What's in it for Me?

Well, I'll tell you. This issue of *In Harmony* is absolutely filled with information, education, and inspiration. Your BHA Council, with Secretary Kevin, and his assistant Nerida, Treasurer Trevor, and VPs Ian, Dan, Keith, Richard, and Jonathan put in literally hundreds of hours for YOU. I want to publicly thank them, on your behalf, for everything they do to keep our art form alive and to enhance your experience as a barbershopper. Please read all the great info in their articles, as well as the Club news to see what your fellow barbershoppers are up to.

Council takes very seriously its charter to support and facilitate the desires of each and every one of you. Now you have a chance to tell Council exactly what you want, as a comprehensive survey has been launched to get your personal opinions. This commercial quality survey has been constructed by Membership VP Richard, your Council, and fellow barbershopper Gordon Brockway. The several hundred man-hours it took to complete, like all the work of your Councillors, was done for free........just a love of barbershop, and the desire to make a difference. And now it's your turn. It's vital that you take a little time to fill out the survey. Full details are provided in Richard's article.

The pinnacle of barbershopping Down Under is our great Conventions. They are the envy of Barbershop Affiliate organizations around the World because they literally have something for everyone. And it’s all happening in Perth, in less than a year. Read all the exciting Convention news in VP Events Ian's article, and make sure it's in your schedule.

As dedicated barbershoppers surely every one of you would like to see the best barbershop quartet in the World in live performance, once in your life. But how? You could take a week out of your busy schedule, and fly to Sweden on Qantas for $3,858.00, to see the reigning Gold Medal quartet, *Ringmasters*. Or....... you could go see *Ringmasters* live, in Sydney, Perth or Gold Coast in just a few weeks. The Perth concert is already a sell-out, but there are still seats left for you Eastern Staters. So don't miss out and get your tickets today.

I'll bet every one of you would like to be just a little bit better singer. If so, check out VP Music Dan's article on Music Theory. Does your Club have all the money it can possibly use? If so there's no need to read VP Marketing Keith's article on grant submission, and the success your fellow Clubs are having. And check out Secretary Kevin's article on the importance of registration and the upcoming AGM.

So you can see there's lots of fantastic news for you in this issue of *In Harmony*. Read on, and enjoy!

In Harmony,
Mike Donnelly
President BHA – president@barbershop.org.au

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- Council reports
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Thank you from Benchmark
Poem from Howard Kennedy

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Your Website
Your Newsletter
Articles
Your Events
Greetings to all our Barbershop Harmony Australia members who have registered for the current financial year which commenced on 1 October 2012. Under the existing Standing Orders any members who have not yet re-registered have a “period of grace” until 30 November 2012, during which their membership rights are safeguarded.

However, a word of caution for any members who neglect to renew their membership by 30 November, you will have no right to vote at the coming Annual General Meeting on 6 December 2012. Also, if you have not registered your Club or Quartet they will no longer show on the BHA Website after that date.

The Annual registration fees due to the Association for both Clubs and their members are, under the AAMBS/BHA Constitution, payable by Clubs – It is up to individual Clubs if they choose, as many may do under their own constitution, to fix a total annual Club membership fee or, as some Clubs elect to do, to pass the individual fee due for members on to their members separately.

In my considered opinion, Clubs which have chosen to adopt the latter procedure still have choices available to them. They may seek to augment their annual finances by an extension of the number of income-earning performances during the year, or to give such consideration to accommodate the personal needs of individual Club members who may be experiencing financial difficulties. In the light of our mutual barbershop harmony brotherhood, it seems that consideration might well be given by individual Clubs to meet need in appropriate circumstances where there is merit.

For Clubs and members-at-large who may need to effect instant payment, rather than by mailing a cheque for my attention, you may make payment by Direct Debit Banking. The AAMBS/BHA Westpac bank account details for Direct Deposits are BSB 032 281 A/c No 13 0739. Please ensure you make a note on the deposit as to what the payment is for. That eases the problem of me trying to identify your payment.

And finally, the AGM is almost upon us, and we need to have your careful consideration of the matters to be voted on. Particulars of the special business appear both on the original Notice of Meeting and also on the reverse of each page of the proxy/postal voting papers which have been forwarded to each Club and to every member-at-large.

Just ... Keep the whole world singing.

Kevin White
Secretary BHA
secretary@barbershop.org.au
PERTH CONVENTION DETAILS RELEASED

Details for the Perth Convention have recently been released and can now be found on the BHA website at http://barbershop.org.au/perth-2013/. The Convention will run from 9-13 October 2013, and will be followed by a Harmony College from 13-16 October 2013.

The Perth committee has been working extremely hard on producing an innovative and inviting schedule for delegates, and we hope as many of you as possible will travel across the Nullarbor to visit the beautiful city of Perth. At that time of year the weather is generally glorious, and there are plenty of things to do including seeing the wildflowers, playing golf on Perth’s famously fantastic courses, sampling wines and food in Margaret River or the Swan Valley, cruising on the Swan River, or visiting the famous tall timber areas.

A feature of both events next year will be the attendance of TWO International quartets (instead of the usual one); Musical Island Boys from New Zealand (twice International silver medallists) and Lunch Break (top 10 International comedy quartet and BHS educators). Having two top quality quartets means TWICE the FUN!

A preliminary schedule has been produced and can be viewed on the website. It will also be published in the forthcoming Convention newsletter #2. In summary there will be 4 days of barbershop fun and camaraderie to cater for all members.

Wednesday 9 October Youth Workshop Day, John Little Show
Thursday 10 October Youth/Schools Contest, Massed Sing, Chorus Corral, Welcome Dinner
Friday 11 October Quartet Semi-finals, Quartet Final, Mixed Harmony Showcase, Afterglow
Saturday 12 October Chorus Contest, Grand Showcase Concert, Afterglow
Sunday 13 October BHA Forum, Church Service, Farewell Lunch, Depart for Harmony College

Three new and innovative events have been introduced for 2013 (highlighted above):

The John Little Show honours our first AAMBS President who sadly passed away this year. He was a great entertainer and this show is for all quartets who want to perform in an unofficial and relaxed atmosphere (like an Afterglow but before the contest), just like John used to love doing.

The Chorus Corral offers the same opportunity for choruses to “strut their stuff” in a non-contest setting. It gives choruses a chance to perform more than “just 2 songs”. Preference will be given to small and non-medallist choruses and offers a fun-filled 2 hour show.

The Mixed Harmony Showcase is for mixed quartets and ensembles to perform in a relaxed afterglow style setting, even though our rules prevent them from officially taking part. BHA is all about encouraging singing in the barbershop and a cappella styles, and even though we don’t have an “official” place for mixed groups, the Council wants to be as inclusive as possible.

Online registrations for the Perth 2013 Convention and accommodation options will be available very soon. In addition there will be the biggest Harmony Marketplace ever held at a BHA Convention, including BHS merchandise (imported from the USA), new generic
BHA merchandise and the usual Convention type merchandise (polo shirts, caps, coffee mugs etc.). In addition there will be a number of local vendors selling their music-related wares, and there will be a Convention DVD produced.

Rehearsal space for choruses will also be made available on an “at-cost” basis, which will include rooms fully equipped with chorus risers. There will also be a range of tours available for those interested in sampling the delights of Perth. Details of all these events will be available shortly on the Convention website.

**HARMONY COLLEGE**

Harmony College will run from Sunday evening 13 October to Wednesday 16 October. The venue will be the Swanleigh Camp & Conference Centre situated in the beautiful Swan Valley, 45 minutes north of the Perth CBD. Bus transport will be provided for attendees from the Convention venue after the Farewell Lunch, with return buses to Perth airport and Perth CBD at the close of Harmony College at lunchtime on Wednesday 16 October.

The educational faculty will include members of *Lunch Break* quartet, including Mike O’Neill, Director of Education for BHS, Matt Gifford from *Musical Island Boys*, and the visiting BHS Judges (usually top educators as well). All members of the *Lunch Break* quartet are regarded as top BHS educators, so this Harmony College is going to be one NOT to be MISSED!

Online registration for Harmony College will be available very soon.

**RINGMASTERS CONCERTS**

We are very excited to be the first affiliate organisation to be bringing you the newly crowned 2012 and first affiliate International Champion Quartet, *Ringmasters* from Sweden. They will be performing three concerts at various locations around Australia - Sydney, Perth and Gold Coast. These will be concerts not to be missed! Unfortunately time did not allow a more extensive tour, so if there isn’t a concert being held in your city we really do recommend you seriously consider travelling to one. It will be well worth it!

Dates are: Sydney, 12 December - Perth 15 December* - Gold Coast 17 December.

**REGIONAL CONTESTS 2013**

The following dates for Regional contests (which are qualifying contests for Open and Senior quartets for the Perth 2013 National Contest) have been confirmed:

- **Sunshine Region**: 27-28 April 2013
- **Eastern Region**: 4 May 2013
- **Western Region**: 11 May 2013
- **Victorian Region**: TBA
- **Tasmanian Region**: TBA

All in all, a busy year ahead for all of us! Enjoy your singing and good barbershopping!

* Sold out

*Ian Mulholland*

VP Events - BHA

events@barbershop.org.au
The Ringmasters in Australia
Guys, we’ve been promoting grants as a possible revenue generator for your Club, and I’m pleased to report that some Clubs have taken this on board and not just applied for grants, but had some success...!!! Questions remain for some Clubs however, how do we do this, what’s the process and what do we need to address internally to ensure we’re eligible?

Well one of our members has some expertise in this area and has been instrumental in Canberra Chordsmen recently obtaining a grant of around $20,000. They’d never done this before and didn’t know how to go about it. Want to know how they did it?

Reg Raghavan (now with Sydney Harmony), was at that time in Canberra and he helped them. Here are some guidelines he’s put together that might help you and your Club:

“There are so many opportunities out there, and any effort to fundraise should be in line with your Club’s vision, mission, goals etc. Otherwise it’s a short term stunt and your club will be on grant drip feeds. For example, if Aboriginal Cultural engagement is a part of the Club’s overall mission and goals, then those grants should be pursued, but not otherwise. Otherwise it could be tokenistic for the community and not sustainable for the Club as people come in and come out of roles. It also means it’s hard to leverage larger funding (anything beyond 5-10k) because it’s likely to be a one off activity.

If grant activities are in line with the Clubs vision/mission/goals etc, then in year 1 you can pick up a small grant for 5K or 10K and then the next year you can go for the 20s and 50s and the following year 100, etc. Because each activity builds on the other and funders see the logical flow of funding.

I work by the following ideas/rules/values -

1) There is a lot of money available for organisations seeking financial support, but applying for and accessing them requires 3-6 months of strategic preparation.

2) Grants are hard work, so the more strategically prepared you are before applying for the grant:
   a) the less burnt out your grants manager will be
   b) the higher chance of success
   c) the higher the amount of money received
   d) easy for new people to pick up the role of grants manager as roles within the organisation change
   e) the better relationship you will build with the funder
   f) the greater chance of achieving organisational goals
3) Organisations should take a 3 year approach to grant funding (to maximise grant monies received in year 1)

4) Strategies and programs should be designed in a way to incorporate not only government funding, but corporate support too. Corporate support is ideal, as the reporting is often less time consuming

5) The whole organisation needs to support any programs designed, otherwise the delivery of the program will be sub-standard and this can affect future commitment from funders

My recommendation is the following process:

A) Run a strategic planning session (3 year focus)

B) Get the whole of your organisation to buy in to the vision, mission, goals, strategies

C) Establish expected expenses in order to achieve the goals

D) Document the organisational 'story'/identity and public reach through current calendar of events

E) Identify funding sources in line with the story and priority areas

F) Apply for funding using the story and include organisational planning information

G) Relentlessly meet with potential funding sources and develop media releases and maximize PR

H) “Don’t stop till you get enough”

\emph{Hope this helps, but if you need more assistance, let me know...!}

\textbf{Please contact me anytime at: marketing@barbershop.org.au}

\textit{Keith Thornton}  
\textit{VP Marketing & Development – BHA}  
marketing@barbershop.org.au

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\textbf{Editor’s Notes – }

1. For further information on grants and how they did it, read Canberra Chordsmen’s report on Page 12 of this edition.

2. A big THANK YOU to all the members of your BHA Council and Club Executives who volunteer their services and put in hours of their own time on your behalf in their various portfolios and for their dedication to Barbershopping in Australia. We couldn’t exist without them.
Hi all and happy movember.

The big membership news this edition is the national survey. By now you will have received an email from your Club secretary with a link, or a PDF for those who prefer.

IMPORTANT: the initial email from BHA Secretary Kevin White, that your club secretary will have forwarded to you, has an "email gremlin" in it. The "2" at the end of the hotlink was dropped down onto the next line. Apologies if this caused you confusion. Please refer to the second email. The correct link is:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Barbershop_Harmony_Australia_Member_Survey_2012

The survey is now open for you to fill out and will close on 7 December. Council will then immediately begin analysing the results, with a summary of results included in the next issue of In Harmony.

Please take the time to complete the survey as this is important information for Council to manage barbershop in Australia. We anticipate around 30 or 40 minutes, however in the few days since its release, members have taken anywhere between 15 minutes and an hour to complete the survey. So please be aware when you sit down that it's going to take some time. Remember that you can save it and return to it later if you wish.

Let me assure you, however, that Council will read every single reply. We really do want to hear from members on the issues covered.

The previous (and only other) AAMBS/BHA survey was in 2005. So it has been 7 years since then and we are well and truly ready for some more detailed member input. Feedback from the survey will be a great help to Council as we consider many important issues such as whether to move to annual conventions, what type of coaching to provide, what sort of events to run, and generally how to try to maximize your enjoyment as a barbersopper and member of BHA.

Other priorities for me as BHA Membership VP are to provide more material for the membership page of the web site, write a "Benefits of BHA membership flier" for potentially new as well as existing members, design templates for recruitment fliers and chorus welcome packs.

If you have any ideas in relation to recruitment of new members or increased enjoyment of existing members, I’d love to hear from you. The more we can share our experiences, the less we each have to reinvent the wheel.

Speaking of learning from each other, look out for an article in this edition from the Canberra Chordsmen about their successful grant application process. Applying for grants is something that most of us are interested in but it can be a complicated process. Thanks to Ben Jongsma for providing us with his experience in this regard. If you have similar stories that you think other choruses might benefit from hearing, send them through to me.

Lastly, for those of you who live in or near the Gold Coast, Sydney or Perth, I highly encourage you to attend the Ringmasters concert in mid-December. We are incredibly lucky that the current International Champion Quartet is available for a short tour of Australia to entertain and inspire us. I’m sure all of you who do attend will make them feel warmly welcome.

Happy mo growing/ supporting, and keep the whole world singing.

Richard Reeve – VP Membership BHA

membership@barbershop.org - 0411 519 852

In Harmony Issue 133—November-December 2012
So, what on earth do all those dots mean?!?!

Well, I'm glad you asked!

We know that not everyone reads music. Many accomplished barbershoppers aren't professional musicians. And we don't expect you to be.

However, one thing that will definitely make your barbershop journey more enjoyable is the ability to be able to basically navigate your way around a piece of music.

In the next few editions of *In Harmony*, we will be running a series of articles designed to help the everyday barbershopper understand the basics of music theory, and hopefully to make all those dots and lines a bit less intimidating.

So, let's get started with the basics!

**Part 1: Musical symbol recognition, Note names, Clefs**

Music is notated using a system of lines and spaces referred to as a **staff** (below).

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Notes names are identified using the first seven letters of the alphabet: A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

Different symbols, called **clefs**, are placed on the staff. Barbershop harmony uses the treble and bass clefs. The tenor and lead use the treble clef while the bass and baritone use the bass clef.

*Note that the treble clef has a small eight at the very bottom of the clef- we'll get to that later.

Bass clef

Treble clef

Both the treble and bass clefs have different names assigned to their lines and spaces. Looking solely at the lines in the treble clef:

```
\[ E \quad G \quad B \quad D \quad F \]
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And the spaces:

Mnemonics
As this can be a lot to have to remember right at once, a mnemonic can be very helpful in identifying and remembering the note names of the lines and spaces of the treble clef. Though a simple sentence like “Every Good Boy Deserves Fruit” will work, a more ridiculous phrase, is more likely to stick. Try out “Even George Bush Drives Fast,” or “Elvis’s Guitar Broke Down Friday,” or make one of your own.

The easy way to remember the spaces of the treble clef is the simple word it spells: Face. Again, a ridiculous phrase like “Fat Albert Can Eat” can even be helpful here. Devising a personal way to remember the note names is essential to building a musical knowledge base.

The lines in the bass clef are:

Again using the same concepts of mnemonics, try out “Great, Big Dogs Fight Animals” or “Grizzly Bears Don’t Fly Airplanes”

For the spaces in the bass clef:

A mnemonic for this could be “All Cows Eat Grass”.

The Grand Staff

Barbershop sheet music is displayed using the grand staff, which is essentially the treble and bass clefs stacked atop one another and attached at the left hand margin with a bracket. The bracket is to reduce confusion when multiple great staves, called systems, are shown on the same page.

Ledger Lines
Some songs will go both higher and lower than the treble/bass clef allow. Notes can be written off the staff, written using ledger lines. These notes, less common, are added to the staff by lines and are named, logically, by using the next letter in the musical alphabet. Here are some examples of ledger lines on both the upper and lower end of the clefs.
Ledger lines can go far above and below these listed. The notes would simply follow the pattern of the musical alphabet. The treble clef’s upper ledger lines, for example, would continue from C and read D, E, F, G, A, B, C; although the C two ledger lines above the clef is certainly high enough for barbershop tenor to sing!

**Treble clef ‘8’ detail**

It is very important to note the treble clef barbershop singers use has an eight below it. This is to notate that everything the lead and tenor sing is actually one octave below the written notes. The treble clef, also called the G clef, is a clef generally reserved for soprano and alto singers (and for violins, oboes, and other higher voiced instruments). Thus, a note sung at the bottom of the lead’s range (or the C in the treble clef) will actually sound like the C on the second space in the bass clef (see example).

*Sweet Adeline International (SAI) is the female counterpart to the Barbershop Harmony Society. Sweet Adeline music notation uses the octave 8 as well, but it is placed above the bass clef to indicate all notes sound one octave higher. These two octave clefs are used to make reading the music easier. Without them many ledger lines would be needed to notate the music.*

Dan Millgate  
VP Music BHA  
music@barbershop.org.au

Next edition: Rhythm Basics
No Borders Youth Chorus

Congratulations must go to three of our society’s young men who have successfully auditioned into the No Borders Youth Chorus and will perform in Carnegie Hall, New York, on the 26th December this year!

Jonathan Albertini - Blenders
Kieran O’Dea - Festival Statesmen Youth Chorus
Ryan O’Dea – Festival Statesmen Youth Chorus

It’s great to see the opportunities like this that are available to our members!
Great effort guys!

Recruitment

Do you know of an existing school group that sings barbershop harmony?

It’s actually quite surprising to hear of the number of school groups in existence that are having a crack at singing in the barbershop style. They often don’t realise that there are entire organisations of like-minded men and women in Australia!

This is where you come in.

If you know of any groups or individuals who you think could use some support or access to educational resources, then the BHA youth team would love to know about it!

We are here to do everything we can to foster this great hobby of ours.

Not sure how to approach them? Want some support?

Just shoot me an email or contact your local youth rep!

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

Jonathan Bligh
VP Youth Development BHA
youth@barbershop.org.au

Music Quotes

"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent”
— Victor Hugo

“If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music.”
— Albert Einstein
Thanks from Benchmark

Here are the lovely comments received by your BHA Council from our wonderful Senior Gold Medal Quartet, Benchmark, after BHA nominated them and they were accepted to compete in the BHS Mid-Winter International Convention in Orlando in January 2013…..

"Hi Mike and Distinguished BHA Committee,

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel right now for the tremendous support you all have given Benchmark over the years. On behalf of Benchmark thank you so much for your support again. We just love our barbershop craft and feel so honoured to be given such an opportunity to spread this wonderful craft of ours across the country and the world.

We are excited about Orlando and committed to giving it our best shot which started last night at rehearsal. We are also so proud to be representing such a strong BHA organisation and all our fellow barber-shoppers throughout Australia.

Thanks again.

In Harmony,
Ray”

Benchmark in full flight – Paul Roussell, Derek Cosburn, Ray Smyth & Mark Penman

Note: Make a note in your diaries that Benchmark is competing on 12 January 2013 – check the Events page on the BHA Website - www.barbershop.org.au

Barbershop in Sections

by Howard Kennedy, “The Miner Chords” Ipswich

**Section 1** : the basses - the foundation of chords,

**Section 2** : the leads - the sharp and sweet melody “swords.”

**Section 3** : the tenors - the melodic high overtones,

**Section 4** : the "baris" - the chords high and low “bones.”

**Section 5** : the support group who give much more than a song,

**Section 6** : the elder Statesmen who help keep us strong!

**Section 7** : past members , now in barbershop heaven.

Sponsors and supporters -- **Sections 8 through 11**
Greater Melbourne is a sprawling city with some suburbs over 40 kilometres from the city centre. The Melbournaires Harmony Chorus rehearses in the north eastern suburb of East Doncaster, and that's a long way to travel if you're a keen barbershop singer living in the southern suburbs.

Assisted by the newly created BHA Victorian Regional Board, the Melbournaires recently established an out-posted chapter on the Mornington Peninsular that separates the Port Phillip and Westernport Bays. The "Between the Bays" group rehearses near Frankston at Langwarrin, where it shares a venue with The Southern Sounds chapter of The Sweet Adelines.

To kick it off, the Melbournaires' music team ran a four session "Sing in Harmony" course, which seeded a lot of local interest, some of which translated into the formation of a potential new chorus with regular attendance of a core group of 8 singers, led by Melbournaires assistant MD John Webb. It's a small beginning, but it is anticipated that, if nurtured, the seed will grow.

On 22nd October, as part of Seniors Week, we hosted members of the public at a Melbournaires' rehearsal evening. Although the attendance was down on a similar event last year, the evening provided excellent entertainment for an enthusiastic bunch of seniors, and others, who also enjoyed the camaraderie over tea and biscuits at the end of the night.

A few notable achievements:

Our MD, Ian Lushey, after having recently endured intensive treatment for a cancer, completed the 200 kilometre bicycle "Ride to Conquer Cancer" from Albert Park to Healesville and return. This was a commitment Ian had made long before the cancer emerged, and is a mark of the man for keeping it.

Our illustrious quarter-master, Paul Newham, received his 15 year badge. That too shows commitment, as he keeps the troops in order every Monday night.

Finally Alan Bishop received his assistant MD's badge at long last. Alan has held the position for some time, and forms a triumvirate of assistant MD's with John Webb and Tim Carolan.

The Melbournaires wish all barbershoppers and their families a joyous Christmas and harmonious New Year.

_Terry Phillips_
Having settled back to normal after our fantastic trip to Broken Hill with The Fleurieu Harmony we have been working on a couple of new songs for our repertoire for next year. We have signed up a new member and keep trying to recruit more, the problem is that in our area there is so much competition, we have a male voice choir, a choral and arts society and an abundance of service clubs and a brass band so all we can do is just keep trying. We have done a few singouts on our own and combined ones with Fleurieu Harmony, we raised $184.00 for Leukaemia Research at the local market, not bad for 1-1/2 hrs.

Last weekend we entered a local talent quest “The Fleurieu’s Got Talent” and won through to the final in February which was very rewarding and we hopefully may have recruited another singer.

We wish the Executive and all our fellow barbershoppers a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous, Healthy and Harmonious New Year, with special thoughts going out to our ex-President and all those suffering ill health.

Gordon Tomlinson
Secretary, Southcoast Barbershop Singers

Riverland Ramblers renames its Chorus

At our recent AGM the chorus voted to change our performance name from the somewhat clunky Penrith City Harmony Chorus to the more sexy Penrith Harmony! Hope our website doesn’t get any hits from people thinking we’re a dating agency!

We’ve had a busy year with lots of singouts including a shaky performance at the Eastern Region Competition where we received constructive feedback if not high marks. Still, it was a good measuring stick for Convention year 2013. We are hoping to be able to compete in Perth but at this stage are not guaranteed the dozen singers needed to meet the small chorus requirements.

Some of our highlights this year have included a well-received performance at the Blackheath Festival of Choirs, the Leura Garden Festival and our own concert “Fun, Fun, Fun” which had us sharing the stage with a number of other local musical performers. Another high point was being invited to perform at the wedding of our music director, Peter Fragar to his bride Robyn. We sang our most romantic songs!

We’ve been busy fundraising with a Bunnings sausage sizzle which was a good money spinner, despite clothes and hair full of splattered grease! We also have a sponsor, the Penrith Homemakers Centre for whom we have scheduled a number of Christmas singouts, and we have been invited to perform at Penrith’s major Carols by Candlelight on December 16th.

Wishing fellow singers a happy and musical Christmas

Paul Ryan
Secretary

In Harmony Issue 133—November-December 2012
This was all made possible when a certain individual named Reg Raghavan joined our chorus in 2011 however I believe it started long before that. All of the hard work, devotion and passion from me and all my fellow Club members over the past 3 years had really turned around an ailing club with low membership numbers and a high average age, to a rejuvenated Club with (at the time) 14 members many of which were below the age of 30 and even below 25. Reg is close mates with Rob Sequeira (MD of Soundwaves Chorus) and they went together to first check out Barbershop at a Penninsularies rehearsal in California USA. Reg was living in Canberra in 2011 and naturally he came and checked out the local Club. He then joined us on our journey to the Convention that year. He learnt his comp songs in a few months and switched parts in between earning him the nickname The Regend. To our dismay The Regend moved back to Sydney shortly after but he took an affinity to our Club and when we met up again at the Eastern Region Education Workshop weekend at Greenhills, he said to us that he recognised that our Club has a great story to tell and that there are ample opportunities for government and corporate funding.

Reg is the owner/CEO of Red Elephant Projects, a consultancy that helps develop organisations and assists with such things as fund raising. I remember Reg telling me at Greenhills, "First you must lay out your organisation's vision. For now forget about money, forget about goals such as winning gold. Your vision encompasses everything your club works towards and conversely, everything you invest your time and money in relates back to your vision. "Many hours since then have been spent on workshopping this along with mission statements, goals, strategic direction etc. with our whole Club as it is important that as many members as possible have buy in and ownership. I won’t go into detail but just to give you the vision we came up with was:

**Enrich the lives of people in the Australian Capital Territory through the benefits of close-harmony a cappella singing and performance.**

These organisational elements should first be in place before you start applying for funding as the words you come up with are what are looked for by potential sponsors. It shows signs of clear direction amongst other things. We then set about monitoring government websites for funding grant sponsorship rounds and have since submitted three applications. One was unsuccessful but then we received the awesome news on 19 July that the second was successful! Then again on 14 September another letter informed us that we had partial success with the third! This further concreted Reg's nickname.

The first successful grant provides us with $20,000 over one year and it is titled ACT Health Promotion Sponsorship Funding Round. There were a number of grants available in this round for different campaigns/messages. The one we applied for was the 'Tap into water everyday' message which is basically about promoting the health benefits of drinking water, in particular ACT tap water.

Our second successful grant is through the Seniors Grant and Sponsorship Program which will see us performing and entertaining at aged care centres around the ACT for a partial funding of $6,000. There is much work to do now for our sponsors but this will mean our Club can invest in raising our standard and quality which will in turn allow us to be more effective in spreading the health message of our sponsors and in turn of course enrich the lives of people in the Australian Capital Territory through the benefits of close-harmony a cappella singing and performance.

My message to other Choruses is always strive to raise the standard and quality of your Club but above all love what you do, create a fun loving, welcoming environment and focus on your people and membership. Great opportunities are created this way whenever a new person comes and checks your Club out in that if they like the group of people, they most likely will join and offer their skills and expertise to help out. We highly recommend Red Elephant Projects as a consultancy and their website is redelephantprojects.com if you’d like to get in touch with them.

**Ben Jongsma**

President - CanberraChordsmen.org.au
New MD for Sunshine Statesmen

The Sunshine Statesmen Barbershop Chorus is proud to announce the appointment of Carole Locke as their new Musical Director.

Carole replaces Karina Gough who was the MD for the last 2 years, and did a wonderful job of bringing the chorus up to a high standard.

Carole’s involvement with music began at the age of 5 when she started piano lessons. Singing lessons followed at the age of 11, and both these activities have played a major part in her life ever since.

Carole has been involved in a cappella singing for over thirty-five years. In the early nineteen-seventies, Carole and her family moved from her birthplace, Liverpool, to Devon in the southwest of England. Carole joined the local ladies a cappella group, The Chordettes, and within a few months, she was asked to become their musical director.

The Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers (LABBS) was formed in 1976, with The Chordettes as one of the founding choruses. In 1992 Carole took her chorus to the gold medal spot at the LABBS annual convention, and this resulted in their representing the UK at an international convention in the USA the following year. She continued as The Chordettes’ musical director until 1996 when her husband’s career took them to Belgium.

She is well known in Europe as a vocal coach for barbershop choruses and quartets, and has also coached and directed many other a cappella groups and solo singers in the UK, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, and now Australia. For several years she was the musical director of the Sunshine Coast Harmony Chorus chapter of the Sweet Adelines International a cappella singing organisation. The chorus is now the well-known and respected group Hot Ginger.

In 2008 Carole was a member of the a cappella quartet, 'Quintessence’, which won the Sunshine Coast Region’s Senior Superstar competition.

Welcome Carole!

John Bower
Publicity
I always thought that it is supposed to be quieter in winter with the weather, especially up here on the Great Dividing Range with the wind travelling straight from Antarctica to keep us indoors. But, not so.

Our chorus has had a multitude of gigs and also we competed at the Sunshine Regional competition on the Tweed Coast. Unfortunately we didn’t hold our coveted mid-sized chorus trophy. We were beaten by two extremely good outfits from the Gold Coast.

However, we are basking in the glow that comes after a particularly successful Singing Restaurant. Once again held at Downlands College and attended by over 240 enthusiastic members of not only the barbershop world but, many members of the public that really appreciated the singing, waiting skills and general good fellowship that we provided.

Our newest quartet Vocal Fire, formed just weeks before the event, wowed the audience and made us especially proud as our first competing youth quartet. They came third in their first contest at the Tweed. And they have already indicated that they will be competing in Perth next year.

Brett Logan of Singfest fame came to the Singing Restaurant and we must have done something right because he asked us to appear at the Ringmasters concert on the Gold Coast in December. Naturally we are now polishing up a number of our show stoppers and cannot wait to be part of the show with the world champions.

As is usual in choruses at this time of year we had our annual general meeting and elected a fine body of men to try to run our organisation for the coming year. And of course we are dusting off Christmas carols and working hard on a couple of new ones for the forthcoming festive period.

Our gig master, Russ, is tearing his hair out trying to fit us into slots so as to please everyone.

Then we are looking forward to a few weeks off and before you know it Australia Day is upon us and we start all over again ... doing what we love best, entertaining Australians in the barbershop style.

Paddy Boxall
Secretary
Sound Connection is thrilled at our success at the recent 2012 SingFest and BHA Sunshine Region Convention.

We extend our congratulations to all medallists and our appreciation of all those who participated in what has become a landmark event in our Region.

In particular, we wish to publicly acknowledge the hard work of the SingFest organizing committee especially Convenor Brett Logan and his family, and that of the host choruses the Blenders and Voiceweavers. It is a testament to their leadership and to the strength of the barbershop and general a cappella fraternities in the Sunshine Region that the event was so well attended.

It was wonderful to be able to catch up with old friends and acquaintances and to make new ones in a vibrantly diverse a cappella music community.

Naturally Sound Connection has been extremely busy since then but here are some of the highlights.

We performed at our current home at Livingstone Christian College on 13 October where we were asked to provide entertainment at their School Fair. It was a great day out and along with the chance to showcase our music we were able to give something back to the College.

Our much anticipated website went live in early October, courtesy of our very own Mark Virtue and Virtual Creations. Mrs Jeannie Hattendorff and President David also put in an enormous amount of time and effort into the design and look of the website. We're proud of the result and we'd like all the readers of In Harmony to stop by and have a look - soundconnection.com.au.

We were recently blessed to have legendary US vocal coach Kim Vaughn come and work some of her magic on our sound. Having heard something of her exacting standards, I think it is fair to say there were some initial trepidations but it was wonderful to see the guys lift their game and respond to each of her “suggestions”. By evening's end everyone had that buzz which only comes with a killer rehearsal and we thank Kim and her husband Dale for spending so much time with us.

At the time of writing this article we're deep into preparations for two major events.

The weekend of 23-24 November will see our first ever Show in conjunction with Sweet Adelines Chorus Vocalesce. Our choruses and quartets will get the chance to strut their stuff at the Sanctuary Cove Village Theatre where we hope to be able to reach out and appeal to more non barbershoppers. Ticket details are available on soundconnection.com.au.

The other major event is the Vocal Vibes a cappella Concert featuring Ringmasters and Benchmark on Monday 17 December at Southport Sharks. We look forward to sharing a stage with, and to seeing as many of our fellow barbershoppers as possible at this very special concert. The prospect of seeing International Champions such as Ringmasters up close and personal is hugely exciting and some of us (Treasurer Trevor) can barely contain themselves.

These projects have seen us further develop our contacts with other barbershop choruses both within BHA and the Sweet Adelines, something we wish to continue. In an ever more competitive world, I personally find the co-operative spirit of the barbershop fraternity to be one of its most endearing qualities and Sound Connection is committed to ensuring that spirit endures.

Finally, as we go into the Festive Season, Sound Connection would like to wish our brothers and sisters in the barbershop world a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2013.

Lloyd Wong
Secretary

In Harmony Issue 133—November-December 2012
The past two months have, as usual, been very busy for Vocal Evolution.

We have performed at a number of events recently, most notably at the Perth Harmony Chorus show Up, up and away, where we were featured performers, and more recently at the St Barts’ fundraising evening. We were thrilled to be invited to perform at the St. Barts’ event which was a fundraiser for their incredible work with the homeless community in WA. This event managed to raise about $20,000 for this worthy cause.

Of note is also Vocal Evolution’s recent acquisition of their new set of risers. Thanks to a generous grant from Lotterywest and tireless work from our president, Dan Millgate, we have just welcomed our new set of Wenger Signature risers and look forward to sharing these with you all at the 12th BHA convention in October next year.

Vocal Evolution is once again participating in the annual Movember fundraising event. We are thrilled to have 16 of our members donating their hair follicles to this cause by growing moustaches throughout the month of November to raise awareness and funds for the Prostate Cancer Foundation and Men's mental health initiatives. We call upon all BHA members to kindly dig deep and donate to this worthy cause. Donations can be made to either the team or any of the members by visiting http://au.movember.com and searching for Vocal Mo-Volution.

We are very proud to announce that by the time this goes to print, four of our members, singing as the quartet TLA, will have performed the Australian National Anthem at the first home game of the Perth Wildcats basketball team this season at the new Perth Arena in front of over 12,000 people. The quartet were the winners in a competition with over 60 other singers for this high honour. This is a great way to expose the public to barbershop and was warmly received by the crowd. Well done, boys.

We have begun our preparation for the festive season adding four new Christmas songs to our repertoire. We will soon begin our annual season of performances at the Karrinyup Shopping Centre and look forward to spreading the Christmas cheer to the passers-by as they shop. Speaking of Christmas, now is the time to plan your music for the festive season. Why not visit our website and purchase your copy of Christmas, packed full with all of your favourite Christmas carols and songs?

It would be remiss not to mention that we are champing at the bit to welcome the current BHS international Champion quartet Ringmasters to our fair city for a sold-out one-night-only, not to be missed event. This stellar quartet will be supported by SAI Region 34 champions Hijinx, BHA and Pan Pacific Champion quartet Alliance and BHA and Pan Pacific chorus champions Vocal Evolution.

We at Vocal Evolution love visitors and welcome any BHA members to come and see us on a Monday night if ever you are passing through. For more details, please visit our website and don’t forget to ‘like’ us on Facebook!

Trevor Anderson
VP Marketing
The last month has been a busy one for the Festival Statesmen Youth Chorus, with many of our members being involved in a successful production of *Les Miserables*.

On the 16th October we held our AGM at our usual rehearsal space and elected our new Leadership Team; congratulations to our incoming president; Aaron Vinall, and new general committee members; Tracy Neldner, Joshua Penley, and Ian Handley. On behalf of the chorus I’d also like to sincerely thank outgoing President and former Secretary, Anne O’Dea, for her hard work and support of FSYC over the last 4 years.

A recent highlight for us was the opportunity to perform for the Kodaly Association of Australia at their National Convention dinner. We received a standing ovation on the night led by Australian music education advocate, and current Director of the Victorian Opera, Richard Gill.

Along with our performances we have welcomed 4 new members to our chorus, bringing our number on the risers up to 30, and we are actively recruiting to have even more by Perth 2013!

In和谐
Kieran O’Dea
Membership Officer

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- If you take an Oriental person and spin him around – does he become disoriented?
- If infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
- If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen are defrocked does it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked and dry cleaners depressed?
- If a pig loses its voice is it disgruntled?

And have you ever imagined a world without hypothetical situations?
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, 1.15 spacing.
- 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 other Clubs and Council plan events in your Region. Send all your details to secretary@barbershop.org.au

2012

- Dec 6 – Barbershop Harmony Australia Annual General Meeting – 6.30pm WAST, The Wembley Downs Uniting Church, Cnr Minibah Street and Calais Road, Wembley Downs WA

- Dec 12 – Ringmasters In Concert, with 2012 BHA Eastern Region Chorus champions - Sydney Harmony, BHA Eastern Region Quartet champions - Zoom; 2012 SAI Australian National Champions - Endeavour Harmony Chorus, 2011 SAI Australian National Champions Circular Keys Chorus and a combined Barbershop Harmony Australia chorus, at Verbrugghen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Cnr Bridge & Macquarie Streets Sydney 2000. Tickets $39.00 each ($29.00 concessions) from www.trybooking.com

- Dec 15 – An Evening with Ringmasters - Fly By Night Musicians Club, 1 Holdsworth Street, (entry via Perry Street) Fremantle WA. Plus Vocal Evolution 2011 Australian National Gold Medal Chorus, Alliance 2011 Australian National Gold Medal Open Quartet and HiJinx, Sweet Adelines 2012 Gold Medal Quartet. Doors open at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start. Tickets - $30.00 each from 08 9431 5976. www.flybynight.org

2013


- Jan 18-30 – **Midwinter Convention in Orlando, Florida** – 8.00 pm Thursday 10.1.2013 – Kick-off Show featuring medallist quartets
  - Friday 11.1.2013 – Youth Chorus Festival Day
  - Saturday 12.1.2013 – International Seniors Quartet Championship (afternoon)
  - 8.00 pm Show of Champions

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

- Apr 27-28 – **Sunshine Region Contest** – Details TBA

- May 4 – **Eastern Region Contest** – Barker College, Hornsby NSW

- May 11 – **Western Region Contest** – Details TBA

- Jun 30-Jul 7 – **75th BHS International Convention**, Toronto Ontario, Canada 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Barbershop Harmony Society

- Oct 9-13— **Perth 2013**—BHA 12th National Barbershop Convention, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Road, Perth WA, hosted by Vocal Evolution—followed by...


2014

- Aug 10-17 – **2014 PanPacific Barbershop Convention, Wellington, New Zealand**
  - 10-12 – Australasian Judges’ School
  - 12-13 – Young Singers In Harmony, National Finals

- Aug 17-20 – **Harmony College** at Waikanae NZ

CHECK THE BHA WEBSITE FOR OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BARBERSHOP EVENTS

All enquiries to:
The Secretary
Barbershop Harmony Australia
P O Box 6026
West Gosford NSW 2250
Phone: 02 4369 8369
Fax: 02 4369 8379
E-mail: [secretary@barbershop.org.au](mailto:secretary@barbershop.org.au)

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

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