

## **An Evening with The Winthrop Singers — 2 May 2024**

Evening Service at St Andrew's Church, Subiaco  
and Reverend Peter Manuel's Interview with Trevor Crewel

In what has become a cherished tradition, CCJWA collaborated with The Winthrop Singers for a gathering hosted by Reverend Peter Manuel at St Andrew's Church, Subiaco — the fourth at this venue. Commencing with interfaith worship led by Fr Peter, this occasion has been warmly supported by St Andrew's parishioners, as well as by CCJWA members and guests.

This year's service reflected the strength of the event and its growing support. With all but one of the choir in 2024 comprising new members, the Singers produced a confident and beautiful sound under the capable conducting hands of Ann Clarke (Director of Music).

Joseph Milner began the service with a prelude on the organ, playing Mendelssohn's *Organ Sonata no 2, movement 1*. The Winthrop Singers then sang Malcolm Singer's delightful arrangement of *Hinei Mah-Tov* (Ps 133:1). This was followed by a reading of Micah 4:1-4, in Hebrew and English, by Israeli Professor Jeffrey Gordon. The Winthrop Singers then sang *Mizmor l'Todah*, Psalm 100 in a setting by Salamone Rossi.

A Christian scripture reading (1 Corinthians 13:1-13) was spoken by Ms Shelley Rush, followed by The Winthrop Singers' rendition of Franz Schubert's *Psalm 92*. Then, accompanied by Joseph Milner on the organ, The Winthrop Singers sang *Psalm 150* to a chant by Charles Villiers Stanford. Finally, they performed *Al Sh'losha D'varim* (Chaim Tzur) — the premiere of an arrangement by chorister Curie Thota.

Attendees then sang *O God Our Help in Ages Past* in unison, and Joseph Milner concluded the musical component of the service with *Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata no 2, movement III*. The event continued in the parish hall, where a hearty meal was served, giving welcome opportunity for all to interact.

Once called the "Fireside Chat," because it included a fireplace, the eponymous "Chat" this year had Reverend Peter Manuel at the interview helm. Rev Manuel, articulate and knowledgeable, interviewed Trevor Creewel, CCJWA Chair. Mr Creewel, hailing from Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), discussed his educational pathway (Jurisprudence), his significant travels and life experience — importantly including his experience of being Jewish, which sadly included being ridiculed. This unprovoked ridicule (unexpected and with no apparent cause) — an antisemitic jeer — which occurred whilst at school, and other similar experiences, influenced him to set things right by removing its causes: ignorance, and unthinking social behaviour. To this end Mr Creewel had set up the *i2i* (eye-to-eye) program, an educational enterprise between Christians and Jews.

This served as a positive concluding note for the Council's 2 May function, supported by a welcoming Parish — St Andrew's — and enhanced by the wonderful Winthrop Singers.

*Judith Schneider*  
*CCJWA Vice-Chair*