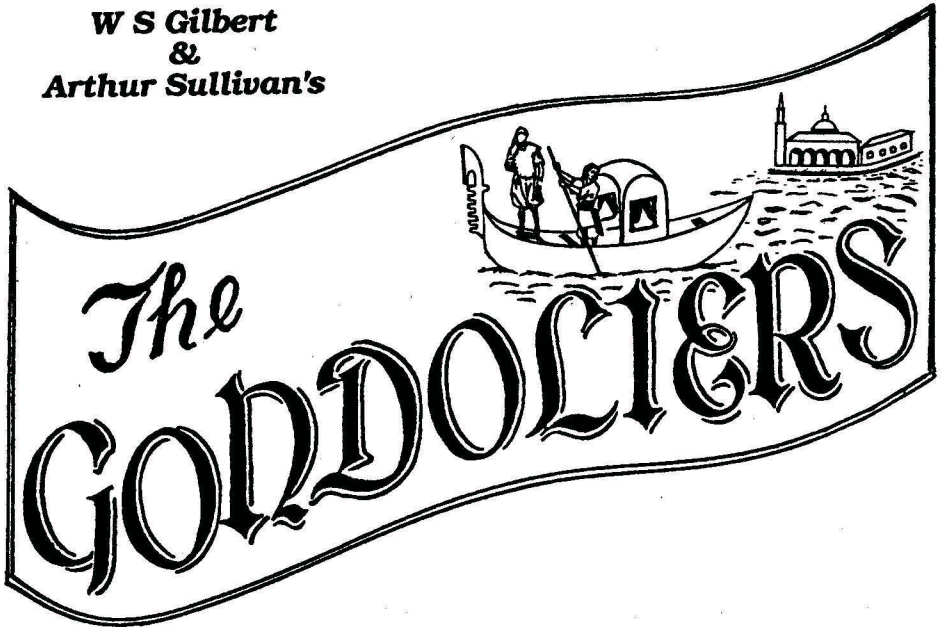




present

**W S Gilbert
&
Arthur Sullivan's**



PROGRAM

proceeds in aid of Community Aid Abroad
and Harrison Youth Services

Warrandyte High School Oct 4 - 12 1991

THE STORY IN BRIEF

ACT I THE PIAZZETTA, VENICE, 1750

In the Piazzetta, a crowd of *contadine* (peasant girls) waits for the two leading gondoliers, Giuseppe and Marco, who are to select their brides from among them. Gallantly refusing to choose among so many beauties, the gondoliers let Fate decide in a game of blind-man's-buff, and are caught by Tessa and Gianetta. Amid general rejoicing, the crowd goes off to see the couples married. The Duke of Plaza-Toro, a hen-pecked, down-at-heel nobleman, arrives from Spain with his Duchess, their daughter Casilda, and a retinue of one - a drummer, Luiz. The Duke tells Casilda that she was married at six months to the infant heir of the King of Barataria, but after the King's conversion to Wesleyan Methodism the baby prince disappeared, supposedly abducted by the Grand Inquisitor and taken to Venice. The throne of Barataria is now vacant, and they have come to Venice to search for Casilda's missing husband. Unknown to her parents, Casilda is in love with the lowly Luiz; sadly, the two decide they must renounce their love. Don Alhambra, the Grand Inquisitor, brings the news that the Prince is either Giuseppe or Marco, but he doesn't know which; the only person who can tell is the Prince's old nurse, (Luiz's mother, it turns out) who will be sent for. Later Don Alhambra is affronted by the gondoliers' familiar treatment of him. They explain that they are republicans and egalitarians and hate class structures and monarchies. Don Alhambra then informs them that one of them is a king. Egged on by their wives, both of whom are enchanted at the possibility of becoming royalty, the gondoliers agree to rule Barataria jointly on egalitarian lines until the true king's identity is known. Don Alhambra, uneasily aware that no-one but Casilda can be Queen, insists that Tessa and Gianetta remain in Venice for a while. With feelings of mixed pleasure the gondoliers embark for Barataria.

ACT II IN THE PALACE OF BARATARIA

After three months in Barataria, the gondolier-kings are pleased with the way that their political innovations are working out. Suddenly their wives appear, having grown impatient and made the journey from Venice. There is a joyful re-union, and the company dance the *cachuca*. Don Alhambra, rather shocked at the joint kings' regime, tells them that history has shown that the classless society can never work. He reveals the facts of the Prince's infant marriage, to the distress of the gondoliers and, especially, their wives. When the Duke and his family arrive, the situation, both maritally and politically, is obviously very difficult. The Duke, who has prospered since making himself a limited company and putting his aristocratic services on sale, gives Giuseppe and Marco some coaching in court etiquette. At last the Prince's nurse arrives and confesses that to save the succession during a rebellion, she substituted her own son for the Prince. The true king is therefore neither Giuseppe or Marco - it is Luiz! Casilda and Luiz are united and, without many regrets, the gondoliers and their wives and friends leave for home.

THE GONDOLIERS

Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan Text by Sir William Gilbert

PRINCIPALS -in order of appearance

Gianetta....Mavis Ford Tessa....Judith O'Shea; contadine

Giuseppe.....Jo Bourke Marco....John Tacey; gondoliers

Duke of Plaza-Toro, a grandee of Spain....Michael Knuckey

Duchess of Plaza-Toro.....Beryl Nichols

Casilda, daughter of Duke and Duchess....Ingrid Schipperheyne

Luiz, Duke's personal drummer.....Michael Try

Don Alhambra del Bolero, Grand Inquisitor.....Rod Gorfine

Musical numbers

Act I

Overture

1. List and learn *Contadine and gondoliers*
2. From the sunny Spanish shore *Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Luiz*
3. In enterprise of martial kind *Duke, Duchess, Casilda, Luiz*
4. O rapture when alone together *Casilda, Luiz*
5. There was a time *Luiz, Casilda*
6. I stole the Prince *Don Alhambra, Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, Duke*
7. But, bless my heart *Casilda, Don Alhambra*
8. Try we life-long *Casilda, Duchess, Luiz, Duke, Don Alhambra*
9. Bridegroom and bride *Contadine, gondoliers, Tessa*
10. Kind sir, you cannot have the heart *Ensemble*

Act II

1. Of happiness the very pith *Men, Marco, Giuseppe*
2. Rising early in the morning *Giuseppe, men*
3. Take a pair of sparkling eyes *Marco*
4. Here we are, at the risk *Contadine, gondoliers*
5. Dance a cachuca *Contadine, gondoliers*
6. There lived a king *Don Alhambra, Marco, Giuseppe*
7. In a contemplative fashion *Gianetta, Tessa, Marco, Giuseppe*
8. With ducal pomp *Men, Duke, Duchess*
9. On the day when I was wedded *Duchess*
10. To help unhappy commoners *Duke, Duchess*
11. I am a courtier *Duke, Marco, Giuseppe, Casilda, Duchess*
12. Here is a case unprecedented *Ensemble*

THE GONDOLIERS

Diamond Valley Singers and Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra

PRODUCTION

Co-Director	Graham Ford
Co-Director	Ruth Richter
Producer	Dianne Richter
Assistant Producer	Rena Douglas
Musical Director	Ian Lowe
Choreographer	Jeannette Donahue
Orchestra Leader	Mary Wright
Rehearsal pianists	Elizabeth Inglis, Ian Lowe, Roger Peck
Set Design	Les Bardwell
Scenic Artist	Chris White
Stage Managers	Les Bardwell, Merrill Hogan
Lighting	Alf Lee, Dick Hayes
Costumes	Marilyn Billing, Jeannette Donahue, Andrea Fitzgerald, Nola Thompson Mary Wright
Make-up	Pam Leeding
Poster	Ellen Hundley
Program	David Sadedín
Ticket Sales	Edna Nelva

CAST

Principals Michael Knuckey (Duke of Plaza-Toro), Beryl Nichols (Duchess of Plaza-Toro), Ingrid Schipperheyn (Casilda), John Tacey (Marco), Rod Gorfine (Don Alhambra), Jo Bourke (Giuseppe), Judith O'Shea (Tessa), Mavis Ford (Gianetta), Michael Try (Luiz), Marilyn Billing (Inez), Ellen Hundley (Gianetta), Hildegard Ziersch (Guila), Kay Driver (Vittoria), Allen Luke (Francesco), Victor Jetten (Antonio), James Douglas (Georgio)

Ensemble Lesley Alves, Rachel Drinkwater, Jeannette Donahue, Andrea Fitzgerald, Ally MacLean, Janine Tacey, Pam Crohan, Irene Hayes, Edna Nelva, Dianne Richter, Bronwyn Ryall, Gaél Shearer, Norma Turnbull-Smith

Orchestra Brian Donahue, Graham Ford, Dennis Hickey, Brent Reichenbach, Peter Thomas, Chris Wearne

Spanish Dancers Bronwyn Ryall, Janine Tacey
Extras Christopher Martin, Daniel Richter-Martin, Lucas Richter

Thank-you also to Warrandyte Garden Centre, 314 Warrandyte Rd, for providing the stage greenery used in Act II.

MAVIS FORD

Mavis has sung in a vast number of operas and operettas. Her experience includes leads in THE MIKADO, THE GONDOLIERS, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, SISTER ANGELICA (Puccini), THE TELEPHONE (Menotti), IL SERAGLIO and THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (Mozart). She has been a member of the Tudor Choristers and has sung solos in several oratorios. Mavis has performed in TRIAL BY JURY, HMS PINAFORE, THE MIKADO, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE and PRINCESS IDA for Diamond Valley Singers

Gianetta



Don Alhambra



ROD GORFINE

Rod has been a Gilbert and Sullivan specialist for some years and has performed principal roles in PRINCESS IDA, YEOMAN OF THE GUARD, HMS PINAFORE, SORCERER, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, and THE MIKADO during his time with the SEC Theatre Company.

Since joining Diamond Valley Singers, Rod has played the roles of Pooh Bah (THE MIKADO), Sir Rodderick (RUDDIGORE), The Pirate King (THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE) and King Hildebrand (PRINCESS IDA).

BERYL NICHOLS

A "dramatic mezzo-soprano", Beryl competed successfully in eisteddfods, reaching the semi-finals in the Sun Aria. Her stage experience began with the White Orchid Ensemble and continued with the Regent Dramatic Society. As well as being Musical Director and Stage Manager, she played roles in OKLAHOMA, SOUTH PACIFIC, CAROUSEL, PAINT YOUR WAGON, and BRIGADOON. More recently she has taken part in the musical productions of the Eltham Singers, an adult singing group associated with Eltham College. Beryl played Katisha in THE MIKADO in 1987 and Dame Hannah in RUDDIGORE in 1988.

Duchess of Plaza-Toro



MICHAEL KNUCKEY

Michael's musical career began at the age of seven, dressed in crepe paper tails, conducting an imaginary orchestra. Since that time it has rapidly deteriorated so that he is now reduced to Gilbert and Sullivan comic roles, which have included the Duke of Plaza-Toro (THE GONDOLIERS), Sir Joseph Porter (HMS PINAFORE) and King Gama (PRINCESS IDA). He has also appeared as Toad (of Toad Hall) and as the cowardly lion (THE WIZARD OF OZ), and in the choruses of IOLANTHE, RUDDIGORE and THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE. His many non-musical roles have included William Featherstone (HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES), Theseus (RAPE OF THE BELT) and Sir Birdboot (THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND)

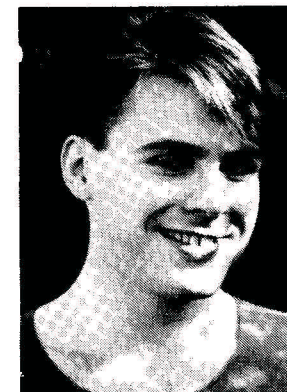


Duke of Plaza-Toro

JO BOURKE

Jo has been involved with a number of choral and theatre groups. He was a member of St Patrick's Cathedral Choir for six years, and spent one year with the Melbourne Youth Choir.

Stage productions include JOSEPH AND HIS TECHNOCOLOR DREAMCOAT (chorus), OLIVER (Mr Bumble), JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (Judas), THE GONDOLIERS (Luiz), OKLAHOMA (Jud Fry), PIRATES OF PENZANCE (Major General Stanley) and ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (chorus). He was also a backing vocalist for Eltham Little Theatre's production of GOSDSPELL. Jo has been a chorus member of two DVS stage productions, THE MIKADO and RUDDIGORE, as well as choral performances.



Giuseppe

Tessa

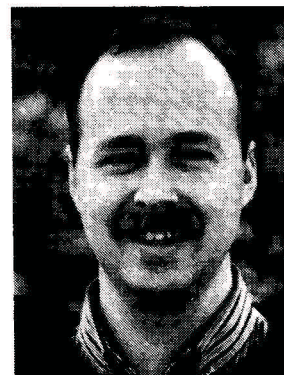


JUDITH O'SHEA

Judith has been a long-time member of the Diamond Valley Singers, after singing with Tudor Choristers and other groups in the UK, Perth and Canberra. Gilbert and Sullivan roles with Diamond Valley Singers have included Pitti-Sing (THE MIKADO), Ruth (THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE) and Lady Blanche (PRINCESS IDA). Earlier this year she portrayed Katisha in (THE MIKADO) with the Babirra Players. Last year she sang with the the chorus of Lyric Opera's production of LA GIOCONDA.

Judith keeps herself very busy studying singing and musicianship and performing as chorister and/or soloist with Diamond Valley Singers in concerts and oratorios. She has competed in eisteddfods at Bendigo and Ringwood, with a number of placings and "honourable mentions".

Luiz

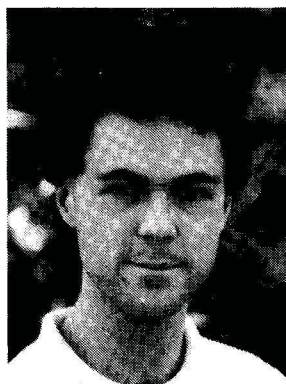


MICHAEL TRY

Michael has a number of years of Choral singing having sung with The Melbourne Youth Choir and The Faye Dumont Singers. He is currently a member of the Savoy Opera Company. He has also performed in principal roles with the Loyola Musical Society and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. His most recent appearances have been as Carboy in THE ZOO with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and as Antonio in THE GONDOLIERS with the Savoy Opera Company.

JOHN TACEY

John has a wide and varied musical experience. As a member of the Melbourne Youth Choir, John performed before the Prince and Princess of Wales, has performed and recorded with the MSO and currently sings with the Faye Dumont Singers. He also plays the Bass Clarinet with the Croydon Concert Band and is deputy musical director and conductor of their No 2 Concert Band. John performed with the Victorian State Opera Youth Company in THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER. In DVS productions, John has portrayed Nanki-Poo in THE MIKADO, Richard Dauntless in RUDDIGORE, Frederick in THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, and Hilarion in PRINCESS IDA. Earlier this year he appeared as Marco in THE GONDOLIERS with the Savoy Opera Company.



Marco

INGRID SCHIPPERHEYN

Ingrid is a 26-year-old coloratura soprano who has been studying singing for about 5 years with Jean Schofield. She has performed leading roles in operas and operettas including LA TRAVIATA, THE COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG, THE IMPRESSARIO, ALADDIN, THE LYREBIRD and others, as well as purely acting roles, such as Sadie Thompson in RAIN. She has also directed, produced and performed in operetta and operatic concerts, and sings with the Victoriana Singers and La Grande Musique. Her ambition is to become a professional operatic singer and lieder singer.



Casilda

GRAHAM FORD

Co-Director

After experience with various musical comedy companies, Graham joined the National Theatre Opera School, playing a number of lead baritone roles. He also played lead roles in KISMET, PAINT YOUR WAGON, KISS ME KATE and several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, as well as a number of roles with the semi-professional company, Globe Opera. Last year he played the role of Barrabas in the Lyric Opera Company's production of LA GIOCONDA.

A Sun Aria semi-finalist, Graham has won the musical comedy section and vocal championship at South Street, and appeared on Quest 77 on Channel 2. Graham is President of Diamond Valley Singers and teaches singing locally.

Graham played the roles of the Bosun in HMS PINAFORE and Pish Tush in THE MIKADO with Diamond Valley Singers, and directed their productions of TRIAL BY JURY, RUDDIGORE, PIRATES OF PENZANCE and was a co-director for PRINCESS IDA.

Co-Director

RUTH RICHTER

After a childhood fascinated by the stage and performing, Ruth studied drama at Latrobe University. She went on to risk life and limb playing Theatre Sports. Undeterred she became a drama teacher.

She has co-directed MAN OF STEEL and GREASE. She wrote and directed INSPECTOR SLEUTH FINDS THE TRUTH, a play about nutrition for primary school children, under the auspices of the Victorian Health Promotions Unit. It was a smash hit in Broadmeadows!

Ruth joined Diamond Valley Singers last year, co-directing PRINCESS IDA with Graham Ford.



DIANNE RICHTER

Producer

Dianne's involvement with Diamond Valley Singers began as assistant producer for THE MIKADO in 1987. Since then she has participated in numerous DVS performances including solos in THE MESSIAH. She also took on the role of producer for RUDDIGORE, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE and PRINCESS IDA.

Dianne regularly sings in concerts and eisteddfods. She played the lead female role in a gospel musical at Ormond Uniting Church and also performed in NOW FOR THE 1990'S, and SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY with Elwood Theatre Company.



JEANNETTE DONAHUE

Choreographer

Jeannette has been associated with stage productions and pantomime from a very early age - dancing and ballet lessons began at around four years of age. She has been in several Gilbert and Sullivan productions and this is the second that she has choreographed.



Gondoliers

JAMES DOUGLAS, VICTOR JETTEN, ALLAN LUKE

JAMES DOUGLAS made his Gilbert and Sullivan debut in 1988 in RUDDIGORE in which he played dual roles as gentry and ghost. In 1989 he played dual pirate/policeman roles in PIRATES OF PENZANCE. Last year he appeared one of the Sons of Gama in PRINCESS IDA

ALLAN LUKE joined Diamond Valley Singers in 1987. He has had roles in G & S productions with Babirra Players (YEOMAN OF THE GUARD) and Ivanhoe Players (COX AND BOX) and with DVS (THE MIKADO, RUDDIGORE, PIRATES OF PENZANCE, PRINCESS IDA).

This is VICTOR JETTEN'S second stage production with Diamond Valley Singers. He is also an active member of the All Saints Church Choir, Greensborough.



KAY DRIVER, ELLEN HUNDLEY, HILDEGARD ZIERSCH

Contadine

KAY DRIVER has been singing since she was eight years old. She toured overseas with the Melbourne Youth Choir in 1978 and is currently Music Director of the Greensborough Uniting Church. In 1990 she played the part of Saccharissa in PRINCESS IDA.

ELLEN HUNDLEY has been involved in folk-music for the past 15 years, with excursions into Jazz, Classical and Latin American music. This is her first performance in a Gilbert and Sullivan production.

HILDEGARD ZIERSCH studied singing in Germany and has been associated with the former amateur Victorian State Opera. Recently she has appeared in PRINCESS IDA and ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD.



Ian has conducted the Eltham (now Diamond Valley and Eltham) Community Orchestra for thirteen years, preparing it for programs of serious and lighter works, always of popular appeal. He has also acted as musical director for several performances by Diamond Valley Singers of Handel's MESSIAH and Haydn's THE SEASONS and the annual Gilbert and Sullivan productions.

Ian's other musical directions have included OKLAHOMA, ANNIE and MY FAIR LADY for Warrandyte High School, THE WIZARD OF OZ for Eltham Little Theatre and PEACE CHILD and ANNIE for the Eltham and Diamond Valley Youth Theatre.

Ian is also a competent pianist, and has recorded Australian piano pieces for 3MBS which are regularly broadcast. He enjoys music as a hobby from his profession as a mathematics educator (teacher and text book author).



THE ORCHESTRA

- VIOLINS:** Mary Wright, Klaus Buechler, Wilma Ezard, Ethel Newton, Paul Watson
Nola Thompson, Jo Parr, Kevin Mullen, David Sadedin
- VIOLAS:** Shiela McAlley, Eric Pool
- CELLOS:** Ray Banks, Geoff Morris
- BASS:** David Rawlinson
- FLUTES:** Mary Keusgen, Len Johnstone
- OBOE:** Dennis Thiel
- CLARINETS:** Derek Wright, Robert Knappett, Nada Cahill (Bass cl)
- HORN:** Claire Porter
- TRUMPET:** Peter Gangel
- BASS TRUMPET:** Ormsby Stewart
- BASS TROMBONE:** Michael Ogilvy
- PERCUSSION:** Julie Wright, Andrew Alves

DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS

In 1985 Ian Lowe approached Graham and Mavis Ford for help in staging TRIAL BY JURY with the Eltham Community Orchestra in aid of World Vision. Rehearsals began, and "The Valley Musical Society" (later to become "The Diamond Valley Singers") was formed to provide local singers with opportunities to be heard in public and to raise money for charity. So far, over \$9500 has been donated to World Vision, \$800 to Community Aid Abroad and \$2400 to the Eltham/Diamond Valley Housing Service.

Two successful performances of TRIAL BY JURY raised \$1300 for World Vision. Since then, singers and orchestra have combined in five more Gilbert and Sullivan productions (HMS PINAFORE, THE MIKADO, RUDDIGORE, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE and PRINCESS IDA), as well as in Handel's MESSIAH and Haydn's THE SEASONS. The Singers have also performed smaller works, including Maunder's OLIVET TO CALVARY, have taken part in local Carols by Candlelight services and sung in the massed choir at Carols by Candlelight at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl on Christmas Eve.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested, please call Graham Ford on 439-3267.

DIAMOND VALLEY AND ELTHAM COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

This orchestra has been in existence for about sixteen years, and performs three or four programmes annually. These have involved symphonies, concertos (some with Ian Lowe as piano soloist), musical comedy and other lighter works. This year staff from Melbourne University ran very beneficial workshops for the wind and string players. The Orchestra is a resource for classical-type musicians and for local endeavours such as festivals and art shows and for other performing groups. The Orchestra looks forward to tackling ambitious works and to continuing its enjoyable and productive association with the Diamond Valley Singers.

The Shire of Eltham has given financial support to the orchestra for over a decade and this support is gratefully acknowledged.

If you would like to join or support the Orchestra, call Ian Lowe, Conductor, on 435-5841 or David Sadedin, Secretary, on 434 7130.

COMING EVENTS

The Savoy Opera Company will present Gilbert and Sullivan's RUDDIGORE from 5th - 9th November, nightly at 8 pm, and a Saturday matinee at 2 pm, in the Camberwell Civic Centre. Tickets \$15, \$7. For bookings phone 579 5701 or 808 8028.

The Diamond Valley Singers and the Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra will next perform in the Eltham Community Centre on Sunday November 10 at 2 pm during the Eltham Festival.

The Diamond Valley Singers and the Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra will perform "Autumn" and "Winter" from Haydn's THE SEASONS on December 1 (Sun) in Greensborough, on Dec 4 (Wed) in Diamond Creek, and on Dec 8 (Sun) in Eltham. Watch out for more details or contact Ian Lowe (435 5841) or Graham Ford (439 3267).

The Warrandyte Drama Group will present PETER PAN Nov. 14-22 Phone 844 1198

COMMUNITY AID ABROAD

Community Aid Abroad is an Australian non-government overseas aid organisation that supports about 200 self-help projects in 23 countries overseas and in Aboriginal Australia. The aim is not only to improve the living conditions of people but also to support the poorest of the poor in their struggle to overcome poverty and injustice.

Strengthening people's organisations is an important step in making sure that socio-economic improvements really benefit the poor. For instance, a village irrigation may only benefit the wealthy landowners unless the poorer villagers have the power to determine where it goes and who gets the water.

CAA funds projects that are initiated and carried out by the people who directly benefit from them. We believe people are motivated towards change when they control that change. The range of projects is broad; it includes health, training, production, education, employment, agricultural, literacy and motivational projects. Some are integrated community development projects encompassing many of these areas. Some focus specifically on the position of women. Care is taken to ensure that projects are in harmony with the local environment and culture.

Raising awareness about issues of poverty and injustice amongst Australians is also a priority, and Community Aid Abroad is active in campaigns such as Third World Debt and Aboriginal Issues.

People can help by donating, by joining a local community group or by assisting with the campaigning work of Community Aid Abroad; please telephone 419 7111.

HARRISON YOUTH SERVICES

Harrison Youth Services is an agency of the Uniting Church dedicated to young people at risk of abuse and neglect or who are Wards of the State.

Harrison is known throughout the welfare sector as an agency who will give young people a fair go. We have 10 accommodation houses located in the Eastern and Southern suburbs of Melbourne. These houses range from fully supervised through to independent living flats. There is also an intellectually disabled house for people who need intensive support.

Recently, we have been developing an early intervention programme. We have an outreach worker who reacts to crisis situations in the family home and endeavours to mediate between the family and young person to keep the family unit together if at all possible. As part of this project we now have a respite house for young girls who might need a cooling-off period or who are unable to return home due to family breakdown.

Like most agencies we are always short of funds, and we appreciate the donation by this musical group. Every cent raised will go directly into our programmes. Should you like to know more about our work please do not hesitate to call Roger Gough on 894 2033.