



What do our Choir Director and Hugh Jackman have in common?

Congratulations to Bernard James Carney OAM

Both Bernard Carney, our music director and Hugh Jackman received the Order of Australia medal in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours list. Our very own much-loved SOS Choir hero Bernard Carney has been honoured with the greats of show business this year.

A singer, award winning songwriter, guitarist and guitar teacher, entertainer, community choir director and all- round- good- guy, Bernard Carney justly deserves the Order of Australia Medal for services to Music awarded to him in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours list. After over forty years in the entertainment industry and twelve years at the helm of the Spirit of the Streets Choir it is a wonder what took them so long.

Bernard has been commissioned to write songs used in humanitarian campaigns, television, radio and community groups. An accomplished narrator, he weaves a story of humour or tragedy with equal passion, wrapping the words in soulful melodies that are hard to forget. He has done international support concert work with Foster and Allen, Gene Pitney, Taj Mahal, Ralph McTell, and Stephane Grapelli. We would also like to acknowledge the woman behind the man, Eleanor Carney who works tirelessly supporting Bernard's work and the Choirs. Eleanor is a talented violinist, singer and Morris dancer and co-founder of the Spirit of the Streets Choir.

Bernard Carney will be head-lining the Annual Fundraising Concert on August 31 2019 at Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church Hall. Buy Your Tickets for the Concert here



The year so far

The Act-Belong-Commit Cricket Match in January at Matilda bay Reserve was enjoyed by our Choir members as a get together during the Christmas break. Many of our members find it hard to endure the six week break from Choir as this is their only respite from isolation. The Act team won the day but fun was had by all. The usual fun and frivolity continues at the choir with Chinese New Year, St Patrick's Day, and Easter celebrations in conjunction with rehearsals so that the mood is always light.





The next **Act Belong Commit Spirit of the Streets Outreach Program** visit was to Rosewood Retirement Home to sing to the dementia ward. It was great to catch up with Pat Cheney who was one of our early Choir members. Pat now resides at Rosewood and was thrilled to come and sit with us in the Choir and sing with us. The staff was amazed by the level of engagement.



Visit from Ralph McTell (Streets of London)

And

Eric Bogle and Band (And the band played Watzing Matilda)

What a fabulous surprise to have not one but two renowned artists come to rehearsals to sing with us. Ralph McTell wrote and performs "Streets of London" and was in Perth for a concert at the Heath Ledger Theatre. Eric Bogle is famous for "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda" and many more great songs. Both of these wonderful men are friends of Bernard Carney and he persuaded them to come and see what we do each Tuesday. Each of them performed and the Choir sang along. Some of the Choir attended the Ralph McTell concert and were invited to sing the "Streets of London" with him on stage. It was such a buzz for those few privileged people. Many of the Choir members also attended Eric Bogles concert at the Irish Club and enjoyed it immensely.

You can see Eric Bogle catching forty winks while Ralph plays in the video above.

With our funding from the government finished after a wonderful five years of support from The Mental Health Commission we are now relying on Bunnings Sausage Sizzles, any grants we can obtain, the generous donations from our loyal supporters and of course our Big Fund Raising Concert.

[Donate Here](#)

Fundraiser Concert at Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church

Make a note in your diary and buy tickets for our Fundraising Concert at the Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church on August 31. The concert starts at 3pm with Bernard Carney warming you all up with his quintessential sense of humour and velvet vocal chords. He will then be joined by The Spirit of the Streets Choir which includes Blues singer Rick Steele as a soloist for a number.

We will also have some surprise artists, raffles and the Spirit of the Streets very own book "Our Stories" will be on sale.

A fabulous afternoon tea will be served in the adjacent hall when the show concludes.

All this for just \$20 a ticket from trybooking link below.

The sell-out performance had fans missing out on tickets lat year! All those who were lucky enough to attend thoroughly enjoyed the performances and heart-warming stories from the Choir. Thanks to the generosity of the Mount Hawthorn Baptist Church congregation and ladies group and Marc Gordon on sound for making this concert possible.

Buy your Concert tickets Now



We look forward to seeing you at the concert. No Door Sales! Last year was a sell out show.

*Thank
you!*

**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!



It has been fun reconnecting with you all! Best wishes Trish and Dot