



From the Director

Some exciting news in Muswellbrook with the purchase by the Muswellbrook Shire Council of a new building that will become the home of performing arts in our community. We will keep you informed as this project develops.

What a great week Brass Quintet week was. I hope that if you were at the concert on the Friday night or heard of one of the schools concerts that you agree with me what a great experience it was.

There are some more great concerts and events this term. Keep reading to find out how you can enjoy some or all of them.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. W.', is written below the text.

TERM 2 ACCOUNTS

This newsletter accompanies your Term 2 invoice and statement. Payment is due 13 May. Prompt payment is appreciated. Accounts not paid by this date will become subject to a late fee.

Amelia Farrugia in Concert

The next concert in the 2011 Visiting Artists Series sees a return performance by Newcastle Festival Opera.

Newcastle Festival Opera was formed in 2006 to provide staged opera performances for young Australian singers and instrumentalists.

In this special concert the NFO orchestra will accompany their own artists as well as Amelia Farrugia, one of the brightest shining stars in Australian opera.

Amelia is an internationally recognised opera performer having performed numerous roles both in Australia and internationally. In 2011 Amelia will perform as *The Merry Widow* for Opera Australia as well as engagements in Beijing and with the Sydney Philharmonia Choir.

In this concert Amelia and the NFO artists will perform operatic favourites as well as selections from some of the greatest musicals of today and yesteryear.

**Amelia Farrugia and
Newcastle Festival Opera
Singleton Sacred Spaces Chapel
Saturday 28 May
7:30pm**



The second concert in the 2011 Visiting Artists Series was a week long celebration of all things brass. The Upper Hunter Conservatorium Brass Quintet spent the week touring the Upper Hunter, performing in schools from Nulkaba to Merriwa and Scone. During this time the quintet performed to close to 2500 students, educating and entertaining while giving an introduction to music and brass instruments.

At the end of the week the group gave a magnificent concert in the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, where as well as accompanying the Upper Hunter Show fireworks display, the quintet performed a wide variety of music.

We thank all players for their efforts and look forward to hearing them again in the future.



Aaron Passfield, Robert Stonestreet, Rowan Taylor, Robert Thompson and Lesa O'Neil performing at Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre.

2011 MTA Piano Masterclass

The Conservatorium is excited to present a masterclass for pianists with Gabriella Pusner.

Gabriella is one of Australia's most accomplished pianists and teachers and is a highly sought after accompanist.

Contact the Conservatorium office to register for this opportunity.

UHCM Hall, Muswellbrook

Sunday May 22



Congratulations to UHCM Board member and SJA music teacher Bronwen Smith and her family on the arrival of their second child.

Jemima Lily Smith was born on Friday 15th April and weighs 7lb 11oz.

We wish Bronwen, Dan and Campbell well.

Upper Hunter Concert Band in Concert

The Upper Hunter Concert Band and Jazz Bands will be presenting their mid-year concert on the 4th June. This concert will also feature the Muswellbrook Shire Concert Band. After performing their own programs, the two concert bands will join forces to play the finale together. This concert will be held at the Muswellbrook High School MPU, commencing at 7:30pm.

The Concert and Jazz band will play music that will entertain the audience, including many well known favourites plus some lesser known items.

You may also hear the Upper Hunter Concert and Jazz Bands, and the Upper Hunter Show Band, perform at the Scone Grammar School Fete on the 7th May.



Introducing...

The Conservatorium is pleased to announce that piano students previously studying with Samantha Shearan will recommence lessons at the beginning of this term. **Leanne Mears** will start from Week 1. Leanne is an experienced piano and theory teacher, having successfully established a private studio in Maitland in addition to regular work in schools in the lower Hunter.

Leanne will work with students in Denman, Muswellbrook Scone, Murrurundi and Blandford.



Student Success Stories

Here at the Conservatorium we like to hear of the musical adventures of our current and former students. Here are a few recent highlights.

Soprano **Simone Easthope** who was last year awarded a prestigious scholarship has been accepted for study into the Julliard School in New York. The Julliard School is one of the most sought after schools in the world and for Simone to accomplish this is a nod to her talent and dedication.

Cellist **Jack Bailey** is this year studying at the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne.

ANAM is one of Australia's most successful programs with many students going on to achieve great careers after their time at ANAM. For such a young person to be accepted is a rare event and we wish Jack well this year.

Following the completion of Year 12 in 2010 both **Andrea Watts** and **James Townsend** have entered tertiary music studies. Andrea is studying trumpet at New England University while James is studying percussion at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. Both are enjoying the full-time study of music and we look forward to hearing of their future career paths.

We are always interested to hear of any other musical (or other) achievements by our students, so please let us know.

TERM 2 EVENTS

DAY	DATE	TIME	VENUE	EVENT
Saturday	7 May		Scone	Horse Festival Parade and SGS Fete Performances
Sunday	15 May	TBC	UHCM	Voice Workshop with Simone Easthope
Sunday	22 May	Various	UHCM	Piano Workshop with Gabriella Pusner
Saturday	28 May	7:30pm	Singleton Sacred Spaces	Newcastle Festival Opera in Concert
Saturday	4 June	7:30pm	Muswellbrook High School	Upper Hunter Concert Band and Muswellbrook Shire Concert Band

MEMBERSHIP OFFER

The UHCM is managed by an Honorary board, made up of members of the Upper Hunter Community.

From time to time vacancies exist within this group. To register your interest in becoming a member of this group please complete the form below, or contact the UHCM office. Members are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings, as well as participate and assist in projects and activities of the conservatorium. Membership Fees are \$5.00 and all applications are subject to approval by the board of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Areas in which you may be able to assist:
(Please tick)

NAME: _____

Concerts

ADDRESS: _____

Catering

PHONE: _____

Orchestra Committee

Return your completed Application Form to the
Conservatorium Office

Other _____
(Please specify)



Education
& Training

'The Convent'
8 Sowerby St
Muswellbrook 2333

Ph: 6541 4888

Fax: 6541 4999

www.uhcm.com.au

uhcm@hunterlink.net.au

ASSOCIATION



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