

09.12.24, Monday Mail

Morning, all!

Thank you to everyone who was able to come to the carols rehearsal last Tuesday to enjoy a sing plus a final festive nibble and chat, and warm commiserations to those who couldn't make it. It was wonderful to have an opportunity to sing together again after such a wonderful, uplifting Christmas concert - the attendance was over 180, and we've had some incredibly positive reactions. Thanks and congratulations to you all!

It was also great to see so many people last Tuesday for what will be Deb's last rehearsal for a few months while she takes a well-earned break. Good luck and warmest good wishes, Deb! We're looking forward to the new year with Brett at the helm and some exciting new plans.

And so, the next ChoirWorks dates to remember are:

Lunchtime carolsinging

- **Wednesday, December 11 @ Central Plaza**
- **Monday 16 – Friday 20 December inclusive @ 111 Eagle Street**
 - Please check your emails from Barbara for the rota and all the arrangements, including repertoire, times, uniform
 - At each session one person (named on the rota) will be leading, i.e. choosing carols, conducting and giving pitch. Please follow all instructions with respect.
 - Have a lovely time and sing well! We hope for repeat engagements next year!
- **If you're carolling, thank you** – these gigs give a boost to the choir's finances, and your contribution is enormously appreciated.

2025 and all that:

- **Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 6.30pm @QAH:** welcome back to rehearsals!
- **Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 12-1pm (NB time!) at City Hall: Peace and Remembrance (ANZAC)**
 - Please lock this date and time in your diary and ensure you are free that weekday lunchtime!

This is the final regular ChoirWorks' Monday Mail for 2024.

We'll be back again on January 27 next year.

Meanwhile I've been trying to decide what fabulous Christmas music to send as a link this week, but it's unsurprisingly difficult to choose one piece out of so many possibilities. And then today I came across a little story connected with the restoration of Notre Dame in Paris, which of course re-opened this weekend amidst huge rejoicing and fanfare after the devastating 2019 fire. The massive organ has been restored, the cathedral choirs are back in their spiritual home, world leaders have joined in the celebrations – and some of the people who have contributed as engineers, architects, carpenters, etc. have been so inspired by the restoration project that they've formed an 80-strong Workers' Choir, which will also sing in a concert in the cathedral this week. Here they are rehearsing *Cantique de Jean Racine* by Fauré. Wonderful.
<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/15R9VthFjN/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

A very merry and peaceful Christmas and a happy 2025 to you all,

Janet