**A New Year of challenges and opportunities – for you**

I hope barbershoppers around the country had the opportunity to sing and perform during the Holiday season. Here in Perth our choruses sang at Carols by Candlelight, a joint city concert with Sweet Adelines, shopping mall gigs, scores of hours singing in the downtown mall, retirement villages and nursing homes, and even quartetting on the "Santa Trains" to Perth. It gave us the opportunity to share our music and the joy of the season with thousands of citizens, and especially some potential barbershoppers.

It's time now, to look ahead and see what we can do in 2008. Your AAMBS Councillors are charged with the responsibility of providing training for Music Directors, and choruses, and quartets, and to some extent, individuals. And the AAMBS Council has several significant initiatives in progress, with announcement just a few weeks away. Watch for details in emails to every club. But I would suggest that the initiatives should also come from every individual barbershopper.

We all know it's the "unit sound" that makes barbershopping special, but it's the individual input that makes that possible. I would ask each of you to identify one or two (or for some of us, more 😃) singing or performance techniques that you can improve. It might be matching your vowels with the rest of the chorus, or holding those phrases and singing vowel-to-vowel. Then there's the matter of doing your part to learn new music quickly and accurately, or the constant challenges of breath control, singing posture, sync, correct notes, and performance presentation. The biggest improvement potential is in your hands......... or throat and brain. You are the one that has to "sing smart." You know your strengths and weaknesses better than your Section Leader, or MD. So let's build a great resonant, ringing barbershop sound from the foundation up. If every single barbershopper in AAMBS made a significant personal improvement, think of the quartet and chorus sounds we could make! So at rehearsals this year are we having fun, or singing well?? Gee, they just might be the same thing. 😊

In Harmony,
Mike Donnelly
President, AAMBS

---

**Inside this issue:**

**Council Reports**
* Mike Donnelly, President ........................................ 1
* Richard Garden, VP Conventions .......................... 3
* Kevin White, Secretary .................................... 4

**President's Report to 2007 AGM** .......................... 2

**Library Update – 2007 Convention DVDs** ............. 3

"Common Ground" newspaper article .......................... 4

**Heritage Harmony – Hobart 2009**
Eastern Region Canberra Weekend Workshop .................. 5

**Club Reports**
Hobart Mens Barbershop Chorus, ..........................
The Melbournaires , The Blenders ........................ 6-8
Broadwater Connection, Men in Harmony ................

**2007 Convention Winners – Photos** ....................... 8

**Sydney Harmony Press Release** ............................. 9

**Pan Pac Convention / Coming Events / Change of Address for BHS** .................. 10

**AAMBS Calendar 2008-2011** ................................. 11

**AAMBS Council details / BSN Deadlines** .................. 12
Greetings, fellow Barbershoppers - Welcome to the 2007 AAMBS Annual General Meeting. Tonight we meet to reflect on the achievements of 2007, and the goals for the future of AAMBS. This was a great year for AAMBS, based on any measurement you want to use. Our choruses and quartets participated in countless shows and sing-outs around the country, and attended workshops, retreats and regional qualifying competitions. This all led up to the fantastic 9th Biennial National Convention in Sydney, hosted by the hard working and talented members of Sydney Harmony Chorus. Our congratulations and thanks to Chris Miley, the Convention Chairman, and his dedicated Committee, to AAMBS VP Conventions, Bob Fritz for yet another superb effort, to the Contest Administrator, David Brown, and to all the members and supporters of Sydney Harmony for a world class event. And our congratulations to the medallists, and to every chorus and quartet that competed as you were all winners just by being there. It was a remarkable Convention that showed us all what can be done with great organization, leadership, innovation, and thousands of hours of dedicated work.

The Convention was followed by a remarkable Harmony College that had everything for a great barbershopping experience … humour, emotion, camaraderie, good food, great music, and a beautiful setting. With superb coaching and teaching by our Convention Judges and Australian musical leaders, it was an invaluable learning experience for all, from front-line Directors, to brand new barbershoppers. And we couldn’t possibly have asked for more from our immensely talented and friendly world champion quartet Gotcha!. They sang virtually continuously for us through the three days of the college. This was all organized, and implemented, by our VP Music and Dean of the School, Ian Miller, and his dedicated staff. And again this year I feel compelled to say that if I had only one recommendation I could make to the AAMBS membership, it would be to never, ever miss a Harmony College. It is specifically organized to cater to the needs of every member of AAMBS, from the brand new rookie, to the most advanced music arranger or Chorus Director.

This year AAMBS has been guided by the leadership and hard work of your National Council, consisting of Secretary Kevin White; Treasurer Barry Joy; and Vice Presidents – for Conventions, Bob Fritz; Music, Ian Miller; both Marketing and Development and Membership, Tom Smith; and Youth Development, Steve Griffin. In addition we have had the valued services of Rose McGee as Director Development Officer, and Nerida White who assisted in all things administrative, and published our Barbershop Notes which in top quality showcases our Association. All these dynamic people give of their time and energies to make AAMBS a national organization of which we can all be proud.

Regional Co-ordination has been superbly provided by Harry Owen in Western Region, Bill Purdue in Eastern Region, and Chris Mountier in Sunshine Region. These gentlemen have organized our Regional Conventions, and many other barbershop activities involving not only the region’s clubs, but also our talented Sweet Adeline counterparts. After several years of dedicated service to our members, Bill Purdue handed over the chairmanship of Eastern Region to John Gerber, and Chris Mountier, in Sunshine Region handed the baton to Trevor Remphey. Our unreserved appreciation to Bill and Chris, and a hearty “welcome aboard” to John and Trevor.

Before I conclude the “thank-yous” there is one very special man I would like to acknowledge. He is literally the source of wisdom about everything remotely associated with Conventions, and has been in charge of Conventions for over a decade, in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Gold Coast, and Sydney. He is, of course, Bob Fritz. If there is anyone that has put in more volunteer hours of work, for each of you, I don’t know who it would be. He is taking a well deserved break for a little while, but I hope to see him back in a leadership role as soon as possible. Bob, all told probably a couple of thousand men have enjoyed the AAMBS Convention experience which would not have been possible without your strong but caring leadership, management, and administration. Well Done!

And what does the future hold for Australia’s barbershoppers? First would be the opportunity to use our newly-honed skills, from participating in the Convention competition and Harmony College, to do what we do best … perform … from concerts in famous concert halls to the retirement villages and care facilities down the street … in malls … for naturalization ceremonies, commercial conventions, parties, anywhere and everywhere. Each of our choruses is a “team” in every sense of the word. And I’d like you to think of weekly rehearsals as your practice sessions, and your performances as the league “games”. Let’s all commit to sharing our unique artform with the public at every possible opportunity … from those providing a financial incentive to, most importantly, those where we can share the joy of our music with others, and make their life just that little bit happier.

For those of you that like to plan ahead … here’s a tip. For our next AAMBS Convention we have a first … the Convention is set in scenic Hobart, 24 – 27 September 2009, followed immediately by Harmony College … a wonderful opportunity to combine our barbershop fellowship with some excellent tourist opportunities. And before that, and less than a year away, is the Pan Pacific Convention that everyone has been wait for … the barbershop gala in Hawaii. Not only is the “Pan Pac” on October 30 – Nov 3, 2008, but the Sweet Adelines Internationals is in the same place starting three days later. Your chance to enjoy our unique Rim of the Pacific Convention and attend ladies “Internationals” in one fantastic trip!

In conclusion, for this annual report I try to step back and see if 2007 has really been a success. Three crucial measurements sprint to mind … membership, performance ability, and finances. I think the hard work of everyone in AAMBS leadership positions, and every AAMBS member has paid handsomely. The membership drive initiated and run by Tom Smith resulted in an incredible 11% net membership rise from 792 members in December 2006 to 877 in June 2007. This is a growth unmatched in the whole world of barbershopping. Our performance ability has improved significantly according to every barbershop guru and judge I have quizzed. Our Convention scores remain high in spite of tightened standards worldwide. An financially, thanks to a year of sound fiscal management by the AAMBS Council and our moneybags, Treasurer Barry Joy, we have a record bank account of over $100,000.00. This will enable a banner year of education, training of our members, Judges, and Directors, and some special events still in the making.

Finally, I want to thank all the members of AAMBS for giving me the opportunity to serve as President of this outstanding organisation. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2008.
Rambling from the desk of your new VP Conventions

And so the journey begins!

Let me introduce myself to you. My name is Richard Gardam and I have just been elected as AAMBS VP Conventions.

My barbershop journey began in August 1999 when I attended a concert put on by the Wellingtones, here in Hobart. I knew most of the songs and found myself humming along in the audience. My wife said to me “Either be quiet or join them” so I did both.

In 2000 we formed a quartet, Acappellago, which first competed in Christchurch at the Pan Pacific Convention and later in the Gold Coast Convention and most recently in Sydney.

As a bass, warbling along in the back row, (all care, no responsibility) I slowly advanced to section leader and then in 2007 achieved the position of MD.

From an early stage I have been on the management committee of the Wellingtones, later the Hobart Men’s Barbershop Harmony Club and filled a range of different roles there.

In an earlier life I was a school teacher, (mathematics, science and Computing) IT system manager and school time-tabler.

I hope that my skills and knowledge will help me carry out my responsibilities on your behalf on the AAMBS Council.

Convention Feedback

It is my intention to create a “committee at large” with one representative from every chorus across the country. In this regard, I will be emailing choruses in the near future requesting the email address of the rep. from your chorus. You don’t have to wait for me to find you. If you think that your are just the person to fill the role on behalf of your chorus, speak to your management team, volunteer your services and then let me know via the AAMBS email address: conventions@aambs.org.au

I would like you to be my eyes and ears in your chorus and to feed me information about your ideas, requirements, complaints and issues regarding the design and implementation of our AAMBS Conventions including Hobart 2009 and beyond. I would also like to be able to “test the waters” with ideas I or others might have to see, through you, what the wider membership thinks.

All aspects of the convention are legitimate topics. For example, I have already received one request about pre-convention touring which I am pursuing.

The website for the Hobart 2009 convention is developing slowly. Please have a look and tell me what you like/don’t like about it. It is currently being hosted on our club server until the Sydney Committee releases the convention web site to me. Please use the link on the AAMBS home page to find it.

See you all in September 2009, if not before!

Richard Gardam

Library update

We have received the DVDs from Sydney Sings – AAMBS 9th Barbershop Convention which are now available for you to borrow for one month from the Library:

* Quartet Semi-Finals 2007
* Quart Finals 2007
* Chorus Competition 2007

Richard Gardam
From your Secretary

Happy Harmonious 2008!

At the outset let me congratulate all Club Secretaries on the prompt re-registration of their respective Clubs. What needs to be realised is that, under the AAMBS Standing Orders, each chorus and quartet is also required to re-register each year.

Many have done this – thank you very much!

However, those who have not yet done so run the very grave risk of not being covered by the AAMBS Public Liability Insurance Policy.

This Policy has just been renewed and a copy of the Certificate confirming the current insurance cover of $20 million will be forwarded to each Club Secretary as soon as it is received from the Insurance Broker, hopefully within the next few days. A Certificate of Currency is forwarded immediately following commencement of each period of insurance.

May I encourage every Club Executive, as a New Year Resolution, to endeavour to use their best efforts not only to recruit new members but to encourage the retention or re-recruitment of those barbershoppers who have not yet renewed their membership for the current year.

Sin(g)cerely,
Kevin White

This is what we need – good publicity!

Here is an article that appeared on Page 26 of the Subiaco Post on 1 December 2007 – following Common Ground’s 2nd Place in the Schools’ Competition at the Sydney Sings Convention

Barbershop boys sing for their baby

Love is timeless for the boys of Churchlands’ award-winning teenage barbershop quartet. Nicholas Schurmann, Scott Collinson, Jeffrey Poon and Lionel Pierson carried off second place in a national competition after singing together for only six months.

The 16 and 17-year-olds are all music students in Year 11 and 12 at Churchlands High School and were second in the schools division at the Australian Association of Men’s Barbershop Singers national convention in Sydney. The boys formed their quartet, Common Ground, and perform classic barbershop routines, some written half a century before they were born.

Lionel said: “Songs of love, they don’t change with time. “You always have someone you can sing for.”

Lionel, a tenor, also won a silver medal in the youth division when he performed with former Perth Modern School students as a Men and a Tenor.

Jeffrey, Nick and Lionel and their teacher Harry Owen, are members of Vocal Evolution, a 36-strong chorus that carried off the silver medal in the Open Chorus competition.

Congratulations, Common Ground, on making it into print!
LET’S HAVE YOUR IDEAS

Hobart 2009 seeks to achieve new benchmarks for convention participation.

To encourage participation from all clubs, both large and small, we’re thinking about some innovations.

These include:

- A pre-convention day on the Wednesday with workshops for club administrators.
- *Singing in the City*, an opportunity on the Wednesday for quartets to promote our convention and Harmony Spectacular.
- *Heritage Harmonizers Chorus* – we’ll provide a director and a space. All you have to do is turn up on the Wednesday before convention to rehearse. We’ll create a number of opportunities to perform during convention.
- A Wednesday evening reception at Cascade Brewery.

What do you think of these ideas? What other ideas do you have? Give us your feedback by going to the Heritage Harmony website [http://www.hmbhc.intas.net/Convention2009/Welcome.html](http://www.hmbhc.intas.net/Convention2009/Welcome.html).

Members who respond will be entered into a draw to win a year’s subscription to *Tasmania 40°South*, a magazine that celebrates all that is good about Australia’s island state.


*Tasmania 40°South* is a Heritage Harmony sponsor.

---

EASTERN REGION –

CANBERRA WEEKEND WORKSHOP

Friday 24 to Sunday 24 February 2008

Greenhills Convention Centre, 1437 Cotter Road, Weston ACT

- Four great educators
- Classes for the beginner to the experienced barbershopper
- Quartet stream for novice and established quartets
- Saturday Night Concert

Cost: Only $120 which includes accommodation and six meals

Book early as numbers are limited

Registrations will open from 5pm Friday. Courses will commence at 7.30 pm Friday. Sunday courses will conclude at 12 noon. There will be no reduction in cost for casual attendees.

Send your name, phone number, chorus name and approximate time of arrival and whether you wish to take part in a quartet session and if you will be with an established quartet to:

Bob Haynes at [bob.haynes@bigpond.com](mailto:bob.haynes@bigpond.com) or fax to 02 9416 4312.
HOBART MEN’S BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

The Club begins the year with a restructure of musical leadership. Claire McIlhenny is now MD of the Wellingtones and Russell Bailey has stepped up as MD of Tag Team. The Club has adopted a youthful profile – Claire is twenty-one this year and entering her final year of tertiary studies in music and education. Russell is twenty-five.

Richard Gardam stands down after two years as MD of the Wellingtones. He continues as the Vocal Coaching Co-ordinator with the Club. Among other things, Richard will be responsible for leading recruiting programs. Also, our congratulations to Richard recently elected as AAMBS VP Conventions.

Tag Team, our youth chorus, has firmly consolidated its place in the Club. This chorus of 15 young men performed solo at the Hobart City Council Carols by the Bay, and during December they had two other appearances. As well, Tag Team had time to host a BBQ for all members of the Club in the week leading up to Christmas.

And in the week before Christmas, the Wellingtones were engaged over two evenings singing carols at a regional shopping centre on Hobart’s eastern shore.

The committee has developed a 2008 Annual Plan to guide the Club’s activities. The Plan addresses members’ musical experience including coaching opportunities, performances, youth/community development, Club recruitment and Club cohesion.

Details of the 2008 plan include a quartet coaching session led by Incognito (known in Tasmania as Close Shave). We also hope to have coaching by an interstate coach. As well, we will present our fourth Tasmanian Men’s Harmony Concert in Hobart, and this year for the first time present a performance of the concert in a regional centre. We are relying on these performances as major Club fund raisers.

We wish all clubs the best for 2008 and are looking forward to hosting members to the Heritage Harmony Convention in Hobart in September 2009.

Trevor Rootes
Secretary

THE MELBOURNAIRES
MEN’S BARBERSHOP CHOIR

AIMING AT 2008

With the New Year upon us, "The Melbournaires Harmony Chorus" is looking to 2008 as an opportunity to refocus on our craft and sharpen our skills.

With a busy round of concerts and other events (including the AAMBS Competition in Sydney of course) to attend throughout 2007 we recognise that we must continue to strive for excellence in whatever material we present. Whilst we prepare for our now annual recruitment drive through our “Sing in Harmony” course for interested new chorus members planned for April 2008, we are currently preparing a CD to give us more opportunity to "sell our wares" and broaden the appeal of our singing style.

The elementary training given in the “Sing in Harmony” course will give potential new choristers a good feel for what is required and the CD a good demonstration of the end result! So our focus in 2008 will be to become the best in our field and to delight even more our audiences, ourselves and our hard working Musical Director, Ian Lushey.

A recent presentation at Surrey Music Cafe in suburban Box Hill exposed The Melbournaires to another audience who came to listen to a very fine jazz quartet performing on the same night. The reaction from the audience was outstanding with an encore called for! We were delighted with the response in this new (for us) style of venue.

We also had the pleasure of support billing the “Three Tenors Tribute” Concert at Moonee Valley race course - the "Three Tenors" now receiving wide acclaim wherever they appear. This was a repeat opportunity for the "Melbournaires" to be on the same bill as the "Three Tenors" and these events have given us good exposure at some prestigious events in and around Melbourne.

As we move through 2008 we will be looking for our renewed presentation standards to open up new and exciting performance opportunities.

Bill Kennedy

_________________________________________
Come on and sing -
Nothing could be easier!

No matter where you live, just pack your belongings into a container and ship them to the Gold Coast. If you are not yet an Australian, you will have to wait for two years, apply for Australian Citizenship and then The Blenders will sing for you at your Citizenship Ceremony. That is how Gunther Illek found The Blenders. After watching an “open house” event featuring Beatles songs he decided to join the group in August 2007, which was when the chorus was preparing for the 9th AAMBS International Convention in Sydney.

The Blenders went through an intensive preparation phase in order to defend the title in September under the direction of Andrew Howson and Aaron Griffin. This included an intensive three day training camp at Lake Maroon in the Gold Coast Hinterland. Finally the day of reckoning arrived and in a close contest The Blenders were able to defend the Chorus trophy once again (The Blenders: 910 points, Vocal Evolution: 885). The membership of their youth quartet, Fast Forward, won three Golds (Quartet Youth, Quartet Open final and Chorus Gold). Impulse, their other Youth Quartet, came in third. Gunther the newcomer felt like a one trick pony with the mere eight barbershop songs he had learned by that time.

The Blenders being honoured by the Gold Coast City Council

Back at the Gold Coast The Blenders were honoured by the Gold Coast City Council and were awarded with Certificate of Congratulations. Gold Coast radio stations picked up the news and one could hear snippets of the chorus singing live on the radio during the morning sessions. The newspapers picked up the story as well and one could find articles on The Blenders in almost all local media.

The Blenders at the new Irwin family statue at Australia Zoo

One of the year’s highlights took place at the Australia Zoo during Steve Irwin Day on 15 November. The Blenders, together with Olivia Newton John and Jimmy Barnes, were invited to entertain an audience of about six thousand in the Crocoseum. Later in the day The Blenders could be found roaming through the zoo singing for elephants, tigers, kangaroos and of course, crowds of people too.

Andrew Howson left The Blenders in December and is enjoying his new life in the USA. Meanwhile the chorus is still looking for a new musical director – so if you are interested, please contact us.

The Pre-Christmas season is usually a busy time for choruses. The Blenders did their best by performing at various events such as street light festivals, “Dashing Through the Wards” at the Gold Coast Hospital, a concert in the park, shopping centres and hotels.

Gunther is now in the process of paying back The Blenders for giving him the honour of winning Gold with them in Sydney as well as the daily pleasures of being a Blender. In December he became the new Public Relations and Performance Co-ordinator of the chorus and the New Year promises to keep him busy with plenty of work, concerts and hopefully lots of fun.

The chorus will start the new season on January 21, 2008. Everyone is welcome to explore the details about The Blenders on their new website: www.theblenders.com.au

If you hear that sound and feel these good vibrations, it gives you that very special feeling that is hard to describe. It crawls down your back in harmony. Although The Blenders are an all-male chorus, the ladies have their own fantastic group, Harmony in Paradise, and their website is http://www.harmonyinparadise.com

So if you feel like doing something good in the New Year for yourself and others – Come on and sing with us.

Gunther Illek
Public Relations & Performance Co-ordinator

Happy New Year to all friends in barbershop

Happy New Year to all friends in barbershop. My chorus ended the year with a sing-out at Lennons Hotel Queens Mall in Brisbane city. We were again grateful that around 7 of the Clippers came to swell our numbers making around 20 singers. Our chorus numbers have dropped again but I know our new committee has plans to hopefully increase our membership this year. There are so many singing groups starting up that we really need to come up with something really sensational in barbershop to coax new members to join us. Like most Musical Directors at this time of the year, you sit down and go through all the music taking out numerous songs to learn, then you look closer and say to yourself, “No” too difficult, “No” our Tenor cannot go that high, “No” our basses cannot get down to low F, “No” that part for our baris is too difficult – so you end up with 2 or 3 songs knowing full well that this will take half a year to learn anyway. At this stage we have no sing-outs booked but I will work on trying to gain a spot in local concerts that my guys can sing in. Have a great year -

Janet Sippen
MD Broadwater Connection Chorus
NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM MEN IN HARMONY
and best wishes for lots of good harmonizing in 2008!

It’s back to business after a well earned break – we certainly had a busy time with our seasonal commitments prior to Christmas, especially singing in the city streets. For the most part the weather was kind to us except for the big evening concert in the heart of town sharing the stage with Perth Harmony Chorus and others. The wind almost blew us off the risers, but that’s show biz, and the large crowd stayed with us.

In fact we attracted a lot of interest everywhere and there was some fun with tourists joining the front row from time to time to have their photos taken with the chorus. There was a special distraction when Father Christmas, in the most unlikely gear, of polka-dot “Bombay Bloomers” and ordinary boots with red socks, joined us to hand out lollies and cheerful greetings. His delightful young helper added an extra touch of class and fun! A couple of our quartets, sang on the trains in the metropolitan network, working their way along the carriages, while underway, singing carols and other songs for appreciative travellers – all-in-all, a very successful festive time.

Men in Harmony have been invited to an additional Citizenship Ceremony this year when we offer our Australian music to new citizens and their families. It’s a privilege to participate in these events and join with the dignitaries in support of newcomers as they make their commitment. And, in listening to the proceedings, to be reminded of how fortunate we are to live in this wonderful country.

The search for a permanent music director goes on but a lively program is taking shape to cope with an anticipated busy year which includes the introduction of new songs and ongoing coaching in all aspects of the craft – we never stop learning do we? Cheers to all.

Andy Aberle

AAMBS 9th CONVENTION2007
And the Winner are ……

Chorus – Gold Medal – The Blenders

1st Prize – Handicap Competition – Deep South

Open Quartet & Youth Quartet – Gold Medals – Fast Forward

Senior Quartet – Gold Medal – Who’s Counting

School Quartet – 1st Prize
The Fishbowl Boys

Audience Favourite – Hills Harmony
MEDIA RELEASE  December 2007 – from Sydney Harmony

SEEKING SINGERS FOR SPORT!
What’s the most enjoyable team sport a ‘bloke’ can play? One which enjoys great mateship, precision training, imagination, the nurturing of talent plus cut-throat competition? Forget football or cricket… If you want real action, says David Ojerholm, try barbershop singing!!

That’s right, says the president of the Sydney Harmony Chorus - footy, water-polo, even ice-hockey “are for wusses.” If you want “real tension and the joy of supporting your mates to achieve a breath-taking result (not to mention the adulation of thousands of fans!) – try close four-part harmonising.”

The award winning Sydney Harmony Chorus, fresh from its triumph at the recent huge and high-profile “Sydney Sings” national convention at Darling Harbour, is looking to swell its ranks with like-minded singers, ready to put their bodies – or at least their voices - on the line!

Sydney Harmony recently hosted the biennial national barbershop convention where hundreds of local, interstate and international singers (including school-age groups) gathered to strut their stuff and compete for rich prizes. The climax – a sellout concert before an audience of over 2000 featured US and Australian champion men’s quartets and choruses, along with MC ABC-TV’s Choir of Hard Knocks leader Jonathon Welch and The Idea of North.

Aside from the fun and games of the biggest convention of its type every held, the group – directed by sassy and inspirational Vicki Dwyer – picked up a coveted bronze medal.

The Australian Barbershop community is a vibrant collection of male singers from all over Australia, who gather together to sing tight, exciting four-part harmonies in quartets and choruses. Sydney Harmony is a member of the elite group of national award-winners.

The group rehearses weekly on Monday evenings at Norths Club honing their craft, seeking perfection and sharing their passion for song. And having a ball all the while!

They sing at public concerts, special occasions, community events, private and corporate functions. And quartets from within the group also perform – and compete – on various stages.

Among the opportunities in store for new members next year is the opportunity to join the group’s tour to Hawaii for the Pan Pacific Barbershop Convention, including the floating harmony college – an island cruise with top conductors and choreographers leading the way.

Sydney Harmony is looking for singers of all ages with a musical background, but by no means necessarily professionals. The important thing – as with any team-player, stresses David - is commitment and the drive ‘to work at it’. The rewards are many and, says David, music-making is of proven benefit to your health!

For those wishing to ‘test-drive’ the Sydney Harmony experience, one of the group’s regular six week Sing in Harmony workshops over successive Monday evenings begins on 18 February. It climaxes with a Sunday afternoon concert for family and friends.

To find out more about Barbershop Singing and the Sydney Harmony Chorus, visit www.sydneyharmony.com.au or call Richard Kaan on 0419 497 171

For all media enquiries, including interviews, images, CD and MP3 recordings or live in-studio performances, please contact Geoff Sirmai, Watchdog Communications: e: geoff@watchdog.com.au  t: (02) 8218 2109  m: 0412 669 272
"Come Join US!!"

What an opportunity… A Barbershop Convention in Hawaii, one of the world’s greatest vacation destinations, and what a Convention it will be…. with the likes of choruses and quartets from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada and the U.S.A (eligible are choruses from the FWD Divisions 1 SCW, 2 SCE, 3 NCW, EVG Divisions I, II, IV) however, everyone is invited!

It’s the 5th Pan Pacific Convention, to be held in Honolulu from October 30 – November 2, 2008. So bring a chorus, a quartet, a senior quartet, a mixed chorus or quartet or just yourself for all the fun and festivities!

It may be a while before you earn that medal at the International Convention, but you’ll all have a shot at the Gold in Honolulu!

C’mon down (of up?) and enjoy barbershop harmony from around the Pacific. We guarantee you a wonderful visit, and will consider it an honour to have you as our guests.

You can even stay another week and enjoy Sweet Adeline’s International, which follows the convention.

For more information on registration, competitions, or hotels, go to: www.panpacificharmony.org or e-mail us at info@panpacificharmony.org
## AAMBS CALENDAR – 2008- 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>MAR</th>
<th>APR</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUN</th>
<th>JUL</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>SEP</th>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>DEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting – 2nd BHS International Mid-Winter Convention &amp; International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival</strong> San Antonio, Texas : 22 – 27</td>
<td><strong>Eastern Region Canberra Weekend Workshop 22 – 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting – 16</strong> BinG! Dortmund Germany</td>
<td><strong>Sweet Adelines’ Convention West Point Hotel, Hobart 30-May 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> BABS Convention, Cheltenham 23 - 25</td>
<td><strong>BHS International Convention Nashville TN 29 – 6 July</strong> NZABS Quartet Regionals</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting NZABS Quartet Regionals Harmony University Missouri TN USA 28 – 4 Aug</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sunshine Region Competition 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> NZABS Competition Only Lower Hutt</td>
<td><strong>Pan Pacific Convention Honolulu, Hawaii USA 30 – 2 Nov Sweet Adelines International Convention Hawaii</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td><strong>BHS International Mid-Winter Convention</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Face-to-Face Council Meeting</strong> Sweet Adelines’ National Convention 30 – 3 May</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> BHS International Convention Anaheim CA 28 - 5 July NZABS Quartet Regionals</td>
<td><strong>NZABS Quartet Regionals Harmony University Missouri USA 26-Aug 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS 10th National Convention 24-27</strong> AAMBS Harmony College - Tasmania</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> SAI International Nashville TN USA 3 - 7</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> SAI International Nashville TN USA 3 - 7</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td><strong>BHS International Mid-Winter Convention</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> BinG! Dortmund Germany</td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong> BHS International Convention Philadelphia PA 27 – 4 July</td>
<td><strong>NZABS Quartet Regionals Harmony University Missouri 25 – 1 Aug</strong></td>
<td><strong>NZABS 21st Convention Hamilton</strong></td>
<td><strong>NZABS 22nd Convention Christchurch</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>SAI International TBA</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>AAMBS Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AAMBS CALENDAR – 2008- 2011
THE AAMBS COUNCIL

President
Mike Donnelly
12 Jutland Rise
OCEAN REEF WA 6027
Phone/fax: 08 9300 5430
Mobile: 0432 802 296
Email: president@aambs.org.au

VP Conventions
Richard Gardam
P O Box 88
SNUG Tas 7054
Phone: 03 6267 9265
Mobile: 0403 396 515
Email: conventions@aambs.org.au

VP Marketing & Development
Derek Churchill
95 Montpelier Street
Wilston Qld 4051
Phone: 07 3356 7379
Email: marketing@aambs.org.au

VP Membership
Tom Smith
50 Hinkler Drive
MILL PARK VIC 3082
Phone: 03 9404 1216
Fax: 03 9437 7847
Email: membership@aambs.org.au

VP Music
Ian Miller
20 Mimosa Road
BUDGEWOI NSW 2261
Phone: 02 4390 3893
Mobile: 0408 620 921
Email: music@aambs.org.au

VP Youth Development
Steve Griffin
330 Rio Vista Boulevard
Mermaid Waters QLD 4218
Phone: 0411 951 259
Fax: 07 5572 3659
Email: youth@aambs.org.au

Secretary
Kevin White
P O Box 6026
WEST GOSFORD NSW 2250
Phone: 02 4369 8369
Fax: 02 4369 8379
Email: secretary@aambs.org.au

Treasurer
Barry Joy
1 / 23 Hooker Boulevard
Broadbeach Waters QLD 4218
Phone: 07 5572 0284
Mobile: 0403 979 643
Email: treasurer@aambs.org.au

Send your items for Barbershop Notes in 9 pt Arial font to:
secretary@aambs.org.au

The deadline for receipt of material is 15th of each odd numbered month –
January
March
May
July
September
November