

Curtain Call

Devonport Choral Society

Newsletter

December 2019

President's Message

I have always thought of the Devonport Choral Society as a huge extended family. Just like any family, we face change, we cope with loss and and we celebrate our accomplishments. The last 12 months have brought about all these things (which you will read about further on). But one of the benefits of being in a big family is that we can work through our challenges together. Even when someone moves on to a new phase, a new show, a new company, the Devonport Choral Society will always be part of their history, and they will always be part of the DCS family.

Recently we lost Life Member Ray Krist. Ray was one of my favourite Life Members. Even though he and his wife Pauline hadn't been heavily involved with the Society for many years when I first joined, they were so interested in what we were doing, came along to dress rehearsals and made special cards for the casts and crews. I remember them both fondly and will be forever grateful for their support and warm welcome. Members are invited to celebrate Ray's life with us on Friday 10 January. More info is included later.

Right On Cue have been part of DCS since 2008. When Petrina Jahnz and I first formed the group, it was supposed to be a short term project specifically so we could have a choir at *Viva Voices*, our first choral festival. Our little group had so much fun singing together, that we all wanted to keep it going. Since then, the choir has gone from strength to strength and has a fantastic reputation for high quality choral work, a welcoming culture and a warm community spirit. I feel a great sense of pride in Right On Cue. Often the public face of DCS, the choir has been a valuable part of our organisation. The group has decided to break away from DCS and create an independent organisation. We wish them well in their future endeavors. To find out how to become a member of Right On Cue in the future, read on.

We have had a very busy year, theatrically speaking. *Downtown! The Mod Musical* was a huge success at the paranaple arts centre. The show was a feel-good romp through the 1960s, with a group of friends bonding through a magazine. This wasn't a classic musical, but more of a revue, with the stories of the five women winding through some of the most iconic music of that decade. It was followed up with *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*, performed at Port Sorell. This was another departure from our regular format. Not only was it performed in an untried venue (The Banksia Centre), where we had little infrastructure to work with, but this presentation wasn't even a musical in the true sense of the word, rather a play with music. It was stunningly delivered to critical acclaim.

I am so proud of our achievements this year and am very excited about what 2020 will bring. We hope, as part of the DSC family, that you will be there to be part of it.

Maree Brodzinski

Vale Ray Krist (Rai Kristovskis) 16.3.1927 - 11.11.2019

Ray passed peacefully away in Windsor, Victoria last month.

Originally from Latvia, Ray spent his adult years in Devonport, where he and his wife Pauline (dec) were valued members of the Devonport Choral Society family.

Both Life Members, Ray and Pauline mostly stayed behind the scenes. Ray was our main lighting operator from the early 1970s and into the 1990s and contributed to shows such as "The Sound of Music", "The Music Man" and "Kiss Me Kate".

Our thoughts are with Anne, Lisa, Alex and their families.

Devonport Choral Society members are invited to a celebration of Ray's life. His family would really appreciate you coming armed with any anecdotes or stories to



Pauline and Ray in 2003

share about Ray. If you have any photos of Ray that we could send to his family, please send them to mareebrodzinski@gmail.com

Light Refreshments and Alcohol/ Tea/Coffee will be served (plus a Schnapps Toast as Rai would want it!)

The Paranaple Centre
The Aberdeen Room
Friday 10th January 2020, 2-4pm

Please RSVP as soon as possible so we can arrange catering - mareebrodzinski@gmail.com

Life Member's & Patron's Bursary Recipient



Hannah as "Orange Girl"
Photo by Jake Jacobson

As we had two productions this year, both filled with extraordinary talent, there were many very worthy contenders for this year's Life Member's & Patron's Bursary.

We are delighted to announce the recipient of this year's award is Hannah Lee-Archer. Hannah has been in a few DCS productions including *The Secret Garden* and *All Shook Up*.

In 2019, Hannah was outstanding as the wise and soulful "Orange Girl" in *Downtown! The Mod Musical*. Hannah's enthusiasm for musical theatre is evident for all to see, as are her talents as an actress, singer, dancer, and story-teller. She was a supportive, positive, and enthusiastic cast member and colleague, both on- and off-stage and her performances mirrored this dedication, preparation, and enjoyment.

Our thanks to the generous Life Members and Patrons who support our Bursary recipients to further their knowledge in the performing arts.

DCS Goes The Full Monty in 2020

Casting is complete for *The Full Monty*! The production team wish to thank all those that auditioned and to congratulate those 26 talented people who will make up our terrific cast.

The Full Monty – The Musical largely follows the story line of the 1997 hit film. The musical is set in the steel city of Buffalo, NY and, unlike the movie, has its own musical score. It is the story of a group of unemployed men who hit rock bottom and decide, after much ado, to bare all to raise some funds to get by. To do so, they hide their intentions from family and friends, develop a collective bond amongst each other, and finally face their audience and their fears. It's all about their journey from despair to co-dependence and self-belief. The full monty is a means, not an end!

Rehearsals will start on Sunday 19th of January, and on Mondays and Wednesday evenings. There has been a good deal of preparatory work already on TFM, scripts are distributed, and several design meetings to finalise our set.

Devonport Choral Society thrives on encouraging a whole range of people to become involved in musical theatre. We design, build, and paint our own sets, design and make our own costumes, and use local technicians and designers to light our shows, and provide our audio and visual effects. We set out to provide our audiences with a variety of musical theatre experiences, and TFM is just such an example, after successful seasons of *Downtown* and *Little Voice* this year.

However, in seeking to do so, we have recently found that a number of contemporary, popular musicals that have been publicly advertised for Community Theatre groups, have been denied to us (2 shows by 2 different theatre licensing agencies) on the grounds that they are already exclusively set aside for undesignated groups in Tasmania – and this exclusivity appears to be in train for 12 or more months in advance. We believe this is a worrying trend and we hope it doesn't continue for much longer or negatively affects or constrains other musical theatre group's decision- making or choices. The demographics and geography of Tasmania can cope with parallel productions in the same year, and always will!

The Full Monty hits the stage in Devonport on 15th of May, 2020, and already has generated plenty of audience and media interest. Tickets are available from the paranable arts centre.

DEVONPORT
Choral Society Inc

THE FULL MONTY

paranable arts centre
15-30 May
2020

The Cast

Jerry Lukowski	Mason Waller
Dave Bukatinsky	Aaron Beck
Malcolm MacGregor	Ezra Shelverton
Ethan Girard	Zac Weeks
Noah "Horse" T. Simmons	David Lee
Harold Nichols	Mark Denny
Jeanette Burmeister	Tash Turner
Georgie Bukatinsky	Helenmarie
Pam Lukowski	Dayna Dennison
Nathan Lukowski	Alex Sherry
Vicki Nichols	Carolyn Harris
Buddy "Keno" Walsh	Kamil Douglas
Teddy Slaughter	Tim Squire
Reg Willoughby	Paul Smith
Estelle	Sherry Rand

Ensemble

Billy Hawkins	Ashley Eyles
Caiden Smith	Elizabeth Viney
Damien Harvey	Emma Walker
Rick Day	Chelsea Williams
Rob Douglas	Jayne-Lee Townsend
Trenton Hoare	

Ensemble members will play various character roles throughout the show

Right On Cue News

After many months of discussion and negotiation, *Right On Cue* feels the time has come to become a separate entity to DCS.

The choir has been part of the DCS family for over 11 years, and for quite a few years the choir has been run by a separate Committee of its members. The Committee, along with Petrina Jahnz (Musical Director) and Jake Jacobson (Chairperson) has been organising programming, performances, purchase of assets and music, and workshops.

We wish the choir and its members all the best for the future.

Anyone wishing to join the choir in the New Year can contact Jake on 0419 393 582 or email ROC at roc.choir.dev@gmail.com.



New Patrons

For the past few years, we have had some great sponsorship from Terry and Pam of FreeHart. We thank them for their generous support. Again, they are major contributors to next year's main show, *The Full Monty*.

We would also like to welcome Terry and Pam as our newest Patrons. They are joining our returning Patron, Devonport Mayor Annette Rockliff.



We look forward to working with all our patrons in the coming year.

If you are interested in becoming a Show or Society Sponsor, please contact our Secretary at dev_choral@hotmail.com.

Devonport Choral Society Inc

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Current Committee

President - Maree Brodzinski

Senior Vice President - Meegan Hughes

2nd Vice President - Emil Djacic

Secretary/Public Officer - Jane Foote

Treasurer - Felicity Sly

Assets Manager - Kimbra Westcott

Choir Liaison Officer - Felicity Sly

Wardrobe Custodian - Jenny Slater

Members: Sid Sidebottom, John Lee-Archer, Belinda Gunson, Guy Carey, Will Lawson, Andrea Harding, Barbara Gilbery

Patrons: Devonport Mayor Cr Annette Rockliff, Terry and Pam of FreeHart



www.devonportchoral.org