

Accordion Society of Australia (ASA)

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Treasurer: Vince Granturco
Musical Directors: Elizabeth Jones and Ross Maio



Internet Site: www.accordions.com/asa

News from Australia...

The Story of the Accordion Society of Australia:

The Accordion Society of Australia is known to all as the ASA and symbolized by the accordion playing kangaroo superimposed on the map of Australia.

The inaugural meeting of the ASA was held at Rockdale Town Hall on February 21st 1970. It was opened by Mrs. Else Brandman acting as Convenor. There were 37 people present and all agreed to the founding of the Accordion Society of Australia.

The Society became officially incorporated under the Companies Act (1961) on 31st May 1971 and the ASA was subsequently accepted into the CIA.

The Accordion Society of Australia has been actively promoting the accordion around Australia since their formation in 1970.

Currently the ASA has two active divisions, one based in Sydney and the other based in Melbourne. Both divisions have an orchestra that performs at various venues to promote the accordion.

Every year an International Festival is held that includes competitions (solo, duet, ensemble and orchestra), workshops, performances, evening functions and a gala concert featuring guest artists and the combined orchestras.

This year the 33rd International Festival was held in Canberra between Wednesday 29th September and Sunday the 3rd October. Competitors travel from all parts of Australia and New Zealand and visiting guests from other countries are always made welcome.

The NSW State Accordion Orchestra undertook their first major European tour this year to compete at the World Music Festival in Innsbruck, Austria. The Youth Orchestra competed and have had a fantastic learning experience from seeing some of the great accordion countries in action. Further tours are planned for the Youth Orchestra as it is a way to continue the development of the accordion in Australia for the younger generation.

Information on upcoming performances in Australia as well as news and events can be found on the website: www.accordions.com/asa

ASA REGIONAL OFFICERS

NEW SOUTH WALES

President: June Jones

VICTORIA

President: Heinz Dabernig

QUEENSLAND

President: Dulcie Parfitt

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Life Member: David Krygger

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Liaison: Elite Accordion Group

TASMANIA

Liaison: John Young & Robert Taylor

THE ACCORDION...

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS!

It has been 175 years since Cyrill Demian made his patent of the "Accordion" as recorded by the Viennese Patent Office on May 23rd, 1829.