

Dear Singers and Parents,

I hope the New Year has started well for you and that you are enjoying the holidays. This letter gives some important details about our events for 2017. It will be an exciting year!

Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles rehearsals will commence at Merewether High School on Tuesday 31 January. Hunter Singers will rehearse in the Learning Centre from 4.30-6.30pm and Hunter Trebles will rehearse with from 5.00-6.30pm in KM1. Singers should arrive at rehearsal each week by 4.20pm and enter through the Pokolbin Street entrance.

Please print the program on page 4 of this document on coloured paper and place it in a prominent position in your home. You should also put the details into any diaries or calendars you keep as a family. Refer to it when organising work rosters and family outings. There are likely to be some additions and these will be advised as soon as possible. I will also send email updates and reminders if you include your most frequently checked email address in the Medical and Information form.

MYUNA BAY CAMP

Our first camp for this year is on **4-5 February** at **Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre, Lake Road, Myuna Bay**. This is a compulsory camp and it is essential that all singers attend. The accommodation is in two separate blocks: one for boys, some staff and all rehearsals; and one for girls and all meals. Rooms sleep four with ensuite, bunk beds and pillows provided. You will need to provide your own linen, including sleeping bag/doona, sheets, towels and pillowcase.

Singers are to make their own way to the camp, arriving by 8.30am on Saturday 28 February. A map is included with this document. The access code for the boom gate will be emailed before the camp. Please drive carefully and park near Maroubra or Fernholme lodges. There will be a short concert at the conclusion of the camp at 4pm on Sunday 21 February. As always, it is essential that everyone attends the camp for the whole weekend. The cost is \$170, which includes accommodation, food, music and venue hire.

The group will be supervised by the Hunter Singers committee and camp staff who have been screened in accordance with the DEC Working With Children Act. The Emergency Mobile Phone number for camp is 0412 496 138.

As you know, Hunter Singers operates under the guidelines of the Department of Education and Communities and we are bound by certain regulations in relation to student behaviour. In particular, the use of alcohol, cigarettes and narcotic drugs is strictly prohibited. We also expect that Singers will co-operate with staff at all times and behave in an appropriate manner. Any serious breach of rules will result in parents being contacted and asked to collect their children from the camp.

Singers will need to bring to the camp:-

- casual, comfortable clothing including a jacket or jumper, nightwear, toiletries
- something to perform for the evening concert if possible (bring your instrument)
- towel, sheets & doona **or** sleeping bag (pillow provided, bring your own pillowcase)
- sunscreen, mosquito repellent, swimmers & towel

We are able to use the Centre share facilities: swimming pool, tennis courts, mini golf, cricket nets, oval playing area, play gym and bushwalking tracks around and within the Centre. Please bring any equipment you need to enjoy these facilities during our breaks.

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT SERIES

We have a 3-concert subscription program this year, with concerts at Adamstown Uniting Church and Newcastle Conservatorium. The dates are 2 April, 25 June and 3 December. You have an opportunity to buy a subscription to all three concerts at reduced cost. Subscriptions are available at www.trybooking.com/OCGF - \$55 adults, \$45 concession, \$25 children. Please promote the concerts to your family and friends. These three concerts are the most important dates on the Hunter Singers 2017 calendar, so please make sure these dates are free. Those who have purchased subscription tickets will receive the passes prior to the first concert.

UNIFORM

Please ensure that all uniform items are the correct size. Replacement items are available.

ALL SINGERS will need the black dots T-shirt, the black tree T-shirt and the red Christmas shirt. The T-shirts are \$20 each.

BOYS - black pants, black shirt, blue tie and black belt with polished black leather shoes and black socks.

GIRLS - black culottes, the blue peacock shirt, black polished leather shoes and black socks or stockings.

CLOTHING POOL. As Singers outgrow their uniforms, they can purchase additional pieces, and sell their second hand uniform back to the clothing pool for half price. These pieces may then be purchased from the clothing pool at half price. Please see Lynne Kentish at rehearsal for more information.

FEES & PERMISSION SLIPS

Individual accounts will be emailed to you in the next couple of weeks from the Hunter Singers Treasurer, Lynne Kentish. Payment details will be provided on your account. The 2017 fees are \$380 for the first family member and \$360 for additional family members. If any family would like to pay by Term instalments, please email treasurer@huntersingers.com or see Lynne at rehearsal on the first Tuesday back.

You will also be emailed the medical and contact information form containing the current details on file. Can you please confirm this is the correct information and update/add any information that is incorrect/missing. All accounts and forms (permission note, publicity permission form, medical and contact information form) are due by 31 January. The forms can be emailed to treasurer@huntersingers.com or handed in at rehearsal.

Parents are invited to watch the final 15 minutes of each Hunter Singers rehearsal. We ask however that parents stay outside the Learning Centre until 6.15pm. I am really looking forward to seeing you on 31 January as we prepare for what looks to be another exciting year.

Cheers,

Kim Sutherland OAM
Music Director, Hunter Singers
25 January 2017

HUNTER SINGERS
TERM 1 2017 PARTICIPATION CONTRACT AND PERMISSION FORM

Singer's name: _____

(Please complete a separate sheet for each member of Hunter Singers in your family.)

I give permission for my child to participate in Term 1 activities as listed on the program. He/she is committed to the following events and has organised work rosters to ensure availability:

Myuna Bay camp on 4-5 February

Subscription Concert on 2 April at Adamstown Uniting Church

I understand that Hunter Singers operates under the guidelines of the Department of Education and Communities excursions and have discussed the rules and expected standards of behaviour with my son/daughter. I know that the use of alcohol, cigarettes and narcotic drugs is strictly prohibited and that any serious breach of rules will result in parents being contacted and asked to collect their child from the activity.

I give permission for my child to be involved in promotional activities for Hunter Singers. This may include still and video photography. I approve the later use of any audio or video recordings and still photographs associated with Hunter Singers, for use on the Department of Education & Communities website, promotion of Hunter Singers and/or the Department of Education & Communities.

Signed (Parent/Caregiver)

Signed (Hunter Singers member)

Date

HUNTER SINGERS 2017 PROGRAM

TERM 1	
Tuesday 31 January	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
4-5 February	Hunter Singers Camp at Myuna Bay 8.30am Saturday – 4pm Sunday (compulsory)
Sunday 2 April	Hunter Singers & Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 1 Adamstown Uniting Church, Rehearsal 10am-1pm, Concert 2pm Tickets \$25/\$20/\$10
TERM 2	
Tuesday 2 May	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 2 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
Date TBA	Regional rehearsal for Secondary Choral Concert 9am-3pm at Hunter School of Performing Arts
Tuesday 16 May	Secondary Choral Concert at Sydney Town Hall - Depart 7am from Merewether HS, Pokolbin St entrance, Rehearsal during the day, concert at night, Return 11.30pm to Merewether HS.
9 June	Star Struck Choir rehearsal – Hunter Trebles and Hunter Singers in Massed Choir
14-17 June	Star Struck week – Hunter Trebles and Hunter Singers in Massed Choir, Hunter Singers item in show
Sunday 25 June	Hunter Singers & Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 2 Newcastle Conservatorium, Rehearsal 10am-1pm, Concert 2pm Tickets \$30/\$25/\$10
30 June - 4 July	Hunter Singers Brisbane Tour for Pemulwuy Festival and ANCA Choral fest
TERM 3	
Tuesday 18 July	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 3 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
Tuesday 25 July	Newcastle Music Festival - Hunter Singers and Festival Chorus rehearsal for Rutter Requiem, 6-8 pm
Monday 31 July	Possible performance in Sydney Opera House
Tuesday 1 August	Newcastle Music Festival - Hunter Singers and Festival Chorus rehearsal for Rutter Requiem, 6-8 pm
5-6 August	Myuna Bay camp Saturday 8.30am – 4pm Sunday 8.30-5pm. Hunter Trebles only required on Saturday 5 August.
Tuesday 8 August	Newcastle Music Festival - Hunter Singers and Festival Chorus rehearsal for Rutter Requiem, 6-8 pm
Saturday 12 August	Newcastle Music Festival - Hunter Singers and Festival Chorus rehearsal for Rutter Requiem, Time and venue TBA
Sunday 13 August	Newcastle Music Festival - Rutter Requiem, 12 noon soundcheck, 2.30-4.30pm concert
Tuesday 22 August TBC	Hunter Singers Inc AGM, 6.30pm at Merewether HS Learning Centre
TERM 4	
Tuesday 10 October	Hunter Singers First weekly rehearsal for Term 4 at Merewether HS, 4.30-6.30pm
Sunday 3 December	Hunter Singers & Hunter Trebles Subscription Concert 3 Adamstown Uniting Centre, Rehearsal 10am-1pm, Concert 2pm Tickets \$25/\$20/\$10
Wednesday 6 Dec TBC	Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles Schools Tour
Tuesday 12 December	Hunter Singers and Hunter Trebles auditions
Friday 15 December	King Edward Park Carols By Candlelight

DIRECTIONS TO MYUNA BAY CAMP AND SITE MAP

Address:

Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre, Wangi Road, Myuna Bay NSW 2264

Directions from Newcastle:

Follow the F3 freeway south and take the Morisset exit. Continue through Morisset and past Dora Creek. The centre is approximately 12 kilometres from the freeway on the right hand side of the road

Site Map:

Enter through boom gate and follow the road to the Maroubra or Fernholme lodges to find parking.

