

# 'Encore'



## The Heart and Soul Singers Update No. 26 Term 1 2018

### Refrain – Celebrating the Year that was!

It has been a long time since the last Encore edition and 2017 was again an interesting year for us. We shared our songs with the residents at David Harper House Monash and Bupa at Calwell; performed publicly at the Inaugural Seniors Devonshire Morning Tea at Vikings Lanyon; participated in the opening ceremonies of both the Australian Ten Pin Bowling Senior's Organisations National Challenge and the YMCA Senior Sports Carnival; and did some Christmas caroling for the Canberra Foundation, always a wonderful way to end our singing year together.

We also welcomed some lovely new members, celebrated our 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday, were again grateful recipients of a Community Grant from the Canberra Southern Cross Club and broke new ground with a fun 'Pop Up' Rehearsal at the Lanyon Shopping Centre. Whew – it was a busy year!

So now welcome to 2018 – may it be a year filled with many 'high' notes for us all!

### Prelude



<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
Jan 23	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Jan 30	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
	<b><u>TERM ONE</u></b>		
Feb 6	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Feb 13	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Feb 20	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
<b><u>Feb 27</u></b>	 <b><u>Senior's Devonshire Morning Tea</u></b>	<b><u>9.30 for 10.00</u></b>	<b><u>Vikings Lanyon</u></b>
<b><u>Mar 6</u></b>	 <b><u>Rehearsal / Lunch</u></b>	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
<b><u>Mar 10</u></b>	 <b><u>Song &amp; Sausage Sizzle (Fundraiser)</u></b>	<b><u>8.00 -2.00 (approx)</u></b>	<b><u>Wanniassa Shops Langdon Ave</u></b>
<b><u>Mar 13</u></b>	 <b><u>Open Rehearsal Senior's Week</u></b>	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Mar 20	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Mar 27	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
Apr 3	Rehearsal	10.15 – 12.15	Tugg Seniors Centre
<b><u>Apr 10</u></b>	 <b><u>St Andrews Village</u></b>	<b><u>10.00 – 10.30</u></b>	<b><u>John Flynn House Groom St Hughes</u></b>



## Musicology – The Origins of the ‘Skye Boat Song’

The Skye Boat Song is a traditional Scottish song recalling one of the most famous stories concerning Bonnie Prince Charlie’s five months as a fugitive after his defeat at Culloden in 1746 and his escape by sea to Skye, dressed as a maid ‘Betty Burke’, accompanied by Flora MacDonald. The wistful song promises that ‘the lad that’s born to be king’ as he is rowed away to Skye from whence, like King Arthur before him, ‘will come again’.

The lyrics were written by Sir Harold Boulton (1859 - 1935), to an air collected by Miss Annie MacLeod (Lady Wilson) in the 1870s. The song was first published in "Songs of the North" by Boulton and MacLeod, London, 1884, a book that went into at least fourteen editions.

It is thought Miss MacLeod was on a trip to the isle of Skye and was being rowed over Loch Coruisk (Gaelic name Coire Uisg, translated as the ‘Cauldron of Waters’) when the rowers broke into a Gaelic rowing song ‘Cuachag nan Craobh’ (‘The Cuckoo in the Grove’). The talented composer and singer Miss MacLeod set down what she remembered of the air, with the intention of using it later in a book she was to co-author with Boulton. Sir Harold joined Miss MacLeod at Roshven House, Inverness-shire, soon after to work on their book. By this time the whole group at the residence were humming the "scrap of chanty" collected by her, and he too soon began to work the air around in his imagination, transforming the words the group had been singing from:

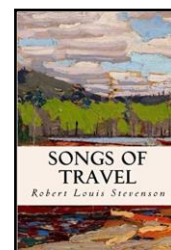
Row us along, Ronald and John  
Over the sea to Roshven,

into: Over the sea to Skye.

Boulton also wrote additional lyrics in a Jacobite style, introducing the heroic figures of Bonnie Prince Charlie and Flora MacDonald as a piece of modern romantic literature.

It is often sung as a lullaby, in a slow rocking 6/8 time. Its form is a traditional Gaelic rowing song or iorram (pronounced-irram). The 1st beat is very pronounced and corresponds with lifting the oars out and swinging them forward as you straighten your arms and lean forward. 2 and 3 are the pulling stroke.

In 1892, Robert Louis Stevenson, author of the post-Culloden adventure, *Kidnapped* (1886), wrote his own version of the ‘Skye Boat Song’ with the first line “Sing me a song of a lad that is gone”. In recent years Stevenson’s version (with modifications) has been made famous by the TV series *Outlander*.



### Accompaniment



Website: [www.heartandsoulsingers.com.au](http://www.heartandsoulsingers.com.au)

Email: [info@heartandsoulsingers.com.au](mailto:info@heartandsoulsingers.com.au)



Don’t forget to ‘Like us’  
on our **Facebook** page!

Music acts like a magic key,  
to which the most  
tightly closed hearts open.



Maria Augusta Von Trapp  
Singer & Missionary