LATE FLASH!

Hundreds of man-hours have already gone in to making the Perth Convention an amazing event for you, with something for everyone – (See VP Events Ian Mulholland’s info on the Convention, and the Early Bird Registration incentives). With the musical artistry and inspiration of the Musical Island Boys, and the hilarious routines of Lunch Break - it doesn't get any better than this. Don't miss out – sign up now!

Can We Have it Both Ways?

Can we focus on competition and winning medals and becoming a top level chorus or quartet? Or can we have great fellowship, sing well, and entertain all levels of appreciative audiences? Yes – we can do both – and in one chorus!!

Too often I hear barbershoppers implying these admirable goals are mutually exclusive. But nothing could be further from the truth. In America even the medallist choruses, who work tirelessly to reach the extreme heights of barbershop perfection, are also the same choruses with a reputation for "family first", camaraderie, and performing at a wide range of paid and unpaid events. We certainly have that in Australia too.

Bear in mind that in every chorus there are a wide range of musical abilities. For those at the top, patience and a helpful attitude toward those of lesser ability is needed. And for those at the other end, a firm dedication to improve, and a solid work ethic are needed. In every team, whether it’s sports or music, or any other form of group performance, the output is greater than the sum of the individuals. We must all be true team players to get the most out of barbershopping, for ourselves, and more importantly for those with whom we share this great art form.

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

Information available on BHA Website

I continue to receive queries about membership and other information which is easily available to all members and Club Executives on our BHA Website – www.barbershop.org.au at all hours of the day and night. It would be much easier and quicker for you to check the Website for information rather than spending time sending email queries to me, as BHA Secretary, and waiting for my reply.

• If you go to Membership - you can find current membership fee details
• If you go to Quartets - if your quartet is registered it will show on the website, if it is not listed then it is not currently registered
• If your Chorus or Quartet is listed you can check if the information you gave us is still correct

So, your first port of call should always be the Website

This also applies to rules covering the operation of the Association - the easiest way to get the answers to your questions it to go to the BHA Website – Downloads – Standing Orders where you will find Standing Orders Nos 1 – 8:

1. Election of Officers to National Council
2. Handover Procedures at Change of National Council Office Bearers
3. Regulations for Clubs
4. Regulations for Choruses
5. Regulations for Quartets
6. Contest Rules
7. Rules for Video Assessments of Quartets
8. Rules for Regions

Please check these out and all other information on the Website in order to keep up to date with what it happening in your Association

Quartets & Clubs for the BHA 2013-2014 year

In answer to a query about the need to re-register Quartets prior to the 2013 Perth Convention, it is true that registrations are due on 1st October each year and I would really appreciate it if all Quartets and Clubs could be re-registered prior to that date, however as there is a one month period of grace you have until 31st October to re-register, after that date you will not be eligible to participate in any BHA or International competitions nor will your quartet be covered by BHA Insurance policies. So, help us out and register early.

When you send emails to us regarding BHA matters including the Newsletter, we would really appreciate it if you would include the name of your Club or Quartet in your Subject line – this makes it easier for us to identify who it is from and to file it in the correct folder when we answer you. And it would now be lovely if you hit “Reply” to one of our emails if you amend the subject line if the content is about another matter.

In Harmony,
Kevin White
Secretary BHA
secretary@barbershop.org.au

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
Early Bird Registrations Close
30 June 2013

Register and pay before 30 June 2013 to receive the Early Bird rate of $325. After that date registration goes up to $375.

Every Early Bird registrant receives:

1. An ‘A reserve’ seat for the Saturday night Showcase concert featuring Musical Island Boys, Lunch Break and the top BHA groups. Seat allocation is in order of registration, so register early to get the best seats.

2. Entry into the draw for one of the following prizes/incentives:
   a) 2 Tickets to the BHA President’s Private Reception (this event is normally by invitation only, and will include a private performance by Musical Island Boys and Lunch Break, plus meeting the Judges)
   b) VIP section (front two rows) seats for the Showcase concert (normally these seats are by invitation only)
   c) VIP table seating for 2 at the Welcome Dinner (you will be seated with International Quartet members and/or Judges)
   d) MIB CD or Lunch Break DVD
   e) $50 Voucher for Harmony Marketplace
   f) Convention Polo Shirt & Cap

The prize draw will take place on 31 July 2013 and winners will be advised by email.

Registrations can be made through the Convention website: http://www.barbershopconvention.com.au/

Any questions please contact Dan Millgate, Convention Chairman, dan.millgate@yahoo.com.au

In Harmony Issue 136—May-June 2013
Most Clubs agree, boosting membership is a priority!

Well...

How effectively does your Club do this?  
Who is responsible?  
Are you utilizing basic good marketing?  
How well is the job done?

The answer to the first question above is totally dependent on the answers to the last three questions...

Instead of providing a diatribe on what to do and what not to do, how about we look at one Club’s recent experience.

Background – Around 12 months ago Sydney Harmony moved from its home North of the harbor in Sydney to a Southside location. So, new premises, a new demographic, and maybe new opportunities to grow the Club, but it was also further to travel for a number of its members. The short term result, the Club lost 5-6 members and failed to attract the new member interest expected from the new location. With membership now down to around 25 active members and a Convention just around the corner, action was required to strengthen the Club, but how to do it successfully with only limited resources available?

The Project – The Executive Committee decided that a concerted effort was required in the form of a membership drive linked with a “Learn to Sing” programme, but to do this properly and attract a reasonable number of new members, the Club had to do it differently from past efforts. The Executive knew that only around 20% of those attracted to a promotion of this nature could be expected to qualify for membership and be sufficiently interested to continue and sing with Sydney Harmony, so how could the Club spread the word and entice a good number of participants?

Funding – SH needed funds to apply to the project, so the membership VP, with the help of the Executive applied to the Sydney City Council for a grant to promote singing, specifically to the youth sector together with older members of the community. The health and community participation benefits were promoted in line with Council objectives and a sum of just under $5,000 (the Council limit for this style of grant) was justified with the Club providing a correspondingly higher investment in time and resources to support the Project. Within a relatively short period of time, the grant was approved by Council and funds became available shortly afterwards.

The Product – The learn to sing course was attractively promoted as “Real Men Sing” to attract as wide an audience as possible together with moving away from any perceived negatives sometimes associated with men singing. The course was offered at no charge to participants and scheduled to be held over six weeks, occurring each Monday evening in line with the regular SH rehearsal. It was decided that the Real Men Sing course would be held separately for the first two hours of the normal rehearsal schedule, with the RMS guys joining the chorus for the last hour of each rehearsal, to get a feel for what the Chorus was all about. Printed material was provided offering singing guidance, in addition, sheet music and learning tracks were also provided for the two songs on the agenda. Each participant was “voiced” on the first night, so that they could be allocated an appropriate singing part. The Club’s MD provided instruction for the course participants and at times all section leaders became involved assisting with the course. The Membership VP played “mother” to all participants, maximizing support and communication, and all SH members provided a level of care and camaraderie to support the initiative.

Promotion – How to get as many people along as possible was the vital requirement for the overall success of the Project. The Executive possessed a level of commercial and marketing expertise, however no one could devote the time necessary for the effective promotion of the Project, so 3-4 assisted the membership VP where possible.
A special banner promoting the course was produced and the Roads & Traffic Authority approached re-displaying the banner on busy roads nearby, this proved successful over the three weeks leading up to the commencement of the course. Special full colour DL cards were printed for hand-outs and distribution at local clubs. Several sing-outs were arranged in local shopping centres in the weeks leading up to the course, the Club’s website was upgraded and it actively promoted the RMS Course.

It was a good start but would this produce results better than previously, probably not, the Executive judged this would not be sufficient to reach as wide a market as targeted, so more exposure was needed. The Club had worked with a PR Consultant previously to good effect, so he was brought in again to assist. For a relatively modest fee he guided the Club and provided a number of different exposures for the Club and its RMS Course as the start date approached. His efforts gained the Club several radio spots using the ABC, plus commercial and local radio stations, together with generating a number of press articles in city and local newspapers. Responses were directed to the SH website, where potential participants could find out more information, and most importantly, register their interest, providing important contact information. All of this came to a head over the weekend prior the start of the course.

Results – On the first night of the Real Men Sing Course 43 guys turned up ready to sing, the next week more and finally by the third week of the course SH had 69 new guys on the risers learning the songs and improving their singing skills. However, the 20% factor still applied, and when the course was completed just 14 were invited to audition for the Chorus. Maybe some of the others will come back later, maybe some will go on to other forms of our sport. In addition, we know other choruses have also benefitted from the RMS Course, having attracted guys who want to continue their barbershop singing, but with a chorus closer to their home. Of those 14 asked to audition for SH, six have already qualified for membership and joined Sydney Harmony, the others are working their way towards full membership.

Conclusion – The Sydney Harmony’s RMS was a great success and the Chorus continues to benefit from the Project. Will SH do it again, certainly, and during this recent process they’ve now learned how they can do it even better! Why did it succeed when so many other efforts of this nature are only semi-successful at best…???

• The Executive adopted a holistic approach to the Project, it wasn’t just dumped on the Membership VP, all the Committee plus the Music Team became closely involved and contributed, it developed into a real team effort.

• The Club Members appreciated the importance and also the effort all were putting into the Project and they provided 100% support right through the course and then afterwards as those that were invited to audition became more involved.

• A variety of promotional tools were used to maximize the reach and promote the course to as many as possible in a short time and at minimal cost.

• The Club didn’t have the funds available to hold the course nor the resources to promote it effectively, so they went out and found the funds.

• Most importantly, when the members didn’t have the necessary time and skills they engaged the people needed who were more qualified to contribute to the Project.

• The SH Membership VP, Paul Mellor, who drove the project worked like crazy to make it successful, he refined the project, co-ordinated the team and his efforts inspired others to perform at a higher level.

If you think that your Club can’t do this, give me a call and let’s discuss it, you might be surprised…!

Please contact me anytime at: marketing@barbershop.org.au

Keith Thornton
VP Marketing & Development – BHA
marketing@barbershop.org.au

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
MEMBERSHIP

Membership report – addendum to marketing

I commend to you the Marketing report by VP, Keith Thornton, on marketing your chorus for increased membership. As context, this learn to sing, or as some choruses promote it, “learn to sing harmony” course has been adopted by numerous choruses around Australia generally with great success. I’d like to draw out a couple of key issues that might help you adopt this approach for your chorus.

Blokes in the door - As Keith mentions, promoting the course so that you get blokes in the door is critical. You might think this is obvious but it’s an easy trap to fall into. Leave yourself plenty of lead-time, say 1-2 months of promotion to “get the word out”. Some choruses have run a bit late with their promotion and left it to the week or two before the course and not had many blokes turn up.

Be organized – Again, this may seem obvious, but it’s amazing how easy it is to forget to do something or leave something to the last minute. Imagine the difference between walking into a room where guys are still running around trying to do last minute things, or simply don’t have material available, compared to walking in being greeted with a hand-shake and a smile and everything is laid out ready to go. It’s so much more professional and inviting.

Have a qualified faculty – If your chorus has members who can run the course, great! If not, get in touch with me or your Music VP, Dan Millgate, and we’ll see what we can do to arrange some visiting faculty. Perhaps you want to coincide a one-day course with a regional event or a show, where you bring in a quartet to be the faculty. Where there’s a will there’s a way.

You can’t be all things to all people – To support Keith’s 20% rule, don’t feel you’ve “failed” if you don’t get 100% of guys bashing down your door asking to join the chorus. Only you know what your chorus culture is and which members you’re trying to attract. So be proud of and up-front about what your chorus is, then simply make it clear that guys are welcome to join and make the process clear (for example, whether there is an audition process). Water finds its own level and the guys who will be your best members will quickly take up your invitation.

The other 80% - Finally, however many guys don’t join, make sure you leave them with a positive impression of the experience and the chorus. Think of these guys as walking sales-people for your chorus when they walk out the door. Here you have an opportunity to get these guys coming to your shows, as well as promoting your chorus to other blokes they come across.

Any further questions, Keith and I are only an email or a phone call away. Keep us informed about how you go. BHA is all about sharing experiences so that we can all grow together.

Good luck!

Richard Reeve
Membership VP
membership@barbershop.org.au
0411 519 851

In Harmony Issue 136—May-June 2013
EVENTS

Regional Contests in Full Swing

So far we have had 4 very successful regional events resulting in a strong pool of quartets vying for qualification for the National contest in Perth in October.

The season kicked off over the weekend of 27-28 April with the Sunshine Region who held a “mini-convention” in Toowoomba, which featured 18 quartets and 9 choruses in contest, and then a chorus matinee followed where groups got to sing non-contest material for the audience’s enjoyment. A winner’s concert that night featured your 2011 National and Pan Pac champion quartet Alliance. Quartet winners were Adrenaline (77.2), and Chorus winners were Sound Connection (75.3).

Then followed the Eastern Region, who on 4 May also held a highly successful event in Sydney which featured 15 quartets and 4 choruses in contest. Quartet winners were IQ (73.0) and Chorus winners were Sydney Harmony (68.8).

Down in Tasmania on the same weekend as the Eastern Region contest, the Tasmanian Regional contest featured 3 quartets and performances by both local men’s and ladies choruses. Quartet winner was Honeycomb (62.7).

Western Region held their contest on 11 May, with 14 quartets in contest, and performances by all 5 local choruses (3 men’s, 2 ladies). It was great to see the 6 ladies quartets participate. Quartet winners were TLA (74.0). The choruses performed a 4 song set each, which included contest and non-contest material. Some choruses elected to receive evaluations of their contest songs from the judges.

This weekend will see the Victorian Region contest and then on 1 June the final qualifying contest of the Central Region in Adelaide will be held.

As per our Contest Rules, the top 30 Open quartets with a score >50 will qualify for the National contest. In addition any Senior or Youth quartets with a score >50 will also qualify for those respective contests. With the qualifying scores already being posted, we look forward to a fantastic quartet contest in Perth.

Chorus Contest in Perth

Has your chorus registered for the Perth Convention? This is going to be a fantastic event, with not only the contest session to perform in, but also the Chorus Corral where choruses will sing non-contest material in a showcase format, two top International quartets, Musical Island Boys and Lunch Break.

Make sure your chorus is coming to Perth!

Early Bird Registrations Closing

Early Bird Registrations for the Perth Convention close on 30 June 2013. The registration cost of $325 is in line with CPI increases and represents excellent value. After 30 June it goes up to $375, so get in fast! The Perth Convention Committee has come up with a number of great incentives to reward Early Bird registrants. See the information elsewhere in this edition.

Registrations can be made online at http://www.barbershopconvention.com.au/. Don’t delay!
Expressions of interest to host the 2015 Convention

A big thank you to those Clubs that have expressed interest in hosting the 2015 Convention. The BHA National Council is currently reviewing the bids and will announce the result very soon.

Sweet Adelines Region 34 Convention

Last weekend the Australian division of Sweet Adelines (Region 34) held their National contest in Perth. It was held in the same venue as the BHA National Convention will be and your Convention Committee worked hard over the weekend assisting our barbershop sisters and gaining great knowledge about the venue. That means your Convention will be run like a Swiss watch, which simply translates into much more barbershop fun for you!

It was great to see the two Perth choruses take out first and second places, and a Perth quartet win the gold medal. Barbershop is strong in Perth – so why not come over in October and see for yourself?

Until next time, Happy Harmonizing!

Ian Mulholland
VP Events

MUSIC

This edition, our continuing series of Music Theory articles is based on

Key Signatures

Whole and Half Steps

To this point, all scales have been diatonic, meaning they can be played using only the white keys on a piano due to the natural combinations of whole steps and half steps. Looking at the keyboard below, notice the groupings of white and black keys.

Notice that the black keys, placed between certain white keys, have labels on them of letter names with “♭” or “♯” next to them. A flat, shown by the “♭” symbol, is a note that has been lowered one half step, or one tone to the left.

Conversely, a sharp, “♯,” raises the note one half step, or one note to the right. Any flat or sharp can be cancelled by a natural, or “♮.” Any note modified by a flat, sharp, or a natural sign is called an accidental. Accidentals modify the note for one measure. Take G on the keyboard, for example. Notice the black keys to either side. To the left of G is G♭, and to the right is G♯.

A half step is a movement of one key to the left or right. For example, the distance between B and C is a half-step. The difference between A♭/G# and A is a half-step. A whole step is movement from one note to a note two tones, or two half steps, away.
from it. From F to G, for example, there is a key between them labelled $F#/G^\flat$, so F to G is a whole step.

There is no black key between E and F, or between B and C. So the pattern of whole steps (W) and half steps (H) for a major scale would be W, W, H, W, W, W, H. In the example to the right, a bracket is used between the notes that have a half step between them. Since barbershop music uses mainly the major scale virtually all the songs and examples in barbershop theory will be in the major key.

**Key signatures**

Scales not based in the key of C need to be altered to continue the pattern of W, W, H, W, W, W, H. The seven musical letters in the key of D would be D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D (D, with D repeating tonic or do). Using the image of the keyboard, notice there is a whole step between D and E, but between E and F there is only a half-step. The F needs to be raised one half step, to $F^\#$, to stay with the major scale pattern and become a whole step. Now the first two steps read D to E (W), and E to $F^\#$ (W). From $F^\#$ to G is a half-step. One other note needs to be altered to execute the pattern. Take a moment to identify which scale degree needs to be raised.

The example on the right shows the pattern of whole and half steps in the D major scale. This D major scale has the correct pattern of W, W, H, W, W, W, H because of the addition of the accidentals $F^\#$ and $C^\#$.

Instead of physically writing in every sharp, music notation uses a key signature, shown just after the clef symbol and repeated in every system, as a sort of musical shorthand.

Using the example of a D major scale, the key signature sharps every F and C (no matter the octave) in the whole song. This D major scale could thus be rewritten as shown on the right. Notice the $F^\#$ and $C^\#$ are automatically sharped and the accidental is no longer written. Although the $F^\#$ in the treble clef is on the top line, it still applies to the first space F (and likewise on C, the bass clef’s second to last note). Remember to apply the affected note in each octave.

Remember, the distance between the third and fourth note is a half-step. If F is tonic, B must be lowered to $B^\flat$ in order to be a half step. Adding one flat is all that is necessary to make sure this F scale contains the pattern of the major scale: W, W, H, W, W, W, H.

Because barbershop music contains many accidentals, most barbershop arrangers tend to write in keys such as G, B$^\flat$, C, F$^\flat$—keys that have little or no sharps or flats, to make things easier. However, many of these songs contain key changes, so it is wise for a barbershop singer to learn this concept thoroughly.
Mnemonics for the order of ♭/♯

Flats and sharps are added in order, one at a time. The order of flats is B, E, A, D, G, C, F. The order of sharps is exactly the opposite: F, C, G, D, A, E, B. Just as there are mnemonics to help learn the names of the lines and spaces of the clefs there are also useful phrases to learn the order of the sharps and flats.

**Sharps:** “Father Christmas Gave Dad An Electric Blanket”
**Flats:** “Before Eating A Donut, Get Coffee First”.

Lastly, with key signatures, realise that the order of sharps coincides with the order they are placed on the staff from left to right. So if all sharps and flats are used, the key signature looks like these two examples on the left and right.

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**Determining the key signature— major keys**

Determining the key of a song is based on the amount of flats or sharps in the key signature. With sharps, an easy way to identify the key is to look at the last sharp in the key signature and go up one half step. The example (see left) shows three sharps in the key signature. Take the last sharp, or G#, and raise it one half step to get the key signature of A major. In flat keys, the second to last flat is the key signature. In this example (see right) with four flats, the second to last flat, A♭, is the key.

**Determining the key signature— minor keys**

A song in minor carries a distinctly different sound. Determining a minor key is a little more complex, requiring analysis of the first few measures, and an examination of the key signature. For example, A minor and C major both display the same key signature. Using the piano image, notice this would be a distance of three half steps (or what we will call a minor third in the next lesson).

This excerpt from Hushabye Mountain arranged by Bill Mitchell may appear to be in C major when glancing at the key signature, but the music clearly starts in A minor. Further, the first chord in the Chorus seen at measure 5 also begins in minor, a sure sign that the song is in A minor.

Many thanks to Adam Scott, Member Services, Music. Adam is Music Educator and Editor of Music Publications for the Barbershop Harmony Society - [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

Dan Millgate
VP Music
[Music@barbershop.org.au](mailto:Music@barbershop.org.au)

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*In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013*
Voices in Paradise Gold Coast’s A Cappella Revolution

On the 20th of April, The Gold Coast became the hub for youth a cappella and barbershop as over 100 students from all over Australia and New Zealand gathered under the direction of Jonathan Albertini for Voices in Paradise, a musical initiative to introduce young singers to the world of a cappella music, with some training by the current world silver medalists The Musical Island Boys from New Zealand.

Hosted by The Blenders and sponsored by Griffith University, Voices in Paradise brought 57 girls and 46 boys together, some of whom had never sang in their life. Welcomed by The Musical Island Boys and the members of The Blenders, the young singers were given two songs - one for each gender, and one mixed song. The boys were given Some Nights by Fun and the girls performed Taylor Swift’s Love Story. As the finale the males and females joined together and sang I’m Yours by Jason Mraz. All arrangements were donated by Deke Sharon, the arranger of the box office smash hit Pitch Perfect and producer of the U.S hit TV series The SingOff.

On the day the singers were trained by The Musical Island Boys, who ran through several vocal exercises with the students on top of the traditional training that each student received throughout the day. The Boys provided an entertaining and warm approach to a cappella style, welcoming all new singers with open arms and ears. The singers had only 1 day to prepare their performance packages for the concert later that night.

The concert was a sell out and was opened by The Blenders Youth Chorus, followed by a cavalcade of musically talented groups including The Blenders, the debut of Griffith University’s a capella choir, Serotonin and the V.I.P Singers, all of whom were under Jonathan Albertini’s direction. The night culminated with The Musical Island Boys performing a world class performance set, including Elvis Presley’s Teddy Bear and Motown numbers from Jersey Boys.
The reviews from the audience post-show were overwhelmingly positive, particularly from the boys and girls who were part of the V.I.P. show, several of whom have gone on to join the Blenders Youth Chorus, The Blenders and Serotonin to continue their a cappella hobby. Many high school students said that they can’t wait to get into Griffith University where they can join Serotonin.

Due to the critical and commercial success of Voices in Paradise, Jonathan Albertini has announced that V.I.P will be returning next year to Griffith University on a much larger scale.

Jonathan Albertini
MD – Gold Coast Barbershop Chorus

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**Musical Director Required in NZ**

Mighty River Harmony Men’s Barbershop Chorus is looking for a new Musical Director.

Our current MD is leaving in October 2013 after our NZABS National Convention in Invercargill. Gary Taylor has been with the chorus since 2002 and will be leaving New Zealand to join his wife in Sydney.

Mighty River Harmony has 75 keen singers drawn from both the Waikato and Bay of Plenty and is based in Hamilton, New Zealand. We are currently the largest chorus in New Zealand and placed 3rd at our National Convention in Auckland in 2012.

We are looking for a Musical Director experienced in the barbershop craft who can help take our chorus to the next level while still maintaining a sense of fun and camaraderie. The position comes with an honorarium.

We are hoping the successful candidate will work with Gary in an over-lapping period leading up to the NZABS Convention.

Please apply for further details to our President:
Howard Ettema - hettema@clear.net.nz

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*Ed’s note:*
Sydney will certainly have the Welcome Mat out for Gary when he moves across the ditch!! New Zealand’s loss is definitely Australia’s gain.
The Barbershop Supporter

(as opposed to an athletic supporter)

By Howard Kennedy

(BHA’s resident poet)

A barbershop supporter may not be athletically inclined, Yet their support for each chorus should be... by value

We don’t “yet” play at the Gabba, Lang Park ...or at the big G.
Yet they’re always there for us and we hope... always will be.

They’ll take care of wardrobe, make up and song.
They’ll play on the keyboard as we practise along.
They’ll collect the money or audit the books.
They’ll cater for functions like cordon bleu cooks!

They’ll record our singing or take photographs.
They’ll even type minutes like secretary staff.
They’ll do up our laundry or put up our guests.
Yes, we “barbershoppers” indeed have been blessed!

They may be our parents or siblings or wives,
Yet they’ll always take time out of their busy lives.
They may be friends, sponsors, patrons who come through the door,
So let’s give them the performance that they’re “paying” for!

Let’s practise our movements our words and our songs!
Let’s all work together and all get along!
It brings us warmth and joy to our hearts,
When we sing those sweet chords, with all four of our parts!

Let’s sing with our bodies and move them in sway.
Let’s smile as we sing, as though we’re at play.
Let’s sing energetically, softly lull them with vibe.
Let’s give a performance that they could describe

As joyful, triumphant, vibrant, happy or “grey,”
To be tuneful yet “manly” in our song display!
Let’s wow all the critics and claim a profile,
Where it’s “great” to be singing our barbershop style!

SPAM WARNING

Do not open any emails asking for Urgent Help – supposedly from someone you know – they say that your friend is overseas, had their wallet stolen and ask for money.
These spammers infiltrate the ‘senders’ computer and delete their emails, contacts, etc. etc. We have at least two members who have been the victims of this scam and lost their whole contact list.
And after accidentally opening it, It jammed our computer too! - Ed.

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
The annual Greenhills’ Workshop was another resounding success with 99 members attending from –

• Sydney Harmony
• Penrith City Harmony
• Hills Harmony
• SydneySiders Express
• Canberra Chordsmen
• Novatones
  and
• SOUNDWAVES

Two members also travelled up from Geelong including their chorus MD. All the choruses provided a large contingent with enough singers to deliver a segment of the concert on Saturday evening.

We also had 10 quartets who all received two coaching sessions each over the weekend from our wonderful faculty. The Musical Island Boys’ Bass, Matt Gifford, renowned Barbershop coach, Gary Bolles, Alex Morris from Melbourne and two of our Region’s best MDs, Vicki Dwyer and Rob Sequeira, brought their skills and experience to give us all a weekend to remember.

Highlight of the weekend was a new approach to learning a new song without handing out the sheet music first, but by learning the melody and then breaking down the parts. Within two hours on the risers most of the members could sing the song with some confidence.
The Sunshine Region combined the Regional Qualifying Competition with its inaugural SUNSHINE REGION CONVENTION hosted by High Altitude Harmony in Toowoomba.

The majority of male barbershoppers from the region travelled to the bush for an outstanding weekend of entertainment, including Sweet Adeline Guest Choruses and Quartets from Ballina and Surfers – HAH have set a high standard for future years.

Events such as the Cabaret on Saturday afternoon and Jim DeBusman’s Voice Coaching on Sunday were included for the first time to give more opportunities for all barbershoppers to “strut their stuff” in public and to obtain specialist coaching – both were a huge success.

Jim then visited Choruses and Quartets throughout the Region in the following week and provided further expert guidance based on his observations for each of them over the weekend.

The Blenders, now the regions only large chorus, won the award for most entertaining Cabaret performance, a new award which was judged by celebrity guest Jim DeBusman.

Alliance, incorporating the BHA judges, provided an outstanding finale for the well-attended public concert on Saturday night.

Thank you to all who contributed so much towards making this new approach for our Regional Competitions such a success. In future we are assured of highly entertaining and enjoyable Convention Weekends hosted by choruses throughout the Region in conjunction with the Sunshine Region Executive Committee.

Trevor Remphrey
SR Chairman

A History of AAMBS (now BHA)
The First Twenty Years

Do you have a copy in your library? This detailed and interesting story of the establishment and development of barbershop singing in Australia, was published in 2007 by Andy Aberle, a founding and Life Member of our Association. A product of several years of research, the book was very well received at the AAMBS ninth National Convention in Sydney that year and again attracted considerable interest at 2009’s tenth gathering in Hobart. Copies are still available and can be obtained directly from Andy who is happy to discuss with club or group representatives, any ideas for bulk purchases.

Cost: $15.00 per copy
Add post. $2.00 for any quantity ordered
Payment by: Cheque, Money Order or by Direct Debit to BSB 306 070 A/c 4400124
To order send details (name and delivery address) to Andy Aberle, 94 Stock Road, ATTADALE WA 6156
Email: aberles@internetexpress.net.au
Enquiries: Ph. (08) 9330 4159

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
If someone asks me to relocate the flaming softdrinks one more time, I will go home and the Sunshine Regionals can go ahead without me! Well, at about 5:30pm last Friday night that’s what I was thinking. However, after a slow walk around the venue and a period of cooling down I stayed and what a weekend we have had.

The weather was absolutely perfect. Cool mornings, bright sunshine and a chilly night to bring everyone inside to enjoy some of the best vocalising Toowoomba has had, possibly ever.

We commenced the weekend with a massed sing at Alford Park in Toowoomba's CBD and having Jim DeBusman conduct us along with other MDs from the region was a huge privilege. A total of nine choruses, including two from Sweet Adelines International, plus nineteen quartets, also with two from SAI, competed over a hectic day.

To top off a great competition we then had a matinee with HAH leading off and quartets and chorus’s names being picked out of a hat and belting out two songs to the delight of the audience.

After the presentation of medals and trophies of which HAH scored the inaugural perpetual trophy awarded to hosts of the annual Sunshine Regionals we all repaired to the food court for some great food and fellowship and prepared for the evening’s entertainment.

By 6:30pm the venue was packed and HAH, as hosts led off. We were followed in quick order by The Blenders, Sound Connection, Benchmark, Adrenaline and the youth quartet Blindside who had not only won the Youth Quartet trophy but also Open Quartet Bronze. They will be a force to be reckoned with in Perth.

The night was completed when our good mates and contest judges Alliance put on what they claim is possibly their final set in Queensland.

In Queens Park next day we held a Sunday in the Park Concert, plus some master classes and once again Alliance wowed the large crowd.

All in all a fabulous weekend and if anyone missed out on coming to it we are very sorry.

The concept of a two day competition and all that went with it will be here to stay in Queensland we are sure and we cannot wait to gear up for the 2014 contest.

Paddy Boxall
Secretary
At the time of writing this report, Sound Connection has just celebrated its first birthday. And what better way of celebrating than mixing it up with our brothers (and sisters) at the AAMBS (see what I did there Ian?) BHA Sunshine Region Convention in Toowoomba? Kudos to the men and women associated with High Altitude Harmony for their efforts in bringing about an excellent Convention. Great venue, great program, great fellowship. Who could ask for more? We thank them for their outstanding effort and applaud all those who made the weekend memorable by their participation.

In reflecting on our inaugural year it's hard to believe that a year has already passed or that so much has been accomplished in that time. In addition to Toowoomba, the highlights are our participation in SingFest 2012, our involvement in the Queensland leg of Ringmasters’ tour of Australia and putting on our own Christmas Show in conjunction with Vocalesence at the Sanctuary Cove Marine Village Theatre.

Along the way we've done lots of fundraising - some of us would not care if we never saw another sausage again in our lifetime - and put on a number of social events and performance opportunities with our sister chorus.

Our musical success is largely the product of Team Howson. Without Andrew and Jen’s persistence and patience the standard of our performances would not rise as quickly.

But, as everyone knows a chorus and club do not succeed solely through the music. Many people on our Music Team and our Executive have contributed but special mention must be made of two people without whom our chorus life would be more stark and considerably less comfortable.

The first is Mark Virtue, the designer and webmaster of our website, a website which has become the central database and communications hub for our chorus. We have only really just begun to explore its functionality and I fully expect it will greatly enhance and streamline our operations.

The second is Jeannie (and Peter) Hattendorff. If there's a job which needs to be planned or carried out, whether it's organising post rehearsal suppers, sausage sizzle fundraisers, marshalling the chorus backstage or photography or videography Jeannie and Peter are usually there, in the thick of it. Why, she even manages to find time to do our graphic design work and I understand she squeezes in time to get her own income producing work done, somehow!

Going forward, we have a full schedule ahead of us. More fundraising, a Mid-year Show (12-13 July, Sanctuary Cove Marine Village Theatre, see soundconnection.com.au for more details and to get tickets); camp, coaching, and Christmas Show. And of course the other C word, the Convention in Perth. It ain’t just a hobby, it’s a lifestyle!

Our first year has been an amazing ride. Our quest is to keep that going through the next year and beyond.

Lloyd Wong
Secretary, Pivotal Point Inc
SOUNDWAVES were very happy recently when it received a visit from renowned US Coach and International Judge Gary Bolles. The chorus members enjoyed his very informative and light-hearted coaching style. Music Director, Gary Kirk, was also grateful to Gary for passing on his wealth of knowledge and experience in directing choruses.

The Chorus recently held its annual movie night at Avoca Beach Theatre with a screening of the movie “Performance”. A big thanks goes to all the members and their partners for providing light refreshments and drinks for the patrons attending the movie night. The patrons were entertained by ladies ensemble Ms Behavin’, followed by SOUNDWAVES, who performed three songs prior to the commencement of the movie. It was great to see many former members and associate members attend.

SOUNDWAVES recently wrote to all the retirement villages and nursing homes in the Wyong and Gosford Local Government area, inviting bookings to perform at their venues with either a donation from the Retirement Village or a gold coin donation from each attendee. The bookings for singing at retirement villages will increase opportunities for members to perform in public as well as provide a valuable community service. We were inundated with request for performances from the retirement villages and nursing homes and have secured many bookings for 2013 and 2014.

A free six-week learn to sing 4 part harmony course commenced on Monday 8th April 2013, with seven men arriving on the first night. Music Director, Gary Kirk, has provided coaching in the many techniques and methods used when singing in the barbershop style of four-part harmony. All the new men have shown a keen interest to learn how to sing four-part harmony and have been allocated a singing part most suited to their singing voices.

Gary has introduced a new song I Don’t Know Why for the seven men to learn with SOUNDWAVES members also learning the song for the first time.

Two of our dedicated members, Lexie Lantry and John Rapley, recently retired from SOUNDWAVES due to ill health. These members were always prepared to attend regular rehearsal nights, but more importantly attend as many sing-outs as they could muster. All members wish Lexie and John all the very best in the future.

Ray Bale
Secretary
Novatones, the chorus of Newcastle Harmony Chorus, is a relatively new chorus, which has been attempting to grow in the past year, and with a couple of membership drives has managed a modest increase in size – now approaching 30 members. Its main function is to provide the companionship and joy of singing, but we do have charity as one of our goals – managing to donate more than $6,000 for our chosen charity in 2 years. We are attempting to get a little more sponsorship, so we can offset some of the cost to our members, and possibly get some sound and educational equipment.

The chorus attended the Eastern Region contest on 4 May 2013, but with depleted numbers due to illness and other unforeseen events. As such, we did not perform as well as we would have liked, but we all learned a lot from the experience and from watching the other choruses. It has hardened our resolve to make an impact at Perth.

Over the past few months, the Club has fostered new quartets for those wishing to challenge themselves a little more. The plan had been to have 3 quartets compete at Eastern Region, but two were not able to go, due to a family bereavement.

The remaining one, Sirius Business, WAS able to compete, coming a respectable 9th at its first attempt. Three of the members have been singing for less than 18 months and the quartet has only been together since February. All of the quartet members have enjoyed the ride and have learnt much about singing and performing. The most challenging thing of all is to achieve balance and consistency of sound, which is so much more crucial in a quartet – there is nowhere to hide! They recommend it to anyone. All four have said that the feedback and knowledge from the judges in the post-contest evaluation sessions is invaluable, and we appreciate the skill and dedication of Eddie Klimowicz, Paul Roussel and Matt Gifford. Thank you, gentlemen.

All the quartet ‘newbies’ are going to Perth for the Nationals, where we are sure they will further improve their skills. They have, it has to be said, also made it known that they intend to enjoy themselves as well!

On the performance front, we are holding a concert with a Hunter Valley chorus and a Newcastle female quartet on 1st June, where the quartets will also sing, partly to raise money to offset the cost of the Perth Convention, but also as one of the social events of the year, with family and friends attending and dinner provided.

We continue to do singouts, mainly along one of the restaurant and hotel precincts, where we sing brackets mainly to the hotel patrons, who are generous in their donations, but we also serenade alfresco diners from time to time. We always find people enjoy the experience, and they should – because barbershop is happy music sung by happy people.

Rod Woodhouse
Secretary
The **Fleurieu Harmony Chorus** was asked to arrange a Barbershop style concert for the Adelaide Music Club’s bi-monthly dinner meeting, for approximately 200 of their members. With our President, Rod Whyte, as the co-ordinator, an evening encompassing all of the BHA Choruses in South Australia was organised.

Performing in the first half of the concert was *Sounds of A Chord*, comprising the combined choruses of *Fleurieu Harmony*, *Harborside Harmony* and the *Festival Statesmen*, followed by the mixed chorus, *The Adelaide Allsorts* and their quartet, *Three Tarts & a Diva*.

The second half was performed by Jonathan Bligh and his highly acclaimed *Festival Statesmen Youth Chorus* and their quartets *Now In Stereo* and *The Fishbowl Boys*, who thrilled the more than appreciative audience with their flawless performances. With a combined chorus finale and two encores, a fantastic night of barbershop entertainment was complete.

This concert coincided with the newly formed BHA Central Region and therefore was a fitting opportunity to launch the new Region and showcase our barbershop choruses and quartets to a wide cross section of Adelaide’s musical community.

A further highlight for April, was a surprise performance at the 90th birthday celebration for one of our founding members, and life member of our chorus, Mr Alex Paul. Alex formed a quartet in 2000 comprising, Alex (Bass), Tony King (Baritone), Michael Wood (Tenor) and Arthur Fellows (Lead), and thanks to Alex and Tony, our Chorus grew from there. Our birthday visit was a complete surprise and Alex was able to join in, singing some of his favourite songs. Alex retired from our chorus approximately three years ago and we wish him good health for the future and thank him for his foresight in helping to establish our chorus.

To round off a successful month, a morning workshop was held where we were privileged to have top American barbershop judge and coach, Jim DeBusman, impart his vast knowledge on to our chorus.

The following week we had the pleasure of hosting Kim Sebbage, a recognised chorus and quartet coach and current Musical Director of the Westcoast Chordsmen in Perth, who also offered his expertise on the finer points of singing barbershop.

**Trevor Modistach**

Secretary

*In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013*
On April 5th, The Melbournaires held another Open Night to demonstrate the art of barbershop to the general public. This was also part of our recruitment strategy and a celebration of the 75th anniversary of Barbershop Harmony. Specially prepared posters (see below) prepared by our Colin Ferns, were displayed in most regional libraries and many retailers and department stores.

50 members of the public turned up at our rehearsal venue in East Doncaster, including a couple of regulars, but mostly people who were enjoying a new experience.

It was considered a successful event and one that hopefully will add new members to the chorus.

On a sad note, April also saw the passing of one of our most respected members. Kingsford (Kingie) Teagle was 84 years young and one of two life members. 30 chorus members were able to attend the funeral and sang emotionally charged versions of *Loch Lomond* and *The Irish Blessing*. Our quartet *Boardwalk* sang a hastily arranged barbershop rendition of Kingies’ beloved Sydney Swans team song, which was received very well. John Baker read a beautiful and heart-felt eulogy, so Kingie had a wonderful send off, one he would certainly have appreciated. He will be remembered for his quirky humour and readily optimistic outlook on life.

On May 5th, the Melbournaires were guests of the female chorus *Vocal Vibes* at their *Good Vibrations* concert at the Karralyke Centre Theatre in Ringwood. Both choruses performed individually, coming together at the finale to sing an arrangement of *Lida Rose*.

Performances also from Vocal Vibes quartet *Platinum* (first public performance) and from Melbournaires’ quartet *NQR*, kept the capacity audience enthralled for the Sunday afternoon.

It was an exhilarating occasion for all concerned.

Terry Phillips
Attracting Attention ..... 

After many instructive and valued years as Music Director, Peter Fragar has given way to youth and anointed twenty three year old Ricky Allen as his replacement. Peter will retire to the back of the risers while Ricky takes up Peter’s position at the front of the chorus.

Rick is a very talented teacher and musician with a busy life. He sings in a quartet, plays in a band, and still found time to complete his Medical Science degree and looks forward to further study. Rick’s passion is a significant element in our project this year to boost our numbers from the small chorus of only fourteen singers which we currently have.

President Richard Wadick has been driving our recruitment campaign. We have run a four week Learn to Sing course and a follow up three week Open Nights program which we hope will attract new singers. We have had good success with two singers re-joining and a number of other men who have come along to participate in our nights. We will be trying hard to retain these new recruits.

We recently competed in the Eastern Region Contest which was a good opportunity to perform the songs we hope to sing in Perth. We were delighted to achieve a first ever score of over 60 for each of our songs. This Eastern Region experience will assist us in giving a hopefully even more polished performance at the Convention. The favourites need to watch out!

Under a little less pressure, we have been singing once a month at the Homemakers Centre at Penrith on a Saturday morning as part of a sponsorship arrangement. This gives us good practice as we work through a repertoire of about sixteen popular songs, entertaining the shoppers while hoping to attract another singer or two!

Paul Ryan
Secretary - Riverland Ramblers

Greetings from Festival States-men Youth Chorus. The chorus is currently in preparations for Perth, enjoying recent invaluable coaching visits from Kim Sebbage and Jim DeBusman. Thanks to all involved who make it possible for us to have access to such valuable experience and wisdom.

We recently held our successful movie fundraiser for this year to raise funds for Perth at the Capri Theatre. Iron Man 3 turned out to be a hit for all. We would like to thank the Capri and TOSA (Theatre Organ Society Australia) for enabling us to have access to the Capri!

The chorus will hold its quiz night fundraiser on June 22 in Adelaide hosted by Peter Goers (OAM and host of "The Evening Show" on 891 ABC Adelaide). If you will be in Adelaide and are interested in coming, please email contact.fsyn@gmail.com.

FSYC has seen a major change in the last two months - we are now part of the new Central Region and will be participating in (and are very much looking forward to) the Central Region's inaugural contest on June 1 (along with a number of its quartets).

If you haven't already, please find and like us on Facebook for weekly updates on what we are doing. Now, back to competition preparations. See you there!

Yours in harmony,
Aaron Vinall
President

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
Moving with the Times ...

Apart from being part of the new Central Region, over the last couple of months our Club has undertaken some major changes to its structure. The Club now has a separate committee and three choruses within that Club. These changes were necessary for several reasons.

Firstly, the Festival States-men Youth Chorus needed to expand to accommodate members who were of an age where they could not take part in Youth competition. To do this it was decided that the current Festival States-men chorus title be transferred to a chorus that would be open to both age groups. This was brought about because Jonathan Bligh wished to continue the connection because of the help he received when forming the Youth Chorus and to use that rather than create a new name.

The Festival States-men Youth Chorus will continue in its present form and the existing members of the Festival States-men would form the Festival States-men Senior Chorus. Each chorus has its own administration.

As most of the members of the original chorus are now of an age where progress in competition is not their main objective, we are sure these changes will ensure that the name Festival State-smen is carried forward into the future, in very capable hands, with a youth chorus for future development, a chorus open to all ages and the senior chorus to continue providing more community based daytime activities.

The BHA database has now listed the Club changes so contact details can be seen there.

Ken Withers
Secretary

Over the past couple of months Hills Harmony has been successful in gaining several new members. A number of banners were strategically located in our district and their positions changed periodically. The percentage of enquiries that were converted into visits, and then into membership, was the highest we have ever achieved. There’s a busy time ahead for us as we help our new friends learn more of what this craft is all about.

April saw us singing at Leisure Lea retirement homes in Marsfield and a few days later we were the lunch time entertainment for the Oakhill-Dural Probus Club.

The Eastern Region competition was held in Sydney on 4 May. Although the competition is for quartets to qualify for the National Convention in Perth, choruses were also invited to compete and be judged. With three of our fifteen singers making their performance debut, we were delighted to post one of our best scores ever, missing out on a first place finish by just 8 points, or 1.3 points in Average terms. We managed the best Music score of the competition, one of the areas we have been concentrating on.

We fielded three quartets, one only six days old, and our long-standing quartet, Highjacked, had a great day, bringing home the gold medal in Senior Quartet Contest. Some very satisfying results.

Jacky Ko
Secretary

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
What an exciting time in the life of Vocal Evolution it has been over the past few months!

With our trip to the BHS International competitions only a handful of weeks away we have been busy in preparation for this highly anticipated opportunity to represent BHA at the highest level. We have been honoured to have the legendary Jim DeBusman living right here in Perth for over a month, sharing his passion for our art form and coaching us towards Internationals. We are looking forward to working with some of the top educators in the BHS upon our arrival into Nashville as well as getting a guided tour of BHS HQ and receiving an address from BHS CEO Marty Monson prior to heading North for the convention in Toronto. Make sure you follow us at www.facebook.com/vocalevolution and register for our newsletter at http://www.vocalevolution.com/info/ve-news-mailing-list to keep up to date with our progress as we experience Internationals as your 2011 Champion Chorus.

Preparations are still in full swing for the 12th BHA National Convention to be held in Perth in just 5 months. This is going to be such an exciting Convention with what is shaping up to be undoubtedly the strongest field of quartets and choruses in BHA history; not one, but two first-class headline quartets; plus three additional opportunities for our members to sing in both quartets and choruses on stage. Make sure you plan your trip now and don’t miss out on this landmark BHA convention.

Jim DeBusman

Vocal Evolution is thrilled to have been so heavily involved in the recent BHA Western Region Quartet contest and chorus showcase. We welcomed Jim DeBusman onto the risers with us for the first time in a performance as we presented four enthusiastically received numbers to a packed house. We were thrilled to share the stage with our brothers and sisters in harmony from Westcoast Chordsmen, Men in Harmony, A Cappella West and Perth Harmony Chorus who all brought their own flair to the stage in a celebration of all things barbershop.

Earlier in the day, we had 18 of our members (including our entire front row) across 5 quartets compete in the quartet contest. We would like to congratulate Hypothetical, Continental Drift, RefriDgerator (Youth Gold, Open Bronze), Lockout (Open Silver) and TLA (Open Gold) who all represented Vocal Evolution so well. Congratulations also The Harmonisers from Westcoast Chordsmen on taking out the seniors category.

Be sure to keep in touch and wish us all the best in Toronto.

We look forward to welcoming you to our fair city in October.

In Harmony,
Trevor Anderson
VP Marketing – Vocal Evolution

In Harmony Issue 136— May-June 2013
What an awesome sound when the Real Men joined Sydney Harmony on the risers . . fantastic

What a hectic couple of months it has been for Sydney Harmony. Late last year we gained a grant of $5000 from the City of Sydney to run a six lesson Learn to Sing course we called Real Men Sing. We worked on the promotion, had some media spots and had over 45 guys turn up on the first night and over 70 by week 3.

Then our rehearsal venue went into receivership. We all arrived for a Monday practice to find the doors locked and a “CLUB CLOSED” sign on the door. So, like moths, we followed the lights to Redfern Oval and used the “sandstone risers” at the entrance to give our first alfresco concert of the year. It was a great opportunity to give the Real Men their first open air resonating experience.

We found ourselves homeless in Redfern. Warren Lewis and Dave Ojerholm formed our “hunter / gatherer” team. They had done an exhaustive “hunt” for a venue and “gathered” information on over 50 possibilities just 12 months ago and we had been using the one that best satisfied all our requirements. We were able to hire the Redfern Town Hall for a couple of Monday nights to successfully finish the course but it was very “ringy” and not terribly good for singing. We tried Paddington RSL for one rehearsal before the Eastern Region Championships, but then the team struck gold. They found a new venue, just been built on the grounds of St Mary’s Catholic Church, North Sydney.

Our Executive used their considerable charm to persuade the Church administrators that we would take very good care of their new purpose built performing arts / conference centre and we moved our risers into the storage.

In the weeks Since the course 15 Real Men have auditioned to continue singing with Sydney Harmony. We have been busy helping them experience the joys of barbershop and easing their incorporation into the chorus.
At the Eastern Region Championships, we were again successful in winning the Open Chorus competition and for the first time we had five Quartets in the competition, all of them qualifying for Perth and Zoom, The Bernoulli Effect and Senior Moments winning medals.

So we hope things will settle soon and we can polish our pieces for Perth and prepare for a couple of performances in September. We still rehearse on Monday nights, starting at 7.30, but now it is in the Ron Dyer Centre behind Saint Mary’s Catholic Church in North Sydney, corner of Miller and Ridge St. The rehearsals are always open and we welcome any fellow barbershopper to come and sing with us.

Paul Meller
V P Membership

Who, What, When, Why and How is (your) iQ?

One of Australia’s newest barbershop quartets launched itself to the world in April 2013. So what’s the low down? Daniel Koopu called Jim Catt in early 2013 and asked if he’d be interested in forming a quartet. Onward to find two other suitably qualified and available singers! Jim’s first call was to Alex Morris. So, to our fourth musketeer, Alex called Jonathan Bligh and in less than 24 hours iQ was born!

For those of you who don’t know us. Dan (Bass - Qld) is AMD of the current Open Chorus silver medallists The Blenders at the recent Sunshine Region Contest and has sung in several top quartets. Jono (Baritone - SA) is MD of Festival States-men Chorus and Festival States-men Youth Chorus who are BHA’s current Youth Chorus Champions and Open Chorus Bronze Medallist. Jono also sang in a couple of youth quartets whilst mentoring The Fishbowl Boys (Central Region). Alex (Tenor - Vic) is currently MD of Geelong Harmony Chorus (SAI), ex-Championship MD of BHA’s Vocal Evolution, sang baritone in Nexus and is the current Music Category Specialist for the Australasian Guild of Barbershop Judges. Jim (Lead - NSW) directed The Blenders to a BHA Gold, Sydney Harmony and sang lead in FREEFALL the 2003 BHA Open Quartet Champions and is currently MD of Sydney Vocal Project, a unique contemporary mixed voice Chamber Choir.

So, with four States represented, as you can imagine this has made rehearsing a big challenge. The boys have managed to get together several times to polish their performance package and with 4 medallist MDs in the group, as you might have expected, rehearsals are high spirited!

The boys had lots of fun mucking around at their photo shoot on the Gold Coast and recently launched their Facebook page with some wacky shots of them at the beach atCurrumbin, QLD. As with most quartets the hardest decision was deciding on a quartet name and they came up with a few favourites and eventually settled on iQ. One of the acronym meanings could be Interstate Quartet as we are all from different States, however we will leave it to whatever interpretation suits you.

Finally, iQ is very excited to have been crowned Eastern Region Gold Medal Quartet at the recent Eastern Region contest with a score of 73%. This was the quartet’s first public performance and needless to say the guys were very excited to achieve this position so soon.

Alex, Dan, Jono and Jim

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YOUR WEBSITE

Council, Regional and International Barbershop information and contact details as well as application forms, competition results, BHA Standing Orders, calendars and much, much more is available on the BHA Website, check it out regularly for any new information — 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

BARBERSHOP 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 to ensure that they do not clash with other events in your Region, and allows the opportunity to support your local fellow barbershoppers. Send all your details to secretary@barbershop.org.au

2013

• June 1 – Central Region Contest, Adelaide SA – Details TBA

• June 1 – A Cappella in the Hunter, 7.00 pm, Monte Pio Motel, New England Highway (next to Maitland Hospital). Singing by Novatones, Bella Voce (female quartet), Scone Singers, Sirius Business (BHA Quartet). Cost $50 including meal.
  Bookings: Rod Woodhouse  0412 145 971 or rod.woodhouse@bigpond.com

• June 3, 10 – Jim DeBusman @ Vocal Evolution, Perth WA

• June 2 – BHA Council Teleconference Meeting – 7.00 pm EDST. Members are invited to send details of any items they would like discussed to secretary@barbershop.org.au

• June 6 – Jim DeBusman @ Men in Harmony, Perth WA

• June 7 – Jim DeBusman @ Westcoast Chordsmen, Perth WA

• June 8, 12, 16 – 3 Night Stand! – The Fishbowl Boys, Lexus Cabaret, Lion Arts Centre, Cnr North Terrace & Morphett Street, Adelaide. Times 8th – 7.30 pm, 12th - 7.30 pm, 16th – 4.00 pm. Booking through www.cabaretfringefestival.com/events/3-night-stand
  Adults $25, Concession $22, Groups (6+) $19 each.

• June 22 – Festival States-men, Quiz night & Fundraiser hosted by Peter Goers OAM, host of The Evening Show on 891 ABC Adelaide. Details contact.fsyc@gmail.com

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

• Aug 2 – Sweet Adelines Maxx Factor Show, Queensland

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• Aug 3-4 – *Sweet Adelines Maxx Factor Workshop*, Queensland

• Aug 9 - *Sweet Adelines Maxx Factor Show*, Victoria

• Aug 10-11 - *Sweet Adelines Maxx Factor Workshop*, Victoria

• Oct 4-6 – *IABS Convention 2013* – Theatre Royal, Waterford, Ireland will include a mixed National Quartet Competition. Registration €50 - [www.iabsconvention.com](http://www.iabsconvention.com)

• 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...

• Oct 13-16 - *Harmony College*, Swanleigh Camp and Conference Centre, 58 Yule Ave, Middle Swan WA [www.swanleigh.org.au](http://www.swanleigh.org.au)

• Nov 4-9 - *Sweet Adelines 2013 International Convention*, Honolulu, Hawaii

2014

• Feb 21-23 – *Eastern Region Workshop* – Myuna Bay, NSW (1½ hours north of Sydney)

• May 16-18 - *Sweet Adelines 25th Anniversary Regional Convention*, Sydney NSW

• 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

• Nov 3-8 - *Sweet Adelines 2014 International Convention*, Baltimore

*CHECK THE BHA WEBSITE FOR OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BARBERSHOP EVENTS*

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

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