



## **UNLEY CONCERT BAND**

### **ANZAC TOUR BULLETIN #3 22 September 2008**

#### **1. Introduction**

Progress continues to be made toward our 2009 tour. This tour bulletin will outline information that is known at the time of writing. Members are reminded that tour details and arrangements are subject to change.

#### **2. Itinerary**

More information is now available regarding the itinerary for this tour. As follows:

##### **Sydney**

- The tour will depart on the morning of Good Friday, 2009. We will be flying Qantas - departing Adelaide at 8.05am and arrives in Sydney at 10.25am
- We will be staying at the Sydney Central YHA, 11 Rawson Pl, SYDNEY. This hostel is located in the centre of the city, just behind the Sydney Town Hall. The Queen Victoria Building, railway station, and Darling Harbour are within easy walking distance. Upon arrival at Sydney, we will travel by train from the airport to Town Hall Station, then walk to our accommodation.
- We will have our final rehearsal before the National Championships later in the afternoon after landing in Sydney and checking in to our accommodation. We are negotiating a rehearsal space immediately opposite our accommodation.
- There are set menus for group meals at the YHA. We will take orders for these meals closer to departure date.
- We are still working on obtaining a playing engagement in Sydney during our time there, but this remains to be confirmed.
- Easter Sunday and Easter Monday are free days in Sydney.
- We will have one full rehearsal day before our departure for Europe. This will be Tuesday 14 April. This will include marching.
- We depart from our accommodation on Wednesday 15 April, travel to the International terminal at Sydney airport, and depart on Malaysian Airlines for Amsterdam via KL. The flight departs Sydney at 2:20 p.m, and flying time is 8

hrs 25 mins. After a three hour stopover, we resume our journey to Europe, departing KL at 11:55 p.m. and arriving at Amsterdam at 6:35 a.m. – a journey of 12 hrs 40 mins.

#### Amsterdam

- Accommodation has been booked at the Hotel Ibis Amsterdam Centre. This is located at Stationsplein 49, 1012 AB Amsterdam. The website is: [www.ibishotel.com](http://www.ibishotel.com). The hotel is located next to Amsterdam Central Station and is within walking distance of Museums such as Rijksmuseum (2.80km) Stedelijk Museum (1.00km), Van Gogh Museum (3.20km), plenty of shops, the Redlight District (!) etc.

#### Ypres

- In Ypres, the accommodation is at the Menin Gate International School Hotel, located literally right opposite the Menin Gate, and in the centre of the city. You can walk from here to the main square and its many shops, restaurants, etc.
- We will take day trips from Ypres to Bruges and Brussels as previously advised.

#### Paris

- In Paris, the accommodation is at the MIJE hostel, located in the Marais district of Paris, within walking distance of the River Seine, the Town Hall, the Georges Pompidou Centre, Notre Dame, and the Latin Quarter.
- Our participation in the 'La Flamme' ceremony is confirmed. The ceremony commences at about 6.15pm and we will need to be there from 5.30pm onwards.
- It is likely we will perform a concert at the Cathedral of Louis Les Invalides - most likely to be the evening of Tuesday 21 April. Otherwise this day is a free day.
- Wednesday 22 April will feature an organised morning of sightseeing in Paris, with an afternoon performance at the Madeleine Church in central Paris.

#### The Somme

- Our accommodation in the town of Albert will be the Poppies d'Albert International School Hotel [www.poppiesalbert.com](http://www.poppiesalbert.com) Located right behind the town hall, the centre of the town is less than 5 minutes walking distance.
- Be prepared for a rehearsal for the Dawn Service sometime on Friday 24 April.
- ANZAC Day will be spent on the Somme, working with the Australian Embassy (Paris) and the Department of Veterans' Affairs. As advised, we have confirmed our participation in the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Villers Bretonneaux. We will also participate in other ceremonies during the day.
- It is possible that there will be some sort of concert opportunity in Villers-Bretonneaux. The previously mentioned performance at the night market is now not likely owing to the early start required on Anzac Day.
- There is a concert possibility on Sunday 26 April with the Amiens Brass Band. Details to be confirmed. As this is the final night of the tour, it is likely there will be a final gathering/celebration to wrap the trip.

## Return to Adelaide

- Those members returning to Adelaide will depart Albert on Monday 27 April and travel directly to Charles de Gaulle Airport for a midday departure to KL. Members remaining in Europe are free to make their own arrangements from the morning of this day.
- We will arrive at KL on Tuesday 28 April at 7:25 a.m. after a flight of 13 hrs 25 mins. We will transfer by coach to a hotel in central KL. The remainder of this day is free.
- Wednesday 29 April is also a free day, with a late afternoon transfer by coach from the hotel to the airport for the return flight to Adelaide.
- We will depart KL at 9:50 p.m. and arrive in Adelaide on Thursday 30 April at 6:15 a.m. Travelling time is 6 hrs 55 mins.

### **3. Accommodation and Meals**

Members should have notified their rooming preferences and submitted their dietary needs form. Please do this as soon as possible if you have not already advised this important information.

### **4. Tour Party**

I am pleased to advise that we will have as tour party of 40 persons, including a balanced band, conductor, partners, and supporters. The final touring party list will be released early in 2009.

### **5. Tour Variations**

Thank you to those members who have requested various return arrangements. The fine details of these will be negotiated closer to the final payment date. It is suggested that your personal plans be established no later than 30 January 2009. Advice earlier than this date is also welcome.

### **6. Payments**

Thank you to all members for prompt payments. If you are paying by direct debit, please ensure that you complete the funds transfer two days before the due date for payment, and that you attach your NAME to each transaction.

Payments to the Treasurer by cheque at rehearsals are also welcome.

At the request of some members, variations to the payment plan outlined previously have been negotiated. This may be an option for members who wish to pay a lump

sum, or are experiencing temporary cash flow difficulties. Please speak with the Music Director or the President *in advance of the deadlines* if you have any issues relating to payments.

All members are asked to make a special effort to meet the payment deadlines listed on the tour conditions. This is necessary for our tour operators to make arrangements and payments on our behalf, and also to minimise the work of your committee in chasing up late contributions.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment payment of \$1000.00 is due on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> November.

## **7. Instruments**

All members are reminded that you must make appropriate arrangements for insurance cover for personal instruments. It is also expected that you will take your best instrument on this tour – no cheap ‘stunt’ instruments, please.

## **8. Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance brochures have been available at recent rehearsals. For this tour our Tour Operator recommends ‘Plan A’, and this is the level of cover that has been included in the tour costing. The very top level of cover is really only necessary for travel to the USA.

If an individual plans to stay in Europe at the end of the tour, then our Tour Operator will calculate the extra amount according to the total duration of the trip. Included in the tour cost is the 23 day Plan A policy. 2 Free of Charge days are granted by QBE on a 23 day policy, so tour members will only need to make an extra payment if their trip duration becomes 26 days or more.

Please consider this aspect if you are planning to stay longer in Europe at the conclusion of our tour.

## **9. Frequent Flyer points**

Please be advised that Qantas Frequent Flyers will be able to accrue points on our flight from Adelaide to Sydney. Please supply your Frequent Flyer number and we will forward to our Tour Operator.

Malaysian Airlines ‘Enrich’ frequent flyers program points do not apply for this tour. Unfortunately this is a condition of the group booking.

## **10. Return of Forms**

Our Drum Major Jeff Hale (trombone) has kindly agreed to undertake the collection of the various forms required for this tour. Thank you Jeff.

Members by now should have returned the following:

- Expression of interest
- Acceptance of Tour Conditions
- Passport copy
- Special Dietary and Medical Details
- Personal Particulars
- Travel Insurance (enclosed in the brochure)

Most members have returned the first three items, but we are still awaiting the return of the last three from many members. Please complete and return these forms as soon as possible.

## **11. Conclusion**

Please contact me directly – i.e. *not* our tour operator – if you have any questions about any issues surrounding this tour.

More details and further arrangements will be notified in the next *Tour Bulletin*.

A reminder again: **the 3<sup>rd</sup> instalment of \$1000.00 is due on or before Thursday 20 November.**

Dr Kevin Cameron  
Music Director  
23 September 2008