

Our Twentieth Anniversary Year

In Sickness and in Health

Kim Sebbage

Unfortunately, it appears we're going to have to carry on without our MD for several weeks from 8 March. Although not completely unexpected, Kim's absence – firstly for a visit to Fiona Stanley Hospital and then for a spell recovering at home – will be keenly felt. The Management Committee have taken steps to lighten the load on Kim's 'stand-in', the MD emeritus, during Kim's absence. Naturally, we all heartily wish Kim a very successful and rapid recovery.

Terry Bruce

All members were deeply shocked to hear of Terry's unexpected illness. At the time of writing the news is that Terry is still a long way from complete recovery. Our thoughts, hopes and prayers go out to Jan and Terry at this time and we look forward, even if it does take a while, to seeing Terry back in our front row again.

Len Aarnoudse

On a brighter note, it has been an unexpected pleasure to have Len singing with us over recent months. Our chorus is not the same without Len's contribution. We wish him continued improvement in health and strength.

New Music for 2018

By now all members should have received their package containing -

- the two new songs, *Balm in Gilead* and *Shine On Harvest Moon*;
- the 2018 version of the Annual Songs CD;
- the updated list of contents for the Current Music File, and
- the Index for the Main File (on green paper).

Please check, then file these documents carefully. If any errors or discrepancies reveal themselves kindly inform Yours Truly. Likewise, if you need a CD for a voice-part other than your usual one please inform the writer.

Observing our very positive response to the re-introduction of *Alexanders Ragtime Band* Music Director Kim is recommending we also begin looking at *Georgy Girl*, in readiness for its appearance on our rehearsal schedules this month.

Citizenship Ceremony This Month

Our next appointment for the City of Stirling is on Wednesday 7 March at 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. and the song list for the occasion is:

City of Stirling; Waltzing Matilda; I Believe; My Country;

Home Among the Gum Trees; Wonderful Day; I Still Call Australia Home; I Am Australian; Advance Australia Fair.

An Active Quartet!

- from Ken Richens

The Four Chordsmen have had a busy February, accepting invitations to sing for Karrinyup Lakes Village on the 15th, for a 70th birthday celebration on the 24th in Bullcreek, and for the Jewish Schmooze Club in Mt Lawley on the 28th. As always, the quartet endeavour to promote the Chorus and display our craft, with the ringing encouragement of our coach MDE Bruce reminding us.. "Presentation...Presentation...Presentation".



And to top it off, Colin, whose 70th birthday the quartet was helping to celebrate, visited our meeting on Tuesday 27th February! Let's hope we see Colin again.

The Weekly Quartet Spot

A weekly feature of our meeting (that emphasises we are members of a *club*, as well as a *chorus*), is our regular quartet spot. John Friebel, who is primarily responsible for scheduling singers for this spot, reminds us that he would be very happy to schedule any pre-arranged quartet.

For fairly obvious reasons John is generally listing only one weekly quartet or ensemble at the moment. But he is always open to approaches. Meanwhile, all listed singers are encouraged to –

- discuss the choice of song early enough for all singers to prepare;
- take advantage of this quartet or small group opportunity to demonstrate their personal grasp of the teaching being given each week during chorus training, and
- arrange for a substitute if they find they are unable to sing on the week for which they have been listed.

Special General Meeting

We must commend our Management Committee and especially the efforts of our Treasurer, Doug Routley and his daughter for steering our Club through the rather muddy waters of the rules changes made necessary because of changes to the Associations Incorporation Act, WA. The result of the efforts of these good folk was an orderly, brief and effective Special General Meeting on Tuesday 27 February where the necessary amendments to our rules were effected by the required majority – with unanimous agreement. Well done all!



Rosters for March

(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

6 March

1. Aarnoudse, Commerford, Verbrugge, Lehmann
2. McGuire, Richens, Tay, Friebel

13 March

Aarnoudse, Clayton, Tay, Blackmore

20 March

Richards, Geiles, Richens, Verbrugge, Friebel, Nelson

27 March

McGuire, Lugg, Merrells, Tay, Brigatti

3 April

1. Aarnoudse, Lam, Cook, Durham, Mitchell

2. McGuire, Richens, Tay, Friebel

Kitchen Assistants

6 March: Lugg, Lam, Pedler

13 March: Commerford, Verbrugge, Lehmann

20 March: Clayton, Blackmore, Friebel

27 March: Richards, Cook, Nelson

3 April: Mitchell, Geiles, Clee

- Barberpole Cat for March: *Sweet and Lovely*

Engagements and Activities

(Additions and alterations are shown in bold.)

- Wednesday, 7 March 2018, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- Wednesday 4 April, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Tuesday 8 May - Club Autumn Social Evening.**
- Wednesday 16 May, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Tuesday 24 July - "Christmas in July" Club Night.**
- Wednesday 25 July, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Sunday 5 August – Participation in morning Church Service at St Peter and Emmaus Church.**
- Wednesday 22 August, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **Friday 14 September (afternoon) – Aegis Lifestyle Village, North Perth.**
- **Tuesday 2 October - Club Spring Social Evening.**
- **Wednesday 10 October, 6.00 for 6.30 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, 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. – Citizenship Ceremony at City of Stirling.
- **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>

From the Archives (3)

The plan referred to previously about celebrating the 2001 Centenary of Federation provided for grant applications to be called from community bodies in each of the House of Representatives electorates. Because our membership was distributed over several electorates it was decided that we should make more than one application.

It was made clear in the supporting publicity that preference would be given to applications that showed maximum community involvement, so our Club's application was framed to involve, beside our chorus –

- A script and set of players to dramatize the main events of the 20th Century;
- A wide variety of songs and musical excerpts across those years;
- Several school and community choirs, dancers and orchestras.

It was not a modest plan!

To bring this all to pass we sought funding for a professional script-writer and a professional show producer plus funding for music arrangements, costumes, lighting, etc.

(We had become so enthused about the idea that we even considered producing a 'trimmed down' version if the grant did not materialise.)

However, it did! The sum of \$41 000 was made available through the Curtin electorate and its member Julie Bishop. The news was met with delight – and just a little trepidation. Building on the framework already established we approached Joan Pope, a theatrical producer of considerable renown – but one who was quite happy working with rank amateurs. Our

chosen scriptwriter was Tony Nicholls, who taught related courses at Curtin University. To keep us on track historically we lent on Associate Professor David Black and we engaged the music arranging skills of Jeff Carroll in a major way.

And so the whole show began to take shape – behind the scenes at first, but gradually taking up more and more rehearsal time, and committee meeting time, as 1999 and 2000 raced past.

But somehow time and energy was found for our first appearance at the WA Primary Schools Massed Choirs Festival in Winthrop Hall, University of Western Australia – an honour and privilege that has continued to the time of writing, 2018. In addition to this the chorus made its first connection with the Western Australian Primary Strings Orchestra, another connection that continued for many years – raising funds for Save the Children Australia.

And if that were not enough, the chorus made its second recording, the cassette cover of which is pictured, opposite. Obviously, for use and sale during 2001.

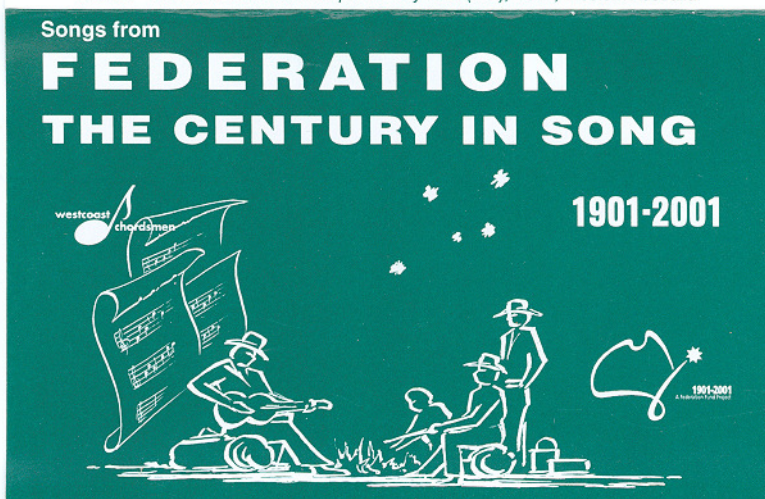
Busy days!

Bruce Okely

Songs from "Federation: The Century In Song"

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. - Advance Australia Fair. | 9. - Gundagai-Medley, "Along The Road To Gundagai", "Where The Dog Sits On The Tucker Box". |
| 2. - Song of Australia. | 10. - Up There Cazaly. |
| 3. - Home Sweet Home. | 11. - World War II-Medley: "Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree", "Comin' In On A Wing And A Prayer", "Lili Marlene". |
| 4. - Transport-Medley: "Daisy Bell", "In My Merry Oldsmobile", "He'd Have to Get Under - Get Out and get Under". | 12. - Be Still My Soul. |
| 5. - Toot, Toot, Tootsie. | 13. - Snowy River Roll. |
| 6. - Come, Josephine in My Flying Machine. | 14. - A Pub With No Beer. |
| 7. - World War I-Medley: "Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag", "It's a Long Way To Tipperary", "Roses of Picardy". | 15. - Give Me A Home Among The Gum Trees. |
| 8. - Radio. | 16. - Finale: "I Am Australian", "I Still Call Australia Home. |

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