

# MAGA MUSIC ARRANGERS GUILD OF AUSTRALIA INC.

The Industry Benchmark in Professional Arranging.



## MAGASCENE



### Secretary's Report

As we draw towards the end of 2020, we are heartened to see that things are getting better for our members and their families especially in VIC and NSW. We hope that this trend continues and life and work can get back to some sort of normal again.

The MAGA Annual General Meeting 2020 will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm AEDT. This year's meeting will be a Zoom only meeting due to COVID-19, and we are hoping to get a good turnout. No pre-AGM drinks or food will be on this year of course, but I'm sure you can attend the meeting and have a virtual drink with other members.

At the AGM, we will be showing a preview of the new MAGA Music Catalogue which will allow members to list links to their arrangements on the MAGA website. The catalogue can be searched via genre, instrumentation, title, artist, composer or arranger. We are hoping this will provide a great place for members to showcase their arrangements and help promote MAGA and its members. Join the AGM to learn more.

This year it was with sadness that we learnt of the passing of MAGA member Richard (Dick) Buchanan on 30-Sep-2020. Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Lorraine and their family at this difficult time. Please read the President's reports for some thoughts from George remembering Dick as well as an article about Dick's life towards the end of the issue.

After the great success of this year's MAGA Arranging Competition, we are already well in planning for next year's which will be bigger and better and hopefully be in a COVID free environment. MAGA Executive member Ian Boath, the driving force behind the competition has penned an article where he will outline this year's competition and what in store for next year.

MAGA, having been formed on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1961, means that on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021, we will be celebrating 60 years! Save this date and keep an eye out for communication on the events for each state on this date in 2021.

Remember, if you are having trouble paying your dues when your renewal comes out, please reach out to us here at MAGA and we will be able to assist you.

Stay safe and sit back and enjoy issue #46 of MAGA Scene.

Tim Middleton - MAGA Secretary

*If you are experiencing any health issues, both mental and / or physical during this time please contact the following organisations:*

National Coronavirus Hotline 1800 020 080  
Support Act Well Being Helpline 1800 959 500  
Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636  
Lifeline 13 11 14

President: George Bruno  
Vice President/Publisher: Jessica Wells  
Secretary/Web Master: Tim Middleton  
Treasurer: Ross Maio

National Executive for 2020

<http://www.magainc.org.au>

Board Members:  
Greg Schultz, Ian Boath, Matt Amy,  
Kieran Hurley, Greg Flood,  
Peter Casey, Steven Stanke

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# President's Message

## REMEMBERING DICK BUCHANAN

The passing of Dick Buchanan has more significance than the simple passing of one of our older members. Until his recent demise Dick had been a member of MAGA since the early sixties. During this period, he spearheaded a new direction for arranger that until then was inconceivable in Australia. He founded the DICK BUCHANAN MUSIC SUPERMARKET.

Until that time, all bulk music arrangements were only supplied by the bigger international music publishers like, Northern Music, Leeds, Castle Music and more. There was nothing in Australia that addressed and serviced our local talent's needs and that of the growing television industry. He saw an opening and filled it! However, it was not without some tribulation and vicious attacks by some of his peers. Dick was raked through the courts to answer challenges against the legality of what he had started. Sadly, these challenges were brought to bear by fellow MAGA members who also had him face the MAGA Board of that time. It is interesting to note that the same member that was trying to block Dick's progress, went on to form his own library soon after Dick got the go ahead from the legal eagles.

As a member of the then Board, it was a bitter experience for me having to face Dick and confront him with the heartless accusations directed at him. I was overjoyed when Dick presented his case and announced that his DICK BUCHANAN MUSIC SUPERMARKET was going ahead as planned. The choice that MAGA had to make was whether Dick operate independently of MAGA like all the existing publishing houses, or outside of MAGA. That is unless MAGA recognized his right "to be in business" as publisher.

I was strongly on his side and was delighted when we all smoked the peace pipe and got on with business. Dick went on to establish the biggest arranging service in Australia to date with thousands of tunes in his library.

I drew inspiration from Dick in wanting to propose that MAGA Inc. establish a music catalogue strictly for its members. This well advanced in being tested prior to an official start date. Thank you Dick.

You will be able to view a short video interview with Dick in the member's area website), taken 2 weeks before his passing.

R.I.P.

Dick Buchanan

19<sup>th</sup> December 1931 ~ 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020

With warm regards,

George Bruno - President

MAGA Inc

## Significant Anniversaries



### Significant Anniversaries - August-November

#### August

- #87 - Geoff Ayling 55 years
- #58 - Laurie Lewis 55 years
- #340 - Robin Workman 49 years
- #237 - Larry Price 44 years
- #188 - Mike Hope 39 years
- #360 - Ray Cairney 39 years
- #376 - Julie Simonds 33 years
- #216 - Nerida Tyson-Chew 32 years
- #444 - Kerin Bailey 23 years
- #445 - Paul Woodward 23 years
- #383 - John Barnes 31 years
- #359 - Bill Deer 20 years
- #588 - Stephen Bydder 15 years
- #607 - Neil Hanson 13 years
- #649 - John Foreman 5 years
- #651 - Sean O'Boyle 5 years
- #650 - Chong Lim 5 years

#### September

- # 95 Les Dempsey - 54 years
- # 116 - George Brodbeck 53 years
- # 154 - Chris Neal 52 years
- # 155 - Mike Perjanik 52 years
- **# 285 - Bob Madden 50 years**
- # 121 - Robert Davis 45 years
- # 268 - David Jones 44 years
- # 263 - Mary Martyn 44 years
- # 523 - Don Vickers 42 years
- # 515 - Graham Mabury 42 years
- # 502 - Sam Pizzata 42 years
- # 533 - William Upson 42 years
- # 501 - Greg Schultz 42 years
- # 327 - Michael Burgess 42 years
- # 138 - Pino Di Maggio 35 years

#### October

- #82 - Ron Brown 56 years
- **#307 - Sven Libaek 50 years!!**
- #81 - Peter Casey 49 years
- #33 - Phil Crawshaw 47 years
- #521 - Derek Bond 42 years
- #200 - Jack Duvoisin 40 years
- #362 - Derek Williams 35 years
- #300 - Ian Boath 28 years
- #306 - Stephen Gray 21 years

#### November

- #195 - Leon Isackson 52 years
- #130 - John 'Ants' Neeme 47 years
- #59 - Kathy Hirche 32 years
- #453 - Tony La Rosa 22 years
- #563 - Peggy Polias 18 years
- #577 - Michael Dunn 17 years



MAGA was constituted on

February 10<sup>th</sup> 1961

making it ....

**the Guild's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
in 2021!**

**Save the date ! There are celebrations in the  
planning.**

To join MAGA as an Arranger, Copyist, Certificate Member or Friend of MAGA, go to this link:

<http://www.magainc.org.au/join.html>



## New MAGA Members

### David Cundy #684

#### Arranger/Copyist

David has been involved with music since he was six years old, and playing for his local primary school concerts and speech nights. At secondary college he became the school pianist and organist and won the music prize in his final year. He sang with the Ballarat Choral Society and St Peter's Anglican church choir. In Melbourne, David has sung with a number of choirs, including The Canterbury Fellowship, Tudor Choristers, Melbourne Chorale, St Peter's Eastern Hill, Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Choir, Ormond College Choir, the Choir of Trinity College and St Paul's Cathedral choir. David has also been music director at various churches, choirs and amateur musical societies.

For a number of years David played the harp with flautist, Ann Cecil, who now works with the Phillip Glass Ensemble in New York. During this time they recorded 8 CDs with ABC Music Publishing, gave numerous concerts around Australia and New Zealand and made several tv appearances, as well as regular performances at the Victorian Arts Centre complex and played for weddings and parties.

David now concentrates his time on composition, arranging, music transcribing and engraving and playing the organ for church services, funerals and weddings and playing the piano for small parties and events. David is currently the principal organist at the Collins Street Baptist Church in the city of Melbourne.

He has written for piano, instrumental, orchestral and choral. His works have been performed on three continents and have been featured in the US TV series "When Paintings Come Alive", as well as on ABC Music Publishing recordings.



### Jeremy Boulton #685 - Arranger



New M.A.G.A. Member, Jeremy Boulton is an Ambassador for ClassikOn and the Manager of APRA Art Music Award Winning ensemble, Steel City Strings Chamber Orchestra.

He was Assistant Music Director for Miss Saigon (Roo Theatre) and Assistant Conductor for Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Illawarra Performing Arts Centre). He scored incidental music for The Tempest and Tales From the Wasteland (The Phoenix Theatre), Blood Wedding and Ash Girl (Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts). He has also composed the soundtracks for cinematic releases, Absence (Martini Award for Best Film) and Markstery. Orchestral commissions include The Curious Story of the Bushy-Tailed Drop Bear (tone poem for orchestra, Illawarra On Pointe Orchestra) and a re-worked production of Dido and Aeneas (Purcell).

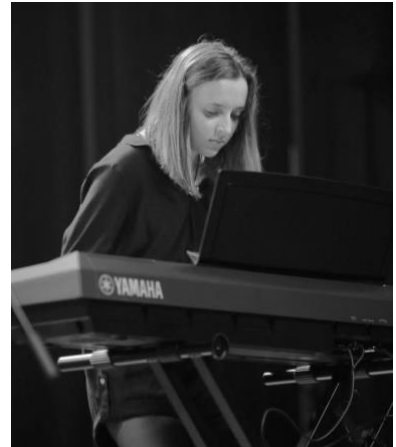
Jeremy studies classical voice with Maree Ryan AM and is currently reading for Bachelor of Music at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music specialising in opera on the Margaret Olive Bequest Merit Scholarship and other scholarships.

## New Certificate Members:

**Cassie Parke** is a composer, arranger, music director and pianist from Sydney, Australia.

She is a third year student in Composition for Creative Industries at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, focusing on music for film, theatre, TV, games and advertisements. Cassie has arranged works for a range of ensembles, from string and choral ensembles to concert bands and jazz big bands. She has composed for multiple short films with AFTRS (Australian Film, Television and Radio School), as well as independent film and theatre companies.

In 2017 she completed her AMusA Diploma in Piano Performance, and is now deeply involved in musical theatre as a Music Director and keyboardist.



### James Beagley

Hello there! My name is James, and I'm a new member of the guild. I've completed a Bachelor of Music (Honours) at Monash University, majoring in Jazz Composition, and I hope to continue down this writing/arranging path with the help of the guild and its resources. Music has always been a passion of mine, but it was when my year 12 piece was selected for the VCE Top Class Sounds and Top Acts showcases that I realised that composition was what I specifically wanted to pursue. I've always wanted to be a part of the professional music industry, but there's still a long way to go for me. I'm excited to start working towards full membership, and to learn from the best!



**Nancy Laver** is an Australian composer, pianist, and music producer.

Her music lives and breathes the story, providing deep layers and textures that fulfill the vision and elevate the experience.



**Wafi Zainal** was born and raised in Perth's northern suburbs. He picked up Trombone as part of his high school's beginner music program, and is still regularly playing the instrument to this day. Alongside Trombone he played Euphonium and Tuba, graduating from WAAPA in 2018 as a Classical Tuba student. As a multi Low Brass player, he is commonly known among his peers as a Tuba player.

As a performer, recording artist, and composer/arranger, Wafi is an active member in the Perth Music scene. His past credits include performing with the WAMi award-winning The Brow Horn Orchestra, recording with Junkadelic Brass Band and Combined Districts Concert Band, touring with the Perth Hills and Wheatbelt Band to Israel and America, and writing his first major composition "Dance of the Three Maids" and its sequel "Duet of Hearts". As a keen arranger his arrangements for Wind Band have been performed in the past, and Wafi is looking at expanding on this craft.





The Annual General Meeting of **MAGA Incorporated** will be held on:

***Date:* Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 - 8:00-9:30pm (AEDT)**

***Venue:* Online Zoom Meeting**

All members planning on attending (including board members) must register using the following URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEscOivrz4rHd0pD9RXjShAXsAayQbRo5GL>

Zoom Conference times for other States:

WA: 5:00pm, QLD: 7:00pm, SA: 7:30pm, ACT & VIC: 8:00pm

Items on the agenda include:

President's Welcome, Confirmation of Minutes of the last AGM, Secretary's Report,

Treasurer's Report & Account Summary for Financial Year ending 30 June 2020 & Interim FY ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020,

Results of Election of Committee and Trustees (Returning Officer Report) ,

Motions, Reports (Progress of MAGA Music Catalogue), Business Arising, General Business

Motion: To reflect the fact that MAGA no longer issues physical stamps to members. (various amendments to the Constitution)

The Agenda can be downloaded - <https://magainc.org.au/docs/AGM-2020-Notification.pdf>

## MAGA National Youth Music Arranging Competition 2021



This year we were pleased to launch the inaugural National Youth Music Arranging Competition.

The aims of the competition were to promote the next generation of professional arrangers, to raise awareness of MAGA in the community and to recruit new members. I believe we achieved these aims in generating discussion and interest in MAGA, securing 2 new Certificate members and are awaiting the application of the competition winner, Minnie Hill for full membership.

The category was Big Band and despite COVID-19 interfering with our lives, we had a good number of entries. The Board were pleased with the standard and quite blown away by some entries which displayed high level arranging techniques and creativity.

Planning is well under way for 2021 with the category of

**String Orchestra (Violin1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Bass) with Solo Vocalist (optional rhythm section).**

The plan is to increase the prize money offered and Board members are actively seeking sponsorships to cover our costs.

The new competition will launch on **February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.**



## Vale Dick Buchanan #132

### MAGA member of 46 years

Condolences go out to the family of Dick Buchanan who died on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Dick was 88 years of age.

#### MUSIC MEMORIES OF DICK BUCHANAN (88 Y/O)

My life has mainly been centred around music (dates are approximate as my memory is not too good).

When I was 13 y/o, I borrowed a cornet from the local brass bandmaster, and later learned to play from a book until I was able to play, and march in that band. Later, my mother, Alma who was an excellent pianist, bought me my first trumpet. It was hard, but I soon found myself playing with mum, along with dad on drums at the local dances.

I soon learned to play the difficult songs of the best trumpet player in the world at the time, Harry James (Flight Of The Bumble Bee etc.)

In about 1956, I got a job playing with the STATE ORCHESTRA in Wollongong at the then famous "Berno" and after some years, I was Musical Director of a 14 piece orchestra at North Wollongong Police Boys Club. It was a big dance hall with three bands playing non stop Fridays, and Saturday nights. My vocalist was Johnny O'Keefe.

In about 1964, I played at the Corrimal RSL for several years. I've also played at most south coast clubs over the years

In about 1969, I relocated to Sydney, and immediately got a job with a 7 piece band at Brighton-Le-Sands Hotel (7 nights a week).

In 1970, I started playing with the John Charter Group at the Associated Motor Club in George ST. City for about 3 and a half years, again, 7 nights a week. It was the number one club in the country (Just like a night club) with many overseas, and local artists. Our band also did some TV, and recording work. (Band Stand etc.

I later formed a company called DICK BUCHANAN MUSIC SUPERMARKET. As I devised, and started a library of my music arrangements (sheet music arrangements) for singers, bands, groups, schools etc.

This business was so successful, I was able to give up playing, and just concentrate on this new venture, and, to this day, my musical arrangements are sold all over the world.

Some of my better known clients include HUMAN NATURE, JOHN WILLIAMSON, LUCKY STARR, IKE COLE (Brother of Nat King Cole) THE McCYMONTS, GUY MITCHELL (USA), and, many, many more



7 minute interview with Dick Buchanan with MAGA President George Bruno and Treasurer Ross Maio on September 4: <https://youtu.be/MwOZanjDyWM>



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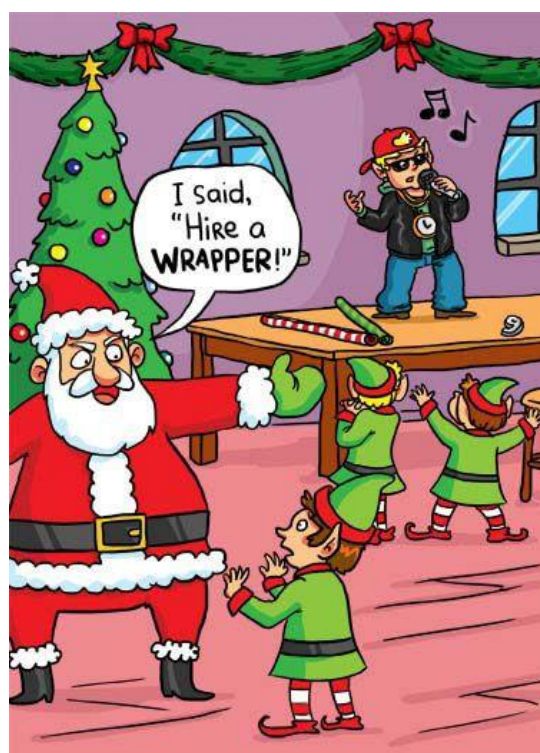


"I'm 42. That's 84 in musician years."

*Monica Wood*

"I worry that the person who thought up muzak may be thinking up something else."

*Lily Tomlin*



**MAGA**  
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## CONTACT US

GPO Box 1647  
Sydney, NSW, 2001, Australia

Email: [admin@magainc.org.au](mailto:admin@magainc.org.au)



[musicarrangersguildaustralia](https://www.instagram.com/musicarrangersguildaustralia) [facebook.com/MAGAInc](https://facebook.com/MAGAInc)

## National Executive 2020

President: George Bruno (NSW) - [georgeb@magainc.org.au](mailto:georgeb@magainc.org.au)

Vice President & Publisher: Jessica Wells (NSW)

Secretary & Webmaster: Tim Middleton (WA)

Treasurer: Ross Maio (NSW)

Executive Member: Greg Schultz (WA)

Executive Member: Ian Boath (SA)

Executive Member: Matt Amy (VIC)

Executive Member: Kieran Hurley (WA)

Executive Member: Greg Flood (VIC)

Executive Member: Peter Casey AM (VIC)

Executive Member: Steven Stanke (NSW)

Trustees: Henry "Doc" Bertram, Julie Simonds, Robert Gavin