

# The Composers

## Benjamin Britten: 1913 - 1976

English composer, conductor, and pianist. Showing prodigious talent from an early age, he composed *Quatre Chansons Françaises* for soprano and orchestra at the age of fourteen and first came to public attention with the a capella choral work *A Boy Was Born*. With the premiere of his opera *Peter Grimes* in 1945 he leapt to international fame, and for the next fifteen years he devoted much of his compositional attention to writing operas, several of which now appear regularly on international stages. Britten's interests as a composer were wide-ranging; he produced important music in such varied genres as orchestral, choral, solo vocal, chamber and instrumental, as well as film music. He also took a great interest in writing music for children and amateur performers, and was a fine pianist and conductor.

## Samuel Barber: 1910 - 1981

American composer of orchestral, opera, choral, and piano music. His *Adagio for Strings* is his most popular composition and widely considered a masterpiece of modern classical music. He was twice awarded the Pulitzer Prize for music, for his opera *Vanessa* and his *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*. His *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, a work for soprano and orchestra, was an acclaimed setting of prose by James Agee.

## Irving Berlin: 1888 - 1989

Irving Berlin was born in Tyumen, Russia, on May 11, 1888, and immigrated to New York as a child. He would become one of the most popular songwriters in the United States, with hits like "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "What'll I Do" and "White Christmas." Berlin's film and Broadway musical work included *Puttin' on the Ritz*, *Easter Parade* and *Annie Get Your Gun*. He died in New York City on November 22, 1989, at age 101.

## John Lennon & Sir Paul McCartney:

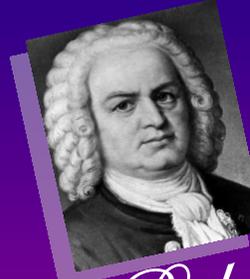
A songwriting partnership between John Lennon (1940 -1980) and Sir Paul McCartney (born 1942) of The Beatles, is one of the best-known and most successful musical collaborations in history. Between 1962 and 1969, the partnership published approximately 180 jointly credited songs, of which the majority were recorded by the Beatles, forming the bulk of their catalogue.

## Burt Bacharach: 1928

American composer, music producer and pianist. He is known for his popular hit songs and compositions from the late 1950s through the 1980s, many with lyrics written by Hal David as part of the duo Bacharach and David.

# West Gippsland Chorale

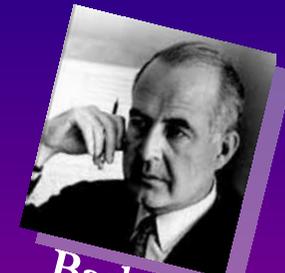
## Spring Concert September 7th & 8th 2013



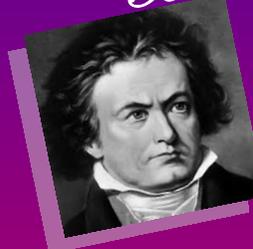
Bach



Bacharach



Barber

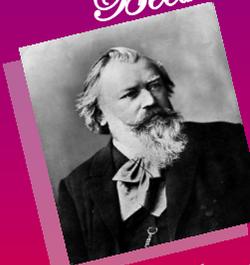


Beethoven

**Guest Artist  
Aimee Bridgman  
Flautist**



Berlin



Brahms

## Program



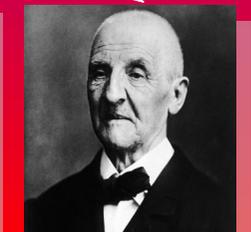
Britten



Bach



Beatles



Bruckner

# from Bach to Beatles

## West Gippsland Chorale

An auditioned community choir based in Warragul, the Chorale consists approximately 50 of the district's most talented singers. The Chorale was formed as a madrigal group 28 years ago. On several occasions it has combined with neighbouring choirs to present major works. In 2010 a collaboration with Camberwell Chorale presented Verdi's Requiem.

In 2011, the Chorale together with the Heidelberg Choral Society performed Handel's Messiah to audiences in West Gippsland and Melbourne and again in 2012, combined to present Carmina Burana as part of an eclectic program.

**Soprano:** Margaret Carlile, Sue Carson, Janette Clark, Marion Cohen, Lynne Davine, Pauline Hastings, Miriam Hood, Judy Hopkins, Elizabeth McCaffery, Rosemary Nicholson, Fiona Powell, Kirrily Saxton, Diane Wilkie.

**Alto:** Leonie Broeren, Lisa Campbell, Helen Chambers, Janice Eshuis, Lynn Jones, Jan MacLean, Jacquie Newman, Anne Outhred, Karin Ryan, Venetia Somerset, Alice Youlden.

**Tenor:** Marie Kitching, Geoff Leunig, John McCaffery, Walter Willems.

**Bass:** Peter Eshuis, Thomas Gibbons, Peter Medling, Des Parker, Allan Richards, David Tanner, Alan Wright.

## Simon Loveless ~ Musical Director

Simon has long been active in choral music as a conductor, accompanist, singer, administrator and advocate. He joined West Gippsland Chorale as accompanist in 2011 and moved to the role of Musical Director at the start of 2012. He is also the Musical Director of the Casey Choir, and Da Capo Singers and is Assistant Artistic Director and accompanist of Berwick Youth Choir. In addition to his choral involvements, Simon works extensively as a freelance accompanist.

## Lisa Fraser ~ Accompanist

Lisa is a graduate of the University of Queensland, having studied piano with Pamela Page. She also completed Education Studies at Monash University and was based for a number of years at Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar in Melbourne, participating in many areas of classroom music education including VCE, performing, accompanying, musical productions, choral education and piano tuition. In choral music, Lisa has previously enjoyed being a member of The Melbourne Chorale, has participated in various conducting and vocal workshops and has studied voice with Kathryn Sadler in Melbourne. Lisa currently works at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School and in Drouin teaching piano, theory and voice, and enjoys freelance accompanying.

## Guest Artist ~ Aimee Bridgman ~ Flautist

Aimee has been playing flute for six years, and is currently working on AMEB Certificate of Performance. She has played in numerous ensembles and orchestras including the Warragul Theatre Company orchestra for *Guys and Dolls*, *Carmen*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and also in other school production orchestras. She attends St Paul's Anglican Grammar school where she plays in the Big Bang Jazz Band, Flute Ensemble and Chamber Trio. Earlier this year, she attended a master class with Jane Rutter, performing at Jane's concert that night. In 2012, Aimee performed at the *Stars of the Eisteddfod* concert after winning the 16 and under Instrumentalist Solo Championship. Aimee is a very enthusiastic flautist and hopes to attend the Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music when she finishes year 12.

## The Composers

**Ludwig van Beethoven:** Born 1770, Bonn. Died 1827, Vienna: A German composer and pianist. He is considered to have been the most crucial figure in the transitional period between the Classical and Romantic eras in Western classical music, and remains one of the most famous and influential composers of all time. He moved to Vienna in his early twenties and settled there, studying with Joseph Hayden and quickly gaining a reputation as a virtuoso pianist. His hearing began to deteriorate in the late 1790s, yet he continued to compose, conduct, and perform, even after becoming completely deaf.

**Anton Bruckner:** Born 1824. Died 1896: Austrian composer known for his symphonies, masses, and motets. The former are considered emblematic of the final stage of Austro-German Romanticism because of their rich harmonic language, complex polyphony and considerable length. His works, the symphonies in particular, had detractors, who pointed to their large size, use of repetition, and Bruckner's propensity to revise many of his works, often with the assistance of colleagues, and his apparent indecision about which versions he preferred.

**Johannes Brahms :** Born in 1833. Died 1897: German composer and pianist, one of the leading musicians of the Romantic era. Brahms spent much of his professional life in Vienna, where he was a leader of the musical scene. In his lifetime, Brahms' popularity and influence were considerable. Brahms composed for piano, chamber ensembles, symphony orchestra, and for voice and chorus. A virtuoso pianist, he premiered many of his own works; he also worked with the leading performers of his time. He was at once a traditionalist and an innovator. His music is firmly rooted in the structures and compositional techniques of the Baroque and Classical masters. He was a master of counterpoint, the complex and highly disciplined method of composition for which Bach is famous. The diligent, highly constructed nature of Brahms' works was a starting point and an inspiration for a generation of composers.

### West Gippsland Chorale - Contacts:

President: Anne Outhred - Phone: 5633 2901 Mobile: 0427 746 859

Secretary: Geoff Leunig - Phone: 5623 2959 Mobile: 0439 553 020

# The Composers

**Johann Sebastian Bach:** Born 1685, Eisenach, Germany. Died 1750, Leipsig, Germany

German composer, organist, harpsichordist, violist, and violinist whose ecclesiastical and secular works for choir, orchestra, and solo instruments drew together the strands of the Baroque period and brought it to its ultimate maturity. Although he did not introduce new forms, he enriched the prevailing German style with a robust contrapuntal technique, an unrivalled control of harmonic and motivic organisation, and the adaptation of rhythms, forms and textures from abroad, particularly from Italy and France. He is now generally regarded as the supreme composer of the Baroque style, and as one of the greatest composers of all time.

**Dietrich Buxtehude:** Born c1637 - Oldesloe, near Lübeck, Germany. Died 1707, Lübeck.

Organist and composer of the Baroque period. Not only the year, but also the country of his birth is uncertain and disputed. Since he spent his early years in Helsingborg in Skåne, at the time part of Denmark, he is by some considered a Danish composer. Others, however, claim that he was born at Oldesloe in the Duchy of Holstein, (now Germany), which at that time was a part of the Danish Monarchy. Later in life he Germanised his name, his new name being Dietrich Buxtehude. Most scholars recognise that he studied music with his father, Johann, who had a great influence on him.

All his life Buxtehude was employed as an organist. He was never a cantor, yet his interest in vocal music was profound. He used the scriptures as well as church hymns and contemporary or mediaeval sacred poetry as textual sources and treated them either in compact form or in various combinations.

## Our Christmas Concert

### A Ceremony of Carols

*Benjamin Britten*

**Saturday 7th December ~ 8.00pm**

**Sunday 8th December ~ 2.00pm**

**Tickets: 0407 554 080 / [www.westgippslandchorale.org.au](http://www.westgippslandchorale.org.au)**

**[www.trybooking.com/DMOA](http://www.trybooking.com/DMOA)**

**or from any member of the chorale**

# Program

## Chorale

**Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring** J. S. Bach Arr. Robert Bridges  
Edited by H. P. Allen

**Crucifixus** J. S. Bach

**Magnificat** Dietrich Buxtehude

## Guest Artist

**Aimee Bridgman** Flute

**Ulipirra** Ross Edwards

## Chorale

**Hallelujah** L. van Beethoven

**Locus iste (This is God's House)** Anton Bruckner

**Schicksalslied (Song of Fate)** Johannes Brahms

## Interval

## Chorale

**Balulalow** Benjamin Britten Arr. Julius Harrison

**As Dew in Aprile** Benjamin Britten Arr. Julius Harrison

**Agnus Dei** Samuel Barber Transcribed from  
"Adagio for Strings"

## Guest Artist

**Aimee Bridgman** Flute

**Reel Around the Sun** Bill Whelan

## Chorale

**Blue Skies** Irving Berlin Arr. Roger Emerson

**Blackbird** Lennon & McCartney Arr. Daryl Rumswick

**I Say a Little Prayer** Burt Bacharach Arr. J. MacLean

West Gippsland Chorale  
appreciates the generous support of  
**Warragul & Drouin Gazette**

# Translations

## Crucifixus

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato, passus et sepultus est.

## Magnificat

Magnificat anima mea Dominum.  
Et exultavit spiritus meus  
in Deo salutari meo.  
Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae.  
Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent  
omnes generationes.  
Quia fecit mihi magna,  
qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius.  
Et misericordia a progenie in progenies,  
timentibus eum.  
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo,  
dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.  
Deposuit potentes de sede  
et exaltavit humiles.  
Esurientes implevit bonis,  
et divites dimisit inanes.  
Suscepit Israel puerum suum  
recordatus misericordiae suae.  
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,  
Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.  
Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,  
sicut erat in principio et nunc et in saecula  
saeculorum, Amen.

## Locus iste

Locus iste a Deo factus est,  
inaestimabile sacramtum;  
irreprehensibilis est.

## Crucifixus

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

## Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord.  
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For  
He has regarded the lowliness of His hand-  
maiden. Behold, from henceforth, I will be  
called blessed by all generations.  
For the Mighty One has done  
great things for me, and holy is His name.  
His mercy is for those who fear Him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with His arm,  
He has scattered the proud  
in the thoughts of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their  
thrones and lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped His servant Israel  
in remembrance of His mercy.  
According to the promise He made to our an-  
cestors, to Abraham and to His descendants  
forever.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the  
Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and for ever and ever, Amen.

## Locus iste

This place was made by God,  
a priceless sacrament;  
beyond reproach.

## Schicksalslied

Ihr wandelt droben im Licht  
Auf weichem Boden, selige Genien!  
Glänzende Götterlüfte  
Rühren euch leicht,  
Wie die Finger der Künstlerin  
Heilige Saiten.

Schicksallos, wie der schlafende  
Säugling, atmen die Himmlischen;  
Keusch bewahrt  
In bescheidener Knospe,  
Blühet ewig  
Ihnen der Geist,  
Und die seligen Augen  
Blicken in stiller  
Ewiger Klarheit.

Doch uns ist gegeben,  
Auf keiner Stätte zu ruhn,  
Es schwinden, es fallen  
Die leidenden Menschen  
Blindlings von einer  
Stunde zur andern,  
Wie Wasser von Klippe  
Zu Klippe geworfen,  
Jahrlang ins Ungewisse hinab.

## Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Dona nobis pacem.

## Schicksalslied

You wander above in the light  
on soft ground, blessed genies!  
Blazing, divine breezes  
brush by you as lightly  
as the fingers of the player  
on her holy strings.

Fateless, like sleeping  
infants, the divine beings breathe,  
chastely protected  
in modest buds,  
blooming eternally  
their spirits,  
and their blissful eyes  
gazing in mute,  
eternal clarity.

Yet there is granted us  
no place to rest;  
we vanish, we fall -  
the suffering humans -  
blind from one  
hour to another,  
like water thrown from cliff  
to cliff,  
for years into the unknown depths.

## Lamb of God

The Lamb of God,  
Who took the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us.

The Lamb of God,  
Who took the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us.

The Lamb of God,  
Who took the sins of the world,  
Grant us peace.



### West Gippsland Chorale

is a member of the  
Australian National Choral Association  
and is listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations.  
Donations are gratefully accepted  
and are fully tax - deductible under  
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