

Mr Peter Shaw, former Assistant Principal: (written in 2021)

The Triggles

I joined the Trinity College community in 1999 and enjoyed a decade as the Assistant Principal, Curriculum. But it was a musical experience which really cemented my place in the annals of Trinity history.

It was the year 2007 and the annual Trinity Feast Day celebrations were coming around. A very excited Alf Di Mauro was recruiting for a staff act for the traditional concert event. He recruited four males, Jeff Scott, Mick Davis, Peter Shaw and himself to take on a Wiggles impersonation act. As such, staff acts were generally considered something of a moment of some level of madness, where aging, wannabe teachers performed fairly dismally, for the amusement of the student body.

Our first mistake was to source four reasonable looking colour skivvies. More importantly, some rehearsals took place, to a point where we actually knew what we were doing for the performance. The highlight was that Alf had located a perfectly produced CD, with said medley of Wiggles favourites. We took to the stage at the end of the concert, me with guitar and doing my best Murray impersonation. To our surprise, the student audience joined in heartily with the array of snippets of tunes, “hot potato-ing” and “chugging along in our big red car” to the music. But the pinnacle of performance came when the *real* Jeff ‘fell asleep’ at his keyboard. On cue, the audience absolutely erupted in a vociferous “WAKE UP JEFF!”. I don’t believe an AC/DC audience make as much noise as those students and staff did that day. Far from being “amusing at best”, the act was a showstopping performance!

We exited the stage that day in our one-and-only on-stage performance to the cheers of “Encore! Encore!” and ‘The Triggles’ boys walked into Trinity folklore.

Peter Shaw