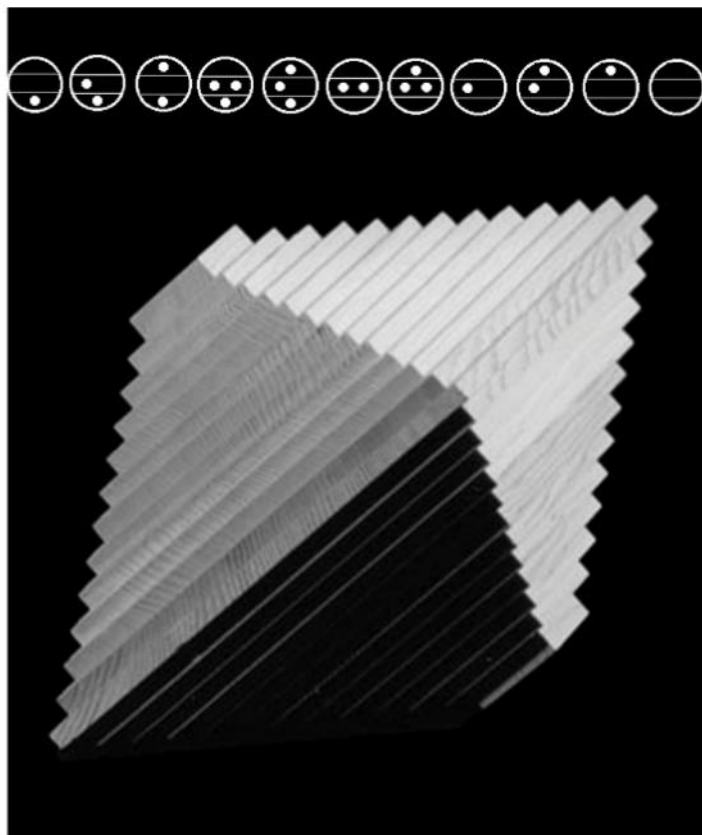


THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.'S

# ACCORDION REVIEW



MARCH 2013

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 1

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## A.S.A.(inc.NSW) COMMITTEE DIRECTORY



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President

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next Congress  
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email: robsm@tpg.com.au

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Denise Kassis & Rob Scott-Mitchell

Secretary

Sylvia Granturco

Treasurer

Vince Granturco

Co-Musical Directors

Ross Maio & Elizabeth Jones

Public Relations Officer

Sylvia Granturco

Accordion Review Editor

Amelia Granturco & Cheryle Mills

### Victorian sub-committee

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Vice President

Frank Berens

Secretary

Holger Golinski

Treasurer/Public Relations Officer

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Editors Vic newsletter

Margaret Berens & Holger Golinski

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

To the members of the Accordion Society of Australia,

It is with great regret that I have to announce my resignation as President of the Accordion Society of Australia.

I feel that the time has come for a new leader for our society who will have more time to devote to both the day to day running and the long term plans of the society. The last 15 years as President have been both enjoyable and filled with a great sense of achievement for me. Throughout the past 15 years the festival has visited Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast, Adelaide, Canberra and Griffith and although a time consuming task in regards to organization it has been both fun and a learning curve.

Internationally I have had the pleasure of organizing the first major tour of the Accordion Society of Australia's orchestra to the World Accordion Orchestra competition in Innsbruck, Austria. This was an amazing experience for all concerned and not one that I will ever forget. The extra touring in both Austria and Germany with our friends Jacob Noordzij and Gunther Zeilinger added to the experience. It was also inspiring to start attendance rolling at the Coupe Mondiale competitions and congress. From the first participating in Auckland, New Zealand and the performances in both the World Accordion Orchestra and on stage as part of the proceedings, through to the exciting and challenges faced by travelling to Shanghai, China. I hope for all who participated you enjoyed the hours of great accordion music and the new friendships that have been formed. A very special occasion was to see my mother honored for all her years of hard work promoting the accordion in Australia (even though she is not an accordionist or musician) through the honored friends recognition of the Confederation Internationale des Accordionists. The occasion in Norway will always be treasured by our family. Closer to home the participation at competitions in Auckland New Zealand

have always been memorable. Thank you to the parents who trusted me with their children on these travels.

For those members who participated I hope that you all had the same great learning experience that I did. To the younger members who participated it has been great to watch you all grow both musically and in confidence. I hope that whoever takes up the task as president continues building bridges with accordionists around the world and makes the distance from Australia feel smaller.

Please remember to keep me in the loop when it comes to adjudication and festivals – I would still like to help out in any way possible. I will also be on hand for any questions, help or guidance as needed.

My final passing thoughts to whomever takes the reins is to enjoy the time, build new friendships and remember the history behind the ASA. I do hope that the Mrs Brandman Scholarship fund does come to fruition and can help guide our future young accordionists into exciting career paths.

In the interim period the position of Presidency is referred to as a casual vacancy and a member is so appointed by the committee to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment. As the Accordion Society of Australia has 2 vice-presidents it is suggested that Rob Scott-Mitchell and Denise Kassis hold the casual vacancy and continue the running of the society with the support of both the committee and the Victorian sub-committee.

My best wishes go to all members

Happy Reading and Happy Practicing

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

## *Letter of Resignation*



**Dr.Elizabeth Jones**

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Earlwood NSW 2206

Phone: 9718 2609  
Fax: 9718 2609  
E-mail:  
fisaccord@hotmail.com

To the members of the Accordion Society of Australia,

It is with great regret that I have to announce my resignation as President of the Accordion Society of Australia.

I feel that the time has come for a new leader for our society who will have more time to devote to both the day to day running and the long term plans of the society. The last 15 years as President have been a great sense of achievement for me, particularly the organization of the tours starting in Europe and ending in Shanghai, China. For those members who participated I hope that you all had the same great learning experience that I did. To the younger members who participated it has been great to watch you all grow both musically and in confidence. I hope that whoever takes up the task as president continues building bridges with accordionists around the world and makes the distance from Australia feel smaller.

Please remember to keep me in the loop when it comes to adjudication and festivals – I would still like to help out in any way possible. I will also be on hand for any questions, help or guidance as needed.

My final passing thoughts to whomever takes the reins is to enjoy the time, build new friendships and remember the history behind the ASA. I do hope that the Mrs Brandman Scholarship fund does come to fruition and can help guide our future young accordionists into exciting career paths.

My best wishes go to all members

Sincerely

Dr. Elizabeth Jones

## ACCORDION WORLD WILL MISS THIS GREAT MUSICIAN

Gervasio Marcosignori (1927-2013), Castelfidardo – Italy

The accordion world mourns the passing of Gervasio Marcosignori, probably the most admired and loved accordionist of his generation.

A path to fame began at the age of seven, when he played for Benito Mussolini in 1934. Delighted with his performance, the Duce embraced the little Gervasio saying, "Keep it up, good Balilla." The first teacher was his father John Gervasio. At age 15, Gervasio won his first music competition.

In 1959 he was awarded the Oscar for the world accordion. Of particular importance its educational legacy: three volumes on "Technique of the accordion"

To make Marcosignori, known and appreciated in addition to all his technical skills, was his unique interpretation of original music and transcriptions for accordion and other repertoires. Marcosignori has been in particular a great lover of classical music.

Gervasio Marcosignori, sometimes referred to as the "poet of the accordion", was born in Castelfidardo, Ancona, Italy, on December 3rd 1927. As a young child he was taught the accordion by his father, Giovanni. In 1934 he performed in the presence of Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, who was impressed and urged young Gervasio to "keep up the good work". Although the war years greatly restricted accordion activity, in 1943 Gervasio won his first contest, and was on the road to becoming an outstanding competitor in post-war competitions as well as emerging as a top level virtuoso concert artist.



The 1950s saw Marcosignori emerge as an international artist, and he travelled extensively around Europe and beyond, making a huge impression wherever he went. He also served as an adjudicator at many festivals. In these years he played acoustically, and though he has used many instruments, became particularly associated with the Settimio Soprani Artist VI, then later the Scandalli Super VI.

In 1959 Marcosignori was awarded the 'World Oscar' by the CMA for his international contribution to the accordion.

In 1962 Marcosignori collaborated with a Farfisa company technical team led by Gianfelice Fugazza, in the design of the Cordovox, an electronic accordion operating via transistors. From the 1960s Marcosignori became closely associated with the electronic accordion and he made many international visits demonstrating the Farfisa 'Transicord' and 'Syntaccordion'.

Although he had always performed classical music, in the 1950s, 60s and 70s, Marcosignori performed a wide range of Continental and Latin music, and this was the basis of his popularity with many people. The 1970s also saw him become much more inclined towards performing classical music.

Marcosignori performed in front of famous dignitaries such as past Italian President Sandro Pertini, Pope John Paul II, Queen Elizabeth II, and many more.

Considering the length of his career and his fame, Marcosignori made surprisingly few recordings, and his albums, recorded by Decca (UK) and Cetra (Italy), include 'Accordion Travelogue' (1959), 'Dancing Continental' (1961), 'Record of the Century' (1962), 'Accordion Showpieces' (1972), 'The Poet of the Accordion' (1991), and 'Encore!' (1995).

Gervasio Marcosignori was widowed some years ago when his wife Lucia died from cancer, causing him to suffer with depression. Nobody in the accordion world had more friends, but the loss of his wife was something he never fully came to terms with. More recently he had also developed signs of dementure and was unable to play the accordion at his usual high standard.

On March 8th Italian news reports stated that Marcosignori had attempted suicide, and he died in Cesena hospital, at the age of 85, on March 9th 2013. The death of this much loved maestro caused great shock throughout the accordion world, and he has been widely mourned.

*Author: Ron Howard . Extracted from the World News website.*



### *Correction*

The President of the Griffith Music Society kindly donated \$500 to the ASA towards the Gala Concert in Griffith. This was incorrectly reported as \$150 in the December edition



## *SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS*

*Rock Accordionists on Abbey Road?*



## *Female accordionists make headline news!*

Many members of the ASA will know Mr. Sam Crisafulli, father of Sylvia Granturco and Mary Tavernese. Sam attends the Willyama room aged day services group once a week in Balcombe Heights and for their Christmas party Amelia Granturco and Jedda Kassis went and played a few songs for the members.

The members were stunned that not only one, but two girls were playing the accordion, so much so that they made it the first item in their 2013 newsletter. They enjoyed the music very much, asking for numerous requests and singing along to Christmas carols, folk songs and a few opera tunes.

We look forward to returning to Balcombe Heights aged day services and encourage other accordionists to head to their local seniors group and entertain their members, it's a really rewarding experience!

*Amelia Granturco*



### *St Patricks Day at the Blue Mountains*

*On the 17th March, (St. Paddy's Day), Cheryl, Rob, Jedda, Dominique and myself set off for Springwood up in the Blue Mountains just past Sydney. For the third time, we were to perform at Bucklands Retirement Village for one of our most appreciative audiences. It is always a pleasure to play for the residents there.*

*We performed from 2pm to around 3pm with an array of cultural music including a very fitting "Danny Boy" to tie in the Irish theme, a few Russian, tango's, polkas and the usual tunes.*

*All the residents enjoyed singing along to Oh Danny Boy, When the saints go marching in, the tunes in Chappels Melodican Cocktail No 2 and of course the ever popular Aussie Medley by our own Ross Maio. It was a fantastic concert and we are looking forward to many more in 2013.*

*Amelia Granturco*

## Congratulations to one of our Society Members

Griffith City Mayor cr John Dalbroi presents the award to Bruno Peruzzi for his 60 years of entertaining the Griffith community.

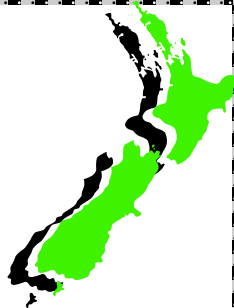
Bruno has played the accordion since the age of 14 and used to borrow an accordion until he could afford to buy his own. He has played at many functions to thousands of people across many towns in NSW and he is always on hand to entertain dance groups no matter where. In recent years, he has also brought big smiles to our elderly at senior citizen lodges.

Bruno is a prominent and life member of the Griffith Musicians club, which promotes music and organises the Young Musician of The Year Award for our youth in Griffith.

Congratulations Bruno and keep squeezing and making music, from all your friends



# *NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND*



## **AUCKLAND ACCORDION SYMPHONIETTA**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> February rehearsals started for a new group under the baton of Lionel Reekie. This group is now 15 members strong and growing. The first performance will be at the Dargaville Museum on the 24<sup>th</sup> March followed by concerts in July and November. More information to follow as it becomes available.

## **EDDIE GIFFNEY PERFORMS**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 3pm Concert Chamber  
'Coffee with Mr Bach'

Eddie played 2nd Harpsichord in a fairly rare performance of J S Bach's Concerto in D for Three harpsichords and Strings BMV 1063 and also his Coffee Cantata.

## **TRACEY COLLINS - TNT**

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March Tracey Collins & two friends Anni Balzat and Tamara Djordjevic performed at the Variety Artists Club in Pt Chevalier, Auckland. These gorgeous girls make an interesting lineup with digital violin, cello and accordion. They also performed on Takapuna Beach as part of the Snapper Festeival hosted by the Takapuna Business Association.

Their newly released TNT album "Fury" is available online via itunes and most other music platforms. There is a link to itunes via the TNT website... [www.tntrinity.com](http://www.tntrinity.com)

The TNT music video "Casa Del Tango" - currently being showcased by Air New Zealand for a second season (by popular demand) can also be viewed via the website and You tube (type in TNT trio).

## DARGAVILLE MUSEUM CONCERT

A concert held in support of the Accordion Gems Through Time exhibition at the Dargaville Museum on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 1pm.

As part of an International venture between New Zealand and Finland, a local craftsman in Finland has constructed the world's first accordions made from the prized native New Zealand 'Kauri' tree.

The dream of Kevin Friedrich, born in Dargaville, New Zealand (near where the giant Kauri trees grow), and a regular visitor to Ikaalinen, Finland, the home to a rare accordion making school, where trainees are taught the art of constructing accordions in the traditional Finnish folk style, this project combines the rich and rare tradition of Finland's accordion making culture with the stunning timber of the New Zealand Kauri tree.

Under the hands of master Finnish craftsman Aaro Luukinen, the dream of a Kauri instrument has now become a reality. Three magnificent instruments K1, K2 and K3, all to be officially named at a later date, have been crafted. The first of the instruments K1, will be housed at the Dargaville Museum, which already features extensive displays on the history of the Kauri trade in the Dargaville area. This instrument crafted from Kauri timber from Dargaville, will be used for performances in the region to showcase this unique and beautiful instrument, the world's first made from the Kauri timber.

K2 will be housed in Ikaalinen, Finland and will be the showcase instrument of the craftsman and accordion making facility, while K3 will become my personal instrument that I will keep in New York and will be used for my personal performances. Each instrument while similar in design, is slightly unique, and profile the individual finishing touches of Aaro's design.

The instruments were completed and officialy unveiled on 30 January 2013 in Ikaalinen, Finland, with the debut performance scheduled for March 24th, 2013 in Dargaville, New Zealand at the 6th Annual Afternoon of Music with myself and my fellow musicians.

Played for the first time in concert will be a Kauri Accordion. For a full photo display please look at

## NZ Accordion Association Dates for 2013

28/1	Mon	Term 1 begins
1/3	Fri	Closing date North Shore Performing Arts Competitions
3/3	Sun	Mercer Accordion Day Mercer Rowing Club Hall
24/3	Sun	Dargaville Museum Concert Day Trip
7/4	Sun	Performance Afternoon Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand 2-4
19/4	Fri	End of Term 1
20/4	Sun	Closing Date for NZAA Competition entries
4/5	Sat	North Shore Performing Arts Competitions for Accordion
6/5	Mon	Term 2 starts
6/5	Mon	World Accordion Day
26/5	Sun	Performance Afternoon, Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand 1-4
26/5	Sun	5pm Auckland Town Hall, Eddie Giffney with the NZ Pops Orchestra.
1-2/6	Sat-Sun	NZAA Competitions in Auckland
8-9/6	Sat-Sun	AATA Competitions in Sydney
7/7	Sun	Performance Afternoon, Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand 2-4
12/7	Fri	Term 2 ends
29/7	Mon	Term 3 starts
15/9	Sun	Performance Afternoon, Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand 2-4
22/9	Sun	AEB Scholarship Presentation,
27/9	Fri	Term 3 ends
6/10	Sun	Mercer Accordion Day Mercer Rowing Club Hall
14/10	Tue	Term 4 begins
24/11	Sun	Santa Parade, Music Makers
8/12	Sun	Performance Afternoon, Takapuna War Memorial Hall, The Strand 1-3
8/12	Sun	Prizegiving ?NSAO- Glenfield Mall
20/12	Fri	Term 4 ends



## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:ejones@aim.edu.au) or on [fisaccord@hotmail.com](mailto:fisaccord@hotmail.com)

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Devonport  
Tas 7310  
Ph. (03) 6424 5702  
Mob. 0417 361980

**APPLICATION/RENEWAL FOR MEMBERSHIP OF ASSOCIATION**



**ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (Incorporated NSW)**  
(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

I, .....  
(full name of applicant)

of .....  
(address)

Phone ..... Email .....

hereby apply to become a member **OR RENEW** my membership of the abovementioned association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

.....

Signature of applicant

Date

All memberships are renewable on 1<sup>st</sup>. August each year.  
A once only joining fee of \$5.00 is payable on all new memberships.

General Member	\$ 40.00
Teacher Member	\$ 50.00
Family Member	\$ 55.00

**Membership fees increased on 1<sup>st</sup>. August 2011**

Please find attached an \$AUS cheque/money order payable to the  
Accordion Society of Australia Inc.

Please forward to:

Membership Department  
Accordion Society of Australia ( Inc.NSW)  
60 Richard Avenue  
EARLWOOD NSW 2206

**Victorian Members only** send to  
Accordion Society of Australia (inc NSW)  
67 Doveton Ave.  
EUMEMMERRING VIC 3177

ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (Incorporated NSW)  
(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)  
Accordion Review Subscription Form.

The Accordion Review is published by the Accordion Society of Australia Inc for distribution to its members. Subscription rate for non members is \$18.00 per year (within Australia) and \$AUS 22.00 per year for overseas.

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ENCLOSED \$18.00 or AUS \$22.00  
(Four Quarterly issues)

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**ADVERTISING RATES.**

Full Page	\$50.00
Half Page	\$25.00
Advertorial	\$15.00

All cheques and money orders to be made payable to **Accordion Society of Australia Inc.** and sent to: ASA Accordion Review  
60 Richard Ave  
EARLWOOD NSW 2206  
AUSTRALIA.

All materials, advertisements etc. should be sent to:

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Mob. 0414 915154		Mob: 0431 898344

It is very helpful to the editorial staff if stories and photos are emailed to Cheryle or Amelia as it saves us a lot of typing.

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