



LOBETHAL HARMONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

December 11th 2020

Vol 5 No 13

President John Minchin
Phone 0415 308 921

Secretary Peter Dickason
Phone 0468 870 893



Dear Members and Friends of the Lobethal Harmony Club.

What a strange year it has been!

All the usual things about our life as a club have been thrown upside-down! Weekly practice, soup nights, concerts and social events have been in very short supply. Zoom meetings and phone calls have helped us keep in contact. The Sight Singing School program for some of us has stretched us beyond our usual music skills and has given us increased confidence.

Since Covid 19 began, there are some who have decided that now is the time to cease active involvement in the club. To any who are in this category, we thank you for your singing, your friendship, and your support for the club. To any who have made this decision for health reasons, we wish you well in any health challenges that you face.

Whatever the pluses and minuses of 2020, we would all like to believe that 2021 will be quite different. We know that local organisations may not yet be thinking of holding concerts, perhaps not until COVID vaccines have become readily available. In the meantime, the challenge for us is to make sure that we have a viable program ready to go, should concert invitations begin to appear. Our current commitment is to resume our Tuesday evening practices in early February. The Executive Committee will hold a Zoom meeting later in January, to confirm that it is safe and appropriate to resume our practice schedule.

In the meantime, please think about people whom you might invite to club practices, to see the joy of singing in a male voice choir is what they are looking for.

To you all, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year-one that might indeed be full of joy of singing for us all.

With best wishes,

John Minchin

President



G HUGHES
E Construction Co



LOBETHAL HARMONY CLUB

NEWSLETTER

December 11th 2020

Welcome again

Vol 5 No 13



Barry Laubsch.....

1974 was when I became involved with Beryl Powell to decide whether I could have some "talent" as a singer. My initial assessment was that "I would probably be a microphone singer". Never-the-less, I pushed on to spend the next 6 years under Beryl and David's tutelage. In between times I was under some form of pressure to join the Harmony Club. With few lessons I was thrust upon the stage in the middle of a violent thunder storm at Lyndoch following an assisting artist pulling out with health problems. This was my debut both as a soloist but also as an assisting artist with the club.

I guess it was because of the influence applied by the Powell's I was offered the opportunity to use the "God given" talent that had been a latent quality unknown to me. The Harmony Club provided the platform (forgive the pun) for me to realise the ability I had to bring some cheer to many hundreds of audience members in venues in many parts of the world.

My involvement in the administration of the Club extends over 40 years in most capacities, from committee to compere, president and so on. That part of my Club activities has been most fulfilling and I am thankful for the opportunity and the support the members have given me.

A very special activity has been my involvement over 25 years with John Herbig and David Powell as we performed in many venues as The Golden Tenors. Brothers we are and always will be!

My love for music has most certainly been enhanced to an enormous degree with my membership with the Club. The means to be exposed to beautiful music to and great camaraderie over all those years, together with the effort needed to achieve the outcome the Club can produce, is most certainly something I have cherished.

I have left much tyre rubber on the roads and probably worn out a couple of cars in travelling to and from Lobethal and otherwise, to long distance concerts. I would not have done this without the love of music and the friendship of members past and present. I thank them all for this.

To say I have been lucky to have met some well-known talented musicians over many years would be an understatement, many of which became and still are friends to this day. Again music and the Club have caused this to happen. My Wendy has been my greatest supporter. Without her standing behind singing involvement, as a young mother with 3 small children at concerts etc, and over the entire years, my singing would never happened. I thank and love her for faith in me.

Barry Laubsch

Copyright and Lobethal Harmony Club

Isn't it a great feeling to be involved in a concert that has gone well and for which the audience has shown its warm appreciation? It is as though we have captured some musical magic and have passed it on others! That's what it must be like for the composers and lyricists whose songs we sing. They have used their creative talent to produce something truly unique.

Apart from adhering to copyright law. In taking copyright issues seriously, we are recognizing and honouring those who have created the music we sing. For this reason, we purchase as originals the songs we sing, we pay for a performance licence, which gives us the right to a public performance, and if we need to copy music or words, we pay for a copyright licence for those particular songs. For many years, we have been doing our best to adhere to our copyright responsibilities. Even so, we need to be vigilant. In 2021, we will be working with our librarians to ensure that our "copyright house" is in order. J Minchin

