

Magical Music Moments

Alchemy Chorus COVID Newsletter # 4

16 April 2020



From the Committee

Welcome to our fourth edition of Magical Musical Moments – our 'virtual' weekly get together.

COVID-19 has a lot to answer for, but the health of our members, carers and volunteers is paramount. We don't want to lose the contact, the vibe, the joy, the friendship that we have developed, so until this mess is sorted out, we'll stay connected and entertained.

Send your stories

to: alchemychorus@gmail.com

We will be back!

Magical Music Moment #1



I have been involved in many Gilbert & Sullivan shows since 1951 when I had the

job of turning the pages for the pianist for *Iolanthe* in a school production. In 1993, Parkes Musical & Dramatic Society decided to do *Pirates of Penzance* and rehearsals for that started immediately after the curtains came down on *The Three Bears* pantomime which I had directed. We had a wonderful chorus of High School girls and they (and I) had had such fun during rehearsals.

After a couple of rehearsals of *Pirates*, the director came and told me he had been approached by the girls' chorus, more or less demanding that he must include me in that chorus. He said, 'The girls said that they won't be in it if Ros isn't!' So, I went off to have a quiet word with my young friends. 'Look girls, the choreography will take up a lot of my time and furthermore, I am too old now to be in that chorus with you young ones!' 'Oh no you're not', was their reply. I was quite moved that they wanted this to happen, as we had worked well together on the panto. A big boost to my ego.

Then one of them said, 'Look Ros, your age won't be a problem at all. We have had a word with the makeup lady and asked her if she could make us look older and you a lot younger'. Down went the ego!

However, the attached photograph, taken outside before the curtain went up, proves what wonders can be done with makeup.

Ros Welch

Moment #2 from *Helen Pilkinton*

Vera Lynn would not have been singing about meeting the characters in this photo (**click on the photo and then click on the video screen to skip the ads, then have a jolly good sing**).



When I heard this played on Radio National *Life Matters* yesterday, I could see immediately my Mother's 1930's wireless on the shelf. I was taken back to the small village of Anglesea in Victoria where I lived with her and my two little sisters, while my Father was working as doctor at Adelaide River army hospital near Darwin, caring for wounded service people evacuated from Papua New Guinea.



Anglesea in 1930's



...and today



Army hospital, Adelaide River

From the POW (Prince of Wales) Hospital Cupbored

Things have now improved. Brian is sounding much better despite the frustration of knowing he'll be stuck in hospital for another week. The medical issues appear to be under control but boredom and lack of motivation come with the long isolation. Next Monday they'll make the decision whether or not he needs to have a defibrillator reinserted. He expects to be home by 21st or 22nd April. Home to this dystopian changed world!

Rumour has it that an Irish tune has been heard in a Prince of Wales isolation ward. Could it be [B](#) ? (**click on the B**)

Member Spotlight

Was it a Gilbert and Sullivan that this pair were doing in September 2018? Surely, they weren't singing our number [71](#)

(click on [71](#), skip ads and go for it but 'with passion' as the director would say)



Gloves on

(at least 4 gloved hands here)

From *Gael D'Amico* via *Helen Pilkinton*

'Here's a recipe which Gael D'Amico shared with me a couple of weeks before

we broke up. She brought an omelette for morning tea that day and it was much enjoyed'. Thanks again Gael.

Vegetable Omelette

7 eggs (add a little milk if needed)
1 cup of parmesan cheese
1 cup breadcrumbs, (or corn crumbs for gluten free)
1/2 red onion, chopped finely
1 capsicum, chopped finely
1 carrot, grated
lots of parsley, chopped finely
fresh herbs, chopped finely

Mix together and cook in an oiled pan.

Other vegetables can also be used.
This recipe could be halved but it does keep and can be eaten hot or cold.

Although we'd be on a term break now (if we were living in a normal world), as a virtual choir we can still sing and swap stories each week. We need to hear from you!

Send them in to:

alchemychorus@gmail.com