

Das Lied

Newsletter of the Adelaidier Liedertafel 1858 Vol 1 - No 9 – December 2003

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Well, the old year is nearly finished, and an interesting year it has been. DAS LIED made its appearance and in general seems to have been well received. However, there is always room for improvement. It has been suggested that we include more news of important events such as major wedding anniversaries. We'll try to do this next year, but please let Peter, Dieter or myself know beforehand.

From a singing point of view the highlight for me was the Jubilee concert in Elder Hall in September. This is what we're all about. It was also Ernest's last concert with us. His replacement, Evan Patton, has taken us through a few practices so far and will conduct us at the Christmas concert. He seems to have the confidence and respect of the choir and I hope he will be with us for a long time.

REMINDERS

- ALT Christmas Dinner in the Club – December 9th
- Schützenfest 2004: Friday 16th and Saturday 17th January. Those members who volunteered their services for the EFTPOS stand will get their passes and tickets at the first practice.
- First practice 2004: January 13th

On behalf of Peter, and Dieter I want to wish all members and their families a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous and happy new year.
BvdW

Report from Committee Meeting

- Brigitte Reeh has volunteered to look around for a supply of uniform socks

(in beige). These will be paid for by the choir.

- Dimboola 2004: A tentative booking has been made at the Horsham motel
- Christmas concert this Sunday:
 - “Sergeant Hugo” will man the boom gate at the car park. Passes for eligible people will be issued by Karl Ascher.
 - WE NEED CAKES! With the \$10 ticket price including coffee and cakes, we need some more cakes so that we don't run the risk of running short.
 - There is only one hot water urn in the hall where the coffee and cakes will be served, so we ask that choir members bring along thermos flasks which will be filled from the urn and placed on the table for people to help themselves. This will prevent congestion and possible accidents at the urn.

From the ALT Ladies

Thanks to all the Liedertafel ladies that helped at the recent bazaar in the German Club and for the donations given to us. It was a very successful day. We will use some of the funds in October next year at an outing on Lake Alexandrina and the Coorong. The Christmas concert at the Pilgrim Church is upon us and some of the remaining items from the bazaar day will be offered on a trading table. With the ticket price to the concert including coffee and cake we are expecting a big turnout after the concert and would appreciate help with cake and presentation.
BR

Celebrations

Birthdays this month:

1st: Bruno Bachmann (54)
6th: Wolfgang Fritzsche (69)

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

Singer Profile

Ernst Guese (Tenor 1)

At a rehearsal with our past conductor Peter Ruys, Ernst fitted the mould of first tenor - a rare breed indeed. In his youth he tried his voice with a Christian youth choir in his hometown Bielefeld, Germany.

After joining the navy he sang with the "Marine Jugend". They were good times in the 1930s when traditional song became part of growing up. Ernst was assigned for service to the cruiser "Königsberg" and took part in a sing-off with other crews from warships in the Baltic Sea port of Kiel. The presentation of the song "Jenseits des Tales" gave them the prize. He also joined a group of harmonica players, the mariners favourite instrument.

Ernst has fond memories of 2 concert tours to Germany with the Liedertafel, the performances of his home choir "Altenhagener Männerchor" and a 190 member strong choir from Riga at a time where most eastern European countries still had a tinge of red. Talk to Ernst about his time in the navy and soon he will tell you his love for Norway, the country and its people. He returned after the war to revisit many of the places seen during his wartime.

His working years in Adelaide have been with the "General " in Woodville and in 1985 Ernst joined the Adelaider Liedertafel. He has now reached a major milestone in his life – he and Lilly recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. Congratulations !

From the Archives

In June 1996 the Adelaider Liedertafel participated at the 10th anniversary of the Austrian Male Choir, the "Glockner Chor". Sadly this choir is no longer in existence, but the connection with the ALT remains. A former singer of the ALT Joe Kraus conducted the Glockner Chor until Jason Shute (also one of our past conductors) took the baton from him. A number of our singers have performed with both choirs at one time or another: Karl Ascher, Hugo Gutwein, Manfred Grafton, Tony Horwath, Peter van de Water, Guenter Polenz and past singer Ludwig Hartmann. This small choir was highly respected for their traditional presentation of alpine songs. One of their last major performances was with the ALT on our 135th anniversary. At this time of the year they will be well remembered for their regular Advent concerts.

PT

Werner Tromp (Bass 1) recently told me he believed he was descended from the 17th century Dutch admiral Maarten Tromp who fought many battles with the English and Spanish fleets. Do you think there's a family resemblance?



The Last Word:

USEFUL INFORMATION: It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs.