

DISCHORD

Newsletter of the Perth
Undergraduate Choral Society

2012: Issue 1
Special O-Day Edition!



PUCS
Perth Undergraduate Choral Society

Like to sing?...



Welcome to this special O-Day edition of *DISCHORD*, the newsletter for PUCS! If you love singing, or if you ever wanted to try out singing in a choir, come join us and give it a go!

We have a year of great music, concerts, collaborations, and fun events coming up this year. Join the excitement!

Whether you can read music blindfolded or the only music you have is what you've got in your iPod, there's a spot for everyone!

See you at rehearsals!

Ben | dischord@pucs.org.au
DISCHORD Editor

.....Then you'll love us!

FRESHERS' WELCOME before **FIRST REHEARSAL!!**

Monday February 27 at **6:00PM**, between the Octagon Theatre and the Recreation & Fitness Centre!!



fb.me/pucs.org.au

www.pucs.org.au

The President Welcomes You!

Hi everyone! I'm super excited about yet another great year in PUCS filled with music, friends, and good times. To all the new singers, welcome! We're happy that you could join us and enrich our diverse group. Don't worry if you've never seen a piece of sheet music before, just go with the flow, and you'll be a pro in no time. And of course, welcome back to all our friends who have sung in PUCS before.

We have such an exciting year planned. Our first concert will be a..... wait for it..... POP concert! That's right, we're picking the best music from the last 50 years – from The Beatles to Crowded House and even a little bit of Coldplay. We're going to have a camp in April for some intensive rehearsals, and so everyone can get to know each other a bit more. Then, in August, we're collaborating with another choir for some gorgeous classical choral music, followed by rehearsals in second semester for a concert in October.

PUCS is more than just a fantastic choir, it's a bunch of friends, a training ground for future divas and leaders, and a support network. We're so glad you can join us.



Lucy | president@pucs.org.au
President

SocSec & Camp Fun!

Not only is PUCS great for singing, it's also great for socialising and meeting new people with similar interests! There will be heaps of opportunities in and out of rehearsals to connect with social events and camps.

To start things off, we have the Freshers' Welcome, a chance to get to know each other before getting into rehearsals! In March, we are planning a PUCS Karaoke Night, this is definitely something to mark in your diaries!

Over a weekend in April, we'll have our first PUCS camp of 2012! That's right folks! A whole weekend of singing and much merriment... and more singing, of course. While camp is a lot of hard work and hours of singing, there's plenty of time to for relaxing and having fun! On Saturday night, we have our camp dinner with a theme (secret!), and consume more food over the weekend.

There is never a dull day in PUCS! Get involved, make new friends and just have fun! Keep an eye on our PUCS-announce e-mails and our Facebook page for details on upcoming events.

See you at the first rehearsal!

Flick | socsec@pucs.org.au
Social Secretary

Monica | camp@pucs.org.au
Camp Officer

2012 Timeline

- 27 Feb** **First Rehearsal**
- Mid Mar** **Karaoke at Utopia Northbridge!**
- 19 Mar** **Special General Meeting**
(nominate for a committee position!)
(6-15 Apr *Study Break, including Easter*)
- 20-22 Apr** **PUCS Camp (Fri-Sun) at Eagles Nest Retreat**
- Mid May** **Concert 1**
- Jun** **Season 2 starts**
(9-23 Jun *Semester 1 Exams*)
- 29 Jun - 15 Jul** **Melbourne IV**
- 19 Aug** **Concert 2 with UWACS**
- 30 Jul** **Season 3 starts (overlaps with Season 2)**
- Aug** **Annual Dinner**
- Sep** **PUCS Camp (Fri-Sun) at Eagles Nest Retreat**
(22-30 Sep *Study Break*)
- Late Oct** **Concert 3**
- Nov to Dec**
Christmas Season! Look out for concert and carolling details later in the year!

Rumour has it that the Eagles Nest Retreat has an awesome swimming pool and an awesome view of the hills.

A Major Note from the Conductor

Fifty years ago, in 1962, drummer Ringo Starr joined a little known skiffle band called The Beatles. By the end of the year, the band had released its first two chart singles "Love Me Do" and "Please Please Me", and the stage was set for The Beatles to completely revolutionise popular music.

To commemorate this anniversary, PUCS will be performing a concert of Choral Pop music at the end of Semester 1, featuring the work of some of the greatest songwriters of the last fifty years. As well as some Lennon and McCartney classics, we will sing songs by Billy Joel and Elton John, Aussie legend Paul Kelly, Neil Finn, plus the Leonard Cohen classic *Hallelujah* and the Queen rock opera *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

PUCS has a long history of performing "choral rock" going back to the 1970s and 80s, and it is really exciting to be returning to the genre after so many years. Rock band accompaniment will be provided by the Rock Scholars, a rock band school run by ex-PUCster Emily Urquhart.

Later in the year, we will return to more classical repertoire with Vivaldi's *Gloria* in collaboration with the UWA Choral Society. I am looking forward to a year of fabulous music making.

Jonathan | conductor@pucs.org.au
Musical Director

PUCS needs YOU! Fresher Rep wanted!

The **fresher rep** is part of the committee and represents the interests of all newcomers to PUCS! Do you have what it takes to make important decisions? Look for Lucy or e-mail president@pucs.org.au for more details!

Voice Parts? But which is for me?



GIRLS: If you are new to singing, try the **SOPRANO** section. They *usually* sing the tune of the song and is usually the easiest to start with. If there's a need for the section to split, try 1st Soprano. If that's too high, then try 2nd Soprano or even Alto.

If you have experience and know you can sing lower, then give **ALTO** a try. They may sing lower than the Sopranos but they don't usually sing the tune so it can be a little bit tricky to pick up for beginners.

GUYS: If you are new to singing, try the **BASS** section. They usually sing the underlying background of the song, and is fairly simple to pick up. If there's a need for the section to split, try 1st Bass. If that's too high, then try 2nd Bass or if too low, go for Tenor.

If you have experience and know you can sing higher, then give **TENOR** a try. They sing higher than the basses. Choirs tend to have a shortage of tenors, so if you think you can do it, give it a try! The choir would love you for it.



Rumour has it that the committee is also looking for a resourceful Fundraising officer, and a creative Publicity assistant!

PUCS

The Perth Undergraduate Choral Society (PUCS) is dedicated to encouraging the enjoyment and appreciation of choral singing amongst students from all WA universities and the wider community. We rehearse **every Monday** night from **7-9pm** in the Tunley Lecture Theatre (Music Department) at UWA. No auditions are necessary; simply the love to sing.

PUCS adheres to high musical standards in their concerts and aims to provide a supportive environment for all singers, regardless of previous training and experience. The choir's repertoire spans many styles musical from contemporary Australian to traditional African, from rock and pop to jazz and blues, and from sacred to secular. Annually, PUCS performs two to three concerts usually consisting of a themed concert in May, a major concert of serious work (usually including an orchestra) in October, and a small concert of Christmas music in December.

PUCS is a member of the Australian Intersivity Choral Societies Association (AICSA).

AICSA

Established in 1974, AICSA represents university choirs across Australia, oversees the schedule of Intersivity Choral Festivals (IVs) every year, represents choirs at national forums, and lobbies for their interests.

There are choirs all over Australia under AICSA that are just like PUCS and they share the same traditions, including having rehearsal camps, the Annual Dinner, singing *Laudate* backstage after every concert, and participating at IV.

IV and MIV2012

Every year, members from AICSA choirs gather in a nominated host city for an eventful two weeks of rehearsals, performances, and social events! Participants will form a super-large choir (which can be as large as 200 singers!) and perform with talented soloists and impressive orchestras.

This year, IV is being held in Melbourne from 29 June to 15 July, and is hosted by the AICSA choirs in Melbourne. Previous IV-goers will be all too glad to tell you how awesome IVs can be.

Check out miv.aicosa.org.au for more details!

The Committee: whoyoushouldknow

President—Lucy: Oversees the running of the choir. Listen out for important announcements! Go to her for any choir-related issues.

Treasurer—Dave: Takes care of the money! Membership fees and all money-related matters go to him.

Social Secretary—Flick: Organises all the fun social events through the year. Look out for them; you can't have too much fun!

Camp Officer—Monica: Organises the big and all-important rehearsal camp!

Librarian—Ben: Makes sure everyone gets their music! And hunts down those that don't return them.

Secretary—Brendan: Receives the mail and minutes the meetings.

Concert Manager—(This could be you!): Organises rehearsal and concert venues. Listen out for important concert details!

Fundraising—(This could be you!): Raises money for the choir. Makes sure candy is available during break!

Publicity—Mark: Advertises concerts and makes fantastic posters to post up around campus and city!

IT—Mark: 0000001 00000011 000000111

Dischord Editor—Ben: Produces *DISCHORD* and all its wonderful content. You're reading one right now!

Look out for Issue #2: What goes on at Camp? How do you read music!? What does it even sound like?? Two amazing things you can get up to between PUCS seasons! What happens at IV? And much more!

Rumour has it that those that went for IV in Perth last year loved it so much, they WILL be going to Melbourne this year!