

11.11.24, Monday Mail

Good morning, all,

A CEREMONY OF CAROLS AND OTHER WORKS, WITH HARP AND ORGAN
Sunday December 1, 4pm, St Peter's Lutheran Church, Indooroopilly; call time 2.30pm

- Spread the word:
 - Tickets are on sale now via <https://www.trybooking.com/CWRFI>
 - Or share the website link: <https://choirworks.au/christmas-concert-2024/>
 - Or hand out a flyer!
- THREE more regular rehearsals, QAH, 6.30pm: November 12, 19, 26 (with harp)
- Dress rehearsal with organ: Friday, November 29, 6.30pm.
- Please keep practising and processing at home; let's use the rehearsals for refining and polishing..
- A reminder of Sannie's playlist -
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbRxzEmNIIGO2OSRAGModbL7Wl3DtJk4m&feature=shared>

TOMORROW NIGHT'S REHEARSAL

We'll be using the QAH air conditioning, so you might choose to have your coats and hats at the ready, or perhaps just an extra layer in case!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

- **NB there is a final 2024 rehearsal for all carol singers on Tues 3 December, 6.30pm at QAH.**
- Please sign up for one or more lunchtime carol singing dates as follows (times tbc):
 - One lunchtime at Central Plaza, Queen St on Wednesday 11 December, 12-1.30pm
 - Five lunchtimes from Monday 16 to Friday 20 December at 111 Eagle St., 11.30am-1.30pm

FIRST CONCERT FOR 2025: Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 12-1pm (NB time!) at City Hall

- ChoirWorks is singing an ANZAC programme at a free lunchtime concert at City Hall
- Please lock this date and time in your diary and ensure you are free that weekday lunchtime!

THIS WEEK

Cecilia McDowall (composer of *Beyond the Paling of the Stars*) also wrote *Standing as I do before God*, subtitled "A reflection on the execution of Edith Cavell, 12 October 1915". In November 1914 – one hundred years ago this month – after the German occupation of Brussels, Cavell, a nurse, began sheltering wounded and deserting British, French and Belgian soldiers, hiding them in her home and the hospital, and then funnelling them into neutral Holland and on to Britain. She helped at least 175 soldiers to escape across the borders, in direct violation of German military law. Cavell was arrested on 3 August 1915 for treason. The night before her execution, she told the Anglican chaplain who had been allowed to see her, *"I have seen death so often that it is not strange or fearful to me. Standing as I do in view of God and eternity, patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."*

McDowall's piece combines Cavell's words with text by writer Seán Street (b.1946):

And when the time was close, for once her eyes filled with tears. Then she quietly rose, walked silently through the stilled prison, the grey dawn light, passed the gas flame, tired flowers, out beyond her final night, a flame alight in hours before infinity. In the presence of death leaving all enmity, in view of God we are air after breath.

For Armistice Day today, this is a beautiful recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2csk-kp2gg>

See you all tomorrow,

Janet