

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2008

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“Singing with others makes you happier, according to Australian research, which suggests choristers have a better quality of life than other people.

The survey of more than 1100 choral singers in Australia, Germany and Britain is the latest to point to the benefits of music on health.

It found that while people who join singing groups tend to be less healthy than the average person (*Is this because we are generally older??*), they are in fact happier.” (Herald Sun Friday 11 July 2008.)



Have you ever ---?

Have you ever sung a song
In perfect harmony?
Why not try it! You may find
Your gift, your destiny!

The notes are either high or low,
Or somewhere in between.
Some squiggles you may recognise.
And some you've never seen.

You will be told to lift your chest.
And eyebrows, yes, it's true!
Don't drag or sag, or swoop a note.
That's not the thing to do.

If you thought you were OK
With breathing in or out - -
Try holding it for sev'ral bars.
Not easy, there's no doubt!

Stick to your note, don't ever sway
When someone sings off key,
He/she won't last another day,
If it was left to me!

Conductors help us keep in time,
They are a useful lot.
Never take your eyes off them.
And COUNT, no matter what!

I say it with no disrespect
When hearing the encore
Of “hallelujahs” you'll repeat
A million times or more.

When you progress to Handel/Bach
And sing in Latin too,
How proud you'll be you came this far
And learnt it through and through.

By the time a concert nears
You will be at your best.
Though tired in mind and body slow
You will expand your chest!

Then the applause, oh, glorious sound!
That is your true reward.
Be glad you tried for you will say:
“Have I ever? My voice soared!”

by Ann van Rooyen.
Our Ostinato Poet Laureate

Our thoughts are with Ann van Rooyen, who has not been well enough to come and sing with us for a while in an activity she loved.



Dates

Sunday 20 July – Concert at Holy Trinity Cathedral.
- **Remember to wear your pearls.**

Tuesday 22 July – Rehearsal at St John's.
All music returned at end of rehearsal.

Tuesday 29 July &

Tuesday 5 August – WINTER BREAK.
NO REHEARSAL.

Tuesday 12 August – Rehearsal at St John's.
Bring your happy faces & receive new music.

Music

Anne and Margaret Roy would like all music returned as soon as possible after the concert

- 1 Remove your music from plastic pockets and folders. Return only the music.
- 2 Keep the music in concert order
- 3 Return it after rehearsal on 22 July or to Anne Bittner.

What is the difference between a choral director and a chimpanzee?

- *It's scientifically proven that chimpanzees are able to communicate with humans.*



Did you hear about the director who got zapped by electricity?
- *Yeah! He must have been a good conductor.*

A Conductor is a musician who is adept at following many people at the same time.

What's the difference between a bull and a symphony orchestra?

- *The bull has the horns in front and the ass in the back.*



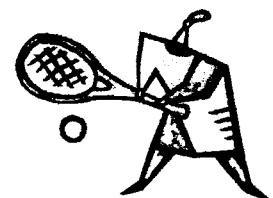
President's Special Words

Joan Huggan says thank you to everyone for their attendance at rehearsals and especially those who were able to attend sectional rehearsals.

A special thank you to Glenise for keeping us in tune and "in the beat" each week and for her time and expertise at the additional rehearsals. Special thanks to Janet Wigg for her String of Pearls design and Helen Porter for her time and typing for tickets, advertising and the program.

A very special thank you Ruth for all your energy and time in teaching and encouraging us to sing together and make beautiful music.

Watch Ruth and enjoy singing for yourself and your friends and family.



What's the difference between the men's final at Wimbledon and a high school choral performance?

- *The tennis final has more men.*