Pastor Kavel's People

Hahndorf 150 Jubilee Musical

In January of 1989 Hahndorf held a special musical celebrating its 150th Anniversary. This amazing concert was a collaboration between St. Michael's Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, the Lutheran youth of Hahndorf, and the community.

This musical can be viewed below in its entirety over 2 videos, see at the end for links.

The following is part of that musical and can be followed along by viewing the 2nd video beginning at 43'15".

NARRATOR: Because of King Friedrich Wilhelm the III's unreasonable demands on religious freedom, a group of Germans, led by Pastor Kavel with the help of George Fife Angas, left their native land to settle in South Australia. This first group took up land at Klemzig. The second group came on the "Zebra" under the captaincy of Dirk Meinertz Hahn in 1838-39.

These people wanted to carry on as farmers, and as Captain Hahn was very impressed by their conduct during the long voyage he helped them to find suitable land which happened to be near Mt. Barker. A contract was drawn and all parties were pleased.

SONG: LAND OF FREEDOM (see page 5 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: Now started the long trek to this place. Most people didn't have money to get their belongings transported so they had to carry everything or pull it on small handcarts. The journey took them two months through rugged bush and hills. When the first people arrived at their destination they didn't stop to refresh themselves or to unpack but fell on their knees to give thanks to God who had brought them safely into this land.

ELDER: Reads Psalm 103:1-3

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,
Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.

ALL: Sing Hymn No. 465 PRAISE – verses 1-2

Composer: J. Goss 1869

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour To our fathers in distress,
Praise Him still the same forever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious is His Faithfulness.

NARRATOR: The people named their village Hahndorf in honour of Captain Hahn who had helped them so much. One hundred and fifty acres was available to these people under the lease agreement. The land was divided amongst the 52 families so that every household got their fair share. Thus, the people started to build their future from the beginning, trusting everything to the good Lord's hands.

SONG: HAHNDORF TOWN (see page 7 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: in 1840 the people decided to buy the 150 acres but they had to borrow money and pay back at 10% interest. This, together with the repayment of the passage money to Angas caused the settlers many hardships, but most of them survived and generally prospered quickly, and they were well regarded by others in the colony.

With the clearing of the land well under way, and the cultivation of the crops and produce, people could turn their attention to the matter closest to their hearts: the worship of God and the place for it. In 1840 the first church was built.

SONG: CHURCH OF OUR OWN – 1st verse (see page 8 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: Services were held in the morning and evening on all Sundays and Church holidays. Unless a sermon lasted for at least an hour the congregation felt cheated.

SONG: CHURCH OF OUR OWN – 2nd verse (see page 8 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: The school was established in 1839 and lessons were first held in the open, but through various stages, a school building (the current Information Centre) was opened during the 1860s and continued as the school for over 50 years.

About the same time that the elementary school was fully functional in its new premises, an institute of higher learning (later to be known as the Hahndorf Academy), was opened and continued until 1916, after which the building was used for various purposes.

Gradually Hahndorf grew into a definite township with different establishments cropping up one after the other. Grocery stores, inns, a blacksmith shop, flour mills, bakery, as well as mortuary and marble works.

Music had always played an important part in the lives of the German settlers. Before suitable instruments were available, the hymn starter had an important role in Divine service, and if he made a mistake there was always someone (usually one of the women) ready to start the correct tune at the beginning of the second verse.

People started to meet socially outside of the church functions as well. Hotels became popular places for many functions and the love of music led to the establishment of the town band.

Let's now take a look at Hahndorf through the eyes of visitors to this rapidly developing township.

SONG: DAY TRIP TO HAHNDORF (see page 10 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: Towards the end of the century most necessities were available within the town and people's attention was drawn to beautifying their town. In 1885 an avenue of 300 trees was planted by volunteers and in 1890 a double row of pines were planted around the recreation grounds, including a mile of pine trees stretching from the Main Street of Hahndorf to the cemetery.

One of the popular sports was rifle shooting, shooting festivals or 'Schutzenfest' were held with shooting competitions. On the last on the last day of the competition the winner was crowned 'King' with an oak leaf garland.

Here is one young man's account of these events.

SONG: WHEN I WAS A LAD (see page 11 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR:

SONG: THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND (see page 13 for lyrics and score)

NARRATOR: I hope you have enjoyed this brief look at the events and factors which have modelled Hahndorf into a town it is now. No wonder so many visitors flock into this valley, the beauty of which Sir Hans Heysen has managed to capture on canvas so brilliantly. But without the determination of the early settlers and the guiding hand of God we would not have such a special town, thus we would like to share with you the comforting words of Luther's Evening Prayer.

ELDER: Reads Luther's Evening Prayer

I give Thee thanks, heavenly Father, through Thy dear son Jesus Christ, that Thou hast this day graciously protected me. I beseech Thee to forgive all my sins and the wrong which I have done. Graciously protect me during the coming night. Into Thy hands I commend my body and soul and all that is mine. Let Thy holy Angel have charge of me, that the wicked one may have no power over me. Amen.

ALL: Sing Hymn No. 550 EUDOXIA – verses 1,4 and 6

Composer: Sabine Baring Gould 1868

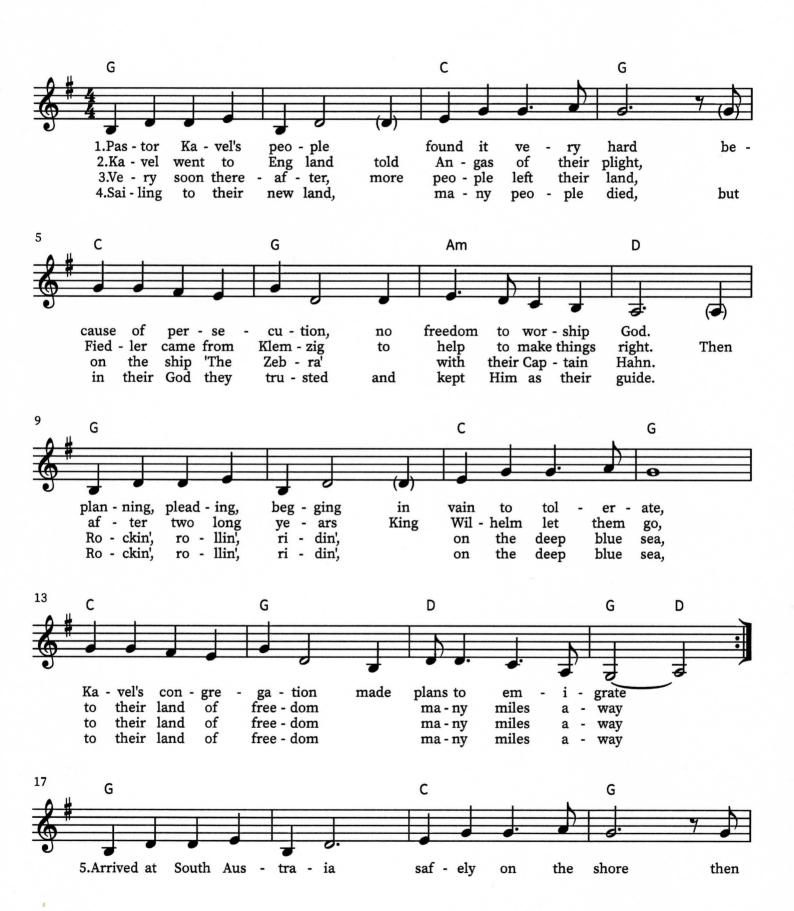
Now the day is over. Night is drawing nigh. Shadows of the evening Steal across the sky. Through the long night watches May Thine angels spread Their white wings above me, Watching around my bed.

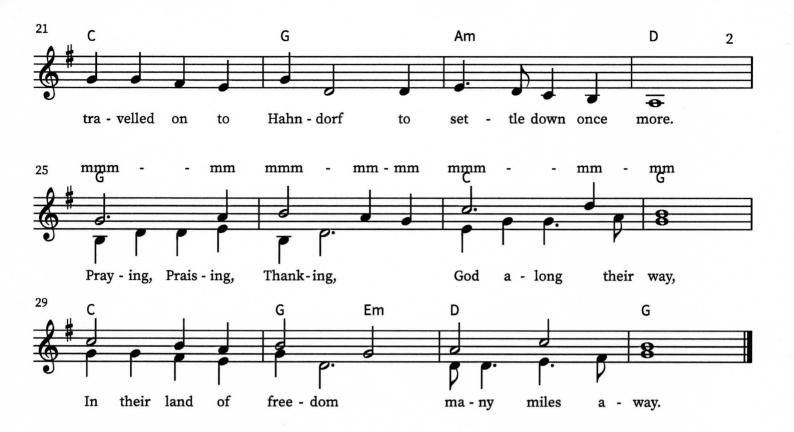
Glory to the Father. Glory to the Son. And to Thee blessed Spirit while all ages run.

NOTE: The following songs are all originals composed by Betty and Marty Liebelt, and their friend Jeff Gibbs specifically for the 150 Anniversary musical.

Land of freedom

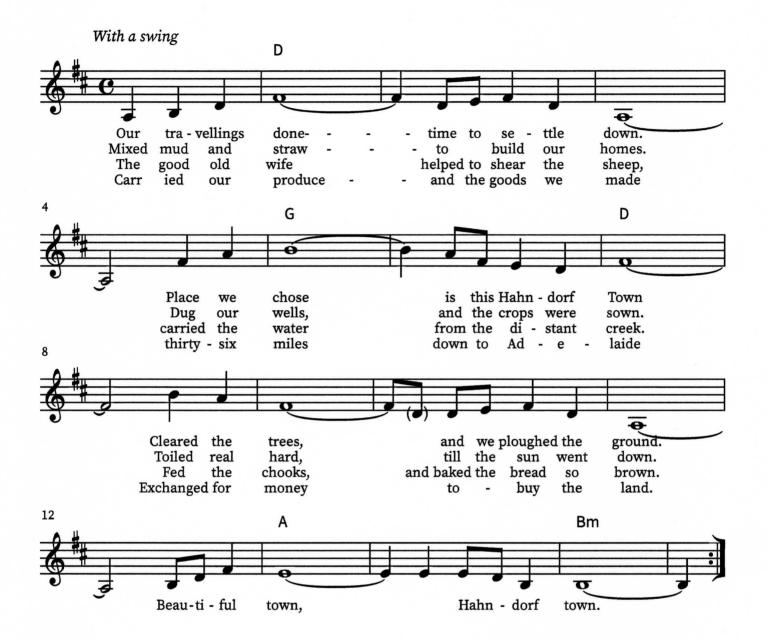
Morning town ride





Hahndorf Town

tune of 'dirty old town'

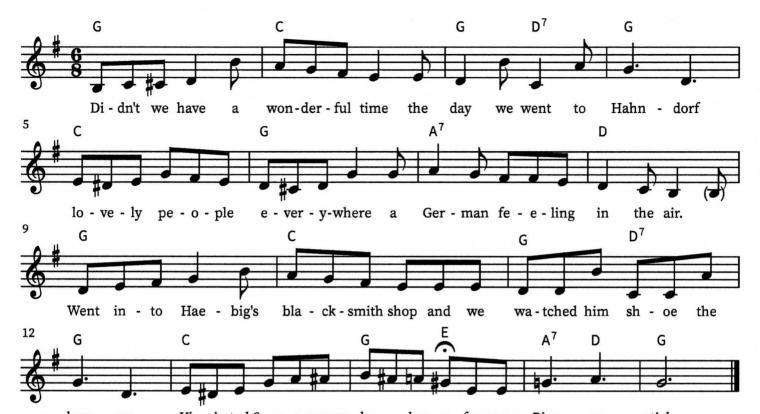


Church of our own





Day trip to Hahndorf



hor - ses. Vi - si - ted Sonn-e-manns ba - ker - y for some Bien - en

1. Didn't we have a wonderful time
the day we went to Hahndorf.

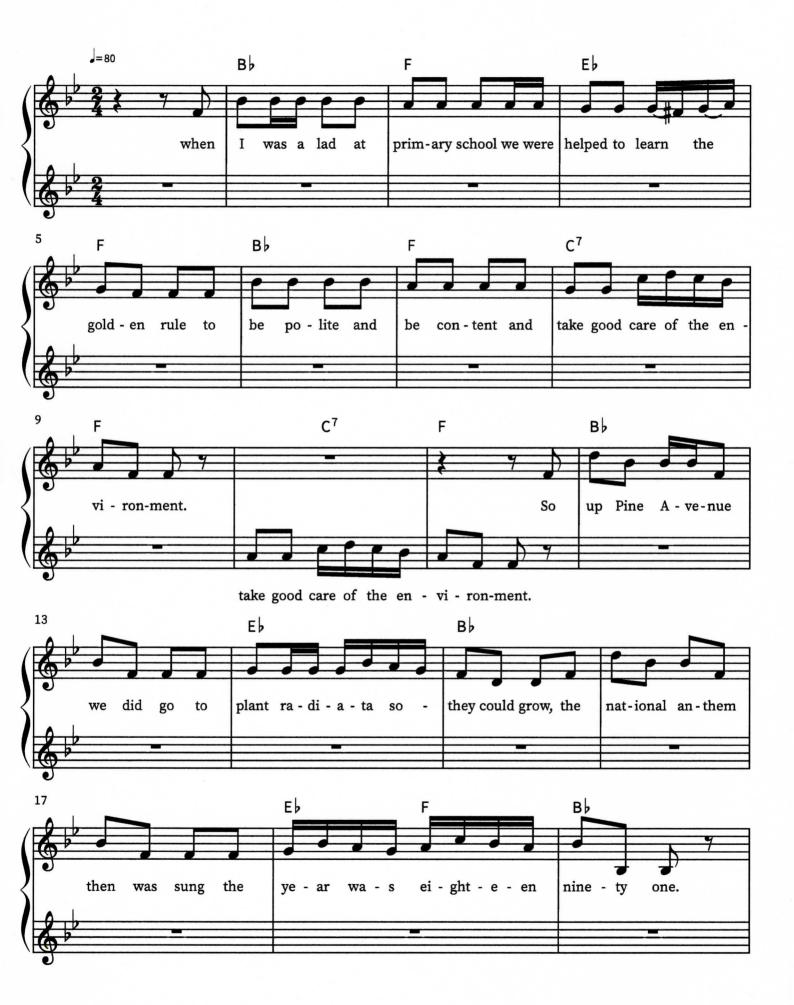
Lovely people everywhere
a German feeling in the air.

Went into Haebig's blacksmith's shop
and watched him shoe the horses.

Visited Sonnemanns bakery
for some bienenstich.

- 2. Kaeslers made the Clover machine we saw it in the workshop
 Ewald was there with his feet in the air while Reinie sat in the inventors' chair.
 Walked down the street to see Mr. Bom chipping monumental marble.
 His headstones were fine we observed them in line at the cemetery.
- 3. Bought some goods at the general store which was run by Mr. Thiele. Wittwer's mill was next door we could hear the great roar of the stones that ground the wheat to flour. Heard the brass band and saw Mr. Kramm who was playing on his cornet. The music was fair in the sweet country air as the day rolled on.
- 4. The church service there was quite an affair they had trouble with the singing the guy as the lead knew no music indeed and so the congregation went flat...
 But all in all we had a ball the day we went to Hahndorf.
 The mettwurt and cake gave a great belly-ache BUT DAS TRIP VAS GUT

When I was a lad

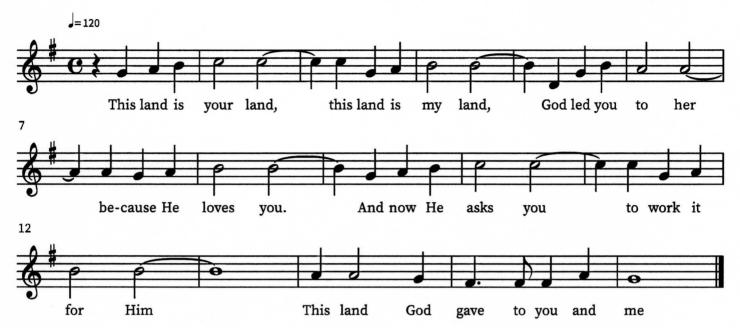


1. When I was a lad at primary school We were helped to learn the golden rule To be polite and be content And take good care of the environment. [Take good care of the environment.] So up Pine Avenue we did go To plant radiata so they could grow The national anthem then was sung The year was 1891. Whistle

- 2. When I was a lad of 21
 I fooled around with my father's gun
 I went out back to try a shot
 But it nearly blew my shoulder off.
 [nearly blew his shoulder off.]
 My father found out what I had done
 He gave me a clout and said "Listen son,
 If you want to be the best shot in town
 You'll have to hold the gun the right way round."
 Whistle
- 3. So off we went to the Schutzenfest And dad said "Now son here's the test to hit the target's what you must do 'Cause all the frauleins are watching you.' [all the frauleins are watching you.] With trembling knees I fired the gun To my surprise I nearly won At the end of the day I'd done my best And won a stein at the Schutzenfest. Whistle
- 4. We headed off to the Hahndorf Inn With dad to celebrate my win This was the custom of the hour To fill the stein with Lowenbrau. [fill the stein with Lowenbrau.] I schkulled* it down and asked for more And all the shooters gave a roar My head did spin as I drank the beer Glad it's only once a year. [He's glad it's only one a year!] Whistle

^{*}skulled with German sch pronunciation.

This land is your land



Chorus:

This land is your land, this land is my land, God led you to her because He loves you. And now He asks you to work it for Himthis land God gave to you and me.

V1: I stopped and pondered about God's goodness, How He helped my parents who toiled before me. And all around me, God seemed to tell me: This land is yours to toil for me.

Chorus

V2: As I went walking high on the hilltops, I saw above me God's beautiful skyway, I saw below me green Hahndorf Valley. This land God gave to you and me.

Chorus

V3: Ans the sun was shining and I was strolling, And the wheat crops waving and dustclouds rolling, And the fog was lifting, God seemed to be saying: This land is yours to work for me.

Chorus

V4: When the fog had lifted I saw below me Down in the valley right there before me The church's steeple points to heaven Reminding me of God's gracious love for me.

Chorus