

Spirit of the Streets Newsletter Spring 2021



We are in a film again





The filming of the song "Lovely Day", a collaboration with John Curtin College, UWA Music and SOS choir, which will be screening on the big screen in Yagan Square, Northbridge during Mental Health Week; took place on Friday September 24. It was a fun day of high energy, chalk powder antics and lots of dancing.

The theme is to convey the message that if you are feeling down you need to find a friend and some music and you will feel better.

The Spirit of the Streets Choir members were treated to a sausage sizzle before the filming and went home covered in chalk dust when it was over. We can't wait to see the final film!



We have been Springing into Songfests in both Fremantle and Guildford

Opening Act Success

It was a chilly morning as we waited for the sound check on stage at 8.45 on Saturday September 18 but the Choir was buzzing with enthusiasm. It was the first gig for some of our newer members and we were the opening act at the Guildford Songfest weekend. To start off our traditional way, our wonderful soprano, Eva sang "Amazing Grace" before the the Choir burst into " The Rose", always a favourite with the crowd.

Kate gave a quirky little introduction to " Time after Time" then we bopped to " Moonlight" , made the Beatles proud "With a Little Help from My Friends" and finished off with Trish V's own composition " Survivor". A 20 minute opening segment flew by and after rousing applause we took our places at the back of the hall to watch the next performers. This is such a treat for people who cannot afford to normally attend concerts and we would like to sincerely thank the Guildford Songfest organisers for arranging our weekend passes. Helen particularly enjoyed the She Shanty's song about how to be a pirate.

Morning tea gave us the opportunity to help raise money for the Guildford Primary School by buying tea, coffee and homemade goods from their stall.

The chorale-rs then proceeded to one of the two Big Sing Workshops run by Coralie Khan and Ryan Nicholson. These were great fun to be included in and the Choir Members soaked up tips from each group.

Lunch break gave us time to meet in groups and have lunch together enjoying the warm sun, after which we all proceeded to the various venues to enjoy the many styles of song on offer. Our very own Choir Director, Bernard Carney did two shows over the weekend, leaving the audience smiling as usual.

It was a wonderful experience for us all and very enjoyable despite the disruption to train services which our resilient members took in their stride.

Thanks once again to the Guildford Songfest for inviting us to open the festival and enjoy the acts on offer.





**Friday 4th June OUTREACH Performance 3.35 -4 pm NEAMI (North
Eastern Alliance for the Mentally Ill) Fraser Suites, 10 Adelaide
Terrace, East Perth**

On Friday 4 June we performed at the NEAMI WA State Day at which we were well received. NEAMI provides support services for people with mental health issues.

We appeared briefly on Australia's Biggest Singalong as a clip of us filmed singing 'Academic Studies' (composed by Bernard Carney) was played. Bernard our Choirmaster, Dave Scott our Chairman, and a number of our members were interviewed about the benefits of singing in a choir.

Fremantle Songfest

**Saturday 17th July Performance 2.00 - 2.25 pm Freo Songfest St
Paul's Church, 162 Hampton Rd, Beaconsfield**

This was a first performance for some of our new members,
congratulations and welcome

Some of our choir members were able to enjoy a wonderful day of community singing and participation at the beautiful St Paul's Church in Beaconsfield. We joined in workshops, hearing about and learning 'The Acknowledgment Song' from Jemma King and work-shopping amazing harmonies from world music songs with Digby Hill. The singing sounded wonderful with the acoustics in the heritage (1892) hall and singing in the round.

Spirit of the Streets performed there and we also enjoyed listening to all the other choirs - songs from all styles and cultures.

A huge thank you to the organisers and hosts VoiceMale and Glyde-In Community Choirs who looked after everyone and everything seamlessly. Smiles all round from participants and public 🙌🙌🙌





Thursday 5th August Performance 3.00- 3.15 pm Global Health Conference The Esplanade Hotel Fremantle

On 5 August 2021 over 30 of us turned up to sing at the opening of the Australian Medical Students Association (AMSA) Global Health Conference 2021. The Main Ballroom of the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle was packed with an appreciative audience of young medical students from the University of WA, Curtin University and Notre Dame University. Due to COVID restrictions participants from outside WA attended via Zoom.

We sang 'Another Day in Paradise' (Phil Collins), 'Moonlight' (Pigram Brothers), 'Survivors' (copyright Trish Van der Wal, our very own choir member) and 'Pass the Song Along' (copyright Bernard Carney). Thank you Annette for the very heartfelt and personal introduction to 'Survivors'.

Do - Gooders at RPH

Thursday 19th August Act Belong Commit and Spirit of the Streets Choir Outreach Program. OUTREACH Performance
12.30 - 1.30 pm Music on the Bridge Royal Perth Hospital Perth

It is always fun to give music to those who truly deserve to be cheered on and cheered up. The hard working staff and the patients and visitors at Royal Perth Hospital were our audience as we sang on the bridge connecting the car park and the cafeteria area.

Val and Steve got up and danced as we all sang and the feel was fun and frivolity as usual.

This performance was made possible by the Act Belong Commit and Spirit of the Streets Choir Outreach Program. The sponsorship for these much needed gigs is greatly appreciated by all and come from Healthways and Act Belong Commit.



Click to Listen to 'A Wonderful World' by The Spirit of the Streets Choir

THE JOY OF SINGING

The last year has been very challenging with many ups and downs with my health. In all of this, one thing has kept me going and that is Tuesday afternoons singing with Spirit of the Streets Choir.

It's amazing how quickly my spirits are lifted when I enter St Alban's Church hall ready to join friends for a cup of tea and catch up before we burst into song. It's not long before warm ups start and laughter and fun begins. Bernard has an amazing ability to get us singing without us even realising. We go from stretching our faces and mouths to suddenly singing a round in 3 parts.

Whether it's singing 'Moonlight', a catchy tune with calypso rhythms, or the moving Bob Dylan song 'Make You Feel My Love', the music has an ability to transport me to another place where pain and discomfort disappears for a short time. As we sing in the song 'Academic Studies', singing certainly gets the endorphins flowing.

So if you are feeling a little under the weather or looking for something to lift your spirits, I can certainly recommend joining us for a great afternoon of singing with Spirit of the Streets Choir.

Sue



Patrick Gorman MP, Visit

We very much appreciated and enjoyed the visit from Patrick Gorman, MP who recommended us for a grant which enabled us to purchase wireless equipment, a projector, camera equipment, uniforms and chairs.

Bernard Carney can now freely walk around the rehearsal hall without fear of trip hazards for himself or other Choir members and gives him a greater ability to hear us and help those who are struggling. The projector allows us to sing without the

songbooks which means that we can better project our voices and it helps those who struggle with literacy or vision impairments. Our camera equipment allows us to video rehearsals and performances, spreading the joy of singing further. Using the videos as a teaching tool allows people to see what they look and sound like. Our ever growing choir is always in need of uniforms for new members, and our chairs were breaking continually, another risk to Choir Members' safety. Thanks again to Patrick Gorman for his ongoing support.

[Click to watch Patrick Gorman's Visit interviews](#)



**Wednesday 22th September Act Belong Commit and Spirit of the
Streets Outreach Program Performance 10. 30 - 11.15 am MSWA
(Multiple Sclerosis WA) Wilson**





On Wednesday September 22 the Choir visited MSWA's Outreach department in Wilson as part of our own Act Belong Commit Spirit of the Streets Outreach Program.

We received a fabulous welcome and the crowd gathered around enjoyed the sing-a-long session immensely. Our members danced to "Sway" and "Moonlight" and rode off into the sunset with "Born to Be Wild". The audience joined in with the singers and played tambourines, shakers, maracas and triangles. After the show the Choir spent time talking with the clients and staff and had a lovely morning tea. The Choir members rummaged through the op shop and gift shop buying handmade cards, clothes and crocheted hats.

In the weeks leading up to the Choir coming the Music Strokes art group created beautiful vases, paper and wood flowers and gift cards for each choir member. We were all very touched by this lovely gesture and the massive amount of work the group had put in. Many thanks to MSWA (Wilson) for allowing us to visit and meet all you beautiful people.



No footy rivals in this Choir! Opposing teams they may have been, but Steve and Harry can still have a quiet chat at rehearsals.



Vale Anne Ross

We were saddened by the passing of one of our members, Anne Ross. Anne had a great sense of humour, was never boring to chat with, dressed colourfully on all occasions and positioned other choir members' needs ahead of her own at all times. Anne's daughter, Jennie, tells us that singing was always part of her family life. Anne was a great contributor to the soprano group in the choir although in her last year health issues resulted in her singing with a soft husky voice! It was lovely to have Anne in the choir. She is greatly missed.

You can be an important part of our fundraising and help the planet as you do .

Containers for Change

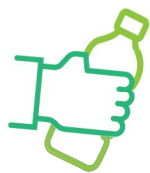
We are happy to give you all our registration scheme id

C10337043

Use this scheme ID when you drop off your containers at your local bag drop

or depot.

IT'S AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3...

**1**

Collect eligible containers

Most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard drink containers between 150ml and 3L are eligible.

**2**

Take them to a refund point

There are different types of refund points across Western Australia, so find the right one for you.

**3**

Earn a refund or donate

You'll receive 10 cents for every eligible container you return which you can keep or donate.

[Where to Donate your empty Containers](#)

Where do your donations go?

All donations are used for :

Rehearsal hall rental

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](#)

Don't forget to book

To make sure you don't miss out for your function our 2021 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.

[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!

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Many thanks to all the contributors to this newsletter - Trish, Chris, Sue, Diana and Eleanor and for Chris and Jennifer's photos.

I have been away in the Kimberley for 3 months and so have not been abreast of all the activities that have been going on.

Special thanks to Trish who managed the day to day running of the Choir in my absence.

Dot

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