

arranged for SATB choir and piano by Sandra Milliken

from the Anthology ON A DISTANT SHORE



AN AUSTRALIAN CHORAL MUSIC LEGACY PROJECT OF THE QUEENSLAND KODÁLY CHOIR 2022

WELCOME TO ON A DISTANT SHORE

This arrangement is an extract from the 2-part anthology "On a Distant Shore", a collection of Australian folk songs arranged for choir by Sandra Milliken. The anthology was commissioned in 2022 by the Queensland Kodály Choir, to create a legacy of Australian Choral Music.

The following are some general performance notes that have relevance to all pieces in the collection. Additional, more specific performance notes for this arrangement are included on the inside back cover.

Solos

Conductors should feel free to allocate solo passages to one singer, to a small group of several voices or to the whole section – whatever best suits your choral resources.

Instrumental Accompaniment

In many instances, guitar chords have been included with the arrangements. Additional instruments could also be incorporated, including bush bass, lagerphone (monkey stick) and drum.

Several of the arrangements include instrumental solos for C instruments (flute, tin whistle, violin, harmonica) in keeping with performance traditions. These instruments are all interchangeable.

Piano/Keyboard Accompaniment

Some of the accompanied arrangements contain an "a cappella" section. The optional piano accompaniment may be used in these sections, at the discretion of the conductor.

Key

Many folk tunes have a wide vocal range, so some titles are provided in two keys. This may assist in accommodating changing voices and catering for the vocal resources within school and community choirs.

Text and Interpretation

Certain of the lyrics in a few of the titles have been modified to avoid terms which, today, some singers/listeners may find inappropriate or be uncomfortable with. Additional lyrics (some from other versions, some newly written) have been added to "round out" the story line in a few of the titles.

In performance, always pay particular attention to the enunciation and expressive use of consonants in order to best convey the story to your audience.

First published 2022

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Front cover illustration: Original watercolour "Diggers on way to Bendigo" by S.T. Gill (1818-1880). Source: State Library Victoria.



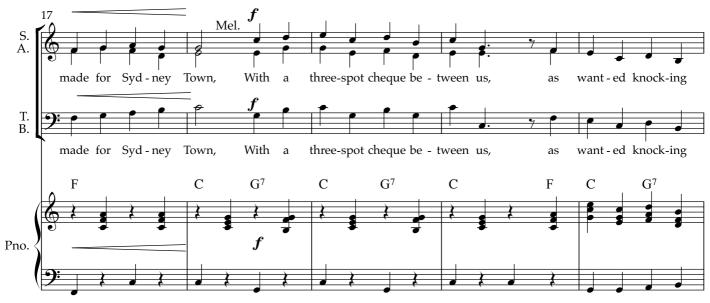
Traditional

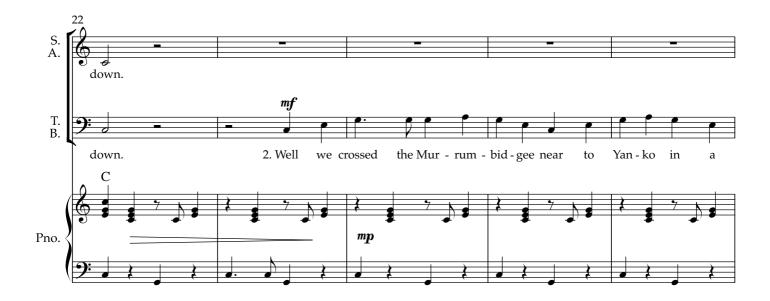
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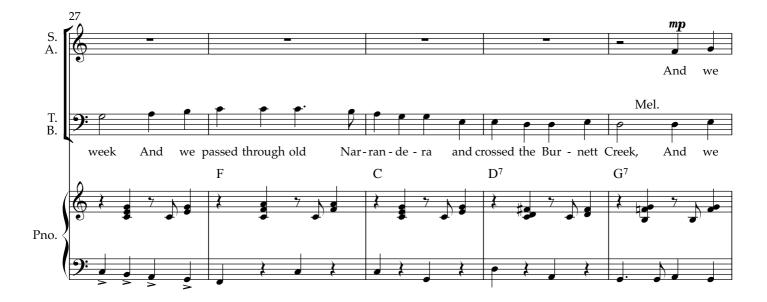


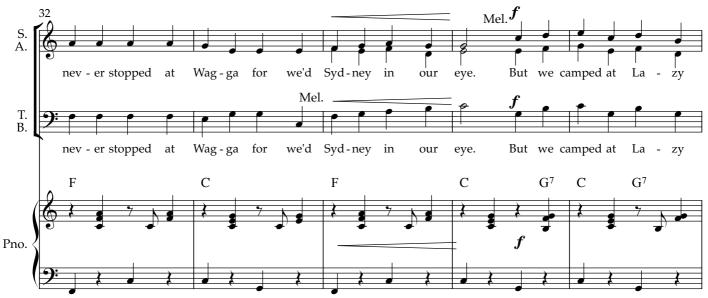
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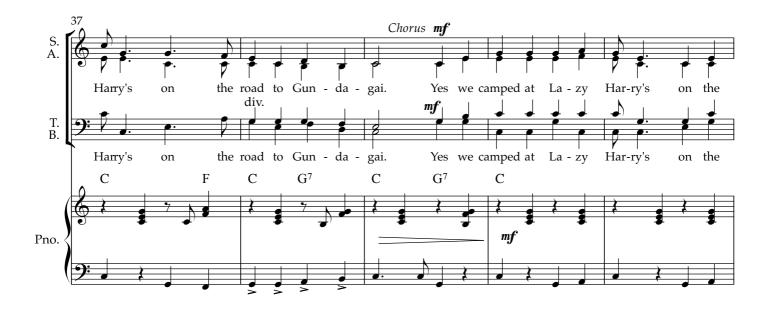
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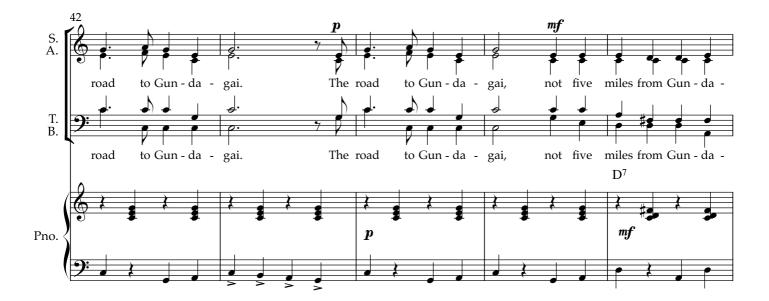






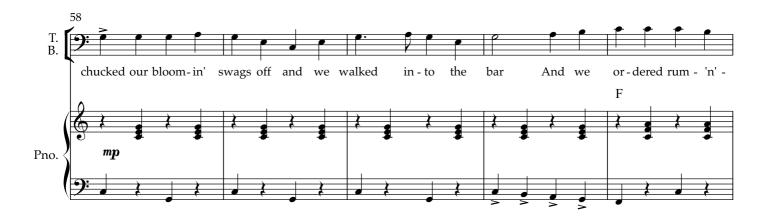


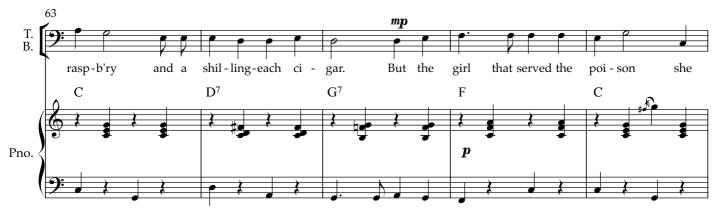


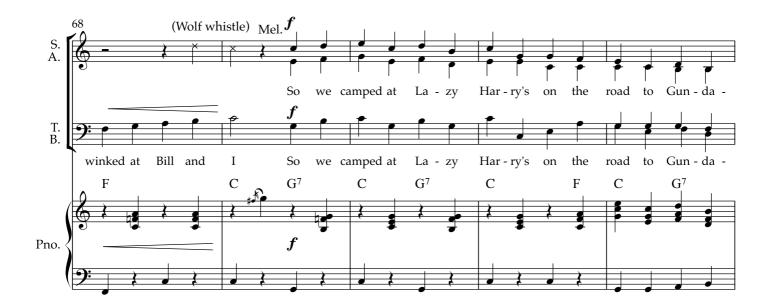


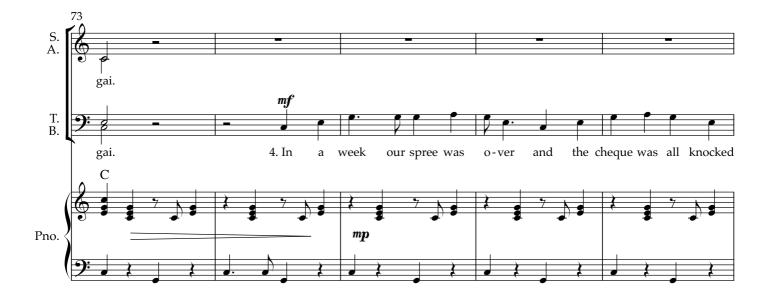


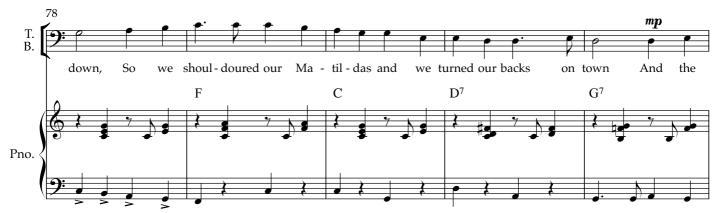


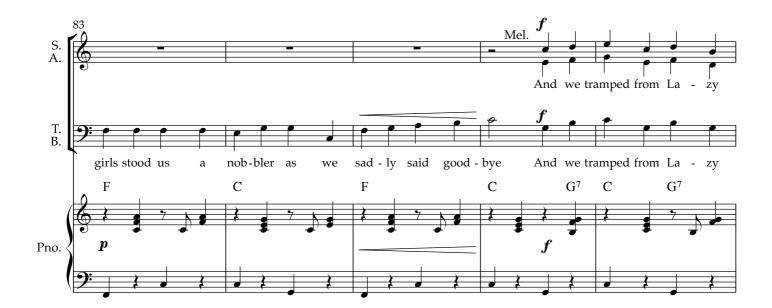


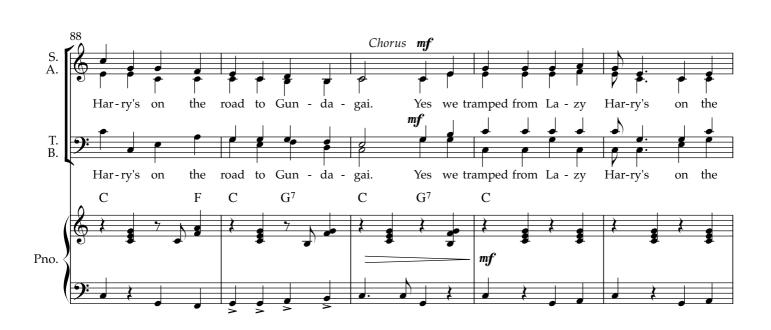


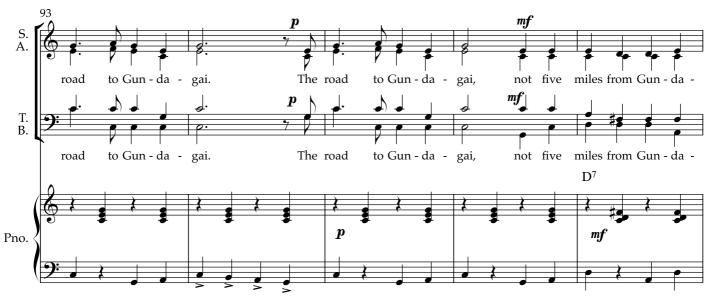






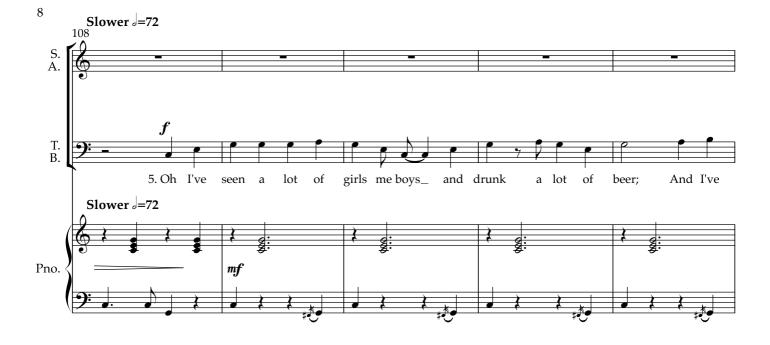


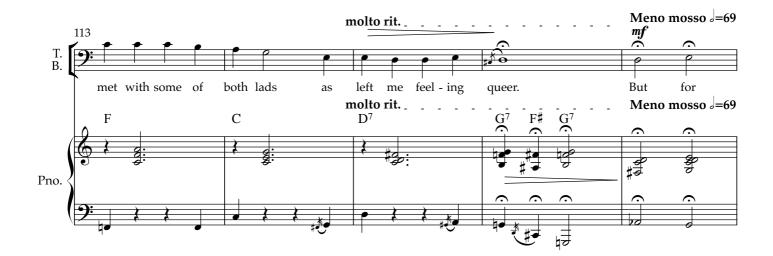


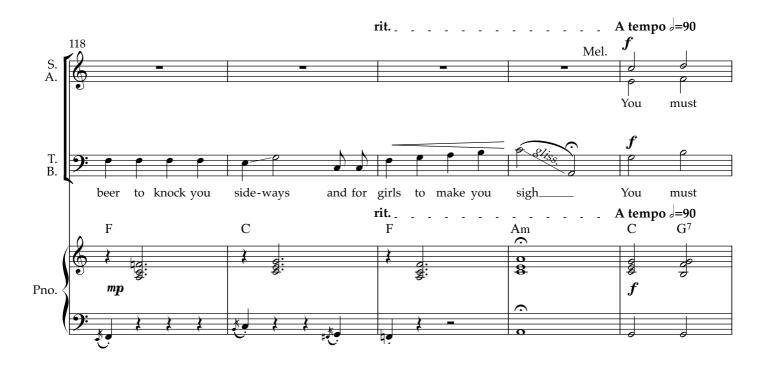


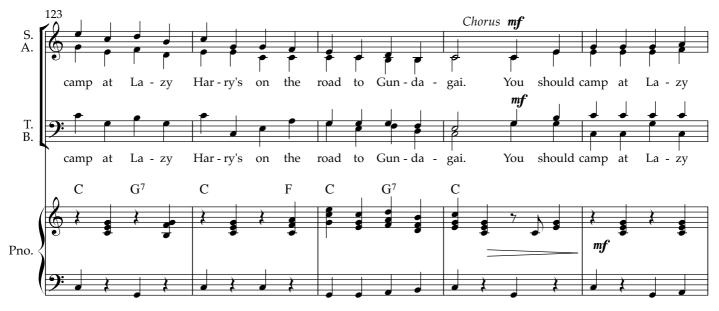


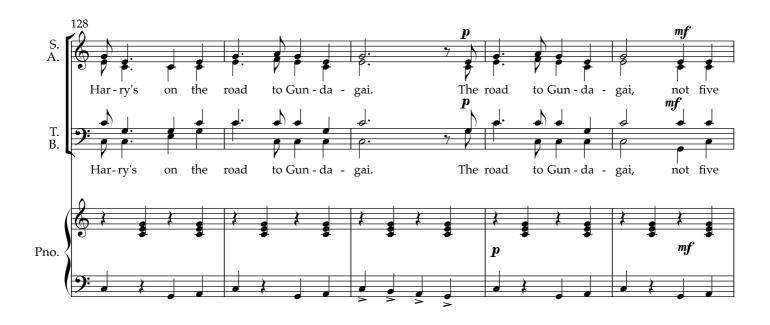


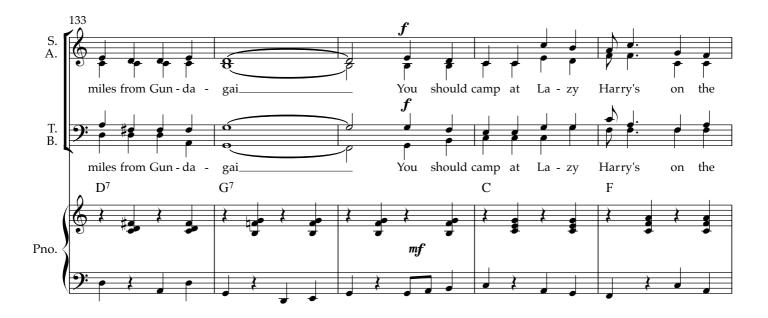


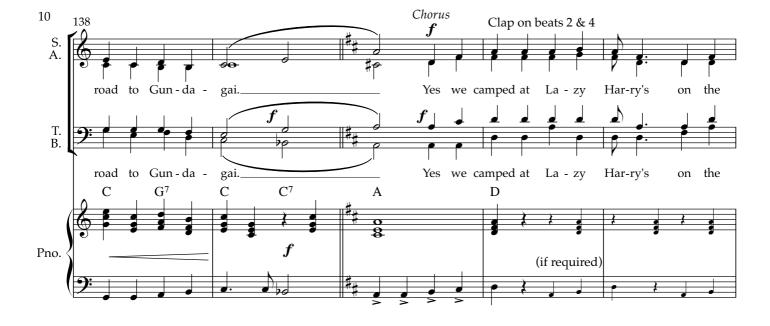






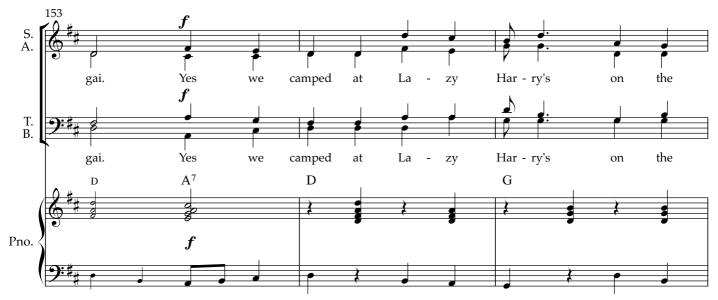


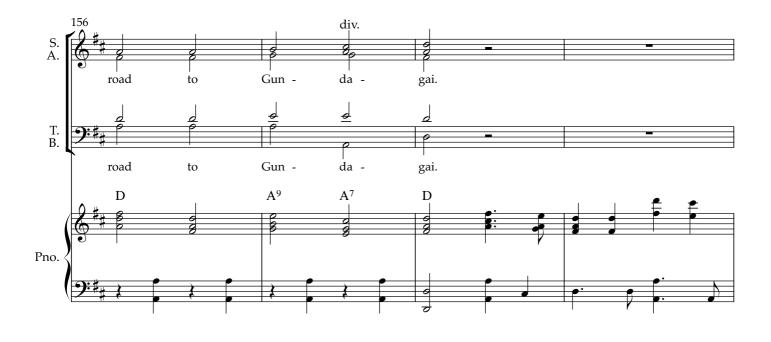


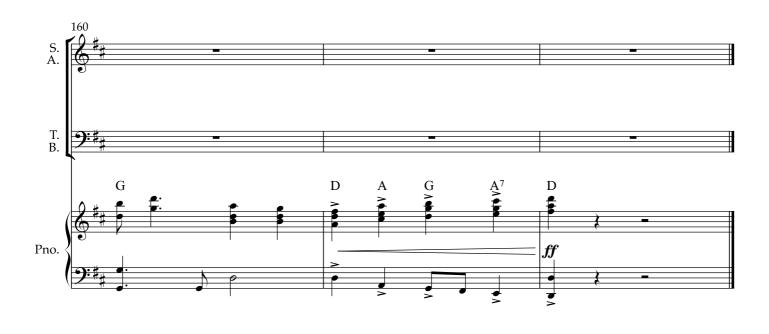












PERFORMANCE NOTES

It has been said of the old-time shearers that they would "work like horses and spend like asses". They would work long, backbreaking hours in the sheds during the shearing season, knock up a sizeable pay cheque and then set out for a "spree" in the distant city. Chances were that they would spend most, if not all, of the money before making it to their intended goal. Such is the story told in Lazy Harry's, of two shearing mates who set out from Roto (a sheep station in south central New South Wales), at the end of the season, with a large cheque between them, heading for Sydney, but finding the beer and the girls in Gundagai far too tempting.

This song is sometimes referred to as *The Road to Gundagai*, not to be confused with another song called *Along the Road to Gundagai*. More folksongs mention Gundagai than any other town in Australia.



SATB

Verse 5, Bar 108 to Bar 121 could be allocated as a Bass/ Baritone solo or split between 2 soloists.

This accompanied arrangement contains an "a cappella" section from Bar 141 to Bar 153, where the optional piano accompaniment can be used, at the discretion of the conductor.

The piece may also be accompanied by guitar, bush bass and/or lagerphone (monkey stick).

In performance, pay particular attention to tempi changes and to the enunciation and expressive use of consonants in order to best convey the story.

TTBB

Bars 117 to 121 could be allocated as a Bass/Baritone solo.

This accompanied arrangement contains an "a cappella" section from Bar 141 to Bar 153, where the optional piano accompaniment can be used, at the discretion of the conductor.

The piece may also be accompanied by guitar, bush bass and/or lagerphone (Monkey Stick).

In performance, pay particular attention to tempi changes and to the enunciation and expressive use of consonants in order to best convey the story.

GLOSSARY

cut out, sheds had all shearing sheds where the shearing season had finished..

Gundagai A small country town about 400km south-west of Sydney. Perhaps more than any other Australian locality, Gundagai has long been referenced in a great many stories, songs and poems from Australia's history.

knocked down Spent.

nobbler a measure of spirits.

Roto A large sheep station in western New South Wales.

sheds Shearing sheds.

spree A celebration/party/good time, usually involving the consumption of alcohol.

three spot cheque A cheque for three hundred pounds. **whips and whips of rhino** Lots and lots of money.

AN ANTHOLOGY OF TRADITIONAL AUSTRALIAN SONGS ARRANGED FOR CHOIR by SANDRA MILLIKEN

STANT SHORE

ON A

PART 1



AN AUSTRALIAN CHORAL MUSIC LECACY PROJECT OF THE QUEENSLAND KODÁLY CHOIR 2022

TITLES IN THE ANTHOLOGY

PART 1

Andy's Gone with Cattle The Banks of the Condamine The Black Velvet Band Cabbage Tree Hat The "Catalpa" Cross of the South - a Ballad of Eureka Stockade The Dying Stockman The Eumerella Shore Jamie Raeburn's Farewell Jim Jones at Botany Bay Lazy Harry's The Little Rosewood Casket PART 2 Moreton Bay My Name is Ben Hall My Son Ted The Queensland Drover The Reedy Lagoon Shores of Botany Bay The Springtime it Brings on the Shearing With My Swag All on My Shoulder For full details re the Anthology, each individual title,

downloads and rehearsal tracks, visit:

- https://kodaly.org.au/resources/;
- https://cuskellycollegeofmusic.com; or
- https://www.sandramilliken.com.au/catalogueanthologies/



MEET THE ARRANGER

SANDRA MILLIKEN (b. 1961) is a highly acclaimed conductor, composer and arranger of choral music, based in Brisbane, Australia. A music and education graduate of the University of New England, she also holds a Masters degree in choral conducting from the University of Queensland.

In 2001 Sandra was awarded a Churchill Fellowship that enabled her to further her studies in choral conducting and vocal/choral pedagogy. During this time she had the opportunity to observe, and work with, many international choral music specialists in England, Sweden, Finland, the United States and Canada.

Sandra has had a long involvement with choral music. From 1995 to 2008, she was on the staff of *Queensland Youth Choir*, conducting several of their ensembles, and in 2006 was appointed the QYC Artistic Director. In 2007 she took up the position of Conductor of the much-awarded *Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir* where she remained until 2016. From late 2015 until early 2018 she was Music Director of the highly-acclaimed *Sunshine Coast Oriana Choir*. She is currently the Music Director of the *Bayside Divas*.

Sandra has achieved international recognition as an Australian composer specialising in choral music. Her compositions demonstrate a strong Australian influence that reflects her interests in indigenous languages, eclectic influences and texts by contemporary Australian writers. Her works have been performed by choirs in Europe, the United Kingdom, North America, south-east Asia, China, Japan, New Zealand and Australia.

Sandra has her own choral music series – *Choral Vivace* – published by Edition Peters London. She also has a collection of mainly *a cappella* works in English, Finnish and Latin that is published by the Finnish company Sulasol.

Sandra has an avid interest in, and commitment to, promoting Australian choral music through her choral workshops and international invitations. As an adjudicator and music educator, Sandra has travelled extensively within Australia and internationally to Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Canada, the United States, England, Belgium and Finland.

For further information about Sandra, her compositions and arrangements, visit https://www.sandramilliken.com.au.