



# Newsletter

**Patron: Sir Trevor Garland**

**March 2022**

## From the Director

It is good to be back to something approaching “normal”. We have had our dedication service (the first since 2019), have sung at two Lent services and are preparing for the Good Friday performance of Stainer’s Crucifixion.

Last newsletter I wrote about changing words to Christmas carols and that modernisation was sometimes (but not always) a good thing. I recently came across an article showing how psalm 23 had changed over the years.

**Approx. 800-1066** Drihten me raet, ne byth me nanes godes wan. And he me geset on swythe good feohland. And fedde me be waetera stathum.

**Approx 1100-1500** Our Lord gouerneth me, and nothyng shal defailen to me. In the sted of pastur he sett me ther. He norissed me upon water of fylling.

**King James Bible (1611)** The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters

**20<sup>th</sup> century (1989)** The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He lets me lie down in green pastures. He leads me to still waters.

Whilst the new “translation” is quite different, realistically people do not speak in the ways of the first version. It might be quaint, but is it relevant? Although this is an extreme example, the principle is the same – we need to have language that is relevant and recognised. One of the problems is that the modern translations do not always have the flow, rhythm and grace of earlier versions. Music written in a different language also causes problems when translated with emphasis of syllables often coming at different times. Hence operas at Sydney Opera House are often sung in the original language but with surtitles above the stage.

A few weeks ago we sang psalm 73 with the words known by many church choirs “Tush, they say, how should God perceive it”. According to the Oxford English dictionary, tush (rhymes with hush) means an exclamation of impatient contempt or disparagement. I cannot recall ever using the word “tush” in a conversation... it should not be confused with tush (rhymes with push) which means the buttocks!

In conclusion, we can take things to extreme as can be seen in the politically correct psalm 23 circulating on the internet which can be seen below!

*The Lord and I are in a shepherd-sheep relationship, and I am in a position of negative need.  
He prostrates me in a green-belt grazing area, and conducts me into lateral proximity with a non-torrential aqueous accumulation.*

*He restores to original satisfaction levels my psychological makeup.*

*Notwithstanding the fact that I make ambulatory progress through the non- illuminated geological interstice of mortality, terror sensations shall not be manifest within me due to the proximity of omnipotence.*

*Your pastoral walking aid and quadruped-restraint module induce in me a pleasurable mood state.*

*You design and produce a nutrient-bearing support structure in the context of non-cooperative elements.*

*You enact a head-related folk ritual utilizing vegetable extracts, and my beverage container exhibits inadequate volumetric parameters.*

*Surely it must be an intrinsic non-deductible factor that your inter- relational, emphatic, and non-vengeful attributes will pursue me as their target focus for the duration of the current non-death period.*

*And I will possess tenant rights in the residential facility of the Lord on a permanently open-ended time basis.*

I hope that you will be able to join us in one of our services. Many are now being streamed on Facebook or other sites.

Jim Abraham  
Director



Evening at St John's Gordon – March 2022

Check out our website and then tell your friends!

[www.cathedralsingers.org.au](http://www.cathedralsingers.org.au)

**Would you like to consider joining us?**

Contact Jan Kneeshaw on 9144 4915 or the Director,

Jim Abraham on 0405 817 276

Email: [jan.kneeshaw@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jan.kneeshaw@optusnet.com.au)

## From the Editor

Greeting to all our supporters in churches all around Sydney. It is so wonderful to be able to advertise our list of Engagements for the year so you can put them in your diary. We are so blessed that our community is getting back to normal and we can sing again – without masks!

This list is a little late because we have been confirming several dates, including being asked to sing at St Luke's Mosman on 24<sup>th</sup> July. We have not been there for many years.

We were also very pleased to be able to have our annual Re-dedication Service at St John's Gordon on 20th February, especially as we were not able to have that service last year.

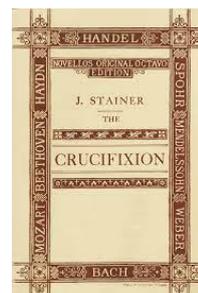


The Rector of St John's, Fr Robert Happer, has graciously agreed to be our new Chaplain and took the service. We are very grateful for his support and for the continuing support of St John's which has been our base for some years. We sang Evensong there on 13<sup>th</sup> March and were very pleased to see some of our friends again at that Lenten Service.



We are also pleased to announce that we recently received a grant from Ku-ring-gai Council and look forward to using this money for the benefit of the standard of the choir's performances. We are also grateful for the support we have received from them for many years.

As we are now in the season of Lent, we look forward to Easter and to again being able to our annual performance of "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer. This will of course be on Good Friday and at St John's Gordon who so graciously host this event. More details will be out shortly but we look forward to seeing many people to listen to that thought provoking Easter meditation.



Last Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, we joined in the service of "Stations of the Cross" at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, North Ryde. This was a beautiful service and were privileged to be part of it. Our photo on Facebook received many "likes"!

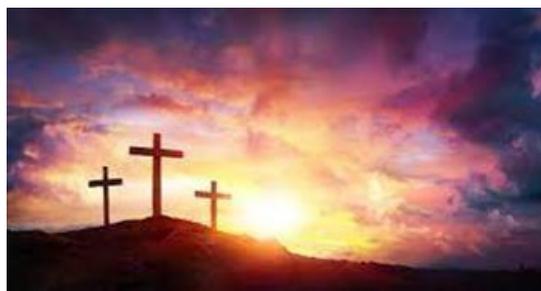
With thanks and blessings from TCS,

**Jan Kneeshaw**  
**SECRETARY/CHAIR**

Here is the updated program for 2022

<b>Month</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>
April	Friday	15	2.30pm	“The Crucifixion” - Stainer	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
		24	9.30am	Morning Service	<b>St Ives Uniting Church</b>
May	Sunday	1	11.30am	Ku-ring-gai Anzac Service	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
	Sunday	22	9.30am	Eucharist	<b>St John’s Birchgrove/Balmain</b>
	Sunday	29	3.30pm	Concert	<b>St Jude’s Bowral</b>
	“	“	4.00pm	Evensong	“
June	Sunday	12	4.00pm	Evensong	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
	Sunday	19	9.30am	Eucharist	<b>St John’s Birchgrove/Balmain</b>
July	Sunday	24	9.00am	Eucharist	<b>St Luke’s Mosman</b>
	Saturday	30	5.30pm 6.00pm	Vespers Mass	<b>St Mary’s Cathedral</b>
August	Sunday	14	4.00pm	Evensong	<b>St John’s Birchgrove/Balmain</b>
September	Sunday	11	4.00pm	Evensong	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
October	Sunday	23	3.00pm	Evensong	<b>Holy Trinity Terrigal</b>
November	Sunday	6	9.30am	Eucharist	<b>St John’s Birchgrove/Balmain</b>
	Sunday	13	4.00pm	Remembrance Day Evensong	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
	Saturday	26	5.30pm 6.00pm	Vespers Mass	<b>St Mary’s Cathedral</b>
December	Sunday	11	6.00pm	Lessons & Carols	<b>St John’s Birchgrove/Balmain</b>
	Sunday	18	7.30pm	Lesson & Carols	<b>St John’s Gordon</b>
		24	9.30pm	Christmas Eve Mass	<b>Holy Spirit North Ryde</b>





## **Stainer's Crucifixion**

✠ **Good Friday**

**15 April 2022**

**2.30pm**

**St John's Church**

Corner Pacific Hwy/St Johns Ave

**Gordon**

**The Cathedral Singers**

**Jim Abraham, Choir Director**

**Spencer Darby, Tenor**

**Aidan O'Donnell, Baritone**

**Gareth Beard, Organist**

**Free Entry**

*Donations to The Cathedral Singers encouraged*

### **How to support TCS**

Cheques should be made payable to "The Cathedral Singers Donation Fund"

Banking details for direct transfers (please notify us by email):

Bank account details: BSB 814 282 A/c 504 371 53

Postal address: The Cathedral Singers PO Box 569 Gordon NSW 2072

Please email us for further details: [tcs@cathedralsingers.org.au](mailto:tcs@cathedralsingers.org.au)

or ring Jan Kneeshaw on 9144 4915 or 0411 785 117

More details on our website: [www.cathedralsingers.org.au](http://www.cathedralsingers.org.au)

**All donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible**