

SOUNDWAVES SNIPPITS



PRESIDENT REPORT. Information for those who are attending the National Convention and Competition and who have arranged to book together with us at the Mercure Welcome Hotel in Little Bourke Street Melbourne.

We must finalise the names of those who will be in each hotel room and pay the additional 40% deposit bringing the total deposit up to 50% of the rooms cost. The Hotel Management do require payment from Soundwaves to grant us the group rate. This payment has to be made at the beginning of July.

I request that you reimburse Soundwaves your share before the end of July.

The final payment is due 30 days prior to our occupancy.

The booking is for 16th Sept. check in / check out Sunday morning 20th.

119.00 per night for Standard twin/double for Wed. & Thurs.

159.00 each for Fri. & Sat nights. Triple rooms extra

We still have rooms available if you wish to join us for this great experience.

Geoff.

M. D. REPORT. It is great to see the continual improvement in our singing. It is a credit to all those who are working hard to make this happen. Unfortunately the learning of songs is still very slow. I would urge all singers to spend more time at home learning the new charts. It has been decided to implement a new standard for competing in competitions.

The requirements are:

1. The singer must know notes and words 100%.
2. The singer must be able to sing competition songs in quartet.
3. The singer must know the choreo 100% and commit to the performance of same.
4. The singer must attend 2 of the last 4 rehearsals prior to competition. (At the M.D.s and assistant M.D.s discretion.

At the moment we compete a maximum of twice a year. There will be no change of requirements for all other singouts.

All singers who wish to compete will be given as much help as possible to reach the level required.

Remember that Monday the 13th is bring along your uniform for photos.

Monday 20th is open rehearsal. Bring your wife or partner, friends and family for a relaxed fun night. Anyone who would like to entertain the throng with an item let me know prior to the night. Already have some willing participants.

Some of us will be coming early and having dinner at the club. Talk to me or Geoff about that if you are interested. The night will finish approx 9.00p.m.

Gary.

Members Bio.

One of the most recent members to join the Soundwaves Chorus is Doug Stewart who was born in Maitland, N.S.W. in 1931. He went to school at Maitland High and then to Newcastle Grammar which was situated at Morpeth at the time. On leaving school he went to work at Radio 2HR as a copywriter and then became a presenter. After a few years he moved to 2LF at Young and then 2GZ at Orange. He also did a few radio plays with the A.B.C. and took part in plays and musicals at Maitland and Newcastle.

He went to the U.K. in 1952 and joined repertory companies in Devon, Kent and Guernsey in the Channell Islands. These companies used to learn and rehearse a full length play every week. In the evenings they would be performing the play they rehearsed the week before. Needless to say, it's hard work but good training.

This led to involvement in touring productions which included 'Starmaker', 'Something's Afoot', 'Arsenic and Old Lace', and his personal favourite, Lionel Bart's, 'Oliver!'

There were also small parts in films and television.

Doug took a break from theatre and studied for a degree at Birmingham University on a State Scholarship for Mature Students. This led to his becoming a teacher at Swindon in Wiltshire.

He took early retirement and went back to the theatre before returning to Australia in 1999.

He wrote a musical which was staged at the Manning Entertainment Centre in 2005, and is currently working on another one based on the life of Les Darcy who was also born in Maitland. He believes that two or three of his songs would be suitable for the Barbershop Treatment and he is waiting for another member to step forward with an offer to do the arrangement.

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT FOR COMPETITION

The primary purpose of competing should be to have fun, entertain an audience, and make yourself a better performer by taking what you learn from the experience and applying it in all your other performances.

Many Barbershoppers view a contest as a win/lose experience, which is an extremely narrow outlook. If winning is everything, you could end up a frustrated group of singers. In such a context, losing is more than just not winning; losing is feeling bad when the contest is over, knowing you could – and should – have done more. Actually you can "win" by accepting your current stage of development and pushing to perform better at each opportunity, knowing that you will continue to improve.

The personal benefits of competing far exceed the momentary glory of finishing first in a contest. To the individual who performs to the best of their ability, but does not finish first, goes the inner satisfaction of what he, personally, accomplished. An empty victory awaits the 'leaner' who finished first, but knows he failed to perform to his true potential.

Another factor to be considered is the joy and exhilaration you receive by winning an audience, an experience that far surpasses anything you might get from a trophy. An inanimate object cannot communicate an expression of love, but an audience can.

Competition serves as a device to measure your personal rate of growth and directs you to the skills needed to advance to the next highest level. This results in a greater personal satisfaction for you and a higher degree of entertainment for the audience.

We can only control what we do. If we continually push to better ourselves in this wonderful craft of ours, the results will look after themselves.