

2013



vision australia's

# carols by candlelight<sup>®</sup>

presented by

**MYER**

telecast partner



**vision  
australia**

blindness and low vision services



# *I wake up with* **Today**



**Weekdays 5.30am**



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# Welcome to Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight® 2013 presented by Myer

**We hope you enjoy this very special Christmas Eve with our songbook and program. For more than three quarters of a century people have been gathering in Melbourne to sing carols on Christmas Eve at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.**

Whether you're singing songs of joy and hope with the stars at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, or are one of millions of Australians joining in from cities, towns, villages and farms across Australia through Channel Nine's Telecast and other radio broadcasters, you are sharing the spirit of Christmas Eve.

This special program includes Christmas carols which will be performed on the night and the biographies of the many wonderful performers who give their talents and time to assist Vision Australia. Also featured is the story of Jake, the four year-old boy who represents the children who will benefit from the funds raised on this magical evening.

Vision Australia offers a lifetime of independence to people with blindness or low vision and early intervention is critical for babies and young children.

Our children are our future and each year Vision Australia provides children and their families advice, information and training on how to manage blindness or low vision in each stage of their life, enabling them to achieve their maximum potential. It costs over \$7000 to provide comprehensive support to a child and family for one year!

Christmas is a very special time for children and with your help, Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight 2013 event will support many children, and bring the spirit of Christmas joy to everyone on Christmas Eve.

Thank you.

Front cover:  
Jake, Vision Australia client and the 2013 face of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight. Photo by Andrew Curtis

Vision Australia has used its best endeavours to ensure that material contained in this program was correct at the time of publication and takes no responsibility for any error or omission herein.

If Christmas Eve is a day of total fire ban, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade will determine whether audience members will be able to light candles.



Light a Candle visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) or call 1300 84 74 66 to donate



# IN THE TIME IT TOOK TO READ THIS AD, THERE HAVE BEEN **3,128** NEW NEWS STORIES.

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MELBOURNE'S OWN





# Celebrating together



**Top (left to right): Chief Executive Officer of Myer, Bernie Brooks, with the parents of our Face of Carols, Amy and Arron Wood, and Vision Australia Chief Executive Officer, Ron Hooton. Right: Ian Paterson, Managing Director, GTV9.**



**One of the really inspiring things about this job is meeting some of the people who Vision Australia is helping. I recently had the pleasure of a visit from young Jake, and his dad, Arron. Jake is our Face of Carols and, more importantly to him, he's a great AFL fan.**

Arron's dad came in to thank us for the support Vision Australia has provided his son who was diagnosed with nystagmus and ocular albinism very early on.

(See Jake's story on page 6.)

This year, we have launched our Light a Candle campaign, as part of Carols by Candlelight, where we're aiming to light-up 100,000 virtual candles to support children like Jake. Please donate at [lightacandle.net.au](http://lightacandle.net.au) to help ensure Vision Australia continues to support children who need it.

On behalf of Vision Australia, thank you for your support. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## **Ron Hooton**

Chief Executive Officer  
Vision Australia

**Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, presented by Myer, is a much loved event that has become a tradition in family households around Australia.**

At Myer we are proud to continue to support this wonderful event as the Presenting Partner for the sixth year.

It is a privilege to sit among the many thousands that pack the Sidney Myer Music Bowl each year to celebrate the magic of Christmas and be inspired by the carols performed tonight.

We are delighted to be able to share in this event as we continue to uphold the great Myer tradition of community engagement and philanthropic support.

Christmas is such an important time of year for Myer as we celebrate within our communities and in our stores, from the Myer Animated Christmas Windows to our new-look Santaland, and of course tonight's Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.

From all of the Myer team I wish you a happy and safe Christmas and best wishes for 2014.

## **Bernie Brookes**

Chief Executive Officer  
Myer

**Since it was first held in 1938, Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight has become a much-loved Melbourne institution.**

The Nine Network has a long association with this magnificent event, broadcasting the spectacle since 1980.

Our hosts for this year, Lisa Wilkinson and David Campbell, will be joined on stage by Australia's most renowned entertainers in a joyous celebration of Christmas.

Families, friends and loved ones will gather in the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and around TV screens across the nation to share in the magic of the season.

All of us here at Nine are proud to lend our support to Vision Australia in its quest to assist blind people and those with low vision fully participate in all facets of life.

## **Ian Paterson**

Managing Director  
GTV9



**Light a Candle visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) or call 1300 84 74 66 to donate**



**Jake was keen to show off his Hawks T-shirt and football when he visited Ron Hooton, Vision Australia's CEO, recently.**

## Face of Carols



**Jake with his parents, Amy and Arron, and sisters Samantha and Elinor**

### **Jake Wood of Melbourne is one of the bubbliest four year olds you'll ever meet.**

The footy-mad youngster is this year's official face of the 2013 Carols by Candlelight® presented by Myer.

Jake has Ocular Albinism, which causes Nystagmus, an involuntary movement of the eye. Jake was diagnosed as a baby and since then his parents, Amy and Arron, have been working closely with Vision Australia's Children's Services to

help Jake adjust to life with low vision.

Arron and Amy felt lost after Jake's diagnosis, and describe it as, "the biggest shock of our lives."

Amy explains, "It wasn't until an early childhood educator from Vision Australia came to visit me and explained exactly how Nystagmus would affect Jake that we felt a sense of reassurance that things would be ok."

When she reflects on the support of Vision Australia Amy says, "Without

doubt they have been the biggest factor in Jake becoming the confident child that he is today. Jake's hand eye co-ordination is at its best possible level- which means he can play the sports that he loves, just like his friends from kinder."

"Thanks to Vision Australia, Jake now has the same opportunities as other children and we, as parents, are better educated on how to go about getting the best help and resources for Jake in the important years ahead."



**Light a Candle visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au)**





**Vision Australia's Carols By Candlelight® presented by Myer is pleased to have Anthony Callea and Rachael Leahcar as this year's Carols By Candlelight Ambassadors.**

Carols by Candlelight favourite, Callea, is thrilled to return as an Ambassador for the event, as is Leahcar who resumes her role as an Ambassador for the second year in a row.

ARIA award winning Callea is undoubtedly one of Australia's most acclaimed performers. His debut single 'The Prayer' became Australia's fastest and highest selling single of all time in 2004.

In 2013, Callea opened for Tina Arena and Mariah Carey, performed on stage in GREASE and released his 'This Is Christmas' album in November. This year also marks his tenth year as a performer for Carols By Candlelight.

Rachael, who has low vision, was born to perform. As a young girl, she immersed herself in music playing piano, flute and performing in multiple choirs. In 2009 she won a singing competition on "RAI Uno" in Rome and turned semi-professional. In 2012, she dazzled on 'The Voice' where she was mentored by Delta Goodrem, and made it to the final four. Since the show,

Rachael has released a top 5 selling album, 'Shooting Star', toured with Goodrem, released her second album, 'Romantique' and thrilled audiences with her live performances in Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.

Together, Callea and Leahcar proudly represent this iconic event and most importantly, support the ongoing work of Vision Australia in the community.

"This event raises awareness and much-needed funding for Children's Services so that Vision Australia can continue its vital work in the community," explains Callea.

Leahcar agrees "This service is a blessing for families who have a child or children who are blind or have low vision. Vision Australia provides ongoing support and education so that these children can lead a full life and achieve their dreams, just like me."

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# Light up a blind child's life this Christmas.

**Just \$20** can enter you  
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All proceeds to Vision Australia's Children's Services.



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Visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) and make a donation of \$20 (inc GST) or more to receive your 2013 Vision Australia Carols by Candlelight Souvenir Program as well as go in to the draw for your chance to win a Jeep Compass. Promotion Details: See [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) for full Conditions. Starts 10am AEDT 23/12/13 & ends 10pm AEDT 24/12/13. Open to Australian residents 18yrs+. Donations made in the Promotion are not tax deductible. Entrants receive 1 entry for every \$20 (inc GST) donated. Entrants receive 1 x 2013 Vision Australia Carols by Candlelight Digital Souvenir Program with their 1st Eligible Entry only. Donations made via the Vision Australia donation hotline will also constitute an Eligible Entry. Prize Draw – 10.15pm AEDT 24/12/13 at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Kings Domain Gardens/Linlithgow Ave, Melbourne VIC 3000. Prize – a silver 2014 Jeep Compass Sport 2.0L Petrol 6A 4X2 with petrol engine valued up to \$31,946 RRP (inc GST), incl. all on road costs, dealer delivery, stamp duty, 12 mnths registration & 12 mnths compulsory third party insurance. No extras included. Vehicle to be awarded not necessarily the same as vehicle depicted in promotional materials. Number plates used in promotional materials are representational only. Car colour subject to availability. Winner advertised at [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) 15/01/14. Promoter is Vision Australia Limited, ABN: 67 108 391 831 of 454 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong, VIC 3144. Authorised under Permit Numbers – NSW LTPS/13/08793, VIC 13/2661, SA T13/2049 & ACT TP 13/04063.



**Mieah was born blind but with Vision Australia's help has learned to crawl, walk, start using a cane and other independence skills.**



## Children's Services

**Early assistance is vital for children who are blind or have low vision. Sometimes families discover at birth that their new baby is blind or has low vision. At other times it is not so much a moment of discovery as weeks and even months before a diagnosis is made, as was the case with Jake, this year's Face of Carols.**

However when it is diagnosed, families need both immediate support to help them understand what their child's diagnosis means

and an ongoing plan carefully designed to assist that child to develop the skills and mobility to meet the same milestones as their sighted peers.

Vision Australia specialists, including orthoptists, therapists, educators, orientation and mobility trainers, adaptive technology consultants and counsellors work with the child's family to support their priorities for the child. It costs \$12,000 for a child who is blind to get the technology they need to go to school and continue their education.

While sighted children are motivated to explore the world through visual

**Sean, who was born without eyes, uses a cane for moving around safely and independently at home and at school.**

cues and copying others, children who are blind need more encouragement and stimulation.

We support and empower families to address their child's individual needs so that their child can be ready for preschool then school and on to further education or training. It costs \$5,200 each term to run vital school holiday programs to help prepare secondary students for school leaving and employment.

Your donation helps us ensure Vision Australia is there when needed. Thank you.



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# Our Children's Services staff



**Above: Patricia Izzard with six-month-old Domenic Di Benedetto and his mum Jacqui. Right: Speech Pathologist, Grace Kircher.**



**Vision Australia's Children's Services includes orthoptists, therapists, early childhood educators, orientation and mobility specialists and counsellors who work with families to provide support and knowledge to address their child's particular needs. Here's a bit more about what they do.**

Vision Australia early childhood educator Patricia Izzard says the best part of her job is getting to work with remarkable families, their children and a dedicated team of professionals. Patricia's role involves working alongside families and services, supporting

them to build their capacity to maximise children's learning, development and community participation. "It is very satisfying for me to see the positive results that can be achieved when families and services work together towards better outcomes for children with blindness or low vision," she says.

Children's Services speech pathologist Grace Kircher plays a pivotal role in developing the communication between a child who is blind or has low vision and their parents, carers and peers, as well as equipping them with the appropriate communication skills to participate in life.

Grace travels all over Victoria to support families in their home

setting. She works with the family to develop the best strategy for the child's needs and educates the parent on how they can best support their child's communications skills.

Natalie Kaine is a paediatric occupational therapist who has been with Vision Australia for 13 years. Natalie works with school-aged children and their families in Sydney, across regional NSW and interstate. She says her favourite part of the role is talking with kids about their futures, for example, what do they want to do when they finish school, what do they want to be when they grow up? That leads to conversations about preparing for that future. "My goal is to help young clients develop the skills they'll need to have choices when they finish school," she says.



**Light a Candle visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au) or call 1300 84 74 66 to donate**





Our loyal and dedicated volunteers at Carols by Candlelight® 2012.

## Vision Australia's volunteers

**Each year at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight® presented by Myer over 170 volunteers play key roles in making the event what it is.**

Our volunteers are vital to the running of the event; they do everything from scanning tickets, selling candles, counting money, distributing stock, chaperoning

guests and performers, and are often on their feet for long periods of time. The age range of volunteers is from 16 years to 70.

For many of them, volunteering at Carols by Candlelight is their tradition. This year, we are thrilled to celebrate Paul Worsnop who marks 39 years of volunteering with Carols.

Volunteers, like Paul, choose to give up their Christmas Eve and time with their own families because they believe Christmas is about giving back.

Vision Australia appreciates the support these volunteers give each and every year.



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# Paul celebrates 39 years of Carols



**Paul with wife Sandy and son Samuel at last year's Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.®.**

**If anyone knows Carols by Candlelight, it's Paul Worsnop who has been volunteering at the event for 39 years.**

Paul started his relationship with Carols when, as a teenager, his family became involved through a community orchestra group which ran a stall selling candles. The family eventually took over the running of the stall and continue to run it today.

Up until recently, three Worsnop generations manned the stall. Paul, and his brother, Christopher, have been to every Carols since 1974.

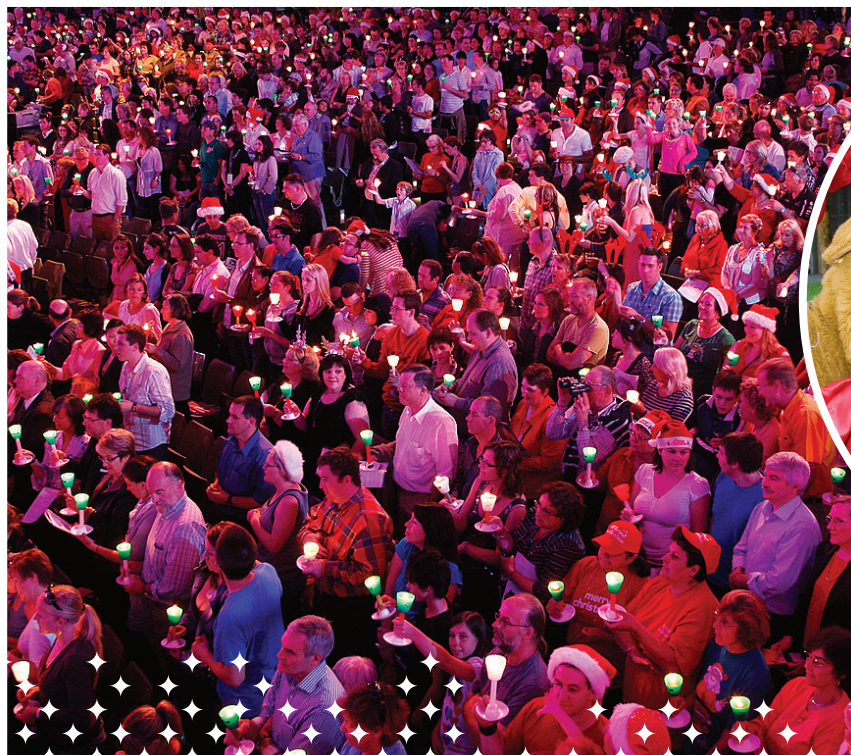
"Being a part of the event for that length of time has a special meaning in itself, especially seeing how it has developed and grown over time. I've observed the change in the city back drop and the way the buildings set their lights for the night."

A highlight for me is that each year I see so many smiles, it's the joy of Christmas. This is a cumulative thing that adds something significant to my heart each year, it has become a part of who I am. I enjoy it because it gives me a sense of service, but now it has

also become the Christmas tradition for me and my family. We are a family who enjoys serving the community," Paul says.



# The story of Carols by Candlelight



**Pictured are a selection of Carols by Candlelight photos taken over the last decade.**

**Carols by Candlelight began on Christmas Eve 1938 thanks to the inspiration and enthusiasm of Melbourne radio announcer Norman Banks.**

The first Carols was held in Alexandra Gardens and was attended by a healthy crowd of 10,000. The event grew in importance during the Second World War when community spirit was much in need. In 1958, the event was moved to the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind (now Vision Australia) partnered with Carols as a charity

sponsor assuming responsibility for the event in 1969. And so, on December 24, 1969, a new Christmas Eve tradition began in thousands of homes across Melbourne because for the first time Carols by Candlelight was broadcast on television, meaning that the iconic event could be enjoyed by thousands of families unable to travel into the city to participate. Now in its seventy-sixth year, it continues to be enjoyed throughout households across Australia.



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## The stars



### John Foreman

A pianist, musical director and composer, John Foreman has been appearing on Australian television for nearly two decades.

John has been musical director for Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight since 2003 and continues to help make Christmas Eve a musical extravaganza.

### Lisa Wilkinson & David Campbell

**Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight tonight welcomes a new hosting combination with the Nine Network's Lisa Wilkinson joining forces with David Campbell.**

For more than two decades, Lisa has blazed a trail through the Australian media landscape, first in publishing, then on to radio and now television, where she co-hosts Nine's top-rating Today. Tonight will be her sixth year in a row as co-host of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.

David Campbell is one of Australia's most popular entertainers. A multi-platinum selling recording artist, David has starred in theatre and cabaret, recorded three Top Ten albums, and sold out concert tours from coast to coast. He now co-hosts Nine's popular Mornings program. He has performed at Carols on six occasions, but tonight marks his first night as co-host.

or simply call 1300 84 74 66 to donate





## Patrice Tipoki

Patrice Tipoki is set to star as Fantine in Les Miserables next year. Her other musical theatre credits include Wicked, The Lion King, Anyone Can Whistle, Songs for a New World, West Side Story and Prodigal.



## Rachael Leahcar

**Rachael started singing lessons at the age of nine. With Italian grandparents, she spent much of her childhood singing in Italian. Rachael also sings in French and Spanish.**

**A talented musician, Rachael also plays the piano and the flute and has sung in numerous choirs. Rachael attributes her strong connection with music to the fact that she is 90% legally blind.**

Rachael wants to be known as a singer, not the blind girl who sings. It was her breakout performance on the Nine Network's The Voice that has given her that opportunity.

Her first album Shooting Star debuted at No. 5 on the ARIA charts.

Rachael's second album Romantique was released earlier this year and is a collection of contemporary, classic and original songs backed by orchestral instruments.



## Silvie Paladino

Silvie Paladino has established herself as one of our most versatile and talented entertainers, performing throughout Australia, Asia and on London's West End.

She has played roles in Les Miserables, Cats, Miss Saigon, Hair, Mamma Mia! and Chess, for which she received a Helpmann Award nomination, and has performed for celebrated theatrical composers, Stephen Schwartz and Stephen Sondheim.



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### Australian Girls' Choir

The Australian Girls' Choir has dazzled audiences with their energetic and vibrant performances over the past 30 years. They have performed with a long list of artists from the entertainment world including Hugh Jackman, Guy Sebastian, Delta Goodrem and Olivia Newton-John.



### Anthony Callea

**ARIA winner Anthony Callea is considered to be one of this country's most powerful voices.**

**In 2013, Anthony celebrates his tenth anniversary performing at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.**

**He has toured with Celine Dion and Whitney Houston and was chosen to perform for Luciano Pavarotti and Queen Elizabeth II.**

Anthony is currently treading the musical theatre stage once more, playing the role of Johnny Casino in Grease The Musical alongside Bert Newton and Todd McKenney.

Introduced to the country via Australian Idol in 2004, his debut single The Prayer became Australia's fastest and highest selling single of all time and was at the top of the charts for five consecutive weeks.

In April this year Anthony released his third album Thirty with ABC Music, which achieved a Top 20 ARIA Album Chart debut.

His latest album This is Christmas has just been released and features 12 iconic Christmas songs including The First Noel, Amazing Grace and Don't Save It All For Christmas Day.



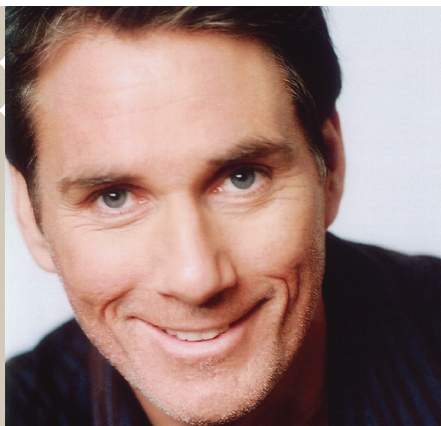
### Darren Percival

Darren Percival sang his way into the hearts of Australians as a favourite on The Voice in 2012.

His album Happy Home debuted at No. 3 on the ARIA Chart and Darren went on to sell out his national tour.

Darren is honoured to be back at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight and is set to treat his fans to a series of surprises in 2014.





## David Hobson

David Hobson, tenor and composer, is one of Australia's best operatic, concert and stage performers, having sung many operatic roles including his award-winning performances in La Boheme and Orphee.

David has won numerous awards including Operatic Performer of the Year and an ARIA Award.



## Tim Campbell

**Tim Campbell is a natural all round entertainer. He sings, acts and hosts with an easy knock-about warmth and infectious style.**

**As a singer, Tim has performed in various productions around Australia, Asia and the Middle East.**

Not content with all his TV and live performance work, Tim ventured into the world of musical theatre in late 2007, playing the role of 'Roger' in the musical RENT and in 2008 moved to Melbourne to take the lead role of 'Johnny O'Keefe' in the reprised musical of SHOUT! THE LEGEND OF THE WILD ONE, playing at Melbourne's State Theatre and Sydney's Lyric Theatre.

From TV drama, to stage, to hosting national network television, Tim continues to entertain and excite audiences across the nation.



## Denis Walter

Denis Walter has been entertaining Australia for more than 40 years.

In 2013 Denis continues to be at the forefront of media and entertainment in Australia. For the past five years he has hosted the top-rating afternoon radio program on Melbourne's 3AW.

A firm favourite with audiences, Denis Walter returns to Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight this year for his 29th appearance.



**Light a Candle visit [www.lightacandle.net.au](http://www.lightacandle.net.au)**





## Luke Kennedy

Luke Kennedy is best known for his performances on The Voice which saw him take out second place in the blockbuster singing program.

Luke has also toured internationally with The Ten Tenors and recently signed a record deal with Universal Music Australia, with his debut album, A Time For Us, debuting No. 6 on the Aria Charts.



## Harrison Craig

**Harrison Craig rose to national prominence through his standout performances on the Nine Network's The Voice.**

**The 18 year old wowed Australian audiences with his silky tones and heart-warming vocals.**

**From his rendition of Unchained Melody to Elvis Presley's Can't Help Falling in Love to his own original single, More Than a Dream, Harrison has been setting the charts alight.**

Harrison's vocal development began when he joined the Victorian Boys' Choir in 2005, and with the help of his private singing teacher, David Jaanz, he continued to refine his vocal ability until he was ready to debut it for the world in 2013 on The Voice.

Since The Voice, Harrison has completed a highly successful 25-show national tour.



## Marina Prior

Marina Prior is regarded as Australia's leading lady of musical theatre. She has played lead roles in Cats, Les Miserables, The Pirates of Penzance, The Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, Guys and Dolls and Mary Poppins.

Marina has recorded six albums and a DVD of her live stage show. This year she released her first Christmas album, Marina Prior Candlelight Christmas.

Among numerous accolades Marina has received are four MO Awards, three Green Room Awards and an induction into Australia's Top 100 Entertainers of the Century.





## The National Boys' Choir of Australia

The National Boys' Choir of Australia is one of our finest treble choirs, regularly performing with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Opera Australia and the Victorian Opera and at many major events.

Tonight marks the choir's 26th year on stage at Carols by Candlelight.



## Douglas Heywood OAM

Douglas Heywood, the Musical Director will again lead the triumphant sound of Handel's famous Hallelujah Chorus, sung by Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight Choir.

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\*Transaction fees may apply





## Simon Gleeson

Simon Gleeson has appeared on stage in a wide range of shows including *Love Never Dies*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Shout* and will be appearing in *Les Miserables* next year. He has also appeared in film and TV in the UK, including a regular role in *EastEnders*.



## Steve Clisby

Californian-born Steve Clisby mesmerised Australia with his talent when he appeared on *The Voice* earlier this year.

Steve's performances of classic R 'n B tracks including *Walking in Memphis*, *Can't Get Enough of Your Love, Baby* and *Just the Two of Us* had the coaches in tears one minute and up on their feet dancing the next. A favourite with coaches and viewers alike, Steve made it all the way to the semi-finals of the top-rating singing contest.

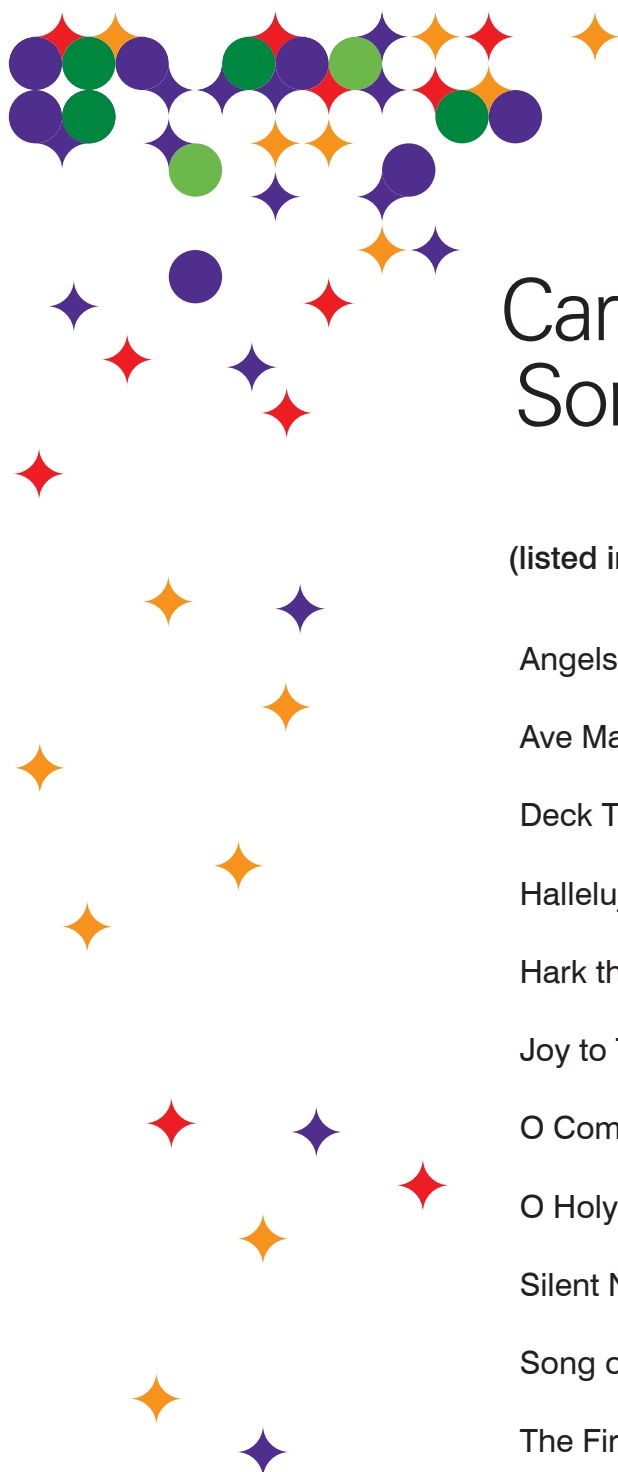
His current recording, *Soul Story*, was released earlier this year.

## Looney Tunes Christmas Spectacle

**See the LOONEY TUNES characters with KIDS' WB hosts Lauren Phillips and Andrew Faulkner at their festive best in a specially scripted and choreographed show packed full of Christmas song and dance.**

On stage you'll see the famous and much loved BUGS BUNNY, DAFFY DUCK, SYLVESTER, TWEETY, TAZ and the intergalactic legend MARVIN THE MARTIAN all celebrate with Christmas cheer.





# Carols by Candlelight Song List

(listed in alphabetical order)

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We Wish You A Merry Christmas . . . . .	28





## Angels We Have Heard On High

Traditional. Translated by James Chadwick.  
Music arranged by Edward Shippen Barnes.  
Public Domain.

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo  
Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo

Shepherds why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo  
Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo

Come to Bethlehem and see  
He whose birth the angels praise  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King

Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo  
Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo

Glor-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-or-oria  
In excelsis deo

## Ave Maria

Traditional. Public Domain.

Ave Maria!  
Maiden mild!  
O listen to a maiden's prayer!  
For thou canst hear amid the wild  
Tis thou canst save amid despair,  
amid despair.

We slumber safely 'til the morrow,  
Tho' we, by men, outcast, reviled;  
O maiden! See a maiden's sorrow -  
O mother, hear a suppliant child!  
Ave Maria!

Ave Maria, gratia plena.  
Maria, gratia plena  
Maria, gratia plena  
Ave, ave dominus,  
Tecum.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
Et benedictus  
Benedictus fructus ventris tui  
tui, Jesus.  
Ave Maria.



## Deck The Halls

Traditional. Public Domain.

Deck the Hall with boughs of holly  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
'tis the season to be jolly  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Fill the mead cup, drain the barrel  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Troll the ancient Christmas carol  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la

See the flowing bowl before us  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Strike the harp and join the chorus  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Follow me in merry measure  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
While I sing of beauty's treasure  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la

Fast away the old year passes  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Laughing, quaffing all together  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la  
Heedless of the wind and weather  
Fa la la la la, fa la la la

## Hallelujah Chorus

Written by George Frideric Handel.  
Public Domain.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! **(repeat)**

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth –  
Hallelujah! **(repeat twice)**

The Kingdom of this world  
Is become the Kingdom of our Lord  
And of His Christ, and of His Christ  
And He shall reign for ever and ever  
**(repeat three times)**

King of Kings forever and ever –  
And Lord of Lords forever and ever –  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! **(repeat)**

King of Kings forever and ever –  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
And Lord of Lords  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords  
And He shall reign, and He shall reign  
And He shall reign, and He shall reign  
Forever and ever

King of Kings – Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
And Lord of Lords – Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

He shall reign forever and ever  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords

He shall reign forever and ever  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Halle-lu-jaah!





## Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Words by C Wesley

Music by Mendelssohn. Adapted by William Cummings.  
Public Domain.

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

Christ by highest heav'n adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the godhead see  
Hail the incarnate deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus our Emmanuel

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the heav'n born prince of peace  
Hail the Son of righteousness  
Light and life to all he brings  
Risen with healing in his wings  
Mild he lays his glory be  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth

Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

## Joy To The World

Traditional. Public Domain.

Joy to the World,  
the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven,  
and nature sing.

Joy to the World,  
the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders, of His love.  
wonders of his love



## O Come All Ye Faithful

Words by John Wade, translated by Frederick Oakley. Music by John Reading. Public Domain.

O come all ye faithful  
Joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels

O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

Yea Lord, we greet thee  
Born this happy morning  
Jesu, to thee by glory giv'n  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing

O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

Sing choirs of angels  
Sing in exultation  
Sing all ye citizens of Heav'n above  
Glory to God  
In the highest

O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

## O Holy Night

Words by J.S. Dwight. Music by Adolphe Adam. Public Domain.

O holy night  
The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth  
Long lay the world  
In sin and error pining  
'Til He appeared and the soul  
felt His worth

The thrill of hope, the weary  
world rejoices  
For yonder beams a new and  
glorious morn  
Fall on your knees  
Oh hear the angel voices  
O night divine  
O night when Christ was born  
O night divine  
O night, O night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another  
His law is love and His gospel is peace  
Chains shall He break for the slave is  
our brother  
And in His name all oppression  
shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful  
chorus raise we  
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord  
Then ever, ever praise we  
Noel, noel, O night divine  
Noel, noel, O night, O night divine  
Noel, noel, O holy night





## Silent Night

Traditional. Words by Joseph Mohr. Music by Franz Xavier Gruber. Public Domain.

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from Heaven afar  
Heav'nly hosts sing hallelujah  
Christ the Saviour is born  
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus Lord at thy birth  
Jesus Lord at thy birth

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

## Song of Joy

Composer: De los Rios/Parker/Orbe  
Publisher: EMI (copyright).

Come sing a song of joy  
For peace shall come my brother  
Sing, sing a song of joy  
For men shall love each other  
That day will dawn  
Just as sure  
As hearts that are pure  
Are hearts set free  
No man must stand alone  
With outstretched hand before him

Reach out and take them in yours  
With love that endures for evermore  
Then sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding

Come sing a song of joy  
For peace shall come my brother  
Sing, sing a song of joy  
For men shall love each other  
That day will dawn  
Just as sure  
As hearts that are pure are hearts set free  
No man must stand alone  
With outstretched hand before him

Reach out and take them in yours  
With love that endures for evermore  
Then sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding

One mighty voice  
That will bring a sound  
That will ring for ever more  
Then sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding

## The First Noel

Traditional. Public Domain

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds  
In fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay  
Keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night  
That was so deep  
  
Noel Noel Noel Noel  
Born is the King of Israel  
  
They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far  
And to Earth it gave a great light  
And so it continued both day and night

Noel Noel Noel Noel  
Born is the King of Israel

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our Heav'nly Lord  
That hath made Heav'n and Earth of naught  
And with his blood mankind hath bought

Noel Noel Noel Noel  
Born is the King of Israel

## We Wish You A Merry Christmas

Traditional. Public Domain.

We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring  
To you and your kin  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy New Year

Now bring us some figgy pudding  
Now bring us some figgy pudding  
Now bring us some figgy pudding  
And bring some out here

For we all like figgy pudding  
We all like figgy pudding  
For we all like figgy pudding  
So bring some out here

And we won't go till we've got some  
We won't go till we've got some  
And we won't go till we've got some  
So bring some out here

We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy New Year.



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# Children we support



**Jayne and David Law and their three children, Jacob, 16, Kate, 14, and Nicholas, 11.**

## Jayne's Story

**All three of Jayne Law's children have a condition called Aniridia, which is where the coloured iris in the eye is missing, so they can't regulate the amount of light that goes into their eyes. They also have Nystagmus which means that their eyes move involuntarily.**

Vision Australia has been with Jayne and her children right from the start. When Jacob, Kate and Nicholas were toddlers, they attended Vision Australia's playgroup for children with low vision, where they could play

with other children, while also learning some fundamental skills under careful supervision from Vision Australia's specialist staff.

Jayne feels that Vision Australia has been particularly valuable with integration, helping each of her children attend kindergarten and school, and educating teachers on how to accommodate each child's individual needs.

## Micaiah's Story

Micaiah was born with Peters Anomaly in both eyes, and one of Micaiah's eyes is microphthalmic. After surgery at four weeks old, Micaiah gained some sight in one

## Micaiah loves to play outside

of her eyes and can now see about three metres away.

Corina, Micaiah's mother, initially felt lost and was left wondering how she could best prepare her little girl for the challenges ahead. Corina was referred to Vision Australia by Micaiah's doctor, and found comfort in the support given, especially with its counselling service. Vision Australia staff also helped her understand how she could support Micaiah and assist with her individual development and learning.



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