



*Central Coast Conservatorium students were once again invited to participate in the Australian Opera Ballet Orchestra (AOBO) Project in August 2014*

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## FROM PATRICK BRENNAN

Welcome! Who could believe we are already at Term 4 with Christmas just around the corner. Once again this term is packed with concerts, workshops and most importantly learning for all involved in our programs at the Conservatorium, in schools and our Central Coast community.



Firstly I'd like to introduce and also congratulate Aaron Passfield as our new Head of Brass Department. Aaron has been working at the Conservatorium for a number of years on campus

as well as in our schools program and has proved an excellent asset to the team. I am sure Aaron's leadership will lead the Department to new heights in the coming years.



Another exciting new addition to our teaching staff is Di Gardiner (Clarinet/Saxophone). After a long period away from teaching at the Con, Di will return and rebuild her once vibrant studio. This is wonderful news for

the Woodwind Department and the Conservatorium.

Two important events that are coming up in October and November are Mini String Fest and the Central Coast Band Festival. Both these events target primary aged students and are a celebration of younger musicians in our community.

The opportunity for our Children's Music Program team to deliver holiday classes at Erina Fair in the September holidays was an excellent addition to the program. These classes were well attended and proved very successful. Central Coast Conservatorium hopes to deliver classes over the Christmas Holiday period, so stay tuned for more information. Not only will you be able to shop for a nice pair of shoes but also some quality music education for your child. Now that's my kind of shopping!

Special congratulations must go to Jasmine Baric and Eva Li for competing so beautifully in the Ray Allen Concerto Competition hosted by CCSO at Laycock Street Community Theatre. Both students showed maturity beyond their age and although there is only room for one winner, Jasmine and her performance of Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole* was certainly deserving of first

prize. The true win from my perspective was that two young local musicians performed with a full symphony orchestra on a professional concert platform in front of a wonderfully receptive audience.

I'd like to personally congratulate all the candidates who participated in our recent scholarship auditions. The level of musicianship shown across all departments was exceptional and a testament to the hard work of students, tutors and parents. Congratulations to you all!

One new addition to the 2014 calendar is the Awards Ceremony/Ray Allen Final on Sunday 23rd November. This very important event will not only celebrate and recognise our students' achievements for the year but will also showcase the Conservatorium's high caliber students in a competitive performance setting. Most certainly this will be an incredible event that will draw our Conservatorium community even closer. I look forward to seeing you there.

With a State Election looming early next year we find ourselves in an important and exciting time on the Central Coast. The necessity for a Performing Arts Precinct housing a new Conservatorium is paramount to the success of the Coast as a culturally enriched and engaged community. This development should not be seen solely as a performance space but something much more valuable, that being an educational vehicle delivering on many different levels to all demographics of our community.

Friends of the Performing Arts Precinct (FOPAP) and the Conservatorium are currently working with all levels of government to help deliver this most important community resource. I urge you to back our efforts in securing this long awaited and well-deserved community infrastructure project.

**More info:** <http://fopap.org.au>

The Conservatorium continues to be a vibrant hub of music-making no matter what time of day. In fact only last night I was busily working away at a not so inspiring bit of paperwork when I was distracted by an incredible voice reverberating through the old courthouse. I was so taken aback I had to see who was producing it. Following my ear I found myself outside Michael Archer's studio. She was "just teaching Elke". I opened the door, said hello, shut the door and went back to my office, sat at my desk, resumed my not so inspiring paperwork and thought to myself, awesome! The great thing about this place is that moments such as this happen in so many different ways on a daily basis and that's what makes our Conservatorium a truly inspiring place to be.

**Patrick Brennan**  
**Artistic Director**



## STUDENT CONGRATULATIONS

**Eva Li** recently received her A.Mus.A. through the AMEB for violin performance. Well done Eva, we wish you more successes in the coming year.

**Tess Green** (former student of vocal tutor Lilija Sile) completed her Diploma in Music at the young age of 15. Tess recently appeared on The Voice Australia and played the lead role in Hamlet at The Seymour Centre, Sydney.

## PIANO DEPT NEWS

Congratulations to all the piano students who performed at the recent Central Coast Eisteddfod. Out of the 29 sections held, Central Coast Conservatorium students achieved at least 1st and 2nd place in 21 of them!

Special congratulations to **Bradley Tham** who won the junior championship and to **Patrick Harrison** who won the senior championship section.

Thank you to the volunteers who continue to make the eisteddfod possible and to Philip Rees who did a great job adjudicating. The event was a great success and was enjoyed by piano students and teachers from the Central Coast and as far away as Sydney and Newcastle. The eisteddfod will enjoy its 40th anniversary next year and it promises to be an even bigger event. If you are interested in becoming involved with helping please visit the website [www.centralcoasteisteddfod.com.au](http://www.centralcoasteisteddfod.com.au).

### Carl Schmidt

Head of Program, Piano

## WOODWIND DEPT NEWS

Following yet another wonderful term it was an absolute pleasure to hear a great many of our students perform in the woodwind and brass scholarship auditions. As expected, the standard was very high and every student who participated is to be commended on their audition. While obviously these auditions are a competition with a very welcome scholarship as the prize, they are also an invaluable experience for any student. The process of preparing a program with a set performance date and practicing hard so that they can perform with confidence, is essential for the development of those all important performance skills.

And now, some tips for those who wish to compete for scholarships next year or for performing in concert practice, at an exam or any other performance:

- Ensure you are well warmed up prior to your performance;
- Tune your instrument prior to entering the performance space. Obviously you will still check your tuning with the piano but if your instrument is warm and you are 'in tune' then your interment should either be in tune with the piano or will only require a minor adjustment;
- Practice your music so that you *cannot* make a mistake. While this may seem like a strange statement, it is one of the key differentiators. When

we are nervous hidden mistakes can appear! Always practice your pieces beyond the point where you feel you know the notes, practice *all* the details, just for fun try to transpose the piece or even play it backwards! Listen to *how* you are playing, record yourself, ask yourself if it is stylistically correct, listen to recordings of music from the same period or by the same composer and try to listen to *how* the pieces are being played. All of these things will not only help you stay interested for longer, they will also help your understanding of the music.

- Dress to impress! An audition, concert practice, exam, or concert are all situations where you are presenting yourself and your music to others. Take the time to put on your 'good' clothes and shoes. Not only will you feel a little more special for your performance, the audience or examiner will notice your efforts and the fact you have taken care with your presentation. Remember, it is not just the music that you are presenting, it is also yourself!
- Don't dwell on the past. You might make a little mistake but don't focus on it; move forward and take the opportunity to let the music that is to come be amazing.
- Have fun! In the midst of pre-performance nerves try to remind yourself that you have worked hard, you are well practiced and well prepared and that this is your opportunity to show everyone what you have achieved. Remember also that the audience members, examiners or panelists want you to do well and are very much looking forward to hearing your performance!

Congratulations to all our amazing student for their work this term, their performances in scholarship auditions, at exams and in concert practice. All of your tutors are extremely proud of you all and we look forward to an amazing final term for the year!

### Rosalie Bourne

Head of Program, Woodwind

## AOBO PROJECT WRAP UP

Eight students from Central Coast Conservatorium were handpicked to work with one of Australia's leading orchestras in August this year. As part of a joint project between the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra (AOBO) and the Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums, students from Central Coast, Wollongong, New England, Orange, Macquarie, Young and Upper Hunter Conservatoriums met at the Opera Centre for a series of intensive rehearsals before a final performance at the Opera House.

Central Coast Conservatorium students **Ayrton Gilbert, Bradley Tham, Jeffery Guo, Ken Arnot, Phoebe Gilbert, Oliver Lee, Vanessa Andersson**, and **Emma Hunter** attended a series of videoconference sessions, followed by an intensive three day Sydney visit as the culmination of the project, with activities at the Opera

Centre and Sydney Opera House in the orchestra pit in the Joan Sutherland Theatre. Well done to all the students involved and their tutors!

## VOCAL DEPT NEWS

The Vocal Department had a busy end to Term 3 with a series of concert practices where students discovered some of the traps of concert performance. Apart from the usual concert etiquette, there was also the big lesson of eliminating distractions (for the audience) during performances. These can range from inappropriate clothing or demeanour to unnecessary movements and gestures. Anything that distracts the audience's attention away from the performance should be eliminated as much as possible. The leap from studio to concert platform is daunting but our students are lucky that they get to master this in the last week of each term. Thanks to Krzysztof Malek, who passed on valuable knowledge regarding working with the accompanist. Mainly this involves clear setting of tempos and also if repeats are being implemented and, if so, how many verses are being sung.

The Central Coast Opera Committee recently convened and members are in the early stages of organising a production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* to be staged in 2015. This will involve many students from the Conservatorium and will be a follow-up to last year's successful production *Help, Help the Globolinks!* Mozart's perennial favourite has been enchanting audiences all over the world since 1791. More information about this project will be distributed in the coming months.

Many of Conservatorium's vocal tutors have been busy giving performances on the coast and elsewhere. Yvette Masters had a great night with Rodric White and others at Lizottes recently in a concert of contemporary favourites and has just returned from doing several gigs at Thredbo. Michael Archer together with Krzysztof Malek, Diane Gardiner and the Concertante Ensemble Quartet performed to an appreciative audience in the Schubert Serenade concert at Toukley; Tim Page and Allan Royal also appeared in the recent GMS production of *Annie*. Tim is already in rehearsals for *The Phantom of the Opera* which opens on October 18th.

Congratulations to all the vocal students who did well in their recent AMEB Exams. It was particularly gratifying that some passed with grade A+. Well done to all concerned!

## CHILDREN'S MUSIC PROGRAM

Music is innate and a necessary part of a child's life. Just a few minutes of musical play every day helps your child's development in many areas including social, emotional, physical, cognitive/intellectual and spiritual. Not to mention great fun!

Please find below a selection of activities that will encourage your child to respond to music, join in music

and create their own music through movement, voice and percussion activities.

### **Song - It's Time to Say Hello (The Farmer in the Dell) from Catch a Song by Deanna Hoermann and Doreen Bridges**

- This is a wonderful greeting song, which encourages social ritual, singing, pitch and beat.
- Words can be substituted eg. 'It's time to take a bath' or as an action 'It's time to clap our hands' etc. Children can create additional movements.
- The song can be transferred onto percussion instruments. Play and keep the beat. 'It's time to play our drum' etc.

It's time to say hello  
It's time to say hello  
Heigh- ho the derry-o  
It's time to say hello

### **Rhyme - Feet Feet (Teacher translated)**

- A movement activity, which encourages beat, listening and creativity.
- The use of comparatives- for eg. fast and slow, or loud and quiet. Children to create their own movements.

Feet, feet, feet, feet  
Going up and down the street  
Big feet, little feet  
Come by me.

### **Movement Activity - William Tell Overture - Finale - Rossini from ABC Classic Kids CD**

- Great for young children to: a) feel the beat, b) be creative and imaginative with movement, and c) listening.
- Use scarves or stretchy bands to pretend you are holding the reins of a galloping horse.

### **Melissa Lark**

Head of Program Children's Music

## SSO TRIP

In Term 3 we took a group of Youth Orchestra members to Sydney Opera House for a Sydney Symphony Orchestra performance called *Symphonic Inspiration*. The bus trip was subsidised by money raised in 2013 by the Youth Orchestra and students were able to purchase heavily discounted tickets to the concert which was conducted by David Robertson and featured symphonies by Brahms, Lalo and Janáček. The trip was so well enjoyed and so musically rewarding, that we hope to do similar trips in 2015 with our students.

## NEW TUTOR: DIANE GARDINER

We are very pleased to welcome Diane to our Woodwind Department in Term 4. Diane studied clarinet for 11 years and has played in the Sydney Youth Orchestra, the Sydney Wind Orchestra, the SBS TV Youth Orchestra and the Pro

Musica Orchestra. She was principal bass clarinetist in the AWO tour of Europe/USA. She is now principal clarinetist with Central Coast Symphony Orchestra. Diane will be available for clarinet lessons and is also available to service woodwind instruments by appointment. For more details, phone the Administration Office on 4324 7477.

## REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUMS TO WORKSHOP WITH LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Association of NSW Regional Conservatoriums has recently teamed up with Sydney Opera House to give young musicians in regional areas the chance of a lifetime. London Symphony Orchestra will visit Australia in November, performing in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. In partnership with the Sydney Opera House, the Association has organised a four-day workshop to be held in Sydney to coincide with the visit, commencing Monday November 24 and finishing Thursday November 27. Workshop activities will take place at the Arts Unit in Lewisham, and at Sydney Opera House.

The entire experience (including a free ticket to the concert) is being made available at no cost to the students. This is yet another reason to study at Central Coast Conservatorium, a member of the Association of Regional Conservatoriums. A number of our students were successful in gaining entry to this project and we wish them luck and success. They are **Ayrton Gilbert** (Double Bass), **Ruby Denson** (Oboe), **Jeffery Guo** (Trombone), **Emma Hunter** (Viola), **Anastasia Hibbard** (Violin), **Oliver Lee** (Violin) and **Ken Arnot** (Violin).

## INTERVIEW WITH ELIZABETH WOOLNOUGH

*How did you come to appreciate classical music? Was there a specific musical experience that made you wish to pursue music or was it a gradual accumulation of experiences?*



Going to Saturday Strings every week from the age of 7-17 definitely fostered my appreciation of classical music! Those mornings from 9-12:30 were a time to socialize and to learn vital skills for a musician like playing chamber music, learning how to play your scales at lightning speed

and experiencing some of the best pieces in the string orchestra repertoire. I didn't really consider trying music

as a career until I was about 15, after a few of the scariest and most inspiring lessons with Chris Bearman, my previous violin teacher. Around that time, I started dreaming of going to Sydney Conservatorium.

*How old were you when you started to play violin?*

I messed around with the violin until the age of 8, when I then started getting lessons from the amazing Karina Hollands.

*Can you describe when, how and why you made the transition to viola?*

I started playing the viola in Youth Orchestra and Chamber Music at CCC when I was 13, but was still getting violin lessons with Karina at this stage. It never crossed my mind that in 5 years, viola would end up being my life! I made the transition for a few reasons, mainly because my arms were a bit long and gangly and there was a dire shortage of violists at the time.

*What advice would you give young musicians contemplating the switch from violin to viola?*

Don't think viola is any easier than violin! Physically, it's much more of a strain than the violin, but if you have the right technique and good stamina, you should have minimal problems. Viola is a beautiful instrument, and needs the same high level of technique as violin to have that deep, mellow sound- perhaps even more developed technique because it is harder to play faster and shift quickly on the viola. Consider keeping up the violin technical work on viola, to ensure your hands are fit!

*What are some of your favourite composers; works; styles; genres; ensembles?*

If I had to pick three composers, they'd be Brahms, Stravinsky and Vaughn Williams. There is an amazing cellist and composer; Giovanni Sollima, who writes contemporary works for string orchestra and solo cello- highly recommended! I actually prefer listening to non-classical music in my downtime, and the genre I love the most is electronic music.

*How do you go about studying a difficult work you haven't played before?*

Definitely break it up into small fragments and don't move on until the section you're working on is good enough e.g. in tune, rhythmically sound, dynamics, expression etc. it helps to listen to at least 3 different recordings to get a clear idea of how you can interpret the piece your own way (obviously doing what the composer tells you as well!)

*What hobbies or activities do you enjoy for relaxation and interest?*

I have weekly horse riding lessons in Sydney, quite close to the Con so after fun and relaxation are over, it's straight back to work! I think it's quite important for certain personalities to have an outlet other than music- just to keep life interesting as sitting in a practice room for 4+ hours a day can get a little monotonous sometimes!

*What viola do you play?*



I play a 2009 16 inch John Wu Smith copy viola.

*Can you describe what you like about it?*

It produces the most amazing sound on all four strings. I love it because it's small enough to not make it a strain to shift and get around the instrument. But what it lacks in size, it makes up for in character!

*What are your goals from here?*

At the moment my main goal is to make the most of the Fellowship Program, but in the future, I would love to do a Masters of Music in Germany. In terms of a career, playing with a professional orchestra would be an absolute dream!

## STRINGS EXCITEMENT ON SATURDAYS

Every Saturday during term time Central Coast Conservatorium is buzzing with talented music students who are part of the Saturday Strings Program. This program is the most intensive of all the NSW regional conservatoriums with the chamber music program and numerous larger ensembles ranging from beginner strings such as Mini Strings and Strings Pops, up through to a top notch pre-university chamber orchestra.

The program initially started in the early 90s under Sylvia Colgrove with one group of Mini Strings which expanded to two groups in 1994 with the arrival of Suzanne Borrett and Christopher Bearman, and to its current form in the late 90s under the direction of Don Andrews.

The Conservatorium is very proud to be able to offer their vibrant chamber music sessions as this is not offered at other regional conservatoriums. We believe this is the best way for students to become independent musicians as they cannot rely on others and each is an integral member of their group. Students are carefully matched into groups of three or four and they learn the ropes of some of the most important aspects of musical training which include learning how to play together, listening to other parts, balancing voices, intonation, working with others and continually improving their own individual parts leading to various performance opportunities.

The social aspect of working together is also invaluable in which friendships are formed for life. This program produces a constant stream into national programs such as the Australian Youth Orchestra (AYO) including their top chamber music level.

Recently we have added the valuable String Technique Class where students are able to hone their technical aspects of playing in a fun environment. Every term there are also three **performance workshops** where students perform their latest piece in front of an audience and receive feedback to further improve performance skills.

## Saturday Strings Timetable

9am - 10am	String Pops (9.30-10.00) FREE Mini Strings String Ensemble String Orchestra
10am - 11am	Chamber Music (5 groups) Cello Ensemble
11:15 - 11:45am	Technique Class
11:45am - 1pm	CC Chamber Orchestra
1:15 - 3pm	Concert Practices (3 per term)

### Peter Garrity

Head of Program, Strings

## STRING POPS IN TERM 4

String tutor and cellist Paula Scott will offer String Pops once again. This is a group for stage 2 Primary School aged children who would like an introduction to playing stringed instruments.

Students receive a half hour a week for FREE, getting a feel for both the violin and the cello. This class will be held at 9.30am on Saturdays during Term 4. Registrations are essential.

## SINGER LIAM BURROWS: ONE OF THE CONSERVATORIUM'S GREAT SUCCESS STORIES

Article by Rodric White (Head Of Contemporary Music Studies/Director of Big Band/Piano Tutor)



Singer Liam Burrows is definitely one of the Central Coast Conservatorium's great success stories. He appeared this year as a featured special guest in the Conservatorium's Concerts at Lizottes and for "The Art Of Improvisation" Concert in August.

Now 20 years old, Liam has a most exciting career in the Australian and international music industries. Over the past

three years, he has performed over 200 corporate and private shows, headlining around the country at many of Australia's most popular venues and at events including the Broadbeach Jazz Festival, Norfolk Island Jazz Festival, Adelaide Hill's Jazz Festival, Noosa Jazz Festival (twice) and the Manly Jazz Festival.

I first heard and saw Liam perform in 2008 for the then Jazz Department's End Of Year Concert in the Robert Knox Hall. Liam, 14 years old at the time, was a member of the Con's Jazz Ensemble. He was featured on trumpet and vocals performing the standard "Autumn Leaves". Liam

certainly made the most of his time at the Central Coast Conservatorium, studying classical piano with Rosemary Whitcomb, playing trumpet in both the Jazz Ensemble and The Big Band, taking singing lessons with former Conservatorium tutor and Big Band director, Dorian Thorpe (aka Dorian Mode). Liam also studied in Sydney with Chicago jazz pianist, John Harkins and was in the Jazz Ensemble at Chatswood High School, directed by leading Australian jazz trumpeter Warwick Alder.

Dorian, Liam's singing teacher on the Central Coast, suggested to Liam and his mother, music teacher Gemma Burrows, that Liam further his knowledge of harmony, improvisation and jazz by taking piano lessons with me. For eight months, Liam took weekly lessons with at my place in Ettalong. We soon became very good friends and musical colleagues. At age 16, Liam was starting to be discovered, making guest appearances with the John Morrison Swing City Big Band at Concerts in Sydney.

At age 17, Liam decided to compete on Australia's Got Talent, singing the music that he loved and which was now a big part of his life. Singing many of the celebrated songs of legendary vocalist Frank Sinatra, Liam made it all the way to the finals of the show – becoming one of the 10 finalists for 2011. As a result of the show, Liam came to the attention of his now manager, Jack Strom, and started putting his own book of arrangements together to capitalize on the exposure and opportunities which Australia's Got Talent had afforded him, to launch his solo career. With the guidance of mentors such as Jack, drummer John Morrison and his singing teacher Dorian, Liam has made some very wise decisions about his musical career. I was privileged to assist Liam with putting his book of arrangements together by specially writing twelve arrangements for Liam's six-piece band.

Liam has gone from strength to strength. In 2011, Liam independently released his own album "All Of Me". The album has achieved critical acclaim and airplay around the world.

In 2012 he was named BEST JAZZ ARTIST at the Australian Music Industry's MusicOz Awards. He won Second Place in the Vocal Performance category of the International Unsigned-Only Music Competition. With almost 7,500 entries from over 80 countries, this was a remarkable achievement. In 2013, Liam won an Australian Entertainment MO Award for live performance.

As a Finalist in the 2013 Unsigned Only Music Competition, Liam won an Honorable Mention for his rendition of an original song, "You Shook Me" which was recently released on iTunes & in the form of a video on YouTube. Liam was also a Finalist in the 2013 Music Oz Awards and won a Mo Award for live performance.

This month (September 2014) Liam was awarded Second Place in Vocal Performance Category of prestigious US-based Unsigned-Only Music Competition with his rendition of "Skylark" and received an Honorable Mention for another song "Never Fallen In Love So Easily Before".

Now at age 20, Liam has appeared on Channel 7 Melbourne's Good Friday Telethon (where he performed two songs with a large orchestra) Channel 10's The Circle and Channel 7's The Morning Show (three times) and Channel 7 Perth's telethon at which time he received a standing ovation.

Since July 2011 he has enjoyed a meteoric rise to the top of the music scene whilst continuing to develop as an exceptional and unique entertainer, performing all over Australia as well as overseas. He has earned the respect of fellow professionals and stunned the public with a mature vocal style and stage presence that is way beyond his years.

Singer Liam Burrows is definitely one of the Central Coast Conservatorium's great success stories.

[www.liamburrows.net](http://www.liamburrows.net)

### **Rodric White**

Head of Program, Contemporary Music Studies

## **YEAR 6 SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN**

The Conservatorium will be offering a limited number of Scholarships to Year 6 Students to assist them in transitioning into the one-to-one tuition program at the Conservatorium in 2015. The Year 6 Scholarship is valued at \$400 and is applied in Term 4, 2015. Scholarship holders at the Conservatorium receive individual tuition along with taking part in one or more Conservatorium ensembles. Studying at the Conservatorium gives students the opportunity to attend Musicianship classes, Master classes, and professional and student concerts enabling a truly comprehensive music education.

Parents/Guardians are welcome to accompany students to their audition interview with Patrick Brennan on Saturday, December 6 between 10am and 1pm. Once we receive all applications, we will contact you with your audition time. Students will need to present one scale and a single piece of music and should discuss this and make preparations with their school tutor. Following the auditions you will be notified of the outcome and be asked to complete a 2015 enrolment form. All students will be notified of their allocated tutor and day and time of lesson prior to the commencement of Term 1, 2015.

This is an excellent opportunity for your child to improve musically, intellectually and socially throughout their music tuition whilst becoming a part of the Conservatorium "community". Please complete the application form and return it by email, mail or fax to the Conservatorium NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2014.

### **Year 6 Scholarship criteria**

- Students must be finishing Year 6 in 2014 and be enrolled in the Central Coast Conservatorium Schools Program.
- The scholarship is for one year's duration and commences in Term 1, 2015.

- Scholarships will only be granted to students whose fees are fully paid throughout the 2015 year.
- Scholarships may be withdrawn if attendance or commitment is deemed unsatisfactory.
- Students must complete all four terms in 2015.
- Students must enrol in at least one ensemble per term at the Conservatorium and at least a half hour lesson per week.

For more information please phone the office on 4324 7477. Application Forms are available on the website.

## MUSIC THERAPY

Music Therapy at the Central Coast Conservatorium provides tailored music therapy for individuals and groups. This service is open to people of all ages and abilities on the Central Coast and provides client-centred goals and objectives.

### What is Music Therapy?

Music therapy differs from music education as its main goal is not to develop musical skills or learn a new instrument, but rather to aim to improve a person's health, functioning and wellbeing in a therapeutic setting that uses music interventions as the primary tool. Goals such as increasing social skills, providing ways to interact and communicate verbally and non verbally, developing cognitive awareness, gaining sensory motor skills, promoting relaxation, providing opportunities for reminiscence, working towards rehabilitation and providing opportunities for self expression can all be addressed through various music therapy techniques. An example of techniques that might be employed in a typical music therapy session are improvisation, song writing, action songs, music and movement, receptive music and familiar song singing.

### Who is Music Therapy for?

Many people of all ages and abilities can benefit from music therapy. Populations that music therapy may be used with include children and adults with:

- intellectual and/or physical disabilities
- mood disorders
- neurological disorders
- rehabilitation for stroke patients
- behavioural problems
- elderly and dementia patients

Each program is individualised to best suit each client's needs and can range from 'one-off' visits, individually tailored programs and group programs.

### What are Music Therapy goals?

Music therapy sessions are structured according to the goals set out between the therapist and the client before sessions start. They may meet physical, psychological, social or emotional goals. These are then monitored throughout the sessions and evaluated at the end of a program or school term.

## Music Therapy and Autism

Research shows music as an effective intervention for children and adults with autism, with various studies having shown a common connection and enjoyment that people with autism often have with music. As a person with autism may find it difficult to communicate through words, music can offer opportunities to express and interact with others in a non-confrontational way. This can assist in increasing their social skills and developing positive relationships with the people around them. Music therapy has demonstrated its positive benefits and effectiveness as a motivating tool for children and adults with autism for increasing social skills, communication and positively affecting eye contact and tactile sensitivity.

## Music Therapy and Dementia

The effect of music to bring back special memories for people with dementia has been illustrated in various studies, as well as its positive affects on behaviours such as anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness and wandering. As music pervades so many areas of the brain, it continues to function well after other parts of the brain do not. For people with dementia, music can provide moments of clarity and allow them to reminisce about special memories. It can also provide discussion points for groups, which can promote social connectedness and a sense of belonging.

## Music Therapy and Rehabilitation

For stroke patients who have lost or had a reduction in their speech capacity (aphasia), singing lyrics to a song is often easier than speaking the words. As music pervades many parts of the brain, music therapy can be an effective way for the rehabilitation and recovery of speech through the use of melody, rhythm and lyrics. For stroke patients, music therapy has shown to increase a patient's positive emotions and motivation for physical rehabilitation. It has been shown to be effective when coupled with other traditional therapies, with a significant increase in the patient's recovery rates and their motivation for the use of traditional therapies.

## Who are Music Therapists?

To become a Registered Music Therapist (RMT) in Australia, a person must complete a post-graduate Master's qualification in Music Therapy. Additionally, they must complete 640 clinical hours with professional supervision to obtain registration. All RMT's are registered with the Australian Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and are bound by the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics of the AMTA.

## Central Coast Conservatorium Music Therapists

Vanessa Ropa (Head of Music Therapy Program) RMT, BMus (Hons), MMus (Perf)

Vanessa Ropa studied at the Sydney Conservatorium where she completed a Bachelor of Music (first class honours) in 2007 and a Masters of Music (Performance) in 2009 and most recently, a Master of Music Therapy at The University of Melbourne. Vanessa's music therapy



experience in Australia includes working with children in palliative care and respite, children and adolescents with autism and patients with dementia in a residential aged care facility. In 2013, Vanessa spent one month in India working for the Brett Lee MEWSIC Foundation setting up a music therapy program to help support children with cancer and their families.

**Sarah Fisher-Dobbin** RMT, MAMT, MSpEd, BMus/BMusEd

Sarah has vast musical experiences that span a period of 15 years. She has obtained a Masters of Music Therapy as well as a Masters of Special Education. In addition to this she has been working in music education at a range of specialist settings including a school that caters for students with behaviour issues and schools that provides for students with moderate to severe intellectual and physical disabilities.

### Who to contact for more information?

Please contact the office on 4324 7477 or alternatively, please email the Head of Music Therapy Program (E: [musictherapy@centralcoastconservatorium.com.au](mailto:musictherapy@centralcoastconservatorium.com.au)) and your email will be answered within 48 hours.

## TERM 4 DATES

### October

- 18 Woodwind Concert Practice: 3-5pm RKH
- 19 Bouddi at Bells of Killcare: 3:30pm
- 19 New Sydney Wind Quintet: Proms 1pm, Concert 2.30pm
- 26 Bouddi Scholarship Finals Concert: 2.30pm Wagstaffe Hall
- 26 Mini Strings Fest: Workshops 9am RKH, Concert 12.30pm GAC
- 28 Piano Masterclass with Ben Kopp 5.30pm RKH
- 31 True Life Groove Band, Lizottes Kincumber 7:30pm

### November

- 1 Strings Concert Practice: 1:15-3:15pm RKH
- 1 Student Diploma Recital: Emma Hunter & Eva Li, 3pm RKH
- 1 Kariong Eco Gardens 4 Season Art & Film Night: 5pm
- 2 Kids Day Out: Kariong Mountains High School 10am-3pm
- 2 Magnificent Mozart feat. Central Coast Trio: 2:30pm RKH
- 8 CC Philharmonia Choir "Gloria": 7.30pm GAC
- 8 Strings Concert Practice: 1:15-3:15pm RKH
- 8 Woodwind/Brass/Perc Student Showcase: 5-6pm RKH
- 9 Band Festival: 2.30pm Central Coast Leagues Club
- 20 Gerard Masters Band: Random Acts of Jazz, 7.30pm RKH
- 22 Strings Concert Practice: 1:15-3:15pm RKH
- 22 Leavers' Concert: 5-8pm RKH
- 23 Ray Allen Scholarship Finals/Presentation Day: 2.30pm GMC
- 24-27 LSO Visit
- 25 Contemporary Music Studies EOY Concert: 7pm Impact Centre, Erina
- 29 CCSO Series Concert 4: 8pm Impact Centre, Erina
- 30 Choirs and CMP EOY Concert: 4.30pm Gosford Anglican Church
- 30 Charmian Gadd Fundraiser Recital 3pm RKH

### December

- 2 CMP EOY Concert: 4-6pm RKH
- 2 Piano Dept EOY Concert: 7.30pm RKH
- 4 Guitar Dept EOY Concert: 7.30pm RKH

- 5 Premier Ensembles/Composers' Concert: 7pm GAC featuring CCOY, CCPWE, CCSWO and Main Choir
- 6 Strings Dept EOY Concert: 2pm RKH
- 6 Year 6 Scholarships Auditions
- 7 Ensembles/Chamber Groups EOY Concert: 1pm GAC
- 7 Triple Threat EOY Concert: 7pm Peninsula Theatre, Woy Woy
- 8-9 Classical Vocal Students EOY Concert: 5pm RKH
- 10-11 Contemporary Vocal Students EOY Concert: 6pm Lizottes
- 12 CC Philharmonia Choir "Carols": Gosford Anglican Church 7.30pm
- 14 Concertante Ensemble #4 "Basically Baroque" 2.30pm at Greenway Memorial Chapel

RKH = Robert Knox Hall

GAC = Gosford Anglican Church

GMC = Greenway Memorial Chapel

## COMING UP ...

### NSWQ - MOTHER GOOSE MEETS PETER & THE WOLF

On Sunday the 19th October, New Sydney Wind Quintet (NSWQ) will present a delightful program called "Mother Goose meets Peter and the Wolf". NSWQ, Australia's leading wind quintet, celebrate their 10th anniversary this year. The group includes an exceptional line up of musicians who are teachers at Sydney Conservatorium of Music and members of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra among others, and have held major positions in European and American orchestras.

Highlights of the program will be Ravel's Mother Goose Suite and Prokofiev's Peter and The Wolf. Both works are based on children's themes and are originally written for full orchestra. However in these magnificent arrangements for wind quintet by Joachim Linkelmann, the quintet will transport their audience to a world of symphonic sounds with local singer/actor John Bourke as narrator. Also on the program is the classic work for wind quintet by French composer Paul Taffanel as well as "Walking Tune" by Australia's very own much loved composer Percy Grainger.

Bridget Bolliger, Artistic Director and founding member of NSWQ, says it is a rare opportunity, especially in regional areas, for audiences to have the opportunity to hear the classic woodwind quintet. "It is an education in itself to be exposed to this wonderful formation and an experience sure to inspire many a budding musician in one direction or another. The audience will be enchanted and mesmerized by the rich palette of colours produced by the woodwind family in a program which is melodic, fun, comical, and simply gorgeous!"

"It's just you and the score, coming at you with unparalleled sensitivity and the kind of technical perfection that does not draw attention to itself..."

[Fanfare Magazine, March/April 2014].

**Bridget Bolliger** (Flute); **Shefali Pryor** (Oboe)

**Frank Celata** (Clarinet); **Euan Harvey** (Horn)

**Matthew Ockenden** (Bassoon) | **John Bourke** (Narrator)

## FREE PROMS

NSWQ will first perform a 30 minute Children's Prom session at 1pm demonstrating the instruments from the woodwind family with excerpts from the full concert program. Families are all welcome to come along and interact with the musicians at the Children's Prom before the main concert which commences at 2.30pm.

**Little Proms at 1pm – FREE for ticket holders**

Adult \$35, Senior \$28, Conc \$25, Students/Children \$15

**VENUE:** Gosford Anglican Church, 3 Mann Street, Gosford

**TICKETS:** 4324 7477

## BOUDDI AT BELLS

Central Coast Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra will be performing at the second annual Bouddi at Bells event, in support of young talented artists from the Central Coast. Hope to see you there to support such a wonderful cause on Sunday October 19th.

## PIANO MASTERCLASS

Tuesday October 28 @ 5.30pm, Robert Knox Hall



International pianist Ben Kopp from the Streeton Trio will present a piano masterclass for students and non-students. Kopp has performed with major orchestras throughout the Australia and around the world. He won the keyboard section of the Young Performers Awards and with such a busy schedule of concerts, we are privileged to have him conduct this workshop.

\$20 to participate (by invitation)  
\$5 for observers

## TRUE LIFE GROOVE BAND

Friday October 31 @ 7.30pm

Lizotte's Kincumber, Lot 3 Avoca Dv, Kincumber

Adults \$25, Students/Children \$16

TICKETS: 4324 7477

Ashley Turner's True Life Groove Band presents an inspired and eclectic mix of contemporary original music inspired by Rhythm and Blues, Hip-Hop and New Soul music. Deep grooves, expert improvisation and Turner's melodic compositions are a feature.

Bass player, composer, educator and former recipient of two Australia Council for The Arts grants (one for study in New York and another for production of an instrumental jazz CD), Ash is very excited to be performing this music at Lizotte's on October 31. "The primary focus of the tunes and the band is to get into some serious deep grooves. Improvisation and the unique lyric content will give it an added dimension," says Turner. The unique lyrics of Turner's original compositions, covering universal themes and Eastern philosophy, are selected from some of history's greatest poets and writers - Rumi, Kahlil Gibran,

Rabinandrath Tagore, Hafiz and others. "It is an amazing fact that Rumi, a 13th century Persian poet, is the best selling poet in the USA," said Ash.

This is an exceptional band and its members have performed at festivals and venues all over the world, working with the likes of James Morrison, Darren Percival, Afro Moses, Guy Sebastian, Damien Leith, Emma Pask, Renee Geyer, Vince Jones, Marina Pryor and many others.

Ash Turner- bass | Charlie Meadows – guitar

Nick Southcott – keyboards | Tiana Young – vocals

Gerard Pigram –drums

## KIDS DAY OUT

Sunday November 2 @ 10am to 3pm

Kariong Mountains High School, enter via Kangoo Ave

Adult \$5; Children over the age of 12 months \$2

Students from Central Coast Conservatorium will perform on Stage 2 - located in the upper concourse, near the rides - between 2 : 30 and 3 : 00 p.m. Come along and support our students. Kids Day Out is a fun day for the whole family with lots of stalls, rides, food, markets and entertainment.

## CC PHILHARMONIA CHOIR "GLORIA"

Saturday November 8 @ 7.30pm

Gosford Anglican Church, 3 Mann St Gosford

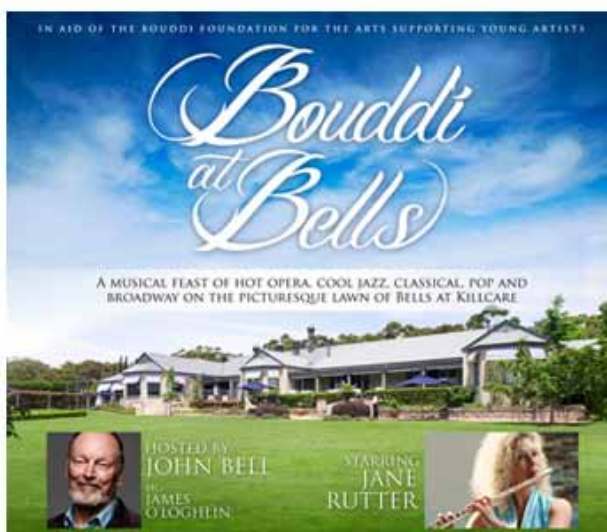
Adults \$30, Conc \$25, Children Under 16 FREE

PHONE 4324 7477

The choir is presenting two very popular choral arrangements of the hymn *Gloria in excelsis Deo*, one by Vivaldi and one by John Rutter. It is interesting to compare the beautiful and peaceful Baroque style of Vivaldi with the more exciting and dramatic modern style of Rutter. The concert will also feature extracts from the Saint-Saens organ concert featured in the film Babe, and a tribute to our past patron, Peter Sculthorpe who recently died, and more. Once again, the choir and professional orchestra will be directed by Philip Rees.

This will be an excellent concert to get us in the mood for Christmas. Those who saw the recent performance of Messiah will certainly love this concert!

Tickets from Central Coast Conservatorium on 4324 7477 or Laycock Street Community Theatre website at [www.laycockstreettheatre.com](http://www.laycockstreettheatre.com). For more details, visit the Philharmonia website at [www.ccphilharmonia.com.au](http://www.ccphilharmonia.com.au). Proudly sponsored by Evergreen Life Care Retirement Village, Aged Care and Community Services



## BOUDDI AT BELLS

Bouddi at Bells is a fundraiser like no other, held on the lawns of Bells at Killcare with an afternoon of entertainment by a host of Australia's finest entertainers and food by award winning restaurant Manfredi at Bells.

Join your host Shakespearean legend John Bell and MC, James O'Loughlin with musical performances by Jane Rutter and Opera Australia stars Jane Ede and Luke Gabbedy, Fusion, Greg Gould, Good Times She Wrote, Central Coast Conservatorium of Music Orchestra and NAISDA.

For more information visit [www.bouddiatbells.org.au](http://www.bouddiatbells.org.au)

Sunday 19th October 2014

Tickets \$85 and fully tax deductible.

## GERARD MASTERS BAND - CONCERT "RANDOM ACTS OF JAZZ" & WORKSHOP "MODERN DAY MUSIC BUSINESS SURVIVAL SKILLS"

**Thursday November 20 @ 7.30pm, Robert Knox Hall, 45 Mann  
St Gosford. Adults \$35, Snrs \$28, Conc \$25, Child/Student \$15  
Conservatorium Student \$5**

**PHONE 4324 7477**

Gerard Masters band features some of Australia's top musicians and performs music that features broad and contemporary take on the Jazz idiom. The band draws on experiences performing with many top international artists including Missy Higgins, Lior, The Potbelleez, James Morrison, Soul Asylum, Emma Pask and many more. Newest member of the band, and Central Coast Conservatorium graduate Ollie Thorpe, is a finalist in this years National Jazz Awards.

**Gerard Masters** - Piano/Vocals | **Oliver Thorpe** - Guitar/Vocals  
**Brett Hirst** - Bass | **Ian Mussington** - Drums

### ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

As a child, Gerard Masters became hooked on music and decided at a very early age that a career in the music business would be a very cool thing to have. Focussing on Jazz piano and taking his studies to dizzy heights with Piano Guru Mike Nock at Sydney Conservatorium was a great grounding, and gave Gerard a great starting point for his professional journey. Over the years, he has found that one of the best ways to assure survival in the music business is to diversify and be as open as possible to new challenges. Gerard has spent a lot of time broadening his skill set and learning other instruments, focusing on singing, recording/producing skills, and many other musical techniques which have in turn have become very useful income streams.

In this workshop Gerard looks at some of the different musical 'gigs' that he has done, and take a really broad look at the options available to people who either want to make music-making their full time job, or become more successfully involved in the music business as their part-time job.

**COST OF WORKSHOP: FREE for Central Coast Conservatorium  
Diploma/Cert IV Students; all others \$15. Phone 4324 7477 to  
register. TIME 4.30pm - 6.00pm**

### RAY ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP FINALS/ PRESENTATION DAY

**Sunday November 23 from 2.30pm at Greenway Memorial  
Chapel, followed by afternoon tea**

Join the Central Coast Conservatorium community in a celebration of our students' achievements for the year. The concert will feature performances by our top students from various departments, who are competing for this year's premium scholarship, the Ray Allen Scholarship.

Students will receive scholarships and encouragement awards, AMEB exam certificates and Diplomas. There will be performances by students and tutors.

More information will be sent to student families during the term, so mark this one in your diary.

### CCSO CONCERT SERIES #3

**Saturday November 29th @ 8pm  
Impact Centre, 19 Chetwynd Rd, Erina  
Adult \$40; Conc \$35, Student/Child \$15**

Featuring Martinu's Symphony No.1, guest soloist and conductor's choice Concerto. Allocated seating, so book your tickets now on 4324 7477.

### CHARMIAN GADD FUNDRAISER "THE ART OF GENIUS"

**Sunday November 30 @ 3pm  
Robert Knox Hall, 45 Mann St Gosford  
ENTRY BY DONATION**

The main feature for the concert will be a performance by London-based Australian pianist, **Robert Weatherburn**, a well known soloist who has collaborated with Rhonda Gillespie in a piano duo. Also a composer, artist, photographer, writer, philosopher and charismatic speaker, Robert will be visiting Australia for a short tour and is an interesting and outspoken artist who doesn't shy away from controversy and speaks from a background so rich in experience and wisdom that he will entertain and enrich the knowledge and imagination of all listeners. After his short program and talk, Charmian will host a Christmas celebration with chamber music and refreshments.

The concert will also feature a surprise genius performance!

### TRIPLE THREAT EOY CONCERT

**Sunday December 7 @ 7pm, Robert Knox Hall**

**ENTRY BY DONATION**

What do well-known Australian actors Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, Rhonda Burchmore and Lisa McCune have in common? They can all sing, dance and act. In other words, they are all 'Triple Threats'. The versatility of 'Triple Threat' performers means they are equally comfortable on the stage as they are in screen roles, ensuring they are always in high demand.

Join our 2014 Triple Threat students in a spectacular expose of song, dance and acting in their End of Year concert at the beautiful Peninsula Theatre in Woy Woy.

### NOW ENROLLING FOR TRIPLE THREAT 2015

To register your interest in auditioning for the Triple Threat Musical Theatre Course, contact the Central Coast Conservatorium on 4324 7477.

### CONCERTANTE ENSEMBLE "BASICALLY BAROQUE"

**Sunday December 14 @ 2.30pm**

**Greenway Memorial Chapel, 460 Avoca Dv, Kincumber**

**Adult \$35; Snrs \$28; Conc \$25; Student/Child \$15**

**(includes Christmas afternoon tea)**

**BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

The Concertante Ensemble return to Greenway Chapel for a concert featuring a unique insight into stylistic performance practices of ancient music, and featuring Neal Peres Da Costa on Harpsichord. This is the final concert for Concertante Ensemble for the year and will be a wonderful afternoon out in the beautiful chapel and gardens.

### COMING UP IN 2015

#### VALENTINE'S DAY IN EUROPE

**Saturday February 14, 2015 at Lizotte's Kincumber**

The Central Coast Conservatorium is very proud to present an evening of romantic music for Valentine's Day featuring singers Lana Nesnas (of Abba's Back), Rachel Delgado (Pop Star from Chile) and Yvette Masters (Triple J Recording Artist). With Lana singing in French, Rachel in Spanish and Yvette in Italian, this will be a wonderful night of the best love songs from Europe.

The brilliant band supporting Rachel, Lana and Yvette will be Rodric White (piano and music director), Guy Strazz (guitar), Ashley Turner (bass) and Raphael Strazz (drums).

Tickets: \$25.00 with a-la-carte menu available

**Phone: 4368 2017 on sale soon [www.lizottes.com.au](http://www.lizottes.com.au)**





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