

November 2018

'Harmony – Together in Song'

Issue 248

## Our Twentieth Anniversary Year

### Annual General Meeting

Notice has been given informing us that our AGM is to be held at 5 p.m., prior to our rehearsal on Tuesday 13 November. As usual, reports will be delivered by the President, Music Director and Treasurer and all Committee positions will fall vacant.

Please give careful consideration to whether you could offer, or nominate someone, to fill one of the vacancies – either on the Committee or in some other capacity.

### Position Vacant (1)

There is a real need to fill the vacancy for a Catering and Events Officer. This is different from the officer who regularly prepares and organises the tea, coffee and biscuits each Tuesday (thanks, Derek). The Catering and Events maestro will, we hope, be responsible for the smooth running of special events such as our social evenings and the annual dinner.

At the moment these duties have more or less fallen, by default, upon our Admin. VP. – Please speak to President John Brigatti if you feel you can help. – The need is quite urgent.

### Position Vacant (2)

The position of Editor/Compiler of this journal is about to become vacant. If you have an interest in helping our Club in this way, please speak to President John or the undersigned.

Some reasonable ability in word processing would be a practical start. Further advice and help can be provided. There is no need to regard the present style of newsletter as the only guide for the future.

### Citizenship Ceremonies

Thanks again to the singers who contributed to the ceremony on Wednesday 24 October. We received a particularly warm reception for our final song, *I Am Australian*, possibly contributing to the worthy Councillor who followed us ignoring his script and become quite loquacious in his remarks. Our final outing this year for the City of Stirling is on Wednesday 14 November, 5.30 for 6 p.m. Our program will be:

*City of Stirling (entering); Alexander's Ragtime Band; Waltzing Matilda; Harvest Moon; My Country.*

Quartet: *Barbershop 101*

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

### Regis Aged Care, Woodlands

At rather short notice we have been invited to present a program for the residents of Regis Aged Care, Woodlands on Friday 2 November.

The particulars are:

- Address – 10 Sabina Street, Woodlands.
- Time – Warm-up at 1.15 for 2 p.m. performance.
- Dress – No 1 costume.
- Program -

*Western Australia (entering); Wonderful Day; Home Among the Gum Trees; Harvest Moon (?); Balm in Gilead; Coney Island Baby.*

Quartet – *The Four Chordsmen*

*I Have a Song to Sing (entering); Alexander's Ragtime Band; I Believe; I Still Call Australia Home; High Hopes*

### Annual Dinner and Awards Evening

- from Ken Richens

The details of this year's Annual Dinner and Awards Evening are as follows:

**Date & time** - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018....6pm 'til 9pm.

**Venue** - Charles Hotel, Charles St., North Perth.

**Main meal**, plus cake and coffee/tea...\$30.

4 or 5 meal choices will be offered, details to be confirmed closer to the event. Our Club will pay for all financial Members.

Members will be asked to pay our Treasurer in advance, for their guests, \$30 per person.



## Carols at The Mez

We have our first booking to sing carols at The Mez Shopping Centre, Mount Hawthorn. It is to be on Saturday 15 December. Further details later, but please reserve the date.



## Spring Social

What a brilliant social evening! Congratulations go to all organisers, participants and guests at our Spring Social Night, Tuesday 2 October. It was a special delight to have Terry and Jan Bruce among our guests. How good it was to see how much progress Terry has made in recovering from his stroke earlier in the year.

This combined evening with the Men in Harmony was undoubtedly a social and musical success. Kim Sebbage, who is now Music Director of both choruses, brought together a delightful musical program of choruses, quartets and ensembles that still left time for meeting up with friends, old and new. And reports from audience members gave a positive 'thumbs up' to the results. As a participant in the combined chorus finale this writer can only say 'MORE PLEASE.'

## From the Archives

With this issue of the newsletter will be found the final edition of *From the Archives*, which has been an attempt to inform, or remind, readers of some of the main events in the 20-year life of the Westcoast Barbershop Harmony Club.

This Writer hopes that some may have found it of interest. Naturally it has not been possible to cover everything that has occurred. The main object has been to record, in a reasonably convenient form, the quite amazing story of the activities, trials and triumphs of this club and chorus over their first 20 years.

A more detailed record of just the first ten years was published in hard copy in 2007. A copy of that document, in electronic form, can be supplied on request to the undersigned.

## Rosters for November

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

### Quartets and VLQs

#### 30 October

(a) McGuire, Commerford, Pedler, Verbrugge, Lehmann, Nelson

(b) Sebbage, Okely, Tay, Brigatti

#### 6 November

Aarnoudse, Lugg, Richens, Cook, Mitchell, Routley

#### 13 November

McGuire, Lam, Clee, Blackmore

#### 20 November

Aarnoudse, Merrells, Pedler, Verbrugge, Durham, Nelson

#### 27 November

McGuire, Richens, Tay, Friebe

#### 4 December

Sebbage, Clayton, Okely, Cook, Brigatti, Routley

### Kitchen Assistants

30 October: Richards, Routley, Mitchell

6 November: Blackmore, Nelson, Tay

13 November: Commerford, Verbrugge, Lugg

20 November: Richens, Cook, Lehmann

27 November: Nelson, Merrells, Durham

4 December: Mitchell, Tay, Friebe

- Barberpole Cat for November: *Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn*

## Engagements and Activities

*(Additions and alterations are shown in bold.)*

- Friday 2 November, 1.15 for 2 p.m. – Regis Aged Care, 10 Sabina St., Woodlands.
- **Tuesday 13 November, 5 p.m. – Annual General Meeting** (*See separate paragraph.*)
- 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.
- Friday 7 December, 1.45 for 2.30 p.m. Juniper Riverslea, 100 Guildford Rd, Mt Lawley.
- **Tuesday 11 December Annual Dinner & Awards Evening.**
- **Saturday 15 December – Singing carols at The Mez shopping centre, Mt Hawthorn.**

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 (11)

## 2015

- New music for 2015 (handed out at the 2014 Christmas Dinner): *As Time Goes By; Lean On Me; Joy to the World; Wonderful Day Like Today.*
- John and Ying Brigatti host a very successful barbecue in their home, following the 2015 Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.
- Michael Verbrugge and Francis Tay achieve their 10-year membership milestone.
- Investigations take place concerning changing the meeting day away from Friday.
- New member, Jason Ayre, welcomed in April.
- A 'century' of citizenship ceremonies achieved by mid-year.
- Decision made, in June, to change meeting night to Tuesday and move to St Peter & Emmaus Church, Joondanna.
- The Club's highest award, Life Membership, is awarded to John Christie at the 2015 Annual Dinner.

## 2016

- Jan and Terry Bruce host a happy afterglow following the Australia Day ceremony at the City of Stirling.
- A gradual reduction in the number of singers available for the Citizenship Ceremonies brings an end to the necessity for the 'pods' system.
- The list of known engagements for 2016 numbers 26 at the start of the year. (Truly extraordinary for a relatively small amateur singing group!)
- In March, the death of Laurie Russell is reported. While he never sang in a barbershop chorus Laurie's enthusiasm was largely responsible for taking the quartet *The Four Notes* to USA in 1984 – which ultimately led to the formation of the Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers and the beginning of organised barbershop in Australia.
- In May, Alf and Beth Haines are farewelled from Perth and from our club. They have decided to move closer to family near Hobart, Tasmania.
- Commencement time for our chorus meeting is changed to 5 p.m. to accommodate members desiring to return home at an earlier hour. (It is later changed to 5.30 p.m.)
- The *Men in Harmony* members and their partners are invited to the annual Spring Social Night and the evening was recorded as an outstanding success.
- Yours Truly retires from the position of Music Director at the AGM – and is immediately appointed Music Director Emeritus, on the motion of John Christie. Kim Sebbage is appointed the Music Director.

## 2017

- New music issued at the start of the year includes *Western Australia (City of Stirling), The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy* and *High Hopes.*
- The system for issuing learning tracks is changed so that practically all of the tracks of songs currently in use are now provided on two CDs – not 27!
- Clive Lehmann is received into membership in February.
- New afternoon concert venues added to our list include Aegis St Michaels, North Perth and Ocean Gardens Retirement Village, City Beach.
- A reduction in the number of Citizenship Ceremonies at the City of Stirling, and the cancellation of certain ceremonies is noted. (NB: This situation is reversed in mid-2018)
- The venue of the WA Primary Schools Massed Choirs Festival is altered from Winthrop Hall, University of WA, to the Perth Concert Hall – but we continue to be invited to perform.
- Our now well-established pattern of spring and autumn social evenings continues. *The Men in Harmony* and their partners are invited to the Spring Social Evening.
- We attend and sing at the funeral of founding member, John Christie, on 29<sup>th</sup> July.
- For the first time we sing for the church service at St Peter & Emmaus Church in August.
- As usual, carol singing, and the Club's Annual Dinner round out the year, and the second decade of the Club's history.