

Our Twentieth Anniversary Year

Autumn Social Night

Another successful and harmonious Autumn Social Night was enjoyed by members and friends on Tuesday 22 May. Thanks go to all involved, especially Kim and Kaitlin Sebbage! A few photos of the occasion are overleaf.

Back to Weston Lodge, Hollywood

We've been invited back to one of our most familiar venues for an afternoon concert on Friday June 29. The call is for 2.15 p.m. and the program is to commence at 3 p.m. The theme of the afternoon is to relate to songs from the movies, as far as possible, and for this occasion **we'll be wearing our No 1 costume**, including the white jacket.

The provisional song list is:

*Western Australia; Wonderful Day; High Hopes; Lean On Me; Lion Sleeps Tonight
Waltzing Matilda; Georgy Girl; You'll Never Walk Alone; Alexander's Ragtime Band*

Construction work is still going on at the site. We've been informed that the concert will be held on the ground floor in Weston Lodge, which should mean that there'll be no need to carry the risers any great distance.

Ken Richens will be checking for starters names and giving us the latest access and parking information very shortly.

Citizenship Ceremony

Well, what do you know - the Citizenship Ceremony that was listed for 16 June was cancelled. We can only assume that the cancellation was due to a shortage of candidates. – We were ready!

Rosters for June

(Please make alternative arrangements if you are going to be unavailable. Please speak to John Friebel, if you feel you have been overlooked.)

Quartets and VLQs

5 June

Sebbage, Okely, Tay, Brigatti

12 June

Aarnoudse, Commerford, Cook, Durham

19 June

McGuire, Merrells, Lugg, Clee, Lehmann, Mitchell

26 June

Richards, Lam, Cook, Routley

3 July

McGuire, Richens, Tay, Friebel

Aarnoudse, Clayton, Okely (bari), Nelson

Kitchen Assistants

5 June: McGuire, Friebel, Lam

12 June: Nelson, Geiles, Routley

19 June: Cook, Durham, Richards

26 June: Mitchell, McGuire, Clee

3 July: Lehmann, Lam, Routley

- Barberpole Cat for June: *Wait 'til the Sun Shines, Nellie*

Engagements and Activities

(Additions and alterations are shown in bold.)

- **Tuesday 12 June, 4 p.m. – Management Committee Meeting.**
- **Friday 29 June, 2.15 for 3 p.m. – Weston Lodge, Hollywood Regis.**
- Tuesday 24 July - "Christmas in July" Club Night.
- Wednesday 25 July, 5.30 for 6.00 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- Sunday 5 August, **1.15 for 2 p.m.** – Participation in **afternoon Church Service** at St Peter and Emmaus Church.
- Wednesday 22 August, 5.30 for 6.00 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Wednesday 12 to Wednesday 19 September – BHA Convention & Harmony Academy, Adelaide.**
- Friday 14 September (afternoon) – Aegis Lifestyle Village, North Perth.
- Tuesday 2 October - Club Spring Social Evening.
- Wednesday 10 October, 5.30 for 6.00 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- Sunday 21 October, 2.15 for 3.00 p.m. – Concert at North Beach Anglican Church.
- Wednesday 14 November, 5.30 for 6.00 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Monday 19 November, 12.15 for 1 p.m. – Harold Hawthorn Centre, Victoria Park.**
- Tuesday 11 December Annual Dinner & Awards Evening.

The above list should be regarded as 'subject to alteration.'

This newsletter is published monthly. Contributions and comments will be welcome. These should go to Bruce Okely, 60/7 Harman Road, Sorrento 6020. Phone: 9447 0719 Email also available.

Our chorus website is: <http://westcoastchordsmen.org.au>

Autumn Social Night, 2018



1. The people arriving.
2. John Brigatti and John Nelson, enjoying a chat.
3. Kaitlin Sebbage in charge of technology.
4. Alice Okely and Don Bowes, also enjoying a chat at supper time.
5. The Four Chordsmen entertain – Peter McGuire, Ken Richens, John Friebel and Francis Tay.
6. Kim Sebbage directing the chorus.



From the Archives (6)

During 2004 Jack Loneragan unfortunately had to retire from his position as President owing to ill-health and Geoff Wilkins was prevailed upon to take Jack's place from August '04 onwards. It was not long after this that we had to say a sad farewell to Life Member, Stan Jackson. Stan had been a stalwart from Men in Harmony days, keen lead singer and enthusiastic beyond belief. This writer recalls an occasion which gives the perfect example of Stan's enthusiasm for our hobby. We were taking part in a concert at the University of Western Australia and Stan approached Yours Truly during the warm-up.

'Do you mind if I stand on the other side of the chorus today?' said Stan.

'No, Stan, - not at all. But what's the reason?' I said.

'Well, you know when we have to raise our outside arm at the end of that last song?'

'Yes.'

'Well, I've broken my right arm since last week so I'd like to use my left arm!'

Needless to say, Stan was accommodated – but such devotion could never be forgotten.



- Geoff Wilkins, President, 2005, 2006

Around this period we began planning a completely new venture: a club trip to South Australia. The objects of such a visit would be both musical and social, giving an opportunity to present a joint concert and, at the same time, establishing a warm and supportive relationship between ourselves at the Adelaide club, 'The Festival State'smen'.

2004 was winding up in the usual hectic fashion with carol singing, Christmas dinner and so on when news of the disaster created by the Boxing Day Tsunami transfixed the world. Incredible figures – hundreds of thousands of people affected, 150 000 people drowned, - the horror was almost unbelievable. Our club got into gear immediately, taking part in a fund-raising effort at a Buddhist temple in Nollamara, among other things.

One particular effort is worth mentioning in this report. Richard Swannell, the son of one of our members, Keith Swannell, was largely responsible for funding an orphanage in Andhra Pradesh, India, called 'Hebron Orphanage'. As a direct result of the tsunami this orphanage had taken in a considerable number of extra boys and girls whose parents had been lost, presumed drowned. Funding for this influx was urgently needed. When our club was made aware of Richard's situation immediate efforts were made to raise funds – and particularly to support Keith in travelling to the orphanage to carry out essential electrical work, which happened to be Keith's special skill. A few short years later Richard Swannell became seriously ill and not long afterward we were, very sadly, attending his funeral.

Early in 2005 the Management Committee approached Kim Sebbage to see if would be willing to 'stand in' for Yours Truly during a period of leave. To everyone's delight Kim accepted readily. In due course, on YT's return from leave, Kim's period of standing-in became translated into Associate Music Director – and the rest is history.

The plan for us to visit Adelaide came to fruition in April 2005. The tour was called 'Voices in Harmony' and this was adopted for the series of visits that were to follow. In the end the visit was a great success, with a strong group of members and wives attending and taking part in a range of social activities, a church service and a joint concert. So great was the enthusiasm that plans were immediately set in train to hold a return visit, in Perth, in the following year.

- Bruce Okely