



It's St Patrick's Day









St Patrick's Day

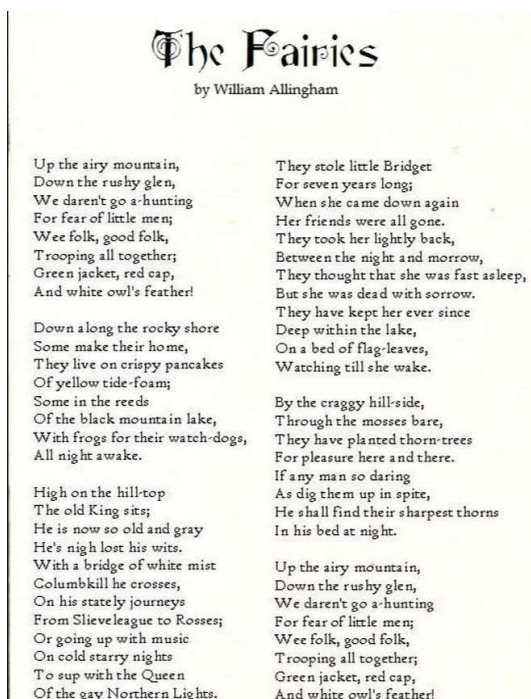
St Patrick's Day is always one of our favourite celebrations and this year our members went all out with their costumes. Not only did we have people dress totally in green but we also had a number of people dressed as leprechauns, Irish fairies or the female winged persuasion, Irish grannies and even a clown.

Steve and Val brought along green Pandan cake to share and Heather and Anna had lots of goodies on the table. Of course, we all had our fill of tea also.

We were entertained by Grace singing a beautiful solo of "The Parting Glass" and Rose singing a fantastic "Delaney's Donkey". Eleanor recited a poem "The Fairies" by William Allingham and had us enthralled. Bernard sang "The Sick Note: Why Paddy's Not at Work Today" which had us in stitches with laughter.

Then it was back to the Irish song sing along and we even had an Irish song warm up.

Beth managed to get in a joke or two and we all had a marvellous time.





Sick Note, I he
Pat Cooksey
Song from www.traditionalmusic.co.uk

Dear Sir, I write this note to you to tell you of me plight
And at the time of writing I am not a pretty sight
Me body is all black and blue, me face a deathly gray
And I write this note to say why Paddy's not at work today

While working on the fourteenth floor some bricks I had to clear
Now to throw them down from such a height it was not a good idea
The foreman wasn't very pleased, he bein' an awkward sod
He said I'd have to cart them down the ladders in me hod

Now clearing all these bricks by hand it was so very slow
So I hoisted up a barrel and secured the rope below
But in me haste to do the job I was too blind to see
That a barrel full of building bricks was heavier than me

So when I untied the rope the barrel fell like lead
And clinging tightly to the rope I started up instead
Well, I shot up like a rocket 'til to my dismay I found
That halfway up I met the bloody barrel coming down

Well, the barrel broke me shoulder as to the ground it sped
And when I reached the top I banged the pulley with me head
While I clung on tight all numb with shock from this almighty blow
And the barrel spilled out half the bricks fourteen floors below

Now, when these bricks had fallen from the barrel to the floor
I then outweighed the barrel and so started down once more
Still clinging tightly to the rope I sped towards the ground
And I landed on the broken bricks that were all scattered round

Well, I laid there groaning on the ground I thought I'd passed the worst
When the barrel hit the pulley wheel and then the bottom burst
Well, a shower of bricks rained down on me, I hadn't got a hope
As I lay there moaning on the ground, I let go the bloody rope

The barrel then being heavier it started down once more
And landed right across me as I lay upon the floor
Well it broke three ribs and my left arm and I can only say
That I hope you'll understand why Paddy's not at work today



Janet turned 60

Janet is a long time member of the Choir and she turned 60 in April. It was great to be able to present her with a collage of photos from over the past years, a big cake and a card signed by the members.

Cath wrote a wonderful poem and recited it to her which we have added below:

Who's true-blue and ridgy-didge?
Our very own Janet Collingridge!
Calm and kind is her sweet way,
Always making someone's day.
Bakes cakes and treats to spoil her pals.
Hangs with a bunch of "Connected" gals.
Janet loves horses, and Sharna the mare
Is a four legged answer to her heart's prayer.
She's a pillar of strength and a friend to all,
A solid brick in our family wall.
Long time member of SOS choir,
Valued member of our shire.
Her loving nature is always on view,
Caring for Wendy with Liza Sue.
Loves kids! To Janet there's nothing sweeter
Think spoiling the grand kids of Liza and Peter,
All "cheeky monkeys," like Janet. Yay!
Today we give her a big "HOORAY!"
Cos its 60 years since her first "G'day."
May angels help her across every bridge.
Our brown-eyed girl - Ms Collingridge.

An **I Ode U** Personalised Poetic Tribute

(Written by Cj -with research by Dot!)

60



Easter Parade

It's Easter again and look at these lovely ladies showing off their bonnets. The gentlemen also made a fabulous effort. Our particular favourite was Trish's effort, a homemade bonnet featuring an Easter basket with a sign "Spirit of the Treats". Well done Trish! New members Lisa and Linda also created crafty hats featuring chickens, straw nests and bunnies. Bindi made a special effort with a designer skirt (made by her mum) which was covered in very cute bunnies. As you can see everyone made a tremendous effort. Thanks to Heather and Anna for the hot cross buns and Easter eggs.



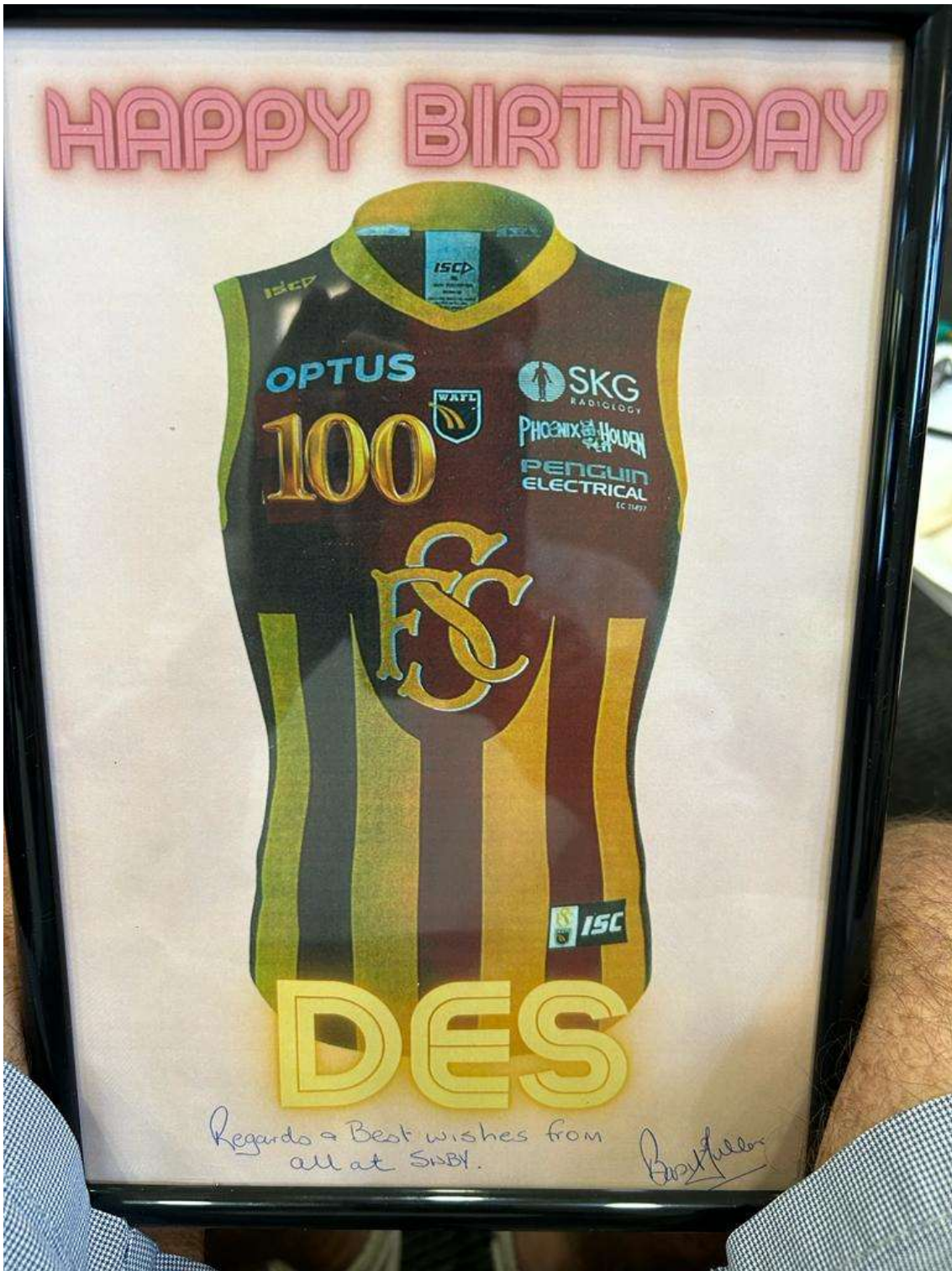




Happy 100th Birthday Des!

What a fabulous day it was celebrating Des' 100th birthday. An honorary member of the Choir Des was treated to a special presentation. With a lot of help from his daughter Cath, Harry, Val and Steve put together a "This is your Life "segment punctuated with song. Cath and her brother Alan regaled us with memories of their "dear old Dad" and Dave filled us in on the war years. Between the bevy of dancing girls and a lovely lady called Anna visiting him complete with a rose clenched tightly in her teeth, it was kisses and hugs and lots of merriment. Sherry went all out making a 6 layer mud cake of chocolate and white chocolate and decorated it to perfection.

Cath rounded off the celebration with one of her beautiful poems. Then Des who played for Subiaco Football Team in his younger days was given a special memento from the Club signed by Basil Fuller.





This is your life Des! With 100 years under your belt we needed to do a life in song.
Check out the Video by Clicking on the picture.



Salvos Outreach Gig

Rockingham Salvos Drop in Centre was the obvious choice for one of our Outreach performances. The centre caters to the needs of the community who have no access to showers, laundry or perhaps need to stretch the budget with a free meal. The dedicated and friendly staff also help with applications, letters of support and introductions to agencies who can facilitate other needs.

The centre gives out free bread, dog food, nappies, secondhand clothes and other supplies. Many of the people we talked to either lived on the streets or in their car, while others could not afford the basics after the rents were increased.

It was wonderful to see so many people getting help. The beautiful staff were all too happy to give us tea and coffee and offered us a lunch after our performance. Some of our members gave back to the Salvos via the op shop which is open next door. The Choir was in fine voice and even got an encore from the happy audience and staff.

We salute you Salvos for your fine work.



Don't Forget we are at the Concert Hall on June 11.

Spirit of the Streets Choir is pleased to announce we have been chosen to feature,

along with two other Choirs in the first half of the *Born To Sing* Choral Festival at the Perth Concert Hall on June 11th, 2023.



Anzac Day

Dave is not only the Choir's Board Chairperson but he is also a Vietnam War Veteran so we felt it was only fitting that he conduct the ANZAC Day Commemoration at the Choir. As ANZAC day fell on a Tuesday this year we did not meet that day and instead held our ceremony the week before.

ANZAC day at our Choir would not be complete without "The ANZAC Song" by Rick Steele and after leading with that we continued our songs with "Now is the Hour (Maori Farewell Song)", "We'll Meet Again" and "Pack up Your Troubles". Bernard taught us the lovely "Rose of No-Man's Land" and sang a musical version of Ataturk's Speech. Eleanor recited a poem published in the Brisbane Courier Mail on ANZAC Day 1916 called "The Soul of Australia".



THE ROSE OF NO-MAN'S LAND

There's a rose that grows in no-man's land
And it's wonderful to see;
Though its sprayed with tears it will live for years
In my garden of memories.
It's the one red rose the soldier knows
It's the work of the Master's hand,
Midst the war's great curse stands the Red Cross nurse,
She's the rose of no-man's land.

A Member's Story



THEN

She was expelled from Mercedes for what she deemed “ridiculous misdemeanors” like the length of her socks and/or uniform. Having been a free'n'easy country kid, the strictures imposed in her final year seemed most unreasonable.

Cath studied theatre arts at WAIT and had some good roles in student productions but left before graduating as she'd developed a lucrative sideline in radio voice overs. Her first pro acting job was at Frand Baden Powell's Old Time Music Hall theatre restaurant. She wrote a popular monologue that kicked off her standup career and led to a collaboration with Dave Warner (who went into cabaret when his pop star began to fade.) She played the Adelaide Fringe Festival, toured the Kimberley twice, with the Playhouse's “Acting Out” team, did a “Priscilla Queen of the Desert”- type burlesque called “Polly and the Crimps” (Polyester and the Crimpelenes!) ,worked at the Regal with the late Barry



AND NOW

Now Cath is starring in the SOS Choir. When ever she is not busy with her acting career or looking after Dad Des she can be relied upon to provide an impromptu tap dance, burst of song or write a witty ditty for someone's celebratory occasion. A competent MC for our events she has a homed sense of timing from her days on the stage. Full of imagination this lovely lady can always be relied on to dress as outlandishly as she possibly can whenever a costume is required. She is crafty, intelligent, plays a mean piano and harmonica and sings like a professional. Known to us as CJ ,she accompanied our starting act John Howard at the last fund raising concert we had before Covid.

She volunteers as a DJ on Perth 990 AM Vision Australia Radio and is guaranteed to liven up both our rehearsals and our gigs.

Humphries as Sandy Stone's wife , and opposite Sir John Inman in "Pajama Tops".Cath also wrote for the Fred Bottica radio show and wrote and delivered messages for "Flim Flam".



Richter Lodge - Osboine Aged Care

It was a pleasure to be able to entertain the residents and staff of Richter Lodge and the Osboine Aged Care Centre in Bayswater. Our past member Shane was a resident there and Bernard paid tribute to him at the show. A hour of fun and frivolity, with everything from Sea Shanty to classic favourites and some original material thrown in. Then it was an encore of "April Showers and Bring me Sunshine" had everyone joining in.

Thank you for making us feel so welcome and appreciated.



Love, laughter and longevity



Bernard Carney leads the Spirit of the Streets Choir

SPIRIT of the Streets Choir still have a lot of love, laughter and longevity heading into their 16th year of operation, with wonderful events on the horizon.

The choir that grew out of a few Big Issue vendors getting together for a sing along with local musician Bernard Carney OAM, has grown into a membership of more than 80 people from all levels of the community, many of whom have experienced life's rough edges and

their long-time effects. The choir operates on an inclusivity policy, is free, has no auditions and welcomes all comers young and old, and invites them to partake in all the fun and feel-good benefits that singing in a team can provide. The well-known songs range from Santa Lucia to sea shanties, from April Showers to AC/DC with original songs thrown into the mix.

This all happens on Tuesday afternoons each

week at the Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church, 98, Hobart Street in Mt Hawthorn from 1pm-3.30pm with the first 45 minutes being an afternoon tea and social time.

The regular fixtures in a typical year are the annual cricket match at Matilda Bay, St Patrick's day songs, Easter bonnet parade, Anzac tribute in song and story, Melbourne Cup songs and tall stories, and the huge Christmas party extravaganza with a three-course

meal interspersed with items, nativity plays and lots of carols.

Bring-a-friend days are great fun, when anyone interested, is invited to join in the singing action, meet the friendly choir and share a delicious lunch. May 16 is the next open day at the Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church, all welcome by ringing Tish 0420 926 929 or go to www.spiritofthestreetschoir.com.

The Spirit of the Streets Choir are no strangers to the Perth Concert Hall having staged two of their own very successful Sing for Health concerts, and on June 11 they are once more, performing at this grand venue as a guest choir in the first half of the Born to Sing Festival of Song, involving a 1000-voice choir and a 250-piece ukulele orchestra.

Their musical director, Bernard Carney, says of the choir: "I consider them to be a force of nature when they perform, they don't hold back and give a truly honest rendition of the songs. They are the living proof of the physical, social and mental health benefits of singing in a choir."

The "Have -a -Go News" May edition

Page 4 of the "Have - a - Go News" featured the Spirit of the Streets Choir telling folks about our rehearsals, inclusiveness, song repertoire and up coming events.

On Page 20 it had a feature on Des turning 100.

Pick up your edition of the "Have a Go News " each month to keep informed of what is happening around Perth.



Friends, Filming and Soup

What more can you want? Our "Bring a Friend Day " coincided with a visit from a

journalist and a camera person from "The Western Independent". Produced by Curtin students, "The Western Independent" features news articles and also a video news report for a news series, *Just Causes*. We are thrilled that the producers contacted us to do a piece for their news series.

Five big pots of hearty soup were dished out by our fabulous volunteers in the kitchen as the members introduced their friends to the wonderful world of the Spirit of the Streets Choir. We had a full house with 75 people attending.

Many thanks to all the helpers in the kitchen and those who made soup, Heather, Chris, Kathy, Val, Lisa, Trish, Sue and Dot.





We sing a popular Ukrainian folk-song "Red Kalyna"



Vale Shane

It is with sadness that we announce the passing away of Shane Steiger. Shane first came to the Choir in 2008 and although he was not regular participant he continued to pop in from time to time. He last visit was in October 2022. A great mate of Harry M and Klaus, Harry often jokes that Shane came for Heather's pikelets. Shane was 87 Years old and passed away peacefully wearing his choir shirt.



Unfortunately we have fallen a little short of our target this quarter. Please don't waste your containers in the recycle bin.

Your Containers lodged under our scheme number help us reach over our targets and continue to help us help and entertain you. A

HUGE thank you to all of you who lodge containers against our scheme ID .C10337043.

Cash in those Cans, Bottles and Cartons

WHICH CONTAINERS CAN YOU CASH-IN?



ELIGIBLE CONTAINERS



Most glass, plastic, aluminium, steel and paper-based cartons between 150mL and 3L.

Donate them via Containers for Change

to Spirit of the Streets Choir

Scheme Number C10337043

Don't know where see:

www.containersforchange.com.au/wa/

Don't know where or how? Click the link below.

Where to Donate your empty Containers ? Click here!

Where do your donations go?

All donations are used for :

Uniforms

Insurances

Association fees

Computer and printing costs

Storage costs

Transport where public transport unavailable

Catering

Stipend for Choir Director

[**Click to Donate Personally Here**](#)

Come Sing and join the fun

at the Spirit of the Streets Choir

no auditions, inclusive and supportive



Each Tuesday from Mid-February to Mid-December

at Mounty - (Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church)

98 Hobart Street, Mt Hawthorn

1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

Contact : ☎ 0420926929 Trish or
info.soschoir@gmail.com

Would you like to be in our next newsletter ?

Next quarter we are doing a new THEN and NOW segment.

This will feature a choir member's photo in a past period of their life and them now.

If you had an interesting past, let us know

send your photo and article to volunteering.soschoir@gmail.com

Don't forget to book

To make sure you don't miss out for your function our 2023 Booking Calendar is now open.
Call Eleanor on 0424019574 or press the Bookings button underneath to be directed to our booking information sheet and form.

Click here to make Bookings



**Thank you to our supporters,
for your kindness and generosity.**

Your support enables the Choir to make a real difference and to share the joy of
friendship and family, singing and music!

Mailing address:
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Email:
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Website:
www.spiritofthestreetschoir.com

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Once again the joy of the Choir shines through with pictures and articles. With a very diverse membership we are never quite sure what is going to happen next except that we will have fun, friendship and song.

It is a pleasure to share our memories to those who are unable to be with us each week. I am off for 3 months holiday and my sincere thanks go to Trish and the crew for taking over the reins whilst I am gone. See you again in September.

Dot

