



Annual Concert

Thanks to you our Annual Concert was a sell out success.

The program started with Marc Gordon on double bass and Bernard Carney OAM on guitar. Bernard sang three of his original songs- "Windy Harbour", "Dreams of Peace on Paper Winds" and "Green Weapons" then he was joined by the Choir as they walked in to "Keep your Eyes on the Prize". They are a delightful team who were real crowd pleasers and we hope to see more of them teaming up again in the future. Marc Gordon is well known in the Blues and Roots Music Community and Bernard Carney OAM is a singer songwriter of distinction and our Choir Director.

The diverse repertoire for the Main Concert featured "Moonlight" by the Pigram Brothers, "The Red Kalinya" a Ukrainian folk song, "Born to be Wild" by Steppenwolf, "Put a little Love in your Heart" by Jackie Shannon and many more. A rollicking good time was had by all and we enjoyed a sumptuous afternoon tea after the show. Congratulations to the five lucky winners of the raffle who went home with hampers full of goodies.





Mandurah Seniors

The seniors at The Mandurah Seniors Centre are always a lot of fun and this last concert was no exception. After traveling to Mandurah on public transport the Choir was greeted with a light lunch and then hit the stage to entertain the audience. With a great mix of songs and some very entertaining introductions, the audience was happy to talk to the Choir until it was time for them to travel back home again.

Thanks to Delys for supplying the photos.





Perth Clinic for Mental Health Week

Once again we had the pleasure of visiting Perth Clinic in West Perth to perform during Mental Health Week. With the audience joining in with percussion instruments we sang up a storm between Choir members sharing their stories of the challenges they have faced. We are always impressed by the patients in the clinic who take the time to talk with us after the show and share some of their stories. Hopefully, we manage to inspire them as much as they inspire us.





Melbourne Cup Day

The emphasis this year was on colour and the Choir certainly put on a colourful show. Val and Harry organised a day of quiz questions based on the songs in our songbooks with colours in them. CJ compared the hat parade for both the ladies and the gentlemen. Zac compared the quiz questions and Barb and Beth helped out too. Kate was a whizz kid with the answers which required members to be familiar with the lyrics of songs. Bernard played a short part of each answer so we could all sing along and then it was down to rehearsals as usual. There was lots of fun with the kazoos and Harry did his usual wonderful job with signs around the room on both colours and horses.

Great job everyone involved.





A Member's Story & Thank You

Heather and Harry .

"Heather was the daughter of a Pastor who worked for 50 years at Perth Lutheran Church, and Harry had been a Catholic priest and in a religious order for 30 years. We were both retired school teachers, and had remained happy and actively involved in our church life . While Heather was heavily involved in pastoral care activities at church, Harry's first port of call after teaching was at Graylands Hospital in Perth, where he did a six month course in understanding and caring for people with mental illness.

Months after he completed the course, the couple saw the birth of Sunshine, a church based friendship group for people who had all seen better days, now with disabilities and depression. They were homeless and disadvantaged. They met regularly for years over lunch, discussions and activities, and Heather and Harry had

grown close to 15 to 20 regulars.

One day someone heard about the formation of the Spirit of the Streets Choir, who rehearsed not far up the road at St Brigid's Church. One Tuesday after we finished lunch, we sort of bombarded the SOS Choir, asking if we could come in and listen and learn. There were seven of us. We all stayed, went back the next week and most of us are still here! "

Excerpt from Spirit of the Streets Our Stories - copyright 2017

Since then Heather has turned up week after week doing shopping, creating lunchtime snacks, serving tea and coffee and preparing festive specialties. She also dispenses love and a listening ear for those who need to talk.

Harry has been volunteer co-ordinator, social entertainment officer, singer, transportation, ambassador , member recruiter and wellness officer. He is legendary for lengthy introduction of songs, quirky props and copious amounts of display boards.

It was time to give them a Thank you for all they had done. So with lots of trophies presented, lots of anecdotes and songs we celebrated Heather and Harry and their involvement . Our very clever Musical Director created a special mosaic plant pot for them with one side featuring the Richmond Tiger's (Harry is a HUGE fan), SOS one another, Sunflowers for Heather (her favourite flower) on the next and lastly two H's joined by a piano keyboard as Heather is an organist.





Take a look at all the New Members for this Year









Garden of Hope Celebration

Spirit of the Streets Choir and Harry Hunters Rehabilitation Centre run by the Salvation Army in Gosnells have had a close association for years and so we were pleased to be part of the Garden of Hope Celebration. The Garden of Hope is a community garden where people come and work growing vegetables, fruits, flowers and tend chickens and ducks. It is a place of space and meditation and a wonderful facility.

Their Celebration day included other organisation who work closely with people in need and the environment.

The outdoor amphitheatre was a wonderful venue for the Choir and even though the temperature had soared to 40 degrees the choir had a good turn up with over 20 members arriving to sing.

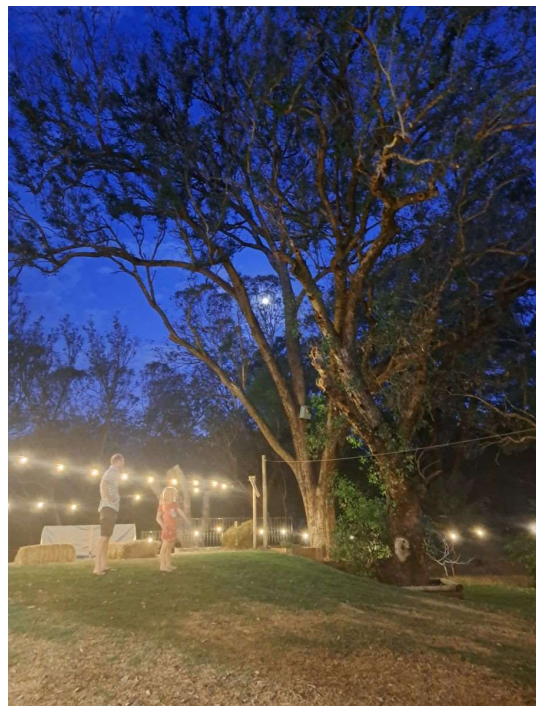
It was great to see Cindy, a former Spirit of the Streets member who now runs Harry's Anonymous Choir, and have her join us in song.

Our 45 minute concert was a mix of our regular repertoire as well as some Christmas songs.

After the show some of the members joined the audience and organisers in a light

meal.

A great day filled with hope and inspiration was had by all.





Perth Town Hall

Once again the Choir performed to a packed house at the Perth Town Hall Holly Wood Tuesday Morning Melodies. Due to an unfortunate accident for Val who leads the Holly Wood Dancers , the dancers did not perform so we extended our show to an hour of fun filled singing. The audience danced and clapped along and joined in with the Christmas song segment.

It is always great to perform for such an appreciative audience.





Rowethorpe Seniors Centre

Once again we had the audience on their feet dancing with some of our foot tapping regular tunes. A selection of our favourites started the show and then we moved onto Christmas jingles. With everyone singing along we shared a joyful afternoon and enjoyed refreshments afterwards with the residents.

A pleasure to share our stories of our childhood memories and a little about ourselves and have the audience respond so warmly.





End of Year Christmas Party

Well we have come to the end of our Choir year when the Music Director Bernard and his lovely wife Eleanor have a much earned break. The members are off to family in other parts and we take a small break from rehearsals. Before we do, we have one last big bash with a luncheon and entertainment from Choir members who want to showcase their talents. This year surpassed all expectations with a light being shined on amazing talent in all areas of creativity.

Under the guidance of our new Social Events Co-ordinator Val we started the proceeding with Celebrating the December birthdays and then quickly moved onto a collaborative version of " The 12 days of Christmas ". Much merriment was had with the new verses superbly performed by small groups at their tables. Then we changed to an international flavour with a group of Malay and Indonesian members singing in Bahasa.

The entertainment covered joke telling, poetry recitals, songs and the musical prowess of our clarinet player, a guitarist and a drummer . Our UWA student Sam left us gaping in awe with her magnificent voice and CJ and Mark had us in stitches with an animated rendition of " The 12 Days of Christmas" .

We finished off the day singing the Tennessee Waltz in memory of Anna and Heather giving thanks to Anna for teaching her to love.





Vale Judith Acaster



Judy Acaster who was an active Choir member for many years passed away on Wednesday 11 October after a long illness. She was our inaugural 'Welcome Desk' lady who graciously and cheerfully greeted choir members and guests as they arrived for choir rehearsals on Tuesdays particularly at St Alban's Church on Beaufort Street before we transferred to our current home at the Mounty Church in Hobart Street, Mount Hawthorn. Although she had not been at Choir for a few years Judy followed us continually on Facebook. Her last comment on our FaceBook page was made about 10 days before she passed. Vale Judy, a gracious, kind and multi-talented lady who was generous with her time. At our Choir gathering on Tuesday 24 October we fare-welled Judy with the much loved song, 'I'll fly away'.



Rest In Peace Anna Ossy-Orley

A tiny lady with a giant heart has passed away on Dec 2, 2023. Anna was one of our kitchen ladies for many years and was very loved.

Heather especially has been a very loving friend of Anna's for maybe 20 years, so is especially grieving.

Heather says Anna has been such a wonderful SOS "kitchen mate-and-friend" over so many SOS years, and also her personal soulmate in their church-community.

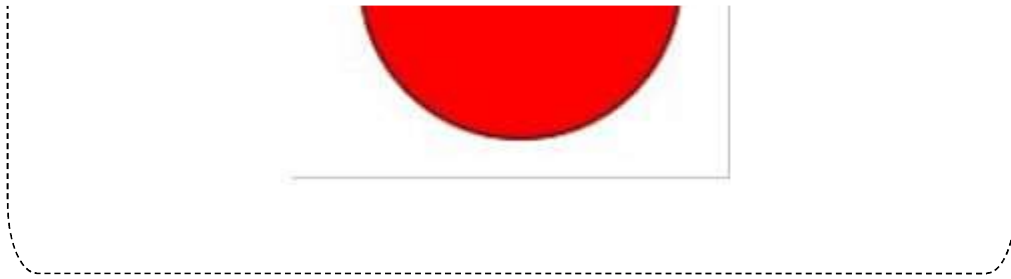
As we all know, Anna just really loved serving, meeting, chatting with all SOS folk --and especially coming round collecting our cups and doing the dishes!!

She died at Hollywood Hospital --after a few weeks of loving care from her two daughters Cynthia and Gabrielle.

She was a voice of wisdom to many of us and we will all miss her. We sang her favourite song "The Tennessee Waltz "and remembered her dancing not long ago.



\$1818.90		Nov \$1712.30
\$106.60		Oct \$76.40
\$30.20		Sept \$30.20



The above graph shows how we are tracking with our Containers for Change Program for this QUARTER. Our program had a huge boost with the donations of containers from Market Ground Hotel. A HUGE thank you to Joel at Market Ground Hotel and 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 Mount ... (Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church)

98 Hobart Street, Mt Hawthorn

1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

Contact :04 0910086 Dot or 042 0926929 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 2024 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](#)



**Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy
Holiday Season**

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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Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to give us such a wonderful year, from the supporters who attended our concerts, the gig organisers, those who give us containers for our fund raising, to all the people who follow us on the newsletter and Facebook to our own members who work hard all year to practice and perform, set up and close the hall on Tuesdays, work in the kitchen and work behind the scenes . Happy holiday season to you all and Thank You!

Dot & Trish

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