

# Das Lied

## Newsletter of the Adelaider Liedertafel 1858

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*I don't know about anybody else, but I thought that the Dimboola trip was great. Due to work commitments I was forced to take my own car, so the trip over and back was a bit lonesome. But once there I thoroughly enjoyed myself. The singing conditions were hardly first-class (I don't know why I bothered to clean my shoes – they finished up white from the dust), but this was more than compensated by the friendly atmosphere and, of course, the beer on Saturday night. Even the incident of having a glass of red wine spilt on my shirt within 10 minutes of arrival didn't spoil the event.*

*How many of you were woken up by the yahoo (not an ALT member) who tried to get into his motel room at some ungodly hour by banging on the door? Fortunately I slept through it.*

*Thanks should go to Peter Reeh who worked hard for a long time to ensure things ran smoothly.  
BvdW*

#### **Report from Committee Meeting**

- The “points system” used for allocating subsidies for travel expenses (for Sangerfest 2005) starts on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May
- SAADV has decided that ALT's insurance payout for losses incurred in the fire will be held by the Club and not passed to ALT.
- Coorong trip October: The ladies have paid a deposit. Members are to travel to Goolwa “under their own steam”. There will be two boats – 1 of 50 person capacity, the other 32 person capacity. Spare seats will be sold to interested parties on order to defray costs. Cost is \$50 per person - \$25 per person deposit required.
- SA Festival of Male Choirs (13<sup>th</sup> March 2005): A series of meetings will be held with the organising committee. Combined practices will also be held. Sheet music has been received and will be distributed soon.
- The president and treasurer have confirmed that they will not be seeking re-election at the AGM.

## *Celebrations*

### Birthdays this month

#### *Choir:*

- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Franz Bond (78)  
Dieter Schulz (64)  
15<sup>th</sup>: Werner Falkenburg (67)  
23<sup>rd</sup>: Gunter Linhoff (76)  
24<sup>th</sup>: Gunter Pohlenz (79)  
25<sup>th</sup>: Hermann Hintermeier (70)  
29<sup>th</sup>: Bruno Seifert (74)  
30<sup>th</sup>: Karl-Heinz Ohse (76)  
31<sup>st</sup>: Willi Hermann (74)

#### *Ladies:*

- 25<sup>th</sup>: Erika Merget (69)

## **Singer Profile**

### **Karl Heinz Ohse (Bass 2)**

Karl Heinz will soon be celebrating his 30th anniversary with ALT as he started in 1974 under the then conductor Peter van den Linden. It all came about from meeting Gunter Brasse at a picnic organised by the ladies gymnastic group where he joined Gunter Hein Feddersen playing the accordion and singing along. From that experience he was prompted to join the male choir.

Over the years Karl Heinz has been busy producing his skills as graphic artist with the design of many pamphlets and advertisements, but also in the manufacture of our old stage props (now lost in the German Club fire forever). His talent and those of a past singer Heinz Kosiol's created such stage settings as Hotel Hamburg and Blauer Bock. Those were the days of much fun and amateur acting skills on stage at the German Club.

Karl Heinz also joined the trip to Germany in 1983 where the main concert was held together with many local choirs in Hamburg under the baton of Peter Ruys.

Karl Heinz reflects fondly on his arrival in Australia in 1957 on board the Groote Beer that not only got him all the way to Fremantle then on to Melbourne, but was also the birthplace of his daughter Cornelia. During the 30 years with the choir Karl Heinz has also kept his hand in organising the music sheets and realises like many of us that we need to keep a close contact with other local choirs for our future survival.

PT

### **From the Archives**

Most of us know of name changes to towns in South Australia from their original German to other names due to the aftermath of the World Wars. Blumberg became Birdwood, Grünthal became Verdun and Hildesheim became Punthar (near Mannum).

Around these old German settlements we always discover something to connect them to their origins. Some of the best clues are found

on headstones on nearby cemeteries. Our neighbour state Victoria had also some early German settlers and we had the pleasure to be amongst their descendents at the recent German Fest in Dimboola.

It was in early 1854 that a Pastor Schurmann left Hoffnungsthal in the Barossa Valley joined by a number of other families to look for greener pastures. Most of the group settled near Hamilton but others stopped on the way around Nhill and Dimboola. At their new location some 20 miles east of Hamilton they found the soil and rainfall ideal for growing wheat and after 2 years felt that the move had been worthwhile. Their settlement was named Herrnhut and a congregation was soon formed which expressed thanks for finding their own promised land. Visitors coming to these places even today can contact many people with German names as we found out with the organiser of the Dimboola Festivities Pam and Neil Bothe. Perhaps for the future the Liedertafel may head to Hamilton - another area not too far away - for travels and concerts.

### **IMAGES OF DIMBOOLA**



#### The Last Word:

This is an actual message from a message board set up on the internet to honour Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, when she died.

"I was absolutely devastated, at least we could have got the day off". S.Wilson, Bristol.