

Director's Report – AGM 2012-2013

Review of the year since our last AGM:-

Coaching

Kim Vaughn in May and August
Lynne Smith in September
Kim, Lynne and Diane Huber were also on hand in Denver during our rehearsals

Performing

Evaluation at Region 34 Convention in Canberra
McDonalds Performing Arts Challenge
Channel 9 Morning Show
Seasons of Love Show
Eastern Region Concert
Australia/New Zealand pre-contest show in Denver
Competed in SAI International Chorus Contest
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (2 appearances)
City of Sydney Council (2 appearances)
Ringmasters Show at Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Songs added to repertoire

Blame It On The Boogie
Seasons of Love
Fireworks
It's A Pity To Say Goodnight
And So to Sleep Again
What'll I Do
How Many Hearts Have You Broken
Pure Imagination
Everything

In January 2013, I met with the music team and together we formulated a re-structure of the team to allow some of the longer serving members a chance to change their role and train incoming members.

As such the four original section leaders, Stephanie Wallbank, Doris Ward, Diane Jenkins and Janet New became section co-ordinators and trainers. The new section leaders for each section are:-

**BASS
LEAD**

Jenny Do Rosario
Krista Fulcher

**BARI
TENOR**

Sarah Greaves
Cheryl Benson

The Visual Team has also undergone a re-structure with Heather Wills stepping into the role of chorus choreographer and Betty continuing to work with front row. Diane Jenkins will work with pod leaders.

Coming up this year we have a number of coaches scheduled:-

Betty Clipman (May)
Karen Breidert (June)
Darlene Rogers (August)
Dale Syverson (March 2014)

In the past twelve months I have previewed approximately 40 potential songs – with 4 new songs to be added to the repertoire (so far).

The music team (special thanks to Janet New) has organised a Scratch Quartet program to help members gain skills and confidence singing their part. Further evenings will be scheduled throughout the year.

In order to have a succinct plan of action to meet our goals, we have introduced The Pyramid of Success to instil individual understanding of member s' contributions to the chorus 'team'. Behaviours that help to strengthen the foundation blocks of the pyramid are encouraged and valued.

As such, members can be shown appreciation for adhering to "learn by dates" – thereby earning their place on the risers. Members who are not 'off paper' will show those members courtesy by remaining off the risers until they have sufficiently learned their songs.

Riser taping is required within the recording dates for each song. Should members be unable to meet the dates, they may submit recordings made against the part missing recording (honesty policy – members are expected to do this without reading the music) and/or in a quartet.

In order to increase our score at the next Regional Contest in 2014, the criteria for performance readiness will include singing the contest repertoire in a quartet as well as a visual performance assessment.

Further, there will be an attendance requirement to be eligible to compete at regional contest. Members are to attend every rehearsal for six weeks leading up to contest. Should a member (due to illness or unforeseen circumstance) be unable to attend, their eligibility to compete will be decided by previous attendance records, the number of rehearsals missed in this period (cannot be more than two out of six) and the member must be fully passed on all performance assessments.

Another initiative to help all members to improve their 'condition' is for every individual to participate in a program to build Chorus' breathing skills. The music team will train in this in the coming weeks and then chorus members will have their chance to learn and develop a higher level of breathing skill.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank every member of Circular Keys Chorus for your contribution to this amazing 'team'. Your desire to learn, to improve and to grow as an individual is what makes this Chorus what it is today and what it can be tomorrow.

I also must thank the members of the Music Team who patiently work with me to help make all of this happen:-

Stephanie Wallbank	Janet New	Doris Ward	Diane Jenkins
Sarah Greaves	Krista Fulcher	Jenny Do Rosario	Cheryl Benson
Karen Magno	Jan Bird	Vicki Sutton	Betty Fuller
Janet Dunn	Jo Brice	Amanda Andrews	Heather Wills

Special thanks to Stephanie Wallbank for her administrative assistance, advice and encouragement.

Additional thanks go to the sub-committees who help with preparing the music for the chorus:-

Copyright and performance permission -	Vicki Sutton
Notation, riser sheets and music updates -	Heather Finch

I also wish to thank the members of the Management Team who are always very supportive of the musical goals and needs of the chorus. Special thanks to Liz Perry for her constant support.

Vicki Dwyer
Master Director
Circular Keys Chorus