



No 9

the newsletter of the australian inter-varsity choral societies

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY



Have a frabjous day!

Now the word has become flesh - and the word is frabjous -
 a full scale musical production, no holds barred, incorporating
 every musical style from 1607 to 1967 and every logical curiosity
 from Shakespeare to Milligan. And it's a world premiere, folks!

The place is the Union Theatre at Sydney University, replete
 with all mod cons and a live ten-piece swing band,
 and the time is March, Wednesday 14th through Sunday 18th at 8pm.

Tickets are \$2.00 for people and \$1.50 for students, available
 at Mitchell's or at the Union itself. Furthermore, we concess
 generously to groups (ring Jill, 90 7198).

"...it seems to fill my head with ideas -
 only I don't know exactly what they are."

As Alice (through the looking-glass) said,
 is the greatest of all nonsense poems in English.

JABBERWOCKY

et seq.....

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
 Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
 All mimsy were the borogoves,
 And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
 The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
 Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
 The frumious Bandersnatch!"



ERATO No.9 February 1973

Editor: Robert Kay, whose new
address is
"Meduseld"
23 Avona Avenue
GLEBE NSW 2037

For those who know this newsletter, I wish to state most emphatically that I am aware of my blunder. Its just that in printing this rag at 1.00am its difficult not to make errors of judgement like printing the letterhead on a different sheet of paper to the editorial and table of contents. I hope the blatant factionalism of the cover page does not raise the ire of too many other less talented societies. I beg your indulgences in this gross oversight...

As usual, the last thing to be written for Erato is this editorial. In the two-and-a-half years of Erato's existence, the newsletter format has not changed much, nor has the style of contributions, nor in any marked way have the problems and attitudes of the contributing societies. However, I think that in this edition, signs of impending change are becoming apparent. Notice particularly the two articles from Tasmania, the matters discussed by the 26th Intervarsity Steering Committee, and the lack of articles from Melbourne...

The Australian Intervarsity Choral Council, the publisher of this newsletter, is the national body representing the various University choral and musical societies in Australia. Its members are the presidents and secretaries of those of the societies which have paid affiliation fees to AIVCC. This body is far from useless - the annual Intervarsity Choral Festival, this year being held in Perth in May, is its most important activity, and besides this it organises the Intervarsity Choral Catalogue which enables a quick interchange of choral scores between its member societies.

If this is your first year in a University Choral Society, welcome to an organisation which is not confined solely to your campus, but is actively involved on a national basis as well.

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QUMS.

Under the 35 degree shade of the trees in the Royal Exchange beer garden- the haven of that legendary university thirst- he sh...er...sits, sipping away at the golden XXXX (nothing serious, of course) and chatting humbly to Nickson about the era of Musikque Nunicotinoque. Suddenly the fickle fate of forgetfulness strikes... and reminds him that term is only three weeks away and the music for the year has still not been decided upon. Meanwhile... mild-mannered Nickson undergoes an amazing transformation, and, realising the tenseness of the situation, waddles off to do something about it. He returns with two pots and two brandy chasers and informs me that in case of atomic attack, "to hide under the urinals- they've never been hit." "It was there in black and white" he says. "Oh hell, oh chunder" I said; "And I've got to play bridge with you and Penman tonight- shades of the CAYYWTHBD party at IV.

He contemplates the performance of QUMS in the past. ~~HHMMVVMMVVMMmmmm~~.....what's the usual routine now... oh yes... sing at the graduation ceremonies, do our bit for IV (someone else's, thank God), put on a concert in second term then a campus concert in third term. Yes... it seems fairly straight forward. Why don't we do something different for a change, then the F.F. of F. strikes again: of course! We're to sing at the opening of the University's Mayne Hall on March 31st. How silly of me. Weeell, we're not so badly off after all, are we? That's right, it's all coming back to me now- I've even got all the scores in my hot little hand. We'll be sing with the Q.S.O. (Queensland Symphony Orchestra - all these explanations are frigging my mind and my typewriter) so we can give graduation a miss this year. I hear the new hall is air-conditioned, not like the City Hall, Clemland, where we usually do it. Our new conductor, Chris Andrews, plays oboe in the Q.S.O., so he won't be conducting the work... the work... oh yes, the work... will be Handel's Coronation Anthem "Zadok the Priest", and I think the orchestra will be playing Beethoven's 8th. Symphony. The A.B.C. has been commissioned to do the performance, and as yet they haven't decided on a conductor. Well that's half of first term all organised.

And then there's IV '73 in Perth. We haven't heard anything from Tim Mason about the I.I. Concert, but I gather it's "Own Choice". If that's the case, then we haven't, but we have a few ideas. Not all the time spent at the R.E. has been wasted, you know; for future reference, they have completely renovated the lounge so that it now has carpets, wooden chairs and tables, 25 cents a pot, a grill bar (What about us girls?) counter lunches and teas. (Of course it takes the real grotty atmosphere away from it but there's always the beer garden.) Anyway, have a....as I was saying, not all the time spent at the R.E. has been wasted, and after much high-pressure business dealing, it emerged that Nickson is (or has, by now) composing a peice for QUMS about 10mins. long that we may sing at IV, everyone being fresh from the Humbling experiences of IV '72. That's all of first term taken care of, isn't it then?

Second term looks to be the preparation for a public concert, hopefully in the Mayne Hall (acoustics are phenominal, I'm told) at the end of the term. Chris Andrews also conducts his own orchestra, the Concert Society Orchestra, and we plan to do a concert with them. So all is not nearly as chaotic as it seems, merely tentative. Third term is too far away to deal with in detail, but at the moment an On Campus Concert seems likely. That looks like the scene in Brissy at the moment.

During the Vac. the Society dies a three-month death but the wheels of progress still turn under the able and steady guidance of God-knows-who, and it always seems to be there when we come back again. Actually these holidays

seen a remarkable list of interstate guests passing through or coming to stay: first of all there was Vernon and Gerri Lewis from FUCS, followed closely by Lindsay McDonald from SUMS, Jo and Lynton McFadzean from MUCS/MonUCS, the ever-present, effervescent Nickson family- Big Nickson, Middle Nickson and Tiny Nickson, and a car with two FUCS, a SUM and a QUM quame to Brisbane from a tour of Western Queensland- I refer of course, to Mary Nettle, Pat Treagus, Gary Dowsett and the Editor, though I'm not sure if that was the correct grouping, because most of the time they were group groping. And to top it all off, IV convenor Penman arrived from TPNG where he had been spending his elective term in Medecine when all these people were here- having been at the Crest all day, and warming our insides at the T.A.A. bar before the plane got here, we really weren't in a fit state to greet him on the Farmac singing "Sideways" in 4½ part harmony. However, under the guidance of Dowsett and the Cardinal's puff, he was soon in the right frame of mind. Well, with grimbles, grotty nurgles, XXXX and other vices,

All the best for 1973,

Regards to all,

Mark Penman.

P.S. Please address al QUMS correspondence to the Secretary, Janine Russell, 327, Cavendish Road, Coorparoo, 4151.

AUCS.

Magazines of low social consciousness tend to reflect the innate innanity, or should I say innaneness of modern urban valuess, irrelevant to the class struggle. This following article hopes to elevate this from the childish gossip found in previous issues of this journal.

Since the electoral hammerblows of the courageous Australian people have shaken the very roots of the quasi-socio-economic pseudo-military-industrial complex in purging the federal sphere of the anti-choral lackeys of the bosses, likewise have the forward-thinking progressives in AUCS seen the revolutionary path clear before them, and have brooked no double talk from the vacillating campus choral conservative pseudo-radicals in turning their faces to the fresh winds of the anti-reactionary bourgeois materialistic sentimentalism in contemporary choral music. The people's revolution of September 1st saw the downfall of the exploitive 1972 committee which in the last moments in the fight for its outdated elitist principles staged a concert typical of a bourgeois clique crawling to a middle class audience. Exploitive sentimentalism was rife with the spineless irrelevant works of the anti-counter-culture dominating. An example is "Jesu Meine Freude" by the seventeenth century dupe of the north German Protestant extremism, Bach; whose irrelevant keyboard twitterings showed him in his true colours as an enemy of the Sunday masses. Further attempts to mislead the people were given in the form of Brahms' "Shicksalslied", expressing sentiments so typical of nineteenth century German nationalistic fatalism, completely antagonistic to modern revolutionary thought.

The concert was successful in that it succeeded in exposing the fundermental degeneracy of the committee, especially in the filth that transpired at the post-concert party.

At the grass roots level, the New People's Committee is as follows, subject to periodic purges; President Matthew Mitchell; Vice-President Phil Lock; Secretary Mary Davey;

treasurer Neil Mason; Librarian Michelle Galazowski; Publicity Martin Dooland (only after public confession of crimes against the people committed while in office with the pre-revolutionaries); 1st. soldier Julie Young; 2nd. soldier Gavin Pearce; Peasant Claire Withey.

Comrade Sue Rennison has cast off the imprisoning shackles of girlish thought and is now initiating meaningful revolutionary dialogue with Graham Smith in Melbourne. Comrade Denys Correll, after a term in Rehearsal Camp has come forth and publicly admitted to having revisionist thoughts contrary to the 'Little Red Songbook' and is now going to Melbourne in atonement for his sins.

Ah well... but seriously, things have been really booming along in South AUcStralia. Gary Dowsett and Babs Store both of QUMS breezed through and marked time long enough to join us in the abovementioned concert and that party. Also seen at the concert was Joannes Roose, mainly because he stood on a little box in front of the choir.

Thanks for all you've done: it's been really beaut.

Bye for now,

Minister for Vice and 2nd. Soldier.

SUMS.

SUMS, of course, is the society where it all happens. This in itself is not surprising since we had forty years' start over our associate choral societies. Also we see more money come and go than most other societies. Last September we lost \$470 (Horrors!) at one concert. However not to be daunted by this, we took \$750 at the Carol Festival. Happy Birthday J.C.!

And now the dreaded SUMS juggernaut careens myopically through the quotidian vicissitudes of Orientation Week to launch yet another first on the unsuspecting and long suffering musical public of Sydney.

Conceive if you can (Gentlemen may find this difficult)... a synthesis of Lewis Carroll, Wagner, Milligan, Monteverdi, Sullivan, Glenn Miller, Coca Cola and Gough Whitlam's National Anthem competition... (strain strain)... and there it is ... "Jabberwocky" - a choral phantasm con molto exaggerando, subtitled "The Improbable Dream". Performance dates are Wed. March 14th. to Sunday March 18th. Seats will be held for interstate visitors on Sat. March 17th. Floorboards are available for overnight murglers - check with Evan Zachariah in Melbourne, Mary Nettle in Adelaide and Gary Dowsett in Warwick (What-ick? Warwick! WARWICK - Good grief...)

SUMS in first term is planning a concert of music - a return to tradition. Works selected are Haydn "Nicholas Mass", Bach's motet "The Spirit also helpeth us" (in German) Britten's "Voices for Today", a Prioli Motet and a small-choir work by Don Banks - "Findings Keepings" with bass guitar and drum accompaniment. Now to go and practice my bottom C sharp.

Have a frabjous day,

Graham Tier.

FUCS

For 1973, FUCS' ambition is to be bigger than ever. This shouldn't prove too difficult. Consequently we are starting the year with a massive publicity campaign, the like of which has never before been seen at Flinders University... hopefully this will result in lots of little Fresher FUCS to swell our ranks and help produce the memorable strains of the Haydn 'Little Organ Mass' and the Mozart 'Requiem', both planned for later in the year. i.e. later than Orientation Week Concert which is our current important event.

Conductor for 1973 is Liz Silsbury, who is entering

her fourth year as FUCS' conductor; She takes up the baton -proverbial or otherwise- on Feb. 8th. (Baton? FUCS? Is there a joke there some where?) (No.)

For the initiation of new members there's a FUCS/AUCS Freshers' Camp on the weekend of March 2nd.- 4th. Any interstaters not otherwise engaged are invited to come along.

FUCS' arbiter-in-chief of Taste and Elegance, Ewart Shaw has spent most of his time in the long vac. flitting around the Eastern States Choral Societies Circuit. His saga is written in the latest edition of 'Organic Matter'- the FUCS newsletter. Read all about the Latter-Day Odysseus in the copy sent to your Secretary. Two FUCS, aQUM and a SUM had a frabjous day or seventeen, in fact, in Queensland and New South Wales. Others went elsewhere. We FUCS like to get around- the most interesting part of interstate visiting is finding that most of the society members where we are visiting have also gone interstate...

But now we're all back home preparing to plunge into the academic year and the Haydn Mass. See you at "Jabberwocky" in Sydney in March,

Lots of love

Mary.

PUCS.

My Dear Friends,

How are you? I am well. I am writing to innvite you to ovr parti in May for Cecill Dux' birthday parti. He is ten yeers old. He is well. I hope you can come. Mummy says she hopes you can come. She also hopes you well. I amwell.

Owr pussy had threee kittens. They are deaf and stupid. Our chyor has a new daddy. His name is doctor Tunley and ne is nice. He will make us doo lots of singing and we will sing well when you come. I hope you will come and so does mummy.

I must hurry to go.

Yor deer frend always,

David.

Post Scriptum (Graffiti on Letter boxes?) It is apparent that IV this May has provided the necessary shot in the arm -or larynx- or any other part of the anatomy that requires shooting- for PUCS. We have come to the horrendous realisation that we must have lots of people in our choir and that we must actually be able to sing in a reasonable manner. Even if we were unreasonable we wouldn't mind as long as we could sing we'd do anything (except THAT!) Doesn't that sound reasonable?

We are therefore preparing a massive recruitment drive in quires-and-places-where-they-sing; stooping to such low reactionary measures as whole (Stock Clearance?) conscription of other choirs. We are the Indochina of the choral world.

Dr. Tunley, as mentioned above, has very, very kindly (my God; I feel sorry for him) "deemed it fit and challenging" to take us on. A hearty round of applause from all sides- especially our side. This term we are staring on a Bach cantata No. ? especially tailor-made to suit our choir: 9S, 56A, 1T, 6B.

Also as you may already have been told, PUCS is at present (Feb. 9th.) in the throws (sic) of preparing a song book which may or may not be ready by the time Our Tim goes t'otherside to yon queer folk as live behoin' them mount'ns. It's going to be a tres colcharel song book with lots of old foreign songs and a choice of three different coloured covers: olive green, imperial purple and orange orange.

Robert asked us "Erato" correspondents to talk about our past successes (...) and our plans for 1973 for the benefits of all the beautiful freshers and fresherettes. I've talked about our plans, but our successes... well, our main

success was not sing at a concert and thereby not humiliating ourselves. But seriously, and how could you not be serious about us, considering this is supposed to be a cheerful, optimistic and enthusiastic tract, here goes:

Despite a slack year from the classical side, we had a successful concert in April at which we joined forces with a local group, "Timepeace", and did an extensive selection from "J.C. Superstar" plus a miscellany of other songs including two originals- one written by John Macpherson (in the band) and one written by our Erik which gains entry into our songbook (and guess who's editor?). Despite the P.A. system blowing up one second before we opened the doors, and a lousy crit. in the "Pelican", it was quite a successful concert. Then in August the Guild organised a Groucho Marx Memorial Week of Fun 'n Games at which a sub-choir- and it was 'sub'- sang in the great court before the assembled multitudes as the Village Glee Club.

Probably our most successful performances were our Carol Singings at Christmas: a captive audience which (almost) looked pleased at (almost) anything you do is very boosting for the collective ego. Several years ago (as all PUCS folklore begins) in Fremantle Hospital one little old lady awoke to the sound of our ...gentle...voices and began to cry, thinking she'd died and was in heaven. (obviously short-sighted.) Our aim is to re-achieve this standard of angelic excellence.

This year, day by day in every way we are going to get better and better until we can lift our heads with pride at concerts when we sing and not cringe when people point in the street with mocking and scorn. But no! Away wi' these cruel jests!

We are definitely looking forward to seeing all your lovely peoples when you go west young man in May. We shall send you all a "National Discord" (PUCS newsletter for the uninformed and innocent) in March with little bits from several persons including the morals officer and the official bow-wow for IV.

Bye; See you all in May,

Love, David.

NUMS.

NUMS started practice for 1973 last Monday night, Feb. 5th at 5p.m.. Conversation at the Union Office went something like this: Can we have the lounge? No, it's a milk bar now. Can we have the Meeting Room? No, it's full of academic gowns. Can we have the new common room? Yes. (Huh) Where's the piano? What do you want that for? After locating said piano, we asked the same question...So, after coming to the decision that we would sing wherever we found the piano i.e. in the dining room, we retired to the gallery to discuss the identity of the bass singer in the men's loo. Practice was what you might expect it to be in the dining room with an out-of-tune piano, a stand-in conductor with a virus, a soprano who thought she wasn't there, an alto who couldn't remember the parts unless there was another alto there to tap her foot, and 107° heat. We will be sacring the Freshers out of their collective mind with a concert on the Thursday of Orientation Week which starts on Feb. 26th. Having been told by the editor to speak of past successes, I will mention the three concerts we gave last year. The 3,000 people who didn't turn up don't know what they missed.

Cheryl Hutcheon.

TUCS.

At the end of last year, the Australian Council for the Arts sponsored TUCS in conjunction with a local girls' school and various others in three performances of a Christmas opera, "In dulci jubilo". The composer, Donald Hollier, came to Hobart to produce the opera but, as a protest against public apathy, returned home suddenly after our first performance. Needless to say this produced the desired effect as our last night's performance played to an almost full house. Although a success musically, we'll still have to find a way to swell our coffers and bring us back into the black.

Now TUCS has begun rehearsals for a concert in Orientation Week on March 1st. At this concert we will perform Bach's Peasant Cantata as well as a few of the proverbial madrigals, rounds etc..

And after this when hopefully we will have lured many freshers to our ranks, we will be rehearsing for a first term concert, the programme of which has not yet been finalised.

To all, TUCS wishes the best for 1973.

Tina Hood.

UNCS.

Well...UNCS has never looked back since its epic production with a cast of thousands of Honegger's "King David" last October (cf. 'Erato' 8.) and we are planning a 24-hour non-stop showing of Wagner's Ring Cycle in a King's Cross strip joint. For those who would like to share our expertise in this type of venture (preferably the former) we can assure you of gaining considerable acting and singing experience, considerable rehearsal time never before envisaged, and considerable debts. Not to be put off however, we are exploring other methods of raising money which should prove more profitable; our carol-singing efforts raised us over \$300, which just goes to prove that we're not so dumb after all.

By the way, we had our A?G.M. last November, closely followed by our Annual Dinner, which was very closely followed by our Annual Orgy, this time at Bevan's- we take it in turns, you might say. Just for the hell of it, here's our new committee: President Ella de Rooy; Vice-President Helen Disney; Secretary Geoff Isaacs; Treasurer Linda Mann; Publicity David Goodwin; Con. Man. Tony Martin; Librarian Chris Allen; Soc. Sec. Margot McLoughlan. Bevan Leviston has retired after two hectic years as President of UNCS, and is only the third person in living memory to be awarded life-membership of UNCS. Well done, Bevan.

Our programme for Orientation Week is "Food of Love", or "Music to Make Love by/on/to/etc.", and we are busy getting in plenty of practice to ensure attracting freshers with the right idea from the beginning. Works will be by Anon, di Lasso, Schubert, Morley, Lennon/McCartney, possibly from John Cage, Orff, and anybody else who wrote for a bit of lu st. We have planned a free lunchtime concert on Monday Feb. 26th., and an evening concert on Thursday March 1st. followed by a "Love of Food Party", venue to be announced during the concert. Come along SUMS- we know you can make it!

These concerts are likely to be the last given with our highly-praised conductor Micheal Goodwin, who has moved up in the world by accepting a post with the recently-resurrected Philharmonic Society of Sydney (Founded 1854). So UNCS is once again on the lookout for a young, enthusiastic, talented conductor.

Plans for the future are going well, and we have already booked a time and place for our first term concert. We haven't

yet chosen the works, but these details will all be sorted out in time. At a risk of scaring off any new members, I will add that we are planning a recording session for an ABC broadcast, and during first term we will also be holding a social/singing camp so that we can all get to know each other a little better. It's rather early to talk about numbers for Perth IV, but we'll be there, don't you worry.

David Goodwin.

* JABBERWOCKY *

a new musical in two acts, written by members of SUMS.

Union Theatre, University of Sydney.

Wednesday MARCH 14th. to Sunday MARCH 18th at 8p.m.
Interstate bookings: Saturday MARCH 17th. at 8p.m.

Ring or write to the booking secretary:

Jill Nickson,
5/10, Rangers Road,
Cremorne 2090

Phone 02 90 7198.

Overnight accomodation available with members of SUMS.

24th. Intervarsity Choral Festival.

IVCF= SOON= Festi= Perth= 24th. Intervarsity Choral festival= May 1973= YOU!!

Make this May vacation your opportunity to see the West. Take advantage of low student fares (See your secretary for special concessions.) and two weeks' cheap accomodation in W.A.: one week out in the bush in well-equipped colleges of the historic Benedictine community at New Norcia, and one billeted with members of the University of Western Australia Undergrad. Choir in Perth.

The Main attraction is the chance to join with interstate singers in rehearsal and performances of Beethoven Choral works, also to sing in your own choir's item at an earlier concert.

Out side rehearsals there will be time to sightsee, socialize and relax, as well as time to join in the traditional IV activities such as boat races, Revue, Camp Concert, and Presidents' PJ's. Perth In May is warm and fresh. If you haven't been west, now is your chance. If you have, then this is the ideal time to return.

But Intervarsity is more than just a holiday; it is a unique experience. Ask any members who have attended other festivals and get full information. Application forms are available from your secretary now.

Then wait for May, and we'll see you at 24th IVCF.

Tim Mason.

TUCS

Dear Bears,

You think TUCS is mad for sending two articles? You ain't heard nothing yet! Weve had three separate committee meetings un the last 24 hours, each one longer than the previous one! But fear not, for behold, I

bring you glad tidings of great joy...We aren't TUCS any more; as of 26.2.73 we are TUMS - Tasmanian University Musical society!

This is far more than a simple change of name: it represents an effort to reassess the role of a musical society on campus. We realized that the idea of a choral society appealed to too few to make the works we did at all rewarding musically and that because of this the turnover in membership was such that we never performed at better than second rate standard.

The Musical Society will operate on a much freer framework so as to appeal to all students at the University who are even remotely interested in music. Its activity groups- choir, folk and blues, music-reading class, "appreciation" (records, group bookings at concerts, opera etc.), "development" (for singers, pianists etc. who wish to concentrate on solo or small group work) and such instrumental groups as talent suggests- will be organized so that each member of TUMS will be able to participate in at least one, and thus develop all his musical inclinations more fully than was possible before.

We've planned a tremendous Orientation Week Concert entitled "at Last! The Monster Gaudeamus Show!" The opening chorus is "Gaudeamus" backed by instrumental jam. The choir's serious offering will be the Peasant Cantata, then follow folk and blues, recorder consort, trumpet ensemble and more light-hearted items like "Sideways," "Canticle", and that satirical masterpiece "God Save the Queen" by tutti.

We perform once a week for the Dungeon Coffee Shoppe in the city and at the end of term we will present a great turn at Uni.

So you see, we've sort of changed things a bit. For financial purposes, though, please keep referring to us as TUCS, because our bank manager doesn't know about all this yet.

Love to you all, good luck for 1973 and may we all have a wonderfully exciting Term I. Till May then,

OO ROO,

Ros P.

26th. Intervarsity Choral Festival Manifesto.

The 26th Intervarsity Choral Festival will be held in Sydney in 1975.

Time of Year.

Having considered the response to our questionnaire in Erato No. 8, where opinion was plainly equally divided, we, the members of the 26th. IVCF Steering Committee, feel that we have been given a clear mandate to make a decision on your behalf as to what time of year the festival should be held. The lack of agreement between the various university administrations regarding the coincidence of May vacations has made us realise that January would be a better time of the year than May. The availability of venues and lack of alternative musical entertainment in January as opposed to May was a further important factor.

Intervarsity Music.

The view of this committee is that performance standards at previous Intervarsities have been so low as to alienate the best professional musicians that this country has to offer, as experience over the last five years has shown. Obviously the answer lies in achieving a different attitude from the choristers involved. It is therefore our intention to pull up the musical standard of IVCF by the

bootstraps.

There are many approaches which may be taken in the organisation of an Intervarsity Choral Festival:

1. 'The Philip Britton Concept.'

Intervarsity is primarily a time for members of university choral societies to meet one another socially and obviously springing from this, they should sing together as this is their common interest. The enjoyment gained from singing together is far more important than the achievement of a high performance standard. We feel with this concept that a public concert should not be undertaken because no serious attempt would be made to reach an acceptable performance standard.

2. The Public Concert Approach.

The alternative is the concept attempted at numerous IVCF's: the idea of aiming towards a public concert containing usually a major work or works performed by the combined choirs, and of late, a second concert by the individual choirs. As we stated earlier, past performance standards have not been satisfactory.

3. The "No Concert" Approach.

A third concept is to have no public concert. Instead IVCF would be centred around workshops about choral music, e.g. studying and rehearsing particular works, either of different musical periods or of differing musical resources. We feel there is a basic lack of background knowledge amongst university choristers about the music they are singing. For example: Elementary Choral Music History. Place the following composers in chronological order: Bach, Bartok, Beethoven, Bruckner, Monteverdi, Mozart, Palestrina.

This facet of choral music has not been explored and we consider a higher musical standard will be achieved if choristers can be given background information about the composers and works which they are preparing. Since there is obviously more satisfaction in performing this music than in rehearsing with no goal in mind, an alternative to an attempt to foist an under-rehearsed concert programme on the public exists in the form of a recording session. In the Intervarsity concert the recording suffers from two main defects: the singing standard is never as good as it could be, nor are the recording conditions. With studio conditions and no paying audience we can improve the recording if not the singing itself.

The reason we consider that none of these approaches is the ultimate answer in itself is that we feel that an improved musical standard will give more satisfaction to all concerned, thus raising the status of IVCF. A method that obviously springs to mind is to get the best professional conductors. This, however, has not proved to be an adequate incentive to improve the standard owing to lack of support by the choristers. This is indicated by the fact that these men can get excellent results with other choirs. We believe that the Intervarsity choir is potentially as good as any amateur choir in Australia, particularly in view of the fact that if held in January, choristers attending would have had at least one year's experience.

This committee is questioning even the basic concepts of IVCF. Arguments were raised at Brisbane IVCF last May regarding the desirability of either or both the combined concert and individual items concert, both of which have obvious faults and most often do not reach a reasonable standard. Individual Items in particular has the fault of lacking coherence in programming, and the combined concert is held by some to be "conceptually superfluous".

11.

Intervarsity Choral Festival must make a decision about its future. As the only National choral festival, it has an obligation to itself and to the musical public of Australia, whose standards are constantly becoming more demanding. IVCF must meet the challenge.

Robert Kay	Chairman 26th. IVCF Steering Committee.
Ruth Marshall	Secretary IVCF Steering Committee.
Mark Kotowicz	SUMS Liason Officer .
Edmund Perrin	UNCS Liason Officer.
Peggy Lawrenson	SUMS
Penny Leck	SUMS
Lindsay McDonald	SUMS
David Goodwin	UNCS
Bevan Leviston	UNCS.