

Das Lied

Newsletter of the Adelaida Liedertafel 1858

Vol 1 - No 4 – July 2003

Editor: Bill van de Water Correspondents: Peter Tamm & Dieter Fischer

This month Das Lied is not two, but four pages long (at no extra cost)! Günther Linhoff, holidaying in Germany, has sent a flyer about the Berlin Sängerkunst – it is attached.

The soupday was a great success and thanks should go to Horst Reichert and his team of helpers. Longtime cook Betty Biedermann gave her stamp of approval to the quality of the food.

A big welcome back to Allan Gale, Jan Spruyt and Norbert Petersen who rejoin us after absences of some months.

I'm having a few problems with our website – I can't do updates at the moment and SENET doesn't seem to want to talk to me. There will therefore be a delay before July's Das Lied appears on the internet.

BvdW

Report from Committee Meeting

Jubilee Concert and Ball:

- Ticket prices for the concert will be \$10 (no concessions)
- Official guest list has been finalised
- The Anniversary Ball ("Gala Ball" sounds too formal) will be in the club, but just to be on the safe side we have booked the Dom Polski Centre as a backup
- There will be no dinner at the ball. Instead, we will arrange supper plates.
- "The Two Herbies" have been booked
- There will be presentations to the Military Band and visiting choirs
- Compere will be Dieter Fabig
- For lunch on Sunday there will be a "barbeque" at the club, served by the kitchen, free for singers and partners. Wolfgang Fritsche has offered the services of the Brass Band which we will gladly accept.

From the ALT Ladies

Firstly a big Thank You to Maria and Fritz Schmelzle for their efforts in providing the delicious rolls for our lunch during the recent Riverton visit. I understand they got up very early on the day to buy the ingredients and get them ready before the event. Well done.

The Pea Soup Day at Tilley Reserve was our most successful yet. The soup, cooked to perfection by Horst Reichert was beautiful as were the bread rolls and sausages. The suggestion to space out the serving of the food came from Peter Tamm – great idea. The cakes were sold up to the last crumb. Thank You to Horst and all of our helpers for making this day such a success.

The next major event will be our Jubilee Concert in September. I will keep you informed via Das Lied as to what will be required.

Our wishes for a speedy recovery go to all the people who have been on the sick list. On behalf of all the ladies and choir we hope to see you soon.

Brigitte

Celebrations

Birthdays for July:

7th Gerhard Valk (72)

16th Karl Ascher (67)

17th Ulrich Kleemann (64)

Singer Profile

Maurice Sykes (Tenor 2)

Maurice joined the Liedertafel in Oct 1995.

I asked him the following questions:

Q: *What made you join the ALT?*

A: After following the Liedertafel's events as a "Schlachtenbummler" and doing a little singing myself at private functions a final push to join the choir was given to me very heartily by Dieter and Betty Schulz.

Q: *Have you had any previous singing experience?*

A: Yes, as a 10 year old I sang in the church choir at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Q: *How do you manage to sing in German?*

A: I have acquired some knowledge of the language in my years at High School, but better still it is in my blood. My grandfather on my mother's side comes from Bielefeld and grandmother on father's side was a Wagner from near Miltenberg. With such a mix in my veins, how can I miss?

Q: *What do you think is our future?*

A: Don't give up trying to get new members. I realise our average age is 70 plus and that we should not abandon the German musical tradition, but we should use a fair proportion of songs in English as part of our repertoire.

In addition to singing with the ALT Maurice also joined the DVC (thanks to Regine Teuchert's

persuasive talent), puts in his fair share of time on the door duties roster and helps out with the drinks as both server and customer.

PKT

FROM THE BATON

Ernest will be performing singing duties with the State Opera during the next few weeks, and this will affect our practice nights. Here are the changes – please note them carefully:

Tuesday 8 July – no practice

Wednesday 9 July – at Pulteney Grammar

Tuesday 15 July – no practice

Wednesday 22 July – at Pulteney Grammar

Tuesday 5 August – no practice

Wednesday 6 August – at club (restaurant)

Tuesday 12 August – no practice

Wednesday 13 August – at club (restaurant)

Here is an interview with Ernest on his opera career: -

If you have been wondering where our wandering star conductor has been, read on. Way back in February he was flown to Perth, where he performed in "Gotterdammerung" in the Perth Concert Hall. An enthusiastic cyclist, he carried his own two-wheeler on the plane, and then cycled to Fremantle.

More recently saw our Ernest lifting the roof at the Festival Centre in Adelaide, in two opera productions - Cavalleria Rusticana and I Pagliacci. His Italian has improved since these performances. Altogether he performed 13 times, playing the part of the "Flute", (normally he likes to blow his trumpet). These two operas took him to Whyalla, Port Augusta and Quorn.

While we were enjoying our locum conductors Ernest played Alfredo in the "Fledermaus". This time they traveled closer to home - Gawler, Murray Bridge and Strathalbyn.

Singing in Midsummer Night's Dream, Ernest had to cross dress (yes as a woman, what else), wearing boxer shorts under his skirt. During one performance a cast member in great embarrassment had to point out to him that some part of his "wedding equipment" was clearly visible. He is not sure if any of the audience saw it. Ernest's wife is not supposed to know about this, so please keep it to yourself.

DF

The Soap Box

Give your feedback verbally or in writing to any of the people listed on the masthead or e-mail bill.van@bigpond.com

Recently Ludwig Merget sent in this little gem:

*In Freud und Leid zum Lied bereit
Da wo ein frohes Lied erklingt, wo
man lacht,
Scherzt und singt, wo Saenger sind im
Lied vereint,
Wird viel gelacht und auch mal eweint.*

News from singers overseas

Günter Linhoff and his wife Eva-Maria are currently enjoying their stay in the Old Fatherland, Germany. They are heading east to Stettin making contact with the ladies from the "Plauer Frauenchor" whose endless enthusiasm on our cruise in 1995 on the Plauer See most of us remember well. The Linhoffs have read the copy of Das Lied on the internet giving us at least one regular hit to our website. They extend their best wishes to all singers, partners and in particular the Karten Ladies.

Next to head overseas is Horst Meyer and Dee. They will visit Germany and Latvia. Bon Voyage!

PKT

From the Archives

December 27 and 28, 1874 has some significance in the history of choral events in South Australia.

This was the occasion of the first "Deutsches Sängerkongress" held in Tanunda. Singers and athletes (members of the Adelaide Turnverein) met at the Hotel Europe near Gawler Place on Sunday 27th December at 6am to depart for Tanunda. They made the reception held at Herr P. Fischer's garden by 3pm with only a little time to spare.

Mr Basedow, president of the Tanunda Liedertafel, welcomed all singers and athletes and the song: 'Brüder reicht die Hand zum Bunde' united all choristers. The evening was spent in the local clubhouse.

All participated the next day in a procession to the venue for a celebration and concert. The conductor of the Adelaider Liedertafel was Herr C. Püttman.

Tickets to Tanunda by train cost 13 shillings (\$1.30) return. Tickets to the evening ball cost 3 shillings (30 cents). Ah, the good old days ...

PKT

The Last Word

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER: Someone who fixes a problem you didn't know you had in a way you don't understand.



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