



Return to Choir Rehearsals Feb 15



As Choir returned on February 15 it was all smiles beneath the masks. Everyone was just so glad to be back together and enjoying a sing-a-long. We commenced our first day back with a Family Meeting where we listened to concerns about Covid and discussed the measures we had put in place.

A shortened rehearsal time meant that we would now be starting at 1.30 pm instead of 12.30 and usual tea and coffee would be outside instead of inside the hall. It still gives people a chance to catch up with friends, social distanced, of course with plenty of fresh air and Summer breezes to help with ventilation. A registration desk is at the "IN" door with our QR code and for people to show their double vaccination certificates. Once registered with the certificate this would not be necessary in the

coming weeks. Although we have an attendance register people are also encouraged to use the QR code as well.

A good quality mask must be worn at all times when inside the hall and we were pleasantly surprised at how good we could sound with the masks on whilst singing. Bernard put us through the paces with some singing exercises to measure the quality and sound with deep breathing involved. Those who found it difficult to last with a mask on were encouraged to take a break outside for a while.

Despite the soaring temperature and high humidity we lasted the hour until 3pm which was our new finishing time.



Jennifer takes a Plunge

In January, our Secretary of the Board turned 70 and to celebrate the big day climbed the Matagarup bridge and took the Zip line down. As you can see in the photos above, it was a glorious day and the sun shone almost as bright as Jennifer's smile. Accompanied by husband Tony, Jennifer sailed over the Swan River and took in all the wonderful Perth Views. A fabulous way to mark your big celebration Jen, and we have to say you neither look nor act your age.



Our second Rehearsal

Our second rehearsal saw us trying a new format with cuppas still on the verandah, then learning a new song or two in the hall with masks in place for half an hour .

After that, we moved out under the shade of the trees and socially distancing, removed masks (optional) to continuing singing our old favourites. The cool breeze certainly helped with the high temperatures and gave everyone a breather outside.



Our Third Rehearsal Cancellation

As a precaution we cancelled the third rehearsal of the year when we had a positive Covid 19 case amongst our Choir members. We applaud the member who notified us very promptly allowing us to get the message out to members as quickly as possible so they could be tested if need be.

Although we were unsure if the member was infected at the previous rehearsal we felt it was prudent to err on the side of caution. It was wonderful to see how proactive and positive the response was from our members and the support agencies. It makes you very proud of our fine bunch!



Esperance Get Away

One of our members Paul spent a week in Esperance during the break and spent some time at beautiful Lucky Bay (pictured). We say Lucky Paul!



International Women's Day

On March 8 our 40-strong Sopranos / Contraltos section of the Choir were welcomed with brightly coloured name-tags as a memento for International Women's Day 2022, together with a brand-new repertoire of Songs under the trees from our most enterprising Musical Director with the theme for the afternoon being "Smile" songs, headed by the Nat King Cole classic (...of the 50's !)

We have enjoyed these weeks of Autumn singing under the mighty Moreton Bay figs at our St.Alban's venue --in the shade, less helpful to the Covid-demons and away from the main hall for an hour or so! Our Tuesday rehearsals have provided something of an unexpected but delightful mini-gig for the passers-by in busy Beaufort St who see us up close and personal -and often stop & hum a bit ! And on International Women's Day 2022 we certainly thought of the thousands of brave,unheralded women throughout war torn lands -and in floods & bush fires here at home. Bless 'em all....

Harry Mithen.



Another addition to the choir family; our Treasurer, Joshua Haque and his partner Magda welcomed Felix into the world on 22 December. A little brother for Leo. Between quarantining from Covid 19, consequent home schooling of Leo, tending to little Felix and doing his paid job, we're very grateful that Josh is still willing to volunteer his time and share his expertise with SOSC.



St Patrick's Day Celebration on March 15

What could be more fitting for an Irish celebration than a rainy day ?
That was what happened for our St Patrick's Day Celebration this year, though there was no dampening of spirits at the Spirit of the Streets Choir.
Dressed in green and ready to belt out the favourite Irish songs 44 people spread out on the verandah of St Albans Church and 5 people joined us via Zoom.
A surprise visitor in a pram caused quite the commotion and being of Irish stock herself, baby Lyla enjoyed the ballads of her heritage. Mum Sinead was presented with an award for the most outstanding achievement since last St Patrick's Day ie. giving birth to Lyla.
A number of Choir members sang solo parts to songs and we all enjoyed Bernard's original composition "A Family Escapade". It was a fun filled drizzly afternoon enjoyed by all who attended.





In Loving Memory of

Stuart Anthony Hobbs

25th AUGUST 1966 - 13th FEBRUARY 2022



*Don't cry because it's over,
smile because it happened.*

- Dr. Seuss

Vale Stuart Hobbs

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Stuart Hobbs. Stuart was a quiet, gentle person who enjoyed sitting with his friends and enjoying the music. He sometimes sported a beard and over the years came and went but always had a number of good friends amongst the choir members. Unfortunately Stuart's heart condition deteriorated and we lost this lovely

man far too soon.
He is fondly remembered.



CONVERSATIONS IN 2019

In 2019 we took a little time out of rehearsal to tape some conversations with members, the results were amazing. Have a listen by clicking the photo above.

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To make sure you don't miss out for your function our 2022 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.

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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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It has been a pleasure to be able to continue to hold rehearsals in these days of Covid 19 and safely keep the Choir going. The benefits that our members get from being able sing and meet on a regular basis is of great help with anxiety, depression and loneliness so prevalent in society today.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the newsletter with articles and/or photos.

Best wishes Dot & Trish

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