

**BLACKSTONE-IPSWICH CAMBRIAN CHOIR INC**  
**ANNUAL REPORT - 2015**

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This report is being sent electronically to members and will be posted on our website. Some copies will be available (in limited numbers) on hardcopy prior to the meeting.

# 1. Management Committee Report 2015

The Outgoing Management Committee are:

President	Warren Haag
Vice president	Murray Milliken
Secretary	Rena Stevens
Treasurer	Marellen Haag
Assistant Treasurer	Warren Parcell
Librarian	Jeremy Lloyd
Publicity Officer	Lauren Roche
Assistant Publicity Officer	Nicola Harris
Membership Officer	Rebecca Pick

## **An emotional year for our Choir Community.**

We started and ended with the passing away of two very dear members. We lost both of them to cancer. Sue Vidler passed just before our last Annual General Meeting, and fought to the very end to be part of her beloved choir family.

Blodwyn Whitehead was teacher, mentor and leading light to so many in the choir community. She fought relentlessly to keep our choirs going. Blodwyn passed just before Christmas. She served us well as patron and worked tirelessly until she could serve no more. Blodwyn showed so many people what pleasure and joy could come from music. We miss both of our ladies very much.

## **Various memorable events throughout our year.**

- Penn State Concert at St Pauls – this was a wonderful musical feast with beautiful and diverse sounds from the performances of both Pennsylvania State University choir and from our own home grown Cambrians. Good to foster relations and “harmony” with other choirs and countries.
- Winds of Song Concert at St Mary’s – different sound, different audience but equally wonderful.
- Inverell Trip – our weekend away to the home town of ex Cambrian members to spread the word and share the singing. Those of us lucky enough to go were blown away by the overwhelming hospitality of Gayle and Mark and their cohorts in singing. We were also delighted to share in a unique church service on the Sunday with the wonderfully welcoming Bruderhof’s Danthonia Community.

- Vocal Infusion – the show choir are just marvellous at this sort of thing
- Touch of Class – soloists make their mark
- The Gala night at the Civic Centre
- Theatre Restaurant – hectic as always, but great fun and our main fund raiser
- Brassall Carols – community getting together to show what talent we have in Ipswich and to sing traditional Christmas carols and songs
- Ipswich Rosewood Coal Miners Memorial Trust – the privilege of singing at their opening ceremony to honour the Welsh miners, many of whom helped form the beginnings of our choir’s heritage.

### **Committee works:**

- Applying for and receiving of a grant which enabled us to purchase 240 new, comfortable chairs, 25 new lighter-weight tables and a fibreglass stepladder.
- Updating leases and getting them consolidated.
- Pigeon holes replaced, freeing up access room
- Working hard with publicity to create new areas we can explore for audiences – schools, community pages in newspapers, “out there” awareness and relationships with the community when other activities are on eg. Taking flyers and having a stall set up for Bunnings fun day
- Updating our Choir web site
- Creating Costume area on facebook to advertise this area. We have a lot of competition now from costume sites.
- General maintenance works – a few examples being, the fixing of broken windows and latches, fixing of Kitchen door, Honour board up to date, big shed cleanout, varnishing of outdoor wooden steps. There are many more – and with a building of our age there are always things to do. Some things we would like to do, but because of our hall’s age can involve a lot more work and expense than people realise. Eg. Just changing the fans can involve factors like can the wires we have cope with that – does it involve a complete rewiring etc. etc. We have a lot of choir members, and a lot of maintenance to get through. It would be really appreciated if you could all think carefully about your responsibilities to our Choir community and try and get yourselves along to some of our working bees. The more people involved, the more we get done. We all lead busy lives, but digging that little bit deeper to help your fellow volunteers keep our Choir and its home going would be so fantastic. Just think – social interaction; loads of exercise, lots of bonding – it has the makings of a party!
- Trivia nights and group bookings of other productions – helping to raise funds and build other connections within the combined choir family and the community we live in.

## **Trophies and Tributes**

- We have renewed our commitments to various trophies which we sponsor for the Queensland Eisteddfod.
- We were invited by Queensland Eisteddfod to have a Trophy named in honour of Blodwyn and have taken up their offer.

A big thank you to all of our conductors and accompanists who do such a great job every year and dedicate a lot of hours to making us a great choir. Thank you to all our members for their support, and to our hardworking committee for all the long hours and myriad of little things which often go unnoticed, to keep us going as a great family of choristers. Thank you to our members who go above and beyond in supporting us in costumes, hall hire, kitchens, organising events, helping with raffles, creating beautiful flyers, working bees and all the other ways that have been invaluable to our organisation running smoothly. Give yourselves a clap, because we do.

Rena Stevens  
Secretary

### 3. BLACKSTONE-IPSWICH CAMBRIAN CHOIR

#### AGM REPORT JANUARY 2015 - 16

As Conductor of the Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Senior Choir, it is with much pleasure that I present my report to this annual general meeting.

Rehearsals for the 2015 choral year began on January 19 with the **Queensland Eisteddfod** repertoire preparation, giving us three weeks before the **Choral Retreat** weekend at Women's College St. Lucia on February 7 and 8. It was great to have **Jason Barry-Smith** return to work with the choir on vocal technique to improve breathing, blend and vowel unification. **Adam French**, also gave a short workshop on vowel shape and placement from a linguistic perspective which certainly gave members food for thought. Thank you to those who contributed to the success of this intensive working weekend on both a musical and organizational aspect.

The **Showcase Concert** on March 29 at Ipswich Civic Theatre, featured "mystery guest" and past Cambrian Senior Choir Conductor, **Kim Kirkman** who serenaded us with a range of songs, some self accompanied on harp or violin. The concert, a showcase for all the talent of the organisation, featured fine performances from four of our Cambrian choirs (Youth, Junior and ShowChoir), combining forces for the Finale.

The choral sections of the **Queensland Eisteddfod** were held at **Brisbane City Hall** from **April 3 - 4**. The choir performed extremely well with great clarity, ensemble precision and musicality in every section we entered. The musical highlights were the Welsh Hymn (sung completely in Welsh) winning 1<sup>st</sup> place, Modern Chorus 2<sup>nd</sup> place and our small ensemble winning 1<sup>st</sup> place. We received places and mentions in other sections as well. Congratulations to everyone on their hard work and dedication in the learning and artistic interpretative process. The journey is just as important as the destinations along the way and I was very pleased with the standard of our performances as we continue to strive for musical excellence and score insight.

We were fortunate to have a visit from the **Penn State University Concert Choir** under the direction of former Cambrian Choir conductor, **Dr. Christopher Kiver** on May 19. The combined concert was a great success in terms of music performance and audience attendance. It was lovely to see and catch up with so many past members at this event. The Cambrian Senior Choir performed with great conviction and musicality – some comments mentioning that it was "better than the Eisteddfod". It was also an educational experience for our own members to hear a choir of this calibre performing difficult modern repertoire.

**Winds of Song**, a very successful concert music-wise was held on May 31 at **St. Mary's Church**. **Monash Lal**, our guest flutist complimented the program beautifully. Despite the great publicity with a photo in the local papers, we had quite a disappointing audience attendance. It was a shame as the venue was incredible to sing in, the program was perfect in the acoustics and our guest artist played brilliantly. A lovely experience for our members nevertheless!

The Cambrian Senior Choir took to the road on June 6 to travel to Inverell on the invitation of the **Inverell Music Appreciation Group**. The initial idea came from past members Gayle and

Mark Leonard, who moved to the area a few years ago. A choir of 35 choristers presented a concert in the Town Hall to an audience that was most appreciative of our versatility and standard of excellence. We also visited Danthonia, a community outside Inverell to give a short morning concert. It was a most enjoyable weekend sharing music which also provided a social opportunity for choristers to mix with newer members and meet new people. Thanks to **Rena and Dale Stevens** and **Marellen Haag** for organizing this short tour and to **Nigel Lewis** for driving the bus. We have yet to sift for our Sapphires – a thank you gift from the weekend.

**Welcome to the 60s** was the theme chosen for our 2015 Theatre Restaurant season. The rehearsal schedule began on June 8 culminating with 6 performances over 3 weekends from August 21. There was a much smaller cast this year, which made staging and choreography easier to accommodate. According to the audience it was a raging success! The costumes looked fabulous and we maintained an excellent choice of quality musical arrangements, enhanced by backing tracks (as appropriate) and our accompanying musicians. The power point presentation of 60s ads and movie/TV clips added another dimension to the entertainment and seemed to be much enjoyed by all, judging by the laughing and singing along. Once again producer/director **Murray Milliken** brought his creative vision to the stage in a show that traced events, trends and music of the individual years of the 60s. Thank you to our team of choreographers **Nicola Harris and Rebekah Barns**, our music team **Katrina May, Bronwyn French and Adam French** (for his professional backing tracks, guitar accompaniment and acting as assistant musical director) and to all the members who volunteered to work behind the scenes (props, costumes, stage preparation, kitchen, front of house). Special thanks to **Warren Haag** and **Eric Milliken** and assistants for bringing their professional expertise in lighting and sound. Thanks once again to **Jan Mundt, Marellen Haag** and their working bee team for decorating the auditorium with period flair. Great team effort from all involved!

In addition to the major events of the year, the choir gave performances in celebration of 40 years of the opening of the **Ipswich Civic Theatre** on July 18 (a solo spot and participation in the massed finale backing Cate Cebrano) and also, 20 years of the **Brassall Carols** on November 27 (Cambrian Youth Choir, Senior Choir and Coro) presenting a bracket of modern and traditional Christmas repertoire.

Each year, I am pleased and proud to personally acknowledge the valuable talents and assistance of our music team and talented choristers (with professional music background): Official Accompanist **Katrina May**, Youth & Junior Choir Conductor **Michelle French** who provides musical support whenever needed, Youth/Junior/Showchoir Accompanist and Senior Choir Sectional Leader, **Bronwyn French** and resident linguist, music tech extraordinaire, Showchoir director and senior choir sectional leader, **Adam French**. We are very fortunate to have this professional support basis, which I believe is an integral key to the success of our concert programs and to the development of the organization in its many facets.

Thank you to librarian **Jeremy Lloyd** and **Karen Bradberry** for their support in maintaining and organizing the choral music library – a huge job as we all can appreciate! Thank you to **Debbie Lewis** who shares her artistic flair in designing graphics and artwork for our concert promotional materials, giving our promotional materials great professionalism. Thank you to

**Lauren Roche** for her work as promotions officer advertising concerts and the like, securing some great opportunities through the local media, and keeping the Cambrian Face Book page up to date with details for forthcoming events and interesting choral information.

I would like to thank the President, **Warren Haag** and the hard working management committee for their support in finance, promotion and administration for the organization as a whole. 2016 promises to be another year of great singing, with new musical challenges and directions. Wishing you all the best for the continuation and strengthening of the choral traditions of the Cambrian Choirs.

SANDRA MILLIKEN

Conductor, Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir

March 10, 2016

## 4. BLACKSTONE-IPSWICH CAMBRIAN CHOIR

### CORO CONCORDE

#### AGM REPORT APRIL 2015

As Conductor of the Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir's Coro Concorde, it is with much pleasure that I present the annual report for the third year since its foundation to the annual general meeting.

Coro Concorde began 2015 rehearsals on Wednesday April 29. The choir has approximately 30 members, which fluctuates throughout the year dependent on holidays and sickness. We welcomed two new sopranos.

Our first performance for the year, presenting a number of revised concert pieces from 2014, was at the **Glebe Road Uniting Church Women's Fellowship** on June 3. The choir performed very well and the audience was impressed with our program. We were all chuffed to receive a small gift as well as a donation for our performance. Many of the members also stayed for lunch to help support the fund raising cause.

**Cool Change** was the first morning tea concert performance at the Cambrian Centre on July 22. The choir prepared a range of music that had some association with being cool (water, wind and Autumn). Cool Change, Drunken Sailor, I am Sailing, The Old Palmer Song, Blowing in the Wind featured in the program and we are fortunate to have lovely soloists to compliment the performance. Thank you to all the members who worked very hard on table decorations, cooking heart warming soups and making sandwiches to cater for the audience of 120. We had many compliments on the quality of the music and the standard of our singing in the concert program. Once again, a sing-along was included, always a welcome aspect for the attending demographic.

Coro was invited to perform at **Booval Fair** on August 19 for **Seniors Week**. This presented another opportunity for us to advertise the health, social and educational benefits of singing. Thank you to **Lauren Roche** for organizing this and providing the space etc. We had quite a good crowd for the audience and a sing a long was encouraged as part of our Theatre Restaurant advertising. For the choristers, it was also a rewarding experience. It was lovely to see some past and present Cambrian members in the audience.

Coro was also invited to perform in the commemoration service and unveiling of the **Coal Miner's Memorial at Limestone Park** on October 17. With the addition of a few Senior Choir members, we performed You Raise Me Up, the Welsh National Anthem and a number of Hymns. It was a moving ceremony and our contribution was much appreciated.

The second morning tea concert on November 25 was **Happy Holidays** - a mixture of sunny, holiday songs and Christmas songs with an island/beach theme featuring Beyond the Sea, Sloop John B, Island in the Sun, Under the Boardwalk, Here Comes the Sun, Yellow Submarine and Calypso Carol. It was a fun concert with many bright costumes complete with

solo accompanied by ukulele and themed table decorations (thanks to **Jo Hales**). Thank you to all the members who contributed to the success of this concert.

Once again, congratulations to all our Coro Concorde members and supporters for their beautiful singing and volunteer teamwork throughout 2015. Thank you to **Lauren Roche** for her promotional work in securing photographs and editorials in the local newspapers to advertise our concerts. I would especially like to mention the continuing support and dedication of both **Rena and Dale Stevens**, who have been responsible for concert coordination, library/music organization and general front of house rehearsal duties. Everyone really appreciates and values your roles in ensuring Coro Concorde is organized and successful. Thank you!

I take this opportunity to wish all Coro Concorde members another successful year of great singing in 2016.

Sandra Milliken

Musical Director and Accompanist

March 10, 2016

## **5. Librarian's Report 2015.**

The year just past has again been a significant one for the Library. As usual, there are large numbers to report. Over 36 new pieces have been added to the Library from the Senior Choir and Show Choir alone, resulting in more than 1300 new parts costing well over \$3,000. Thousands of parts have been checked out of the library and checked back in. Over a thousand dollars was raised at the Trivia Night on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of July, resulting in a new computer to help with cataloguing the Library's collection and new storage to organise member music folders.

Administratively, 2015 saw the consolidation of some practices and the introduction of a few new ways of doing things. With respect to consolidation, the process of barcoding, checking out and returning the 2015 and 2016 Eisteddfod music was more effective than in previous years. There were some challenges to checking out and returning music in the first part of the year, as the concert with the Penn State University Choir, the "Winds of Song" concert and the tour to Inverell shared similar (but not the same) repertoire and participating members with the Eisteddfod. These challenges required using both paper based and electronic check-out lists, sign-on sheets and PowerPoint presentations to help Choir members know which pieces they required and which they did not.

Among the new approaches adopted have been the updated member inboxes, storing each set of music in plastic zip-lock bags, and the purchase of the Library's first new computer for many years. The newly purchased bookcases and cupboard were installed to replace the large pigeonhole unit, freeing up space in the Hall. The plastic bags provide protection from the elements and from insects. They also reduce the risk of music being damaged while being handled, and make each set easier to locate. The new computer, just installed, replaces an old laptop on loan from the Librarian, and will improve the cataloguing process.

These purchases were made possible by the "60s vs 70s Trivia Night". After some concerns about whether enough people would attend, there was a very good turnout. The enthusiastic crowd was very patient with the presenter (who was attempting some technologically challenging feats to get the night to work properly) and fully embraced the theme of the night, singing along to the music and wearing some eye-opening fashions. A number of very generous sponsors including UltraTune Booval, Café 43, Summerville's Booval Butchers, the Ipswich Brew Co., and Dan Murphy's Booval provided excellent prizes. The Youth and Junior Choir parents served up delicious food which was greatly appreciated by all, and they are to be applauded for their hard work. Beth Jepp and Sara Westcott made their apologies for the evening, but gave a donation for being unable to attend and help out. Don Rossiter, Warren and Marellen Haag, and especially Karen Bradberry (who did most of the behind-the-scenes preparation) ensured the evening was an enjoyable experience. A trivia night is likely to be repeated in 2016. It would be appreciated if a larger team of helpers could be drawn from the Choir's ranks to ensure the night runs smoothly and can continue to be a success.

One of the responsibilities of the Librarian is to maintain the Choir's archive. It must be noted that there is not an archive as such, but several areas of the Cambrian Centre in which the Choir's artefacts are stored, sometimes unsatisfactorily. This is concerning as many of the objects the Choir holds are significant not just to our history, but also to the history of Queensland. There is a need to introduce a more systematic approach to archiving the Choir's artefacts and displaying them in a more publically accessible way. This has become particularly urgent as during 2015 a number of

generous donations were made to the Choir of historical items and pieces of music. These donations need to be sorted, catalogued and stored in an appropriate manner. Funds will need to be sought in the coming years, to have these artefacts preserved, catalogued, and suitably archived. Choir members may also be called on to assist in ensuring that the Choir's archival material is maintained so that future generations may appreciate this organisation's remarkable history.

Naturally, something as complex as the Library cannot operate without a lot of help. There have been so many helpful souls who have donated their time, patience and funds. Dale and Rena Stevens are in full control of the Coro Concorde music distribution and collection. The Cambrian Youth Choir and Junior Choir music is ably managed by Michelle and Bronwyn French, along with the involvement of parents. Adam French keeps a close eye on the Show Choir music. Due to circumstances beyond my control, Murray Milliken assumed responsibility for distributing and collecting the Theatre Restaurant music, for which I am deeply grateful.

Thanks to the Management Committee for supporting the proposals that have proved to be successful this year. I would also like to thank Sandra and Murray Milliken for ordering most of the music, updating the electronic catalogue, and for all their support in 2015. Additionally, I have particularly appreciated the help of many volunteers to sort, stack and file music. Without the efforts of all these people, my job would have been impossible.

## **6. Combined Youth and Junior Choirs Report**

2015 was a year of change and challenge for the youngest members of the Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir. Due to the lack of conductor for the Youth Choir it was decided to combine the choirs for the foreseeable future. This presented a new group of challenges regarding repertoire choice, how rehearsals ran and which children actually performed with which group. However, thanks to the patience, persistence and support of the existing members and their parents, we were able to make 2015 a success.

### **EISTEDDFODDAU:**

#### Qld Eisteddfod, Brisbane (3&4<sup>th</sup> April)

The Youth Choir numbers required boosting to be able to perform at this eisteddfod, so singers from grades 5 and 6 were invited to attend the extra rehearsal times and learn the full repertoire.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Modern Chorus
- 1<sup>st</sup> Intermediate Choral (18 yrs and under)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 18yrs and Under Small Ensemble
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Junior Choral (16 yrs and under)
- HC Music Theatre

#### Overall Choral Aggregate

#### Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod (22<sup>nd</sup> May)

Again our young people presented a polished program and represented the BICC name with pride.

CYC: 1<sup>st</sup> Glee 16 yrs and Under

3<sup>rd</sup> Modern Chorus

2<sup>nd</sup> Concert Program

People's Choice Award

Combined Choir:

1<sup>st</sup> Sacred

1<sup>st</sup> Choral Contest

1<sup>st</sup> Sapphire Jubilee (Set piece by Sandra Milliken)

#### Silkstone Eisteddfod (23<sup>rd</sup> October)

This year we chose to enter only the Music Theatre Item. We polished up our performance of "Little Shop of Horrors" to the delight of the audience, and 1<sup>st</sup> Prize.

### **CONCERTS:**

#### Showcase (29<sup>th</sup> March)

Always our first concert of the year and a great opportunity for the youngest members of the choir to see what they can aim for in their future choir years. This year we performed as the Junior Cambrian Choir, Combined Junior and Youth Choirs, and as the Cambrian Youth Choir. The Easter raffle fundraiser was a success, thank you to the families who kindly donated so many items for the prizes.

ANZAC day (25<sup>th</sup> April)

The tradition continued with the Youth Choir singing at the 9:30 service hosted by the Bundamba Salvation Army. To commemorate the special year, members of all of the BICC were also invited to attend. It was certainly a moving service.

Opening of the IPSWICH SHOW (15<sup>th</sup> May)

The combined choir was invited to sing at the opening of the Ipswich Show on the public holiday. This was a great opportunity to be seen in the community and to hand out flyers and promote our group.

SING OUT (19<sup>th</sup> June)

Our combined choirs presented a lovely evening of music that showcased all of the music they had been working on during semester one. Choristers who had performed duets and trios added to our program of small choral groups as well as large ensemble work.

IPSWICH CIVIC CENTRE OPEN DAY (19<sup>th</sup> July)

The combined choirs performed as part of the Ipswich Civic Centre Open Day celebrations. Even though a small group of singers were able to attend, they performed with a great sound and were very impressive to listen to. Once again, it was a chance to be seen in the community in the hope of recruiting more members.

“MISFIT ISLAND” A Broadway Revue (13<sup>th</sup> September)

Our term three concert was fun to prepare with all the songs coming from Broadway musicals. Singers in both groups were able to let their inner star shine out with songs including “It’s a hard knock life”, “Defying Gravity”, “One”, “Singing in the Rain” and many more. The audience even got a few chances to join in and sing along!

#### **CHRISTMAS EVENTS:**

Brassall Carols (27<sup>th</sup> November)

Members of the Youth Choir were invited to join the Senior Choir to perform at the Brassall Carols. Thank you to Sandra for preparing the music for this event.

Ipswich Show Grounds Carolling (29<sup>th</sup> November)

A new event for us, the Youth Choir was asked to present two brackets of Carols. The singers did a great job on a very warm morning. Thank you Warren and Marellen for organising this, and for the water and food supplied to our young singers.

Cambrian Family Christmas (5<sup>th</sup> December)

Hosted by the Youth and Junior choirs, this was a relaxed family Christmas event that encouraged members of all branches of BICC to come and sing together and celebrate the season. Thank you to the parents and families who helped with the BBQ and drinks sales, and to the people who came along to support this event.

Raceview Carols (6<sup>th</sup> December)

Each year the Youth Choir enjoys singing on the back of a truck for the Carols under the Big Tree at Raceview, celebrating our long time association with the Raceview Congregational Church. The Show Choir joined forces with us again this year and a lovely evening of Christmas music was presented.

Brothers Leagues Club (22,23,24<sup>th</sup> December)

Another long time association with the community that we have is with Brothers Leagues Club, Ipswich. 10-15 choristers attended each carolling session and promoted our choir proudly.

#### **OTHER EVENTS:**

Recycling Jingle (1<sup>st</sup> May)

An exciting project to be part of in 2015 was for the Ipswich City Council Waste Management Program. The Council had recorded a new TV advertisement for recycling and asked our JUNIOR CHOIR to record the jingle. It was a very tight turn around with only one rehearsal to prepare and record the next week! It was a fun project to work on and exciting for the Junior members to have something of their own to celebrate.

You are still able to listen to this ad on the Ipswich City Council website.

ANZAC Observance Committee dinner (8<sup>th</sup> August)

Bronwyn and I were invited to attend a dinner held by the ANZAC Observance Committee Bundamba that recognised the community groups and individuals who have contributed to ANZAC ceremonies over the past years. It was an interesting evening with 3 of their members speaking about a trek they completed that visited all of the burial sites and war memorials where Ipswich soldiers lie overseas. I was very proud to accept a framed certificate and memorabilia on behalf of the Cambrian Youth Choir.

As you can see, it was a very full year! On top of this, Adam and I welcomed our second daughter into the world on August 19<sup>th</sup>. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Carly Wild, who attended choir during term 2 and then took rehearsals for me as well as presenting "Misfit Island" while I had a few weeks off with Abigail Jane. Carly has been a great asset to our organisation and her choral skills are greatly appreciated.

Mrs Elaine Barrett has once again been a faithful supporter of the Junior and Youth Choirs and her help with all things from finances to raffle prizes to door keeper to badge organiser and present buyer constantly amazes me. Thank you for all that you do for the choirs Mrs Barrett!

Finally, we could not have made this year the success it was without the knowledge, skills and guidance of Mrs Bronwyn French. I don't believe that either choir would be what it is without her there. Thank you.

As we look towards 2016, I hope to see two separate choirs once more. It will need to be a year of rebuilding, but if time and care is taken our young singers will flourish and grow, and move on through the ranks into the Senior Choir in years to come.

Yours in Music

Michelle French

## 7. Cambrian Show Choir Report 2015

### Events:

- February 14 – “Close to You”. The Show Choir sang a number of pieces at this recital.
- March 29 -Showcase – We performed our Music Theatre item “Evita” as well as combined choir pieces.
- QLD Eisteddfod – Competed in Open Music Theatre Section QLD Eisteddfod with “Evita”
- June 27/28 – “Vocal Infusion – Classic Hits of the 70s”. Our major concert for the year. This production of this concert was a real team effort. All choir members involved themselves in some part of its organisation, from planning, costuming, choreography, decorating, food preparation, publicity and preparing the hall. We are fortunate to have members with a diverse range of talents and a willingness to apply them.
- As usual, we had a slight hiatus after our mid-year concert as the choir prepares for the theatre restaurant. We performed the Elvis piece "Come on Everybody" which featured faster paced and more challenging choreography. We enjoyed working towards this standard. We are indebted to Beck Barnes for her excellent choreography, not only for this piece, but throughout the year. She is always able to push us to a higher level of performance quality.
- December 5 – The Show Choir was pleased to be a part of the Cambrian Family Christmas Carols.
- December 6 – Raceview Carols. We combined with the Youth Choir to sing at the Carols under the big tree. We sang a song of our own and led the audience for carol singing.

The Show Choir would also like to thank the management committee for their support throughout the year, particularly with organisational matters, ticketing, and publicity; Costume Hire for their expertise and assistance with costuming; and Bronwyn French for her time, advice and skills in accompanying and many other areas.

Adam French  
on behalf of  
Cambrian Show Choir

## **8. Costume Hire Department 2015**

Cambrian Costume Hire has had a quieter year than in the past. This is possibly due to the increasing ease for customers to purchase character outfits on line. We continue to offer a vast variety of costumes, other than character outfits, to the general public and to schools and organizations throughout the year.

Volunteers remain life force of the costume hire. We simply would cease to trade without their support. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful regulars who attend every week to operate the costume hire.

Wednesdays – Brenda Dayes, Jo Hales and Beth Jepp

Fridays- Jane Ashburn and Sara Westcott

Saturdays – Brenda Dayes, Marlene Whybird and Pamela Brown.

Thanks also to all the other choir members and past members who have come along to assist when they were needed. There is always an opportunity for choir members to volunteer.

I would also like to acknowledge the work done by Marlene Whybird costuming our annual theatre restaurant. There are always outfits to be made or altered at short notice.

Costume hire continues to support the choir with costumes for performances and financial contributions to the association funds. It would be wonderful to see more choir members drop by for an hour or so to assist once or twice a year.

Jan Mundt