







SEE THE FULL STORY



MELBOURNE

85 years of Christmas joy

n December 24, 1938, Melbourne hosted its very first Carols by Candlelight at Alexandra Gardens, where about 10,000 people gathered to sing carols, backed by a small choir, two soloists and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

Now, this beloved annual pilgrimage celebrates 85 years of entertainment, more than 60 years of performing at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and more than seven decades supporting children and families who are blind or have low vision.

In 1938, candles and programs were sold to raise money for the Austin Hospital, and soprano Molly Hislop performed. The event was an instant hit and a new Christmas tradition was born.

By 1942, Carols was a much larger affair. A crowd of 40,000 watched as two choirs — the Highfield Methodist Choir and the Sandringham Choral Society — were accompanied by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and a Hammond organ

From 1949, Vision Australia (then, the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind) became the main beneficiary of the event. In 1959, the

event moved from Alexandra Gardens to the just-opened larger venue, the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, where more than 100,000 people attended.

In 1970, Carols by Candlelight was televised for the first time on Channel 0. In 1979, Channel 9 became the event's official broadcast partner and more than 40 years on, Channel 9 is proud to be partnered with this long-standing Christmas tradition.

In the past decade, the number of famous guests has increased with crowd favourites Denis Walter, Marina Prior, Silvie Paladino David Hobson, Lucy Durack, Debra Byrne, Delta Goodrem, Rob Mills, Guy Sebastian, the cast from Come From Away, Casey Donovan, Dami Im, Christie Whelan Browne and Anthony Callea all making their mark.

2022 is the 85th year of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight. And this year, we plan to make it the brightest Carols yet!

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit carolsbycandlelight.com.au The 85th Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight is presented by AAMI.



part of the Carols spirit by reading their stories in this edition of the Carols by Candlelight song book. The funds raised through Carols by Candlelight go directly to our children's services to provide 30,000 hours of support and care to families. Your gift will light up the lives of many children who are blind or have low vision and their families across Australia. From our Carols family

to yours, have a safe and Merry Christmas

from everyone at Vision Australia.

Ron Hooton, Vision Australia CEO

partner for Carols by Candlelight. As one of Australia's leading insurer role we play in supporting and children through Vision Australia in this way, especially at Christmas time.

commitment to helping people who are blind or have low aligns so well to our Group's purpose, building futures and protecting what matters.

We are very proud to be part of this iconic Australian tradition and look forward to sharing the joy of Christmas with the whole community Lisa Harrison, Suncorp Group **CEO Insurance Product** and Portfolio

*AAMI is part of the Suncorp

Vision Australia's back for the 85th year and Channel 9 is proud to be a

partner once again. Christmas is such a beautiful time of year, spent with family and friends, special is being able to raise money for men, women and children who are blind or have low vision across Australia.

On behalf of Nine, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with your loved ones **Matt James, Nine Melbourne** managing director

arols by Candlelight ✓ is back and this year it will be the brightest Carols yet for all of our Vision Australia community and our fabulous performers. Carols has been bringing Australians together for 85 years and has become one of our favourite Christmas traditions. In 2021, Australia raised more

ready. Education programs to learn Braille, the Feelix Library, LEGO® Braille Bricks and many other varied services are all created specifically for children to help them reach their own independent goals and full potential. This is only achieved with the help of the specialist staff and teams at Vision Australia who work so closely with each family — and this of course wouldn't be possible without the generosity of Australians touched by our inspirational children's stories at Christmas. This year, you can again be a



NIGHTLY 6.00

vision australia's carols by candlelight DONATE NOW AT givetocarols.com

than \$2 million to help children with

blindness or low vision to become life



ince its inception in 1938, Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight has become a much-loved Christmas tradition. Attended by thousands and watched by many more from the comfort of their homes, this unforgettable night will deliver an abundance of festive cheer under a sea of candlelight at Melbourne's iconic Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

Nine's *Today Show* host David Campbell will once again co-host this muchloved variety spectacular and help bring joy to a packedout Sidney Myer Music Bowl on Saturday, December 24. David said, "Christmas is such a wonderful time and I'm always

so honoured to be a part of such a lovely Christmas Eve tradition. My family love Christmas, and it's made even better being able to raise money for Vision Australia and families all over Australia. It's going to be a spectacular night."

Stars gracing the stage to perform everyone's favourite Christmas songs and carols include Nine's beloved stalwarts Marina Prior, Silvie Paladino, Anthony Callea, Tim Campbell, David Hobson and

Tickets to Carols by Candelight can be purchased at carolsbycandlelight.com.au

Denis Walter alongside new faces such as Adam Harvey and Beccy Cole, Ben Abraham, Thando Sikwila, Julia Stone, Vika and Linda Bull, and lots more.

For the very first time, the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, consisting of 24 members, will travel from six remote communities, within a 1000km radius throughout central Australia, to perform a stirring rendition of a Christmas carol in their traditional Western Arrernte and Pitjantjatjara language.

For three decades, Vika and Linda Bull have been best known as backing singers and collaborators to some of Australia's biggest artists. Now, Carols audiences will get the chance to embrace the exquisite harmonies of these two sisters. Giving Australians spine-

tingles every Christmas Eve, popular 3AW talkback radio host Denis Walter will be back with his distinctive baritone notes, which have filled the Sidney Myer Music Bowl stage for more than 40 years. This year, he will be joined by his niece Iulie Walter and great niece Zoe Walter.

"I am truly overwhelmed by this event year after year and the opportunity to perform alongside two very talented members of my family is truly spectacular," Denis said. "Given my dad joined me on

Carols in 1991, this makes four generations of the Walter family who've been a part of this iconic Christmas celebration."

No Christmas in Melbourne would be complete without perennial favourites Marina Prior, Silvie Paladino and David Hobson. "What a great honour and privilege it always is to sing at Carols, which is only enhanced by singing with lifelong friends," David said. "It's truly one of those magical events that provides a real sense of community and inclusion as we bring in Christmas in a familial and festive spirit."

Known as one half of Angus & Julia Stone, the Australian duo behind dreamy folk-pop songs like Big Jet Plane and Chateau, Julia Stone makes her longawaited Carols debut along with former Yellow Wiggle Emma Watkins, who will light up the stage to deliver a very special performance.

The extraordinary Casey Donovan will bring her powerful voice to the Carols stage along with Bobby Fox and Rob Mills, who return by popular demand. Plus, Melbourne's incredible theatre leads from Hamilton, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Mary Poppins and & Juliet will join the star-studded cast this year.

The Carols by Candlelight Orchestra returns under the baton of musical director John Foreman who celebrates his 20th anniversary at Carols. He will be assisted by choir master Doug Heywood OAM, who has been leading the choir for more than three decades.

A visit from Santa is always a very magical moment, and this year will be no exception. The bells will be ringing when the man in red arrives to deliver some festive cheer to children and families at this year's Carols.

Of course, it's not just about singing songs — Carols by Candlelight is a major event for Vision Australia, raising funds for the children's services it provides, which is why stars and hosts generously give up their time on Christmas Eve each year to bring joy to Australia.

Make it a sweet little Christmas

Former Wiggles star Emma Watkins will join the star-studded line-up of Aussie performers this Christmas Eve. We chat with Emma about what makes her festive season bright.

What do you love most about Christmas? Seeing family without dashing away to a rehearsal and enjoying summer fruitsmangoes and apricots!

Describe your perfect Christmas day.

Feeding my pet goats, taking the dogs for a walk and then helping prep the roast vegies for lunch. I'm really the sous chef in our

household (my husband Olly is the real chef!) and I just like doing all the peripheral food prep, while snacking on some cheese and crackers. Then lunch, and a quiz from the paper lots of chocolate and then just sitting around on the grass in the yard for the rest of the afternoon.

Who is your favourite person to buy a present for? Mum. Because she is so easy to buy for and loves a laugh. If I see anything with a horse on it I just get it and store it away for her Christmas surprise. Honestly, the amount of horse tea towels and serviettes I have bought her is silly.

The best present you have ever received? Pet goats! One of my goats had twins around Christmas last year and that was such a beautiful experience.

Your favourite Christmas carol?

Little Drummer Boy because we used to sing it at school and I remember loving the 'pa-rum-pa-pum-pum' section always! I just used to think those lyrics were so fun.

The Christmas tradition you always look forward to? Our family always reads the quiz from the Sunday paper at Christmas and even though Christmas doesn't always fall on a Sunday, we save up the quizzes and do them all together.

If you could invite one famous person to Christmas lunch, who would it be?

Zoe Foster Blake. For a good chat and a little debrief about skincare while eating some chocolate.

If you could travel anywhere in the world to spend Christmas, where would it be?

l've never experienced snow at Christmas, so maybe a trip to Banff, Canada would be a treat. But equally, I would love to spend a Christmas in Queenstown, New Zealand picturesque and hopefully not too hot.



Silvie Paladino







Nothing is going to stop energetic dancer Gemma from achieving her goals

udding dancer Gemma Wilson was the youngest of five children and only five months old when she was diagnosed with congenital glaucoma, a diagnosis that came as a bolt from the blue for Gemma's mum, Nova.

"When Gemma was first diagnosed, I was in the darkest tunnel," Nova said.

"The diagnosis really came as quite a shock, especially since we had no history with eve conditions in the family. At the time, we had four other kids and I honestly thought: We've nailed raising our first four; this is going to be easy. We could never have imagined how much Gemma's diagnosis would impact the whole family."

Over the next year, Gemma underwent four procedures to save what they could of her vision, ultimately resulting in a tube implant being inserted.

This condition has left Gemma with limited functional vision and she can see only rough shapes and colours from

Now aged 8, and with the support of the team at Vision Australia, Gemma and her family have received invaluable support from her occupational therapists. They have enabled her to learn how to use a cane as well as focusing on her dexterity and movement, which has increased her level of independence.

When asked how Vision Australia helped prepare her for school, Gemma said, "When I first started school, the team at Vision Australia came out and helped my teacher understand

my condition and gave them some advice that would help me out with my day-to-day activities like having the blinds down to reduce any glare, as well as making sure I'm sitting in the correct spot in the classroom."

When Gemma is not practising her rarely sitting still and is certainly not letting her eye condition get in the way of having fun.

Gemma loves ice-skating, gymnastics, jumping out of trees and being a daredevil with her brothers and sisters — things that would have been much harder without the intervention of Vision Australia.

"We are so proud of the milestones Gemma has achieved and it's truly thanks to the support from Vision Australia," Nova said. "I believe Gemma can live whatever type of life she wants to lead."



life to the fullest!

Early intervention and guidance have been the key to aiding Raph

aphael Spillane, who was born with a head full of beautiful, white hair, was only four months old when he was diagnosed with oculocutaneous albinism. a condition that affects the pigment in the back of his eyes, skin and hair.

Since then, Vision Australia has been a lifeline for Raph, now aged 5, and his family.

an occupational therapist, speech therapist, education specialist, orientation and mobility specialist, orthoptist and the paediatric counsellor, meant that Raph would be on the right path to live a life he chooses.

"The biggest thing we've learnt is making sure that Raph understands that he will be able to reach major milestones to



"When we first found out about Raph's albinism, we were so worried and upset," Raph's mother, Francesca, said.

"Initially, we were told he was blind and that he might gain some vision, but to expect the worst. We will forever be grateful for the guidance that Vision Australia has provided us over the years."

Within a week of Raph's diagnosis, an early childhood specialist teacher from Vision Australia was appointed to offer early family support and a clear plan for how to share the news with family and friends.

Utilising all of Vision Australia's resources, including do what he wants in life," Francesca said

"Yes, he has a disability, and he is proud of who he is, and he knows that nothing can stand in his way."

A curious and energetic pre-schooler, Raph has an outstanding memory, which helps him navigate new environments and allows him to easily work out possible obstacles in his path and check for changes in the terrain.

"We have celebrated the big and small achievements over the years and have always tried to stay positive, even during some of the most challenging times," Francesca said.



hen Daisy Lovegrove was only a few days old, it became apparent to her parents, Louisa and Michael, that she needed extra-special care.

After an early misdiagnosis of strabismus, a condition where the eyes are not properly aligned, a second opinion diagnosed her with optic nerve hypoplasia, where the optic nerve never fully develops.

She also lives with nystagmus, which causes involuntary movement of the eye.

"We knew something wasn't right, and we could never have been prepared for her diagnosis and the uncertainty our family were about to face," Louisa said. "We were confused, and most of all, we were frightened."

Daisy, now aged 3, lives with about 30-50 per cent vision in her left eye, and 50 per cent in her right.

Louisa's initial concerns were that Daisy would have trouble acclimatising to school life, so she set out to find what assistance was available through Vision Australia.

"Vision Australia have been so good," Louisa said

"Through her occupational therapist we have been able to learn so many tips and

tricks that help Daisy on a day-to-day basis." While Daisy's condition

has posed some challenges, support from Vision Australia has helped ensure she is on track to meet her developmental milestones.

Daisy is now able to distinguish colours, work on her perception of depth and gain independent movement

Looking to the future. Louisa is sure that Daisy will succeed in whatever she does thanks to the support from Vision Australia.

"Because of Vision Australia, I no longer have the concerns that I used to." Louisa said.





Brightest Carols yet

Your generous donation to Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight presented by AAMI will make such a difference to kids who are blind or have low vision, like Gemma.

Help light up lives this Christmas. Donate now at givetocarols.com

\$30

could help give kids access to braille and tactile book kits, so they can enjoy storytime too

\$60

could help pay for long white canes to help kids get to school safely

\$100

could help provide daily living skill sessions to learn the basics of self-care

\$500

could help set up the best assistive technology so students can thrive

DONATE NOW



Gemma

Feelix Library has been bringing childhood stories to life for children who are blind or have low vision for almost 20 years. The first of its kind in Australia, the Feelix Library is a free service for children 0-7 years old who live with blindness, low vision or other print disabilities.

Childhood

a special

stories come

to life through

library service

This year alone saw more than 7000 people access the Vision Australia library service and more than 100 volunteers help clients access valuable information and entertainment. From providing audio narration and describing, to preparing handmade kits containing Braille and audio storybooks along with toys and tactile objects, the library is a vibrant, much loved and valued service.

Vision Australia has long advocated that access to Braille is a fundamental right

/ision Australia's innovative for people who are blind or have low vision. It helps to communicate with others, and also represents inclusion and hope, which is integral to maximising opportunities for children who are blind or have low vision.

Former Feelix Library card holder and client of Vision Australia, Emma Jago said she was very young when she began receiving briefcases of fun from the Feelix Library.

"Each case included a Braille book that



sometimes had tactile pictures,

the book in audio format on

cassette, and soft toys/props

that really brought the books

to life. Alas, when I was about

seven, Mum had to tell me that

I was now too old for the Feelix

echidna with a key tag attached;

on one side was my name, and

the other the number 85, both

in Braille. The echidna's name

became Feelix, and he has been

a staple of my bedroom for the

Library. I still remember my

final briefcase, which had an

Successful innovations at the Feelix Library include the introduction of LEGO® Braille Bricks, making it the only institution to offer the kits for home learning. The kits include activities that specialists have designed specifically to build literacy and have been a huge hit with the families who have

stories with her parents, Louisa and Michael.

The library also added 5000 titles, and Vision Australia's new Passport to Reading program has been a huge success. It has allowed children to borrow story kits and receive prizes for finishing their reading — making story time a must!

Vision Australia's chief executive officer Ron Hooton said the Feelix Library was adored by families across Australia. "Being able to explore the magic of what reading offers is something every child and family deserves and the Feelix Library opens that up for those who are blind or have low vision or live with any other print

Here's what donations like yours helped make possible this year 155,000

print pages were turned into accessible formats including Braille, e-text, large print and tactile graphics.

22

students were awarded Vision Australia further education bursaries, providing them with adaptive technology such as screen readers and



50 Seeing Eye Dogs were matched with clients.

1732 children received more than 29,857 hours of physiotherapy, speech pathology, orientation and mobility or early

intervention.

teens aged 12-18 years participated in the youth program, which introduces them to life with a Seeing Eye Dog

10

teens aged 14-18 years took part in LEAP Up. a five-week program that helps students prepare for tertiary education.

young people graduated from the LEAP program, a 10-month program that builds leadership skills.







Festive ... spirit

The magic of Christmas comes alive as we gather together once again, sing our favourite songs and let the glow of the night envelope us

The First Noel

The First Noel, the Angels 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 the Earth it gave 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 heavenly Lord That hath made Heaven and Earth of nought And with his blood mankind has bought.

> Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel Born is the King of Israel

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Ding dong, ding dong Ding dong, ding dong Ding dong merrily on high In heaven the bells are ringing Ding dong, verily the sky Is riven with angel singing Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis

E'en so here below, below Let steeple bells be swungen And io, io, io By priest and people singing Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis

Pray you, dutifully prime Your matin chime, ye ringers May you beautifully rhyme Your eve-time song, ye singers Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis Gloria. Hosanna in excelsis

Angels We Have Heard on High

Public Domain

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

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly, sweetly through the night And the mountains in reply Echoing their brief delight

Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

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

Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing, Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo



Hallelujah Chorus

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 Hallelujah, Hallelujah 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 Halle-lu-jaaaah

Oh Come All Ye Faithful

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

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful to Bethlehem

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful to Bethlehem

Oh, sing, choirs of angels

Sing in exultation

Oh, come, oh 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

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful to Bethlehem

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful to Bethlehem







Silent Night

Silent night, holy night All is calm, all is bright 'Round you virgin Mother and Child Holy infant so tender and mild Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night Son of God, oh, 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

Toy to the World

Joy to the world Joy to the world 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 Joy to the world Joy to the World, the Saviour 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

Joy to the world, now we sing Let the earth receive her king Joy to the world, now we sing Let the angel voices ring Joy to the world, now we sing Let men their songs employ Joy to the world, now we sing Repeat the sounding joy Oh oh

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The light of His righteousness And wonders of His love And wonders of His love And wonders of His love And wonders, wonders, of His love And wonders, wonders, of His love Joy to the world, now we sing Let the Earth receive her king Joy to the world, now we sing Let the angel voices ring

We Wish You a Mevy Christmas

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 a cup of good cheer! Good tidings we bring To you and your kin We wish you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year!

We won't go until we get some We won't go until we get some We won't go until we get some So bring it right here!

Good tidings we bring To you and your kin We wish you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year!

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!

MORE SONGS THAT WILL BE PERFORMED ON THE NIGHT ...

Little Drummer Boy, How Great Thou Art, Amazing Grace, Sleigh Ride, It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year, Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas, Song Of Joy, The Christmas Song, Grown-up Christmas List, Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, You Make It Feel Like Christmas, It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas, White Christmas, Christmas All Over Again, Love Is Christmas Christmas (Baby Please Come Home), The Twelve Days Of Christmas.

Please note due to copyright restrictions, only the lyrics of songs in the public domain can be included.

Fingle Bells

Dashing through the snow In a one-horse open sleigh Over the fields we go Laughing all the way Bells on bobtails ring Making spirits bright What fun it is to ride and sing A sleighing song tonight

Jingle bells, jingle bells Jingle all the way! Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh

A day or two ago I thought I'd take a ride And soon Miss Fanny Bright Was seated by my side The horse was lean and lank Misfortune seemed his lot He got into a drifted bank And then we got upsot

Jingle bells, jingle bells Jingle all the way! Oh. what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh

A day or two ago The story I must tell I went out on the snow And on my back I fell A gent was riding by In a one-horse open sleigh He laughed as there I sprawling lie But quickly drove away

Jingle bells, jingle bells Jingle all the way! Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

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 th' angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem

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

The Holy City

Traditional. Music by Stephen Adams; words by Frederick E. Weatherly. Public Domain

Last night I lay a-sleeping There came a dream so fair,

I stood in old Jerusalem Beside the temple there. I heard the children singing, And ever as they sang Methought the voice of angels From heaven in answer rang, Methought the voice of angels From heaven in answer rang.

Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing, Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your King!

And then methought my dream was changed, The streets no longer rang. Hushed were the glad Hosannas The little children sang. The sun grew dark with mystery, The morn was cold and chill. As the shadow of a cross arose Upon a lonely hill, As the shadow of a cross arose

Mild he lays his glory by Born that man no more may die Born to raise the some of Earth Born to give them second birth

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 th' angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem

Hark, the herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King

Upon a lonely hill. Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Hark! How the angels sing, Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your King!

And once again the scene was changed, New Earth there seemed to be. I saw the Holy City Beside the tideless sea. The light of God was on its streets, The gates were open wide, And all who would might enter, And no one was denied. No need of moon or stars by night, Or sun to shine by day; It was the new Jerusalem That would not pass away, It was the new Jerusalem That would not pass away.

Jerusalem! Jerusalem! Sing for the night is o'er! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna forevermore! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna forevermore!







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Stream our live radio services on your smart device or via varadio.org. Check out our range of disability focused podcasts on your favourite podcast app.







Lionel and his siblings were born on August 4th at Seeing Eye Dogs HQ. Your monthly donation can help cover their care and training on their journey to become world-class Seeing Eye Dogs.







AAMI's got cheermergencies covered this Christmas

plan, AAMI is always there to lend a helping hand. This year they had Aussies covered for Christmas cheer when they took AAMI's Roadside Cheer Assist team on the road to share the joy of Carols with the community.

After another tough year for many Australian families, AAMI called upon local communities across the country to nominate some very special people deserving of a little extra cheer to brighten their spirits in the lead up to Christmas. With almost \$10,000 worth of prizes to share along with a band of Christmas characters, carollers and special guests from the AFL and AFLW ready to attend the "cheermergencies", AAMI's Roadside Cheer Assist team delighted families and charities with surprise performances and prize giveaways.

Suncorp Group executive general manager brand and marketing Mim Haysom said, "AAMI is very proud of our partnership with Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight and each year we look forward to sharing this Christmas tradition with the community. We know its been a difficult year for many Australian families, and we wanted to share a little Carols magic, to help brighten spirits in the lead up to Christmas."

Awash in festive red and adorned in tinsel and lights. the AAMI Roadside Cheer Van visited a number of locations across Sydney and Melbourne including Cronulla Beach and the State Library Victoria. The Cheer Van also made a very special visit to Vision Australia's annual Children's Christmas

Party at Kooyong where the smiles on the day were

Francesca Spillane, along with her inspirational son, Carols By Candlelight ambassador Raphael, joined the fun when the Cheer Van dropped in at the Christmas party. Francesca said, "Vision Australia has been our lifeline for almost five years and we are truly thankful for their support and extremely grateful for the funding from generous sponsors like AAMI.'

Mim said, "Christmas is such an important time for people to come together and nothing unites the nation quite like Carols by Candlelight.

"What a pleasure it's been sharing the joy of Carols with so many in the community and helping Vision Australia with their very important work raising funds to help children who are blind or have low vision to access the support and services that they need."

"Let's make this the brightest Carols yet, by giving generously to this very important cause."

Since 1969, AAMI has played a role helping generations of Australians overcome adversity.

Supporting Australians during tough times, AAMI is an organisation synonymous with the principles that Vision Australia applies in helping families and their children achieve the greatest levels of









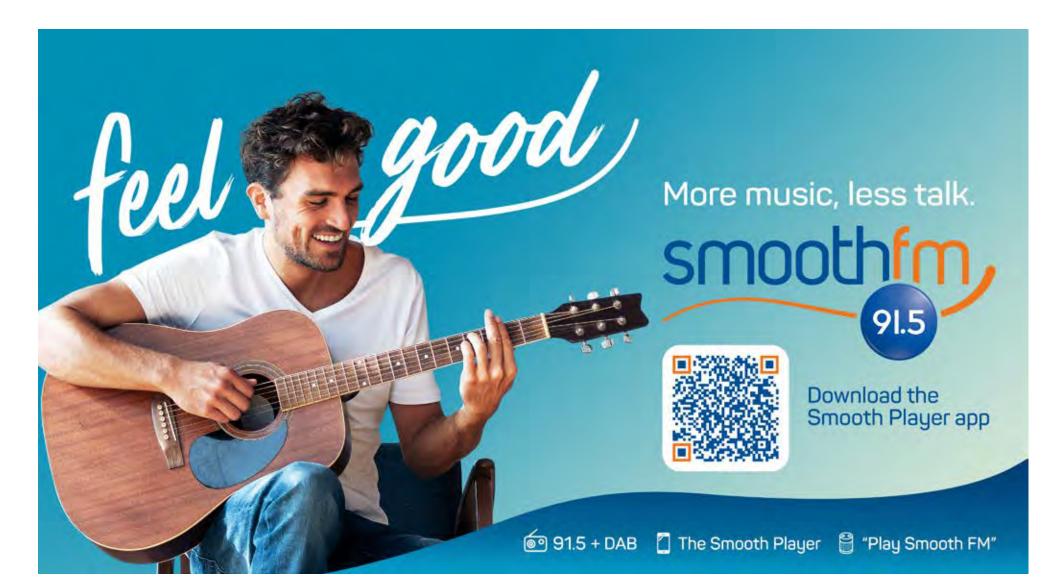
Join the ARIA Award-winning children's band in a very special and hugely fun outdoor concert!















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COVER Gemma Wilson
COVER PHOTOGRAPHY Jason lerace
EDITOR Erin Miller
DESIGN Michael Owen
WORDS Mary Thompson, TS Publicity
PICTURES Jason lerace, Joshua Maguire,
SDP Media Oliver Brian, HWT, iStock

PRODUCT & PARTNERSHIPS
GENERAL MANAGER
Kylie Pritchard
PRINT MANAGER Andrew Davies
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WHO HELPS COVER AUSTRALIA WITH CAROLS?

AAM DOES

AAMI loves nothing more than lending a helping hand when things don't go to plan.

Over the past few years, we know some have been doing it tougher than most so we called on the community to nominate those who could use a little extra cheer this Christmas. We call that a Cheermergency and with the help of our partners at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, we took AAMI's Roadside Cheer Assist team on the road to share the magic of carols with the community.

Now that's something to cheer about.





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