

Rhubarb Rhubarb Rhubarb

GALS Get Going Choir Recommences for 2005

Thursday 17th of Feb saw the recommencement of GALS for 2005. Our first rehearsal for the year was filled excited chatter as people caught up with each other, discussing the latest news they'd heard through the grapevine, and where they'd been getting around to during the break. Many choir members had been away on holidays, enjoying the great summer weather - no wind, no rain or winter's cold for them. There was much reaching out as we began our warm-ups with



From the glamour of Hollywood to the Swinging Sixties, GALS are now preparing for their next concert.

a massage train. We were all ready for a brand new beat, but our lives were filled with much confusion as many choir members tried singing in different sections. However,

there ain't no mountain high enough to keep the intrepid GALSWA from mastering a new challenge - all we need is music, sweet, sweet music to get us dancing in our seats!!

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Special Points of Interest

- Nikki mauled by wild cat, nearly losing her arm.
- Tennille tries out as a bass - is there something she's not telling us?
- GALS' fame spreads—new members begging to join us.
- Meet the marvelous, miraculous, mind-blowing, musical, mellifluous Main Committee...

Rhubarb, Rhubarb, Rhubarb - What the?

Welcome to our new newsletter. It's a way for us to stay in touch with each other, as well as to communicate important announcements, such as "the next main committee meeting will be at the Duxton Hotel and will include free dinner and drinks." Well, not really, but pizza at Jackie's place is just as good. However, unless you want our

newsletter to be called 'Rhubarb, Rhubarb, Rhubarb,' then ideas are needed for a name.

We also want notices (eg, section/small group rehearsal times), exciting events in your life, articles relevant to the choir, poems, stories, your views on relevant current events, and contributions of all varieties.

You can pass on your bright ideas to your new unanimously self-appointed editor, Saani. You can email her at: creativityunlimited@myplace.net.au

If you can't be bothered writing, that's not a problem — catch up with Saani at choir and she'll record your brilliant oration with her trusty tape-recorder. So, put those thinking caps on folks!!



Jackie's Nimble Fingers Bring Joy to Many



After many months of fruitless searching for a new pianist, help arrived in the form of one of our very own members. The wonderful and multi-talented Jackie, has volunteered to play the piano for us. While the altos continue valiantly without her, Jackie's piano prowess makes a big difference to our rehearsals, and we are grateful for her generosity.

One of the music committee members succinctly summed up our sentiments when she said, "I don't know what this choir would do without Jackie!"

Nikki Mauled by Wild Cat

Last week, we were gratified to see our beloved choir member Nikki Jones still alive and well after an horrific attack by a wild cat. Although fortunate to survive, Nikki was proudly displaying her wounds to everyone. I heard the full story of what happened during the tea break - it seems that she was patting a stray cat in her yard, when it suddenly just attacked her for no reason.

When asked if playing with pussies was something she indulged in regularly, Nikki admitted that while she'd certainly excited some pussies in her time, she'd never had this reaction before. "At least I have something to show for it," she stated, "otherwise no-one would believe me."

Tea-Bitch Tracks Time

Amongst the most important roles in our choir is that of the 'Tea-Bitch.' Our current Tea-Bitch, Lesley, does a fabulous job keeping everyone in line. A difficult job like this is not without it's costs though. One main committee member said, "In my ample years of experience, I've seen many excellent Tea-Bitches struggle with insanity, or become corrupted by the power of this role. Whilst Lesley seems to enjoy the job at present, rest assured that we will be keeping a close eye on her, to ensure that her mental health is maintained while she does this vital, but often dangerous job."



Joanna's Conducting Debut

Our second rehearsal for 2005 saw us temporarily conductor-less, as Brian was indisposed. However, the daring Joanna Hall courageously decided to try her hand at conducting. I caught up with



Joanna for a brief interview at the tea break.

Saani: Tell me about your experience of conducting tonight.

Joanna: My experience of conducting tonight was very nerve-racking and if it wasn't for Cherie and Deb smiling at me, I probably would have had a complete breakdown.

Saani: So what have you learned from this experience?

Joanna: Well, I learned I could wave my arms for a long time without stopping.

Saani: Excellent. Sounds like it's been a wonderful learning experience for you.

Joanna: Yes, but I've had so many learning experiences lately, I really don't want any more.

Saani: Fair enough. So what are your plans for the rest of the night?

Joanna: Well, I have to wait here now until Jackie tells me what to do next. I think that pretty much says it all!

We congratulate Joanna on her brave attempt at conducting.

Cherie to Sing with Stars

Next weekend, Cherie will be attending the prestigious music camp, 'RhythmSong.'

Cherie eloquently told us what she was most looking forward to at the camp: "I'm going to work with the 2 ladies from Akasa. It will be just great to work in a small setting with them, feed-

ing off them, they're so amazing. I'm so excited, they're so great, they're so awesome, it's going to be so fantastic. I can't wait. I'll get to sing with them and they're so wonderful. I'm really, really excited."

We extend our best wishes to Cherie and hope that she has an excellent time.

Stay tuned for another loquacious report from Cherie, as she shares her escapades at RhythmSong in next month's edition....



Champions Wanted - Apply Now

The fabulous Fundraising Committee is seeking new members. The current membership of this elite committee, Cherie, is looking for some fun-loving folk to join her in some mercantile adventures.

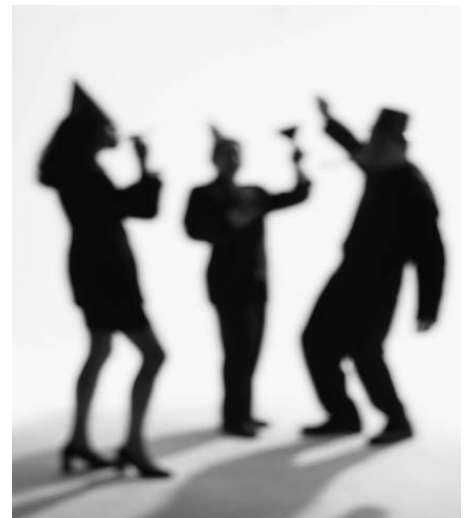
What does the job involve?

Cherie says, "it's great fun. All you have to do is play with food, money, wine, movies and music; all the good things in life. The Fundraising Committee is friendly and welcoming, and good times are

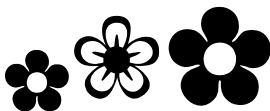
had by all."

Joining the Fundraising Committee also has other advantages; the choir will sing your praises, worship and adore you, call you a hero, shower you with compliments and occasional gifts of appreciation, give you a standing ovation after every event, and willingly agree that you are indeed superbly beautiful, brilliantly intelligent and an exceptionally good singer!!

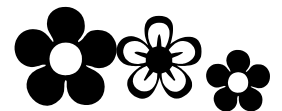
Call Cherie to apply now...



Could it be you're toasting soon?



From Woodstock to Queerstock : A few facts about our concert's heritage



It was planned as a 3-day outdoor festival of peace and music featuring a few of the new hard rock bands. The 4 organisers wanted it to be the largest rock concert in history. (Prior to Woodstock, the largest was 20,000). At the time, Bob Dylan lived in a town called Woodstock, which the organisers thought would be a good name for the event. Bob Dylan did not appear at the festival, however, and it was held nowhere near Woodstock. The organizers expected around 100,000 people, but

word spread and 450,000 showed up. Initially, a ticket for the day cost \$8, but when 200,000 people arrived on the first morning, it quickly became a free event.

It started raining on the Friday night, and kept raining for most of the 3 days. Once you arrived, you had to stay, there was nowhere to go—no place to sleep, bathe, nowhere to eat, nothing. The music was often terrible, the sound system failed during the rain, the grassland turned to mud and the

stage began to slide down the hill. Nobody cared though. It was enough just to be there. Performers at Woodstock included Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, the Grateful Dead, Richie Havens, Jefferson Airplane and Arlo Guthrie.

Nearly 40 years later, Woodstock lives on, more myth than reality in the memories of those who attended, and those who wish they had. I'm sure that our own "Queerstock" will have all the atmosphere, but none of the difficulties of the original...

An Operatic Note



Just for fun...

Opera is when a guy gets stabbed in the back and instead of bleeding he sings. ~ Edward Gardner

People are wrong when they say that opera is not what it used to be. It is what it used to be. That's what's wrong with it. ~ Noel Coward

I went to watch Pavarotti once. He doesn't like it when you join in. ~ Mick Miller

Opera: I like it, except for all those howling sopranos and caterwauling tenors. ~ Edward Abbey

(Editor's note - the fact that the ed. is an alto had no bearing on the choice of these quotes - truly!).

GAMES NIGHT

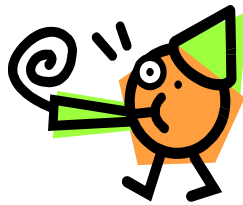
Come along for an evening of games & giggles, fun & frivolity, camaraderie & carrying-on...

Where : Saani's Place - 4/13 Grant Place, Bentley

When : Saturday 2nd April, 7.30pm

What to bring : A plate to share for supper, drinks if you wish and your favorite suitable-for-largish-groups board games.

RSVP VITAL !! Please let Saani know if you will be coming. She needs to know numbers in order to rearrange her furniture (or borrow a bigger house if necessary!!)



Dates for the Diary

21st March - Events Committee meeting
(6pm at Saani's)

2nd April - Games Night

26th April - Main Committee meeting
(7pm at Rikki's)

5th May - Small Group Items due for presentation

21st May - "Queerstock," our 60s concert

NOTICES

- * Anyone with 60s posters or items we could use for decoration for the concert, please let Tennille know.
- * Anyone who has feedback, ideas or suggestions about our website, please talk to Cherie.
- * Don't forget to organize your small group items and section rehearsals. 9 weeks to go until the concert!!

Meet Your Main Committee



Jackie - Convener,

Chief Diplomat and general all-purpose Guru. Also our current pianist, alto extraordinaire and "oldest" choir member



Joanna - Publicity

Occasional pianist, conductor, and our have-a-go-at anything person.



Saani - Events Committee Rep & editor of newsletter.



Cherie - Fundraising

Our hardworking cash-creator, lone tenor representative, team enthusiasm coach.



Liz B - Treasurer and treasure. Also our one of our dancing queens, Michigan Women's Music Fest consultant, wise woman and reliability expert.



Liz W - Secretary,

Sage, superstar, and smiling Samaritan.



Rikki - Members

Also Head of the Denmark Committee, member of the Gay Games Research Team, miracle worker and superwoman.

Well folks, this is your marvelous Main Committee for 2005. If you have any problems, things you'd like to discuss, ideas, suggestions, or if you just want information - go to one of these wise and all-knowing people, and they will cater to your needs (within reason, of course).