Who are We?

We're barbershoppers, that's who!! And proud of it! We are the maintainers and perpetuators of an art form that has existed for over 80 years. Some things fade in popularity in a few years….like ragtime music, vaudeville, dancing the twist, the hula hoop. But our cherished art form is alive and well thanks to the dedication of every barbershopper.

Are all barbershoppers the same? Of course not. Is the performance level of all choruses and quartets the same? Not even close. But each of us still shoulders our little part of the responsibility to keep the art form alive. We have old members and new members. We have long-time members and brand new members. And every one is important. Your BHA Council works extremely hard to support and encourage every single member, quartet, and chorus.

The barbershoppers in Australia are one large team with the same mission. Like every sports team in the world we need to work with, and support, our teammates. Some may be all-stars, some may be doing the work in the trenches, some may be providing material or administrative support. But everyone is needed to reach our goals. And all are equally important.

Specifically we have many choruses with an average member age in the 70s. They are proud of their musical ability, enrich the lives of others through local performances, provide a sense of purpose and fulfilment for their members, and keep the art form alive. We have choruses with an average member age in the 40s and 50s. They are proud of their musical ability, enrich the lives of others through local performances, provide a sense of purpose and fulfilment for their members, and keep the art form alive. And we have choruses with most of the members in their 20s. They are proud of their musical ability, enrich the lives of others through local performances, provide a sense of purpose and fulfilment for their members, and keep the art form alive.

Our barbershoppers Down Under may perform for different audiences, and compete at different levels. But they know barbershop, they support each other, they have fun, they love the sensation of barbershop sung well, and they work hard improving their current individual standard. And every single one of them helps to keep our cherished art form of singing in the barbershop style alive.

In Harmony,
Mike Donnelly
President, BHA
president@barbershop.org.au
It’s that time of year again

1. Annual General Meeting

Time to think about the **BHA Annual General Meeting** which, as usual, will be held in early December. The positions which will become vacant are Secretary, VP Membership, VP Music and VP Youth Development. All the incumbents are standing for re-election but nominations from other members will be accepted.

2. Each Club should have an ABN

It is highly recommended and will open the door to available goodies (grants, etc.).

3. Club Affiliation

When completing your Quartet Registration Application please note that the information you need to put under the section Club Affiliation is exactly that – **the name of the Club not the name of the Chorus**. BHA members are members of their respective Club and the Executive is the Club Executive. Choruses are also affiliated to their Club – some Clubs have more than one Chorus.

4. You MUST keep us up to date

When you change your email address and/or phone numbers. I have been very frustrated when sending urgent messages to a Club President & Secretary over the last few days to not receive any response from them. Now I find that one has moved house and the other hasn’t been to rehearsal for at least 3 weeks.

5. Do you really know who you are?

In recent Regional Contests a number of Clubs and Quartets registered entries to the competitions under the wrong name – the name of your Club/Chorus/Quartet is registered with BHA under the name, spelling and font you supplied at time of Registration and is as listed on your Quartet or Club Registration Confirmation sent to you at the time of registration. So to ensure that you are entered correctly please ensure that this is the name you use on your registration form.

Kevin White
Secretary
secretary@barbershop.org.au
EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

BHA is co-ordinating the following events. Put some or all of these in your diary!

**RINGMASTERS TOUR, 2012 INTERNATIONAL QUARTET CHAMPIONS**
- 12 December, Sydney
- 15 December, Perth
- 17 December, Gold Coast

**REGIONAL CONTESTS, 2013**
- 27-28 April 2013, Sunshine Region
  Watch this space for dates of other Regional Contests in May-June 2013

**BHA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2013**
- 9-13 October 2013, Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre, Mounts Bay Road, Perth, WA 6000

**BHA NATIONAL HARMONY COLLEGE**
- 13-16 October 2013, Swanleigh Camps & Conference Centre, 58 Yule Ave, Middle Swan, WA 6056

**RINGMASTERS TOUR**

BHA is very happy to be able bring you the newly crowned 2012 International Champion Quartet, *Ringmasters*, the first quartet from outside North America to have won the coveted International Quartet Contest. The quartet has made itself available to perform three concerts only in Australia during December. If your locality is not one of the listed concert locations we’re sorry. However, there simply was not time available to be able to schedule a more wide ranging tour.

*Ringmasters* is a quartet not to be missed, so jump on a plane, train or bus, and make sure you get a ticket to see this remarkable quartet of young men, who previously won the International Collegiate Quartet contest in 2008. Co-ordination of the concerts is being undertaken by Regional Boards in collaboration with local clubs. Details on venues and performance times will be published ASAP.

**REGIONAL CONTESTS**

Regions are starting to organise their contests for next year which will be qualifying contests for all quartets who wish to compete in the National Contest in October 2013. Sunshine Region is the first “cab off the rank” with dates 27-28 April 2013.

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BHA NATIONAL CONVENTION
The “must attend” event next year will be the National Convention being held in the beautiful city of Perth, Western Australia. The new and magnificent Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre will be the venue, right in the heart of the Perth CBD and on the banks of the beautiful Swan River.

Accommodation has been blocked out in reasonably priced hotels around the city, and the Convention Committee is working very hard to ensure that this Convention will be another one to remember.

Our guest quartets will be plural next year, with the twice silver medal International quartet, Musical Island Boys from New Zealand, and the hilariously funny Lunch Break quartet from the USA.

While the schedule is still to be approved by the BHA Council, please plan to arrive on Wednesday evening, 9 October. There will be a social event that night, and also sightseeing tours will operate. The Convention will commence on Thursday 10 October with the Mass Sing, the Youth Contest and the Welcome Dinner. Friday will see the Quartet semi-finals and finals, while Saturday will comprise the Chorus contest and Winners Showcase Concert. Proceedings will conclude with the traditional church service, BHA Forum and Farewell Lunch.

Plan to stay on in Perth after the Convention. The weather in October in Perth is just glorious. You might spend some time exploring the wineries and restaurants of the Swan Valley, or further afield in the Margaret River region, you might want to experience the thrill of the tall tree area near Manjimup, or the scenic beauty of Albany. Another popular trail is the Golden West trail that takes in towns and country surrounding Perth, including York, Kalgoorlie and Geraldton.

For many, the attraction will be to stay on for the BHA Harmony College – and you can tour after that! There will be sightseeing activities organised for partners of those who stay for Harmony College.

BHA HARMONY COLLEGE
The 2013 Harmony College will be held at the lovely Swanleigh Camps & Conference Centre in Middle Swan, right in the heart of the beautiful Swan Valley, about a 45 minute drive north of the Perth CBD. This will represent 3 days of barbershop bliss for those enthusiasts who just can’t get enough of our wonderful hobby. The faculty will comprise the visiting BHS judges, the members of Lunch Break quartet (all BHS employees), and Matt Gifford from Musical Island Boys quartet. It will be an event not to be missed!

OTHER EVENTS
There are a few more events being planned for 2013, such as Quartet Workshops and the like, so watch this newsletter or the website for details of these as they emerge.

Happy singing,

Ian Mulholland
VP Events
events@barbershop.org.au

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So, you have just been given some new music to learn?

One of the worst things you can do as a performer is to go on stage unprepared. But how do we prepare ourselves better? Well, one way is to make sure we know our notes and our words. This is often the hardest part of learning new repertoire.

Remember that many people will base their opinion of Barbershop Harmony Australia on the performance of one quartet or one chorus. Therefore, it is essential that every quartet and chorus present a musical product which reflects positively on our organisation and on the art form of barbershop harmony.

Even if you don't read music, there is help for you, though! One of the quickest ways for you to begin learning the music is by using a learning tape or CD. Most choruses produce learning tapes of some description for their members. Others source learning tapes from arrangers or other singers who already know the songs. There are plenty of resources available to your club though – make sure you check out www.barbershop.org for more info.

This is a guide to help you learn how to use a learning tape efficiently, so that you can stop learning and start performing!

You will want to have a CD player handy to play it. Transfer it to your mp3 player once you get home.

Be aware that some prepared learning tapes have all parts on them. Make sure you are listening to the correct part to learn and not another part!

You first want to play the CD alone to hear what the song and your part sounds like and try not to even look at the music.

Listen to your CD about twenty times before you worry about looking at the music.

You will then want to make sure you know where your part is and follow along reading the music (lyrics) as the CD plays.

Listen to your part about twenty times before you attempt to make any noise.

If you can read music, you'll be looking at the notes as well as the lyrics. If you cannot read music, concentrate on the lyrics, but do check out your note line. You'll want to look to see if your notes are going up or down, where the rests are (yay, you can breathe there!) and if there are any jumps you need to look out for.

Now it's time to hum along! Hum your part about twenty times before you attempt to sing it.
Now you’re ready to sing along! Do this phrase by phrase and when you’re comfortable with several phrases, rewind and sing as many phrases through as you can with no errors (notes or words). You will find your own best way to do this.

Sing your part quietly about twenty times before you attempt to sing it at full throttle. Remember, the louder you sing, the harder it is for you to hear and identify any errors that you might be making!

Some find it helpful to sit down and, without looking, write all the lyrics out to help with the memorising of the words. It’s easy, from this activity, to hone in on specific areas where your words are incorrect.

Make sure that you have written down (in pencil) any breathing marks that your director has identified and any changes to interpretation. For those of you who don’t know what changes to interpretation could be – they are anything that changes the song from the way it is written on the page. This could be tempo changes, rhythm changes, note changes, word changes, etc. Your Director will identify those for the chorus as you learn the song.

Record yourself singing your new song, and then listen back to it! Does it sound like your original learning CD? If not, try again! You can make it!

Have fun! Learning music is an exciting and rewarding process, and the more efficiently that you can do it, the more fun this whole process becomes.

Dan Millgate
VP Music
music@barbershop.org.au
Have you checked the BHA website recently?

You may have noticed that we have recently appointed Youth Representatives in each State.

So without further delay, I would like to introduce you to your local youth reps!

- **Australia Capital Territory**  Ben Jongsma
- **New South Wales**  Rob Sequeira
- **Queensland**  Jonathan Albertini
- **South Australia**  Jonathan Bligh
- **Tasmania**  Andrew Carolan
- **Victoria**  Tim Carolan
- **Western Australia**  Ash Schofield

Each of these representatives will be working closely with their local Regional teams and with me and the Council.

For more information on your local representative please head to the Youth tab on the BHA website!

Feel free to contact me regarding any youth matters at youth@barbershop.org.au.

*Jonathan Bligh*

VP Youth Development
Personal Warm Up before a rehearsal

There is no question about it -- the warm up period at the beginning of a quartet or a chorus rehearsal is the most important thing we do to prepare for the best possible musical experience during any rehearsal or performance.

However, doing a personal warm up before you arrive can make all the difference in the world. It can help you be more vocally prepared to fine tune your pitch awareness, timbre match, vowels, etc. Without a good individual, and then ensemble, warm up, we would never realise our full potential as a quality performing quartet or chorus.

Most of us have been involved in some type of athletic activity in our lives. If we did not want a ham-string pull or something more serious to happen, we always stretched (warmed up) before the athletic activity. Singing is a physical activity, not only involving a specific muscle, our voice, but our entire body when singing well.

Your personal warm up before leaving for your rehearsal should consist of more than just humming a couple of scales and singing “Heart of my Heart.” The exercises you choose should have several common aspects, such as:

• activating your mind (fact: 80% of vocal warm up is mental);
• incorporating exercises that reinforce techniques to help you work on areas of your voice that need reinforcing – such as sliding up and down scales to work on that pesky “break” between chest voice and falsetto, etc.
• selecting exercises that will give long term remedies for a specific concern – such as breathing exercises to make sure you can make it to the ends of phrases, etc.
• singing exercises that will solve more than one objective; and
• selecting exercises that will help you improve over the long haul.

Ways to enhance your personal warm up as you drive to rehearsal are:

• physically prepare the body.
  o physically sit up in your car while you’re driving to rehearsal with both hands on the steering wheel.
• always remember good breath support/management that produces warm air.
  o take slow deep breaths while you are driving with both hands on the steering wheel - bet you won’t chest breathe.
• do some humming in the easiest part of your range first.
  o then extend your range higher and lower with good breathe support.
  o do some head voice/falsetto soft singing.
  o don’t try to sing over road noise at any time.

Every exercise should have
• a purpose (Why are we doing this specific exercise?),
• a frequency (How many repetitions should we do of this exercise at each warm up session?),
• duration (How long will we need to do this exercise until it has become a habit?).

We also have found that a periodic rotation of exercises is probably the best way to maintain interest.

Through self-examination and critique, you will be able to determine your own progress in relation to your personal goals as a singer and as part of the ensemble of which you are a part.

The key to a productive personal warm up before rehearsal and the ensemble warm up at rehearsal lies in everyone’s acceptance that these are an important part of your becoming a better singer. You should continue the practice of making certain you know why you are doing each exercise. Make each warm up exercise meaningful and there is no telling how much better an ensemble singer you will become.

Dan Millgate
VP Music

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The weekend of 30 August to 2 September saw Alliance travel to Hobart for the BHA Tasmanian Regional contest, as well as coaching, workshops and promotional events. A big shout-out to Trevor Rootes, Tasmanian Region Chairman, for organising such a stellar schedule.

After the trek across the country from Perth, we were collected from the airport by our hosts and billets. Thanks to Paul Adams, Ken Moore, Ric Finlay and Trevor for making us feel so welcome, feeding us and chauffeuring us around all weekend.

Friday was a full day, starting with a sing with the Lord Mayor of Hobart (not a bad lead!), which secured us a spot on the local evening news. We then moved onto a succession of workshops, promoting barbershop to school and university students across town. (A special mention to the Conservatorium of Music students who were a delight to teach and took to tagging like ducks to water). We also dropped into the ABC studios for an interview and a couple of songs. This is always fun.

The day finished with the regional contest in the evening. Ian (MUS), Adrian (PRS) and Dan (SNG) judged, while Richard (himself a PRS judge) was the MC for the evening. A small number of quartets and choruses crossed the stage, with at least one member taking part in three quartets and two others taking part in two! While relatively small in number, the Tasmanian Region is as passionate about barbershop as any and we look forward to continuing to work with them to increase the number of quartets for future years.

Saturday was a full day of coaching quartets and choruses, allowing us to work in pairs with two groups at a time. With all four members of Alliance being qualified judges, we very much enjoy tag-teaming, building on each other's ideas. During the day we coached Standard Deviants quartet, Guilty (as charged) [aka Close Shave] quartet, Deep South chorus, Hobart Harmony (SAI) chorus and an exciting group of boys from Launceston Church Grammar School. As well as always being a pleasure to coach current barbershoppers, we took particular delight in coaching the school boys who impressed us with their natural ability and love of singing and performing. We would love to see these guys encouraged to keep links with barbershop and were so pleased to see how excited they were with their barbershop experience. We wonder whether we will see them in a youth chorus or quartet in Perth 2013…

Saturday culminated in a show hosted by the Deep South chorus and produced by the indefatigable Trevor Rootes. An almost capacity audience of over 200 locals turned out. We agreed that of all the audiences we had ever sung for, this one was the most receptive. Of course, no barbershop trip or show would be complete without tags and an afterglow. Sure enough, the school boys jumped right in with tags and we think and
hope that this tagging has once again worked its magic and the boys will be back for more. We made a point to introduce Russell Bailey (Deep South MD) and Drew Carolan (ex-MD of youth chorus Tag Team and bass of Adrenaline quartet) and encouraged the boys to head along to rehearsal.

Additionally, we took some time over the weekend to discuss various aspects of the administrative side of the organisation in our capacities as BHA Councillors (Dan VP Music, Ian VP Events, Richard VP Membership and Adrian website administrator).

**Alliance on stage with Hi-Jinx**

After an all-too-brief sleep, we were off back home to Perth on Sunday morning. A busy and exhausting weekend but we wouldn't have it any other way! Thanks again to all the Tasmanian barbershoppers - we had a great time and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

As it will happen before the next issue of this newsletter comes out, we’d also like to take this chance to wish our Perth-based sister quartet Hi-Jinx all the best as they travel overseas to compete at the Sweet Adelines International Contest as our Region #34 Champs. Earlier in August we took part in a fundraising show for them and not only did we have a great time and get to sing an octet with them, but we were reminded first-hand how great they're sounding. We know they'll do a sterling job representing us – 'break a leg', girls!

**Alliance with Lord Mayor of Hobart, Ald Damon C Thomas**

After a few Vocal Evolution (our chorus) gigs during September, our next engagement is appearing in Perth Harmony Chorus's annual show on 15 October. We're excited about that. If your chorus or region would like a coaching visit from Alliance, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Keep the whole world singing,

*Ian, Adrian, Richard and Dan*  
Alliance
You may have heard faint rumblings about an Eastern Region Concert, to be held in conjunction with our Contest on Saturday, 13th October?

It is now official and tickets are on sale effective today...! Even better, it’s going to be a CRACKER...!!

Barker College at Hornsby is hosting the Concert in their Leslie Hall and they will also have their a cappella choir and a chorus performing, so what this means is that the Concert will be open for the Barker College Community and so there’ll be pressure on bookings right from today. There are only 500 seats available, so your members need to get in early to make sure they have seats... Already confirmed for the concert are:

- The Fishbowl Boys
- Circular Keys Chorus
- Endeavour Harmony Chorus
- Barker’s a cappella groups
- Sydney Harmony,
- and - Selected finalists from the ER Contest...

Proceeds from the Concert will benefit Eastern Region and help part fund your ER Workshop next year at Greenhills, our aim is to bring more and better educators to further boost this blue ribbon workshop, and to keep costs down for you! So this is your Region and your sport, please help support it...

Great Value... Great Entertainment.... Great Fun...
Bookings and tickets are available online right now, there will be no ticket sales at the venue, and we expect all tickets will be gone by then anyway, so don’t miss out!!!

Book your tickets at: www.trybooking.com

Keith Thornton
ER Secretary

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AWARDED TO TONY KING

At the recent Voices in Harmony Welcome Dinner the Fleurieu Harmony Chorus was pleased to present Tony King with Life Membership of the Club. This Year Tony celebrated over 32 years of involvement in Barbershop Harmony

The Award was presented by the Western Region Chairman, Kim Sebbage, on behalf of the Club.

It all started when the family moved to Queensland for employment opportunities in the 80s and his wife, Sheila, saw an advertisement wanting singers for a local barbershop group who later, I believe, became known as The Gold Coast Barbershop Harmony Club Inc. She suggested to Tony that, as he was very musically minded, he should go along to see what it was all about. Well, the rest, as they say, is history. He went along and after a while decided to sing baritone as it was a more challenging part. During this time he befriended a chap called Derek Cosgrove (of Benchmark) and regularly sang in a quartet with him.

A couple of years later the family returned to England and Tony carried on with barbershop singing with The Carshalton Concordes for a few years before returning to Australia.

He then sang with a new Mount Compass group and The Festival States-men in Adelaide for a considerable time where he also assisted the MD and in 2000 became a founding member of the Fleurieu Harmony Inc., and, with his incredible ear for pitch, he had no choice other than to become their Musical Director.

He still loves to sing baritone and in quartets. He was pleased to reunite at last year’s Brisbane Convention with some old friends from those early days whom he had not seen for years.

Fleurieu Harmony Inc is proud to have made Tony only the second, and a well-deserved, recipient of Honorary Life Membership.

Gordon Tomlinson
Past Secretary
The Festival Statesmen Youth Chorus

has had an extremely busy last few weeks!

Focusing strongly on the development of the chorus, our music team have been working hard with Musical Director Jonathan Bligh discussing techniques and strategies he had the chance to learn while studying over with our brothers and sisters in the US during his participation in Harmony University – The chorus has been very excited at the opportunity to integrate these fresh, new approaches into their performances.

Given a recent focus on recruitment, we have also been working hard on the creation of a new corporate image for the chorus, with a new website set to launch in the near future! New members continue to join our rehearsals and successful auditionees are settling in to their new roles well within the group. A special welcome to Lachlan, our most recent new member, who in the space of a few short weeks has tackled the steep learning curve with a proactive, positive attitude to successfully pass his audition into the group.

The chorus has continued to attend numerous gigs throughout the previous months, including the chance to open the SA Training Awards at the Adelaide Convention Centre – The chance to develop our corporate image has been a strong focus of the chorus, and we relished the opportunity to perform at such a high profile event along with singing at a recent concert for Eisteddfod winners within South Australia, where the chorus performed after winning their award for Chorus Excellence. This was something we were both humbled by and excited to participate in.

In the spirit of developing a performance culture amongst our members, a number of the chorus were also recently encouraged to audition for a production of Les Miserables, currently being Co-Directed by Joshua Penley (FSYC Music Team) and Musically Directed by Jonathan Bligh. Auditioning statewide, the cast included professional and well-seasoned performers from Adelaide’s musical theatre scene, and has provided successful chorus members with the chance to hone their performance skills, tackling head on the different vocal and performance techniques required for such an epic musical theatre piece. Exposing chorus members to these different genres of performance has been a key development phase we hope to encourage and foster continually leading up to Perth 2013! Congratulations in particular go to Robin Breugelmans scoring the role of Grantaire, Aaron Vinall for the role of Combeferre and Joshua Penley in reprising the role of Marius (his fourth time singing the role).

Joshua Penley as Marius
with Cat Hancock as Eponine
We’re looking forward to continuing our focus on the ongoing learning and development of the chorus, after the recent success of our newly introduced workshop series, involving subject matter experts taking the chance to work intensively with the chorus across all three categories of performance (Music, Singing and Presentation). The chorus has so far had the chance to work with Natural Voice experts and Laban Movement Specialists – We can’t wait to keep learning and collaborating with these amazing mentors!

Onwards and upwards!  

Anne O’Dea

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The Melbournaires have two important gigs coming up in October. The first is on Saturday 13th at the Barwon Heads Community Hall. Commencing at 2.30pm this is The Barwon Heads Carnival of Music and is building to a fantastic afternoon of barbershop singing. One of the Melbournaires quartets Boardwalk will be performing, as will Geelong Harmony, the ladies chorus, and one of their quartets Something Else. This is an event not to be missed.

The second gig is on Monday 22nd. As part of The Victorian Seniors Festival, the general public is invited to a Melbournaires rehearsal evening. Apart from the possibility of encouraging new recruits, this event is also aimed at broadening the demographic for appreciation of the art of barbershop singing. Last year about 80 interested people turned up, and we would hope to exceed that number this year.

Just to mention a couple of interesting August gigs, one was at The Icehouse at Docklands for the Melbourne Mustangs Ice Hockey Club just prior to their game. They must have been inspired because a complementary letter has been received inviting us back next year. The other gig was at St Francis Xavier Church in Box Hill. The Melbournaires are currently looking for new MCs from its’ members, and it would seem on this occasion our Kevin Kirwan felt comfortably at home to do an excellent job.

To finish on a more subdued note, our regular MD, Ian Lushey, is battling with the after effects of radio and chemotherapy treatment and not able to take his rightful place in front of The Melbournaires. In his absence both John Webb and Tim Carolan are doing sterling jobs. We all wish Ian a speedy return.

Terry Phillips
What a busy period it has been for Vocal Evolution over the past few months here on the beautiful west coast.

We continue to grow, with new members streaming in on a regular basis and are starting to get too big for our current set of risers. On the recruitment front, we are planning to hold an ‘open rehearsal’ at a local university to introduce more young members to the craft. Also in the pipeline are a Bring a Mate Night and our ever popular Learn to Sing Harmony course. The LTSH course will culminate with a graduation concert on December 15th with the current international Quartet Champions, Ringmasters who will be joining Vocal Evolution, Alliance and the SAI Region 34 champion quartet, HiJinx for a night of some of the best a cappella Australia and the world has to offer.

Vocal Evolution & Alliance

We have recently welcomed back our talented director Lionel Pierson from the United States, where he participated in the BHS Directors School. His passion and excitement at all of the new concepts he has brought back is contagious and we have certainly enjoyed trying new methods in our continual journey of improvement.

Preparations are well underway for us to travel to Toronto, Canada to represent BHA at the 2013 BHS International Convention. We have a team of dedicated fundraisers bringing new and fresh ideas to raise much needed funds to assist our members make it to Canada.

We have recently done a number of corporate gigs, working with local businesses and charitable organisations to make their corporate events a special and memorable occasion. A highlight has also been working with SIDS and Kids to present a flash-mob to raise money and awareness for this worthy cause. If you haven’t checked it out already, head on over to the BHA website to have a look.

Coming up on the performance calendar for VE, along with private functions and our yearly carols sets in a local shopping centre, is a performance with our sisters in harmony Perth Harmony Chorus - Up, Up and Away on October 13th. We are looking forward to sharing the stage with this stellar chorus and premiering some exciting new repertoire. Tickets can be purchased through PHC.

But what better way to close off the year, than to sing in the aforementioned concert with the current BHS International Champions, Ringmasters on December 15th. This is definitely a performance not to be missed!

Trevor Anderson
Vocal Evolution - VP Marketing

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The Sunshine Statesmen

The Sunshine Statesmen’s Annual Concert and Matinee were musical tributes to Buderim 150.

The Saturday performance was enhanced by contributions from guest artists, New World Rhythm, the Music Men, Karina Gough and Jazz Coogan.

The enjoyment of the Statesmen was dampened somewhat by the realisation that the Sunday Matinee would be Karina’s last performance as our Musical Director, which was acknowledged graciously by President Greg Croan and the men. We look forward to seeing Karina often in the future.

The two performances of the Chorus also ushered in two new quartets, adding depth and opportunity to our members and interested new members. Well done, Fellas! Soon it will be time to dust off our Christmas Carols – what a good time to consider joining us – even if you’re just visiting on holidays. Further information on the website www.sunshinestatesman.org.au

Karina and the Sunshine Statesmen – a farewell concert

Bruce Laming
Past Publicity Officer

Fleurieu Harmony Chorus

has been busy again with sing outs since the last issue and one notable occasion was the “Strathalbyn Antique Fair”, where the ‘special guest’ was celebrity Bargain Hunt host Tim Wonnacott from the U.K. The weather was cold but no rain and our Chorus busked around the oval for about 2 hours.

A recent weekend train trip on the “Indian Pacific” to Broken Hill, was a highlight for our Chorus. As most of our Members are Pensioners, we decided to utilise our Pensioner Travel Vouchers, and a group of 17 members and 14 partners made the journey.

Of course we all know Barbershoppers love to sing and with a Musical Director named Tony King, no venue was safe!

The Indian Pacific arrived in Adelaide from Perth an hour late, and with a 2 hour stop-over, something was needed to pass the time, so our Chorus entertained with a 30 minute segment, much to the delight of the passengers and staff in the terminal. With further delays en route, who do you think entertained the ‘troupes’ in our carriage during this long journey? – of course, Mr King and his boys!

Fleurieu at the Adelaide Railway Station

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Prior to our trip, we had pre-arranged a Matinee performance at the Broken Hill Musicians Club, and also offered a performance, including a sing-a-long, for the residents of a local Nursing Home.

A bus trip was also organised where special renditions were sung to Jack Absalom in his Gallery, Mrs Hart in Pro Hart’s Gallery, and the Silverton Café where a beautiful lunch was enjoyed. At the famous Silverton Hotel, we found an outside bar, near the beer garden. Just where a Barbershop chorus should sing! The patrons were delighted.

Fleurieu at the Silverton Hotel Bar

Next stop, St Anne’s Nursing Home. (To see the smiles on the resident’s faces, regardless of their age or frailty makes our efforts so rewarding).

A quick change then for our Matinee and a Dinner at the Musicians Club, finishing the night with a Coffee at a local Coffee House where a further 2 hours of melodies graced the venue.

Fleurieu at The Broken Hill Musos Club

Sunday – up early for a departure back to Adelaide. Again the train was an hour late, and as the Broken Hill Railway Station is very small, and with a bitterly cold wind blowing along the platform, the passengers crammed into the Lounge, and the Chorus, along with our “groupies” (wives), filled the Baggage Room, where the Station Master switched on the P.A. system for our dulcet tones to traverse the airwaves across the Station – including the toilets, where some of our Ladies thought they could find ‘relief’ – ---- from their Barbershop mob!

Finally underway, and singing a pre-lunch medley at the request of several passengers, we arrived back in Adelaide at 4 pm. After a final rendition of Goodbye in our Carriage, we departed, tired, hoarse, but very happy.

The reception we received wherever we sang was amazing. No medals were won, no money collected, but the smiles and pleasure we generated was the ultimate reward.

Trevor Modistach
Secretary
There’s churches I’ve been where a checklist of four
In reverence is repeated both in and out the door.
Now I have been thinking, mulling quite a while.
That we need a checklist in our “A cappella” style!

Is your breathing apparatus clear and warmed just right?
Are your vocal chords moistened and whetted through the night?
Do you know your notes and words? Immersed in all your part?
Presenting as the pitch pipe blows? Singing from the heart?

Are you singing notes quite forward or are they caught up in your throat?
With energy and expression? or Are you singing as in rote?
Does your stance allow some flexing, with your feet quite well aligned?
Is your choreographic movement with the chorus well combined?

Are you ringing all those seventh chords and those fifths and thirds?
Is your undulating volume in match with all the words?
Do you worry when a key change comes and your voice just starts to float?
Or do you maintain breath support to “hit” that first sweet note?

Have you filled in the white spaces? Completed every phrase?
Will the expression on your faces catch the audience’s gaze?
Are you sticking to the breathing plan and working as a team?
Are you holding well your mouth shape as your eyes like headlights beam?

Are you listening to the other parts, matching volume and those vowels?
Are you watching close your MD or avoiding those sweet scowls?
Are your eyes and body smiling, to reflect the meaning of the song?
Are you saying to your audience, "Why don’t you come along?"

Costume and make up on before you enter to transition?
Quiet movements to the risers as you settle in position?
Are your windows open clearly as you wait behind the curtain?
Can you contain excitement so your starting note is certain?

Are you suddenly aware your surroundings are all tile?
Your reflection is your audience at which you nod and smile.
Yet you gave a great performance and know through thick and thin.
That the ringing of our special chords will surely bring them in!

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Thank you to Howard Kennedy from Miner Chords in Ipswich for his latest, and very appropriate, poem - ED.
We ask you to **Keep us up to date with your performances** anywhere in Australia so that we can post them on the Events pages on the BHA Website and in the newsletter Calendar. In this way our members can come along to your gig to hear and support you, whether they are at home near you or holidaying in our great brown land.

All BHA members are members of their **Club** and they sing with a Chorus within that Club – so when you are sending us information, ie. Quartet Registration Applications, you will see that there is a line for you to enter your **Club Affiliation** (not the Chorus you sing with). Can you please make sure you enter the correct information for our records.

**BHA Lapel Badges …**

Our new Barbershop Harmony Australia lapel Badges are available and ready to be shipped to you at a bargain price of only $5.00 each.

This is the best time for you and the members of your Club to buy them and wear them proudly for all your friends and colleagues to see. They are sure to arouse curiosity and maybe even attract new members to your Club.

Send your orders to Kevin White, BHA Secretary

**A Fogy Day (In London Town)**

Gershwin/Don Finetti

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*In Harmony* Issue 132— September-October 2012
The Barbershop Harmony Society is pleased to announce the appointment of its new CEO/Executive Director. Twenty-three-year member Martin “Marty” Monson was named to the post after an extensive search process conducted by the Barbershop Harmony Society's Board of Directors and the search firm Genovese, Vanderhoof & Associates. Nearly 60 candidates, many with extensive musical and association management experience, were considered for the position.

Marty is currently president and owner of Visual Communication Advisors, a strategic planning consulting firm. Prior to that, he was vice president of business development for Glowpoint, a telecommunications and teleconferencing company.

“I am honored by the opportunity to serve the Barbershop Harmony Society in this capacity,” Marty said. “I’m eager to get started.” Society staff was informed of the decision on the morning of Friday, July 20. They will meet with the new CEO on Tuesday, July 24.

Marty has been president of the Hilltop, Minn. Chapter (LOL) of the Barbershop Harmony Society for the past five years. His leadership has helped to significantly grow membership and transform the Hilltop chapter (and its Great Northern Union chorus) into one of the Society’s most dynamic organizations. An article about this transformation appears in the November/December 2009 issue of The Harmonizer magazine.

“Marty brings unbridled passion and enthusiasm to this role,” said Alan Lamson, president of the Barbershop Harmony Society and interim CEO. “His ideas for the future, his successes with Great Northern Union, as well as his business successes, gave the Board the confidence that he was the right person at the right time for the Barbershop Harmony Society. We are also excited by his ability to work with staff, committees, the Board and the membership to move us forward."

“The search committee was looking for a strong blend of skills, experiences, energy and vision as demonstrated in business and barbershop,” added Shannon Elswick, Society executive vice president. “Marty’s success at the chapter level is undeniable, his energy is boundless, and he brings a vision that we believe will engage current members and attract new ones. We also believe Marty will use the great resources we have as an organization to broaden and enhance overall awareness of barbershop harmony.”

Marty, his wife, Amy, and their children, Stefany and Luke, will relocate to Nashville, Tenn. in the near future. The newly appointed CEO will meet with the Operations Team and deliver the keynote address at Harmony University on Sunday, July 29. He will officially begin his duties at the Society’s Nashville headquarters on August 13.”
YOUR WEBSITE
Council, Regional and International Barbershop information and contact details as well as application forms, competition results, calendars and much, much more is available on the BHA Website, check it out —

www.barbershop.org.au

YOUR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
• Deadline: 5.30pm EST on 15th day of each odd numbered month – January, March, May, July, September, November
• Length: Articles to be 150—500 words maximum – Verdana 10 pitch, single space.
• All articles will be edited for spelling, grammar and length.
• Please remember to send photos as attachments - not embedded in your article.
• Email your material to secretary@barbershop.org.au

YOUR EVENTS
Promote your Coming Events - send full details for inclusion in the BHA Calendar below and on the BHA Website. This helps Council plan events in your area. Send all your details to secretary@barbershop.org.au

2012
• Sept 17–Oct 22 – Central Coast Barbershop Chorus - 6 week Learn to Sing A Capella 4-part Harmony, 5 week course, 7.00 pm Parkview Room, Central Coast Leagues Club, Dane Drive, Gosford NSW 2250
• Sept 28-30—NZABS Convention, Bruce Mason Centre, North Shore, Auckland NZ www.nzabs.org.nz
• Oct 13—Eastern Region Contest, Barker College Music Centre, 91 Pacific Highway, Hornsby NSW. Details TBA

2013
• Feb 22-24 – Eastern Region Greenhills Workshop, Canberra ACT. Details TBA

In Harmony Issue 132— September-October 2012
• Jun 30-Jul 7 – 75th BHS International Convention, Toronto Ontario, Canada
  75th Anniversary Celebration of the Barbershop Harmony Society

• Oct 9-13— Go for the Gold—BHA 12th National Barbershop Convention, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Road, Perth WA, hosted by Vocal Evolution—followed by...

• Oct 13-15 - Harmony College, Swanleigh Camp and Conference Centre, 58 Yule Ave, Middle Swan WA www.swanleigh.org.au

CHECK THE BHA WEBSITE FOR OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BARBERSHOP EVENTS

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BARBERSHOP HARMONY AUSTRALIA
(A Division of Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers Inc.)
ABN 54 083 784 810

SOUNDWAVES (well, some of them) in action