

MR ADRIAN WINTLE
Citation for the conferral of
Companion of the University

Mr Adrian Wintle has pursued a long and distinguished career in tertiary education, church music and arts journalism in Australia, the United Kingdom and Canada. Born in Brisbane and educated in Sydney, Mr Wintle studied piano at St Andrew's Cathedral, where he was later appointed assistant organist. In journalism, he trained on the *Bulletin* before becoming associate music and theatre critic on the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Mr Wintle studied at the Trinity College of Music and Durham University in London. As well as teaching at three London high schools he spent five years as music critic for *Musical Opinion*. Early in his career, he studied musicology at Toronto University and was assistant editor of *Opera Canada* before returning to Australia in 1971 as senior publicity officer in the ABC's Federal Concerts Department.

In 1974, Mr Wintle was appointed Lecturer in Music at the Riverina College of Advanced Education in Wagga Wagga, and in 1981, he joined the Wagga Daily Advertiser becoming chief of staff and writing on music, theatre and travel. His weekly 'Focus on Arts' column ran for 23 years, and extracts from his theatre reviews appear in Leslie Rees's definitive *History of Australian Drama*. He also contributed reviews to *Theatre Australia* and was a theatre assessor for The Australia Council Theatre Board. His series of articles titled 'The Bulletin in the Fifties' appeared in the *Wagga Daily Advertiser* in 1984 and was reprinted in *Southerly* magazine in 1994.

In 1984, The Riverina College of Advanced Education became a cardinal force in the establishment of the Riverina Conservatorium of Music. Mr Wintle was seconded to establish the new institution whilst teaching at a Conservatorium branch in Albury that later became the independent Murray Conservatorium. From 1993 to 1997, he served as director of the Riverina Conservatorium of Music.

Mr Wintle became the University's Organist in 1974. His first performance for the procession and occasional music for Graduation was at the Civic Theatre in Wagga Wagga, playing a drawbar Hammond organ and coaxing the large choir through a performance of Stanford's *Magnificat in B Flat*. In subsequent years, his performances were at the University's campuses, primarily in Joyes Hall at the Wagga Wagga Campus, where initially the on-stage instrument was a donated electronic organ and always referred to as the toy organ. In 1995, the University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Cliff Blake AO sought Mr Wintle's opinion for new instruments for the Wagga Wagga and Bathurst campuses. Mr Wintle's immediate recommendations for a three manual Makin for the Wagga Wagga campus and an even larger Makin instrument for the Bathurst campus was accepted. Mr Wintle had the opportunity to play for Bathurst Graduations on two occasions, and was able to demonstrate the enormous scope of the beautiful Makin organ.

In 2005, Mr Wintle was awarded honorary life membership of the Australian Journalists Association.

In 2006, Mr Wintle returned to composition, writing choral music for St John's Anglican Church in Wagga Wagga (an early *Magnificat in G* had been published in New York in 1975). He was runner up in the inaugural 2007 ACT Royal School of Church Music Composition Competition, and in 2008 took first prize in the second competition with *Psalm 150*. In 2009, he was equal first prize winner (with Canberra composer Les Davey) with *The Choristers' Prayer*.

In 2011, Mr Wintle was commissioned by the Riverina Conservatorium of Music to compose a work for organ, performing the piece, *Elegy in Memoriam MJ Byers*, initially in Wagga Wagga then at St Andrew's Cathedral in Sydney. In 2012, he was interim director of music at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta, and director of music and organist at St Matthew's, Albury, relinquishing the latter position in December 2012.

Through his position as Official Organist at the University's graduation ceremonies, Mr Wintle has strongly supported the development of Charles Sturt University,

performing arts and education in general in this region, and his association with the University continues unabated.

Mr Adrian Wintle has demonstrated exceptional dedication to education, literature and the performing arts in the region and his commitment to the University makes him a worthy recipient for admission to the honorary award of Companion of the University.

Dated this Eleventh Day of December Two Thousand and Eighteen