CKC Management Team
October 29, 2014

**SMALL CHORUS RATIONALE**

 As requested at our recent Music Team meeting, please accept this written proposal to form a small performing chorus from singers within CKC, to work towards providing a professional group of singers who are available for daytime and charity sing outs. I agreed to trial this group after many requests to do so over a long period of time!

In terms of our vision and goals, this can only have a positive outcome. In our Strategic Plan (revised May 2014) we agreed that all girls should be encouraged to be ‘active members’ of the chorus, and one of our aims in Goal 4 is to raise our profile in the community. Goal 2 involved retaining membership, and improving welfare of our members in order to retain them. By giving some of the recently retired members, and those who are free in the daytime especially, the chance to do some charity sing-outs, we will increase their feelings of belonging and satisfaction. The offshoots are also valuable, having singers gain confidence and raising their skill levels can only enhance our chorus’ sound and cohesion.

As you are probably aware we’ve already formed this group, **A Bunch of Keys**, and have had three successful and enjoyable rehearsals at various homes with attendances ranging from 10-12. A few more singers have indicated they’ll join us later in the year or next year. We currently have four performances booked for December – for church groups, retirement villages and Hills Council groups via former member and bari, Inge Scott, who I met recently! I am anticipating several more (having just come across former member Shirley Bastik who would like us to sing in Hopetoun ARV next year) but will only accept if we have the numbers and balance, and if it doesn’t clash with, or detract from, regular chorus activities.

Of course we don’t aim to be exclusive – and CKC members are welcome to join us for any sing-outs if they can attend rehearsals and are free on the given dates (& we have room). Doris and I will decide on numbers and balance if necessary.

As you know I had at first thought we could invite CAL members (like Rosemary, Meg and Nikki) who have recently resigned for various reasons, and Associate Members – but this wasn’t deemed appropriate for many reasons as explained by Alison at our meeting. However I would like to ask again if we could include Associate Members – especially those valuable members like Krista who has gone to this status for obvious reasons, but would still like to belong in some way and who is very keen to keep up her singing – hopefully with a view to returning to our chorus some day. I don’t see any issue with this – it only affects a few - and these singers would need to attend our rehearsals and pass risers if required, the same as other members, and of course Doris and I would ensure that they are singing up to our required standards. Please consider this request as I consider it’s in the best interests of the chorus in many ways.

Finally I’d also like to ask whether we’d be able to use chorus funds if in future we wanted to purchase new music for a special occasion. I can’t see this happening too often, but it may, and of course we need to consider costs and copyright issues which are always at the foremost of our minds!

Thank you for your support.

***Stephanie Wallbank (on behalf of a great Bunch of Keys)***

**SUMMARY OF BENEFITS!**

* Expanding performance opportunities in small group format for members
* Furthering vocal development opportunities for current members
* Furthering the promotion of the CKC as quality singers and caring members of the community
* Giving community representation & contribution at a critical time of year for many elderly people (especially with Xmas sing-outs)
* Supporting in a practical way the goals and strategic planning of CKC (especially the wellbeing of members ‘actively participating’ and their sense of belonging and satisfaction)
* Offering a variety of experiences and repertoire during the intense lead-up to competition
* Extending the fun, friendship and fraternity/sorority of the SAI organisation
* Offering our AD the opportunity to gain more practical experience on a regular basis to further study towards director status
* Extending opportunities to continue practising the quality technical work gained through years of participation whilst members are temporarily unable to attend regular chorus rehearsals (if Associate Members are to be allowed)