



Welcome to Vocal Ensemble Voiceworks – We're delighted to have you join us!

About us

Vocal Ensemble Voiceworks (VEV) is a not-for-profit incorporated association with a strong commitment to:

- Promoting the performing arts within our community.
- Educating and encouraging standards of excellence in singing and performance.
- Creating opportunities for people with disabilities to be included in our programs and performances.
- Providing affordable entertainment for our community in ways which reflect community values.
- Fostering, creating and promoting opportunities for the community to attend and participate in musical performances and events.

VEV has a combined average annual membership of 90 members and consists of two professionally managed teaching and performance ensembles.



- An 'Open Arms' (non-auditioning) community choir
- Everyone is welcome to join
- Includes both professional and non-professional members
- A teaching choir with a commitment to up-skilling and excellence
- Rehearsals are held weekly
- Performances regularly throughout the year



- A performance ensemble which fosters the talents of young people who are living with disabilities
- New members are welcome
- No auditions necessary, but an interview and assessment is required
- Comprehensive training programs in theatre and communication skills
- Rehearsals are held weekly
- Performances regularly throughout the year

Membership Benefits

- Have fun with a fantastic community of people who love to sing and perform together
- Learn great singing and performance techniques from experienced professionals
- Perform on stage to a paying audience twice per year
- Have easy electronic access to sheet music and practice audio tracks
- Make amazing new friends
- Improve your health and mental well being



New Member Welcome Pack

Our Professional Team

Director Maggie Wilde West
Music Director Jackson Griggs
Accompanist Robert Graham
Choreographer Kim Addison

Our Committee

Chairperson Colin Arthur
Secretary Birute Greenhalgh
Treasurer Phil Sykes
Membership Coordinator Colin Arthur
Fundraising Coordinator Kristin Monaghan
Committee Members John Morris
Voiceworks Plus Rep Julie Doyle

Contacts

Website: www.voiceworks.org.au

Email: info@voiceworks.org.au

Membership Coordinator: Phil Sykes **0468 853 025** (please call during office hours)

Voiceworks Weekly Rehearsals

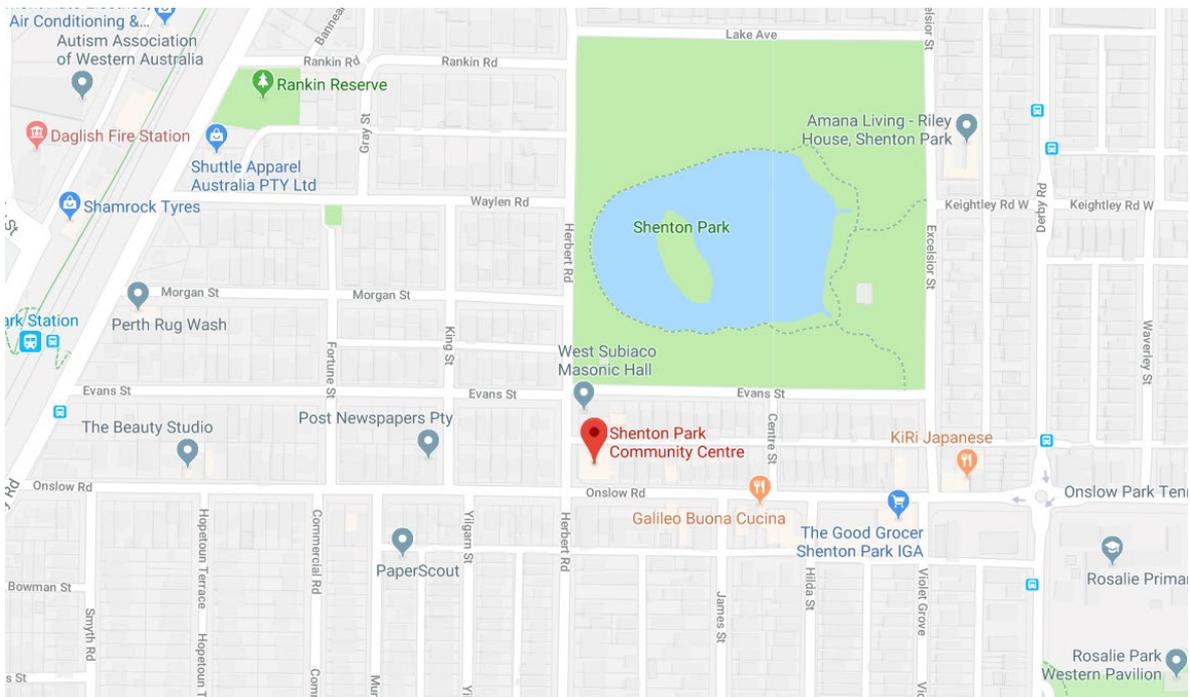
Day: Tuesday

Time: 7 pm to 9:30 pm

Where: Shenton Park Community Centre
240 Onslow Road, Shenton Park

Parking: Free parking on street or behind centre

Transport: The Shenton Park Train Station (Fremantle Line) is a short walk from the community centre. There are also several busses that stop within walking distance.





New Member Welcome Pack

Joining Voiceworks

People can register to join the Voiceworks choir, and existing members can renew their membership, via the Voiceworks [website](#).

Point to the **Membership** tab and then click on **Join or Renew**.

Select the Membership Level that is appropriate to you (Voiceworks Member, Voiceworks Member – Couple, or Voiceworks Member - Pensioner) and click on the **Register** button. This will take you to a page where you can provide your registration details and pay your member fee.

Please ensure that you take note of your username and password for future reference. Once the registration process is complete you will have access to the Member Resources section of the website. If you have any difficulties with the registration process, please call Phil on **0468 853 025**.

Member Resources

Members can also access choir resources online via the website or mobile app.

On the website, highlight the **Resources** tab and select **Documents**. In the **Select A Category** field select **Voiceworks Members**. The following subcategories will be displayed:

- **LYRICS AND CHOREO**
This holds Word and PDF files of the lyrics for all the songs that the choir is currently learning. It is also where the instructions or videos for any performance choreography are stored.
- **ROBERT'S ROUND**
This holds the lyrics of all the songs that have been sung for Robert's Round. This is part of the rehearsal warm-up routine during which the choir sings a song without any rehearsal. The songs are chosen by our accompanist, Robert Graham, from requests made by members of the choir.
- **SCORES**
This holds PDF files of the musical scores for all the songs that the choir is currently learning. The scores provide the musical notation for the accompaniment as well as for the different musical parts sung by the choir - usually Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Base (SATB).
- **SCRIPT**
This holds the files for any dialogue that may be part of the show performance.
- **TRACKS**
This holds audio files for all the parts of the songs that the choir is currently working on. The audio files can be downloaded onto your smart phone, iPod or other music player so that you can listen and practice the songs in between rehearsals. They are an absolutely essential resource!
- **USEFUL INFORMATION**
This holds a range of information that is important for the operation of the choir including the organisation's constitution, rehearsal schedules etc.

On the mobile app, tap on **Library**. The categories outlined above are displayed across the top of the screen that opens. You can scroll across to find the category you wish to view. Tap on the category to view the files that it contains.



New Member Welcome Pack

Attendance Procedure

Commitment and co-operation are the secrets to Voiceworks' success

Voiceworks has a strong commitment to serve you to the best of everyone's abilities. We strive to provide you with excellent tuition, musicianship, and direction, which will make all your performances successful and rewarding. To achieve these standards, we need your commitment to be just as strong.

Apologies

Voiceworks has a Membership Coordinator (Phil Sykes) and apologies/notifications regarding rehearsal attendance should be phoned, emailed or texted to him, preferably at least 24 hours beforehand. 0468 853 025 or info@voiceworks.org.au

Weekly Attendance

An "Ins and Out" register is located on a table outside the hall entrance and must be "ticked" each time you attend a rehearsal. Any dates that you know in advance you will be absent (due to planned holidays, special occasions etc) should also be noted as early as possible by writing "ap" (apologies) in the appropriate date column.

"Broken Legs"

This is an expression commonly used in Professional Ensemble Theatre. A "broken leg", is an unforeseen emergency which prevents you from attending at short notice.

It is Voiceworks policy to always respect your integrity with regards "broken legs". We know Voiceworkers would never let down their fellow ensemble singers by not attending for a trivial reason. If you are in doubt, always ask yourself two questions:

- **IS THIS DIRE?**
- **IS THIS TIMING UNAVOIDABLE?**

If YES, then:

- **Please phone through your apology to 0468 853 025 as soon as possible.**
- **Make sure you find out what you missed and do extra homework or arrange a private rehearsal, especially close to Concert Performance time.**

If you are ill and your illness is in any way infectious, please do not attend choir until you are no longer infectious.

Your co-operation with these procedures is greatly appreciated.

Café Chat

Café Chat is a theatre training technique that VEV uses for developing performance skills such as vocal projection, listening, memory training, timing and kinaesthetic awareness. It is also our forum for communication within our group. It is the appropriate place for you to raise issues, make suggestions and voice your thoughts and opinions.

In ensemble performances, regardless of the roles in which you might be cast, be you a page turner or a Prima Donna, all members of an ensemble are valued equally. What you have to say matters. How you say it is always important and everyone must have the opportunity to hear you and an opportunity to reply and make comments.

How does Café Chat work?

In Café Chat there is no agenda, but these are some of the basic rules:



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- Members of the ensemble must be in a circle.
- Only one person can speak at any time and must speak to everyone.
- You cannot 'book' a speaking space you have to 'find the moment' - then speak.
- If more than one person speaks at the same time then all those speakers must stop, then wait till they 'find the moment.'
- You can say as much or as little as you like.
- You can talk about anything you like.
- Every syllable you utter is valuable and must be heard by every member of the ensemble.
- If you cannot hear what someone is saying, then you must whistle (or equivalent.)
- If you are speaking and you hear a whistle, you must repeat **THOSE EXACT WORDS AGAIN** loudly enough for the whistler(s) and everyone else, to hear then continue with what you were saying.
- Any member can request a Café Chat
- Any member can request that Café Chat be concluded.
- If you agree / support what someone is saying, then a little wave of your hand means "me too".

We hope that you enjoy taking part in this wonderful ensemble process and in becoming a great ensemble performer.