

**The Melbourne Welsh Male Choir** Since its inception in 1984 under the leadership of Bill Mead, the Choir quickly established itself as a leading male choir and became known for its "special" sound and the boldness and ambition of its concert productions. In pursuit of excellence the choir appointed its first professional Musical Director, Phillip Smith in 1995 and its first professional Accompanist Linda O'Brien in 1996. This winning formula resulted in a marked improvement in the choir's abilities. Douglas Heywood OAM joined the choir as Musical Director in 2001 and continued the improvement and enhanced performance by adding a full symphony orchestra to productions. Grazina Pranauskas was our first female conductor in 2007.

Our current MD Lucas de Jong was appointed at the end of 2007. The choir is steeped in the Welsh Choral tradition but still is proudly Australian and has members from diverse nationalities. Beginning with its founding musical director Bill Mead, the choir has nurtured its contacts in Wales and has the honour of having as patron and occasional conductor Alwyn Humphreys MBE. The choir fosters young talent through its annual Singer of the Year competition for singers under 35 years, with many of the winners and finalists currently performing on the world stage. 2014 is the twenty-second year of this competition. Overseas performances include Cardiff Arms Park in Wales in 1992; Atlanta, Georgia in 1994; concert tours of South Africa in 1997, Canada 2002 and Wales including London's Royal Albert Hall in 2008, and half of the choir have just returned Vienna, and from taking part in the Salzburg Festival.

The Choir is proudly independent, receiving no government subsidies and can only continue to prosper through the excellence of performances and recordings and the support of our audiences.

**Lucas de Jong** has been the Music Director of the Melbourne Welsh Male Choir since October 2007. His choral experience began at the age of 10 when he joined a boys choir. Soon after that he made his debut as a soloist in the Australian Opera. While studying at the Melba Conservatorium and the Victorian College of the Arts he was also performing for Victoria State Opera. In the early 1990s Lucas began his career as an operatic baritone soloist in England and continued to tour the world, performing over thirty-five roles.

Lucas has been a teacher of classical voice at Monash University, the Australian Catholic University and in his own studio while continuing his operatic career. He studied conducting with John Hopkins, conducting performances of 'The Magic Flute' and 'Orpheus in the Underworld' for Monash University.

**Simon Walters** emigrated to Melbourne in April 2010 from the UK lured by his wife who is an Aussie. A professional musician since 1994, he is a practiced sight reader in a variety of styles, and is still in demand for arrangements, transcriptions & backing tracks in the UK despite being on the opposite side of the world. Since arriving in Australia, Simon has musically directed the Frankston Ladies' Choir, accompanied the Melbourne Welsh, done a saucy cabaret with international artiste Isabel Hertaeg, and played on various functions and event gigs with a multitude of bands. One thing's for sure, life is never dull finding out where the next bit of work is coming from, and Simon looks forward to working more closely with both choirs in the years to come.



Programme Design & Layout Alan Stevenson



In The Spirit  
Goin' Home  
When The Saints  
Ride The Chariot  
Shelter  
My Father Was A Miner  
Bugeilio'r Gwenith Gwyn  
Calon Lan/Shaft of Song  
Bring Him Home  
I Dreamed A Dream  
On My Own  
Do You Hear The People Sing  
Stout Hearted Men  
Barcarolle  
The Nun's Chorus  
Duet from the Pearl Fishers  
When I'm Sixty Four



Waltzing Matilda  
Suo Gan  
Two Little Boys  
Danny Boy  
Linden Lea  
Somagwaza  
Aberystwyth  
Deus Salutis  
Llanfair  
My Silver Trumpet  
Cany On Wayward Son  
American Trilogy  
Calon Lan  
Cwm Rhondda  
Fantasia on Welsh Airs



The Creation  
Men of Harlech  
The First Noel  
Away in a Manger  
O Come All Ye Faithfull  
Cavatina,  
Drunken Sailor  
Somebody to Love  
Sosban Fach,  
Gwahoddiad  
Christmas Day  
Christmas Medley (L O'Brien)  
Angel Carol/Hark The Herald  
Llanfair  
The World in Union  
The Lord At First  
O Holy Night  
Legend  
Once In Royal David's City  
Senzenina



He Ain't Heavy  
You Raise Me Up  
When I Fall In Love  
Shenandoah  
Stars  
Anthem  
Va Pensiero  
O Hear Us (Magic Flute)  
Divine Brahma  
Nessun Dorma  
Prayer from Lohengrin  
Ysbryd y Nos  
Ai Am Fod Haul  
When She Loved Me  
Ar Lan y Môr



Waltzing Matilda  
I Still Call Australia  
Two Little Boys  
Danny Boy  
Shosholoza  
Somagwaza  
Senzenina  
Somebody To Love  
Take Me Home  
She Was Beautiful  
An American Trilogy  
Morte Christe  
Goin' Home  
Hine e Hine  
The World In Union  
Song Of The Jolly Roger  
Amazing Grace



Bless 'Em All  
Roll Out The Barrel  
There's a Boy Coming Home  
My Prayer  
Kiss Me Goodnight / Nursie  
We'll Meet Again  
Land of Hope & Glory  
Its a Long Way to Tipperary  
Goodbye Dolly Gray  
Good-bye-ee  
Lili Marlene  
Roses of Picardy  
Who Were You With Last Night  
Pack Up Your Troubles  
Keep the Home Fires Burning.  
Vera Lyn Medley  
Sousa Medley & more



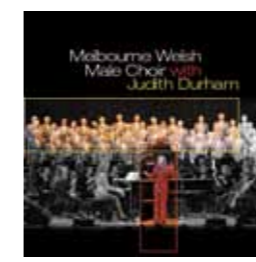
Ar Hyd y Nos  
Fantasia on Welsh Airs  
Sing Rhonda  
Gwahoddiad  
Llanfair  
Rachie  
David of the White Rock  
Men of Harlech  
Tydi A Roddaist  
Myfanwy  
Eli Jenkins' Prayer  
Suo Gan  
Aberystwyth  
Calon Lan  
Cwm Rhondda  
Deus Salutis  
Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau



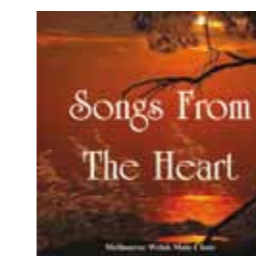
The Creation  
Fantasia on Welsh Airs  
Cavatina  
Danny Boy  
Myfanwy  
Ar Hyd Y Nos  
Sosban Fach  
Counting The goats  
The World in Union  
Sing Rhondda  
American Trilogy  
Shosholoza  
I Still Call Australia Home  
Gwahoddiad  
Llanfair  
Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau



American Trilogy  
Men of Harlech  
Gwahoddiad  
Morte Christe  
Matt Monro Medley  
Amazing Grace  
Deep Harmony  
Welsh Lullaby  
Tydi A Roddaist  
Li'l Liza Jane  
Myfanwy  
My Lord What a Mornin'  
Rhythm of Life  
Goin' Home  
Gwahoddiad  
Eli Jenkins' Prayer



Fantasia on Welsh Airs  
Blaenwern  
This Is My Song  
Suo Gan  
English Folk Song Suite  
When Starlight Fades  
Let Me Find Love  
Gwahoddiad  
Llanfair  
It's Hard To Leave  
Deus Salutis  
Wales You're A Dreamland  
My Father's Last Words  
Australia Land Of Today  
I Still Call Australia Home  
Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau



Men of Harlech  
With a Voice of Singing  
Anthem 'Chess'  
Hine E Hine  
O Mia Bambino Caro  
Soldiers' Chorus  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
Ol' Man River  
American Trilogy  
Deep River  
World in Union  
Gendarmes Duet  
Song of the Jolly Roger  
My Way  
Skylark  
Accentuate the Positive  
David of the White Rock  
Rachie  
Gershwin Showcase



Sing Rhondda  
Verdi Prati (SA Russell)  
Witness (LDavies)  
Away in a Manger  
Tears in Heaven (P Smith)  
The Moon and I (K Wheeler)  
The Water is Wide  
Memory (SA Russell)  
Lied und Czardas (Wheeler)  
Somagwaza  
Can't Help Lovin' (L Davies)  
The Entertainer' (L O'Brien)  
Senzenina  
Take Me Home  
Pie Jesu (Wheeler,/Davies)  
Shosholoza

# Melbourne Welsh Male Choir Singer of the Year 2014





Purchase of this programme puts you in the draw for a CD - drawn after interval and winner announced at the end of the concert

# Singer of the Year Concert 2014

7 pm Sunday 6th September 2014 Whitehorse Centre, Nunawading

Compere Ray Kitto Conductor Lucas de Jong

Accompanists Simon Walters Janet Perkins Adjudicator David Ashton-Smith

Va pensiero *from Nabucco* Verdi arr. Sydney Northcote

From Far Inside The Shrine *from The Pearl Fishers* Bizet arr. Alwyn Humphreys

Divine Brahma *from The Pearl Fishers* Bizet

Finalists - accompanist Janet Perkins

Jeremy Kleeman (Bass Baritone) Mozart

Madamina il catalogo e' questo *from Don Giovanni*

Rebecca Rashleigh (Soprano) Offenbach

Elle a fui la tourterelle *from Tales of Hoffman*

Nathan Lay - Baritone Schubert

Litanei

O Hear Us, Isis and Osiris *from The Magic Flute* Mozart

Barcarolle *from Tales of Hoffman* Offenbach arr. A Humphreys

Anvil Chorus *from Il Trovatore* Verdi

Prayer *from Lohengrin* Wagner arr. George Mead

## INTERVAL

Nella Fantasia Ennio Morriconi arr. Joy Amman Davies

Deus Salutis (*Oh Mighty Lord*) *Welsh hymn tune* arr. Mansel Thomas

Tydi A Roddaist Arwel Hughes

Finalists - accompanist Janet Perkins

Nathan Lay - Baritone

Where is the life that late I led *from Kiss Me Kate* Cole Porter

Rebecca Rashleigh (Soprano)

How Could I Ever Know *from The Secret Garden* L Simon

Jeremy Kleeman (Bass Baritone)

C'est Moi *from Camelot* Lerner & Loewe

Let All Men Sing Keith Christopher

Where Shall I Be? *Spiritual* arr. Bryan Davies

My Wish For You John Carter and Mary Kay Beall arr. Alwyn Humphreys

When The Saints Trad arr. John Rutter

## Adjudication & Presentations

The Choir wishes to thank and acknowledge The Opus 50 Charitable Trust, The Robert Salzer Foundation, and The Mulgrave Country Club for the generous sponsorship of this year's Singer of the Year competition. The Singer of the Year winner will receive \$5,000; Second Prize is \$3,000; Third Prize \$1,000.

### Previous Winners

2012 - Lee Abrahmsen (Soprano)

2010 - Barbara Zavros (Soprano)

2008 - Jacqueline Porter (Soprano)

2006 - Suzanne Shakespeare (Coloratura-Sop)

2004 - Mark Fowler (Tenor)

2002 - Michelle Cook (Soprano)

2000 - John Bode (Tenor)

1998 - Leslie Martin (Soprano)

1996 - Antoinette Halloran (Soprano)

1994 - Paul Blewett (Baritone)

2013 - Stacey Alleaume (Soprano)

2011 Siobhan Stagg (Soprano)

2009 - Samuel Dundas (Baritone)

2007 - Adrian Tamburini (Baritone)

2005 - Lauren Oldham (Soprano)

2003 - Lisa Anne Robinson (Soprano)

2001 - Amanda Forbes (Soprano)

1999 - Alexandra Sherman (Mezzo-Sop)

1997 - Kim Wheeler (Soprano)

1995 - Sally-Anne Russell (Mezzo-Sop)

1993 - Paul Batey (Tenor)

### Rebecca Rashleigh (Soprano)

Rebecca was born in Melbourne, Australia. She graduated at the Victorian College of the Arts and Music in 2010, which there she played the roles of Susanna, Marriage of Figaro; Suor Genovieffa, Suor Angelica; Papagena, The Magic Flute; Belinda, Dido and Aeneas and Frasquita, Carmen.

Since then, Rebecca has performed with Opera Australia, Victorian Opera, The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, More Than Opera and in 2012 she was in The Melbourne International Comedy Festival's production of Contact! She is also a member of the Opera Scholars Australia Program with whom she has performed with Anthony Warlow, Teddy Tahu Rhodes, James Morrison and Guy Noble.

Earlier this year Rebecca covered the role of Laurie in Lyric Opera's The Tender Land and later this year she'll be covering the role of Sophie and their production of Werther. Rebecca was also this year's winner of the Boroondara Eisteddfod Aria, West Gippsland Drama and Music Eisteddfod Aria and was a finalist of The German Australian Opera Grant receiving the prize of the More Than Opera Development Grant.

### Nathan Lay (Baritone) completed his

Bachelor of Music at the Melba Conservatorium of Music in 2008. During his time there, he was awarded the 'Melba Conservatorium Scholarship' and twice awarded the 'Robert Salzer Scholarship' for showing operatic potential.

In 2013, Nathan was a featured artist for Australian Music Events' Opera in the Market alongside soprano Julie Lea Goodwin. With Victorian Opera he has performed as a soloist in the Richard Mills Opera on a White Night Gala Concert at Hamer Hall, in the chorus of Nixon in China, 'The King' in Puss in Boots, 'Louis the Baker' and 'Billy Webster' in Sunday in the Park with George, and 'Bunyip Bluegum' in the world premiere of The Magic Pudding - The Opera, which one a greenroom award for Best Opera Ensemble. Nathan also made his first appearances with Opera Australia as a chorus member in Verdi's Un Ballo in Maschera, and Aida.

Recently, Nathan won the 2013 Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Aria competition as well as the People's Choice Award. That same year, he also received the Encouragement Award (3rd Place) in the prestigious Herald Sun Aria competition at Hamer Hall, accompanied by the Australian Philharmonic Orchestra.

For the next two years, Nathan will continue his work at Victorian Opera as a member of their developing artist program. This year he has performed two roles for the company, including 'Barone Duphol' in La Traviata, and the 'Father' in Hansel and Gretel.



### Jeremy Kleeman (Bass Baritone)

Having graduated from Victorian Opera's Developing Artist Program in 2013, 23-year-old Bass-Baritone Jeremy Kleeman is beginning to establish himself as a regular on the operatic stage. This year he performed 'Colline' in La Boheme for New England Opera in Armidale, NSW, appeared as a soloist in Victorian Opera's Games of Love and Chance, and portrayed the role of 'Marchese d'Obigny' in La Traviata for Victorian Opera. Most recently, Jeremy appeared as 'Rapunzel's Prince' in Into the Woods, a performance in which he was commended by ArtsHub for his 'rich, dark chocolate baritone'.

Last year Jeremy was a member of the 'Best Ensemble' Green Room Award winning cast of Victorian Opera's world premiere, The Magic Pudding - The Opera, performing 'Albert the Pudding' in the adaptation of the classic Australian tale with music by Calvin Bowman and libretto by Anna Goldsworthy. Jeremy made several other appearances in Victorian Opera's 2013 season, including Nixon in China, Puss in Boots, Sunday in the Park with George, Maria de Buenos Aires, and Rush Hour.

Jeremy was awarded the David Allen Memorial Award as a runner-up in the final of the 2013 national Liederfest, in addition to the Jean Brunning Memorial People's Choice Award. He was also a finalist in the 2012 IFAC Australian Singing Competition, where he was given the David Harper Award and the Merenda Scholarship for study in Italy.

Jeremy is also an experienced oratorio singer, having featured as bass soloist in works including Faure's Requiem, Beethoven's Mass in C, Mozart's Missa Brevis in D, Gounod's Messe solennelle de Sainte-Cécile, and Schubert's Mass in G.

Jeremy is very grateful to have his operatic studies in 2014 supported by the Joseph Sambrook Opera Scholarship with the Dame Nellie Melba Opera Trust.

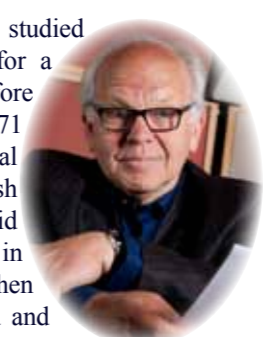


### David Ashton-Smith studied

singing in Melbourne for a period of 10 years before going to London in 1971 where he sang principal roles with The English National Opera Co. David returned to Australia in late 1979 and since then has maintained a varied and high profile music performing career. His choir The Ashton Smith Singers of Australia has been in existence for 34 years and performs regularly with the APO The choir has also contributed to several Australian films.

David was Managing director of the Australian Pops Orchestra during 2005, 6, 7 and 9 mounting major concerts at the Sydney Opera House and at Hamer Hall at the Victorian Arts Centre as well as major corporate events at Crown Palladium and the Sofitel Collins St. David teaches singing and is a sought after adjudicator.

David has now formed his own orchestra Alpha Sinfonia who perform at 'Opera in the Alps' and 'Opera in the Market' each year.



### Janet Perkins

Janet studied with Roy Shepherd at the Melbourne Conservatorium. She specialises in vocal accompaniment, and is in great demand for many Eisteddfodau in Melbourne and Regional Victoria. Janet works annually with many students toward tertiary examinations, and with professional singers in recitals and other concerts.



*The waistcoats we wear are of Welsh tartan and manufactured in Swansea from Welsh wool - made to measure in Wales. We wear them with pride.*

*If you are not on our mailing list, please fill out a form at the CD sales desk, or visit our website.*

*We are particularly seeking email addresses to cut down on the cost of postage. Our rehearsals are at Federation Estate, Greenwood Avenue in Ringwood on Wednesday nights. We are always seeking new singers, particularly tenors.*

### Photo - Ballarat March 2014

Back Row L to R: Tom Geddes, Raymond Crooke, David Phillips, Alan Fordhan, Bill Spawton, Felix O'Neill, Peter Dangerfeld, Geoffrey Heyme, Doug Uitley, Barrie Pickersgill, Tony Such, Alan Stevenson  
3rd row L to R: John Cook, Kurt Ambrose, Phil Tomlinson, Mike Lyons, David Field, Jim McCulloch, Peter Jenkins, Trevor Hemmings, Bob Corden, Brian Evans, Bob Williams, Paul Gawthorn  
2nd row L to R: Lionel Brown, Paul Etherington, Matthew Thomas, Brian Irvine, Ieuan Thomas, Alan Hughes, Mike Walsh, Terry Thomas, David Simm, Andrew Gibson, John Clarkson  
Front row L to R: John Poppenbeek, Ron Thomas, David Jones, Alex Young, Bob Millist, Michael James, Geoff King, Brian Phillips, Phil Wallens, Herb Jenkins, Murray George

### Combined Concert Melbourne Welsh Male Choir Australia Welsh Male Choir

prior to going to Canberra to sing with the massed voices of Male Choirs Association of Australia in November

2.30 pm Saturday 25th October  
Glen Waverley Uniting Church  
Cnr. Bogong Ave & Kingsway

Tickets: \$20

9787 1233 (Eric AW) 9870 8891 (Phil MW)  
or trybooking: [www.melbournewshchoir.com.au](http://www.melbournewshchoir.com.au)

[www.melbournewshchoir.com.au](http://www.melbournewshchoir.com.au)  
[www.auswelshmalechoir.org.au/](http://www.auswelshmalechoir.org.au/)

