



February 2017 Newsletter

Welcome

Happy New Year to all our choir families and welcome back to YVM for another year of great singing experiences. A particular welcome to new choir members joining us this year. I hope everyone has a wonderful year of music making with YVM! Please read this newsletter carefully, and especially note the calendar at the rear which lists details of all choir performances and special events. The newsletter is emailed to families at the start of each month, and the latest newsletter is always available at the choir's web site (www.yvm.com.au) Hard copies of the newsletter are not distributed.

First Rehearsals for 2017 - see calendar for more details

Choir and YVMen - Thursday 9th February

Beginning, Junior and Senior Training choirs Monday 13th February.

Choir/YVMen Rehearsal Camp February 10 - 12

Senior Training Choir Rehearsal Camp March 17 - 19

Choir and YVMen will be heading off to camp at Candlebark Farm on the weekend of 10th - 12th February, the day after our first rehearsal, and Senior Training Choir in March. Don't forget to bring a plate of (nut-free) cake/slice to share so we can have fabulous morning and afternoon teas! Camp information forms were distributed with the December Newsletter and are now on the newsletter page at www.yvm.com.au. Senior Training Choir camp forms are attached to this newsletter (and also on the website).

Medical Forms - overdue! please send

A reminder that we need a new medical form every year for all singers (all groups). These were due 15th December 2016 and we are still waiting for these from some families. The information contained helps us to provide your child with the best possible care when they are with us, and allows us to contact you quickly and efficiently if we need to in case of emergency. Forms can be found at www.yvm.com.au on the newsletter page.

Tuesday Small Group Rehearsals Start 14th February

Schedule of Tuesday small group rehearsals is over the page and sessions start on 14th February. Please read the schedule and notes carefully. Singers have been given times according to their preferences.

Sight Singing School

Singers in the Junior Training Choir, Senior Training Choir, Choir and YVMen work through our sight singing program - Sight Singing School. Singers will be given a book and can also access a free login to www.sightsingingschool.com These logins will be set up over the next few weeks. Our tutors will teach singers how to use the materials and all singers will need to do some practice at home. Below is a guide as to where in the program singers should be at the end of each school year. Some singers will progress more quickly than this.

Yr 3 Part A: end Unit 5 Yr 4 Part A: Unit 10 Yr 5 Part B: Unit 15

Yr 6: Part B: Unit 19 Yr 7: Part C: Unit 24 Yr 8: Part C: Unit 31

Yr 9: Part D: Unit 40

Yr 10/11/12 Part D Unit 41 + and other materials

(Continued over the page)

YVM Tuesday Small Group Schedule Terms 1 and 2 2017

Tuesday Group A rehearsing 14th & 28th February, 14th & 28th March, 2nd, 16th & 30th May, 20th June

Group A 5pm

Dominique Doig	Josephine Mann
Sebastian Ralph	Sally Rdjalski
Monique Collins	Jamilah Dogar - Hurd
Lydia Whitbread	Rebecca Wyss
Emma Dods	Sara Zayontz

Group A 6pm

Michelle Iskhakbaev	Eloise Kewling
Danielle Mitchell	Ella Raudys
Laura Armstrong	Kate Patten
Linus Williams	Honor Jennings

Tuesday Group B rehearsing 21st February, 7th & 21st March, 18th April, 9th & 23rd May, 6th , 27th June

Group B 5pm

Jinli Axtens	Beili Axtens
Harriette Christie	Thomas Plant-Chaney
Liana Sharp	Pascal Correa
Bridget Wong	Elaine McCleish
Simone Fornaro	Olivia Langley

Group B 6pm

Austin O'Leary-Quereshi	Tobias Lawrence
Nathan Broadbent	Charlotte Glassel
James Layton	Jamie Pearce
Sophie Hill	Digby Walter

PLEASE SAVE THIS SCHEDULE IN A SAFE PLACE SO YOU CAN REFER TO IT LATER IF NEED BE.

- **Don't forget that you must make up any missed sessions. Just come the week before or the week after the session you need to miss.**

NOTES

• Years 7 – 9 students will be in a Tuesday group. Year 10 students will be in either a Tuesday or Thursday session depending on their progress through Sight Singing School materials. Year 11 and 12 students will be in the Thursday small group.

- Practice at home on Sight Singing School materials is required between sessions. Students must come prepared to each session with work ready to be heard.

Thursday Small Group Session (8.15 – 9.00pm each week)

Jane Plenderleith	Hilary Johnson	Amelia Christie
Sarah Ridjalski	Emma Hill	Aurelea Kunkel
Meggyann D-S	Aimee Cocquillat	Kate Collier
Sophie Nixon	Ashling Martin	Imogen Q - O
Dellilah Evans	Georgia Fitzpatrick	Lillian Barker
Sonia P - K	Olivia Mann	Alex Spicer
Rose Jowett	Daniel Casey	Magdalena de Witt
Olivia Dods	Claire Wong	Charlotte Roberts
India Walshe	Sophia Gyger	Alice Hurwood
Katie Plenderleith	Ocean Federow-Yemm	Katrina Repse
Sylvia Wright		

Miscellaneous Important Information for New People (and Reminders for Old!)

Who's Who: Mark O'Leary - Director. Always happy to hear from you via email (mark@yvm.com.au), phone 95785459 or text 0418 327426. Its often a bit busy to have much of a talk at rehearsals. Contact Mark about rehearsal, concert, tour and musical matters.

Barbara O'Leary (Mark's mum) - Honorary Treasurer, Uniform Co-ordinator and Rehearsal Supervisor. Phone her on 95961244 (or email to jb.oleary@bigpond.com) for queries about fees, uniforms and supervision.

Marion Stafford - our Beginning Training Choir Teacher

Amelia Alder and Emma Casey - our tutors with the Junior and Senior Training Choirs, who work individually with choir members to help them with their musicianship skills development.

Julia Piggin - our accompanist who comes to rehearsals sometimes and plays for concerts

We also have a Management Committee and lots of regular volunteer supervisors/helpers who can be seen working hard at YVM events. Please let us know if you are happy to be asked to be involved.

Commitment and Communication

We expect that all choir members will attend all performances and camps for their groups, and we trust that choir members will be there unless it is impossible. In our planning we assume that all choir members will be attending all concerts, camps and tours. It is your responsibility to let us know if for some reason your are not available. If you are unable to attend a choir event, it is very important that we have as much notice as possible. We ask for at least four weeks notice for concerts, and more notice for tours. Apologies must be given to Mark in writing (as he can be forgetful!) Every choir member is important, and the absence of any member will weaken the choir's performance, so if we are to maintain our high standard we need you all to be well organised. A Newsletter is published at the start of each month, and new dates are often added, so please keep up to date. (Latest newsletter also at www.yvm.com.au/newsletter) Choir members will also receive text messages with reminders and special notices.

Rehearsal Attendance and Apologies

Please let Mark know if you need to miss a rehearsal. Regular attendance is important for choir members to maintain and develop their skills as well as learn repertoire. Of course all choir members will miss rehearsals from time to time due to school camps, important school or family functions and illness. Most choir members would not miss more than one rehearsal each term. It would not be appropriate to miss more than 6 rehearsals in a year. Singers who miss too many rehearsals may be asked to leave the choir. It is always appropriate to let Mark know if you need to miss a rehearsal.

What to bring to Rehearsals

Choir members need to bring their YVM music bag, containing their music sheets, training program book and a few pencils to each rehearsal. Main choir members also need to have an A440 tuning fork. Music Bags and tuning forks are available from the choir shop which is set up at Monday and Thursday rehearsals.

Music

Music given to choir members is on loan only, and must be returned in good condition. You may be charged for lost or damaged music, and it can be expensive, so it is best to look after it carefully from the start.

Fundraising Activities

The main choir travels each year to share its music with others - within Victoria, Australia and every few years overseas. To make these opportunities more affordable we have a choir shop at rehearsals each Monday and Thursday which sells chocolates, choir Cds and other fundraising items. Our best and most effective fundraising is done through our concerts - bring your friends and families! Concert profits go straight into the touring fund.

Camps and Tours - Who will be there to supervise my precious children!

An excellent question! Mark and Barbara attend all rehearsal camps, and are assisted with supervision by volunteer choir parents and choir music staff who are dedicated to the care and safety of your children. If you believe you would be a good supervisor on camps, please speak to Barbara.

Parents also supervise on tours. We ask for expressions of interest from parents who are interested in touring with the choir, and we select a Tour Team with the right skills and attitudes for the job. Those wishing to supervise on tours must agree to being the subject of a police background check.

Uniforms

Children do not wear uniforms to rehearsals. Barbara O'Leary will look after this, and she will make sure that you have everything you need for your first performance of the year.

February 2017 Calendar

CHOIR = main choir members
SMALL GROUP = small group of
main choir members (to be advised)



BTC = Beginning Training Choir
JTC = Junior Training Choir
STC = Senior Training Choir

PLEASE NOTE: All choir members are expected to attend all choir concerts. However, if it is impossible for you to attend please make a written apology, at least one month prior to the concert. This is essential for our concert planning, as missing persons may necessitate us changing the repertoire for concerts, arranging replacement singers etc.

Thursday 9th February	First main Choir rehearsal 6.15 - 8.15 at Caulfield Grammar School. Enter from Loch Ave, East St Kilda. Park in Loch Ave. CHOIR/YVMen no small group tonight	
Friday 10th - Sunday 12th Feb	Choir rehearsal camp, Candlebark Farm CHOIR/YVMen Depart Caulfield Grammar School 6.15pm Friday Return 3.15pm Sunday (details sent Dec 2016 - now on the website on the Newsletters page www.yvm.com.au)	
Monday 13th February	First Training Choir Rehearsals at Caulfield Grammar School Beginning Training Choir (Grades 1 and 2) 4.30 - 5.30 Junior Training choir (Grades 3 and 4) 4.30 - 5.30 Senior Training Choir (Grades 5 - 7) 5.45 - 7.15 Enter from Loch Ave, East St Kilda. Parking: In Loch Avenue - do not park in school grounds BTC, JTC, STC	
Tuesday 14th February	First Tuesday small group rehearsals. Schedule in this newsletter.	
Monday 13th March	Labour Day holiday - no rehearsals	
Fri 17th - Sun 19th March	Senior Training Choir Camp, Candlebark Farm STC Depart Caulfield Grammar School 6.15pm Friday Return 3.15pm Sunday (details attached -and also on the website on the Newsletters page www.yvm.com.au)	
Thursday 30th April <i>14th - 17th April</i>	Last Rehearsal for Term 1 <i>Exaudi Tour to National Folk Festival, Canberra</i>	<i>EXAUDI</i>
Tuesday 18th April	First rehearsal for Term 2	
Tuesday 25th April	ANZAC Day holiday - no rehearsals	
Thursday 18th May	Concert with Ensemble Liason (Recital Centre, evening)	CHOIR/YVMen
Sunday 4th June	YVM Winter Concert 3pm, Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University	EVERYONE
Monday 12th June	Queens Birthday holiday - no rehearsals	
Friday 4th August	Kodaly Junior Choral Festival for Beginning, Junior and Senior Training Choirs Caulfield Grammar Wheeler's Hill Campus, 5 - 7pm	BTC, JTC, STC
Friday 25th August DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	Kodaly Choral Festival for Choir and YVMen Ian Roach Hall, Scotch College, 7 - 10pm	CHOIR/YVMen
Sunday 10th September	Training Choirs Concert 3.00pm, St John's Southgate	BTC, JTC, STC
23rd September - 6th October	Japan Tour	CHOIR/YVMen
Sunday 3rd December	Christmas Concerts (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)	EVERYONE

NOTE: Exaudi dates listed separately on the Exaudi Newsletter

www.yvm.com.au/newsletter