THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

# ACCORDION REVIEW



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

#### ASA (inc NSW) Headquarters

51 Bogalara Road,

Old Toongabbie NSW 2146



President Ben Pattinson

email: ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

mobile: 0432 032 758

Vice President Anthony Schulz

email: anthonyjschulz@gmail.com mobile: 0414 395 014

Secretary Sandra Mackay

email: mackaynoyce@gmail.com mobile: 0422 105 147

Vince Granturco Treasurer

email: granvs@bigpond.com

phone: (02) 9636 2674

Fundraising & Public Relations Sylvia Granturco

email: granvs@bigpond.com

mobile: 0422 936 612

Co Musical Directors Amelia Granturco & Dominique Granturco

email: AccordionSociety@gmail.com

Accordion Review Editor Cheryle Mills

PO Box 442. Mallacoota Vic 3892 email: cherylemills66@gmail.com mobile: 0414 915 154

Victorian sub-committee

President Heinz Dabernig

email: upweymuzic6@bigpond.com

mobile: 0407 075 942

Vice President Anthony Schulz

email: anthonyjschulz@gmail.com

mobile: 0414 395 014

Secretary Holger Golinski

Editor Vic newsletter email: holgs13@yahoo.com.au

Treasurer ( & co Editor) Jeannette Benzing

email: jeannette.benzing@gmail.com

Public Relations Officer Anthony Schulz



# Hello from the Editor

Welcome to our first edition for 2022 and I am absolutely thrilled to be receiving news of 'LIVE GIGS' and the return of our 'Gig Guide and What's On' which has been absent for a couple of years.

Just when we were confident live music had returned another disaster—floods! The Smiths from Adelaide were to perform in the Haus show on the Indian Pacific but sadly it was cancelled due to flooding on the rail tracks! Hopefully it will be rescheduled soon and our readers will get to hear all about it.

The Victorian ASA branch in partnership with Boite performed on March 18th to an appreciative audience. Surprisingly the Double Bass player was unable to perform but a surprise replacement appeared, see page 9. Well done Anthony for organising a great concert!

The music world has lost a good musician and inaugural ASA member, Leo Dellolio. I remember Leo from 50 years ago as the examiner of my Grade 5 practical. A tribute to Leo appears on page 12.

The ASA's roving reporter aka Glenny Grunfelder insisted on interviewing me for this edition as she was sure I had an interesting musical story to tell. I am not so sure but I reluctantly cooperated. She will be looking to interview another member for the next edition so be ready!

A big thank you for the articles and photographs appearing in this edition and look forward to receiving news of what is happening in your accordion world for the June edition.

Wishing you and yours a safe year ahead.

Cheryle

# Presidents Report

Hello everyone. The last month has been tremendous with lockdowns and social restrictions a thing of the past (here's hoping). I have once again been able to work as a professional musician, as for so many other of my colleagues. Our work has started to pick up



again. Venues are working hard on increasing the levels of entertainment that they provide. I must compliment the owners of these establishments. Many of these fine venues have made little or no profits in the last year and even longer in some cases. While still paying their rents, mortgages and other associated business costs. I am blown away that these are the people who are breathing new life into our music and arts industry. Without small businesses and the passion of the people who run them the scene would be a train wreck. If you are interested in seeing some of the events that I myself and others are doing check it out on the Accordion Society of Australia Facebook, alternatively you could have a look at my personal Facebook and find where abouts I'm playing. It would be great to see as many people as possible out supporting local musicians.

Accordions Alfresco started face to face rehearsals on a weekly basis recently. Everybody is overjoyed to be working together again. We still have one Zoom night which is the last Monday night of the month. If you are interested in attending either our Accordions Alfresco rehearsal or the Zoom night send an email to us, and we can arrange some music to be sent out to you for practice. We are currently working on a few numbers for Anzac Day, we have two bookings for Anzac Day. We will confirm these closer to the date. Accordions Alfresco are also looking forward to our first out of state trip to Melbourne. Anthony Shultz and I have been working on a combined event with members of the Society from Sydney and Melbourne. We are planning a concert event as well as 2 workshops.

We are looking at the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year. Information will be sent out once dates, times and places have been locked in and confirmed. I urge everybody to attend this event, the first one in over 2 years.

I am also very excited to announce that the NZAA are holding their annual accordion competitions. I was lucky enough to make it over to the 2021 and had a great time. The competitions will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of June. These competitions will also celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NZAA which was last year but was moved due to people not being able to travel. Anthony Schulz and I will both be attending. Anthony will also be running a masterclass this year, we would both love to see you there. If you are interested in attending, start booking your flights while prices are reasonably low. If you are interested in being a competitor, you need to enter before the 14<sup>th</sup> of April. You can find all the information that you need at https://www.accordion.co.nz

The AATA are also holding an event this year more information will be released in their Facebook page in the coming days. Check out their Facebook to find out more. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/accordionsydney/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/accordionsydney/</a>

We have a great deal going on this year and there is only more to come. Have a look at our Facebook and Website for more Information.

https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyofaustralia/

https://accordionsaustralia.com

Looking forward to seeing you all soon. Ben Pattinson

Benny





Ben Pattinson played with the Irish rock band 'Medusa's Wake' at the St Patrick's Day Festival in The Rocks, Sydney on Sunday March 20th. An excellent crowd and location.



Ben Pattinson and his friend Murray performed at 'The Temperance Society' wine bar in Summer Hill on St Patricks Day.

Why isn't Ben wearing green??

This venue may be a monthly gig for Ben (see Facebook for future dates).





Glenny Grunfelder and Maria
Worthington played on St Patrick's Day at the Summit Care
Residential Home to an appreciative audience!

Just love Marias outfit!



# Benvenuto Ross and Lukas





Ross and Lukas Maio entertained VIP's at Cucina Porto Italian restaurant in Pyrmont, Sydney.

They both certainly looked the part and their music would have been magnifico!.

# ASA - Boite inaugural concert featuring Bella Ciao.

The Victorian Branch of the ASA, in partnership with the Boite held the first of its concert series featuring the accordion on Friday 18th of March at the Mark St Hall.

It was wonderful to see so many past and present ASA members along with lots of people from the community. As it turned out, Bella Ciao's double bass player had COVID so there were three accordions on stage rather than the anticipated two. George Butrumlis was the additional player mainly on bass accordion. What an excellent surprise!

More than 50 people attended and had a great time. An evening of wonderful music and social catch up. Keep an eye out for our next connect tentatively scheduled for the end of April.

# Anthony Schulz



# Welcome David Peterson

The ASA would like to formally welcome our newest member, David Peterson from Adelaide S.A. Following is a brief history of his

involvement in the music world;

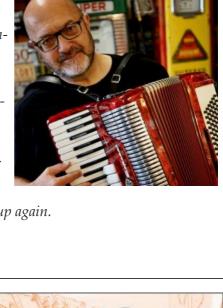
I started learning accordion at the age of 6, and completed 6 grades, until as a teenager in the mid-70s I was far too cool for it!. I then taught myself piano/keyboard and have been playing music (non professionally) since then.

I've recently dragged my accordions out of storage, had some work done on one of them, and joined the Adelaide Accordion

Orchestra. I'm really enjoying taking it up again.

Regards

David







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# Music is often prescribed to Patients with Parkinsons Disease and Stroke victims

Music therapy has been around for decades. Music triggers networks of neurons into organised movement. The part of the brain that processes movement also overlaps speech networks. These two key elements help patients overcome the obstacles that most affect them such as basic motor skills, and speech difficulties.



# *VALE LEO DELLOLIO* 1947—2021

Leo Dellolio was an accomplished musician and joined the ASA as a member at the ASA inaugural meeting in February 1970. Leo was a teacher of Accordion, Bassetti and Clarinet at Brandman Studios in the 1970's and also an examiner of the accordion. He will be greatly missed by the music world. R.I.P.

# The article below appeared in a Central Coast newspaper - Dec 2021

Central Coast Conservatorium is mourning the loss of one of its most popular teachers, following the death on November 1 of Leo Dellolio at the age of 74

Leo began his teaching career on the Central Coast in 1985 after moving to Ettalong where he first taught at the Central Coast Music Centre. The move followed his studies at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where he attained a Bachelor of Arts (Music) and studied Jazz with Don Burrows.



Leo had funded his studies by playing in restaurants and teaching students.

He joined the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music and became a leading member of the teaching community.

He taught piano, accordion, musicianship, and theory.

He led both the Junior and Senior Jazz Big Bands alongside colleague Don Andrews.

Leo was a valued rehearsal accompanist for choirs, soloists and many community concert groups including the Central Coast Philharmonic and the Gosford Musical Society.

Leo's mastery of repertoire spanned the classical and jazz greats, and he was equally at home playing Ludwig van Beethoven as Oscar Peterson.

He was superb at improvisation and admired by colleagues as an accomplished musician and a wonderful, big-hearted human being.

"Leo made a great contribution to the Board as the teachers' representative.

He was a true gentleman – always kind and attentive" former President of the Central Coast Conservatorium. Peter Brandon. said.

The Conservatorium said Leo is missed by many and leaves behind a tremendous legacy and his beloved sons Paul and Andrew, an accomplished pianist in his own right, and grandchildren Jessica, Caitlyn, James and Angelina.

# GIG Guide & What's On

# Accordion Accents Ensemble

# May 7th, Saturday @ 2pm

German Club Tivoli.

291 Dandenong Road Prahran Vic \$20 includes coffee/slice of cake. An Afternoon of German Sea shanties to listen to or sing along with. Bookings 0499 188 826 or 03 9510 2270."

# Heidi and Herman

**The Herbstfest 2022** (in Belair National Park) —**Sat 26th March**Performance in morning. Then daughter Emma in new band in the afternoon

Hahndorf Inn—playing in the Beer Garden from 12noon to 2pm on;

Sat 2nd April

Sat 16th and Sunday 17th April

Sun 24th April

Sun 1st May

# Ross Maio Gigs

# April 5, Tuesday

The Cube @ Campbelltown Catholic Club.10am

# April 21, Thursday.

Stone the Crows Festival, Wagga. NSW

http://www.stonethecrows.com.au/entertainers/

# **April 24, Sunday**

Chestnut & Wine Marconi Festivals

Location: 121 - 133 Prairie Vale Road, Bossley Park NSW

# May 29, Sunday

Italian Republic Day Marconi Festivals

Location: 121 - 133 Prairie Vale Road, Bossley Park NSW

# 16 June, Thursday

Liverpool Catholic Club 9:30 am 424/458 Hoxton Park Rd, Prestons. NSW

# **Bach in the Dark** - live stream from Sydney Rachel Scott - Cello

Anthony Schulz - Piano Accordion

When: Saturday 9th of April

Time: 7.00pm - 8.15pm

Link to event description and tickets: https://events.humanitix.com/bitd\_stream1\_2022

After the success of the live-streamed concerts in 2020 and 2021, Rachel's going to continue streaming various programs – and she's so happy that for the first one she'll be joined by one of her favourite musicians – accordion whizz Anthony Schulz. This concert has been postponed so many times – Rachel and Anthony are so excited it'll happen in 2022!

Anthony is no stranger to Bach in the Dark audiences – he and Rachel have been playing together for nearly a decade. The combination of cello and accordion is quite special – the two friends can move from Bach to Bartok, folk music, jazz-inspired music – and pretty much everything inbetween. Get ready for a concert with a difference!

The evening will include works by Bach, works written based on Bach especially for the two friends by composers Richard Charlton, Raffaele Marcellino and MB Sibson, and a few pieces by Anthony too. There'll be music that will make you smile, sigh, dream and tap your toes!

**Ticket sales will close at 4.30pm on the day of the concert.** The stream will also stay accessible for a week after the concert, so if you have plans on this particular night, you can always watch it a few days afterwards.

The live stream will be broadcast on the YouTube platform. You will need a link to access the stream - this link will be emailed to all ticket purchasers 2 hours before the event. If you have not received the link by 5.30pm (Sydney time) on the day of the concert, please email <a href="mailto:bachinthedark@gmail.com">bachinthedark@gmail.com</a> so it can be sent to you directly.

# KIDS CORNER

# Finn Macdermid Accordionist from Sydney



My name is Finn Macdermid. I'm 13 years old and have been playing the accordion since I was 7.

I started learning with my grandmother, Maria Worthington and then for many years with Cathy Day who prepared me for Australian and New Zealand competitions.



When I was 10 I was awarded 2nd place (Silver Medal) out of 236 competitors in the 2019 Coup Mondiale World Championships for 10 & 11 year olds, held in Shenzhen, China. Now I'm studying with Tatjana Marx on a Guerini 120 bass. Sometimes I perform in concerts at Retirement Villages or Residential Care Homes with members of the Accordion Society of Australia. I've been busking since I was 8 and I'm looking forward to starting again now that Covid

restrictions have eased. I enjoy basketball, swimming, bike-riding, computer games and reading.

I'd love to hear about some other kids and teenagers who are learning the accordion!

# Interview with Cheryle Mills

interviewed by Glenny Grunfelder

#### The Editor

Cheryle is the editor of The Review and has been in this role since 2011 following on from Rob Scott-Mitchell. This is her eleventh year of inspiring accordionists world-wide to contribute articles, news, photographs, jokes, profiles and any information that could interest her readers. She also searches the internet for international articles about music. What a wonderful way to connect accordionists with like minds and providing contacts for businesses, groups, old friends and teachers.



When asked about publishing The Review Cheryle explained that she is in touch with many contributors across Australia, tapping

into their knowledge for the four issues a year (starting a month before, with a specific cut-off date). She enjoys organising the layout, and works to get a balance with a lot of cross-checking. With the internet on our side here's hoping that she can reach the corners of the earth and continue to support the revival of accordion playing

# Cheryle's childhood

Cheryle (nee Simms) was one of four children raised in Kogarah, NSW. Her parents loved music and gave her the opportunity to learn the piano when she was 9 years old. Later, in Year 6, her school teacher taught the class to play the harmonica which she thoroughly enjoyed, so in 1966 when a nearby music store put an advertisement

in the local paper for a free aptitude test she excitedly went along. The store was Brandman Music Studio where she met her first (and only) accordion teacher, Mrs Else Brandman (an inspirational and legendary teacher who had high expectations of her pupil). Cheryle had personal lessons and excelled at the accordion, (practising daily in the heat, shut away in her room so she wouldn't disturb the neighbours!). Her first accordion was a red 96 bass but two years later her parents bought her a beautiful black Giulietti 140 bass (recommended by Mrs Brandman) which she plays on to this day! She became a trainee teacher undertaking her AMEB examinations and grades and attaining her Teaching Diploma to teach at the Brandman Studios.



Cheryle with Else Brandman

Under the baton of Mrs Brandman and later Mr Bert Beaton, she played with other young accordionists in the accordion orchestra - (Ross Lombardo, Cheryl Freeman, Janine Jackett and Cathy Jackett (Day), Valda Valainis(Doyle), and many others). Mrs Brandman organised many opportunities for concerts including the annual

Rockdale Town Hall concert incorporating all the various instruments taught at the Brandman studio and also at the Sydney Opera House recording studios.

In 1971 the first ASA Accordion Festival was held in Sydney followed 2 years later with Cheryle and others going to Townsville – she is still a friend with an accordionist she met there!



Rehearsing in a Townsville Park with Mr Beaton, 1973

# Life's surprises

What a wonderful and rich background for a lifetime of accordion playing! But.... her life took a different path! From 1974 she stopped playing...for 33 years! Cheryle's life became very busy with little time for music. She had a successful career in IT, programming and designing systems. Years passed by without her even opening the case and dusting her accordion let alone playing it! She met her husband Doug in 1992 who didn't know that she'd had an accordion life, let alone an accordion stashed away! (of course now he's her greatest fan!)

# **Accordion calling**

In 2007 Cheryle was inspired to take out her accordion for her mother and then play for her at the retirement home (she had loved listening to her daughter play all those years ago). This was Cheryle's gift to her mother in the hope that it would help her to remember the past. Her mother's realisation that it was her was a special time for them together. Cheryle played often to the other residents rekindling her need to play accordion again. For Doug, the 'cat was out of the bag' finding out that he had married a secret accordionist!

She also wanted to seek out Mrs Brandman (who had founded the Accordion Society of Australia). Cheryle visited her in Cronulla with both of them thrilled to reconnect after all those years and was able to find the ASA rehearsing in a Haberfield church hall which she joined in 2009. This is where she met the Granturco family, stalwarts of the ASA (Sylvia, Vince, Amelia, Dominique and their cousin Vince Tavernese and Jedda Kassis).



Ensemble in 2011—Cheryle, Dominique, Jedda, Amelia and Vince

She travelled to China for the Shanghai 64<sup>th</sup> Coupe Mondiale in 2011 (World Accordion Championships) with several ASA NSW Orchestra members. This tour was memorable for Cheryle, not just the accordion experience but she, Doug and his mother had a wonderful time as tourists...visiting four cities and touring the Terracotta soldiers, Pandas, Tiananmen Square, Summer Palace.

# A change is as good as a holiday

Cheryle and Doug decided in 2017 to build a home in Mallacoota, East Gippsland (the most remote town in Victoria and the last township before the NSW border). Later in 2018 they were able to move to their new home (population 1,063 in 2016) and spent 2019 enjoying establishing their gardens, walking the dog, meeting their community and making new friends. There is lots of music in Mallacoota so it didn't take long for Cheryle to find other musicians and make connections. She volunteered at the local charity shop and prepared for the onslaught of Easter and December holiday tourists (the population increases by about 8000!). Occasionally she and Doug would travel up to Sydney and come to ASA rehearsals. With her excellent sight-reading skills Cheryle was always able to join in and it was great to have her playing again with the group

#### **Bushfires and Covid**

On December 30, 2019, bushfires swept into Mallacoota trapping thousands of tourists and residents. The fires completely cut off the town from the rest of the world. Cheryle and Doug, along with the local residents worked to help and support people, fearing the worst. Finally a naval ship evacuated most tourists and left the locals to cope with rebuilding their township.

Cheryle continued with The Review during the following months, which was appreciated by her many readers who knew how difficult her job as editor had become under the circumstances.

Although Covid arrived soon after the community has been undaunted. These disasters have made everyone more resilient.

# Keep calm and play music

Her accordion is now playing a vital part in Cheryle's life. She joins with various local

groups, has 'jam sessions', makes music with the Strum Club, rehearses regularly, plays at the local monthly markets, encourages young people from the local school, plays at Seniors' Dinner/Dance nights.



The Band performing at the Markets (minus the violinist) 2021

She has reached out to her old friend Ross Maio to help her with arranging parts and brushing up on her theory. She is a very versatile player – blues, folk, pop, rock – she enjoys it all. When asked about her advice to aspiring accordionists she replied, "Listen!"

Her greatest influences in her accordion life have been Mrs Brandman, Ross Maio and Benny Pattinson.

The accordion community in Australia is so fortunate to have such a committed person as Cheryle, our editor.

# Glenny

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Salvatore



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12. From Ireland with Love

13. La Spagnola Medley

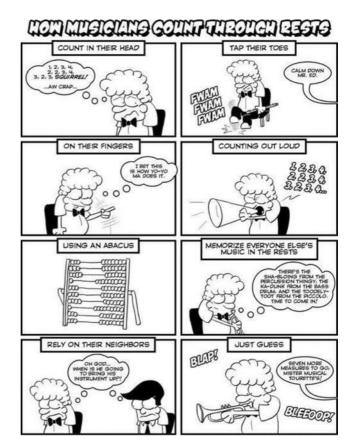
16. Amado Mio Medley 17. Buona Sera Medley

14. Volare Medley

15. La Calabrisella







# Daniel Radcliffe transforms into Accordionist/musician in WEIRD, a movie about 'Weird Al' Yankovic's Scandalous



The *Harry Potter* actor transforms into "Weird Al" Yankovic for The Roku Channel's upcoming biopic about the musician, titled *WEIRD: The 'Weird Al' Yankovic Story*. In the first official photo of him in character, Radcliffe intently plays a piano accordion while in full costume.

The 32-year-old actor stated "Wearing the Hawaiian shirt is a huge responsibility that I don't take lightly, and I'm honoured to finally share with the world the absolutely 100 percent unassailably true story of Weird Al's depraved and scandalous life."

Daniel Radcliffe was cast to play the popular parody musician, known for laugh-out-loud songs like "White & Nerdy." According to a press release, "The biopic holds nothing back, exploring every facet of Yankovic's life, from his meteoric rise to fame with early hits like 'Eat It' and 'Like a Surgeon' to his torrid celebrity love affairs and famously depraved lifestyle."

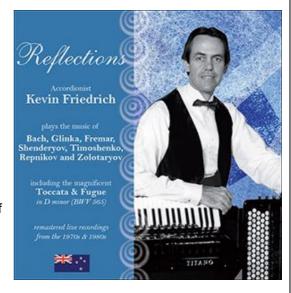
# NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND ACCORDION ASSOCIATION



# Kevin Friedrich Releases 'Reflections' CD - USA

By Heather Masefield

New York based accordionist **Kevin Friedrich** has recently released a CD of his live performances titled 'Reflections', catalog **friedrich02**. Kevin says "Over the course of my accordion career I have had the joy of performing an array of music spanning transcriptions, showcasing the genius of the great Masters such as Johann Sebastian Bach through to creative original works for the accordion.



Many of these performances were in conjunction with my days of competing in International competitions such as the (CIA) Coupe Mondiale (1979, 1980 and 1981) and Klingenthal (1986) and during my Conservatory studies in both Kansas City (USA) and Paris (France)."

For more further information and ordering 'Reflections' catalog **friedrich02** as well as his CD showcasing the music of New Zealand composers **Gary Daverne** 'The Journey', catalog <u>friedrich01</u> please visit:

http://www.musicforaccordion.com/eTracks/inform/friedrich/index.htm

#### TEACHERS DIRECTORY

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Zeljko Bedic OAM ASA TDip MMTA, MESMA, MUMT, MASA, MAATA 34 Windsor Street Paddington 2021 Mob. 0417 696 303

zeljko.bedic@bigpond.com

# B.Mus.A.Mus.A 4/33 Valetta Street Moss Vale 2577 Mob. 0419 547 180 fisaccord@hotmail.com

# **QUEENSLAND**

Rhonda **Bates** (nee Creber) 36 Creek Street, Walkerston Qld 4751 Ph. (07) 495 92385 Mob. 0401359065 rhondaab@dodo.com.au

# **Kemal Bunguric**

B. Mus. Ed. 9 Somerville Street Arncliffe 2205 Ph. (02) 9567 8221 Mob. 018 466 274

# Ross Maio PO Box 1008 St Pauls 2031

Mob. 0438 504030 ross.maio1@gmail.com

Ph. (02) 9344 3138

Ben Pattinson 2/1 Sunning Place, Summer Hill NSW 2130

Mob. 0432 032 758 ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

#### **Bob Grant**

21 Brandenburg Rd Mooloolah Qld 4553 Ph. (07) 5494 7568 Mob. 0411 959 157 bobaccord@bigpond.com

#### Paolo Campanari-Brancondi

C503/40 Pinnacle St Miranda NSW 2228 Mob.: 0478 904 767 p.campanari@hotmail.com

#### Marie McGuinness

1/7 Advocate Place Banora Point 2486 Ph: (07) 5524 3470 Mob: 0414 534 230 marie.kielly70@gmail.com

# Catherine Day (Jackett)

B. Mus. Ed. 8 Hermitage Avenue Kellyville 2155 Ph (02) 9836 0155 Mob. 0418 413 148 catherineday2@hotmail.com

# Giancarlo Ursino

BME A. Mus. A 45 Ardath Avenue, Panania 2213 Ph. (02) 9772 3391 g\_ursino@hotmail.com

# **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

# **Emma Smith**

AMusA (Accordion) 10 Sedum Place Crafers West SA 5152 Ph (08) 8339 4950 emailemmarose@gmail.com

#### TEACHERS DIRECTORY contd......

#### **VICTORIA**

#### Tomislav Andjelkovic

12 Bedwell Crt

Endeavour Hills 3802 Ph. (03) 9700 2909

tomislavandjelkovic@bigpond.com

# **George Butrumlis**

16 Raleigh Court Werribee 3030 Ph. (03) 9742 6750 Mob. 0431 813 624

georgebutrumlis@optusnet.com.au

## Heinz Dabernig

C/o Upwey Music 29 Main Street Upwey 3158 Ph: (03) 9754 7261 Mob. 0407 075 942 upweymuzic6@bigpond.com

# John Kalkbrenner

5 Chestnut Drive, St. Albans 3021 Ph. (03) 9366 3331 Ph. (03) 9687 6735 johncomputer1939@gmail.com

## Joe Ruberto

B.Sc.Dip.Ed. Dip.ASA 31 Olive Street Hampton 3188 Ph. (03) 9597 0730

# **Guy Scalise**

A.Mus. A.Dip.ASA. 49 Armstrong Street, Middle Park 3206 Ph. (03) 9696 3737 Mob. 0409 418 528 flautomusic@bigpond.com

### **Anthony Schulz**

B.Mus, M.Mus, Grad Dip Education 52 Linsey Street, Coburg 3058 Mob: 0414 395 014 anthonyjschulz@gmail.com Website: anthonyschulz-music.com

#### Ian Southwood

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