items ahead (randomly chosen and in no particular order):

Coming soon:

Wednesdays at ONE - CBS

Your weekly feast of music at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral 373 Manchester Street
Jun – Sep 2019 visit <http://www.cathedral.org.nz/cbsWed%20at%20One.html>

SSB

Thu 29 Aug 2019: Strum, Strike, Blow Horncastle Arena (all day rehearsals and
7.00pm public concert) bell.judith@gmail.com

Risingholme Singers

Afternoon of Saturday 3 August 2019 Heaton Intermediate Performing Arts Centre.
jwillmott@xtra.co.nz

NZ Trio - "Tectonic Shift"

Christchurch Arts Centre Thu 11 July 2019 starting 7.00pm (see story above)

Canterbury Singers - Smorgasbord

'A Smorgasbord of Song' Saturday 22nd June 2.15pm (start) at The Piano. Armagh
Street. Cost \$15 per person. Children under 10 free.

Tickets available through Jackie 027 466 7815

Julie Davis Secretary - joollzd@gmail.com

Celebrity Organists

Sunday 18 August 2019 3.00pm Town Hall Rieger Organ is played by Benjamin Sheen of St Thomas, New York. A pre-concert talk about the organ starts at 1.45 to 2.15pm and an organ tour (limited to 30 participants) Book at www.nzorgan.com Door sales available from 1pm on concert day.

Chamber Music Contest

NZ Community Trust Canterbury district Secondary School Students perform from 12 to 14 June at The Piano 156 Armagh Street with the district final Friday 14th at 7.00pm. Southern Finals 11.30 am and 4.30pm at The Piano Sunday 23 June 2019 with National Semi-Finals in August.

The 'Jubes' - a bit of Swingle

Jubilate Singers present **Swingers** "hot" choral jazz from these cool classical dudes. Saturday 7.30pm 22 June 2019 at "A Rolling Stone" restaurant and bar 579 Colombo Street. Enjoy the Swingle Singing feature.

Operatunity Series

A season of 8 entertainments titled "The Dancing Years" starting Tuesday 18 June 2019 at 11.00am in the La Vida Centre 34a Hansons Lane Upper Riccarton. Advance payments bookings@operatunity.co.nz

Waimakariri Community Arts - Michael Endres Piano

Rangiora Chamber Gallery 13 June 2019 7.30pm Mozart Gershwin, Ravel etc.

Nut Point Centre - Rangi Ruru

Rangi Ruru Girls' School 2019 Saturday 15 June 2019 2.00pm (Booking necessary)

CBS Cathedral Festival Concert - Mozart for Trinity

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral 373 Manchester Street is the venue for the CBS Choir and Orchestra performing Mozart's Trinity Piano Concerto No. 20 with Veronica van der Knaap Bach's Trinity Fugue with Nicholas Sutcliffe at the organ and choral works by Palestrina, Glinda, Philips, Mendelssohn and Rutter. Sunday 3.00pm 16 June 2019. don.whelan@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch Foundation Trust - Baroque Beauty

The Piano 156 Armagh Street 12.10pm to 12.50pm Tuesday 18 June 2019. Featuring Tomas Hurnik and James Bush celli and Douglas Mews Harpsichord. concertsforchristchurch@gmail.com

Risingholme Orchestra - celebrating player's 100th

A free concert for residents of retirement homes Thursday 11.00am Thursday 20 June 2019 at the Woolston Club 43 Hargood Street. Sharing the programme are members of the 50's up Band. This event celebrates the 100th birthday of a trumpeter and composer who still performs with both groups.

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