

Das Lied

Newsletter of the Adelaidier Liedertafel 1858 Vol 1 - No 8 – November 2003

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

The e-mail address on our website has been discovered by spammers (for those of you who don't know what "spam" is, it's junk mail for computers). Each time I log on and check ALT's mailbox there are up to 60 junk messages, containing offers to lengthen my penis, to give me millions of dollars or to find me a nice lady. I'm thinking that we have to change the address to stop this garbage, but in the meantime, for those of you who use the internet, don't give out email addresses on the internet - it only encourages the spammers.

Bill van de Water, Editor

Report from Committee Meeting

- Continuing contact with Fullarton Lutheran Nursing Home. Grand Junction Road Home is booked out this year but they'd love to have us next year.
- Coorong trip – still working on dates.
- Still awaiting official notification from the Club about our claim – the concert blocks have been settled but nothing else
- Christmas Concert – two guest choirs plus soloist
- Open day at the club: 23rd November (see below –From the Ladies). We sing between 1:40 and 2:15
- First rehearsal 2004: 13th January. First event: Carl Linger 26th. Dimboola trip: 17th-18th April (?)

From the ALT Ladies

Based on feedback received, it appears that everyone was very happy with the picnic arrangements. Suggestions for alternative food or other proposals are naturally welcome. The offer for people from the South to organise next year's picnic remains open, so give me a call if you're interested. I propose that we supplement the cost for a boat trip along the Coorong early next year, as there is still a considerable amount of money in our kitty. Ladies, it's your right to know our financial status so contact me if you wish that information.

The Christmas bazaar is just around the corner, so a little reminder is in order. I feel that as in previous years small saleable items and biscuits/slices/bread/jam/cakes

always do well as do decorations. As usual, helpers will be needed on the day (23rd November, at the Club). It is almost certain that we will celebrate our Christmas Party with a meal at the club, so let's see you all there.

The Christmas Concert is the final choir event for the year and donations of cakes will be much appreciated as the cost of tickets includes coffee/cake. Items not sold at the bazaar will be offered at a trading table after the concert.

I am busy working on the next Tombola, trying to snap up bargains wherever I can.

Please ladies, make it your business to seek out Das Lied from your men because otherwise you could be waiting a long time (*hey, I never make her wait! ... Ed*).

Bye for now and see you all at the next gathering.

Brigitte Reeh

Celebrations

Birthdays this month:

16th Ludwig Merget (74)

If you have forthcoming personal events and celebrations let Bill, Peter T or Dieter F know and we will publish them here.

Singer Profile

Manfred Baier – Bass 2

Flats were scarce in Berlin in the late 1960's. Manfred and his wife Karin decided to emigrate to Australia. They travelled on the *Castell Felici* in 1960 and intended to stay only for 2 years, like many of us, myself included.

Manfred and Karin liked the people and the country and stayed. His trade, bricklayer, was much in demand and the new arrival had no trouble finding work. He built his own house three years later, behind the Modbury Hospital. The Baiers still live there today.

Manfred was a friend of Nobert Petersen, who convinced him that he could sing as well as anyone in the ALT. His first concert was Christmas 1972. Manfred is one of the longest serving members, having served on the Committee for 31 years. Besides the singing he enjoys the mateship (Kameradschaft) of the ALT. None of us disagree with that one.

Since arriving in Australia Manfred has been "home" three times, the last trip was with the ALT.

To relax at the weekend Manfred plays Golf. His only daughter, Claudia, has three children which brings much fun and joy to Grandpa and Grandma Baier. Both are still working; Manfred for PGH Bricks in Maintenance Section and Karin as Supervisor in a Plastic Factory.

When I asked him about his future plans, Manfred gave no indication of retiring in the near future. He can see a great future for the Liedertafel, if we keep working toward recruiting new members.

DF

From the Archives

This month I thought I'd relate the history of a composer whose music we have been singing for many years. His music is often beautiful and always rewarding.

Josef Anton Bruckner was born in Ansfelden near Linz, Austria on September 4 1824. The son of a schoolmaster and organist, he was

introduced to music early in life and at age 4 played the violin. The organ was a natural follow up instrument by the time he reached age 10. With the passing of his father when he was only 13, his mother took her eldest son to the Augustiner Monastery at St. Florian, some 15 km from the village. The impressions gained here playing violin, organ and piano would stay with him for his life.

Organ music drew him constantly to the majestic sounding instrument and in 1856 he received a call to become the resident organist in Linz, playing at the Linz Dom. His glowing passion for Richard Wagner stamped him to be "futuristic" and not at all a "Vienna Classic" like Johannes Brahms. During his time in Linz he also conducted the Liedertafel Frohsinn and associated with musicians at the Linzer Hoftheater. As an accomplished organist he gave concerts in other cities, taking him to Vienna, Dresden and Leipzig.

Bruckner began to compose a number of symphonies; some played by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and performed in the Albert Hall, London. By 1892 he had produced 8 symphonies, a number of choral music songs and had received the 'Kaiser -Franz-Josef ' Orden. He died in 1896 in Vienna aged 73. At our recent anniversary concert we performed his *Trösterin Musik* and are presently brushing up on his *Ave Maria*.

PKT



*Hotel Hamburg
(cnr. Rundle Street and
Gawler Place)
where the singers of the
Adelaider Liedertafel
met on Tuesday nights*

The Last Word

DIPLOMAT: Someone who tells you to go to hell in a way which makes you eager to start the journey.