

# THE RADIO COMMUNITY CHEST INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 80 990 419 897  
Registration No: Y2104802

Organisers of the Annual Sydney Presentation of Handel's 'Messiah' since 1941  
[www.handelsmessiah.org.au](http://www.handelsmessiah.org.au)

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7 June 2010

Dear Chorister,

## Handel's 'MESSIAH' 2010 – OUR 70<sup>th</sup> YEAR

Thank you for your support in our annual presentations of Handel's inspiring oratorio "Messiah". We are pleased to be able to announce our arrangements for 2010.

### ***Venue – the beautifully restored Sydney Town Hall***

Many of you will have already visited the Sydney Town Hall since its restoration. If you haven't, it is well worth a visit. For 'Messiah' 2010, we will be returning to this our traditional home.

### ***Musical matters***

Our Conductor this year will again be Tim Chung, with Peter Kneeshaw at the grand organ. There will also be a chamber orchestra.

### ***Performance and practice dates***

Given the relatively smaller number of seats we have managed to sell for week-night 'Messiah' presentations over a number of years, we have decided to experiment with a Saturday early evening presentation this year as well as our usual Sunday afternoon 'Messiah'. The important dates for your diary are the following:

<b>First practice</b>	<b>Monday 11 October</b>	<b>St Stephen's Church, Macquarie Street</b>	<b>7.15 pm</b>
<b>Special rehearsal</b>	<b>Wednesday 15 December</b>	<b>Sydney Town Hall</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>First 'Messiah' presentation</b>	<b>Saturday 18 December</b>	<b>Sydney Town Hall</b>	<b>5.00 pm</b>
<b>Second 'Messiah' presentation</b>	<b>Sunday 19 December</b>	<b>Sydney Town Hall</b>	<b>2.15 pm</b>

## **Registration fee**

Those who participated last year in the City Recital Hall will agree that our two presentations there were very good indeed and that that venue is excellent. For our large choir, however, it poses many logistic problems and it is not financially viable for us in the longer term. Last year we made a substantial loss for the second year in a row – the only losses we have ever made – preventing the Radio Community Chest from providing the charitable support which has been our practice for many years.

Most choirs today require their members to pay a registration fee. We have tried to avoid this, but our recent losses have forced us to reconsider the matter. After some deliberation, we have decided to introduce the following fees:

<b>2010 Chorister Fees</b>	
<b>Adult choristers</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Pensioners providing pensioner number</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Children and full-time students</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

These registration fees should be paid when you attend your second practice, at which time your attendance sheet will be duly annotated.

## **Support of Council of the City of Sydney**

The Council of the City of Sydney has generously agreed to make a very substantial contribution towards defraying our hiring costs this year. We very much appreciate this support.

## **Tickets and ticketing**

Our experience with the ticketing services at the City Recital Hall was very favourable, and we have decided to use them again for our Town Hall ticketing. All tickets will have to be purchased from the City Recital Hall box office on line, by telephone or in person.

Choristers will be able to purchase tickets at a discount, and prices will be slightly lower than last year.

For information on tickets and ticket prices, please contact the City Recital Hall on 8256 2222 **after 1 October 2010.**

## ***Practices***

Practices will again be held on Monday nights in St Stephen's Uniting Church, Macquarie Street, from 7.15pm to 9pm, commencing Monday 11 October 2010. The church will be open from about 6.30 pm, and you are asked to arrive in good time so that the practices can commence and finish punctually.

A full rehearsal with choir, organ, soloists and orchestra will be held at the Sydney Town Hall at 6 pm on Wednesday 15 December.

All choristers are expected to have their own copy of the score (Prout Edition preferred), and to attend all or almost all practices.

## ***Registration***

We would prefer that **if at all possible** you **register using our web site** <http://www.handelsmessiah.org.au/choir.html> . Otherwise, please complete the enclosed form and mail it to the above Post Office Box address.

**Please register by either email or snail mail but NOT both!** Web registration is now open.

Please remember that you will be asked to pay your registration fee when you come to your second practice.

We sincerely hope you will be able to join with us again this year and will experience great joy by singing "Messiah" with us in this **our 70<sup>th</sup> year**.

Yours sincerely,

*(signed)*

Donald Mayes and John Pollard  
Honorary Directors

# REGISTRATION

*Please respond early*

*If at all possible, please register on-line at <http://handelsmessiah.org.au/choir.html> and not use this form.*

Name .....

Postal Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Email .....

Telephone number(s) .....

<input type="checkbox"/> First Soprano <input type="checkbox"/> Second Soprano <input type="checkbox"/> Alto <input type="checkbox"/> Tenor <input type="checkbox"/> Bass	<i>Official use only</i>
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If you are seeking registration as a pensioner, child or full-time student, please provide the relevant details here.

Pensioner number .....

Child age .....

Full-time student .....(course of study)  
.....(educational institution)

..... (Signature)