

### Meetings:

In the twelve months since the last AGM, AES Melbourne has been busy on several fronts. The "legends" session on Neville Thiele was completed and made available on the website. The Audio skills survey was completed and results published (again on the website). The Melbourne AES Section also held six meetings on topics of interest to general and new members alike. These included:

- Last year's AGM in **August** 2018 was followed by a presentation from Dan Jackson, head of audio operations at the major commercial radio network Southern Cross Austereo (SCA), outlining the demands for reliable National broadcast management across time zones with a mix of common and local content and the development and use of their ground-breaking National networking system SCASat.
- In **October, 2018** Vice chairman Paolo Menolotto introduced Phil Georges and outlined his extensive experience in live sound production, television and most recently with live sport. Phil provided an interesting and informative session on audio mixing for modern major sporting events including the challenges of capturing the ambience, managing multiple commentary groups, the need for multiple language support and the use of stereo and surround sound formats.
- In **December** 2018 Steve Spurrier gave a presentation at the SAE meeting room on the challenges of live sound monitoring and production with emphasis on the Genelec product range and the use of DSP processing to tame modern production facility acoustics.
- In **February** 2019, 20 members of AES Melbourne were treated to a tour of the ABC Southbank studios. This facility supports National radio and television broadcast and local orchestral and other performances with production including synchronization of interleaved local advertising and promotional content. The limited number of places for the tour meant that attendance had to be limited to members.
- In **April** 2019, 21 members and guests assembled at the Yamaha Premium Piano Centre in South Melbourne to hear Simon Tait explain the Yamaha AFC3 active field control system and its use for acoustic enhancement and spatial audio. The recently installed (and then yet to be commissioned) system was demonstrated against the critical test of premium live piano and support instruments. An amazing evening.
- In **June** 2019, we discovered that Melbourne is again pre-eminent in audio with a talk and tour of the Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio in North Melbourne conducted by Byron Scullin. This facility houses a world-class collection of working analogue-oriented synthesisers and emphasises a hands-on approach. The MESS is also a hub for access to a team of world-class dedicated and experts knowledgeable in the field who manage to keep these unique machines in working order.

Meeting reports together with slides and audio recordings can be found on the website [AESmelbourne.org.au](http://AESmelbourne.org.au).

**Committee meetings:**

Your Section Committee has met three times in the 12 months to deal with the business of running the Section, and planning the upcoming meetings.

Identifying suitable meeting topics is always a challenge. If you have any suggestions for guest speakers or topics you'd like discussed, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Membership:

The membership has remained relatively stable, with 65 currently financial members. We also encourage members to renew membership and retain benefits.

As chairman I would like to thank the Committee for their continued effort in keeping Melbourne AES thriving, with particular thanks to our secretary Peter Smerdon for his excellent and continued support and leadership.

The committee would also like to thank Diego Tognola for his valuable contributions whilst on the committee and wish him well for the future. We look forward to seeing him at our monthly presentation meetings.