

Hastings Choristers

presents

In the Spirit

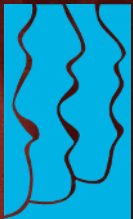
Gospel and Soul

with Tony Backhouse

Sunday 30th July 2023 at 2pm

Uniting Church
Port Macquarie

Music Director: Olwen Williams



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Cantabile Conductor - Miriam Lattimore
Accompanist - Jonathan Hingston

Tony Backhouse

Music has imbued Tony Backhouse's whole life, sparked by hearing Elvis Presley when he was very young. In the 1980s he started working with the soulful, swinging music from the black gospel tradition and he started *Café of the Gate of Salvation*, which after 36 years is still one of Australia's leading gospel choirs. Tony has since toured this secular, Australian a cappella choir to cities across the US, including New York, Chicago and New Orleans, where it has been embraced with joy and open hearts.

Tony has run many vocal workshops throughout Australia and New Zealand, as well as Canada, the UK and France. He has also led singing tours to Samoa, Fiji,



Photo credit: Lorraine Garland

Bali, Italy, and remote areas of Australia to interact with local communities. He has received composer commissions from the Song Company and the Sydney Children's Choir, and in 1990 he received an Australia Council International Study Grant to research black gospel traditions in the USA.

Tony has a deep love and knowledge of the gospel genre, encapsulating a great sense of soul, funk and blues notes, and he writes lyrics which are inspired by a wide range of sources. Actor Sam Neil asserted on a recent ABC *Compass* program that "People are singing with open hearts and with joy all over Australia and New Zealand because Tony Backhouse has been there and opened people's hearts".

CANTABILE

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel
Deep River

Trad. Spiritual, Arr. Roger Emerson
Trad. Spiritual, Arr. Hugh Robertson

CANTORUS & CANTABILE

Down to the River to Pray
A Window in Heaven

Traditional
Tony Backhouse

CANTORUS

Shout for Joy
The Storm is Passing Over
Chariot Ride
Don't Wait for Sunday

Dan Davison
Charles Tindley, Arr. Barbara Baker
Mary Donnelly & George Strid
Tony Backhouse

INTERVAL

AUDIENCE workshop with *TONY BACKHOUSE*

CANTABILE

People Get Ready!

Curtis Mayfield, Arr. David Lawrence

CANTORUS

(I've Been Given) Two Wings
Amazing Grace
Rivers of Babylon
Oh Happy Day
In The Spirit

Tony Backhouse
John Newton, Arr. Ed Lojeski
Farian, Reyam, Dowe & McNaughton
Edwin Hawkins, Arr. Glenn Moore
Tony Backhouse

CANTORUS & CANTABILE

There is Room at the Inn

Tony Backhouse

Message from our Music Director

It gives me much joy to present this afternoon's program of gospel and soul music, and to welcome our special guest artist and conductor, Tony Backhouse.

Thanks to all the choristers, especially those in Cantorus, who have risen to the challenge of learning brand new repertoire in a genre which is not their usual style of music. Both choirs have invested time in extra rehearsals to strive for the best performance possible and Tony Backhouse's pieces are extremely sophisticated in the nature of their composition. Special thanks must go to Jono Hingston, Hastings Choristers' much adored accompanist, who has worked extra hard to prepare both our choirs.

After interval we have a special treat for you with Tony Backhouse including the audience in one of his vocal workshops. Don't worry - the choirs will help you as you sing along. All the Hastings Choristers thank you for supporting us and being here today.



Olwen Williams

CANTORUS

Sopranos:

Mary Abel
Vicki Bryce
Anke Frank
Dawn Hammel
Kerryn Lawrence
Janine Noy
Colleen Smee

Altos:

Gail Barber
Linda Burn
Margaret Donovan
Lorraine Garland
Libby Hopley
Gail Mendoza
Jo-Anne Stavely
Christine Tapsell
Clare Walker

Tenors:

Susan Creech
Di Procter
Sylvia Scott

Basses:

Chris Hinton
Brian Jones
Glenn Moore
Brian Williams

CANTABILE

Miriam Lattimore - Conductor

Gillian Bennett
Meredith Hinds
Christy Ismay
Kerryn Lawrence
Adele Miles
Kirsti Purss
Elizabeth Rylie
Christine Sheen
Carol Sorensen
Sally Ward

Hastings Choristers

President - Susan Creech **Music Director** - Olwen Williams

Email: hastingschoristers@gmail.com

Rehearsals - We rehearse every Monday evening 6:30 - 8:30 during school terms at MacKillop College, Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie.

If you love to sing, please join us! We have an exciting program lined up for the rest of the year and if you come along you will be very warmly welcomed. Have a chat to one of our choristers if you are interested.

Many thanks to the **Uniting Church, Port Macquarie** for their support and help in bringing this concert to you today. Thanks also to **Macquarie Business Accountants** for their generous help with our choir, and to **Kath Peck at Bourne Street Blooms** for the gorgeous flowers!

