

WELCOME TO FESTIVAL 2020

As I said last year - how quickly the years flash by! Festival 2020 will be the **25th Annual Festival** which is surely an achievement that should be celebrated. There are many audience members who have attended since the beginning and certainly these friends must be congratulated as being a crucial part of the backbone of the Festival. Thank you to all. Over the years the data base keeps swelling with new interested music lovers adding to the numbers and thus swelling the size of the 'Festival 'family'.

Again, the annual visits to favourite country churches are included in the program. The historic Uniting Church in Carngham, the former Wesleyan Church in Clunes, a return to St Joseph's Catholic Church in Blampied and, for the first time, a visit to the Uniting Church in the magic location of Yandoit. The area was first settled by Captain John Stuart Hepburn then, in 1854, alluvial gold was discovered leading to 5,000 miners converging on the area.

Due to the small size of this church, booking for this recital is essential.

At the end of this day a light meal has again been arranged at the nearby **Swiss Mountain Hotel**, and all are welcome but the meal also requires pre-booking. The Hotel was established in 1865 and is reputed to be the oldest licensed weatherboard hotel in Victoria.

The accompanying brochure is probably the most important marketing tool for the Festival and we will be very pleased to forward a bundle of copies to anyone willing to disperse some in their community.

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Our 25th festival is a special celebration and our director, Sergio de Pieri, has especially wanted to include so many musicians who, since January 1996, have brought such wonderful music to our region in around 600 festival recitals to date. And, of course, his program includes, as always, musicians and recital programs new to the festival.

He has received many recital proposals and created a beautiful program.

We know that you will enjoy the 25th festival very much.

Judy Houston OAM

FESTIVAL MEALS:

Early bookings for the Festival meals – particularly the **Festival Dinner** and **Luncheon** are essential. Please book for these as soon as possible. The casual **Festival Breakfast** can cope with late entries!

Please note that the **All Meal ticket** does **not** include the meal at the Swiss Mountain Hotel.

Having **Stefano de Pieri** preparing the Festival Dinner is surely a real highlight in the 2020 program. As numbers are limited to 100, tickets will be issued strictly in order of receipt of payment. Once the dinner is fully subscribed a note to that effect will be placed on the website.

SOUVENIR PROGRAMS:

Prior to Christmas programs will be available in the **Art Gallery of Ballarat** for the exchange of a pre-paid ticket. We again acknowledge the support of the Gallery staff in facilitating this helpful service.

FESTIVAL BOOKINGS

Early bookings are really appreciated and can be made in a number of ways:-

- on the festival brochure
- online via the website
- online via Trybooking

Again, reduced price 'whole of Festival Passes' are offered to hopefully encourage many patrons to book for a Festival Pass prior to 1 December 2019.

SUPPORTING THE FESTIVAL:

We acknowledge the support of all our Sponsors and Donors and a full list will be published in the Festival Souvenir Programme. Acknowledgement of confirmed **Major Sponsors** appear on the Festival brochure.

Friends of the Festival are supporters who contribute a donation to the Festival. The donation is tax deductible and we gratefully value all who contribute in this way. Supporters who also purchase a full **Festival Pass** are issued with a **Friend of the Festival** name badge. Major Donors will receive a **Festival Donor** name tag with their recital tickets.

A full list of 2019 supporters will appear in the Souvenir Program.

2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on the 23 August in the Black Hill Hotel, Ballarat where the following were re-elected to the board.

President	Mr Graham Dent
Vice President	Rev Jane Monro
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Joyce Currie
Honorary Treasurer	Mrs Voi Williams OAM
Director	Mr Sergio de Pieri OAM
Assistant Director	Mrs Judith Houston OAM

Committee	Mr David Berry
Ms Tracie Currie	Mrs Robyn Hanson
Mrs Anne Smail	Dr John Williams

MY ANNUAL PLEA!

If you are reading this then this is NOT for you! Each year many envelopes are returned with various explanations on the envelope such as

- Not at this address
- Return to sender
- Left address - etc

If you or someone you know plans to move house then we would be grateful to know so the annual brochure will be sent to the correct address.

WEB SITE:

If there are any last-minute messages regarding changes to the programme, musical content or musicians, then these will be shown on the opening page of the website. There is also a map which highlights locations of the venues, local features and routes into and out of Ballarat. The address which is www.ballaratorgans.com.au.

NEWSLETTERS

As always Newsletter No 2 will be available on Opening Night and will contain up to the minute details of the busy week ahead.

Best wishes for a wonderful Festival 2020

Voi Williams OAM (Editor)

BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATION NOW!

Early January is becoming a very busy time in Ballarat so we suggest you book your accommodation needs early to avoid any disappointment.

ACCOMMODATION OFFERS
from valued sponsors of the Festival

Lake Inn Motel – Ballarat Festival Sponsor

Situated near Lake Wendouree, the **Lake Inn Motel** offers Festival patrons accommodation at the corporate rate of \$170 per night and has to be booked directly with the property on 5338 8344. Patrons must identify themselves as Festival ticket holders when booking.

1317 Mair Street, Ballarat 3350

WHEN BOOKING PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A FESTIVAL PATRON IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A DISCOUNT.

Craig's Royal Hotel Festival Sponsor

This beautifully restored historic hotel was established in 1853 and has long been host to poets, princes and prime ministers!

The HERITAGE BAR and the BISTRO
are open for an enjoyable drink or meal

Hosts: John and Mary Finning
are offering a 10% discount on accommodation to festival patrons

Patrons staying in Craig's Royal Hotel are also being offered a 10% discount on recital tickets.

10 Lydiard Street South, Ballarat Vic. 3350
Ph: 5331 1377
email: info@craigsroyal.com.au
website: www.craigsroyal.com.au

RACV Goldfields Resort Festival Sponsor

As proud sponsors of the *Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Festival*, the **RACV Goldfields Resort** are offering two incredible festival specials

- Stay 2 nights and save 15%
- Stay 3 nights or more and save 20%

These offers are valid from 10th to 25th January, 2019. RACV members will receive 25% discount on accommodation at the resort and some great deals at local attractions.

The **RACV Goldfields Resort** is nestled within the stunning Creswick forest and the perfect base when exploring the historical towns of Ballarat and Daylesford and everything in between.

With an extensive range of accommodation options, restaurant, bar and lounge, heated pool, and a Tony Cashmore designed 18 hole golf course the resort has everything on offer for the perfect country getaway.

To make your booking call us on 03 5345 9600 or email: reservations_goldfields@racv.com.au

MAJOR SPONSORS

Dr Virginia Williams'
Dental Practice

A/Prof Michael Stubbs KStJ
and Mr. Malcolm Roberts



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ORGANS OF THE BALLARAT GOLDFIELDS

A Festival of Fine Music

FESTIVAL 2020

NEWSLETTER

Number
One

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