



# Tune In

Tune In—The Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc

Volume 12, Number 9, December 2018

Season's Greetings  
to all our readers!

## Chorale has the J 'Jumping for Joy'

It was mince pies, Christmas carols, cheese platters and loads of singing fun when Noosa Chorale brought JOY to a packed J Theatre on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 December with its Christmas Cheer *Wassail*.

This year's theme was "JOY" and the choir presented a mix of carols and classical music, including Beethoven's famous 'Ode to Joy'.

Said Chorale president Gai Ramsay: "We also had a beautiful duet by two of our singers, soprano Fran Wilson and contralto Debra Schneider, who sang *Laudamus Te* from Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

"Eleven years ago Noosa Chorale introduced its first *Wassail* and people who come every year say for them the *Wassail* is really the start of celebrating

Christmas.

"Each year it's a sell-out. Noosa people love sitting at 'cabaret-style' tables, having a few drinks, something to eat and joining the choir with the sing-along from word sheets of well-known carols. "Next year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our founding. We have a spectacular programme of concerts planned and I can promise something extra special for *Wassail* 2019," Gai said.



## 2019 is Silver Year for Chorale

Twenty-five-years ago this month Noosa barrister Joe McMahon started looking for singers to sing Handel's *Messiah* with him.

It took twelve months but in December 1994 his great love for this famous choral work was satisfied when he and his newly formed Noosa Chorale and conductor Leonard Spira presented *Messiah* to a highly appreciative Noosa.

Since then the Chorale has become a greatly regarded and major part of Noosa's musical fabric, delighting audiences with a rich repertoire of music ranging from Beethoven and Bach to Irving Berlin, Louis Armstrong and other jazz greats.

Next year the Chorale will celebrate its Silver Anniversary with activities focussed on three main performances.

The event of greatest scale and intensity will be the powerful and inspirational *Verdi Requiem* on Sunday May 26 when the Chorale ranks will be swelled by singers of the Sunshine Coast Choral Society, which is also observing the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding.

Conducted by Adrian King, this gala performance will also feature a 50-piece symphony orchestra and four accomplished opera soloists.

As it has done for the last four years,

the choir will launch the Noosa Jazz Party with *Cabaret and All That Jazz* on August 30-31 and round off the year with its always popular *Christmas Cheer Wassail*.

### POSTSCRIPT

The Chorale is delighted to acknowledge sponsorship from the Tewanin branch of Bendigo Bank to help fund the 25-year celebrations. Additionally, a Community Grant from Noosa Council's RADF scheme will subsidise the production of the *Verdi Requiem* in May.





## Thanks for coming—all ye faithful!

From the beautiful first notes of *Oh Come All Ye Faithful* to the hushed sweetness of the final carol *Silent Night*, this year's Christmas Cheer Wassail was a spectacular success.

The J at Noosa Junction was filled with

revellers, some of whom have attended Noosa Chorale's annual start to the festive season every year since it started in 2007.

They sang, they laughed and it was clear this year's chosen theme "JOY" expressed perfectly the enjoyment and happiness of

those present.

Our thanks to all those who came and to our photographers, Jaya McIntyre of Empire Art Photography, Ann Milland, Jo Fagan, and writer Pamela Turnbull who captured two memorable nights.

Watch the videos on Instagram [www.instagram.com/noosa.chorale](http://www.instagram.com/noosa.chorale) and on Facebook [www.facebook.com/noosachorale](http://www.facebook.com/noosachorale)







Wassail audience in fine voice...



Carola Henderson



Fran and Ray Pennay



John & Jenny King



Roslyn and Keiran Dowe



Sue Priston & Joan Howells



Greg and Anita Schmidt



Kevin & Sam Franks



Glen Jones



Lois Anderson & Sally Johnson



Ross Carroll & Megan Struik



Trish & Chris Bird



Paulin Evans & Margaret Maugh



Margaret & Robert Hill



Judy Oliver , Ken Saunders, Sigrid Swartz



Ezekiel & Elias Benson



Jane & Graham Ross, & James Turnbull



Oriana Grijmans, Sue Priston & Joan Howells



## Phew! What a busy time!

As well as bringing Noosa audiences two exciting and joyous Wassail nights of Christmas Cheer at The J Theatre this month, the Chorale has been seen out and about singing at special events in the local community during November and December.



### November 11

The Chorale sings the "Tunes from the Trenches" medley at Noosa Council's special Armistice Day event in Tewantin.



### November 30

The Chorale brings Christmas carols to Hastings Street for the annual "lighting of the Christmas Tree" event.



### December 7

The Chorale sings carols at Peregian Springs AVEO retirement village.



### December 19

The Chorale sings carols in Tewantin's Poinciana Avenue at the invitation of Bendigo Bank—a long-time supporter and sponsor of the Chorale. Some of the singers continued carolling into the night at the Anglican Church of Noosa for their carols night at Sunshine Beach, at the invitation of Chorale tenor, Ian Jobling.





## Wilma — Providore par Excellence!

If Chorale members have ever wondered how coffee and tea – and biscuits (with gluten free option) miraculously appear every Tuesday rehearsal night, look no further than our faithful provider of sustenance, Wilma Barnes.

She put her hand up for the job many years ago, and as she said – there wasn't a rush to fill the role!

And as if that wasn't enough, she also orchestrates that most vital of fund-raisers, and generator of much excitement – the Christmas Raffle.

'If you're organized and do the preparation, it all flows beautifully,' Wilma explains with typical modesty.

But garnering the support of choir members and many local organisations, following up with reminders, gathering all their donations, and packaging it all in festive finery is the work of many months.

It also takes much patience, and much more than a little style, clearly informed by Wilma's work as a florist and dressmaker.

'People have been wonderfully generous in supporting the Wassail with all sorts of

donations, sometimes quite unusual ones that can be a bit of a challenge to wrap up.'

Fortunately for the Chorale, Wilma sees all this work as a labour of love.

'I love the choir, I love everything about it!'



Wilma Barnes

## The Chorale extends a BIG thank you to local businesses for their generous raffle prizes

Bailey Kitchen, Tewantin

Chocol'arte to the Max, Noosa Marina

Coffee Club Café, Noosa Civic

Coles, Noosa Junction

Dan Murphy's, Noosaville

Eumundi Meats at Belmondo's, Noosaville

Event Cinemas, Noosa Junction

Gelato Mio, Coolum Beach

Gibsons of Noosa, Noosaville

Italian Marina Restaurant, Noosa Marina

Noosa Therapy Studio Massage

Market Garden Fruit Shop, Tewantin

Muffin Break, Noosa Civic, Noosaville

Noosa Arts Theatre, Noosaville

Noosa Fair Butchery, Noosa Junction

Noosa Ferry Cruise Company, Noosa Marina

Noosa Harbour Fish Market

Noosa Outlook Bakery/Patisserie, Tewantin

Noosa Outlook IGA Supermarket, Tewantin

Noosa Outlook Prestige Meats, Tewantin

Noosa Queen Sunset Cruise, Noosa Marina

Noosa Springs Golf & Spa Resort

Pier 11 Restaurant, Noosa Marina

Post Office, Tewantin

Richie's Bakery, Tewantin

Riverdeck Restaurant, Noosa Marina

River Read Bookshop, Noosaville

Royal Mail Hotel, Tewantin

Smyths Inc Hairdressing, Noosaville

Stitch, Piece, Loop, Noosa Junction

The Refinery Hair Salon, Tewantin

Woolworths, Noosa Civic

Woolworths, Noosaville

Woolworths, Tewantin

Zabé Espresso Bar, Tewantin

## A Christmas Poem

Noosa Chorale soprano Hettie van Wyk has a talent for verse. Here she shares a Christmas shopping moment she experienced with her grand-daughter Mikaila some years ago.



I wasn't looking forward to visiting the store,  
'Twas Christmas Eve, and I was hot, my feet were pretty sore.  
I found an empty parking spot, my luck could not believe,  
With cars and people everywhere, this busy Christmas Eve.

I had a little girl with me who did her best to help,  
By choosing things from all the shelves, so proudly "by herself".  
We made our way down all the list, and as we went to pay,  
She asked to show me one more thing, if she could lead the way.

Thinking it was Santa Claus that she had gone to find,  
I smiled my way through gritted teeth, resigned to stand in line.  
But no! We walked past Mr Claus, his golden throne and sleigh,  
She seemed to know just where to go, let nothing block her way.

She pointed to a quiet spot, her eyes were filled with joy,  
A life-sized stable, dimly lit, with Mary and her boy.  
She sweetly introduced herself, sat down, took off her shoes,  
And lifted up her little bear, so he could meet them too.

She didn't see the paint was chipped, and Joseph's coat was torn,  
She worshipped with the angels, the little child new born.  
She beckoned me to sit with her, and sing the songs she knew,  
Like 'Silent Night' and 'Peace on Earth', and 'Baa Baa Black Sheep' too.

We sat and sang for quite a while, to praise the newborn King,  
And through the store's cacophony, I heard an angel sing.  
She welcomed Jesus to her world, in sweet simplicity,  
Her loving smile, this moment shared, her special gift to me.

So when you shop this Christmas, stop and listen, look around,  
We never know just when or where an angel may be found...  
To lead us to the Christ-child, away from stress and noise,  
To fill our hearts with love and peace, and everlasting joy.



Hettie with grand-daughter Mikaila



# Noosa Chorale

## Silver Jubilee Year 2019

26th May 2019  
**Verdi Requiem**

23rd & 24th August 2019  
**Cabaret & all that Jazz**

13th & 14th December 2019  
**Christmas Wassail**






[www.noosachorale.org.au/concerts](http://www.noosachorale.org.au/concerts)

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[noosachorale@gmail.com](mailto:noosachorale@gmail.com)

[www.thej.com.au](http://www.thej.com.au)

Tune In—The Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc.

Editor: Cal Webb—[cal@carolynwebb.com.au](mailto:cal@carolynwebb.com.au)

Regular contributors: Jim Fagan and Angie Oakley

Thank you to our sponsors for their support in 2019

