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## Dear Fellow Members

Happy New Year 2018! May your new year bring prosperity and more friendship.

I sincerely hope members have enjoyed their festive time off with family and friends, and how time has passed since our last newsletter and catch up.

In November, I and others in the guild was invited to a talk from Mr Lothar Kiesche – Piano Technician / Vice President of Schimmel Pianos presented at Bernie's Music Land. It was great to see the majority (90%) was made by guild members and a huge thank you for your sincere involvement to the industry.

Our last presentation in November at Prestige Pianos was well received. Many thanks to the team of Prestige Pianos & Organs for your hospitality. Also thanks to Mr Alastair McAllister on his wonderful talk on Historical scaling.

Congratulations to those whom have passed particular sections of the ARPT tuning test in November, an overwhelming success for the day I hear.

Again, thank you to Nick Springall for the wonderful Christmas break-up at Templestowe. It was well received by many members and families. Still short numbers, but the interaction was great and I enjoyed talking with members and partners whom I've never meet before.

Preparation is still being made for our convention in 2019. As the months pass, the closer we get to our very important day. A Facebook Event page has been set up for some early recognition. Please share, invite and connect with others in the industry who may like to attend or participate. Just a reminder, that our Saturday Piano Expo is a free event. This opportunity is for all the local schools, institutions, private studios, teachers, enthusiasts and like-minded people. Please work with us to make this day the best possible. Only your support will ensure our industry success.

Our next Workshop (free event) day is at Yamaha Premium Care Centre: 17B Market Street, South Melbourne. We will be hosting Mrs Sue Ellson on marketing tips. Sue will talk about what is a good website business and what is not. Sue will also talk about the use of LinkedIn and social media which is somewhat fundamental for nowadays marketing and possible connections. Our hosts, the Yamaha crew, will be presenting their wonderful new product and new technology.



I'm very much looking forward to this upcoming event; I encourage all members/non-members to attend.

**Yours Sincerely,  
Bradley Saul – PTTGV President**

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### From the Editor

This month is we have started putting member profiles on our new website and have a featured profile on the home page. The web page address (the URL) is the same – [pianotuners.asn.au#profile](https://pianotuners.asn.au/#profile) and you will see a guideline for how it's organised. Please also have a look at <https://pianotuners.asn.au/members> - find yourself and let me know ASAP if your details are incorrect or you would like something changed. I highly recommend that you send me a profile of yourself, say something nice so I can load it up!

Also one of the core points in the Guild's code of ethics is this: "Promote, in any way that I can, good will towards my profession and towards the music industry". Maybe you have something great you want to say about one or more of our members. I would really appreciate it if you start sending me stuff about yourselves or each other. You might have a comment, a short story or just a great photo about yourself or someone else. Maybe you would just like to acknowledge someone and give them a pat on the back. Send them in to [editor@pianotuners.asn.au](mailto:editor@pianotuners.asn.au)

Thanks to Nick and Marguerite from Artful for their support in the transition. The website is live and gives me a significant technology platform that I can get my teeth

into, it will deal with all our requirements for the 2019 convention.

Thanks also to Prestige Pianos for providing their showroom for our last Guild meeting and Alastair McAllister for a fascinating presentation

**Cliff Meakin ARPT**

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## Classifieds – To Sell or Wanted

**WANTED!** for a research project. Early grand Pianos by Erard, Pleyel and Broadwood. Pre 1850 of most interest. Contact Ben Briggs on 0413286700 or [vwbjb@hotmail.com](mailto:vwbjb@hotmail.com)



## Diary Dates

### ARPT EXAMS: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2018.

Please contact Mr Christopher Streader  
ARPT for more details.

## 2018

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February** – Masterclass:  
Business Theme. Marketing & Branding.  
Yamaha Priemum Care

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April** – Presentation / Meeting:  
Australia Piano Warehouse, First Aid in the  
workplace (St Johns help)

**May 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> :** **Pianoforte Tuner  
Association Convention.** Darlington.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – ARPT Exams (Please  
contact Christopher Streader for enquires  
and location)

**July 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> :** **61<sup>st</sup> PTG Convention &  
Technical Institute.** Lancaster, PA.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July** – Presentation &  
Meeting: Australian Pipe Organ Day –  
Location TBA

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August** – Workshop: Mason  
& Hamilyn Presentation (TBC) with external  
venue for workshop. Refreshing your Basic  
Tech stuff / Polishing / Tightbond or Glues  
presentation.

**Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Planning Day  
(executive meeting only).

**Monday October 08<sup>th</sup>** – 38<sup>th</sup> Annual  
General Meeting

**October 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>** - Hawaii Piano Tour  
(please see Mr Michael Ryan President  
APTTA)

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – ARPT Exams  
(Please contact Christopher Streader for  
enquires)

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November** – Presentation &  
Meeting: Austral Piano World: Kawai  
presentation

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – PTTGV  
Christmas Break-up.

## Conventions



### **Annual Convention and AGM 9th to 12th May 2018**

The Annual Convention 2018 will be held at the  
Blackwell Grange Hotel Darlington from 9th to  
12th May 2018.

Book these dates into your diary now for the  
2018 Convention. More info on

<https://www.pianotuner.org.uk/> or  
[https://www.pianotuner.org.uk/en/About-  
us/PTA-Events](https://www.pianotuner.org.uk/en/About-us/PTA-Events)



July 11 - 14, 2018

## 61ST ANNUAL PTG CONVENTION & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square,  
Lancaster, PA

Contact: Sandy Roady, [sandy@ptg.org](mailto:sandy@ptg.org), 913-432-9975



## The 21st IAPBT Conference in Japan 25- 27 MAY 2019 • Hamamatsu, Japan

There were three IAPBT conferences held in Japan in the past: Tokyo Conference (1983), Kyoto Conference (1989), and Hamamatsu conference (1999). At the next conference in Hamamatsu, we hope to be able to exchange our knowledge and information on piano and piano tuning, and also to build our friendship. We wish to have as many participants as possible from your country, and to be able to have a meaningful time together. For further inquiries, please contact us in the International Division of JPTA [info@iapta.org](mailto:info@iapta.org).

We are looking forward to seeing you in Japan in 2019.

## - Japan Piano Technicians Association

### 2019 CONVENTION HOTEL

Hotel Crown Palais is located 3 minutes walk from JR Hamamatsu Station with exquisite appearance. Excellent atmosphere and high-quality hospitality & service will ensure guests' refreshment and relaxation.



110-17, Itaya machi, Naka-ku,  
Hamamatsu -shi, Shizuoka  
430-8511, Japan

Tel: +81-53-452-5111 Fax: +81-53-452-7700

<https://www.crownpalais.jp/hamamatsu/en/>



OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2019.

## 18<sup>th</sup> APTTA PIANO CONVENTION & “PIANO CONNECT” EXPO – Hosted by PTTGV.

APTTA Convention October 18 – 20<sup>th</sup> 2019.  
Please watch our website [www.pianotuners.asn.au](http://www.pianotuners.asn.au) for more information.  
Please contact A.M. Meetings Plus at [pttg19@ammp.com.au](mailto:pttg19@ammp.com.au) for more info.



**Piano Tuners & Technicians Guild of Victoria.**

...Presents...

## **Presentation Seminar**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018 @ 10:00am (Start)**

**@ Yamaha Premium Piano Centre:**  
17B Market Street, South Melbourne. Vic.

**Supper/Lunch Provided** 



### **Yamaha new and exciting "SX" Series available in Australia.**

Newly opened Premium Piano Centre has opened in South Melbourne covering the new range of SX Series. The innovation comes in the form of A.R.E.-treated rims and newly designed hammers. These expand the piano's tonal palette, giving warmth and depth. The SX Series offers a richly expressive sound that will inspire the player and any audience. Come and experience these wonderful "New" products.

### **Business... how to optimise your potential.**

**Sue Ellson BBus MIML MAHRI CDAA (Assoc) ASA MPC:** is an experienced trainer, professional learner, consultant in practice and an Independent LinkedIn Specialist. In 2016, she authored three books; "120 Ways to Achieve Your Purpose With LinkedIn", "120 Ways to Attract The Right Career Or Business", and "120 Ways to Market Your Business Hyper Locally". Come, participate and learn more about your business.



### **Experience Yamaha's Latest Technology in Hybrid Pianos**

Yamaha constantly raises the bar in the Silent & Piano Technology. The new DISKLAVIER ENSPIRE PRO offers the highest resolution recording and playback paired with the highest quality acoustic pianos. Come and view, try and





## Member Profile



**Christine McCrae**  
Provisional member  
representative

We are celebrating something very special. In 2017 we introduce the first Female member to be elected on the Piano Tuners and Technicians Guild of Victoria. As a special feature in this addition of the newsletter, we bring to you the profile on Miss Christine McCrae Provisional Member Representative.

### **What year & where did you study to be a Piano Tuner/ Technician?**

I studied 2013-2014 at the Australasian School of Piano Technology to become a piano technician.

### **Do you have any musical background?**

Yes, I started with violin at about age 9, and then after 3 years of begging my parents, I also started piano. I dabbled with flute for a year as well, but found 3 instruments a bit too much. So I scaled back to two instruments and kept up with lessons until I hit year 12.

Interestingly, I initially found my violin background a bit of a disadvantage when beginning to learn piano tuning. This is because when tuning a violin, one goes from flat to in tune and never goes sharp (in order to preserve the integrity of the string). Consequently, I found it very uncomfortable to go sharp in piano tuning before resting it in tune. No problems now though!

### **Why did you want to become a Piano Tuner?**

I was always fascinated whenever I had my piano tuned growing up. I also thought it would be wonderful to work with pianos and meet fellow musicians that play them.

### **Why did you join the P.T.T.G.V Inc?**

To be part of a community of tuners, a support network, receive professional representation, industry news and education.

### **What do you love best about this Industry?**

It's great fun! Whether it's the challenge of fixing a problem, or discovering the stories behind the piano and or its owner. 1000 times better than a desk job!

### **What are your aspirations as a Technician?**

I am quite excited by tone and playing feel. Therefore, I hope to fine tune my skills in tuning, voicing and regulation. I also feel sad about all the old pianos that are on their way to the tip and would like to get involved in a bit of piano repurposing.



## How do you hope to help on the committee and serve the members of the P.T.T.G.V?

As a provisional member representative, I hope to bring a fresh perspective to supporting new members, as well as help with the convention and other events.

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## PARKE PIANO STRINGS & MATERIALS

For new-comers to the industry, and for anyone not familiar with our business, we'd like to take this opportunity to highlight the services we offer to the tuners and technicians throughout Australia and the region.

We are specialist piano bass string manufacturers, and suppliers of a large range of piano materials, parts and accessories, with 36 years' experience.

**BASS STRINGS:** We offer a complete bass string making service - full and partial sets, odd strings and "hexacore" replacement strings. We have a vast library of scales and can in many cases make sets with just the specification of make and model, without the need for samples or paper rubbings. All strings are manufactured on our premises using Roslau music wire and Degen copper.

**HAMMERS:** We keep a comprehensive range of both German Abel and Japanese Imadegawa hammers, both pre-bored (in most common sizes) and un-bored. Abel hammers are available in both their regular

and Natural felts. The Natural felt hammers are enzyme-washed to preserve the lanolin content, and are very popular for both the rich quality of their sound and the minimal voicing required. Where pre-bored hammers are not suitable, we offer a complete custom hammer-boring, cutting and shaping service on the provision of samples. This work is done by Emanuel Rey, a Swiss-trained piano builder and one of Australia's most experienced and trusted technicians.

**PARTS, MATERIALS & ACCESSORIES:** We carry a full range of products, including **Tuning Pins, Piano wire, Felts and Leathers, Tools, Action Parts, Castors and Dollies, Pianola Materials (including rubberised cloths), Lubricants and Glues, Polishes, Books, Accessories and much more.**

Our Catalogue and Price List are downloadable from our Web-site [www.parkepianostrings.com.au](http://www.parkepianostrings.com.au). You will need the password 'pps01' to access the price List. You can ring us on (02) 9451 3500 or e-mail us at any time at [sales@parkepianostrings.com.au](mailto:sales@parkepianostrings.com.au).

Our factory is in Frenchs Forest in Sydney. Please feel free to drop in any time if you are in Sydney. Alisa and I are always happy to help in any way we can. Alisa and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our existing customers for their continued support, and look forward to doing business with any new customers we have not yet had the opportunity to serve.

Lou & Alisa Parke

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We would benefit from new members, let's all try and invite a colleague to our next workshop. Share the questions and answers.

ASK A COLLEAGUE - Gain and share knowledge together.