

## **Rehearsals Resume      Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2010**

This may change. Check the LYCO website in February for updates.

### **From the Secretary**

On 27<sup>th</sup> October, I sent the final craft fair programme to the Rotary organisers, and to the ensembles involved. In that message, I noted that I'd committed us to a packed schedule, and expressed doubt in our ability to keep within 15 minutes of the plan.

While we pushed that 15 minute limit, we never exceeded it, and I was very impressed. I am especially grateful to those who spent the entire lunch break queuing, and reached the counter just in time to be called back to the second LYCO performance.

If we play at the next craft fair, we'll give you an hour for lunch.

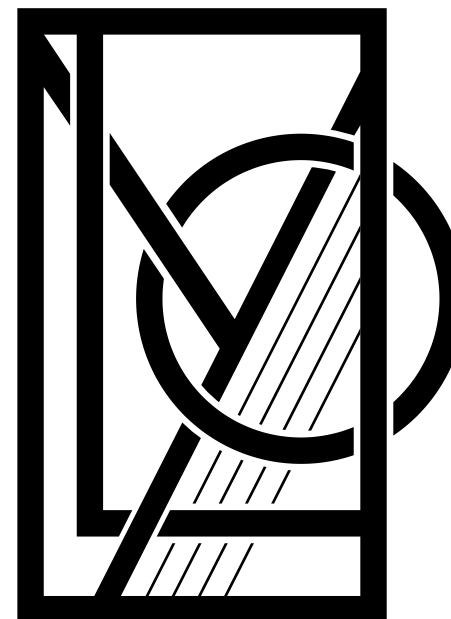
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LAUNCESTON  
YOUTH AND  
COMMUNITY  
ORCHESTRA INC.

**Newsletter No. 5**  
**November 2009**

## From the Conductor

I have abysmal number skills! I've always known it and didn't even have to have maths reports to prove it to me!

A few years ago I started doing the sudoku puzzle in the Qantas magazine and continued to do them off and on – always skipping the hard ones and doing only the easy ones – which I could mostly finish without too many duplicate numbers in each box.

On my recent trip to the US, having 17 hours of sitting on a plane between Melbourne and L.A., I decided to buy a book of only easy sudoku puzzles. Now for the point. As usual, everything I do I find can be turned around to teach me more about music.

I was amazed because I can now cope with difficult ones with some comfort. In doing the (many) easy ones I was able to see relationships and different ways of getting the boxes and columns full I'd never seen in the harder ones.

In music practice we are often so focused on doing harder pieces, learning new techniques, more complicated rhythms, etc., that we forget that the attention to easier pieces frees the mind to see different ways of playing – producing tone, using articulation or different fingerings. Practicing is not just a struggle to get the right note or get it fast enough. I think it is very difficult to improve on your instrument if you are only ever working at the top of your ability. The growth and maturity of musicianship and technical facility grows at a comfortable pace where the mind can process a well-known piece and improve all aspects of playing together.

– A rationale for Three Blind Mice and Grandfather Clock?

Thanks for a wonderful year. The LYCO has done some very difficult works well and congratulations to all for the work involved. It has been a great experience for me to conduct some of these harder pieces and I'm proud to be the conductor of such a wonderful bunch of people.

## End of Year Concert Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

This concert will be in the **Newstead College Auditorium**, starting at **7:45 pm**. Please bring a plate. Please also bring some audience. We had a good turnout for the mid year concert; let's make this one even better.

## Concert with CCO Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

Two days after the End of Year Concert, we have a performance in Burnie with the Cradle Coast Orchestra. The **bus** is free, but tell Virginia if you intend to travel on it.

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7:45 am Meet bus at Newstead College  
8:00 am Bus departs  
~10:00 am Bus arrives at Burnie Regional Art Gallery  
10:30 am Morning tea  
11:00 am Rehearsal starts  
12:30 pm Lunch (The CCO will provide all meals)  
2:00 pm Concert starts  
4:45 pm Concert and afternoon tea end, bus leaves  
~6:30 pm Bus returns to Newstead College

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## Return Your Music

If you have any practice parts, please return them at the end of year concert. Original parts are notorious escape artists, so also check your folder for those.

## Residential Summer String Camp

**25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

Applications for the camp become more expensive after November 30<sup>th</sup>, so this is your last week to save \$80.

If you play violin, viola, cello or bass, and wonder why you should attend camp, at least one member of your section can explain why. Ask them. Or, visit the camp website:

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