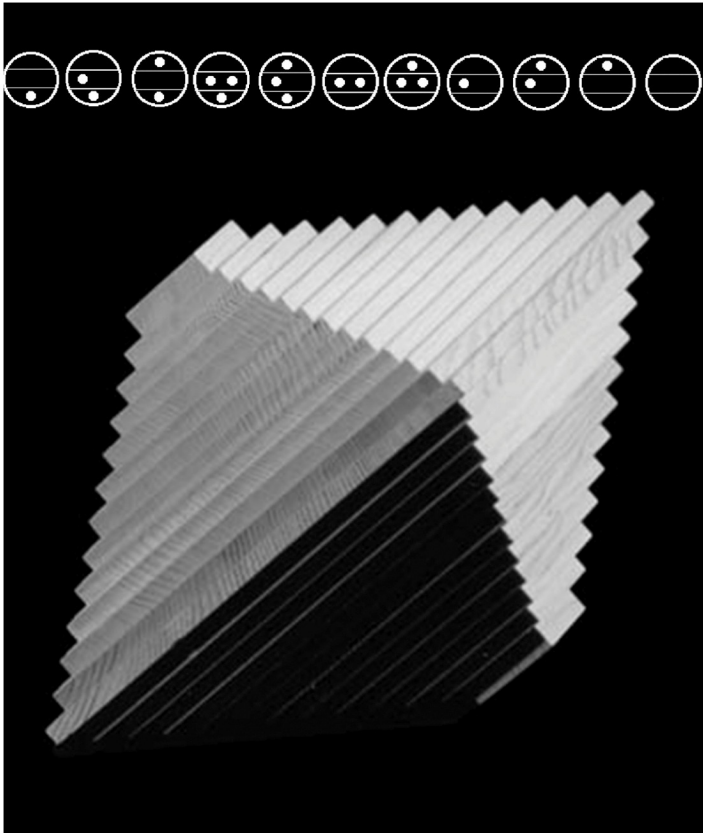


THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.'S

ACCORDION REVIEW



JUNE 2012

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Things have been slightly busier in the accordion world since the last issue of the Accordion Review. The month of June was a busy month of accordion competitions with the New Zealand Accordion Association holding their annual competitions and the Accordion Teachers Association of Australia holding their annual competitions. Both associations have a great websites that contain news, results and photos of these events.

www.accordion.co.nz and aata.org.au

Congratulations to Edin Kocic from Victoria and Emma Smith from Adelaide on a successful competition at the AATA event.

The 2012 International Festival is upmost in most member's minds. The handbook and rules and regulations are due out now so please keep an eye on your emails and mailboxes. After much discussion between States and members it was decided to hold the festival in Griffith. Primary reasons behind the change in venue included financial and distance. The hotel and competition venue will be the Bagtown Inn motel, Griffith and all details will be in the festival handbook. Please wait for the handbook to arrive before booking so you can be guaranteed the best rate.

Congratulations to all who were involved in the World Accordion Day celebrations – it was great to see accordionists from around the world participate in such an event. A letter of thanks from the organizers of the day is included in this issue of the review.

Please remember to contact either the President, Accordion Review editor or the Publicity Officer with any information, snippets or gossip, upcoming performances that you might like covered in the review. We look forward to hearing from all our members .

Happy Reading and Happy Practicing

Best wishes for 2012 and I look forward to the year ahead!

Dr. Elizabeth Jones DCA (UWS) BMus (Syd.Uni)

Good News for the Accordion

Good news for the accordion in Australia - some of the big names of the Australian music scene have started including accordion music in their concerts.

Magical Musical Mornings Piano Man

Australian Accordion Champion, Dino Kocic, was invited as a special guest to play a couple of pieces at the concert of famous opera singer Dr Jonathon Welch and pianist Adam Przewlocki.

Dr Jonathon Welch (AM) is the founding music director of the award-winning "Choir of Hard Knocks" - made up of the homeless and the disadvantaged and "The Choir", - the judge on Battle of the Choirs, a highly renowned opera singer and conductor who has worked with some of Australia's most talented performers. He is well known for his beautiful voice as one of Australia's finest tenors.



Adam Przewlocki, Dr Jonathon Welch, Dino Kocic

Australian of the Year in 2008 - and ANZAC of the year in 2008, Jonathon is also an amazing person renowned for helping those less fortunate in our community.

<https://twitter.com/#!/magicalmornings>

Adam Przewlocki is an outstanding pianist and the founding music director of the "Sunbury Divas" Choir which you can see on Australia's Got Talent show right now, as they got through to the second round.

<http://www.divinedivasofsunbury.com/Adam.html>

Magical Musical Mornings concert was held on 17.04.2012 at St. Michael's Uniting Church in the heart of the city (corner of Collins and Russell streets).

The concert was called Piano Man with Adam Przewlocki performing some

of the great romantic piano classics on a grand piano and as a “fantastic addition to the Magical Musical Mornings concert” Dino played a few virtuoso pieces on his piano accordion.

In the beautiful auditorium of St. Michael's church in front of around 200 people Dino preformed 3 pieces.

The audience loved his performance very much and praised him with long applause and standing ovations.



Dino performing at Magical Musical Morning concert

The concert was as "MAGICAL" as it was called and we all enjoyed so much the sound of the accordion, piano and the amazing voice of Jonathon who sang only one song "Granada" but it was grandiose.

After the concert there was some time for a cup of tea and chat with the audience.



Lots of people were so happy to hear accordion again after a long time and told Dino that he is doing a wonderful thing by keeping accordion alive and on such a professional performing level. Some people wanted to have a photo with Dino and his accordion. Everyone said they really enjoyed his music and want him to come back to perform again.

Jonathon and Adam were both very excited and pleased with Dino's performance and his virtuoso skills and already have plans to include Dino and his accordion in some of their future projects. That opens the door for further acquaintances and promotion of concert accordion music.

We hope that this is a big step to bring the accordion back in spotlight and in concert halls where it belongs.

Less than two weeks before the Magical Musical Mornings concert there was another big event that involved accordion which is promising it's return to fame and popularity.

John St Peeters, singer, songwriter, musician, and one of the most dynamic performers in Australia, invited Melbourne Accordion Orchestra as a surprise to perform at his father's 80th birthday party. His father was an accordion player himself and even John made his start with accordion under the name Johnny Lo Piccolo. His first singles were accordion tracks and he was known as the "Squeezebox Kid".

The party was held at the receptions in Barkly St Footscray with more than 200 guests.

After the Orchestra played couple of pieces John came to Dino with the microphone and told him that his father said Dino reminds him of John when he was a young performer and if he could play any solo pieces, even though it was not planned and Dino hadn't practised any solo pieces.

Dino moved in front of the orchestra and played "Variations on Ukrainian theme" which audience accepted with great ovations. Orchestra played one more piece "Funiculi, Funicula" with audience clapping all the way through.

After the performance John came to the back room with his wife and her father who was in tears and wanted to meet Dino and congratulate him on a great performance. He also was an accordion player and he was so happy to see that the accordion is alive and there are still young people who enjoy accordion music.

John said that he's got great ideas for Melbourne Accordion Orchestra and Dino and they have already arranged another performance together with John St Peeters on 21 July.

Unfortunately there aren't any photos because it was a private party.

There also was a concert of famous composer, singer and multi instrumentalist Ian Tiersen this month at the Melbourne Recital Centre which we attended. Unfortunately he didn't play any accordion music which is what we hoped to see live but it was great to meet him in the foyer after the concert and surely a beautiful concert to remember.

Greetings to all accordion friends.

Kocić family



Ian Tiersen with Dino Kocić



Attention Accordionists

The NSW Orchestra would like to welcome new members to their group. If you enjoy playing the accordion and would like to join other accordionist and play orchestral arrangements of various music from classics to tangos then come along to our weekly practice. We perform at various gigs throughout the year.

All level of players are welcome (beginner to advanced) and previous members are very welcome. The group meet every;

Monday—7pm to 9pm

Viaduct No 1 in Jubilee Park, Glebe

Access via The Crescent then Chapman Rd (turn right over creek & left to Jubilee Park)

Call Amelia on 0431898344 for details or just come along.

If you are unable to come every week that is fine, please come along when you can.



To all World Accordion Day Participants

Thank you to all the participants of this year's World Accordion Day 2012!

Whether you were interviewed, a performer, sent in a video, commented on the live chat or even just watched the channel this event couldn't have been possible without you.

Thank you to the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (C.I.A.) for creating World Accordion Day in 2009 and their continuous support and promotion of the accordion around the world.



Also we must mention the members of the C.I.A. Executive Committee that took part with in this event (Raymond Bodell, Kevin Friedrich, Kimmo Mattila, Joan Sommers, Herbert Scheibenreif, Harley Jones and Mirco Patarini) and also members of the C.I.A. Music Committee (Viatcheslav Semionov, Andreas Nebl and Li Cong).

There must of course be a very sincere thank you to our technical director Mike Rossi. His efforts and improvisation are greatly appreciated, especially as we were receiving videos throughout the live 24 hours.

Thanks to Harley Jones (creator of www.accordions.com) for his promotion and support of the event.

The whole project was a worldwide success with over 310,365 minutes viewed with over 20,160 connections from over 87 countries.

Congratulations must be given to the countries with the highest viewers:

1 USA - 2 France- 3 UK -4 Chile -5 Russia -6 Germany -7 Canada -8 Italy -9 Greece -10 Finland

It proves that the accordion world is a real family no matter what level, whether beginner or professional or what genre they choose to play (Classical, Traditional, Jazz, Arabic, Contemporary, Ensemble etc...)

The video archives are available on www.worldaccordionday.com and www.livestream.com/deschampschannel.

The next project of the Deschamps Channel will be the continuation of its Special Monthly Edition on the last Friday of this month May 25th. It will include some of the videos and interviews from World Accordion Day that we were unable to show due to time constraints.

We found out that not even 24 hours is enough to show the accordion around the world!

Thank you once again for everyone's help,

Sincerely

The World Accordion Day Team

Grayson Masefield – Coordinator & Co-Presenter

Frederic Deschamps – Co -Presenter

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

Kevin Friedrich Honoured at Dargaville Concert

by Harley Jones

For the 5th time, the concert 'Music with Kevin Friedrich and Friends' was held in Dargaville, New Zealand at the Lighthouse Function Centre. This picturesque Centre overlooking the town and river, was sold out with quite a few people being turned away. Dargaville was Kevin Friedrich's home town before he moved to the USA at 18 years of age, to go to UMKC University to gain his degree majoring in accordion.

Kevin Friedrich returns to New Zealand annually to make this fundraising concert for the Dargaville museum where there is a permanent historical accordion display titled 'Accordion Gems - A Master Collection of Accordions Through Time'. This year included the opening of an exhibition to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the New Zealand Accordion Association (NZAA). The NZAA organized a bus from Auckland to the concert and the opening of that display.

At this concert, Kevin Friedrich was presented the NZAA Life-time Achievement Award by NZAA President Sonja Palinich to honor Kevin Friedrich for all that he has done for the accordion in New Zealand over the years. At the same time, there was also a cutting of a birthday cake in honor of Kevin's 50th birthday with the audience giving him a standing ovation.

The concert included accordionists Kevin Friedrich, Lionel Reekie and Maurice Jones the NZAA Orchestra plus dancers, singers and musicians from the Dargaville area.

Please look at photos of the event

<http://www.accordions.com/index/squ/archives/1203/friedrich/>

New Zealand Pops Orchestra

contributed by Martin Meyer

The first concert of the New Zealand Pops Orchestra in the Auckland Town Hall on 18 March was very well attended (even for a miserable Auckland night when there was lots on!) A new venture from Rita Paczian who is also the conductor of Bach Musica, the Orchestra "brings a unique fusion of popular contemporary music and mixes it with classical sounds". The audience was treated to items from three very talented singers: Will Martin (whose debut album launched as Number 1 in the UK making him the

VALE

YOGI MARTIN (1953 approx – 2012) – NEW ZEALAND

Grant “Yogi” Martin Rest In Peace

by Harley Jones

Grant “Yogi” Martin passed away on 25th April of a heart attack. Funeral is Sunday 29th April, 10.30pm, Waikare Marae, Waerenga Rd, Te Kauwhata.

Yogi Martin was an accordionist with his own unique style, who had toured within New Zealand as well as to UK, China, Australia and other parts of the world, always to excellent acclaim. Above is a video clip of Yogi.

Yogi's interest in the accordion was first aroused when he heard veteran New Zealand accordionist Silvio de Pra play. Silvio's wife Lesley is his aunt. His first teachers were Dot Braithwaite and Dan Whellan and then he studied with Peter Torckler for some time.

Several of Yogi's family had played accordion including an aunt, Emily Herewini who played for dances in the Waikato area from about World War II times until the 1970's.

As one of Peter Torckler's top students he competed with success at local and national competitions in the 1960's and commenced professional playing about 1970. Even then, Yogi was determined to have a distinctive style and his success meant the accordion became his main source of income throughout his life.

Yogi achieved successes overseas, earning second in the finals of the 1979 “New Faces” TV competition in Melbourne, Australia and was the featured artist at the NAO North West Championships in Fleetwood, UK in 2007 as well as numerous successes professionally in China and elsewhere.

An unreliable personality, especially in his younger days, prevented Yogi Martin from achieving the fame and success his superb performing skills would have expected, however, his most engaging personality, with a very likeable sense of humor, meant he was well loved by all who knew him. Audiences enjoyed his music immensely and for that reason, we have placed the video clip online.

Grant “Yogi” Martin always gave great pleasure to his listeners and his music was a superb advertisement for accordion. Yogi Martin RIP

VALE

SILVIO DE PRA - NEW ZEALAND

Silvio De Pra has sadly passed away on 1st May 2012. Excerpt about Silvio De Pra from the book, *The History of the Accordion in New Zealand* (catalog: nzaa1081).

Born in Belluno, Northern Italy, at the age of ten Silvio De Pra began to play the accordion and at twelve joined his fathers dance band. They performed at many Italian weddings, often lasting from the afternoon to well into the hours of the next day. He still remembers playing his accordion until so tired he could hardly continue to hold it.

At eighteen years of age he formed his own band, playing all around the Belluno province. When work became scarce in his own village Silvio moved away to find employment and was lucky to be able to supplement his income by playing the accordion. After some time he moved to Switzerland, where the Basori Company (for whom he worked) had international operations that took him to Belgium, Denmark, England and in 1955 to New Zealand where he has lived since.

Silvio fell in love with New Zealand and New Zealanders fell in love with him. He was engaged to broadcast with IXR Radio station band as a guest in the evenings and on weekends he would entertain the crowds at The Rivertea Cabaret. After six months Silvio moved to Auckland and in 1958 he became a full-time entertainer. In 1987, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Sir Robert Muldoon presented Silvio with the Benny Award from The Variety Artist Club. During his years in Auckland he continued broadcasting for Radio and Television and also performed at The Wintergarden Lounge. The Sorrento, Fagels, Pinesong, Hi Diddle Griddle, The Dutch Kiwi, Poenamo, The Intercontinental Hotel and many private functions. Today you will find him still at private functions or at Santa Lucia or The Colosseo Restaurants.

Silvio would have to be one of the most popular cultural ambassadors Italy has ever had in New Zealand, where he feels part of the scene. He became naturalised as soon as he was able to in 1960. He and his New Zealand wife Lesley have two daughters, Gianna and Chiara.

Silvio now plays an accordion with MIDI attached which enables him to accompany his singing with a full sound. This tremendous flexibility takes away the need of a backing group, making Silvio one of the most versatile, and self contained solo artists in New Zealand. He has an endless repertoire of international music from romantic European to the melodic masterpieces of Italy.

Silvio has made a large contribution to the accordion in New Zealand as Chairman of the Accordion Examination Board of New Zealand and has been an examiner for many years. He is also a regular adjudicator at the New Zealand Accordion Championships. He recorded "Souvenirs for You" in 1981 and has now recorded "An Evening with Silvio de Pra" on both CD and Cassette.

A Eulogy contributed by Heather Masefield can be found on Silvio's web page through www.accordions.com

FOR SALE

EXCELSIOR PROFESSIONAL MODEL 940 120 BASS

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Above image reflects Model 940 and not the actual accordion for sale.

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Accordion makes Headline News!!



Marcello Maio and his band made headlines in the MX newspaper last month. Great to see an accordion make front page!

Please write and let us know if you see any accordionist during your travels or in the news.

Music is the best medicine!

On May 27th Jedda and I were invited to play for the Haberfield Italian Senior Citizens group. When we arrived, they were still playing their game of bingo so we set up and had a think about a few songs we'd like to play.

When their game had ended we began to play, as we played more and more of them got up to dance and sing along with us, we took many requests such as La Cumparsita which was the song that one couple danced their first dance to at their wedding, it was great to see the smile it put on their faces.

As we were finishing up, one of the organising ladies came to us and told us all the places that she felt pain in her body, in her elbows, fingers, knees, legs etc but she told us that when she heard the music, she just wanted to dance and would forget all about the pain.

Its a wonderful thing to hear that our music is having this kind of effect on people!

At the end, many of the members came up to us and told us that we would have to come back when it was their birthday, so that they could have another dance. We are definitely looking forward to returning to play for them.

Amelia Granturco—NSW





THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

The Australian Institute of Music is proud to be the first tertiary institution in Australia to offer accordion studies within their classical performance department. Students will be able to study for a Bachelor of Music (Performance – Accordion), a Diploma of Performance, be actively involved in ensembles or for younger school members attend young AIMS for lessons, or attend the high school for years 11 and 12.

Accordion will also be offered for individual private lessons.

Students who already hold a Bachelor of Music degree can also apply for post-graduate studies at a Masters level.

The Accordion performance component of the course will be headed by Dr. Elizabeth Jones and students will participate in master classes and performance practice on a weekly basis, on top of having individual tuition. Students will also actively participate in chamber music and pedagogical classes. Accordion students will also be following the outline of the Bachelor of Music course with studies in music history, harmony, aural skills and pedagogy. For further details on course requirements for the Bachelor degree in Music, interested accordionists are invited to go to the website www.aim.edu.au. At the moment the accordion is not listed on the website, but the Institute is in the process of updating and re-designing this site.

Interested students to contact Head of Accordion Studies, Dr. Elizabeth Jones at ejones@aim.edu.au. In your email please state whether you are interested in enrolling in the Bachelor course, diploma course, and participation in ensembles, young AIMS or the high school.

You can contact Elizabeth Jones at ejones@aim.edu.au or on fisaccord@hotmail.com

News from Mathilde in France

I spent most of the month of May in the centre of France with the family, where I've played at my cousin's 18th, and at an after care centre for kids of age from 3 to 10. It was amazing as they have never heard, or seen, or touched an accordion before and they were all very excited and happy, they really enjoyed it.

I am now back near the Alps, where I use to live for a couples of weeks before I go down south to start working.

I have been practicing quite a lot every day so I can get use to playing and practicing for 8 to 10 hours when I start my course, so I don't go crazy ha-ha (its going to be hard, but at the moment I can easily get from 4 to 5 hours a day of practice) so half way there.

Mathilde Auroux



Cordi's Column

This edition of *Accordion Review* says farewell to Cordi. The first Cordi's Column appeared in the *Accordion Review* Vol 8 Iss 1 Feb - Apr.1992 (20 years ago) with his own symbol.

There has been two Cordi writers, but in the initial long period only one. Very few editions have been missed and this is a commendable effort. The following quote comes from

Vol 8 Iss 2 and the facts are still true today. "Over the last couple of years I have been reading and enjoying the *Accordion Review*. Publishing this magazine every three months is a big task for our editors. They have done it with great enthusiasm, dedication and courage. Many times the editors ask for articles, but so far the response has been meagre. Perhaps one may ask oneself - what is there to write about the accordion. I would say there is a lot to be written about this instrument. Do not keep on saying someone else will do it. Our magazine is undoubtedly one of the most effective ways to further the cause of the accordion. Among the members and friends of the accordion there must be a vast amount of information, experiences and memories of the instrument".

This was followed by a list of suggestions and ended "The *Accordion Review* has an international readership as well as a national readership - the editors expect to be inundated with articles. PLEASE TRY!!!"

Articles have been written by Cordi about Festivals, Concerts, Orchestras, Music, Care of the Instrument and the list goes on.

So after 20years, Cordi 1 and 2 are signing off and having a rest - but maybe out there is a Cordi 3, I hope so.

Good Luck and Best Wishes

Cordi





Fundraiser at Mittagong

On the 17th of June. Cheryle Mills, Vince and Amelia Granturco and Leo Kroon set up camp at Bunnings Mittagong at 9am ready to BBQ the day away.

We were then joined by Doug Mills and Denise, John and Jedda Kassis.

Jedda, Cheryle and Amelia spent a part of the day playing for the patrons and Jedda was even able to give a brief lesson to this young man. Who knows we may just see him around Glebe with a tiny accordion someday.



I'd like to thank everyone who came down to support the ASA and especially Sylvia Granturco and Emma Kroon who prepared a lot for the day.

It was a great day with lots of squeezing of both accordions and sauce bottles

Amelia Granturco



The Performers(s) and the Audience

I often wonder what a performer feels and does prior to and during the show. We the audience can only guess what is happening behind those heavy curtains. One thing for sure, they have to check all their equipment, microphones and so many other things we are not familiar with. Are they nervous? Do they suffer from stage fright? Are they anxious?

The curtain opens up, we audience clap and the show starts. How do they do it? They dress with show clothes that look very warm, they are under the stage hot lights, and they play their instrument so close to their chest, that it must be feeling hot. Their fingers are on the go to deliver the most beautiful tunes.

We the audience is sitting in total comfort, free to wander about, to get a drink and even to walk out if we need to. When the show ends we always want more we may be lucky to get an encore. We are selfish we want more. We do not think that the performer(s) need a break, to get a drink, put their instrument down because it is heavy, for us the audience, performer(s) are super human beings who are very talented and give us a good time and we want the show to go on forever

Annick

SEEKING INFORMATION

The editors would greatly appreciate articles for inclusion in the next edition of the Accordion Review. If you have any news about the accordion, accordionists, gigs, gossip, snippets, fundraising events, etc or you wish to advertise then please forward the information to us with photos (if relevant) and we will be happy to include it in the next edition. Without readers contributions there wouldn't be an Accordion Review!

Closing dates for each edition is;

- September 15th*
- December 15th*
- March 15th*
- June 15th*

*Contact Cheryle 0414 915154 email: cherylemills@aapt.net.au
Amelia 0431 898344 email: grantua@gmail.com*

Thank you to all that contributed to this and previous editions.

My tribute to Mrs. Brandman

Mrs Brandman was part of my life for a short time.

I met Mrs B as she known to everyone in 1986 or 1987, at the St Georges Leagues Club. My daughter's music teacher Kerry Williams suggested that Sophie should join the A.S.A.

It was a very hot February Sunday afternoon, the first Sunday for the A.S.A meeting. I did not feel like going, I would have rather stayed home and gone for a swim. The idea of spending the afternoon in a club did not appeal to me . Sophie wanted to go. She got her accordion and off we went, unaware of what we were going to. As we got out of the lift we could hear accordion music, I realised that I had done the right thing.

We entered the room and to my surprise there were many accordions. That was music to my ears! Sophie was given a spot in the orchestra and I sat there listening to my favourite instrument.

The practice ended and Sophie and I were ready to go home. But a very convincing lady approached me and asked me to stay for the meeting. I stayed, this lady meant business and I liked her.

A few months or year later, at the meeting, I was asked if I would accept the nomination to be A.S.A. secretary. I refused saying that I knew nothing about music, the only thing I knew about was listening to it. Plus how could I fit this job (for me it was another job), I was helping my husband with the business and all the house duties a woman has to do.

Mrs Brandman said you do not need to know anything about music. I will help you, June was there also and I got to like June she is a very clever lady, Mr. Rooney was present, I think Era and Ross Maio also. Everyone was supportive of the nomination and I accepted

I attended a few festivals, performances and functions, I got to know Mrs Brandman a bit more, she was always full of energy, encouraging to anyone who crossed her path, thinking a million things at a time, very generous to teach anything to anyone . Not many people like to share their knowledge. She was also a hard worker.

She convinced me to accept the secretary nomination and I am now pleased to write I was happy to be part of the A.S.A committee. I had so many happy moments and times and Sophie also .I have one regret, I found out not long ago that Mrs Brandman was in a nursing home not far from my place and I never visited her. God bless you Mrs Brandman .

Annick

SHORT HISTORY OF THE ASA

...continued

2007 was a busy year for Victoria and NSW. It was a successful year in Victoria for the accordion. The committee held monthly meetings with many programmes and issues dealt with successfully. The main aim was to provide members and the public with a variety of activities such as concerts and picnics. There had been long standing issues with former member Bernadette Conlon which had divided the accordion community in Melbourne.

Bernadette had moved to America to live, with the result that the members of her orchestra now affiliated with the ASA and participated in the recent State Championships. The Victorian ASA Orchestra was busy and had performed at ten engagements this year. The future was looking bright for the accordion in Victoria. New shirts had been bought for the orchestra and new music had been acquired via eBay.

The ASA in NSW had a busy year organizing overseas tours and local competitions. The NSW Youth Orchestra again toured New Zealand and participated in the NZAA competitions. It was pleasing to see more young participants at these competitions. The NSW Youth Ensemble had already received an official invitation to perform at the concerts to be held for the Coupe Mondiale which was to be held in Auckland NZ in 2009.

The Australian Institute of Music in Sydney, thanks to President Elizabeth Jones, was actively promoting the accordion with high profile performances at NSW Career Expo, AIM Graduating ceremonies, NSW Art Gallery concerts, St. Andrew's Cathedral and AIM showcases. All AIM events targeted high school audiences with invitations sent out to all NSW High Schools. Potentially a huge exposure for the accordion.

The 2007 Festival was held at the Pacific International Hotel in Bankstown, Sydney. This was attended by Pierre Varo and members of the Reunion Island Polyphonia Orchestra a total of 40 musicians. The orchestra comprised of accordions, keyboards, violins, drums and assorted brass instruments. The accordionists also participated in the competitions as solo, duet, group as well as the band and orchestra categories. Other competitors also came from NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and the ACT.

The Australasian Champion for 2007 was Lina Chegodaev, with an aggregate mark of 93.44%. The Australian National Championship was not awarded, but Jedda Kassis was given an encouragement award for her performance which earned an aggregate mark of 83.45% (required mark 85%).



The rest of 2007 proved busy with younger members promoting the accordion via their schools. Kenneth Liu organized a visit from the Youth Orchestra to his school at which he played solo, Amelia, Jedda and Dominique played Libertango, Amelia demonstrated the use of the bellows through bellow shakes and gave a rendition of the Chicken Dance. To conclude the performance, a Christmas Carol medley was performed with staff and students joining in with the singing. 2007 had been a strong year of growth for the ASA, and a year where so many members had contributed.

The Festival for 2008 was to be held in Adelaide, but because of commitments for the younger competitors of Sydney, it was to be held in October.

to be continued.

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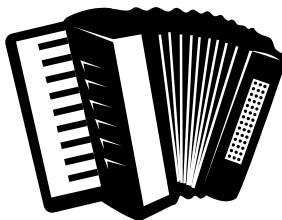
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