



Movie Stars in the SOS Choir???

There are Movie Stars in SOS Choir

It was shaping up to be an exciting year with many big projects underway and Bunnings Sausage sizzles already booked. We were all looking forward to seeing ourselves on the big screen in July. Now let's be positive about this. We ARE all going to be movie stars, even if it is a little later than we thought. That's right, a 10 minute documentary will be playing in the Short Film section of the Revelation Film Festival in Perth even if it's next year. After successfully applying for a grant through

the City of Vincent, Dave Downey, one of our newest members, had his film crew filming the choir every week. Work had already started on this fabulous film. We are very proud to be a part of this project and also very excited! Unfortunately this has had to be postponed until further notice. We are sure however, whenever the film does come out it will be a great achievement for Dave and the rest of the Spirit of the Streets Choir.

For more details see: (<https://www.vincent.wa.gov.au/>) and our Winter Newsletter.



Camera man filming our rehearsal.

Ireland v's Aus

As tradition dictates, the Spirit of the Streets Choir Annual Cricket Match was held on January 14, 2020 at the Matilda Bay reserve in Crawley. With a growing number of the Choir Members born in or having descended from Ireland, it was decided that this year we would have Ireland V's Aus. Trish, who is married to an Irishman, captained the Irish team and Mark, born in Kwinana captained the Aus team.

After a scrumptious barbecue lunch and a birthday cake for our January birthday members, along with special celebratory wishes to the BIG 60, 70, and 80 birthdays, play began with a coin toss.

Beautiful sunshine and a cool breeze helped the batters, bowlers and fielders perform at their best, whilst the spectators relaxed in the shade enjoying the fun.

At the end of the day, although the Aus team put up a splendid fight the Ireland team were triumphant winners of the **Act- Belong- Commit** Cricket Trophy.

A fun day was had by all and members reconnected after four weeks without Choir rehearsals.





Here's a little ditty to help you during Coronavirus postponements.
Click Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1QxvP XK3Gv4>



By Other Eyes 2020

The Spirit of the Streets Choir was amazed and honoured to be chosen to be part of the *By Other Eyes* community singing workshop series and performance. Importantly this project gives recognition to returned Aboriginal servicemen, honouring the past and firmly protesting for peace.

Newly commissioned music was to be sung by a massed choir with orchestra, along side dialogue by actors and introductions by Aboriginal elders. It is scheduled to be presented at the Perth Concert Hall on Saturday 16 May 2020 together with the UWA Conservatorium of Music Symphony Orchestra, soloists and Aboriginal performers and elders. We are still awaiting notification as to whether this valuable project will proceed and when.





Last Rehearsal on St Patrick's Day

Regrettably, due to the Coronavirus outbreak we have decided, in the interest of our members' well-being and the community at large, to suspend rehearsals and gigs until further notice.

Our last rehearsal, until further notice, was held on St Patrick's Day and we celebrated with limericks, jokes, songs and dressing up in true Irish Style. It was testament to the resilience of our Choir members that they put there heart and soul into the celebration.

Grace finished the day by singing a beautiful rendition of the Parting Glass. She is a truly talented singer and we hope to hear more solos from her in the near future.

Many thanks to Dave Downey for the photos.





The Bunnings Sausage Sizzles we had booked for April and May have been cancelled but many thanks to Bunnings for the \$500 voucher compensation.



This classic May Gibbs poster was used in the Spanish Flu and is still very relevant but cute today.



Volunteers Garden Party at Government House

Last November three of our wonderful volunteers attended the Garden Party at Government House to honour volunteers. Harry, Heather and Anna represented SOS Choir and Harry had this to say about the experience:

The Governor's excellent speech about the real benefits to ourselves of volunteering plus how Volunteers are saving the country umpteen billions of dollars was a real highlight.

He also told a story"I've just met among all the tables a bloke who was our milkman at(home address) when we were kids 50-60 yrs ago. He said we were a greedy mob as we had daily 6 bottles of milk,while Paul Hasluck's family two blocks away only had two...and added stuff about the milk cart, horse and playing cricket in the streets...meeting blokes like.(the milkman).... and what happens at events like this afternoon are highly memorable & wonderful"--it was a very moving statement from the heart by the big man!

The second highlight was catching up with Joanne Pollard ---her Homeless Connect Table was the only table asked to stand up for us to cheer and clap...and 3rd we three SOSers were seated with folks from Fishability (Mandurah- they take disabled folk fishing) and Sailability from Crawley(take folk sailing !).....'twas certainly a great atmosphere of being among down-to-earth people.

What does all this mean?

Although we are not physically holding rehearsals at the moment, we still have expenses to pay. Our volunteers are still hard at work telephoning members and making sure they are okay and giving them the much needed social contact that they rely on.

Bernard is still hard at work on arrangements of songs and sending out MP3 files via email and through mobile phone connection. He has even made CDs for those without mobiles and emails. Eleanor is still in contact with social groups who have already booked performances and the Operations Committee is still working on the best ways to provide members with support.

At our last rehearsal an emphasis was placed on staying socially connected via email

and phone and the importance of finding joy in activities like gardening, sewing, craft, art and of course constantly singing.

We are currently experimenting with virtual rehearsals using applications that can be used on laptops, mobile phones and desktop computers and hope to be able to bring this to our members soon.

Some of our members have shared their thoughts on what they will be doing until we meet again.



Beth loves to tell jokes and so she is going to be working hard on her repertoire so she has plenty of material when we start up again. She is also an avid reader and so will be making use of the library where she lives.



The NEVER ENDING to do list.

Being at home has given us a chance to catch up with some of the jobs that get put on the great TO DO list that sits on the fridge. I'm sure we all have one of those lists that continue to grow as we procrastinate and get busy on other matters.

For us that list includes windows that need painting. A garden that looks rather tired after the summer heat and needs a good spruce up. A stash of material that needs to be quilted and sorted and wool to be knitted. Then there are the cupboards that need cleaning out, a great time for us to de-clutter.

For relaxation the piano has just been tuned and Sue is determined to get back into regular practice. The stack of books to read will now be read and movies we missed watched. Sue is also helping our granddaughter with lesson plans for the great grandchildren who live in America. The children are 7 and 8 years and have been off school for 3 weeks and they are unlikely to go back until the new school year in August. They are also in lock-down and cannot even go to the park to play. Our granddaughter has recently had a new baby so life is busy for her.

Everyday we make sure we get outside for a long walk around local parks. Being in the fresh air and nature is good for the soul. Our yoga school has online classes which keep us connected and able to meet up in the virtual world. In these challenging times we tell ourselves this is not forever, take a deep breath and carry on the best we can.

Take care and stay well,
Dave and Sue

Where do your donations go?

All donations are used for :
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Insurances
Association fees
Computer and printing costs
Storage costs
Transport where public transport unavailable
Catering
Stipend for Choir Director

Click to Donate Here

<https://www.givenow.com.au/spiritofthestreetschoir>



Click here : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFGWmZH-IY0>
to hear us sing another song about living in current times

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!

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Spirit of the Streets Choir

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We had a great time putting together this newsletter for you. Keep safe,
take care, stay calm and keep singing!
Best wishes Trish and Dot

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