

## 2009 Rehearsals

These dates may change. Updates will appear on the website.

February	20, 27
March	6, 13, 20, 27, 29 (concert)
April	3, 17, 24
May	1, 8, 9 (morning), 15, 16 (concert) 22, 29 (concert)
June	19, 26
July	3 (workshop), 4 (workshop), 10, 17, 24, 31
August	7, 14 (workshop), 15 (workshop), 21, 28
September	4, 25
October	2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 31 (craft fair)
November	6, 13, 20, 27

## University Auditorium Map

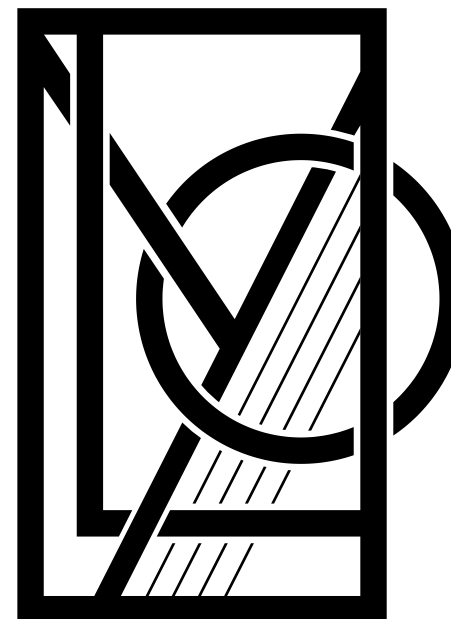
The concert with the University Symphonic Band will be here.



## Contacts

Margaret Hoban	6343 1272	
Lynn Hayward	6368 1432	<a href="mailto:Lynn@lyco.org.au">Lynn@lyco.org.au</a>
Lee Ann Hill	6394 3943	<a href="mailto:Lee.Ann@lyco.org.au">Lee.Ann@lyco.org.au</a>

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



LAUNCESTON  
YOUTH AND  
COMMUNITY  
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## From the Conductor

There is a saying (joke?) that if you aim at nothing, you will always hit it. It makes me think of some of my practice habits!!

When we first start learning an instrument or piece, there is an easy target – the notes and rhythm. It is easy to know if you have them right or wrong. However, as we get better, either individually or as an ensemble and we start getting the notes and rhythm more quickly, what then?

If we don't find something else to aim for we can go through the motions of practice but not actually get very much done. I've said that nothing is too simple to play beautifully – but I have found that to play simply and beautifully is not at all easy!!

I would like to ask each of us, if you aren't already doing so, to start having an aim in your practice beyond getting the 'black spots' right – to start seeing the line of the melody – the phrasing, to see whether the accompaniment parts can be more supportive, to see if *pp* can be softer and *ff* louder, to see if accents can be made to actually be heard, to see if you can get a warmer sound, a more *legato* – *staccato* – *marcato* etc. etc. sound, to make that awkward run tidy. I can think of ALL sorts of new things to aim at and won't spell them all out here. It is hard to practice these sorts of things when you have off beats or inner voice long notes, but they are no less important than the melody.

In my own practising I've found that I can't aim at more than one thing at a time effectively. I need 'focus' to get my body and mind to 'know' what it is doing and then I can go on and aim at the next 'problem' and add it to what I know. I waste much less valuable time this way. (Sometimes I just play just for fun too!!)

I try to conduct and rehearse this way too – the LYCO is a big instrument and I work myself at least as hard as I work you all. Thank you for allowing that.

## Additional Rehearsal

**Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

We ask everyone who will be at the University Concert to attend this rehearsal if possible. It runs from **10:30 am to 12:30 pm**, in the Newstead College music rooms.

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## University Concert

**Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

This will be similar to the 2007 concert with the University of Tasmania Symphonic Band. It will be on the University's **Newnham Campus**, in the **Auditorium** (Lecture Theatres 3 and 4). Please arrive by **6:30 pm** for a short rehearsal. The concert starts at **7:30 pm**.

## Annual General Meeting

**Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The 2009 LYCO AGM will be in Newstead College, starting at 5:00 pm on May 22<sup>nd</sup> (between rehearsals). If you wish to learn more about how the orchestra committee operates, or to help it function, you are welcome to attend.

## Mid Year Concert

**Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**

The LYCO, Piccolo Strings and all ensembles play in this one. It's in the **Newstead College Auditorium**, starting at **7:45 pm**. Please bring a plate for supper.

## Winter Workshop

**Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

As in previous years, Willem van der Vis will conduct this workshop on orchestral technique. First he gives us some difficult music, then he shows us how to copy with it. The 2009 Winter Workshop will be in the **Gordon Dell Auditorium** at **Glenara Lakes Retirement Village, 390 Hobart Road, Youngtown**. This is free for LYCO members, \$25 for all other musicians. The LYCO Website has details, at [www.lyco.org.au/ww](http://www.lyco.org.au/ww)