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Cover: Accordionist out and about spreading the Christmas cheer. Pages 20 – 24 details who they are and where they were playing.

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Margaret Berens & Holger Golinski



Hello from the Editor

Merry Christmas and I wish you all the very best for a healthy, happy and musical new year. Big thanks to members who sent me their Xmas

accordion photos, I bet you didn't realise you would appear on the front cover!

It is the busiest musical Christmas I have experienced, with parties and carols all around my little town, it was thoroughly enjoyable and now it is time to change hats as invites are arriving to jam sessions, so I have heaps of practice to do to hone my skills so I think it will be a busy 2019. I am certainly out of my comfort zone but isn't that what learning is all about!

Congratulations to Emma Smith for her AMEB graduation, well done. Details of the award plus some lovely photos of Emma are on page 12. Who on earth would run 5kms with their Accordion on? Answer: our President Ben with Amelia, Alex and Kate!! Why would they do it? MONEY! Yep they were raising money for the ASA and they certainly achieved a great result of \$1500.00 plus the bonus of recording a world record. An absolutely fantastic result with no known injuries. Go to page 13 to see how they did it, congratulations team Accordirun.

Thank you to our ASA members for the contributed articles for this edition, they all make for good reading and without them we wouldn't have a review.

Happy New Year and Happy reading.

Cheryle

<u>Correction</u>: In our previous September edition, the editor incorrectly noted Heather Masefield as the author of the NZAA Presidents Report, it was in fact the President Sonja Palinich, apologies.

Presidents Christmas Report

Season's greetings to all. I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year period. As this year nears its end I have found some time to remember some of the fantastic accomplishments of the Accor-



dion Society this year, furthermore we look forward to expanding and providing our members with many more activities and events to get involved in, in 2019.

Early 2018 saw us host our first masterclass workshops. Our very accomplished tutors took students of all ages through the many different aspects of performing. With good attendance and interest, we are looking forward to holding the event again in early 2019 with the view of these workshops being held on a bi-annual basis. We will not only focus on purely performance, this year we will expand into composition/ arrangement/stage and program presentation and much more. Keep your eye out especially on Facebook or our website https://accordionsaustralia.com/ A great deal of appreciation goes out to all who helped to organise and run the event and Canada Bay club for providing funding for this occasion. Do not forget to invite your friends to like the Accordion Society of Australia on Facebook, our Social media presence is our most important advertising tool available to us, we would like to see it grow much more in 2019.

Our relationship with Canada Bay Club since this event has continued to grow. This year we completed the Balmain Fun Run or some of you may know it by the Accordi-run. Canada Bay Club donated \$500.00 to the Society for completing the 5km circuit. Kate Parsons will talk about our day out later in this review. Keep your eyes out for our next fun fitness accordion and exercise day which may involve the Bay Run.

While funding community groups is of great importance to the club, the club is also working hard on creating a functional network between the

community groups they support. This year we played a Christmas concert for Reverend Bill Cruises Loaves and Fishes Restaurant in Ashfield who are assisted by the club. Thank you to Canada Bay Club we look forward to working together more in 2019.

June 2019 will see the Accordion Society attend the World Music Festival in Innsbruck. Alex Zhao and myself will represent the ASA in a combined group of accordion players from the AATA and the NZAA. This event is held every 3 years and we are looking forward to the challenges that will go into preparing a group to play on an international stage without opportunity to get the rehearsal time together that is so important in such ventures.

To finish up for the year I would like to thank each and every member of the Accordion Society for your continued support. I mean absolutely everybody every member from Perth to Sydney and in between. You all do so much for our wonderful organisation no matter how small your contribution. Thank you to all our committee members for all your assistance at all of the events we host and run (quite literally we "run"). There is a small core group of people who always help me with my outlandish ideas. Without your assistance, they would be just ideas. 2019 will be a great year for the Accordion Society of Australia.

The Accordion will be alive in 2019

Benny Pattinson



AGM Election Results

The ASA 2018 Annual General Meeting (48th Annual Congress) was held on Saturday 17th November at Croydon Park, Sydney.

Election / re-election of Office Bearers were as follows:

NSW

President	Ben Pattinson	
Vice President	Silvia Kocic	
Secretary	Sanda Mackay	
Treasurer	Vince Granturco	
Review Editor	Cheryle Mills	
Co Music Directors	Amelia and Dominique Granturco	
Fundraising & PR	Sylvia Granturco	
Music Librarians	Vince Moschella and Sam Tripodi	

Ross Maio was sincerely thanked for his longstanding contribution to the ASA Committee and for his ever popular musical arrangements.

VICTORIA

President	John Kalkbrenner
Vice President	Frank Berens
Secretary	Holger Golinski
Treasurer	Margaret Berens
Newsletter editors	Margaret Berens, Holger Golinski
Committee members	Edda and John Klug Silvia and Milo Kocic Lee Puccini Uwe Sydekum

Thank you to all committee members who have held positions over the past years, your efforts have been appreciated. Thank you also to the newly elected committee for putting their hands up to take on a position for the next period.

NSW gather for dinner after AGM

ASA members got together on Nov 17th at the Croydon Park Club for an end of year celebration and farewell to myself as I recently moved from Sydney to Mallacoota, (don't worry you'll definitely see me again)! The dinner followed the ASA Annual General Meeting that was held in the same room. I would like to thank Accordions Alfresco and NSW committee for the thoughtful gift of a framed copy of our 'On Air' CD. It is now proudly displayed on my music room wall, as shown in the photo below Thank you very much.

Cheryle Mills



Loaves and Fishes Restaurant

Six members from Accordions Alfresco recently spread some Christmas accordion cheer at Bill Crews' Exodus Foundation in Ashfield.



The Exodus Foundation is a charity that meets the needs of Sydney's poor and homeless. Exodus provides free meals to the needy every day of the year through their 'Loaves and Fishes' restaurant and their nightly food vans and also provides counselling and outreach services.

Every Christmas for the past 49 years Bill Crews and his team of staff and volunteers have provided Christmas lunch to thousands of hungry and lonely people. This year they will get through more than 50 turkeys, 65 hams and an incredible 2,700 mini-puddings! Hampers are packed and gifts are wrapped, and with the help of Santa every guest attending Christmas lunch receives a small gift.

However, the real gift that Exodus give the guests who attend is respect, warmth and love.

We played carols and some other tunes for the Exodus guests while they waited for their meal, and after the performance some of our members joined the guests for lunch.

It was a privilege to be invited by Bill Crews to play at Exodus and we hope to return early next year.

Amelía





Choir and Accordions Alfresco, a nice combination

On Sunday 4th November Accordions Alfresco and Evergreen Music came together to host an incredible concert in Drummoyne. Our members gathered at 2pm setting up the stage and putting out seats for the audience - which to our surprise turned out to not be enough as we had so many guests attend.

The show was opened by the Evergreen Wednesday singers, who performed 5 songs, some of which were acapella, others which were accompanied by their choir director Ben Marshall. After their incredible performance we saw Accordions Alfresco take to the stage and present around 20 minutes of Music from around the world. In the midst of the performance they were joined by the ever wonderful and crowd pleasing Finn!

At the conclusion of the concert the Evergreen Wednesday singers and Accordions Alfresco joined together to perform a rendition of Hey Brother by Avicii. Not your standard run of the mill accordion tune, but so much fun for the singers, the players and the audience. We hope to see lots of you at our next performance in 2019!



Emmas AMEB Graduation

Congratulation to Emma Smith on her 2018 AMEB AMusA Diploma graduation. Emma also received an Associate prize.

The ASA would like to congratulate Emma on all her hard work and dedication, well done.



Emma with her teacher Daniel Garcia Gil and with her family below





Running with Accordions - team AccordiRun make a world record at the Balmain Fun Run

In Spain they run with the bulls, in Estonia they run carrying their wives, at the ASA we run....with accordions!

On Sunday 18th November, Ben, Mardi, Amelia, Alex and Kate ran the 5km Balmain Fun Run with accordions, to raise funds for the Accordion Society of Australia (ASA). Glenny, Rob, Sandra and Leonie came along to cheer and take photos



Creating a 'pop up' accordion festival along the way, Team AccordiRun also showed how much fun it is to play accordion and be part of the friendly and fun ASA.

Runners and spectators smiled and clapped, some jaws dropped, as the team kept spirits high with the theme from Rocky, Christmas carols and the annoying yet danceable 'Baby Shark'.

Fittingly, the location for this crazy stunt was the Callan Park Hospital for the Insane. The run route was around its surprisingly beautiful grounds, with flowering jacarandas, green lawns and views over The Bay The team were tempted to ramp it up a bit for the chance to live there.



Our President Ben taught the team how to play the "car horn" on F#G#, which made for a fun game to honk encouragingly at the faster runners as they passed us. Thankfully the route looped back on itself, so we could still be near the other runners, as with 5 – 10kgs of accordion, it was relatively slow going. The team crossed the finish line together, playing a stirring, if some what

puffed, rendition of 'Chariots of Fire'.

An extensive Google search has revealed that the team have set two world records, for the first, and the largest accordion fun running team.

We raised \$929.28 from online donations as well as \$500.00 from the Canada Bay Club to support our participation.

We will use the funds to help Accordions Alfresco travel to play for people in the community, such as elderly and people with disabilities and to help support some of our younger players to travel to accordion competitions.

A huge thank you to Ben who had the idea and made the connections, all our supporters who came to cheer us on, the Balmain Fun Run team for letting us carry out this hairbrained scheme and everyone who donated!

We're keen to do it all again next year and would love you to join us! Kate Parsons



Melbourne Cup Eve Concert

For the 13th year since the departure of our founder Bernadette Conlon, the Melbourne Accordion Orchestra held their annual 'Cup Eve' concert on Mon 5th November at the Coatsville Bowls Club at East Bentleigh, a suburb of Melbourne.

The concert led by George Butrumlis, started at 8m sharp with Palmy Snorrason playing 2 solos, 1st "SHE" by Charles Aznavour, the 2nd "REINE DE MUSETTE" by Jean Peyronnin. George then played two solo pieces, the 1st was a Brazilian piece called RAPAZIADA DO BRAS by Alberto Marino, the 2nd was LA CUMPARSITA by Uruguayan composer Gerardo Rodriguez, played sympathetically with George's variations.



A short break, whereupon the Orchestra took to the stage with percussion and guitar accompaniment to play a piece by David Bowie called STARMAN, followed by well known JAMAICAN RHUMBA composed by Australian composer Arthur Benjamin. Then came MERRY CHRISTMAS MR LAWRENCE by Japanese composer Ryuichi Sakamoto, followed by MANY HAPPY RETURNS by Guy Klusevcek.

We in the audience were experiencing a high quality performance with each piece seemingly upping the tempo, more to come !

For those of us in the 'older' group , we then had the music from the play -FIDDLER ON THE ROOF' composed by Jerry Bock/Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick. Knowing the plight of the Jews in those days, the music was very emotional and played with intense feeling.

RUSSIAN RAG, composed by Elena Kats-Chernin uplifted us all instantly, and received much applause. Not to be outdone, we then heard A TRIBUTE TO AC/DC, the Australian Rock group, songs by Bon Scott, Angus Young, Malcolm Young and Brian Johnson.

George then announced the interval where supper was served by the Ladies Committee, coffee, tea and lots of cupcakes, yum!

Returning to the stage we heard George sing the vocals to LONELY AT THE TOP composed by Randy Newman. Next was KASHMIR, a very oriental piece composed by Jimmy Page, Robert Plant and John Bonham, quickly followed by DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE, a piece by Orlando Wilson, again, George sang the words, his rendition matching his expertise with the accordion !

That was to be the finale, but the applause was ongoing, with many calls for "encore", George obliged with a piece he collected from his trip to Austria not long ago called- BOEVE'S PSALM composed by Lars Holmer from a traditional Swedish tune.

I found my self singing that on my way home. The whole night was possibly the best this orchestra has performed since its inception, so it augers well for the future of the MAO !

The usual speeches were given by George and the President of the Bentleigh Bowls club and we look forward to next year for another top performance .

Lee Puccíní

Griffith residents enjoy a Singalong

Yenda Retirement village was buzzing when Louie Forner strapped on his Roland and began playing many favourite melodies, all kept time clapping and singing, and some also joined Louie to lead the others.

Great playing Louie and thank you for helping me out with the Italian Choir out at Griffith Scalabrini Village.

Joe Staltare



Trío play at All Hallows Church

ASA was approached by a member of All Hallows' Church , Five Dock to play at their inaugural All Saints Day. There was a special procession from the church, around the streets and back with elders carrying statues of Virgin Mary etc. and the congregation carrying photographs of departed family members.

The local police manned the intersections and blocked traffic access due to the many people participating. There were local school children walking along singing in their choir with the priest stopping along the way, leading the service. When the congregation returned Maria, Sam and myself played under the shade of a tree for nearly 2 hours whilst everyone had a communal lunch together.

Glenny Grunfelder



Maria Worthington, Glenny Grunfelder and Sam Tripodi



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Accordionists Out and About at Xmas time

COMMUNITY GATHER AT KELLYVILLE

Cathy Day is at Kellyville Ridge Public School which hosted an incredible community event, the Twilight Markets, Nov 30th. The school grounds were packed with visitors soaking up the beautiful weather and atmosphere.



BUSKER SPOTTED

Finn was spotted busking at Rouse Hill shopping centre. Well done Finn!



XMAS CHEER FOR ASHFIELD RESIDENTS

Sam Tripodi, Maria Worthington and Vince Moschella played for the residents of the Ashfield Baptist Nursing Home at their Xmas Party. Everyone enjoyed the music and they even played a request from one of the residents and some sang along. Great Day!



FARFISA SUPER SYNTACCORDION FOR XMAS



Michael Glinski is pictured here with the late Kenny Laybourne's Farfisa Super syntaccordion which he has inherited. We hope you enjoy playing it as much as Kenny did.

A VERY WET DAY AT THE XMAS MARKET

Cheryle Mills playing Christmas carols at the Mallacoota Xmas market.

It was a wet day so numbers were down but several people commented how they enjoyed the sound of carols drifting across the park.



GLENNYS TWO LOVES

NSW Orchestra member Glenny Grunfelder with her beautiful puppy.





XMAS MUSIC AT THE GERMAN CLUB

Christmas music at the German Club thanks to Paul, Emma and Yvonne Smith.





TIME FOR CAROLS AND SANTA CLAUS

A wonderful afternoon of carol singing occurred in Mallacoota on Dec 22nd. Cheryle on accordion with other musicians played carols to families and their children. Then Santa arrived in the Police car with sirens blaring, much to the delight of the children and the adults.







SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS

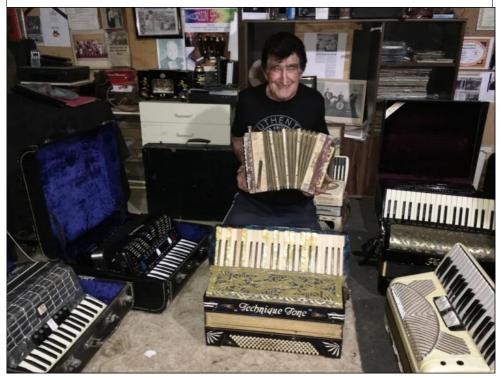
Very Old Accordion

Here is a story of an accordion probably made in the 30's or so that went into hiding for close to 40 years!

The little squeeze box was bought by Mr Peruzzi for his son Bruno in 1950. Bruno kept this accordion in the shed where he used to squeeze a few notes as a youngster. But when his dad sold the farm in 1960,n that instrument was left behind.

Well it was a summer's day in 1990, while at the local dump that one of Bruno's sons spotted that squeeze box, and after all those years Bruno was reunited with the first accordion.

Pictured is Bruno with his little gem along with his accordion collection.



Adelaíde Accordíon Orchestra

German Fest

The Orchestra performed at the Mixx FM Horsham German Fest



Wheatsheaf Hotel

Here they are enjoying a great gig at the Wheatsheaf Hotel on Sunday 17th December. They also enjoyed the microbrewery and got to taste some of the new beers as well!.



2019 Coupe Mondiale—China

The 72nd <u>Coupe Mondiale</u> will be held from 12-18 August, 2019 in Shenzhen, China hosted by the China Accordion Association.

The festival will feature competitions as follows:

- 72nd Coupe Mondiale
- Masters Coupe Mondiale
- Junior Coupe Mondiale
- International Competition for Virtuoso Entertainment Music
- Junior International Competition for Virtuoso Entertainment Music
- Chamber Music Classical
- Chamber Music World Music

The on-line entry system will open in May, entry closing date: 1st July 2019

Shenzhen City is in close proximity to three large international airports used by many airlines. Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shenzhen Airports with good priced flights from almost any country of the world.

Full details of the 2019 Coupe Mondiale and the extensive competitor assistance and how to apply is now online at: <u>CoupeMondiale</u>



Griffith gets visitor from up North

Joe Staltare received a phone call last October from a fellow accordionist and ASA member from northern N S W, Ian Sambrook.

Ian and his wife Maree were travelling through Griffith so I thought it was appropriate that we should share a little time with a couple of guys and their accordions.

Thank you Bruno for your hospitality on the night and also for showcasing your accordion collection. Thanks to Louie Forner for coming along and sharing the experience with Ian.

It was great to meet Ian and thanks for sharing your playing with us, we all had a wonderful evening.

Joe





Accordion Revival Website

<u>Accordionrevival.com</u> website, its aim is to save and "revive" old accordions by helping accordionists maintain, repair, and modernize them. But it also supports the ongoing accordion "revival" by providing information about accordions. Most of the site is dedicated to helping you maintain, repair, and modify your accordions. There are articles on a variety of specific topics.

This site is organized as follows:

"Accordion Repair 1" on the list of pages at the upper left of the Home page is oriented toward evaluation and diagnosis of problems and provides specific instructions for making the simplest and most common repairs.

"Accordion Repair 2" provides specific instructions for making many of the more challenging repairs.

"Accordion Repair 3" is dedicated to tuning.

"Owner's Manual" describes and makes available PIANO ACCORDION OWNER'S MANUAL AND BUYER'S GUIDE, which is a good primer for my website, as it provides the context and background knowledge needed to fully understand and appreciate the articles posted on my website.

George Bachich

PIANO ACCORDION OWNER'S MANUAL AND BUYER'S GUIDE



This 164 page fully illustrated soft cover book explains and shows how accordions work, what features and options are available, and how to recognize which options your accordion has. It explains and illustrates what most commonly goes wrong and shows you how to recognize when those repairs are needed. It provides you the information you need in order to decide which type of accordion to buy, and offers suggestions on where to look, how much to pay, and how to take proper care of it. You can order it via the website.



Ross Maío

Please check Ross Maio Facebook page for his gigs and venues.

Ben Pattinson with Medusa's Wake Please check Medusa's Wake Facebook page for details and gig guide.

John Kalkbrenner Every Thursday and Friday nights

> Sam Rauza Every Saturday and Sunday nights

'Hofbräuhaus' German restaurant 18-24 Market Lane, Melbourne. Phone 9663 3361

Heinz Dabernig

Every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday lunch. Cuckoo Restaurant in the Dandenongs



NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND ACCORDION ASSOCIATION

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



An Interesting Accordion Year 2018

by Heather Masefield

It started with a Masterclass by Grayson Masefield in January then progressed with the lead up to the NZAA Competitions and Festival in June. In July I used a travel voucher I had won to buy a very cheap airfare to Chicago to see my brother Harley honoured at the American Teachers Guild. We teamed up with Kevin Friedrich and Herbert Schiebenrief to make an international delegation to travel with Dr Helmi Harrington to her Accordion Museum in Superior on the Great Lakes. This had been on my bucket list since I had first met Helmi in 2002, since then she has added another 1,000 instruments to her collection. I was stunned and spent hours roaming the very well curated exhibitions. We had a meeting with the Mayor of Superior in the hall where Dr Willard Palmer (of Palmer and Hughes tutor series) had gifted his accordion collection and harpsichord. <u>http://www.worldofaccordions.org/index.html</u>

In August it was off to Harbin to judge at the International Accordion Art Week and International Accordion Competitions. It was great to see Grayson perform at the Harbin Grand Theatre and other venues and support our NZ contestants. In September it was off to Lithuania to adjudicate at the Coupe Mondiale. This was a well organised event, with a strong Kiwi showing. I was delighted that Grayson was voted into the position of Vice Chair of the Music Committee. www.coupemondiale.org/2018/It coupemain.htm#

The Las Vegas Accordion Convention was in its 19th year held to celebrate Octoberfest. There is no competition, with lunch and dinner concerts in a ballroom. There are lots of very interesting Masterclasses each morning. I was honoured to watch Grayson inducted into the Hall of Fame. Please read my report <u>www.accordions.com/lasvegas2018/16.htm</u>

The Trophee Mondiale was held in Victoria, Canada in November hosted by the BC Accordion and Tango Society. Past NZAA Treasurer Carol Yan who lives in Vancouver joined me. As a past winner Grayson performed as soloist with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra and had done other promotional concerts for the event. I adjudicated the CMA classes and was President of the Jury for the International Classes. There were few entries due to travel distance.

Heather Masefield

International Summit by CIA Ambassador Kevin Friedrich

A **World of Accordions Museum** located in Superior, Wisconsin hosted an International Summit to showcase the Museum holdings during a recent event organized by curator Helmi Harrington, Ph.D.

The International conference included three Executive members of the **Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) Kevin Friedrich** - Ambassador (USA), **Harley Jones** - Public Relations Manger (New Zealand) and Dr. Herbert Scheibenreif - Vice President (Austria) as well as **Heather Masefield** - Executive Officer of the **New Zealand Accordion Association**.

The Summit was supported by the new Superior, WI, Mayor Jim Paine as well as 6th District Councilor Tylor Elm, the Director of Marketing and Social Media Nikky Farmakes as well as other guests from the Visitors and Convention Bureau and local Universities. the Museum Board of Directors and guests. After an official welcome and remarks by CIA World Accordion Museum Alliance Director Kevin Frie**drich**, speakers included Dr. Herbert Scheibenreif, Jim



Paine and Museum Repair Technician student David Beer. The guests were given a guided tour of the Museum holdings before concluding with a meet and greet reception. Museum curator **Helmi Harrington** presented an overview of Museum activities and holdings including the 1300 instruments on display, more than one million pieces of sheet music, reference books and recordings, featured Concert Series guest artists such as renowned classical Russian accordionists **Friedrich Lips** and **Viatcheslav Semionov** to popular Grammy Award winning Joey Miskulin, the exciing **World Accordion Day** and **Willard Palmer** festivals, the Musical Estates of dignitaries such as **Willard Palmer**, **Ernest Deffner**, **Pietro Diero**, **Charles Magnante** and others entrusted to the Museum, the new online resources such as sales and Educational items, the new Fundraising Campaign 'Superior Vision' and the unique Repair Technician school.

A **World of AccordionsMuseum** is a member of the newly established World Accordion Museum Alliance under the auspices of the **CIA** which aims to coordinate the efforts of Accordion Museums and collectors around the world to ensure that the historical culture of the accordion is protected for all to enjoy

For more information about the Museum, please visit **www.worldofaccordions.org**



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hereby apply to become a member OR RENEW my membership of the abovemen- tioned 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.					
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