

IMAGES OF YALLOURN

THE YALLOURN MADRIGALS - 1976



This photograph of the Yallourn Madrigals was taken in 1976; and it is an important image, in terms of the history of Yallourn, as it places on record the names of the members of the choir at that time.

From the left in the back row: Gwynne Elliott, Linda Hibbert, Ruth Hibbert, Dorothy Cairns, Colin Harvey, Kenneth White, Nancy Embleton, Lois Kemp, Elsie Maddern, Richard Gubbins, David Cousins, John Brown, Bill Adams, Faye Waterson, Sue Bailey and Franz Onger is the conductor.

For further information related to this photograph and the choir's prize-winning performance at the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod in 1976 go to:

<http://www.virtualyallourn.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/1976%20SEC%20Contact%2010%20October.pdf>

Another story (and photograph) about the Madrigals' stunning victory (by one point) at the renowned Royal South Street competition in Ballarat in 1978 can be seen at:

<http://www.virtualyallourn.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/1978%20SEC%20Contact%2010%20October.pdf>

The choir was formed in 1956 by Mr Graham Bartle, a teacher at Yallourn High School; and, in the years that followed, the singers won acclaim, throughout the district, for their fine recitals. The Madrigals appeared at Traralgon, Sale, Berwick, Korumburra and in the city. It is also known that the Madrigals performed on the ABC. To read about the early days of the Yallourn Madrigals go to:

<http://www.virtualyallourn.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/1971%20SEC%20Contact%2009%20September.pdf>

Note 1: The Collins English Dictionary defines the word 'madrigal' as:

"A madrigal is a song sung by several singers without any musical instruments. Madrigals were popular in England in the sixteenth century."

Note: 2: In researching this story, it was discovered that a group known as the 'Yallourn Glee and Madrigal Society' was in existence in Yallourn in 1926. The following extract was published in the 'Morwell Advertiser' in June 1927...

"GRAND CHORAL CONCERT. In 'November-last the Yallourn Glee and Madrigal Society provided local residents with a rare treat when they gave a grand choral concert' in the Mechanics' Hall. The Society gave another delightful concert in the Hall in aid of the Recreation Ground on Thursday evening last before a host appreciative audience, who demanded encores after nearly every number, and in this they were not disappointed. The Society is composed; of about fifty men, including first and second tenors, first and second basses, with Miss Myra Mead pianist, and Mr. H. Bayley conductor." 10th June 1927. Page: 5