



DOUBLE *fortè*

Newsletter for Members and Friends of New Voice Choir

June, 2023

Well! Hello! Dear NVC Choristers and Friends,

Long time no see...! In fact, it's two blurred years since the last Newsletter in April, 2021. But, yes... our special choir managed to keep going through the rough and tough times of the Covid years. To fill in some of the blanks, here are excerpts from Linda's AGM report -

President's/Musical Director's Report at AGM - October 18, 2022

.... The Covid pandemic continued to impact our choir, both directly and indirectly....

Overriding issues for Management Committee decisions regarding rehearsals have always been locked to balancing the needs and welfare of all NVC members, and this is something that won't change. I would like to add that we've sometimes found ourselves having to deal with quite a delicate balance!

I'm sure there are choir members who feel we haven't always got it right, but the fact is, like the rest of you we're human, most of us either have Parkies or are carers, and so we simply do our very best for you and, it must be said, for ourselves, too...

It's been a difficult year in many ways for NVC, its calendar, its members themselves. Quite a number were struck down by Covid, some are dealing now with the effects of Long Covid. Covid aside, there have been other serious illnesses, nasty falls, intense Parkinson's matters including DBS, huge wider family stresses impacting the health and welfare of some.

I've personally had long swathes of Medical Leave and I'm tired of spending time in the back of ambulances for a now long-running health saga, and I'm acutely aware of what my personal health situation can mean for this choir.....

That said, from the perspective of musical pedagogy and Parkinson's therapies you continue to be a most intriguing bunch! Some of the vocal aspects you've managed to not only maintain, but improve, during the long Zoom months have been remarkable and I take my Musical Director's hat off to you!

Furthermore, for several years I've watched with growing fascination as you continue to defy the small body of studies that exists around maintaining, or not maintaining, certain vocal elements for PwP. Whilst I know this is due to particular things I teach and the ways in which I teach them, the facts remain that I've always taught this way, and I didn't expect the results to defy existing Parkinson's studies.

And then there's the 'small' matter of your allowing me to teach as I do, and you then do the follow-up that really sets things into concrete!

Final point on finger-crossing: let's all assume that gigs lie ahead in the coming year! Apart from the hard work entailed, they're fun & rewarding for all of us! They also serve to educate and entertain the broader community which is a secondary, albeit extremely important, reason for NVC's very existence.

Returning to the topic of studies, you may be interested to know that there is growing interest at the University of Qld in the Parkinson's research aspect of my PhD, and also in the work I do with NVC. In fact, to be perfectly frank, the level of interest has completely taken me by surprise. I suspect you may hear more about this, one way or the other, during 2023.....

To conclude my report, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the other members of our ever-hardworking Management Committee: in alphabetical order, Beryl Falconer, Alan Morrison, Anna Morrison, Chris Rose, James Strathdee, and Elaine West. You'd be amazed at some of the things that must be done behind the scenes, and without this work – indeed, without the Management Committee – this choir could not exist.

2.

Welcome, too, and also welcome back, to Management Committee members elected today at our AGM. Thank-you, one and all, for being part of this extraordinary choir. Let's push ahead, maintaining our voices, our cognitive faculties, and our wonderful community and friendships.

It's my honour to be your Musical Director.

Happy singing to you all.

Linda McIntyre

PRESIDENT & MUSICAL DIRECTOR, New Voice Choir Inc.

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Management Committee elected for 2022–23

President - Linda McIntyre

Treasurer - Anna Morrison

Secretary - Elaine West

Covid Warden – Alan Morrison

Vice President – Christine (Chris) Rose

Assistant Treasurer – Patricia (Trish) McGrath

Assistant Secretary – Beryl Falconer

Committee member – James Strathdee



Chris Rose with Linda McIntyre



Faithful Secretarial team
Elaine & Beryl

A warm **WELCOME** to members Terri and Tony Cotter and Peter Gesner who've officially joined since 2022. As you are all well aware, the Management Committee made the difficult decision to cancel rehearsals for Term 2, 2023. A significant number of members had travel plans including overseas destinations (even, Tasmania counts!) and family commitments as well as the serious resurgence of Covid and winter flus.

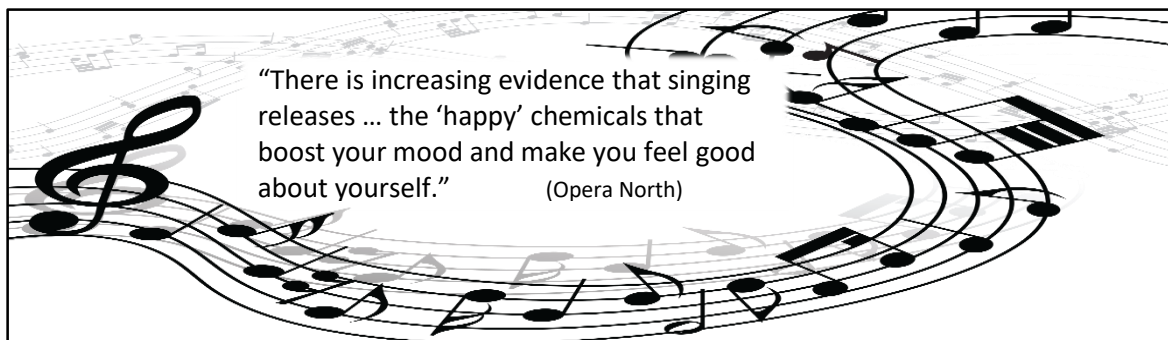
We look forward to a 'healthy and happy' reunion for Term 3, commencing Tuesday, July 11.

Keep up your voice and singing practice and, for a bit of BRAIN TRAINING, try my Word Sudoku Puzzle.

Go on... give it a go...even if Sudoku is not your thing!

(If you aren't able to print it off, just rule up a grid and copy the given letters into it and Happy Puzzling.)

I'll bring some paper copies and the Solution with me on July 11.



Trivial SUDOKU ööö©

Fun with Logic, Words and Trivia

NVC PUZZLE 02: **Send Matilda**

Sudoku Difficulty = Medium

	N		M				E	S
	E			A	I		T	
I	D		T			M		
S	M					D		
		N		I			S	
E	T				N		L	
		A						T
		M		N				L
	S		L	T			I	

CODE: SEND MATILDA

1. WORD SUDOKU

Using the 9 different letters in the **CODE**, complete the puzzle so that each small square of 9 and each vertical and horizontal line, contains the 9 different letters. (As in numbers Sudoku, work it out by logical deduction.)

2. WORD SEARCH

After solving the Sudoku puzzle, you will see new words in the grid.

Remember, words can be found reading forward, backwards, up, down and on both diagonals.

A tip for reading diagonally - line it up using a ruler or straight edge.

So, SEARCH the grid for the following words:

NVC Inc. Musical Director: _____ McIntyre

NVC Inc. Secretary: _____ West

Creature with a spiral shell: _____

Acted out a story without the use of speech: _____

Canadian Folk song we have learned: _____ of the Silver Birch

A _____ signature in music is the number of beats to a bar.

Our Musical Director's instruction with home practice tracks: _____

Song: 'Never _____ at a Crocodile'

Famous Australian soprano: _____ Nellie Melba