

13-7-09

To: Mr. James Taylor,  
c/- "The Advertiser", Queen Street, Bendigo  
Re: Liedertafel Montage

Dear James,

attached please find various sheets of information regarding the above object about which you wrote such a wonderful and impressive article in the C.V. Week on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2004, a copy of which I enclose here.

After much anguish and work behind the scenes, this precious cultural object is now in the very last phase of restoration at the Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation in the University of Melbourne, and will be sent back to Bendigo in time for our planned presentation afternoon on the 13<sup>th</sup> August, between 3<sup>45</sup> p.m. in the Bendigo Bank Room at the Capital Theatre, thanks to the Manager + Staff of the Capital, and some extra funding made available by the City of Greater Bendigo to pay for our proposed musical entertainment, and some German-style refreshments.

Invitations will be sent to about 80 people involved and interested in the Arts, Heritage and Cultural Education here in Bendigo to witness the "handing back" of the restored Liedertafel Montage to the citizens of Bendigo for their perusal, study and appreciation for many years to come. (200 years in fact, under proper conservational conditions, according to Ms. Libby Melszer, Paper Conservator at the above mentioned Centre for Cult. Materials Conserv. Univ. of Melb.)

Councillor Rod Fyffe will be the speaker for the occasion, the Birton College Student String Quartet under the guidance of music teacher Cally Trommanns will be performing variations of 3 German songs, arranged by Cally Trommanns herself, in conjunction with 8 members of the Euro Fest Choir

Bendigo Inc. who will sing these 3 songs which were well known repertoire items of male voice choirs in Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, and would no doubt have been heard here in Bendigo during the Goldfield Era.

According to information "unearthed" by a retired Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Dr. Ines Tyson, The Liedertafel of 1884-92 also provided singers for the production of Gilbert + Sullivan operettas organised here by the well-known local doctor Penfold.

We may be able to reminisce about this if we are able to have Tatjana Maccera as our soloist artist. (She is, however, not easy to track down, and I am still negotiating with her mother.)

In response to your article 5 years ago, Mr. Donald Walker positively identified his father in one of the photos. He is also mentioned in a booklet containing the original constitution of the "Liedertafel" 1884-92 as being the Secretary. This document plus a few others pertaining to the Liedertafel is in the possession of Mr. John Cox, 109 Eaglehawk Road, phone: 5442 3082, who does not want to make his name <sup>made</sup> public, but is willing to have these documents digitally photocopied for the purpose of an exhibition or in conjunction with the handing back ceremony, reproduced in booklet form, to be handed out as keepsakes to invited guests on the 13<sup>th</sup> August, and spare copies to be stored for interested people doing research later on.

One Lapel pin in the shape of a Lyre, made of brass and in very good condition, was given to me after the publication of your article in early 2005 by Ray Pearce, a local artist

living in Maiden Gully, together with one of the missing photos in the montage. It is the one on the right hand edge. The other missing one had slipped down behind the mat, and both are now back in their original positions, restored with the others.

I hope this information will be useful to you. Anne Henschell (Henshal) and Michelle McEwen from the Capital Theatre will no doubt be adding their comments regarding the organisational details, likewise the lovely ladies in the Art Gallery (if necessary) and please ring me if you need more information regarding historical details. (Phone: 5442 7662)

We are inviting the Mask Class Conservation students to come up to Bendigo for the day. You may like to interview them about their interest in this project, to highlight future career path for other young people, perhaps?

When all is said and done, we are preserving all our still existing historical cultural objects for our young people (more than for ourselves) so that they can study, appreciate, understand and value those who laid the foundations for our rich and prosperous lives today.

It is, after all, the future generation who will need to preserve and protect our heritage!

Yours sincerely

Heidi Teague  
4/87 Marang Road  
Golden Square

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