

COVER

WONDERS NEVER CEASE

01/34



Digital Edition
APRIL 2024



<https://www.musicalrise.net>

Musical Rise Journal © AJ How



Welcome to the 2024 #02 Edition of the Musical Rise Journal which includes Musical Rise Website updates, an article by Alison Jane How 'Wonders Never Cease', a video link of Alison's 'Thank God For Friends' and articles about some of AL's musical mates' musical journeys ~ mentoring, teaching, composing, recording, publishing, producing, performing and touring; solo, with musical mates, associates and family. Should more of my musical mates/associates wish to provide their own music journey articles for future Musical Rise Journals please email me, Alison, at the email address below. Readers and myself are looking forward to reading about your journeying and supporting you in your future endeavours. Thank you.

Regards, Alison

Email mrj@musicalrise.net

musicalrise.net

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MRJ INDEX

Page numbers/Topics are linked to the Page

- 01 Musical Rise Journal Cover Page**
- 02 Musical Rise Journal Welcome**
- 03 Musical Rise Journal Index**
- 04-05 Article 'Musical Mates' (AJ How)**
- 06-07 Article ~ re Grant Norsworthy**
- 08-15 Article ~ re Robyn & Neil Payne**
- 16-29 Article ~ re Nicholas Renfree-Marks**
- 30 Article 'Wonders Never Cease' (AJ How)**
- 31-32 'Thank God For Friends' ~ Video/DSM**
- 33-34 Musical Rise & AJ Adventure**

musicalrise.net

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by Alison Jane How {B.Mus.Ed}

As far back as I can recall what made music making and appreciation so much better and more fun was sharing it with my musical mates of which there have been many.

These people of all ages, many cultural backgrounds etc are a treasured part of my memories of musical activities during the decades, each having special musical and other talents and, who to this day, are still making music, performing, recording, touring, publishing, teaching, mentoring and more, sharing their love of music and journeying with others in one way or another. I am pleased to bring to the Musical Rise Journal readers, in this edition, articles about my musical mates (with their permission). Some of us haven't seen each other or made music together for a while but all would have great memories of doing so in the past.

I contacted a select few musical mates recently asking them if they would like to contribute an article about their music journey for this edition of the journal. As they are all very busy, some have given me permission to write articles about them, providing various references and photos for me to include in this publication. Perhaps there will be more musical mates articles in future journals.

My music mates have assisted me with performing and recording in particular over the years, especially back in my early song writing years in the late 80s. I have gained great insight and experience witnessing their own development and expression of their music making. Some of them are very talented with technology as well, pulling apart gear and putting it back together, re-working tones/algorhythms/sounds on keyboards, building P.A. Amp systems; most of them having their own recording studios, record labels and publishing companies now.

Some have assisted in the development of other artists too.

The people the following articles are written about are not directly associated with the music published on the Musical Rise website.

You may be interested in working with these people yourself.

You can contact them via their websites and links they have provided for the articles in this Musical Rise Journal.

Thank you for reading this 'Musical Mates' article by AJ How. Read further for other articles and more information about developments on the Musical Rise Website.

Allison - Musical Rise

re Grant Norsworthy by Alison Jane How with permission

GRANT NORSWORTHY

GrantNorsworthy.com

MoreThanMusicMentor.com

[Facebook](#)

[MTMM Articles](#)

[MTMM on YouTube](#)

Grant Norsworthy played an integral role in my own musical journey especially during the late 80s. We performed together on occasions and I attended events that he played music in, witnessing his faith in God, mateship with others, trustworthiness, leadership and people-relation skills coupled with accurate, interesting and creative musical and performance skills. Grant encouraged me in my songwriting, introduced me to many musicians, broadened my awareness of bands from around the world and knowledge of makes and models of musical equipment.

re Grant Norsworthy by Alison Jane How with permission

I very much enjoyed seeing/hearing Grant play in originals and covers bands line-ups during the 80's and 90s in particular.

The calibre of the bands was high and the audiences knew it.

Grant is still performing with musos I met back in the day including one group who earned a Grammy nomination in 2002.

Multi-talented, playing many instruments and singing,

Grant's musical journey has developed since then as a tool of inspiration, encouragement and worth benefiting many others and in return blessing him and those around him, praising God.

Grant, who is very busy with family and his music, speaking etc giving, has suggested I might include in this Musical Rise Journal article a podcast from 2018 in which he tells his musical journey.

Here is the link to that podcast.

[Building Your Band.com ~ Grant Norsworthy ~ link access](#)

Thanks to Grant for being one of my musical mates. AL

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

ROBYN PAYNE

MUSIC PRODUCER ENGINEER AND MIXER

INTRODUCING ROBYN & NEIL PAYNE



re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

ROBYN PAYNE

MUSIC PRODUCER ENGINEER AND MIXER



re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

ROBYN PAYNE

MUSIC PRODUCER ENGINEER AND MIXER

Looking back on the 90s I have good memories of music making with Robyn Payne's Production skills enhancing recordings. I met Robyn and Neil when I was singing on a Church album being recorded at her studio during the 90s; she also invited me to be involved in a singing group of professional session vocalists for a company motivational project she was producing. We had fun. When I sang on the Church album (Christian City Church - then Camberwell) having had a tooth extraction my jaw was locked. Robyn and Neil were very kind, courteous, assisting me with being able to use that jaw more and Robyn patiently directed me for multi tracking of the vocal I was to sing as a lead vocal on the track. She used 2 takes simultaneously to give the voice more depth as I couldn't get sound out properly; a spacial result. She complimented me on my consonants landing at the same time for each take which made it better for syncing the 2 tracks having the same vocal melody.

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

When I sang at the studio in the 90s the atmosphere was calm and inspiring. We all enjoyed making music with Robyn at the helm. I have witnessed her and Neil's kindness and hospitality on other occasions and been grateful also for their listening ears and support.

Robyn allowed one of my past music students to observe her production journey first hand at her studio in 2011; he is now an audio engineer for the BBC London, also having an originals band.

I have recommended Robyn via my Interviews section of the Musical Rise Website and do so here now again; her attitude and professionalism speak for themselves, but nice to receive affirmation and to assure and encourage others to seek her production skills.

Singers/songwriters/bands/advertising agencies/film producers seek and receive Robyn's multi professional production services including as a competent multi instrumentalist and arranger for production on their songs, albums and other ventures. From my perspective whilst doing so they would also be receiving respect, encouragement, kindness during the process, enjoying Robyn and Neil's company and maybe cuppas 'n' home made bread.

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

Having experienced music learning, performing, recording and teaching, Robyn can see from others' perspectives and is aware of the needs of those she assists, directs and produces accordingly. This journey has seen much hard work over many hours and yet Robyn conveys a calm, secure personality coupled with patience which makes the tasks at hand much easier and more pleasant for those who seek her services. Listening back to music that is recorded in a good environment with a good person producing makes all the difference to the overall enjoyment of the musical sound mixing and song representation; the listener can sense that success. Those who work with Robyn note that her professional service fees are reasonable which in my opinion would suggest that she has made herself accessible to people with different production needs. Reading on Robyn's website I am reminded that she keeps the song true to itself with a specific, appropriate production approach. Robyn loves what she does and loves the people she works with and for; and we love her back. These interactions and results stay with us as musical mates, of whom Robyn has multitudes.

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

Robyn has written commissioned music for feature-length films, short films, TV shows, TV themes and commercials for TV, radio and the internet.

Having experienced, produced multi music genre, Robyn has won the following awards for her engineering and production work over the years.

Australian Women in Music Awards - 2023 Winner - Studio Production.

Gold & Platinum Album Sales

Awarded to Robyn Payne for arrangement and production on the Tommy Emmanuel album - Determination.

Audio Engineering Society Achievement Award -

Awarded to Robyn Payne for production and recording on the Tommy Emmanuel album - Determination.

(continued next page)

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

...Robyn Payne's Awards continued...

Australian Celtic Music Awards

- Album of the Year - Song of the Year -

**Awarded to Robyn Payne for production and recording
on the Saiorse album - Music Evermore.**

Gold Album Sales

**Awarded to Robyn Payne for music direction
on the Seekers album - Live On.**

Australian Achiever Award

Awarded to Robyn Payne for excellence in customer service.

**Robyn's website and contact information listed
on the next page of this Journal article.**

re Robyn Payne by Alison Jane How with permission

More information about Robyn's production can be viewed on her website where audio files can be listened to with links referenced to iTunes for purchasing the files.

**(Robyn Payne Music Producer ~ AdAudio Pty Ltd)
Links below for more information and contact.**

<https://www.robypayne.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Robyn.Payne.Music.Producer>

<https://twitter.com/RobynPayneMusic>

<https://au.linkedin.com/in/robyn-payne-me>

<https://www.instagram.com/robypaynemusicproducer/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXqM9giT7PUJAlrkyB3R-Bw>

Thanks to Robyn (& Neil) for being my musical mates etc.

AL

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS

DIRECTOR ARTIST VOCALIST BALLROOM DANCER CHEF
INTRODUCING NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS



re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission
THE TEN TENORS ~ "aspiration - dream" becomes reality.
Nicholas Renfree-Marks ~ back row right (Tours 2023)



re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

THE TEN TENORS

Nicholas Renfree-Marks ~ front 2nd from right (Tours 2023)



re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS

NICHOLAS & ALISON (a visit to Nicholas a decade after lessons)

Nick's previous vocal coach ~ Photo taken by Nick's Mum 07 03 2013



re **Nicholas Renfree-Marks** by Alison Jane How with permission

NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS

MUSIC PRODUCER ENGINEER AND MIXER

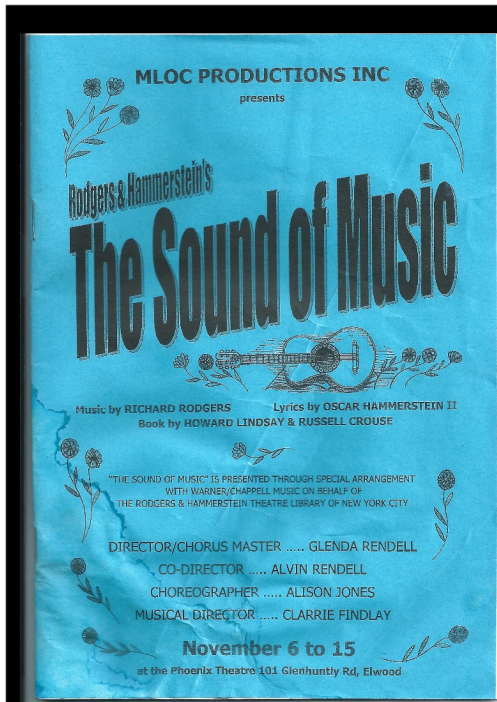
It is 2001 and, as an instructor, I am fascinated by a talented, respectful, effervescent student's promise and life's journey. This student was to go on to experience many great moments during the development of his musical journey and other adventures. Nicholas had singing lessons with me as his teacher 2001 to 2003. Always enthusiastic with a friendly smile and manner, having a positive approach to learning, he was able to level humility and grandeur in one as is evident in his recent performances with The Ten Tenors in Australia, New Zealand and Brazil.

'The Sound of Music' has been one of my all-time favourite musicals on screen and I was very impressed by Nick's vocals and portrayal of 'Rolf' in the MLOC Production of 'The Sound of Music' on the 9th November 2003 at the Phoenix Theatre Elwood Melbourne Australia; the program I kept to this date 2024, as pictured on the next page.

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS - November 2003

MLOC PRODUCTION ~ THE SOUND OF MUSIC ~ ROLF



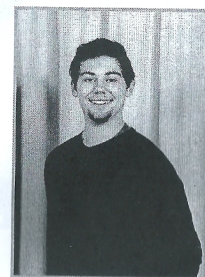
NICHOLAS RENFREE-MARKS

(Rolf)

Nicholas is currently studying Theatre Studies at Holmesglen TAFE, Moorabbin.

He also takes private tap dance classes with Alison Jones and vocal studies with Alison Jane How.

A former competition ballroom dancer, Nicholas would like to work towards making a career in Theatre.



re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

Amongst many personal achievements, Nicholas has directed, co-written and performed in musicals, operas and musical events with many established professional groups and organizations.

Some of these performances include

**The Secret Garden (Albert Lennox), Rent (Collins),
Oklahoma (Ike/Curly Cover),
Dear World (contributing artist), The Divine Miss Bette (MD/keys),
Guy Love (co-writer/performer cabaret)
The Pirates of Penzance (Director),
Seussical The Musical (the Sour Kangaroo),
Ordinary Days (Warren),
Madame Butterfly, La Traviata (Joseph),
Gianni Schicchi (Rinuccio),
Wind in the Willows (Otter)
Melbourne Opera -
(Cosi Fan Tutte, Fidelio, La Traviata, Madame Butterfly)
Victorian Opera -
(Maria de Buenos Aires, Magic Pudding tour)
(continued next page)**

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

...Performances continued...

**Australian Shakespeare Company,
The Melbourne International Comedy Festival (Seussical)
Opera Australia Touring and Outreach (La Cenerentola)
La Traviata, Carmen (tsoured)**

**Nicholas has been busy with other ventures throughout the years,
a chef demonstration of truffle making & personal wine advisor.**

He is also a vocal coach.

**Observing his social media posts is entertaining, inspiring and
encouraging; riding his horse, making videos with colleagues and
friends, performing, travelling and fun moments out and about.
I look forward to following Nicholas' career and life's goings on.**

Perhaps one day we will perform together;

how about with André Rieu Nicholas ?

We could tiptoe through the tulips.



(continued next page)

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission
...Lockdown Creativity...

**Nicholas Renfree-Marks Filming & Film Directorial Debut
2020**

'INEFFABLE'

Opening night November 2020.

**During lockdowns in 2020
Nicholas created, filmed and directed a film, Ineffable, released
and broadcast via the Fringe Festival 2020 November, online.
He asked friends if they could film themselves embracing
and breaking apart from someone they lived with
and sending it to him.
Perhaps some of the readers of this article have viewed the film.**

More info about that process on the next page of this article.

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

**"WHAT DREW YOU TO THEATRE DIRECTING
AND MUSIC PERFORMANCE?"**

Nicholas' response 30th March 2024 whilst in France.

**I took a long break from singing after
I left Opera Australia as I got quite sick.**

**I wasn't sure I could continue my singing career after such a long
break so during Covid I studied cinematography and was able
to use those skills when I filmed and directed Ineffable.**

**It was such a great process and I loved working on it
and with everyone who was a part of it.**

That's why I decided to pursue directing and went to the VCA.

I learnt very quickly that while I enjoy the directorial process,

**I am, in my heart, an actor and I'm so drawn to music
that my main medium must be opera.**

Music is what tethers me to this life.

**I didn't complete the masters degree
and decided to return to singing.**

That's when I auditioned for the Ten Tenors

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

...Nicholas Renfree-Marks Qualifications & Studies...

Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre)
Studied at Ballarat Arts Academy
2014

VCA partial studies Master of Theatre (Directing)
Melbourne

As Nicholas is still quite young he may continue or commence formal studies in the future, but in my (Alison) experience, he will continue to learn and to instruct and inspire others. He combines many facets of music, dance, theatre and people connecting so the future holds many possibilities.

(Article continued on next page)

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

In seeking Nicholas' permission to include the article about him in this Musical Rise Journal, to my pleasant surprise, I find that he is journeying around France at present, his social media posts of him having been at The Ritz London. I hope he continues to be able to travel and experience much with his musical journey and the friendships he has made along the way throughout the years thusfar. May there be much more of the same. If you meet and make music with Nicholas you will be blessed.



Thanks to Nicholas for being one of my musical mates **AL**

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission

More information about Nicholas can be viewed on the website references approved by Nicholas Renfree-Marks. Website addresses are linked - some 'visual-text' abbreviated here.

<https://www.instagram.com/nickrenmar/?hl=en>

<https://www.facebook.com/renfreemarks/>

<https://www.lyricopera.com.au/nicholas-renfree-marks>

<https://au.linkedin.com/in/nicholas-renfree-marks>

<https://au.linkedin.com/in/nicholas-renfree-marks>

<https://www.heraldsun.com.au/entertainment/comedy-festival/>

<https://www.pressreader.com/australia/>

<https://theatre-press.com/tag/nicholas-renfree-marks/>

<https://theatre-press.com/2014/04/09/review-seussical>

<https://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/ordinary-days-0>

YouTube The Ten Tenors Brasil 29 09 2023

re Nicholas Renfree-Marks by Alison Jane How with permission
(Website references approved by Nicholas Renfree-Marks)

...continued Website references addresses linked below...

<https://melbourneopera.com/project/madame-butterfly-2014/>

https://gsov.org.au/archive/2017/Pirates/cast_carol-whitfield (Dir)

<https://www.operaonvideo.com/>

OPERA BY THE LAKES <https://nyerimilang.com.au/>

https://youtu.be/TjZxKN_E3qM

<https://melbourneopera.com/project/la-traviata-2013/> (Joseph)

<https://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/lheure-gianni>

(Rinuccio)

<https://www.heraldsun.com.au/entertainment/arts/>

<https://artsreview.com.au/the-wind-in-the-willows/> (Otter)

<https://www.peselandcarr.com.au/> (cast)

<https://trufflemelbourne.com/chef-demonstration-schedule>

Photos in this MRJ article were provided by Nicholas to AJ How

by Alison Jane How {B.Mus.Ed}

"God has a plan for your life", my Secondary School Chaplain would reiterate at morning assemblies on many occasions, to the point where students would mimic the sentence whilst he spoke the words kindly from the stage.

As the years zoomed by, I have witnessed an interwoven path of life whereby one thing has led to another to another and to another with threads of intricately designed happenings where those individuals and groups

I have met and interacted with have become a marvellous whole.

During this 5 decades journey wonders never cease to amaze me.

Music frees spirits, minds and souls and surpasses barriers.

People who would not normally interact in other areas of life do so when it comes to music, whether that be making music or appreciating it.

When I look back through the years, which seemed to be very detailed, busy and often messy at the time, I now see a common-sense thread whereby this led to that and that to this and will do so with more of the same.

Music has been a bridge between people of all walks of life and also a meaningful expression between people and their Creator.

Most of our earthly lives have been threatened; our bodies, minds and spirits; but wonders never cease as we find healing, restoration and best of all, pals.

Thank you my pals. 'Thank God For Friends' video is on the next page.

Composed 2009 and performance video 2012 by Alison Jane How

Titles below linked to website pages

'THANK GOD FOR FRIENDS' AUDIO RECORDING ~ AJ HOW

'THANK GOD FOR FRIENDS' VIDEO RECORDING ~ AJ HOW



DIGITAL SHEET MUSIC SAMPLES AS PICTURES

Title below linked to website pages

<https://www.musicalrise.net/m-r-store-dsm-n-z/#thank-god-for-friends>



Music & Lyrics by & © Alison Jane How
Music, Sheet Music, Recordings and Graphics
by Alison Jane How
{Bachelor of Music Education}

CLVP avm
Chords Lyrics Vocal Melody Piano
Vocal Melody not focal in Accompaniment
Instruments combined within piano part
Key : D Major ~ Original Key

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Vocal Melody not focal in Accompaniment

CLVP avm
D Major
Original Key

THANK GOD FOR FRIENDS

Music, Lyrics & Arrangement by & © Alison Jane How (Bachelor of Music Education)

INTRO
Piano or solo instrument
mf

VERSE 1
mf

On this road... I've come to un-der-stand what mat-ters most is not the
things we plan, it's stand-ing by a friend in times of

THANK GOD FOR FRIENDS © ALISON JANE HOW
No Copying - Retail Item

Page 1 of 10

by Alison Jane How (B.Mus.Ed)

The Musical Rise Website was commenced in 2019 and since then I have been able to publish much of the music I had composed since 1986, in audio, some video, digital sheet music formats. The co-writes have also been published, songs written and recorded with various musicians and writers over the years.

Whilst there seems to be a lot of traffic from all over the world on the website on a regular basis round the clock, there have not been many purchases of products from the online store. With physical ailments having limited my movements, I have been restricted to only being able to continue with the website and items to be added to the store and the site as regularly as possible. As I am not receiving an income otherwise and have no savings I am hoping that finances will come in so that I can continue to provide this website and music to you and others on a broader scale. One option in order for me to branch out more with assistance, as I am hoping I can live more than in one place limited, would be to sell some of my songs and the rights.

This might be too confronting for me with all I have been and come through, so I am hoping some others will perform/release songs.

by Alison Jane How (B.Mus.Ed)

I will be commencing another website under a different Website domain name in the middle of this year with new material and other ventures to be published via it (aj-adventure.com).

AJ ADVENTURE will be notified via the Musical Rise Website.

If the songs sell out, I will be closing down 'Musical Rise', the songs that sell will not be on the new website and the co-writes will also be dropped from that website and not be published anywhere else unless a co-writer is interested in that option. At present I have offered the sale of 79 of my songs for one million dollars. This is my life's work and the songs have clearly enhanced so many people's lives, possibly even saved them; they are worth the asking price, perhaps even more. Time and one person or more will be able to direct the songs to the next level where I believe they were meant to be long ago; benefiting others.

At 56 years of age, with no partner or children, I would like to be able to get the help I need in order to travel and further my experiences with others in music areas and other areas of life.

I am not sure if this is possible but hope it is; hoping I will be in a relationship soon too. Thanks for your support. *Alison*