



## BULLETIN : JUNE 2009

Dear friends

Winter has arrived, and there's lots of activity arts-wise in the region over the coming months. At last we can give you details of the concerts on the Steinway Grand Piano in the Wangaratta Library. There will be one more concert, as part of the Heritage Festival, before the piano returns to the newly completed Performing Arts Centre in mid August. Benalla Gallery has a large music program arranged for the remainder of 2009. There is lots more, and some of the arts events are outlined in this bumper edition of your monthly bulletin.

Regards, Margaret

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### *Steinway Grand Piano : Wangaratta Library*

The popular concerts on Wednesdays in the early evening (6.30 – 7.30 pm) continue over the next three months. Enjoy a one hour recital by a regional pianist in the intimate acoustic of the Family History Room of the library. These concerts, begun in 2008, are an initiative of Wangaratta Arts Council which realised that the housing of the Rural City of Wangaratta's magnificent grand piano (purchased in the 1960s with half the cost contributed by the Arts Council) in the library, while the Performing Arts Centre is being constructed, provided a marvellous opportunity for local people to play the instrument, and for audiences to hear and see 'up close'. The cost is only \$5 per concert.

#### *17 June @ 6.30pm : Jan Wagner*

Jan lives in Beechworth, and is well known in the North East as a very inspiring accompanist. She has designed a program which traces her musical life, and will involve some of those with whom she has worked over the years. **Look out for an article about Jan in Monday's People pages of the Chronicle**

#### *24 June @ 6.30pm : Peter Benson*

Peter lives at Eurobin near Bright, and regularly plays easy listening music in restaurants in the region. He is preparing a program of jazz and popular music and movie themes. **See DL brochure enclosed.**

#### *29 July @ 6.30pm : Erin Bourne*

Erin is an accomplished student of Jenny Cope-Williams of Myrtleford. This performance will provide excellent practice for forthcoming Grade 6 AMEB exams.

#### *?? August @ 6.30pm : Heritage Idol Festival*

The final concert, before the piano goes to the Performing Arts Centre, will be a special event as part of this annual festival arranged by the Rural City of Wangaratta, 31 July – 16 August.

## More music

### Adam Simmons

Well known for leading the exuberant Toy Band, Adam has embarked on his first solo tour of Australia, with over a dozen instruments, and a few toys thrown in also! In his Wangaratta concert in the Wangaratta Library in Docker Street on Saturday, 13 June at 7.30pm, he will be accompanied by Wayne Robinson, Director of Northern Rivers Academy of Music. Enquiries 5722 4899. Also see [www.adamsimmons.com](http://www.adamsimmons.com)

### 1920s Dinner Dance with High Society Jazz Orchestra

Gangsters and molls, flappers and bootleggers: dress up, dress down for a great night out in Albury, at the SS&A Club, on Friday, 19 June, 7.30 – 11.30pm. Tickets for \$50, which includes a meal, are available in Wangaratta at Edgars Newsagency. Wangaratta-based High Society, lead by Arts Council member Doug McGregor, plays fabulous music for dancing and listening; and they look spiffy too, in their white coats!

### Ostinato's Winter Concert

Wangaratta's very inclusive Community Choir presents a concert titled *Memories are made of this*, with well loved songs from across the years, at GO TAFE Auditorium, on Sunday, 21 June at 2.30pm. The program includes songs by Irving Berlin and Cole Porter, spirituals and religious songs, pop songs and standards. Tickets \$10 include afternoon tea.

### BPACC also presents lots of music

Much remains on offer for the remainder of the year.

- La Prima Opera : Thursday, 4 June @ 8pm
- BABBA : Friday, 10 July @ 8pm
- Melbourne Opera Orchestra : Saturday, 25 July @ 8pm
- Wild World, the Cat Stevens Story : Thursday, 20 August @ 8pm

Enquiries and bookings 5760 4529

### Robin Ward : International Harpist

Originally from New Zealand, Robin is currently based in the United Kingdom. He is a unique musician, in that he both builds and plays his own instruments, and is one of only a handful of people in the world who play the Triple Harp.

He completed a Masters Degree in Baroque Harp in 2005, making him the first and only New Zealander to hold such a degree. Prior to these studies, Robin's initial training was on the Pedal or Orchestral Harp. He completed a Bachelor of Music (Hons) at Victoria University Wellington.

Through his studies Robin worked with various regional orchestras and held the position of Principal harpist for the New Zealand National Youth Orchestra in 2000 and 2001. He has established himself both as a harp teacher and instrument maker and has performed as a soloist and as a member of ensembles throughout New Zealand, Australia, and the UK. In February 2009 he released his first solo CD; *No Pedals Attached*.

As part of a short tour of Australia, Robin will perform on Friday, 3 July at 8pm in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta. The program, *From the Golden Age*, contains a wide variety of music from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present day, including pieces by Trabaci, Froberger, Buxtehude, Parry, and Glinka, amongst others.

It starts with music from the golden age of Spain, when it was at the height of its empire, and there was a revolution in music. It then moves through the Baroque period to French Classicism, an era in which the harp was at its most popular, to music from the British Isles, and finishes with a couple of Romantic treats.

Tickets are \$20 Adults, \$15 Concession, and a donation for children under 16. They are available from the Cathedral Shop (5722 4850), Edgars Newsagency, (5721 2059), and at the door.

To find out more you can visit Robin Ward's website [www.earlyharps.com](http://www.earlyharps.com).



# Celebrity Organ Concert Philip Scriven

**Saturday, 25 July : 7.30pm**  
**Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta**

***Tickets at the door from 7pm : \$25, \$20 concession***  
***Children under 16 free. Enquiries : John Rivers, 5766 2545***

**ARTS  
VICTORIA**



Philip Scriven is not only an acclaimed church organist and recitalist but also an orchestral conductor, opera repetiteur and music director. His distinguished musical career, like so many in the UK, began as a boy chorister. Philip Scriven was in the choir at Westminster Abbey (where he later became acting sub-organist) and a Music Scholar at Charterhouse School.

After studying at the Royal Academy of Music, he held organ scholarships at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, and St. John's College, Cambridge. It was at Cambridge that he began working as a music director and orchestral conductor.

He continued his organ studies in Vienna, and then spent two years at the famous Julliard School in New York, gaining a masters degree in orchestral conducting. At another famous music institution, Carnegie Hall, he was invited to play the unique Saint-Seans Organ Symphony.

Returning to the UK, Philip developed his interest in opera, working as repetiteur for both the English and Welch national opera companies. He has conducted opera premieres, taken opera performance to a prison, and been an assistant conductor for Glyndebourne Festival Opera and in Brazil.

As an organ recitalist, Philip has toured Europe, Canada and the United States. In 1995 he won the Royal College of Organists Performer of the Year competition. He has a particular interest in French repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries and transcriptions from the operatic and symphonic repertoire. His own transcriptions include works by Brahms, Warlock and Bernstein.

Philip took up his present position as Organist and Director of Music at Lichfield Cathedral in 2002. He has recorded two solo CDs on the Cathedral Organ and three CDs with the Choir of Lichfield Cathedral. Alongside his work at the Cathedral Philip plays continuo with ensembles such as Florilegium, Ex Cathedra and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. He is also Principal Conductor of the Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra.

This multi-talented celebratory recitalist's program for Wangaratta in July includes works by well known and loved composers Widor, Elgar, Liszt, Brahms . . . and of course J. S. Bach. Tickets, at the door, are only \$25 (concession \$20). Children under 16 are admitted free of charge.

Wangaratta Arts Council is supporting this concert via Arts Victoria's Guarantee Against Loss, which it can apply for as a registered presenter, and an affiliate of Regional Arts Victoria. Enquiries to John Rivers, Director of Music, Holy Trinity Cathedral, phone 5766 2545.

## **Cafe Culture Series**

Following the fabulous comedy performances by Damian Callinan at The Gateway on 22 May, our 2009 series of events curated by Mary Souness of Just Shows To Go continues at the usual venue, The Vine Hotel, with Welcome Strangers on 21 August, and New Melbourne Jazz band on 27 November. Both concerts are on Fridays at 8pm. Tickets are available one month prior at Dislocation, phone 5721 4594.

## Orchestras

Many (symphony) orchestras are visiting the region over the next few months. And speaking of the symphony, you can vote for your favourite (three) in this year's ABC Classic FM's '100 best' survey. See [www.abc.net.au/classic](http://www.abc.net.au/classic) for further information. Voting closes on 30 June. Be part of the process of compiling The Classic 100 Symphony, the ultimate guide to Australia's favourite symphonic music.

### **Melbourne Opera Orchestra**

**Benalla Performing Arts and Convention Centre : Saturday, 25 July @ 8pm**

Greg Hocking conducts the full strength orchestra nationally acclaimed for its opera performances and comprised of outstanding young professionals. The program includes Beethoven's Leonora Overture No 3 and his superb 'Emperor' Piano Concerto, which has thrilled audiences for 200 years. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5, packed full of thrilling melodies and exciting climaxes, will bring the concert to a close.

### **Sydney Symphony Orchestra**

**Albury Performing Arts Centre : Friday, 26 June @ 8pm**

The concert begins on the windswept coast of Scotland where Mendelssohn was inspired to write his Hebrides Overture. It finishes in the countryside south of Prague where Dvorak composed his eighth symphony. In between there is a piece for orchestra and solo quartet (oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn) ascribed to Mozart – Sinfonia concertante in E flat. Matthew Coorey conducts.

### **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**

**Shepparton Eastbank Centre : Friday, 7 August @ 8pm**

Conductor Nicholas Milton and soloist Natsuko Yoshimoto (violin) present a program called Music Vistas. It features the most popular violin concerto of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Sibelius) and the world's favourite piece of musical landscape, Beethoven's Symphony No 6 (Pastoral). The concert opens with a collection of pieces originally written as film music by the much loved contemporary Australian composer (this year celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday), Peter Sculthorpe – his Little Suite for Strings.

## Theatre

### **Wangaratta Players : David's Mother**

*A serious subject, presented in a light hearted way, but will bring a tear to your eye, a tug to your heart and I thought to your mind. "She sacrificed the perfect life to be the perfect Mother".* A play by Bob Randall, presented by special arrangement with Dominie Drama. Directed by Lorraine Monshing OAM, assisted by Sherran Mitchell.

Sally Goodman wages a battle against the system when her disabled son David is offered the opportunity to live an independent life. Sally's devotion to her son has driven away her husband and daughter and has consumed all her time. When a social worker approaches her with the idea of sending David to a special school, Sally can't bring herself to let her son go. Faced with the most difficult decision yet, Sally must choose between a life she has built around her son, and giving him his freedom.

The cast is David Goodman - autistic son (Morgan Petrie); Sally Goodman - David's mother (Christine Duff); Phil Goodman - Sally's ex husband (Matthew Rispin); Susan Goodman - their daughter (Sarah Faithfull); Bea - Sally's sister (Barbara Ryan); Justine - Bea's daughter (Constance Hunter); John - Sally's new boyfriend (Jason Barker); Gladys - a social worker (Marie Pond).

The play will be presented at the Stage Door Studio, Evans Street, Wangaratta on Friday 19 and Saturday 20, Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June, at 8pm. There will also be a matinee at 2pm on Sunday, 21 June at 2pm.

The play includes adult Language, so it is suitable for those aged 15+. Booking at Edgars Newsagency, phone 5721 3758. Enquiries to the director, 5729 7570, [Imonshing@westnet.com.au](mailto:Imonshing@westnet.com.au).

# Dance

## Tasdance in Shepparton

The highly regarded Launceston-based company is on tour in Victoria in June with *One for Sorrow*. The one hour performance features a series of six physical and inventive works by five choreographers including company members Trisha Dunn and Malcolm McMillan, nationally respected choreographers Anna Smith and Natalie Cursio and internationally renowned New Zealand choreographer Raewyn Hill (soon to be artistic director of Queensland's DanceNorth). The title has come from the old counting rhyme, with each work taking inspiration from one of the six lines : *One for sorrow, Two for joy, Three for a girl, Four for a boy, Five for silver, Six for gold, Seven for a story never been told*. Tasdance promises an engaging evening of dance with a unique choreographic mix. [www.tasdance.com.au](http://www.tasdance.com.au)

Tasdance is at Westside Performing Arts Centre, Mooroopna on Saturday, 13 June at 8pm.  
Bookings 5832 9511. [www.riverlinksvenues.com.au](http://www.riverlinksvenues.com.au)

## Dancenorth in Benalla

Another of Australia's leading regional dance companies! This one is based in Townsville, northern Queensland. The spirit of the company is one of collaboration and co-production, with a core group of dancers working alongside guest artists, designers and performers. On this tour south Dancenorth presents *Nightcafe*, an exhilarating production combining the high physicality and athleticism of Dancenorth's style, mixed with rawness, passion and lyricism of gypsy music. The dancers perfectly meld with the music for dramatic solos that dissolve into lush musical textures and sweet melodies. [www.dancenorth.com.au](http://www.dancenorth.com.au)

Dancenorth is at BPACC on Thursday, 1 October at 8pm  
Bookings 5760 4529 [www.bpacc.com.au](http://www.bpacc.com.au)

## Australian Dance Awards

After many years at the Sydney Opera House, these prestigious awards are now held in Melbourne, at the State Theatre, Victorian Arts Centre. As a life member of the Victorian Branch of Ausdance which hosts the awards I am delighted to have complimentary tickets to the event on Saturday, 7 June; especially as one of the shortlisted nominees in a new category (Youth and Community Dance) this year is TRACKS.

The Co-directors of this dance theatre company are David McMicken and Tim Newth. Tim grew up at Greta, where his parents, Heather and Max, still farm. Tim trained as visual artist in Wangaratta and Bendigo. He began his career in dance theatre in the mid 1980s when he collaborated on a community dance project (*Going Dancing*) in Wangaratta with Beth Shelton of Dance Works. Tim has choreographed works for that company and also Tasdance and Dancenorth, among others.

Tracks is the premier performing arts company of the Northern Territory. It is known for its innovative, large-scale outdoor performances that bring together participants from diverse cultures and artistic disciplines. Working at the frontier of dance, Tracks is considered a key player in shaping the future of dance in Australia.

Tracks works with professional artists and community members to produce high quality, inclusive and innovative dance performances. The process of creating a Tracks performance is unique. Since its inception, Tracks has been using Community Cultural Development practices in their work. Tracks' artistic product follows extensive collaboration with artists, organisations and communities, usually over many years. Tracks is based in Darwin with the deserts of Central Australia to the south and the tropics of South East Asia to the north.

For more than 20 years Tracks has worked with indigenous people of the desert community of Larjamanu, on the edge of the Tanami desert. This year sees another work in the *MILPIRRI* series, based on traditional ceremonies that bring people together for celebration and reconciliation. With two very successful performances behind it, Milpirri is emerging as one of the most exciting Indigenous-initiated ventures in Australia. *MILPIRRI* 2009 celebrates the Juntu Ceremony that teaches about Law and Order, exploring this in the context of mainstream law.

Tracks has regularly premiered new work at the Darwin Festival. Tim and David are much in demand for seminars and dialogue at arts conferences throughout Australia. [www.tracksdance.com.au](http://www.tracksdance.com.au)

[www.austliandanceawards.net.au](http://www.austliandanceawards.net.au)

## Visual arts

### Wangaratta exhibitions Gallery

- Paul E Mason's superb exhibition, Critical Vehicles 3, finishes this Sunday, 7 June.
- Wangaratta Contemporary Textile Award opens on 20 June : more details next bulletin.

### Stitched Up Textile Festival

The theme of the tenth festival, with various locations in and around Wangaratta, 4 – 19 July, is 'Entangled'. For further information go to [www.stitchedupfestival.com](http://www.stitchedupfestival.com)

### Losing the Thread

North Eastern Branch of the Embroiderers Guild present a showing of their work in the Workshop Space, 4 – 19 July, to coincide with the Stitched Up Festival.

### Pheonix

Gillian Fytc and Heather Williams exhibit their work at The Store, La Trobe University, Beechworth, 20 – 28 June, 10am – 4pm

### Perceptions

GO TAFE's Jewellery and Design students display their work in the Bainz Gallery, Wangaratta Library foyer, until 19 June.

### King Valley Art Show

Now in its tenth year, and coinciding with the Weekend Fit for a King, local, Victorian and interstate work will be exhibited at King Valley Cucina, King Valley, 6 – 9 June, 9am – 5pm daily.

### Albert Tucker : The Intruder

The most important exhibition ever held of Australia's modernist put together from the collection of Barbara Tucker, the National Gallery of Victoria and Heide Museum of Modern Art. Benalla Art Gallery, 1 June – 10 August.

### Framing Conflict : Iraq and Afghanistan

Works by Lyndell Brown and Charles green, an Australian War Memorial travelling Exhibition. Benalla Art Gallery till 5 July.



## 2009 Literary Lunch with Shane Maloney Saturday, 18 July @ The Gateway

Another brochure is enclosed with this bulletin because we want you to help with promotion of what we are sure will be an exciting event. Additional copies are available: we are happy to send as many as you need. We are particularly keen to get copies to members of book groups. Tickets are available now. Why not get a group together? Everyone will save \$3!