

The Flute Society of South Australia Inc.

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We're on the Web! See us at:
<http://saflutesociety.asn.au>

About The Flute Society of South Australia Inc.

The Flute Society of South Australia is a non-profit organization that aims to foster and encourage enjoyment of flute playing in the broadest possible sense.

The Society's role includes promoting local and interstate artists, encouraging young players and forging links out into the community.

Regular activities include workshops, concerts, fun days, masterclasses and recitals.

Membership Fees

Adult	\$40
Student, Pensioner, Country, Unemployed, Associate	\$25
Life Membership	\$600

Download a membership form from our website and send it in!

Members receive discounts to all Flute Society events and discounted music, etc. from various Adelaide music stores (see website for full list)

E-mail Database and Newsletter via email

The Flute Society is building up a database of member's e-mail addresses so that flute related news and information can be sent to members from time to time.

Sometimes information and news becomes out-of-date before it can be published in *South Australian Flute News*. If you have an e-mail address or would like to receive *South Australian Flute News* electronically please e-mail the details to Robert Brown at robbrown@adam.com.au.

The Flute Society of South Australia Inc. was founded in July 1972 at the instigation of the late Prof. David Cubbin.

Its members represent a wide cross-section of the community – teachers, students, amateur flautists, professional musicians and people from all walks of life, all sharing the same interest – playing, talking about and listening to the flute.

Newsletter Contributions

May 2007 issue deadline – Thursday, March 29

Please post to:
The Editor

South Australian Flute News
PO Box 3208, Norwood, SA 5067
(08) 8431-0452, or email to robbrown@adam.com.au

Attach as a Word or JPEG file or send as body text.

Advertising rates for *South Australian Flute News*
Half page, \$150; third page, \$100; quarter page; \$75.
Buy and Sell - Members free; Non-members, \$15

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ABN: 96 991 331 922

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Patron
Alison Rosser

Vice Patrons
Elizabeth Koch, OAM
Robert Brown

The Flute Society of South Australia Inc.

www.saflutesociety.asn.au

From the President

Dear Members,

Welcome to the New Year! I hope you have all had a relaxing summer break and feel refreshed and ready for all that is coming up this year.

We hope you are continuing to enjoy our 'new, improved' newsletter and would love to hear from you if you would like to contribute in any way.

Our final event for last year was our **'Spring Into Summer' Ensemble Concert and AGM** on Sunday 12 November at Unley Uniting Church. There were a variety of performances, from young students to professionals, playing duets, quartets and a combined ensemble item. After the concert all enjoyed a glass of wine (or cordial!) and cheese.

International Flautist Paul Edmund-Davies will soon be doing an Australian Tour! He will be in Adelaide on **Saturday March 10** presenting a Recital at 6-30 pm at Elder Hall, University of Adelaide. The following day, **Sunday March 11**, Paul will run a **Junior Event, Masterclasses and a Teacher's Forum**, all in the Hartley Concert Room, University of Adelaide. Don't miss this superb flautist!

We have a few events in the planning for this year, one of which is a **concert to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the passing of Professor David Cubbin**. Prof. David Cubbin founded the Flute Society of SA in 1972 and was its first President. His performing and teaching positions included Principal Flute in the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Lecturer in Flute at the Elder Conservatorium and

Professor of Music at the Tasmanian Conservatorium.

On Saturday June 23 we are holding the **Carolyn White Memorial Scholarship**, for flautists aged fifteen years and under, at Beaumont Uniting Church. Look for your entry form inside this newsletter.

The Fabulous Flute and Fife Fun Day will be held on Sunday August 12, directed by interstate guest Margaret Crawford. Margaret will have a very busy time in Adelaide, adjudicating the Adelaide Eisteddfod on Friday 10 and Saturday 11 August and stirring up plenty of fun for our Flute and Fife Day!

If you couldn't make it to the **Sydney Flute Festival** last year you really missed out on a fantastic event. The good news is that there is going to be another Sydney Flute Festival this year, from **September 29 - October 1**. There are some fabulous overseas and local flautists taking part in this festival so see if you can plan ahead to fit it into your schedule.

Happy Fluting!

Karen Fletcher

**Upcoming Events**

▪ **Paul Edmund-Davies**
March 10-11

▪ **Carolyn White Scholarship**
Saturday, June 23
Closing: June 14

▪ **Eisteddfod**
August 10-11
Rosefield Church
Closing: March 30

▪ **Flute and Fife Fun Day**
Sunday, August 12
Beaumont Uniting

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Kshema Flutes
From L to R
Ann-Marie Oates
Karen Fletcher
Alana Probert
Linda Pirie



Spring into Summer!
Karen Fletcher and students.

Spring Into Summer 2006 by Jess Stanhope

The Flute Society's annual Spring Into Summer Ensemble Concert was held on Sunday 12 November at Unley Uniting Church. A wide variety of music was performed from Baroque through to 20th century. It was also good to see a concert that involved flautists who had only been performing for a few years as well as professional players and teachers.

The concert began with Kshema performing Celia McDowell's *Hotfoot* and the first, third and fourth movements of *Fictions Suite for Four Flutes* by Mike Mower. These ambitious pieces incorporated a number of extended techniques and were performed brilliantly by the quartet.

The Walkerville Primary School Flute Ensemble, prepared by Margaret Coventry, performed *Chorus* from *The Magic Flute* by Mozart and Colin Fleming's arrangement of *The Londonderry Air*. Unfortunately, Margaret was unable to make it, so it was great to see the students perform so confidently without their teacher.

Chloe Kettle and Kirra Lovell were next to perform. They played two duets by

Marianne Broug, *Twisting It Up* and *Can't Sit Still* at a very high standard.

The first half of the concert ended with the St Peters Collegiate Girls' Junior Flute Ensemble, directed by Karen Fletcher. The ensemble performed *Aura Lee* and *Skip to My Lou*. Again, the standard of these young players was very impressive.

Following the AGM, *Minuet* by James Hook, and the popular English Folk Song *Scarborough Fair* were performed superbly by Laura Smith and Kirra Lovell.

The St Peters Collegiate Girls' Middle Flute Ensemble, also directed by Karen Fletcher, played excellently. They chose to perform Quantz's *Rigaudon* and Brahms' *Lullaby*.

The concert concluded with the Spring Into Summer Ensemble which involved all performers. I would like to thank Karen, Margaret and Kirra for preparing the students and of course all of the flautists for sharing their music. It was very encouraging to see so many young flautists performing at such a high standard with so much confidence.



ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC

Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)

is the world leader in the provision of graded music exams with over 600,000 candidates annually in 93 countries. ABRSM is a non-profit organization, all proceeds go back into teacher support, developmental projects and research.

2007 DATES:

PRACTICAL:

- 1. 16 March: Closing date for entry for first session (May-June)
- 2. 27 July: Closing date for entry for second session (Oct-Nov)
- 3. 27 July: Closing date for entry for JAZZ exams (Oct Nov)

NOTE: Grades 1-5 jazz flute exams now available.

DIPLOMAS: Dates as above for Performing, Directing and Teaching diplomas (DipABRSM, LRSM, FRSM).

THEORY:

- 1. 19 January: Closing date for entry for THEORY ONE
Exam date: Wednesday 1 MARCH
- 2. 18 April: Closing date for entry for THEORY TWO
Exam date: Saturday 16 JUNE
- 3. 3 September: Closing date for entry for THEORY THREE
Exam date: Thursday 7 NOVEMBER

National Co-ordinator for syllabuses, entry forms and information:

Tel: 1300 132 811 Email: abrsms@inet.net.au Fax: 08 9386 2658 Website: www.abrsm.org

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Kendall West
Joanne Monaghan

We hope you enjoy being part of the Flute Society and we look forward to seeing you at our events and having you visit our website!

AllansMusic
www.allans.com.au



World famous brand flutes and piccolos, including Trevor James, Gemeinhardt, Jupiter and Yamaha.

Excellent range of classical and popular flute titles in stock, including "Flute for Leisure" (SA trial syllabus) titles. Allans Music also stocks the full range of AMEB titles.

\$50
Gift Voucher
AllansMusic

GIFT VOUCHER
Visit us to purchase an item from our print music department during the month of March, and not only will you receive a 10% discount on presentation of your Flute Society member card - you'll also go into the draw to win a gift voucher offer to the value of \$50!

Terms and Conditions: Competition is only open to customers who have made an in-store purchase of print music from Allans Music Adelaide (on line and phone orders excluded). The competition is open to Flute Society members only, with proof of membership (member card) required. Purchase must be made between 9.00am March 1st and 5.30pm March 31st 2007. Prize will be chosen at random by Allans Music & will be 1 x \$50 Allans Music Gift Voucher. Prize is not redeemable for cash. Allans Music will attempt to notify the winner by telephone on the morning of April 2nd 2007.

NEW MUSIC FOR FLUTE
FROM THE MUSIC SALES GROUP

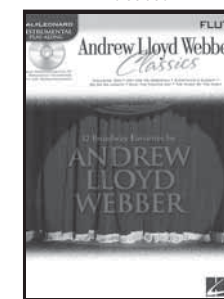


INSTRUMENTAL PLAYALONGS

Solo Debut is the great new book & CD series, created with the beginning player in mind! Solo Debut Film Themes contains 10 pieces in simplified melody-line arrangements. Bar numbers & CD timings are included plus a special section of performance tips to help with practice. The audio CD features professional performances of every piece, plus backing tracks to play along with. FREE internet downloads include piano accompaniments, practice demos & 2 bonus tracks. visit www.hybridpublications.com Includes: Circle of Life from the Lion King; into the West from the Lord of the Rings; Jurassic Park Theme; My Heart Will Go On from Titanic.



AM985039



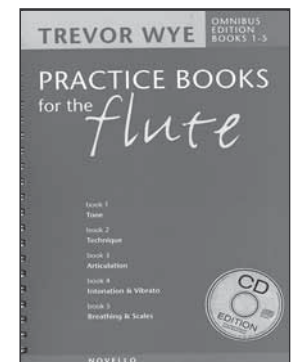
HL00841824

This new Hal Leonard instrumental Playalong features 12 Andrew Lloyd Webber Classics with CD accompaniment. Includes: Don't Cry for Me Argentina, Everything's Alright, Love Changes Everything, Music of the Night, Phantom of the Opera & Whistle Down the Wind.



TREVOR WYE PRACTICE BOOKS

Trevor Wye's famous Practice Book's for the Flute are invaluable to players of every grade & have received world wide acclaim. This new omnibus edition features books 1 - 5: Tone, Technique, Articulation, Intonation & Vibrato, Breathing & Scales. The enhanced CD edition provides examples for Book 1 Tone & features free software.



NOV121407

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD MUSIC RETAILERS

"All That Is Solid Melts Into Air..."

Australian music collective, the Kurrawong Ensemble (Samantha Kelson, bass clarinet and clarinet; Lamorna Nightingale, alto flute and flute; Sally Whitwell, piano), comes to the Adelaide Fringe Festival on Sunday March 18, performing at The Jade Monkey, 29a Twin Street, Adelaide, at 6pm.

Bringing a fresh take on Australian art music and its concert environment, a Kurrawong concert promises a lush, relaxed environment in which to connect with beautiful contemporary chamber music.

"All that is solid melts into air..." is an evening of music encompassing works from a spectrum of Australian composers with a focus on the entrancing timbres of the alto flute/flute, bass clarinet/clarinet and piano.

The programme includes works by Brenton Broadstock, Anne Boyd, Michael Smetanin and Richard Meale.

Kurrawong presents their fringe performance in one of Adelaide's grooviest live music venues, the Jade Monkey, an engaging environment in which to relax and enjoy the connection

with one of Australia's premier live music ensembles.

"All That is Solid Melts Into Air..." is a show conceived to explore the ephemeral sounds of wind and percussion and reflects the ensemble's passion for experiencing with their audiences the rich live music legacy of Australian composers.

Come and experience some of our enduring musical landscapes and be inspired and enraptured by the melodies of your own heartland.

Of particular interest to SA Flute Society members may be the Richard Meale Flute and Piano Sonata, as well as the Smetanin and Broadstock Alto flute, bass clarinet and piano trios.

Kurrawong is well known for outstanding performances in engaging and encompassing places, and this concert will be no exception! Tickets will be available at the door, and bookings are recommended. Admission is \$20 Adult, \$15 Concession, plus booking fee, through FringeTIX.

Enquiries: sam@kurrawong.com.

Notes and News**Congratulations**

to Elizabeth Koch on her recent appointment as an **Associate Professor** in the Performance School at the Elder Conservatorium, University of Adelaide.

She joins with Associate Professor Dr David Lockett.

In Memorium

Ian Beckwith,
brother and brother-in-law of
Flute Society members
Sally and Steve Eads,
died on **October 16, 2006.**

We send them our sincere sympathy.

*Play from the heart;
the flute is a heart
song...
like a sweet prayer,
and it will teach you
as well as you teach
yourself.*

~Mato Wambli~

Performance Thoughts

Keep your performance in perspective. The fate of the world does not rest upon whether or not you perform each note perfectly, so just do the best you can and have fun with the music. If you are enjoying yourself, then so will your audience.

~Kim Teal~

Paul Edmund-Davies returns to Adelaide!

Paul Edmund-Davies, Principal Flute of the Philharmonia Orchestra, will be making another welcome visit to Adelaide in March!

He will be presenting a **Recital on Saturday March 10 in Elder Hall, University of Adelaide**, accompanied by Jamie Cock.

On **Sunday March 11, Paul will present a series of workshops in the Hartley Concert Room.**

In the **Junior Event** Paul will be introducing *Flute Infusions*, a play-along publication with CD of pop-song style music with simple melodic lines and rhythmic percussion backing, suitable for Grade 2-6 level students.

For the **Masterclasses** six students will be selected to present works from Paul's Recital Programme.

Teacher's Forum: The Art of Teaching, will be a question and answer session, allowing topics to evolve. Requests have been made for Paul to talk about vibrato, technical repertoire suited to younger students, posture, intonation and listening, articulation and ensemble playing.

For further details, and to register online, visit www.sydneyflutefestival.com.au, click on 'Paul Edmund-Davies', and then click on 'Adelaide' near the bottom of the page.

To receive further information about any of these events, please contact Elizabeth Koch, e-mail elizabeth.koch@adelaide.edu.au or call 8303-5343.

A certificate of attendance will be provided to participants. Teachers who enroll ten or more students can come along free.



Paul Edmund-Davies and his gold flute!

FOR SALE

Jupiter 511SEO/907T flute.
Recently serviced, with all original accessories (hard case, canvas cover).
Current retail \$2,100
Sell for \$1,400 o.n.o.

Contact Paul Weiss,
Ph. 0408-273-654.



"Weep for me!"

Flute Fun Day Activities

PAUL EDMUND-DAVIES PROGRAMME**Saturday, March 10**

RECITAL

Elder Hall

University of Adelaide

North Terrace, 6-30 pm

Sunday, March 11

JUNIOR EVENT, 10-30 am - 12-00 noon

MASTERCLASSES, 1-30 pm - 4-45 pm

TEACHER'S FORUM, 5-00 pm - 6-00 pm

Hartley Concert Room

University of Adelaide

Kintore Avenue

SA Flute Events

CAROLYN WHITE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Saturday June 23, 12 noon

Venue:	Beaumont Uniting Church, 100 Devereux Rd, Beaumont
Set Piece:	Loeillet – Gavotte and Aria
Age Limit:	15 years and under
Closing Date:	Thursday, June 14
Adjudicator:	Julia Grenfell

The Carolyn White Memorial Scholarship is for young flautists aged fifteen years or under on January 1st, 2007. It provides them with the opportunity to prepare and perform works and to compete for cash prizes which may be used for tuition expenses or towards the cost of a new instrument or new music.

The Carolyn White Memorial Scholarship will consist of two prizes:

First Prize	\$200
Second Prize	\$100

Enquiries: Ph. 8333 0665 / 0413 333 794

Come along and support our young flautists as they compete for these awards!

FLUTE AND FIFE FUN DAY Sunday, August 12

Guest Artist:	Margaret Crawford.
Venue:	Beaumont Uniting Church, 100 Devereux Rd, Beaumont
Ages:	Primary / Lower Secondary.

CONCERT AND AGM Sunday, November 11, 2.30 pm

Venue:	Unley Uniting Church, Cnr Unley Rd and Edmund Ave.
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ADELAIDE EISTEDDFOD FLUTE DIVISION August 10-11

Venue:	Rosefield Uniting Church, 2 Carlton St., Highgate
Web:	http://homepages.picknowl.com.au/sqarie/eisteddfod_g.htm
Adjudicators:	Margaret Crawford
Syllabus:	For a free syllabus send a self-addressed envelope 220 x 110 mm with \$1 stamp to: Adelaide Eisteddfod Society PO Box 171 Stepney SA 5069.
Sections:	Look for Flute Division, Woodwind, Brass or Percussion Concerto, Ensemble Division, Sight Reading Prize.

STATE MUSIC CAMP July 9 - 13

Venue:	St. Peters College.
Final Concert:	Friday, July 14, 7.30 pm – Memorial Hall, St. Peter's College.
Closing Date:	Monday, May 15.
Enquiries:	Josie Hawkes (Administrator), 420 Carrington Street, Adelaide 5000, Ph/fax 8232-0102, Mobile 043-880-6285, or the Director, Elizabeth Koch, Ph. 8303-5343.

MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Web:	www.mtasa.asn.au
Enquiries:	mtasa@telstra.com

BALAKLAVA EISTEDDFOD August 3-5 www.balaklavaeisteddfod.org.au

STRATHALBYN EISTEDDFOD June 22-24 www.lm.net.au/~stratheis/index.htm

Of all musicians, flautists are most obviously the ones who know something we don't know.

**Paul Jennings,
Flautists Flaunt
Afflatus.**



A relaxed percussive activity!

Flute Fun Day

**Flute Society
Library**

We have an extensive library of music that all members are able to use.

*Please contact
Elizabeth Koch on
8303 5343.*

Teachers' Page "How big are your ears?" (cont.)

Once you have decided to work on one of the above ideas:

- Apply it to an **easy, short phrase** in a **comfortable register**, to give yourself the *best* opportunity to achieve your immediate goal successfully.
- Then extend the same goal to a **lengthier phrase**, which covers **more challenging registers** and listen to see if anything changes.
- Hone in further and **find the exact interval** where the change occurred and question why it happened.
- Example: if you chose 'Flashy fingers', between which precise interval/notes did the unevenness occur? Hint: upward moving fingers are slower than downward moving fingers (example: D-E is slower than E-D).
- Example: if you chose 'Liquid tone', did the tonal weakness occur in a particular register? Check: is your embouchure squeezing more in this register? Is your air speed too slow or too fast?

Whether you have managed to answer these questions correctly is almost beside the point, because if you have gotten this far in listening for those inconsistencies, you have already increased your awareness – CONGRATULATIONS!

Other hints for maintaining concentration and improving awareness in your practice sessions:

- 1) Always **use an alarm clock** to minimise distractions. I find this really keeps me in a zone.
- 2) Keep an initial record of unwanted conversations you have as you play, as a first step in eliminating extraneous and unwanted distractions. You'll be surprised at just how badly and how often you make comments to yourself.
- 3) Use **positive reinforcement** to correct these statements. Example: 'that slur sounded terrible' becomes 'make a smoother slur and air flow'.
- 4) **Update your goals** and give yourself **small rewards** as you achieve them to keep things exciting and fun.
- 5) Do a little bit of '**zombie-playing**' each day – we all need to zone out occasionally – just reverse the habit of making this the way you practice all the time!

AMEB Prizes 2006

Congratulations to the following flautists who received prizes in the 2006 A.M.E.B. Examinations:

Laura Desmond, who received a Prize for Fourth Grade.
Her teacher is Catherine Kammermann.

Christie Shanahan, who received a Prize for Sixth Grade.
Her teacher is Ann-Marie Oates.

"Of all the wind instruments, the flute can do the most things the most easily.

A fine performer on a flute can dash up a scale and down again so quickly that our ears cannot separate the notes.

A flutist can skip and jump from note to note so lightly that the music reminds us of the quickness of a rabbit or of a gazelle.

He can swoop and turn and trill the notes until we think that we are hearing a bird.

Musicians say that a flute can do anything!"

--Jean Craig, in *The Woodwinds*.

Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, 1963.

ON OUR WEBSITE

- *Membership information and prices*
- *How to contribute to and advertise in this newsletter*
- *Download events forms*
- *Buy and Sell*
- *Overseas Events*
- *5MBS Program*
- *SA Flute Ensemble*
- *Links*
- *Lots of helpful articles*
- *Members Discounts*
- *Other Flute Societies*
- *Email Us!*

Teachers' Page by Samantha Hennessey

"How big are your ears?"

What if you could significantly improve your playing without practicing any more than you already do?

All you need to do is take a tiny amount of time before you begin each new phrase of your practice session, to engage two things:

- 1) Your mind.
- 2) Your ears.

Most of you probably believe you do both, but before you confidently tune out, ask yourselves these questions:

- 1) Do you have a goal at the beginning of your practice session besides *just* learning the correct rhythms and accidentals?
- 2) How much time do you actually spend *just* playing mindlessly?

Here's where your brain and ears form a partnership. **Mindfulness** is the key to improvement and opening your ears facilitates the goal and makes it happen! So, let's set some goals and **listen, listen, listen!**

- 1) Goals are really important for any kind of **progression** and development.
- 2) Goals provide motivation and momentum, both of which will give you **confidence in spades**.
- 3) Your goals need to be realistic so they are achievable in a short space of time. All these little accomplishments will gradually 'stack up' and soon you will feel **'super-strong!'**
- 4) **Don't be intimidated!** Your goals don't need to be complicated, you don't need to have been studying for years and years either and you also don't need your teacher's help in this regard at all.

What would **you** like to improve in your flute playing? Look at the examples below for some ideas.

STUDENT'S IDEA

Flashy fingers
Liquid tone
Sounds easy
Tuned in to the correct radio band
Feels much better and enables flashy fingers
Gee, what a musical player!
Feels good, wow, I can breathe deeper!
Super fast tonguing

TEACHER'S INTERPRETATION

Even/controlled finger technique
Even tone throughout all three registers
Improved breath control
More focussed tonal quality
Correct hand position
Better tonal projection and air flow
More relaxed posture
Clearer more regulated articulation

"Pan's Syrinx was a girl indeed,
Though now she's turned into a reed;
From that dear reed Pan's pipe does come;
A pipe that strikes Apollo dumb;
Nor flute, nor lute, nor gittern can
So chant it as the pipe of Pan."

~John Lyly,
"Midas..."~



Rehearsing with Kirra!
Can you see yourself??

"Music gives a soul to the universe"

~Plato~

Flute Concerts

Send your concert dates to the Editor for inclusion in this section.

RECITALS AUSTRALIA WEDNESDAY LUNCH HOUR CONCERTS

Venue: Pilgrim Church, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide.
Cost: Adults \$5, Concession \$3. Tickets at the door.
Enquiries: Recitals Australia, Ph. 8266-4936.

Wednesday, March 7, 12-10 pm

Jane MacKenzie – flute.
Scandinavian delights: Kaski, Nielsen, Grieg, Sibelius.

Wednesday, April 11, 12-10 pm

Laura Pierce – Flute, Andrey Lebedev - Guitar.
Latin American and Australian compositions.

Wednesday, May 9, 1-10 pm

Alex Castle - Flute.
Bach plus Twentieth Century flute repertoire.

Wednesday, May 30, 1-10 pm

Amy Elks – Flute
Ibert, Bach and more

ELDER HALL LUNCH HOUR CONCERT SERIES

Time: 1.10 pm
Cost: \$6, Tickets at the door.

Friday, March 16

Elizabeth Koch – Flute, Australian String Quartet.
Music by Mozart and Haydn.

FRINGE FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 18 - 'All That is Solid Melts Into Air'

Venue: The Jade Monkey, 29a Twin Street, Adelaide,
Time: 6-00 pm,
Admission: Adult, \$20; Concession, \$15; plus booking fee, through FringeTIX, visit <http://tix.adelaidefringe.com.au/ticketing/Home.aspx>.
Tickets also available at the door.

Enquiries: sam@kurrawong.com

Featuring: The Kurrawong Ensemble

(Samantha Kelson - bass clarinet and clarinet,
Lamorna Nightingale - alto flute and flute, Sally Whitwell - piano).
The Kurrawong Ensemble will perform works by Brenton Broadstock,
Anne Boyd, Michael Smetanin and Richard Meale.
See Page 10 for a full write-up!

Flute on Radio 5MBS – presented by Robert Brown

The Flute Society Program is broadcast on Friday evenings at 7 pm.
5MBS is located at 99.9 on the FM Band.

Friday, April 6

Potpourri, including movements from the Flute Quintet, Opus 51, by Kuhlau, played by Jennifer Stinton with the Prospero Ensemble, and Carol Wincenc playing the Poem for Flute and Orchestra by Charles Griffes.



"When Krishna plays the flute the whole world is filled with love. Rivers stop, stones are illumined, lotus flowers tremble; gazelles, cows, and birds are entranced; demons and ascetics enchanted."

~unnamed scribe, in the Bhagavata-Purana~



Students' Page by Michal Rosiak

"Practical Advice for Flute Ensembles"

I never fail to be amazed by the great number of people who do not practice scales and arpeggios, the very bricks and mortar of our everyday repertoire

I practice my concerti and recitals till it looks easy.

James Galway

Every flute player comes in contact with **CHAMBER MUSIC**. It is the best way to develop individual skills, interaction with other players and solo abilities.

From our early beginnings we have many ensemble playing opportunities. For example, **DUETS** played with a teacher or a fellow student.

For those wishing to continue there are many possibilities, such as **FLUTE ENSEMBLES (trios, quartets)** and **MIXED ENSEMBLES** like trios (flute, clarinet, bassoon), quartets (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon) or woodwind quintet (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn).

Playing with prerecorded music is not classified as 'chamber music'. Whilst this can be an educational exercise, it can eliminate the possibility of developing your own interpretation and ideas.

WHERE TO START

To form an ensemble, other eager and cooperative players are needed. Once this has been done the work begins, which of course should always remain pleasurable. It is important to find a leader to be responsible for the whole group and show the beginnings and endings of phrases.

The next step is to allocate individual parts. If you have formed, for example, a flute quartet, don't be concerned if you have been given the 3rd or 4th parts. They are equally as important as the 1st and 2nd parts, although they may not seem as interesting.

Sharing of parts gives each player the chance to play each 'voice' and thereby have a feeling of importance. It is wrong to view 3rd and 4th parts as only an accompaniment. In some compositions, such as Bozza's *Jour d'été à la montagne*, these parts are more difficult than the 1st and 2nd parts.

It is interesting to note that players in many professional flute ensembles tend to stick to their parts and do not swap voices.

HOW TO PRACTISE

In the beginning, develop **GOOD GROUP DYNAMICS** and a sense of mutual time and rhythm by trying some simple exercises such as scales and chords in different keys within one or two octaves. Pay attention to starting and finishing together.

For more advanced students, check that the **VIBRATO** has the same amplitude. If you have difficulty starting and finishing phrases at the same time, try the following exercise. Turn away from each other, open your ears, take a breath at the same time and begin to play. It will definitely work!

Another way to practise synchronisation is to **PLAY IN THE DARK** (switch off the lights!). This will avoid distraction and focus your senses only on the music. After a few sessions of this I guarantee that during a concert performance, all your beginnings and endings will be perfectly in time and you will not have to rely on looking at each so much.

Don't forget to **TUNE UP!** You can do this at the beginning of the rehearsal, or after completing the exercises.

POSTURE

Generally flute ensembles (trios or quartets) stand to perform. In mixed ensembles, such as a woodwind quintet, all of the members remain seated. If you are sitting, ensure your spine remains straight, your legs are slightly turned right (straightening your legs causes the spine to bend) and try to avoid sitting on the entire surface of the chair. This posture will enable you to play with ease and reduce fatigue.



Michal Rosiak shares some humour with Uwe Grodd

Students' Page – Continued!

WHAT TO PLAY

Continue playing **SCALES** and other exercises as often as you can. Modify existing exercises or invent your own. There is a lot of music available for flute ensembles and it is accessible to students of all levels.

Include some *baroque or classical music* in the early stages of your development. As an example, select pieces composed by J.J. Quantz or some arrangements of Bach or Mozart. This style of music will allow better control of intonation and use of contrasting dynamics.

CODA

Above all, I encourage all flautists to play in an ensemble. It is an important part of your flute education and brings with it a lot of joy and satisfaction.

Michal Rosiak has extensive experience in teaching, performance and composition.

A recent inductee into the local music scene, he began his career in Europe, where he won many accolades for his compositions and teaching.

He was a flute teacher at Chopin State School of Music in Opole, Poland, Principal Flautist with Opole Philharmonic Orchestra and a member of Esprit Flute Trio.

Michal has performed as a soloist with the Silesian Philharmonic Orchestra, Capella Cracoviensis, Heidelberger Kammerorchester and Junge Philharmonie, Cologne.

He now lives in Seacliff with his wife and 7 year old daughter.

If you have any questions about ensemble playing e-mail Michal at rosiakmichal@australia.edu.



A robotic flute player, developed in Japan, can be seen and heard in action at <http://www.takanishi.mech.waseda.ac.jp/research/flute/index.htm>

*Check him out while he plays **Flight of the Bumble Bee!***

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