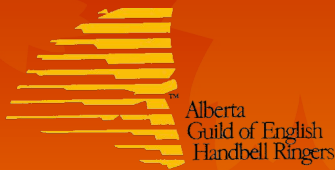


F A L L 2 0 1 8



The Peal

The Official Newsletter of the Alberta Guild of English Handbell Ringers

Borealis Bell Ringing

Whether you are a ringer, teacher, conductor or student, *Borealis Bell Ringing* has something for you! On Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018, choose your favourite four sessions (out of 12), all of which will be lead by expert handbell clinicians.

Lunch, snacks, concert ticket and an event tote bag are included in your registration fee this year.

Borealis Bell Ringing ends with a concert on Saturday night. Enjoy performing with others, as well as listening to other remarkable handbell teams from around the province!

**Borealis Bell Ringing* also offers a Youth Program!



18th International Handbell Symposium ~ Cairns, Australia

So, didn't quite make it "down under" after all? Don't despair – thanks to technology, you can grab your favourite drink, settle in and enjoy the big event in the luxury of your own private home theatre (ie. your computer?) Alberta's own Camille Ream is on right after the 1 hour mark, but make sure to watch every moment of this amazing [massed ringing concert!](#)

Save the Date!

Borealis Bell Ringing
Oct 13, 2018

Click [Borealis Bell Ringing](#) to register today!!

Festive Concerts

Nov-Dec, 2018

Here, there and everywhere across AB – send your dates to the *Peal*!!

Youth Festivals

2019 2018
Spring 2018

Click [Youth Festivals](#) for all the details!!



Presidential Ponderings

Dear ALGEHR members,

I hope ALL of you are planning to head up to Fort McMurray this October to attend Borealis Bell Ringing?!

Registration is open, so make your plan now. Ringers, teachers, students and directors alike: Come celebrate and support this city with a terrific handbell workshop. Support Cathy Larson and her organizing team to build the bell programs again. I hope to see a record number of members up there!!

Life is joyful when you surround yourself with great people, and I've had the great pleasure to work with tremendous volunteers on ALGEHR's current Board. If you've ever wanted to serve on the ALGEHR board, I whole-heartedly advise you to join this year. Please contact any of us if you are at all interested. It doesn't take a lot of time out of your year, and you can make a difference!

We are looking for volunteers to fill a couple of positions: Vice President South and President. We are also looking for volunteers to fill our "members-at-large" roles, who are interested in helping with our website and our various programs and activities. We are currently accepting nominations and names of interested individuals. Please step forward. ***We need YOU!!***

This is the last time that I will be writing to you in the PEAL as President of ALGEHR. I've thoroughly enjoyed volunteering for this position and am proud of what the ALGEHR board has accomplished in these last four years. I look forward to serving as Past President. At our AGM in October, we will be introducing our new President.

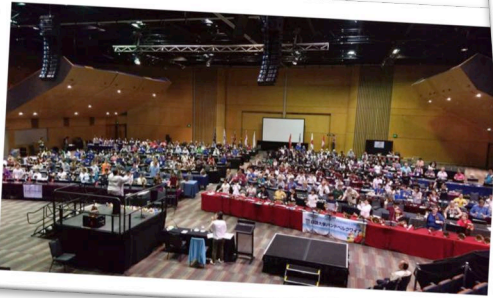
I feel so fortunate to participate in an organization that supports the arts and arts development here in Alberta. It's been a blast!

Cheers all!

Anne

Anne Hergott
President, ALGEHR





A Tale of Two Cities: Cairns for Ringers and Non-Ringers

When all your stars line up and you fly from Brisbane to Cairns on a cloudless day and have a window seat on the right hand side of the plane, the Great Barrier Reef stretches below you as an immense and seemingly endless series of turquoise patches in the ocean. If you see a photo of Australia from space, it is almost entirely brown with a narrow strip of green round the edge. In Queensland, this is the rain forest. *'Together in Harmony, The Reef and Rainforest Ring'* was a fitting theme for the 18th International Handbell Symposium in Cairns.

The Official Opening was at St. Monica's Catholic Cathedral in Cairns and featured a Welcome to Country from members of the Yirrganydji and Gimuy Walubara Yidinji aboriginal families, and followed by choral and handbell music from youth choirs. The cathedral was filled to over capacity which I guess was good, but I was squished in the crowd and being somewhat vertically challenged, I heard little and saw nothing. But not to worry – most of the symposium content is on YouTube.

There were roughly 400 delegates from eight countries, entire choirs or individual attendees. I loved the music selections from each of the eight handbell guilds. Some chose classic music e.g. Bizet's *Festive Dance* and Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance No. 4.*, while other guilds had music representative of their country. These included Hong Kong's selection of the *Yellow River Concerto (First Movement)* arranged and conducted by Kevin Ko (and my absolute favourite piece), Singapore's selection of *Bunga Sayan* arranged by Damien Lim which traces the history of Singapore and Australasia's *The Great Barrier Reef*, composed and conducted by Timothy Sherlock. So how could I forget to mention Canada's selection? Camille Ream conducted *Creator of Light (Aurora Borealis)* a haunting tone poem written by Ontario composer Erwin Stroobach.

I was one of the Canadian orphan ringers (there were 16 Canadian attendees from BC, Alberta and Ontario). I openly confess that I hate sharing bells, so I was happy to have a whole table to myself (C3 to B3). One of the best things about being one of several hundred ringers is that if you miss playing that key E3 at measure 67, there will be several other ringers who will cover for you. I have to admit that following nine different conductors, each with a unique conducting style, is a great way to fight the onset of Alzheimer's – better than Sudoku or learning Finnish. I only observed one reluctant ringer during the symposium; this young man was either absent, asleep or playing games on his I-phone. The woman ringing next to him spent a good deal of time cajoling and prodding him (unsuccessfully) – I think she must have been his mother!

Between the massed ringing sessions there were a lot of workshops to choose from. Having been

I opted for the Festival Choir. We did not see the music until the first rehearsal— two Turkish Marches arranged and conducted by Hiroataka Arai from Japan. I started to tremble when I saw that one of them was Mozart's *Rondo Alla Turca*, a piece that I strangled in a piano exam more than half a century ago. There were no ringing assignments, just a mad grab for the bells at the start of the workshop. The youth made a beeline for the treble bells, the seniors (including me) headed for the less taxing bass section. Good move – the piece proceeded just a little slower than the speed of light. It was as good a calorie burn as a session of kick boxing in the gym.

The Symposium field trip was to the *Rainforestation*, a tourist attraction a short bus trip from the Convention Centre. Kudos to the Organizing Committee for getting 400 people on a bus and back again without misplacing anyone. We spent the afternoon watching aboriginal dancing (with Didgeridoo of course), learning how to throw a boomerang (I hope nobody filmed my pathetic attempt) and observing wallabies, koalas and lizards. The highlight for me was the short trip on a 1943 amphibious Duck (DUKW) boat. We stopped at one place on an almost vertical hill and folks looked nervously at the driver. His response 'What, you don't trust 1943 technology?' was not very reassuring. And I just looked at Google to find out how to spell 'DUKW' and found there was a fatal accident in Missouri in July 2018 involving a Duck vehicle - glad I didn't read that before coming to Australia! The evening ended with a band, and everyone was invited to learn some Australian bush dancing. I have no idea whether this is a tradition or not, probably a ruse to get a large bunch of serious bell people to loosen up and talk to each other. Steve hunkered down under his Tilley hat and refused to either talk or dance.

The Symposium ended with the Gala Dinner and Closing Ceremony. Following the procession of the flags and traditional greetings from the Yirrganydji and Yidinji families, there were presentations to various very deserving groups and individuals involved in the Symposium. Sorry, but after a full day of dress rehearsal, concert and teardown it was a long evening. It was good to get out into the open air and watch the ocean with snippets of handbell music swimming around in my brain.

~Fiona Bamforth, IHS Ringer

Cairns is an interesting town. For most of its history, it has served as a base for shipping sugar cane and tropical produce and also as a military base. More recently, it has developed into a tourist mecca for the surrounding tropical rainforest and Great Barrier Reef. Whereas most of Queensland is suffering from drought, Cairns is not.

There are two sides to Cairns, the face it would like you to see, near the conference center and cruise ship wharf, and the face it would prefer you not to see. The former area has the usual shops selling genuine Queensland kitsch (generally made somewhere in the Far East) and restaurants touting Australian Bush Tucker (fish and chips and meat pies), and tour operators offering the genuine Queensland experience and barrier reef trips. The only local Queenslanders you will meet here are those who serve you.

You know instantly when you cross the line that divides the two sides. The other side is pretty gritty and, because we didn't know Cairns, it was close to where we stayed. There are some subtle indications, such as the park that had a series of those pictograph signs that are so ubiquitous, but included one I had not seen before. It was a pair of fists in a red circle with a red line through it. It means no brawling, which, apparently, is what the young Bruces of Cairns like to do on an otherwise quiet evening. There was the liquor store that, at 9.30 in the morning, already had a line up outside in anticipation of ten o'clock opening. But my favorite was the Friendly Grocer food supermarket that appeared to be anything but. Approaching the store which is festooned by

by CCTVs, there were a series of signs warning of the dire consequences of shoplifting and a sign that stated that all bags, backpacks or any other device capable of holding anything at all were to be checked in and left at the front of the store. This was enforced by a massive Sheila, about six feet tall and almost as broad who looked like she had already consumed two men for breakfast.

Queensland has some amazing seafood, but trying to find it outside of expensive high-end restaurants is a challenge. The big supermarkets (Coles and Woolies) sell seafood but it's all from Thailand or other parts of Australia. You won't find Morton Bay bugs or Yabbies there. I was pondering this issue and trying to find the Botanic Gardens (which I never did locate) while wandering down a busy road featuring gas stations, convenience stores and small businesses. Suddenly, in a Hogwartian moment, there popped up the Fishmonger of Requirement. The storeowner ran his own fishing boat and supplied the downtown restaurants, but also had this store in front of the plant that he used to prepare the fish. I prepared a fishy picnic feast for both of us complete with a bottle of water to drink. We sat down on the esplanade near the sign that warned us to beware of Salties (salt water crocodiles which apparently have been known to feast on tourists in that area) to find that our water had mysteriously turned into a very passable Hunter Valley Chablis.

~ Steve Bamforth, IHS Non-Ringer



Canadians @ Cairns



Kevin Ko, Susan Galloway, Kathie Zalasky, Yoyo Chan



Debbie Rice, Joyce Miller, Barb McGeever



Rainforest Tour

At the IHS Cairns Gala Banquet, the International Handbell Committee (HGC Chair Patsy Andrews-Vert and IHC Executive Director Sun-Joo Shin pictured here) presented the *International Handbell Laureat Award* to Carmel Daveson of the Handbell Society of Australasia for her tireless work and support of handbells in her country. Her tremendous efforts to build the Australian handbell community and to support the music education programming for handbell/chime ringing in that country have been unwavering and without any expectation for recognition. Carmel is a true advocate and strong force of determination in her beliefs that building music education programs for students, and the coming together of musicians of all ages at IHS events can, and will, promote international understanding that will help humankind.



Massed Ringing Conductors: Symposium Ensemble, Australia, Korea, Australia, Canada, GB, Japan, USA, Hong Kong, Singapore, Youth Ensemble





Summer's done....and calling all ringers back to your tables!!

Happy soon-to-be Fall!

Given we have a fair bit of comings and goings by ringers this fall, thought I'd try this approach. Each session is a stand-alone session. We work up just the pieces for the final date and then play in church. We start fresh for each session. So please pick the session(s) you

would like to take part in and then I can plan music for each session. Please note no rehearsal [on Oct 9](#). We will go back to the usual approach after Christmas.

We are looking for ringers with some experience. Music ranges generally from Level 1 to 3-

- Session 1 - [Oct 7](#) Worship Service: 4 rehearsals [Sept 11- Oct 2](#)
- Session 2 - Nov 4 Anniversary Sunday: 3 rehearsals [Oct 16-30](#)
- Session 3 - Dec 2 Advent 1: 4 rehearsals [Nov 6-27](#)
- Session 4 - Dec 16 Advent 3: 3 rehearsals [Nov 27-Dec 11](#)
- Session 5 - Christmas Eve: 3 rehearsals, [Dec 4-18](#)

Please contact Director, Carol Bergum at c_bergum@hotmail.com for more information.

Ringling Opportunity for Experienced Ringers

BELL ÉPOQUE (a new Calgary Community Bell Team) is looking for a few more enthusiastic bell members. Rehearsals are on Mondays 7-9 pm, SW Calgary.

Please call 403-852-6031 if you want a fun, musical challenge!!

BIG MOVE!

Belles in Harmony have found a new home! Come and join a dynamic group of ringers who rehearse Thursday evenings in Sherwood Park. And . . . watch for our new name this fall. If you can't commit to every week, expand our complement of subs. September sees us in our convenient new location, Trinity Baptist, on the northeast corner of Highway 21 and Baseline Road, with easy and close access for the whole Edmonton area. Interested in handbells but don't know how to ring? If you can read music, we can teach you how to ring. Give it a try!

For more info contact Judy @ 780-464-0603 or Laurie @ 780-464-4264.

SAVE THE DATE!

Classic Bronze / Classic Copper return to St. Albert July 3 - 6, 2019. There will be a Happy Hour on July 2 - meet the directors, reunite with old friends, meet your fellow ringers. We look forward to working with our directors, Michael Glasgow (Bronze) and Stuart Sladden (Copper).

Registration opens in January.

Space is limited so watch the Classic Bronze [website](#) for more details.



RING IT ON: BACK TO BELLS



By: Joanne Wong *JW.*

Editor's Encore

Hard to believe it's that time of the year yet again! While several ALGEHR members have been busy globe-trotting and enjoying amazing new adventures, many of us are still wondering how we ever survived record-breaking temperatures and watched in dismay while unbelievable numbers of forest fires threatened our next-door neighbours. Regardless of our summer activities, it will be great to hear all the stories as we regroup and look forward to another exciting new season of music and joy! Hope to see you all in Fort Mac!!!

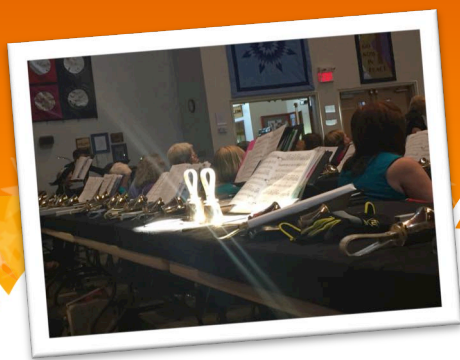


Photo credits: Various IHS friends,
Susan Galloway, Fiona Miller,
Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin



Not to be missed! (Send me your performance dates to be posted here)

Sun, Dec 9, 2018 @ 3 pm: *Jubiloso! Bells of Concordia*, Glory Lutheran, Edmonton

Contact your Board!

VACANT	President	president@algehr.org
Cathy Larson	VP North/Fred Merrett	vpnorth@algehr.org / composer@algehr.org
VACANT	VP South	vpssouth@algehr.org
Joanne Wong	Treasurer	treasurer@algehr.org
Rhoda Murray	Secretary	secretary@algehr.org
Lucy Graham	Membership	membership@algehr.org
Susan Galloway	Education	education@algehr.org
Anke Kelker	SEF Grant	sefgrant@algehr.org
Jim Winslett	Website	web@algehr.org
Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin	Social/Peal	social@algehr.org / peal@algehr.org
Fiona Miller	Past-president	pastpres@algehr.org

Next Peal deadline!! Nov 15, 2018~ Please send me your submissions by this date!!!