

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

## MEMBERSHIP

February 2015: 12 members

December 2015: 13 members.

The current age range for members is 8 to 16. This is consistent with previous years.

## COMMITTEE

Treasurer: Rebecca Gowland

Publicity: Yvette Southall

Fundraising:

Stage Management:

Librarian: Leah Hawkins

Musical Director: Rosalind Burns

## PERFORMANCES

9 performances – this is three times the number we had in 2014!

The momentum of the group really accelerated towards the end of the year. This was due to a workshop with 6 AYO players, which drew in some extra students who then stayed in the orchestra, and also from the positive feedback and subsequent invitations to play after our performance at Burrinja where we played beforehand in the foyer and then joined with the Nicholas Chamber Orchestra to play Haydn's *Toy Symphony*.

## DEVELOPMENT

RYS evidenced more polished playing skills, focus and enthusiasm after hearing and experiencing playing with the AYO tutors in a workshop in August. They also benefitted from the weekly attendance of a student tutor, Piper Blake ( in Year 10 and completing her Duke of Edinburgh Award), who joined the ensemble at the start of term 3.

## WORKSHOPS, GUEST ARTISTS AND TOURS

The AYO workshop was held on 24<sup>th</sup> August, for 2 hours during an extended weekly rehearsal. We had Jacquie Spring and her harp students work on combined pieces with the orchestra during term 4.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Afternoon tea continues to be a very important social time for RYS!

We had a pizza night at the end of terms 1, 2 and 3 and a splendid afternoon tea after our Annual Concert at the end of the year.

## PLANS FOR 2016

With an increased member base we will be able to reinstate regular tutor sessions, a longer weekly rehearsal time, and purchase proper orchestra folders. We plan to visit Lake Bolac in the 2016 Term 1 holidays to perform at the Biannual Eel Festival, which will be our first ever orchestral camp.