Music Team Report - February, 2015

Our coaching session with Judy Pozgay was a wonderful step up to commence the new year. Judy worked with me and the visual team and provided us with ongoing notes and tools for developing future visual plans for the chorus.

Chorus is progressing very well with our new uptune (Fortune in Dreams). Still some tweaks needed for the visual plan due to Dale's recommendation that MD not 'disappear' during stomp. Visual team are working on ideas and hope to get Mo Field’s input on those next week.

The ballad (What Kind of Fool Am I) is going very well and I will continue to work through the areas where confusion is creating inconsistencies, and re-write the music where necessary (will do this for both songs).

The two additional rehearsals at my house were very helpful to work through problem areas for each of the sections. I will continue to offer these sessions and music team members have been encouraged to host section rehearsals ASAP to assist members with their confidence.

I have spoken to Deborah Martin regarding the edits for the video footage of our coaching with Dale Syverson. I have recommended that she only cut the moments where 'nothing' is happening and leave the rest intact. I believe that the task of editing this mass of material should not be left solely to Deborah and I prefer that all of the material be made available to members - even if that means they have to search though it to find specific moments. Pippa Anderson made comprehensive notes at each of the sessions and I have now typed these up. I will make these available to members.

Next week with Mo Field, I hope to add more spice and excitement to our contest set. We will need to video this session as well as have a note taker.

Qualification for contest will include all members singing the set in an octet. The purpose is to encourage a 'singer driven chorus' and to inspire chorus members to take on greater responsibility for contributing to the ensemble sound. I intend for this process to commence in March.

The Visual team will be videoing wedges during rehearsal as an ongoing process and will approach members to provide help where needed. The 7.00 p.m. choreo reviews are still necessary as a number of members are struggling with confidence in this area.

After much deliberation, I have decided to withdraw CKC from the upcoming "Short and Sweet" contest as we will gain more benefit from working on our material in rehearsal.

I would like to approach coaches for a retreat in 2016 and am interested in input from the Management team to take that back to Music team at our next meeting on 13/3/15.

Steph Wallbank reports on the CKC Daytime Chorus as follows:

* Doris Ward & I held a planning meeting on 5/1/15 to decide priorities, schedules and gigs etc. As you know we lost many strong members through resignations, relocation etc, and some 2014 members are unable to continue with us this year due to work and family commitments. However potential new members are in the process of retiring or cutting down work loads and are able to attend some rehearsals. So we are very much in the process of rebuilding our numbers, especially baritones, as well as our repertoire!
* We have an excellent Xmas rep but need to work on consolidating existing songs suitable for various venues, and Doris & I think it's best to aim for performances post comp in May - perhaps starting July - so we can prioritise chorus songs between now and then. As soon as we have solid dates and acceptable attendances I'll add them to the chorus calendar and make sure there are no clashes.
* At this stage we have many offers from a variety of friends and venues but won't commit to any dates until we have a good balance of singers, reasonable numbers and a solid repertoire of songs. The daytime chorus will continue to revise current chorus songs and mass songs including the Australian set which are always popular. We're also happy to be involved in the new members' campaigns, singing at various centres and handing out cards or flyers when the time comes, to promote CKC.
* To date we've had two daytime rehearsals, both well attended, especially the first on 14/1/15, where all chorus members were invited to revise the program of songs for the Australia Day performance.
* We intend to continue as per last year, with a view to being flexible with rehearsal dates to fit in with chorus needs. To this end we have cancelled next Wed's rehearsals so our members can focus on skills from Dale Syverson's wonderful coaching weekend and give 100% energy & attention to Mo Field!

Vicki Dwyer

Musical Director

CKC