

News from the Cathedral Singers



31 March 2020

Greetings to our Supporters at this difficult time.

This email comes soon after our previous Newsletter giving details of all the planned events for the year. We thought we should get in touch to let you know that we will not be able to fulfil any of the planned events in the next few months for obvious reasons. Hopefully, the world might get back to normal later in the year.

Originally we thought we might be able to keep rehearsing in the church if well spread out, but now that is not possible either. However, we are still thinking of ways of keeping together, maybe by Zoom.

Unfortunately, due to the cancellation of services, for which we usually receive donations, for the foreseeable future, we are now getting to the same position as so many people in the community – a cashflow problem – and any small donations from our faithful supporters to assist with ongoing costs would be gratefully received.

As I say often, I am convinced that this choir is supposed to continue, as whenever we get to the stage of not having enough singers, they turn up from somewhere. Several of the choir found us on Facebook, which I find extraordinary – or miraculous?! They had not sung our sort of music before, love it, and have been with us for some years now. Traditional church music is NOT dead!

Keep reading – further on, as well as finding some hysterical/historical snippets, we have found some photos of past times with TCS, such as singing at Peterborough Cathedral (pictured) in 2011.

We are always so grateful for your support for us in so many ways.

We pray that you may be blessed at this time and may stay healthy and active. Maybe something good will come out of the strange things that are happening now. At least we can be assured that God is in charge and He is in control.

Blessings

Jan Kneeshaw

Secretary/Chair

The Cathedral Singers



Cheques should be made payable to "The Cathedral Singers Donation Fund"

Banking details for direct transfers (please notify us by email):

Bank account details: BSB 814 282 A/c 504 371 53

Postal address: The Cathedral Singers PO Box 569 Gordon NSW 2072

Please email us for further details: tcs@cathedralsingers.org.au

or ring Jan Kneeshaw on 9144 4915 or 0411 785 117

More details on our website: www.cathedralsingers.org.au

All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible

ABN: 51 354 744 290

As this seems to be a time where black humour is appropriate, we have a couple of offerings, both from early church history.

Singing in the Papal Choir during the 16th century...

Choir “boys” even got into trouble then!



“Juan Sánchez, first admitted in June, 1529, was the most flamboyant member of the generally hot-tempered Spanish section of the choir.

In January, 1540, not wishing to sing the part allotted him by the director, he hit him “in the presence of the Sacrament,” thus creating a “very great scandal.” He was imprisoned, but the Spaniards in the choir banded together and sent Ordoñez to plead with the Pope, who indulgently reinstated him with only the proviso that Sánchez lose senior status in the choir and return in the rank of a beginner.

[...] Even after reinstatement, however, Sánchez continued to behave badly—often pretending to be sick when he wanted a day off, and quarreling with other choir members. Like Sánchez and Ordoñez, Nuñez was not above pretending to be sick when it suited his convenience to work in his garden.”



Meet St. Corona, patroness of epidemics.

Would you believe the patron saint of resistance to epidemics is ... St Corona!

She witnessed the martyrdom of St Victor, a Roman soldier who was executed by his brothers-in-arms for his Christian faith about 1800 years ago.

While Victor was being tortured and disfigured, the brave 16-year-old Corona cried out comforting words and encouragement as Victor held fast to his faith and gave up his life for the Lord. Victor's persecutors soon turned on Corona and she too was martyred.

Aachen Cathedral in Germany has relics of St Corona preserved in a small but elaborate gold, bronze and ivory shrine and were planning to display the shrine in the coming European summer as part of an exhibition on gold craftsmanship. They now expect a great deal of interest, once the reliquary is finally able to go on display!

(St Corona is also the patron saint of lumberjacks!)

Info - Madeleine Rowles.

Illuminated miniature of the martyrdom of [Saint Victor](#) and [Saint Corona](#), on a full leaf from a Book of Hours, France (Paris), ca. 1480



Now for some photos from earlier days of TCS, from when I joined the choir. Ed.

Choir tour in 2008



Westminster Abbey –
with Judy and Meg
on the roof



TCS in Portsmouth Cathedral



On the roof of Wells Cathedral



Exploring Portsmouth Docks with HMS Victory



Masterclass with David Hill – St John's Cambridge

Christmas 2009



Carol Singing outside the Customs House
– with local Vikings



..... and on Oxford Street Paddington,
sponsored by local shops

2010



CD Launch – “Lo! The Star” at Pymble Town Hall.



Carol Singing at Sir Trevor Garland’s - 2010

TCS Choir Tour - 2011



Singing in Westminster Cathedral



Feeling at home at St Paul’s Cathedral



Waiting to process at York Minster

Meeting the locals – Leicester Cathedral
(the home of Richard III’s tomb.)



Being entertained at the Rectory of Ely Cathedral



Brett McKern, the Engine Driver.



More Recent History



Return to singing Evensong at St Andrew's Cathedral 2009



Singing for a wedding – Santa Sabina Chapel – 2013



Singing at Bathurst Cathedral – 2014

TCS 25th Anniversary -2015



Showing three of our Directors, (L to R) Dr Brett McKern, Shirley Mills and Jim Abraham



St Martin's Killara - Evensong 2017



Socializing at Dave and Nan's North Arm Cove house after singing at Newcastle 2018

And at Bathurst in 2019



And so we continue!!!

Please join us!!

-Jan Kneeshaw – Ed.