

## St Stephen's Schola Fact Sheet

<b>Introduction</b>	<p>The Schola of St. Stephen's Cathedral is an eight member professional choral ensemble. Its major responsibility is performance at the 12.00 noon Mass every Sunday, but there are extra duties from time to time and especially over the major seasons of the Church's Year such as Lent, Easter and Christmas. The ensemble's work averages 4 hours per week.</p>
<b>Basic Commitment</b>	<p>Tuesday rehearsals 6 – 7 (or 8)          Sunday rehearsal and mass 11.30 – 1.00</p> <p>The ensemble's year begins in early February and continues up to and including Christmas morning. On occasions there are extra services on weeknights or weekends. The choir sings during university vacations with the exception of the end of December and January as listed above.</p> <p>Approximately once a month the ensemble has a Sunday which is scheduled "off".</p> <p>The members of the ensemble also fulfil solo cantorial duties at the 8.00 am and noon masses on an eight week rotation.</p> <p>Since this is a professional and paid appointment, members of the group are expected to make themselves available for events where reasonable notice has been given.</p>
<b>Extra Commitment</b>	<p>The choir also sings for concerts and outside events on occasions</p>
<b>Remuneration</b>	<p>Choristers receive remuneration of \$330 per month based on an 11-month year.</p>
<b>Characteristics of successful applicants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a good well produced voice with the ability to blend and balance with the other members of the ensemble</li> <li>• familiarity with and practical experience in a wide range of church music and historical choral styles</li> <li>• capacity for independent preparation of music</li> <li>• ability to sight sing well or at least to learn new music independently quickly</li> <li>• ability to lead the worship of the congregation as a cantor and to feel comfortable in that role</li> <li>• desire to improve oneself musically as well as the quality of the ensemble</li> </ul>

<p><b>Auditions</b></p>	<p>Vacancies will be filled through a short audition and interview. Auditions will be held in November and December of 2004. The audition consists of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• some simple vocal exercises to help the Director form a picture of the applicant's vocal tone</li> <li>• the singing of an "own choice" piece (the piece should be sung unaccompanied, though applicants are free to choose a piece which would normally be sung with accompaniment)</li> <li>• a simple sight singing test.</li> </ul> <p>In some situations the Director might suggest that the applicant attend a rehearsal as well as part of the audition.</p> <p>The ensemble is auditioned every year and current members will re-audition as part of the process.</p>
<p><b>Deadline to apply for audition</b></p>	<p><b>Friday December 14</b></p>
<p><b>Where Now?</b></p>	<p>If you are interested in auditioning or wish to discuss the ensemble, call the Director of Music, Dr. Ralph Morton 3336 9104 (w) or email <a href="mailto:mortonr@bne.catholic.net.au">mortonr@bne.catholic.net.au</a></p>