





Vale



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Kevin Hocking OAM

LPA was very saddened to hear of the passing of musical director, conductor, composer, arranger and band leader, Kevin Hocking OAM earlier this week.

Kevin's music career began in the early 1950s spending five years in Europe and South Africa working in theatre, television and radio. Upon returning to Australia he worked for television stations HSV-7 and GTV-9. It was at GTV-9 where he played piano in Graham Kennedy's *In Melbourne Tonight*. In 1970 Kevin joined the ABC Melbourne Showband as pianist, arranger and chorus master before becoming the Musical Director in 1980.

Kevin has composed thousands of original scores for numerous documentaries, animated films and TV series including *Nature of Australia*, which won the French Television Award for Best Documentary Score in 1988.

He conducted and recorded with the Melbourne, Adelaide, Queensland and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, as well as Orchestra Victoria and Australian Pops Orchestra. A highly sought after accompanist, he played with Simon Gallaher, Julie Anthony AM OBE, James Morrison AM, Nancye Hayes AM and Toni Lamond AM, among others.

As a Musical Director, Kevin's television credits include *That's Dancing*, *The Simon Gallaher Show*, *Australia You're Standing In It* and the series *Talk To The Animals*. His theatre credits include musical direction for Simon Gallaher's productions of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado* and *HMS Pinafore*.

Kevin's services to music as a composer, arranger, conductor and pianist are widely regarded and he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2006.

Our thoughts and sincerest condolences are with Kevin's wife Wendy, his family, friends and colleagues. Kevin will be greatly missed.

Accolades:

Medal of the Order of Australia - 2006

Best Musical Direction for *The Mikado* - 1995 Green Room Awards

Footlighters Award - 1983

Best Documentary Score - 1988 French Television Awards



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