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COY Notations

Acknowledgements:

NSW Department of
Education and
Training



Coffs Harbour City Council

Park Beach HomeBase
Coffs Coast Advocate
Park Beach Music & Hi Fi
ETC

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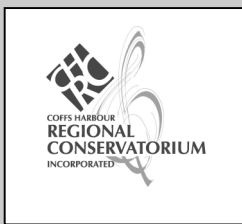
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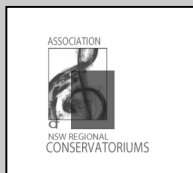
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**Member of the Association
of NSW Regional
Conservatoriums Inc**



Quarterly Newsletter of Coffs Harbour Regional Conservatorium Inc

NEW FACES on the BOARD

On 30th April the Conservatorium held its Annual General Meeting. Whilst this meeting is a regular and statutory event held usually without incident, this year proved to be momentous in that several changes were made to the Board membership.

Four Board members took the opportunity to retire from the Board with three of them being Office Bearers who had held long-standing positions in these important roles.

Irene Hartsukyer stepped down from the position of Secretary; Peter Kent of Caldwell Business Partners left the role of Treasurer; and Dr Jean Griffiths from SCU retired as a regular Board member.

The fourth retirement was from the position of President, held by Bill Wood for 15 years. Bill's contribution to the development of the Conservatorium was outstanding.

In 2003 Bill was instrumental in manoeuvring the Conservatorium from the old cottage in Earl Street to its present location at Park Beach HomeBase. This was a significant achievement as it provided for all services and programs to be delivered under one roof. The Conservatorium has thrived in this location, but by 2006 it was clear that planning for the next and bigger building needed to begin. Bill was a driving force behind the decision to engage an independent consultant Peter Tesdorpf to undertake a study, which brought forward findings that clearly identified the future needs of the Conservatorium, and the educational and cultural needs of the Coffs Coast community. Much lobbying and planning has been undertaken by everyone on the Board, in order to progress the Conservatorium closer to its goal for a permanent and larger home, but special thanks are due to those retiring from long-standing Board duties.

The work of the Conservatorium goes on with new faces and renewed enthusiasm. Garry Nehl AM now holds the position of President; Craig Duly looks after finance as Treasurer; Anne Partridge is the Secretary; and local magistrate, Judith Fleming, and Andrew Cleary from the Jetty Theatre have both joined the Board.

We look forward to a bright future, in good hands.

2009 DIARY

Concert dates for your Diary

*Adam Herd – Piano
Farewell Recital*

Monday 3rd August

7.30pm Lecture Theatre D, CHEC
Gold Coin Donation at the Door

John Chen - Piano

Friday 14th August

8pm Lecture Theatre D, CHEC

Conservatorium 25th Anniversary

Jetty Memorial Theatre

26 and 27 September

3pm and 8pm concerts both days

Artists include:

Clarence Valley Big Band

2008 Helfgott Scholarship Winners

Conservatorium students & staff

Carol Hellmers, Director

Meet the President – Garry Nehl AM



Garry Nehl AM
President of Coffs Harbour
Regional Conservatorium 2009 -

Garry Nehl was the Federal Member for Cowper for 17 years from 1984 to 2001, and Deputy Speaker of the House from 1996 to 2001.

During that time Garry was a well-known face and figure to the constituents of the Coffs Coast, landing many successes for the community during his time in parliament. A major feature of Garry's many achievements is the establishment of the National Marine Science Centre located at Charlesworth Bay. This facility can directly attribute its beginnings to Garry's hard fought lobbying for funds. Garry successfully secured \$12 million in funding from the Australian Government's Centenary of Federation Fund in 2001 for this project.

After his retirement from Federal Parliament and party politics, Garry took a holiday break exploring Scotland with his wife Suzanne. In the 2005 Australia Day honours he was awarded the AM. Garry's philosophy can be summed up very simply "you've got to wear out not rust out - and so you've got to keep busy". At the moment Garry is heavily involved in aged care as a member the Board of the Royal Freemasons Benevolent Institution, which currently has 22 aged care facilities throughout NSW and the ACT. This involves a monthly trip to Sydney for board meetings, as well as overseeing the progress of development of a new centre at Raleigh and other projects.

Garry was gently persuaded by current Board member Ann Gee and Director Carol Hellmers, to stand for the position of President of the Board of the Conservatorium at the recent Annual General Meeting in April following the retirement of long standing (15 years) President Bill Wood. Garry's willingness to take on the role is fuelled by a passion for the arts, education, cultural development and his local community. He is more than up to the task of leading the Conservatorium towards its goal of a permanent home and the Conservatorium Board is honoured to have him serve as President.

The Conservatorium Board is now made up of the following persons:

Garry Nehl AM	President
Michael Fishburn	Vice-President (Fishburn, Watson, O'Brien)
Craig Duly	Treasurer (WHK Cameron)
Anne Partridge	Secretary
Kay Johnson	Staff Representative
Andrew Cleary	
Judith Fleming	
Ann Gee	
Keith Peterson	

Public Officer and ex-officio member of the Board - Carol Hellmers.

MUSICAL QUOTE:

"Look out! Be on your guard for alone of all the arts, music moves all around you"

Jean Cocteau (1889-1963)

Architect Ann M Gee
and Director Carol Hellmers
discuss the final designs for the new
home for the Conservatorium.



Building Update:

- * Designs have been finalised and DA & Construction Certificate have been submitted to Coffs Harbour City Council for consideration
- * Offer to purchase property has been accepted by the owner
- * Contract for sale is being finalised with exchange of contracts imminent
- * **To Be Announced Soon** 5 year corporate sponsorship to assist the Conservatorium with the building refit

Aurora Guitar Ensemble in Concert

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of legal incorporation and operation of the Conservatorium.

To celebrate this historic year a series of concerts, featuring both professional artists and student performances, has been organised. The first concert was given by duo guitarists Slava and Leonard Grigoryan at the Jetty Memorial Theatre in April; the second concert in May was titled "An Afternoon of Song" and featured Conservatorium youth choir "Sounds Fine" in the beautiful surrounds of the City Art Gallery; and a third concert, in June centre stage of the Jetty Memorial Theatre, featured the much loved jazz combo Galapagos Duck.

The fourth and most recent concert in this series took place on 4th July, again at the Jetty Memorial Theatre. The concert featured a group of 15 young guitarists from Brisbane *The Aurora Guitar Ensemble* under the direction of Composer/Performer and Guitar Teacher Paul Svoboda.

The Aurora Guitar Ensemble was founded in 2007 and comprises dedicated, passionate past and present classical guitar students of Dr Paul Svoboda. Aurora has gone from strength to strength during the past few years and now makes regular public performances, especially in the Brisbane area. This was their first 'tour' outside of Brisbane, hiring a minivan and staying in the local motel overnight. Aurora's repertoire on the night was diverse, ranging from early Renaissance music, contemporary Australian compositions through to rock ballads and Latin style pieces. All of the works were either original inspirations of Paul Svoboda or arrangements by Paul designed to inspire and challenge this group of tertiary aged students.

A common thread emanating from the players that night was their love of the guitar and total enjoyment of being on stage in "performance mode". The audience was smallish – only 100 in a hall that seats 250 – but extremely warm and very appreciative of the exceptional and unexpected level of talent and presentation of this youth group. Aurora themselves are still talking about their first tour and another is already in the planning for 2010 – so if you missed out this time, I urge you to keep an eye out for them next year.

Eisteddfod Congratulations!

Congratulations to all Conservatorium students who participated in the 2009 Coffs Harbour City Eisteddfod. Many prizes were won by talented students including:

Emma Hindmarsh	Roy Fiveash Perpetual Trophy
Bryn Jenke	1 st place Vocal Solo 16 years and under
	Anneliese Neuman Perpetual Trophy
Luke Wright	1 st place Open Art Song
	1 st place Open Leider
	Barbara Tuck Perpetual Trophy
Sally O'Brien	1 st Place Violin Grade 3
Amy Greenham	1 st place Sacred Solo under 14 years
	1 st place Vocal Solo 14 years and under
	1 st place Art Song 14 years and under

Congratulations also to runners up and to supporting parents and teachers!

It's official (according to a recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald) – **music is fast overtaking sport as the 'cool' thing to be good at in school.** The article went on to say that "*the criterion of 'cool' at school is changing. As a wider variety of opportunities are opened up to students in schools, and as the instruments of pop culture increasingly infiltrate teenagers' lives – musical involvement (listening to, supporting it or playing it) is becoming more a marker for greatness among peers than one's ball skills*". Sadly across NSW only 66% of schools offer music to all students, where sport is mandatory for all primary and secondary students. This is where regional conservatoriums step in. Here in Coffs Harbour we provide top-up opportunities in the music education system offering specialist instrumental teachers in guitar and keyboard learning, generalist music programs and in the case of Susan Pratten, a fully DET trained music specialist for the K-6 curriculum. Music Rules!

MUSICAL QUOTE:

"Education in music is most sovereign, because more than anything else rhythm and harmony find their way to the inmost soul and take strongest hold upon it, bring with them and imparting grace"

Plato (428-347BC)

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2009 MUSIC STAFF

GUITAR/BASS GUITAR

Michael Bollen
John Mostyn
David Strauss
Mitch Young

DRUMS

Phill Stitt

SAXOPHONE/CLARINET

Chris Frater

PIANO/KEYBOARD

Tracey Burton
Ellie Hallett
Kay Johnson
Heather Rose
Barbara Tuck

STRINGS

Barbara Crosbie
Claudia Douglas
Zillah Hawley
Peter Kaukiainen

FLUTE

Francis Long

BRASS

Darrell Hodges

VOICE

Margaret England
Barbara Tuck
James van de Grift

SOUNDS FINE CHOIR

Sue Pratten

EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC

Melanie Taylor-Ryan
KEYBOARD GROUP
Melanie Taylor-Ryan

MUSIC THERAPY

Kathy Butcher

RECORDING & SOUND DESIGN COURSE SONGWRITERS COURSE

Martin van Veluwen

New Staff in 2009

The Conservatorium welcomes these latest additions to our staff:

DARRELL HODGES – Teacher of Brass

Darrell's brass speciality is the Tuba – but his teaching skills extend from this biggest of the brass instruments right through to trumpet, cornet and French horn.

Darrell began playing his love of brass with the euphonium at Maitland Primary School, studying under Frank Simm and John Roddenby. When he progressed to Maitland Boys' High School, Darrell continued with his euphonium but expanded his interests by playing trombone in the school's big band. He also played in the two concert bands at the school and in the City of Newcastle Concert Band (now the University of Newcastle Wind Orchestra). In 1983 Darrell was invited to join Maitland City Brass Band and in 1984 he was introduced to the BBflat Tuba. Just six weeks later Darrell took out 2nd place in the Under 19 Mid-North Coast Tuba Solo competition, having just turned 15. Since that time he has gone on to win four NSW State Open BBflat Tuba titles and four Hunter Regional Open Tuba Solo titles.

On leaving school Darrell joined the NSW Police Force and was a Police Officer until 2007. During that time he continued to play tuba and trombone. In 1994 he left Maitland City and joined the A Grade band Waratah-Mayfield (now known as Waratah Brass – Newcastle). He has played with Warringah Concert Brass and St Marys Band Club Brass, and in the Band Association of NSW Centenary Band (1996) and Pacific Brass – an invitational band made up of top players from the East Coast of Australia.

In 2006 Darrell commenced his Bachelor of Music at the University of Newcastle studying tuba performance under Brendon Lukin and James Campbell, as well as having lessons with Steve Rossé (Principal Tuba Sydney Symphony), Matthew Walmsley (Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra) and professional soloists Oystein Baardsvik, Jens Bjorn Larssen and Floyd Cooley. Darrell completed his undergraduate studies in 2008 and is currently undertaking post-graduate Honours study in conducting with John Kellaway.

EMILY SLIGAR – Administration Assistant

Emily joined the office staff in May taking on the permanent part-time position of Administration Assistant. She is a bright and confident young woman with excellent computer skills, a lovely phone manner, good interpersonal skills and a range of general office experience. Emily studied music at Coffs Harbour Senior College, enjoying her singing, and she also loves drama. She has worked as a volunteer for Legacy Badge Day, Red Cross Doorknock Appeal, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea and the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Doorknock Day. Emily's previous employment positions in retail and with MAP Training equip her well for the many tasks required of her new role here at the Conservatorium. Welcome Emily!

2010 SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY PROGRAM

Application forms are now available for the 2010 Junior and Senior Scholarship Program and the Bursary Program.

These programs provide a welcome reduction in the cost of term fees.

Applications close at 1pm on Saturday 19 September 2009.

Application forms are available from the Conservatorium Office
or by phoning 6652 1592.