

Christmas Newsletter

December 2021

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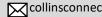


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Group: Collins Connect

YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Collins Connect acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we live and pays its respect to the Elders past and present.



COLLINS CONNECT FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2021

By popular demand, the Collins Connect Family Christmas Carols was held on Sunday 12th December 2021. After months of lockdown, it was finally time to reunite face to face and what better way than bringing in the festive season with carol singing. Denzil D'Cruz did not hesitate making his way down from Sydney to attend, as soon as the borders were opened for travel between states. Thank you Denzil for your ongoing support.

The demand for participants was encouraging and the showcasing of our young talented family members highlighted the inherited Collins music talent. Our guest artist segment witnessed the baritone voice of Redver Dubier with his rendition of Stevie Wonder's song "The day that love began". Next to showcase was the brother & sister team of Benjamin (on guitar) and Zara Rafferty (singing) (Milton Collins' great-grandchildren). Brothers Zac (on guitar) and Trent Dirckze (on keyboards) (Aileen D'cruz' great grandchildren) got the crowds clapping. Cousins Scarlett Heldt, Ezra Jasmy (vocals) and Liam Heldt (on keyboard) (Arthur Collins' great-grandchildren) exhibited their musical talent.

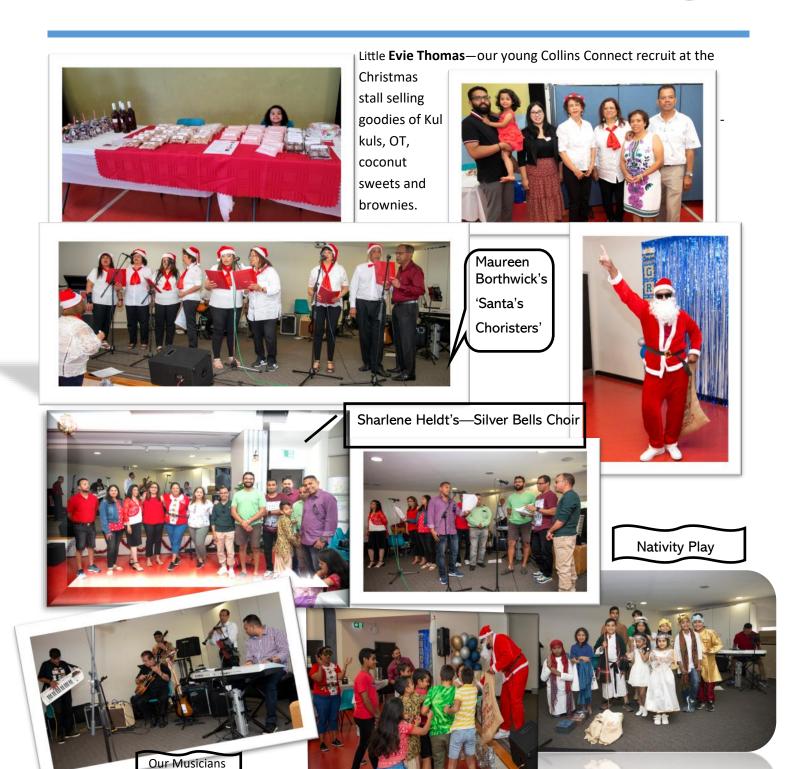
Maureen Borthwick's group 'Santa's Choristers' sang their traditional carols handed down from generations. Maureen's son Dean Borthwick on guitar and daughters Sallyann D'Souza and Paula Rebiero providing the vocals while granddaughter Meghan D'Souza performed her solo of 'The Christmas Song' composed by Maureen Borthwick. Accompanied by Winston on guitar and vocals by cousins Lauren Rafferty, Marian Collins, Angel D'Silva, Corrine Collins and Denzil D'Cruz and sibling Bryan Biggs made up Santa's Choristers.

Sharlene (Collins) Heldt and her 'Silver Bells Choir' of family and friends brought the crowd together with their upbeat carols. The performance by the young talented Scarlett Heldt, Phoenix Jasmy, Grace Drewitt and Mikayla Mascurine was pure delight. The nativity play organised by Sharlene, narrated and acted out by the young children was exceptional, with each of them playing their part to perfection. And who can forget the arrival of 'SANTA'. Rather than riding on a sleigh, Santa thought he was on a skateboard sliding his way into the hall. The excitement on seeing Santa and knowing of the sugar overdose of Iollies was forefront in the minds of the children.

Feeding over 100 people was no mean feat, but both Gary and Conchita Jasmy (GazDom Catering) ensured our family and friends were fed and happy. Congratulations to both Ezra and Phoenix Jasmy, our attendants who delivered the food orders efficiently and with a smile! Well done Ezra & Phoenix!

Last but not forgetting the COLLINS family singers combining both Milton & Henry's children joined with the talented musicians Tommy Smith, Ryan Watts, Barry Collins, Melroy Rodrigues, Winston D'Silva and Alan D'Cruz had the audience singing all of our favourite carols. Busy behind the scenes, our sound engineer Keith Collins and Videographer Elvis Collins, the masters of sight & sound. MCs Sheldon D'Silva and Alan D'Cruz made sure the Collins Connect Carols ran like clockwork and was an enjoyable afternoon filled with music and friendship.

Our volunteers and Covid Marshalls on the day included Angela Cursio, Jackie Jackson, Maria Rafferty and Gillian Dirckze. Planning this face to face event after lockdown was no ordinary task; especially with taking all precautions to accommodate Covid restrictions and regulations, which in itself was a challenge. Special thanks go out to our volunteers and the Collins Connect team members including Jarryd Fernandes, Sheldon D'Silva, Drayton and Lizzie Thomas, Corrine Collins, Lauren Rafferty, Elvis Collins and Karen Collins who ensured that the program was jam packed with lasting memories.









COLLINS CONNECT wishes each of our family and friends a Happy Christmas and with love and blessing we hope the New Year will be a bright one for all.

May the spirit of Christmas bring

Peace in your heart, health and happiness.

As you celebrate Christmas with your families and loved ones.

Merry Christmas to you and your family!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to our donors for the raffle prizes:

- Collins Connect Founding Members
- Confluence Digital
- Maureen Borthwick
- Lauren Peirson
- ITSEC Australia



A Happy New Year is what's wished for you, May it bring all that you want and lots more too. May happiness and joy find you every day and good health and wealth are here to stay.



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EDITOR—Karen Collins

Want to help?

CO-EDITOR—Corrine Collins If you would like to contribute to the Collins Connect newsletters, we encourage you to get in contact with any of our team members.