

# Anglican Parish of the Parks St Silas & St Anselm



## Parish of the Parks Music Program 2021 Annual Report



The St. Silas Consort, with Organist Stuart Connew  
in front of the restored 1928 Fincham organ and matching organ case



**ACTIVITIES REPORT TO MELBOURNE ANGLICAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION INC.  
FROM THE PARISH OF ST. SILAS AND ST. ANSELM, ALBERT PARK  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**1. Summary**

This is the 2021 annual report of the activities of the music program of the Anglican Parish of the Parks St. Silas and St. Anselm to the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc. ("MACO"). It covers the period of the 2021 calendar year with financial information for the Parish's financial year 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021. It is designed to satisfy the requirements of MACO in reporting on programs auspiced under its responsibility.

**2. Background**

The Parish received approval for a project entitled **Parish of the Parks Music Program** during the latter part of 2007. The Music Program is aimed at funding and fostering organ, choral and orchestral music, with emphasis on ecclesiastical music, within the Parish.

Specifically this entails funding of a restored 1928 Fincham pipe organ, and financially facilitating the promotion of a musical program within the Parish for the purpose of developing a church music tradition, and using this as an anchor for the opening the Church to involvement by the community. In addition, during 2014 MACO approved the addition of funding a new audio-visual system to the Program.

The benefits of the Music Program include potential attraction of some members of the general community to become worshippers through their initial involvement in concerts and recitals and enhancement of the musical liturgy. There has been a high emphasis on community involvement in this Music Program. A contact list of interested attendees has been built up, and we have kept in contact with these people.

**3. Outcomes**

The Music Program has had a 14th successful year. During the Church financial year ended 30 September 2021 \$29,406 was expended under the Music Program. Fundraising, donations and contributions made through MACO totalled \$3,176 and \$42 was earned in interest in the dedicated ADF Music Program account (see Financials section below). The reserves carried forward from 2020-21 were fully spent on the Program's objectives in 2021-22.

**4. 2021 Operations**

The St Silas Consort of choristers supports our 9.30 am services on the 1st, 3rd and 5th (if applicable) Sundays. During Lent and Advent the Consort supports every service.



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During the year no individuals received payments for their performances, as all the singers provided their services pro bono. A set of scarves in liturgical colours was donated in 2013 and worn by Consort members, with the choir robes which were donated in 2011.

The Music Program also supports our Director of Music & Organist Stuart Connew. Stuart and his wife Karen contribute greatly to the musical life of the parish as well as any locum organists and other musician performances.



The restored 1928 Fincham pipe organ has required minor ongoing maintenance this year, the expenditure for which has been met from the Program. In addition the organ is used to provide lessons to student organists.

After almost 3 years of research and enquiry, the Parish Council installed a new audio visual system in the church during 2014. The main part of the installation cost in excess of \$60,000 during 2014 and there were further ancillary installation costs during 2015 of \$10,604.

There was very little musical activity at St Silas in 2021, apart from the church services, due to COVID-19. There was a window of opportunity in April when a solo cello recital of works by Bach and Britten was presented by the 2019 St Silas prize winner James Morley. This was a 'sell out' and enabled funding of the 2021 prize presented on Sunday, December 12 2021. The winner of the prize, Emily Su, is a young violinist, who has already met with success as winner of the 2018 NSW/ACT Secondary Schools Concerto Competition, and won prizes the Sydney Eisteddfod. She was awarded her LMusA violin with Distinction in 2016. She also has an AMusA for piano.



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We quote here an excerpt from Emily's delightful thank you letter as it highlights the struggles that young musicians have in these COVID times.

*"I wanted to write to thank you so much for your support of the ANAM end of year prizes! It was such an honour to receive the St Silas Prize for best first year recital, and it wouldn't have been possible without your generosity and kindness in celebrating the hard work of myself and my peers. Especially in another crazy year of uncertainty in the classical music world, it really meant so much to me to have your friendship and support, and also to be able to connect with you and share my musical journey throughout the year.*

*The prize money is very generous, and especially in a field where educational expenses do add up, the funds will and already have been going towards helping me achieve my best in various competitions and projects."*



Emily is now pursuing other opportunities in Sydney and will not present a recital at St Silas in the near future. However the 2020 prizewinner Tim Allen-Ankins is busy preparing a delayed recital in May and with two other ANAM recitals scheduled for later in the year, we are hopeful of moving musically out of COVID.

We maintain a close relationship with ANAM in many ways with faculty members using the church for their classes and preparation for competition. The Affinity Quartet has been accepted as Australia's entry in the acclaimed Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition – three members are ANAM alumni and one is a student – and throughout March they will be rehearsing their entry at St Silas. We wish them well.

During 2021 our ordinary activities were much curtailed due to COVID-19 and the closure of the buildings.



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Ordinarily Gabi Coddington, would have continued to lead our resident jazz band: the Dirty Dozen jazz band renamed to Red Gum Ramblers. The band does not receive any funding from the program or the parish, but is a key part of our music program.

They rehearse in our church each week, lead our annual New Orleans style jazz parade and Jazz BBQ fundraiser (which is a very popular parish and neighbourhood event that raises a significant amount for our program to feed the hungry and homeless), and perform at our annual Jazz Mass service (which drew a much larger than normal congregation). Some of the band members volunteer at our program to feed the hungry and homeless, some provide instrumental support at our annual Children's community Christmas concert. However as mentioned, none of this occurred this year due to COVID. The Red Gum Ramblers played at a fundraiser event that took place in November to support the Sunday Suppers program.



Finally our continuing, weekly children's choir was suspended, ordinarily they, and their teacher, offer occasional performances, which includes a Community Christmas Concert in December, but no such activities occurred.



Additional information on the Music Program can be found online at the Parish's website [www.parishoftheparks.com.au](http://www.parishoftheparks.com.au)

### 5. Financials

The income and expenditure of the Music Program for the Parish's financial year 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021 is shown in the table below. The Parish's accounts have been audited by an independent auditor.



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	2020-21 \$	2019-20 \$
<b>Income</b>		
MACO grants & donations	2,043	59,294
Fundraising	1,091	80
Interest on ADF MACO account	42	121
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3,176</b>	<b>59,496</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Choristers	0	0
Organists	24,533	35,125
Organ maintenance	1,551	1,551
Hymnbooks and music accessories	0	0
Concert musicians	1,000	800
ANAM Prize	1,000	1,000
Other	817	2,264
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>29,406</b>	<b>41,304</b>
<b>Release from reserves</b>	<b>18,192</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net expenditure met from Parish funds or carried forward to next year</b>	<b>8,038</b>	<b>(18,192)</b>

The Music Program's balance sheet as at 30 September 2021 is shown in the table below.

	30 September 2021 \$	30 September 2020 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
ADF MACO account (SAV 0500 5034)	0	23,051
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,051</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Payables	0	4,859
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,859</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18,192</b>
<b>Represented by total equity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18,192</b>

Note that both the AV system and 1928 Fincham organ are considered Parish assets as such and do not appear in the balance sheet above. The organ loan was fully paid off during 2012. The payables above were paid to the Parish shortly after the year end.



**6. Declaration by Parish Representative**

The declaration by the Parish representative in relation to MACO's requirements is attached as Appendix A.

**7. Outlook**

The Parish Council continues to be encouraged by the very tangible contribution to the life and development of the Parish made through the Music Program, and is grateful for the auspices of MACO which makes such activities possible. The Music Program in 2022 will continue in its operation.

**Ciprian Chiorean**

**Treasurer**

**Parish Representative**



Appendix A

**DECLARATION BY PARISH REPRESENTATIVES** for the **Anglican Parish of St. Silas and St. Anselm, Albert Park** concerning the parish program approved under **Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc.** procedures for the year ended **31 December 2021**.

I hereby declare that all disbursements for the year have been consistent with the original representations to the Australian Taxation Office when tax deductible status was granted; i.e. funding of a restored pipe organ and facilitating the promotion of a musical program within the Parish for the purpose of developing a church music tradition and all disbursements for the year have been spent for the purpose for which they were given by the donor.

Signature ..... *Ciprian Chiorean*  
Name: Ciprian Chiorean  
Position: Treasurer and Parish Representative

Date 25/02/2022