

18.11.24, 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

- PLEASE spread the word! Ticket link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CWRFI>
 - Or share the website link: <https://choirworks.au/christmas-concert-2024/>
 - Or hand out a flyer, or share on Facebook!
- TWO (2) more regular rehearsals, QAH, 6.30pm: November 19, 26 (with harp), plus:
- Dress rehearsal with organ: **Friday, November 29, St Peter's, 6.30pm.**
- <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbRxzEmNIIGO2OSRAGModbL7Wl3DtJk4m&feature=shared>

AND A REMINDER FROM DEBRA:

Dear singers,

As you practise your ChoirWorks music for several hours over the next few days I ask you to listen to the playlist of all of our pieces, read over and digest the text and the meaning of the text, practice your part so that every single note has resonance and goodness to it and you are singing perfectly in the centre of the note, look at your dynamics and those of the parts around you, stand up and hold your folder while you are practicing. None of this is new and simply a reminder.

As I said last Tuesday, after we have rehearsed sections and I have reminded you of the dynamics, meaning and the emotion we need to communicate, we get there as a group but by now, you shouldn't need to be reminded.

Each of you individually knows exactly which parts you are not secure on. Don't leave it to the rest of your section to perfect. Perfect it now. I want you to live this music every single day. It really is very beautiful.

See you on Tuesday.

Debra

CHRISTMAS CAROLS: Rehearsal Tues 3 Dec., 6.30pm; performances 11 and 16-20 December lunchtimes

- If you haven't yet signed up for at least one session, please do so asap. Thanks!

FIRST SEASON 2025: ANZAC Concert, Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 12-1pm (NB time!) at City Hall

- Please lock this date and time in your diary and ensure you are free that weekday lunchtime!

THIS WEEK

Benjamin Britten was born in 1913 on November 22, which happens to be St Cecilia's Day, in honour of the patron saint of music. For a long time he wanted to dedicate a work to her, following in the footsteps of Purcell, Parry and Handel, so he asked W.H. Auden to write a suitable poem, which he began to set to music in 1941 while living in the US. The next year he and his partner Peter Pears decided to return to the UK, but Britten lost the first draft of the work when zealous customs inspectors confiscated all his manuscripts, fearing they could be some type of code! Not only did Britten compose *A Ceremony of Carols* during the sea voyage home, but he also re-wrote *A Hymn to St Cecilia* while aboard the MS *Axel Johnson*, finishing it on 2 April 1942. So, for St Cecilia's Day and Britten, and for your delectation, here's a performance conducted by John Rutter: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDtIpC2Qi88>

Janet