

# ORGANS of the BALLARAT GOLDFIELDS

*A Festival of Fine Music*

## FESTIVAL 2024

## NEWSLETTER ONE

**Festival Director:**

**Judith Houston OAM**

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**WELCOME** to our annual first Newsletter for the new Festival year.

Festival 2024 is planned to be similar to this year which proved once again to be a great success. Very many thanks to all who supported us in any way – by attending, by donating, by introducing the festival to friends, by sponsoring or by helping in any other way at all.

The board has elected to continue with another shorter offering next year when twelve recitals will be presented commencing on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January and finishing on Tuesday evening again in St Patrick's Cathedral.

The Festival Founder Sergio de Pieri OAM will not be coming to Ballarat however he will no doubt be with us in spirit.

The board acknowledges the unending commitment by **Mrs Judith Houston OAM** for the entire life of the festival. Thank you, Judy, from the festival family.

As Festival Director she has worked tirelessly for months to ensure the program has interest and enjoyment for all.

The festival brochure also in this envelope, really is our main marketing tool therefore we'll be delighted to forward some – or a bundle to anyone who wishes to promote the festival in their community.

Please phone 0429 327 097 to arrange delivery.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Each year, we receive many proposals from musicians, some who have played here before and remember the beautiful venues and happy, music loving audiences and some who have heard of the festival from other musicians.

I think that you will find this coming festival a particularly beautiful one beginning, as it does, with Handel's magnificent "Israel in Egypt", directed by Gary Ekkel, and ending with the music of Purcell, directed by Stephen Grant. Both Gary and Stephen have created magnificent recitals for Ballarat.

I know that you will enjoy not only the music and the heritage churches and halls but the chance to meet old and new friends in the beautiful summer days in Ballarat.

Judith Houston OAM                      Director

## VALE KEN TURNER

It is with great sadness that we advise the passing of our colleague, friend and organ tuner extraordinaire, Ken Turner. Ken and his father Leighton, maintained the pipe organs of the Ballarat area and others in the Western District for very many years.

## BOOKINGS

Admission to recitals is by pre-booked ticket only – there will be no door sales.

Please book as early as possible -

- On the festival brochure
- Online via the website
- Online via Trybooking

## OPENING NIGHT

As has been the case for many years, once again Dr Gary Ekkel and his numerous soloists and musicians, will be presenting what will no doubt be another memorable opening recital.

Early purchase of an opening night supper ticket is advised. This is an opportunity not only as a reunion to catch up with festival friends but also to enjoy delicious country food prepared by the Lilyana CWA Branch from beautiful Beaufort.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Any possible minor alterations to the program will be posted on our website at [www.ballaratorgans.com.au](http://www.ballaratorgans.com.au) so please check the site occasionally.

## FESTIVAL BREAKFAST

This popular outdoor function is the only organized social event in 2024 and all supporters are warmly invited to book for this multicourse breakfast. (Address on ticket)  
We hope to see you there!

## FESTIVAL SPONSORS 2024:

We are most grateful to all our loyal sponsors and the following have confirmed their support of Festival 2024.

Ballarat Grammar	Bruce & Adela Bartrop
Clunes DTA	Michael Unwin Wines
UFS Dispensaries	Waller & Chester
W&D Finance	The Courier

## FESTIVAL DONORS 2023:

Festival Donors are known as **Friends of the Festival** and we value the contribution of each and every one who supports us in this way.

The following donors supported the festival in 2023 and we gratefully acknowledge each one.

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Paul Wheelton AM

## FESTIVAL DONORS 2023

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