

Vision Australia's

# Carols by Candlelight

presented by AAMI

**2023**  
SOUVENIR  
SONG BOOK



vision australia's  
**carols by candlelight**

Presented by **AAMI** Broadcast Partner 

Christmas Eve  
Sidney Myer Music Bowl

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NIGHTLY 6.00



9 NEWS MELBOURNE

# Brighter together

In 1938, Melbourne experienced a heart-warming Christmas Eve as it hosted its very first Carols by Candlelight. About 10,000 people gathered at Alexandra Gardens on that magical evening, joining their voices in song, accompanied by a small choir, two soloists and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. Now, in the 86th year of this cherished tradition, we celebrate a journey that spans more than eight decades of pure Christmas joy. For more than 60 years, we have illuminated the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and provided unwavering support to children who are blind or have low vision, as well as their families. The year 1970 marked a historic moment as Carols by Candlelight was televised for the first time on Channel 9. In 1979, Channel 9 became the official broadcast partner, a partnership that continues to this day, with the Nine Network

proudly supporting this enduring Christmas tradition for more than four decades. Over the past decade, we've been graced by an increasing number of famous guests who have made this event even more memorable. From Denis Walter to Marina Prior, Silvie Paladino to David Hobson and Lucy Durack to Debra Byrne, our Carols family has grown, with artists such as Delta Goodrem, Rob Mills, Guy Sebastian, Casey Donovan and many more celebrated Australian musicians joining the magic of this cherished tradition. As we gather once again in 2023, we mark the 86th year of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, presented by AAMI. This year, alongside our dedicated Carols family of performers, attendees and supporters, we look forward to shining brighter together and lighting up the lives of those we support.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [carolsbycandlelight.com.au](http://carolsbycandlelight.com.au)

Carols by Candlelight is back and this year we can't wait to light up lives with our beloved Vision Australia and Carols community. For 86 years Carols has united Australians, evolving into a cherished Christmas tradition. As Vision Australia's largest annual fundraiser, the generous contributions from Australians play a pivotal role in empowering children with blindness or low vision, through our Life Ready program, which you can learn more about on page 9. Vision Australia's Life Ready program is



designed to encourage and support childhood development, in particular life skills education of children and young people who are blind or have low vision, so they keep up with their sighted peers, meaningfully participate in the community and achieve life-long employment. None of this would be possible without the unwavering dedication of Vision Australia's specialised staff and teams, generously supported by the kindness of Australians who are touched by the

heart-warming stories shared through Carols during the holiday season. This year, you can once again immerse yourself in these touching stories within the pages of the Carols by Candlelight Songbook. The proceeds from Carols by Candlelight will directly benefit our children's services, and your contribution will brighten the lives of countless children with blindness or low vision, as well as their families, across Australia. From our Carols family to yours, we extend warm wishes for a safe and joyful Christmas from all of us at Vision Australia. **Ron Hooton, Vision Australia CEO**

AAMI is thrilled to continue our support of Vision Australia as the presenting partner for Carols by Candlelight. As one of Australia's leading insurers, we know the important role we play in supporting the community and we're proud to be helping families and children through Vision Australia in this way, especially at Christmas time. Vision Australia's commitment to helping people who are blind or have low vision achieve independence 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 Network of brands.



In its 86th year, Vision Australia's cherished Carols by Candlelight is making its return and it is an absolute honour for Channel 9 to once again stand as a partner. Christmas is such a joyous time of year and adding to its special charm is the opportunity to raise funds for individuals across Australia who are blind or have low vision. On behalf of Nine, I extend my warmest wishes for a joy-filled Christmas and a happy New Year alongside your friends and family. **Matt James, Nine Melbourne managing director**



Christmas Eve Sidney Myer Music Bowl



DONATE NOW AT [givetocarols.com](http://givetocarols.com)

# A night to enjoy



Sarah Abo and David Campbell



Enjoy an unforgettable and heart-warming evening with some of Australia's favourite performers at this year's Carols by Candlelight

In the 86th year of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, anticipation is high as a 10,000-strong crowd is set to fill the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

This beloved tradition and event continues to captivate, promising an evening of festive delight amidst the iconic setting of one of Melbourne's cherished venues.

Returning to host for his 10th year, David Campbell will lead the festive evening, presented by AAMI, airing live on Channel 9

and 9Now, on December 24 at 8pm. Sharing the stage with David will be co-host Sarah Abo, who will be making her Carols by Candlelight debut.

Before being handed the co-hosting reigns, Sarah was among the millions of Australians who tuned in. "I'm excited to be joining David as the host of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight," Sarah said.

"I have such fond memories of watching and attending Carols as



Marina Prior

a child, and I am beyond thrilled to be able to play a role in one of Australia's most loved Christmas Eve traditions."

David added: "I'm honoured to once again be a part of Carols by Candlelight, which has become such a special Christmas Eve tradition for me.

Tickets to Carols by Candlelight can be purchased at [carolsbycandlelight.com.au](http://carolsbycandlelight.com.au)

"It's an extra meaningful one for me this year as it's my 10th time hosting, plus I'm excited to share the co-hosting duties with Sarah for the very first time. It's an incredible night, not only for raising much-needed funds for Vision Australia, but also spreading Christmas joy to families all over Australia."

No Christmas in Melbourne would be complete without perennial favourites David Hobson, Marina Prior, Silvie

Paladino and Denis Walter when they deliver mesmerising renditions of everyone's favourite Christmas melodies.

Making his Carols debut this year will be music legend Paul Kelly who will perform his classic Christmas track, *How To Make Gravy* — a song that has continued to grow in popularity since its 1996 release.

Also joining Carols by Candlelight this year will be the husband and wife musicians

BOWEN\*YOUNG, who are returning to Australia for the first time in more than four years, and will be making their inaugural appearance.

Clare Bowen is best known for playing the role of Scarlett O'Connor in the TV series *Nashville*. Clare and Brandon Robert Young will be joined by Clare's younger brother, Timothy James Bowen, for a special performance.

The 2023 ARIA award winner for best children's album, Emma Watkins, more widely known as Emma Memma, will also join this year's star-studded line-up.

Musical theatre enthusiasts will rejoice with the cast of *Grease* taking centre stage, including the legendary Marcia Hines, Patti Newton and Jay Laga'aia — with Marcia also taking part in a very special solo performance.

Returning sensations include Jess Hitchcock, Bonnie Anderson, Casey Donovan, Mitch Tambo and Bobby Fox.

Renowned Carols favourite and West End musical theatre star Simon Gleeson will grace the stage alongside his daughter, Molly Gleeson, in a heart-warming debut performance.

Musical director and maestro John Foreman OAM, assisted by Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight choirmaster Doug Heywood OAM, will once again guide our musicians, joined by the triumphant return of the Australian Girls Choir and the National Boys Choir.

And of course, it wouldn't be Carols by Candlelight without an appearance from the big man himself, with Santa Claus flying in straight from the North Pole.

Get ready for an unforgettable, heart-warming night that not only marks Australia's largest Christmas tradition but also stands as a beacon of support for those in need, with 100 per cent of profits from ticket sales going directly towards supporting families whose children are blind or have low vision.



John Foreman



David Hobson

## Big Visions for big changes

Carols by Candlelight will feature a star-studded line-up of some of Australia's best and brightest talent, however there are also some remarkable Australians who will be present behind the scenes.

Nikki Hind, the nation's first blind fashion designer and Vision Australia client, will be one of them in attendance on the night.

In October, Vision Australia partnered with Nikki to release the final instalment in the Big Visions series *Dressed for Success*, which follows Nikki's journey as a designer.

Each book aims to alter people's expectations of what a person with disability is capable of, while also creating inspiring role models for children of all abilities.



"One of the most common questions a child is asked is what they want to be when they grow up. However, this same question is rarely posed to a child with disability due to an assumption that they cannot achieve the same goals as their peers," Vision Australia library services business manager Vildana Praljak said.

Nikki is a prime example of being told 'no' by people in her life due to her vision loss.

"Many doors that had been previously open for me were slammed shut," Nikki said. "However, I thought back to how fashion made me feel as a child; it gave me a sense of purpose. That's a feeling I wanted to reclaim, so I decided to pursue fashion design despite what other people told me."

"Through this book, I want children of all abilities to know that they should dream big and go after their dreams, irrelevant of their diagnosis."

To find out more about the Big Visions children's book series head to [visionaustralia.org/bigvisions](http://visionaustralia.org/bigvisions)



# Embracing a life without limits

## Lucy's challenging journey: From uncertainty to a hopeful future

Lucy Preston is a smart and cheerful three-year-old whose smile lights up any room she is in.

In the first three months of Lucy's life, she endured numerous tests and medical appointments due to her premature birth, all while glaucoma remained hidden beneath the surface as an unexpected culprit.

Denise, Lucy's mother, is a professional known for her clinical and rational approach to life's challenges.

However, when she was faced with the diagnosis of the mystery condition affecting her daughter, even her logical mindset was shaken.

"From a mum's perspective, you emotionally wonder what you did wrong, even though you objectively know you didn't do anything wrong," Denise said.

"That was difficult to rationalise. In my work, I am incredibly rational and objective, but emotions can get the better of you."

During those initial months, glaucoma was the last thing on anyone's mind. Tests were conducted to rule out other conditions and diagnoses, simply because glaucoma is exceptionally rare in children.

When glaucoma was finally diagnosed, Lucy was booked in for immediate eye corrective surgery. The procedures were successful, but in that moment, Denise remembers it feeling like a whirlwind of uncertainty.

Although they finally had the diagnosis, they didn't know

what this meant for Lucy's future and vision.

During this challenging time, Denise was encouraged to contact Vision Australia, which became a pivotal support system for Lucy and her family.

Lucy started occupational therapy and quickly began to showcase her remarkable abilities and resilience, often surprising her parents.

Nevertheless, they continued to face their share of challenges, one of the most significant being the delicate balance between assisting Lucy and letting her explore new situations independently.

"For me, one of the challenges is not really knowing what Lucy can see until she can tell us, and working out what she needs help with and what we need to allow her to learn on her own without coddling her," Denise said.

"There's still that need for her to make mistakes she can learn from."

Thanks to Lucy's supportive parents Denise and Aaron and Vision Australia's involvement, Lucy's future now looks bright.

She adores reading her Felix Library books, which have braille overlay or an audio recording, and finds immense joy in song play music groups.

Lucy is also working on goals to enhance her fine and gross motor skills, ensuring she can keep up with her peers.

Christmas is special for Lucy's family. It is a time of celebration, a moment for reflection and a time to express gratitude.



## Alfie is beating the odds with a smile

In a world filled with unexpected twists, meet Alfie Bamblett — a five-year-old boy who is showing us all the power of a positive spirit.

When Alfie was just three, doctors discovered a brain tumour affecting his optic nerves, leading to major surgery and a diagnosis of optic atrophy, blurring his vision and limiting his left eye's movement.

It was a scary time for mum Cherish. "I was devastated in the beginning, and very scared for what the future would bring," she said.

But Alfie's boundless happiness and perseverance is like a beacon of hope for Cherish, and she knows they can tackle anything together.

Alfie is an energetic go-getter. He loves

superheroes and dreams of becoming a police officer to catch "the bad guys".

When he's not fighting crime in his imagination, he's having fun playing games with his little sister Charlie.

Through Vision Australia, Alfie receives orientation and mobility support and training from specialist Michael Evans, and also sees family support practitioner Sharon Chen.

Working with Vision Australia has boosted Alfie's confidence and Michael has worked closely with his school to help him thrive and ensure that no obstacles get in the way of his development.

Cherish speaks highly of the not-for-profit organisation and is so grateful for their ongoing support. Her No.1 priority is for Alfie to maintain

his independence and stay positive.

"I just want him to be able to do whatever he wants to do," she said.

"As long as he's confident and happy, then I'm happy."



## A little fighter with a big road ahead

Lui Carroll's journey began when he was born prematurely. From the very start, his parents knew he was a small baby, and the prospect of the neonatal intensive care unit became a reality.

For the first three days of his life, Lui kept one eye closed, leaving his family in suspense. It wasn't until a week later that his other eye slowly began to open.

With time, it gradually revealed more of the world around him. However, the road ahead was not without its challenges, as Lui, now two, was eventually diagnosed with severe right congenital ptosis.

While medical experts continued to investigate the cause of his condition, Lui's mother Danielle knew her son was a fighter.

She recalls those initial days of concern. "I was really worried he wouldn't be able to open his eyes at all in the first few days," she said.

"He's a small little fighter that tackles things in his own way."

Lui's ophthalmologist recommended the family seek assistance from Vision Australia.

Over time, Lui has received care from speech therapists and physiotherapists, and they have helped the family navigate the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

With Lui facing developmental delays, the family are united in their efforts to ensure he stays on track with his milestones.

Despite the challenges, Lui refuses to let his condition slow him down. He finds joy in spending time in the shed, his

Matchbox cars and he's formed a special bond with their dog Carlos.

The future remains uncertain in terms of Lui's vision, but for now, his family is committed to enhancing his communication skills and physical therapy to help him overcome any obstacles that may come his way.

"While those milestones may take longer to achieve, I'm sure Lui will get there," Danielle said.

"I just want him to have a happy, fulfilling life. And be grateful for what we have."

As Christmas approaches, the family comes together to celebrate the joy of having one another.

"It's family time and for me it's important that we all come together and celebrate having each other," Danielle said.



# Brighter together

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 Lucy.

Help light up lives this Christmas. Donate now at [givetocarols.com](http://givetocarols.com)

**DONATE NOW**



**\$60**

can help provide daily living skills training, to learn social interaction and personal care

**\$100**

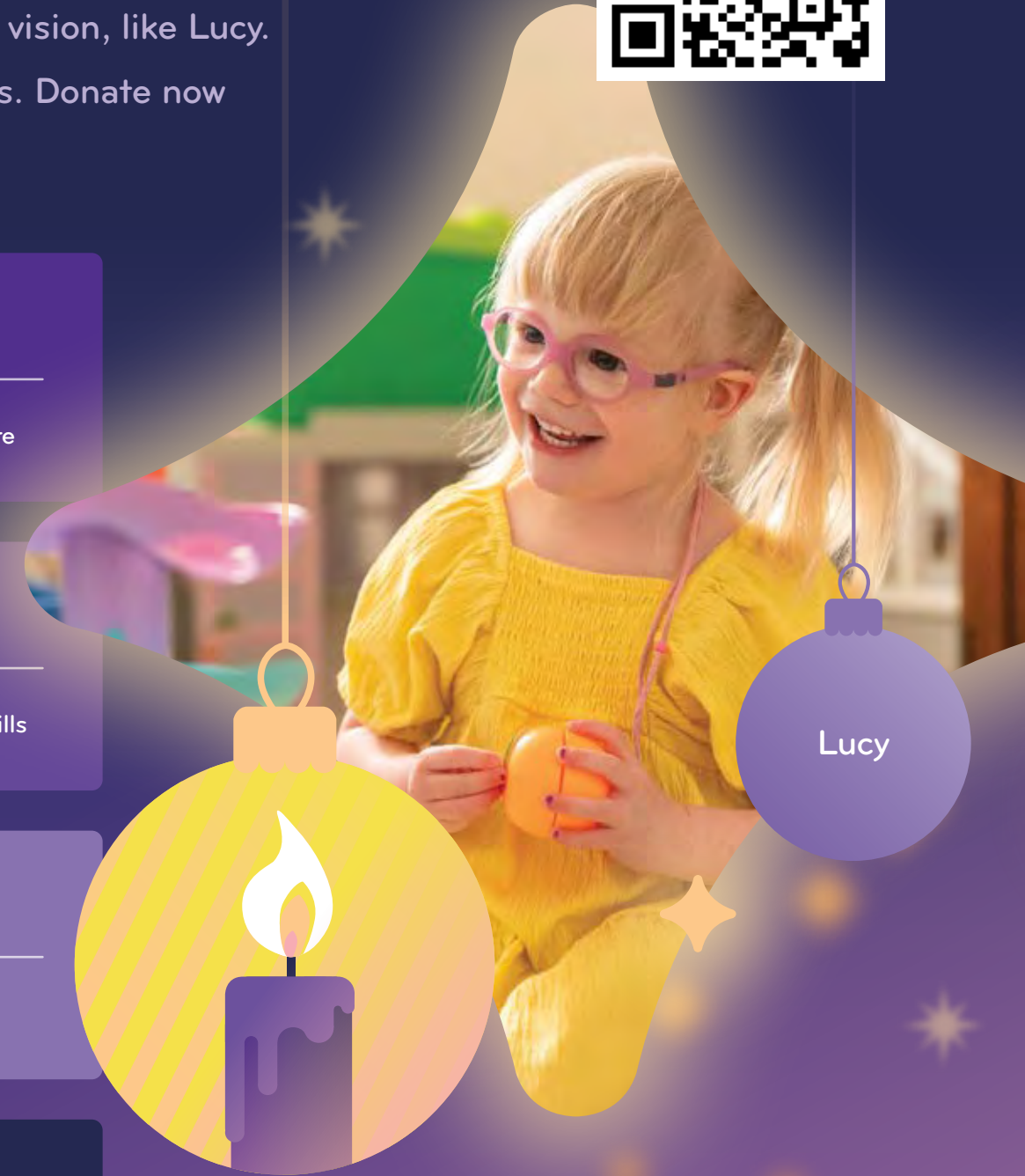
can help provide occupational therapy to help children gain fine and gross motor skills

**\$200**

can help provide orientation and mobility training to navigate the world safely and independently

**\$500**

can help provide children with assistive technology so they can thrive and be life ready



vision australia's  
**carols by candlelight**  
Presented by **AAMI** Broadcast Partner

# Believe in what you can be

Vision Australia's Life Ready program helps young children build their skills

Life Ready is Vision Australia's latest program that aims to equip children and young people with the necessary skills to lead an independent future.

Founded on the belief that all children should be given the same opportunities to learn and grow into an independent adult, the Life Ready program allows children and young people who are blind or have low vision to succeed.

In Australia, just 24 per cent of people who are blind or have low vision are in full-time employment, below comparable countries such as Canada (28 per cent) and New Zealand (32 per cent).

The Life Ready program aims to tackle this in Australia by helping children, young people and families build their skills across nine life skill areas, according to Vision Australia chief executive officer Ron Hooton.

"We understand that every child is unique in how they interact and learn in the world around them," Ron said. "Much of what we learn is through what we see, so children who are blind or have low vision will gather information in different ways."

"By using a coaching approach, participants learn how to move around their environments, use technology to access print, build relationships, have fun, advocate for themselves or start thinking about future jobs."



Vision Australia client Jasper and his mum

"We do our best to set them up for success so they can live the life they choose."

Ron adds: "While some skill areas are universal for all children, others are specifically for children who are blind or have low vision. When combined, they help a child

or young person prepare for an independent future."

Life Ready is delivered by a team of paediatric experts across the stages of early years, primary school and high school. Participants can join the program at any time until the age of 25.

"Program participants are connected with other children, young people and families, and our team of experts, to build their confidence, develop critical life skills and, most importantly, feel supported by a community," Ron said.

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

**35,940 hours** of speech pathology, physiotherapy, orientation and mobility and early childhood intervention delivered to children and young people.

**27,916 hours** of assistive technology services delivered to children and young people.



**44 clients** matched with Seeing Eye Dogs and more than 200 puppies entered the Seeing Eye Dogs program.

**16 Further education bursaries** provided to support blind or low vision students in tertiary education.

**15 young people** aged 14-17 years, entered LEAP, a 10-month program that helps build leadership skills.

**16 young people** graduated from LEAP-UP, a five-week program that helps students prepare for tertiary studies.

Christmas Eve  
Sidney Myer Music Bowl



**DONATE NOW AT [givetocarols.com](http://givetocarols.com)**

# Glad tidings we bring!

Join your loved ones and singalong to all your favourite Christmas carols as we celebrate the joys of the season

## *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*

By Lara Nakhle, inspired by the kids of Vision Australia

We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
and a happy new year

The lights shine on Christmas Eve  
We've presents under the tree  
A stocking hung just for me  
How happy we'll be

Good tidings we bring to you and  
your kin  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
and a happy new year

A glass of milk for Santa  
A star atop the tree  
Balmy nights from Broome  
to Sydney  
The season is here

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

Let's gather all together  
With the barbie and those  
we treasure  
Fun and games we've loved forever  
In that time we hold dear

We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
and a happy new year

## *Joy to the World*

Public Domain

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, 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

## *Hallelujah Chorus*

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 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, Hallelujah,  
Halle-lu-jaaah

## *Song of Joy*

Composer: de Los Rios/Parker/Orbe

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 evermore  
Then sing a song of joy  
For love and understanding

In a delightful collaboration with presenting partner AAMI and Channel 9, Lara Nakhle has breathed fresh life into the cherished *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* lyrics. Inspired by the voices of Vision Australia's youngest clients, these verses are a heartfelt tribute to the very essence of our annual gathering at Carols by Candlelight.

Australia will be introduced to this enchanting rendition of the song at this year's event. We cordially invite you to join us and lend your voice to the melody!

### Oh Holy Night

**Public Domain**  
 O holy night the stars are brightly shining  
 It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth  
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
 Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth  
 A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
 For yonder breaks a new glorious morn

Fall on your knees  
 O hear the angels' voices  
 O night divine  
 O night when Christ was born  
 O night divine o night  
 O night divine

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
 For yonder breaks a new glorious morn

Fall on your knees  
 O hear the angels' voices  
 O night divine  
 O night when Christ was born  
 O night divine o night  
 O night divine

Ooh yes it was  
 Ooh it is the night of our dear Saviour's birth  
 Oh yeah, oh yeah, oh yeah, yeah  
 It was a holy holy holy, oh oh oh

### Jingle Bells

**Public Domain**  
 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

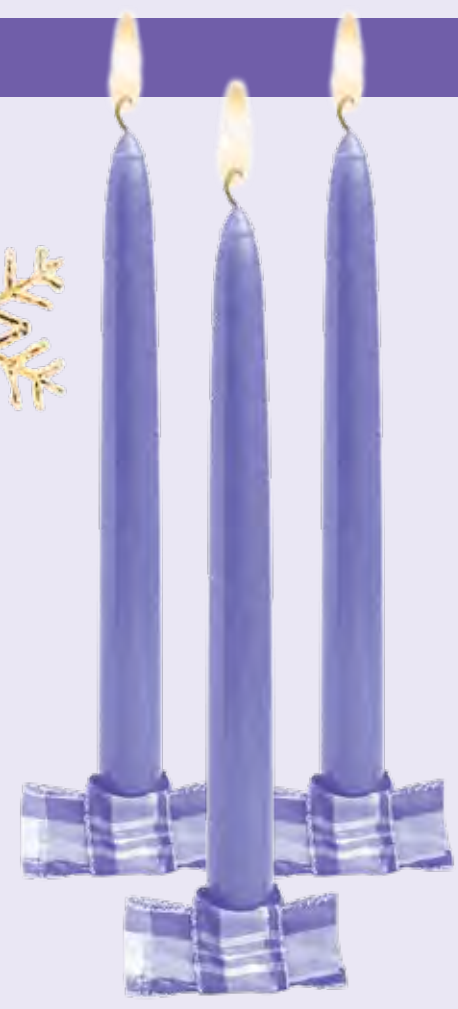
Jingle bells, jingle bells  
 Jingle all the way!  
 Oh, what fun it is to ride  
 In a one-horse open sleigh

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 upstot

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



### Silent Night

**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;  
 Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!  
 Christ the Savior is born!  
 Christ the Savior is born!

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

### Ding Dong Merrily on High

**Public Domain**  
 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



**MORE SONGS TO BE PERFORMED ON THE NIGHT ...**  
 Must Be Santa, One Little Christmas Tree, Happy Xmas (War is Over), Santa Claus is Coming to Town, All I Want for Christmas is You, It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas, Amazing Grace, Santa Can't you Hear Me?, How to Make Gravy, Christmas List, Christmas, Baby Please Come Home, There is a Star that Shines Tonight, Let it Snow  
 Due to copyright restrictions, only lyrics of songs in the public domain can be published.

### Oh Come All Ye Faithful

**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

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



### The First Noel

**Public Domain**  
 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



### 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

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

### 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





At IGA we're passionate about giving back, supporting local producers, suppliers, charities, and the communities we live in and love.

We are focused on doing whatever we can to make Christmas special for the locals. So whatever you need, we're here to help.

**FROM OUR LOCAL FAMILIES TO YOURS**  
*We wish you a very Merry Christmas!*

**IGA** WHERE THE *locals* MATTER



# AAMI covers the nation in carols

Leading Australian insurer AAMI has taken the spirit of Christmas to new heights this year with a special collaboration with blind singer-songwriter Lara Nakhle to give an iconic carol a new "Australian twist".

The song is inspired by the wonder of the children who rely on Vision Australia's support. Lara's cover of *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* will debut in a live performance at this year's Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, where the refreshed lyrics are expected to resonate with families all around the nation.

Lara, 25, who recently completed her Masters of Creative Music Therapy, first started playing piano at the age of two and singing followed soon after.

Lara has had an eye condition since birth called leber congenital amaurosis, which means she is totally blind but with some light perception.

Since appearing on *The Voice Australia* in 2017, Lara has performed at a range of events around Australia, including Carols by Candlelight in 2022.

Through her own inspiring story, Lara is a role model for kids who are blind or have low vision, reminding them that there are no limits on what they can achieve.

As the face and voice behind AAMI's 2023 campaign, Lara embraced her role.

"This was not just a musical project for me; I saw it as a celebration of the human spirit and the power of music to bring joy," she said.



"Working with the kids of Vision Australia was a truly moving experience. Hearing their excitement for Christmas and what it means to them was inspiring and helped me shape our cover of one of my favourite carols."

The magic doesn't end there. All of the nation will be invited to lend their voices to the carol when it debuts live at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight.

"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," Suncorp Group

executive general manager brand and customer experience Mim Haysom said.

"This delightful collaboration with Lara and Vision Australia is not only about spreading holiday cheer but also about making the festivities inclusive for all, while honouring a cherished tradition."

In addition to AAMI's musical collaboration, for the third year running, AAMI's Roadside Cheer Assist team hit the streets to share the joy of carols with the community.

Spreading smiles and goodwill during the holiday season with Santa, his helpers and a band of Christmas carolers who surprised locals with pop-up performances and giveaways from their sleigh.

"AAMI's commitment to Vision Australia is not just seasonal; it's an ongoing partnership that reflects our dedication to making a positive impact in the community," Mim said.

"Supporting kids who are blind or have low vision through the funds raised at Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight makes a big impact on families year round, and that's something that our team is very proud of."



To find out more about AAMI's partnership with Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight, visit [aami.com.au](http://aami.com.au)



Christmas Eve  
Sidney Myer Music Bowl



**DONATE NOW AT** [givetocarols.com](http://givetocarols.com)





**Could you care for a future Seeing Eye Dog?**

Volunteering for Seeing Eye Dogs is a rewarding experience and fun for everyone to get involved. There is no cost to you, just your dedication, time and love. Become a volunteer carer for a puppy, a breeder dog, or a dog that is in formal training, supported by expert trainers and instructors.

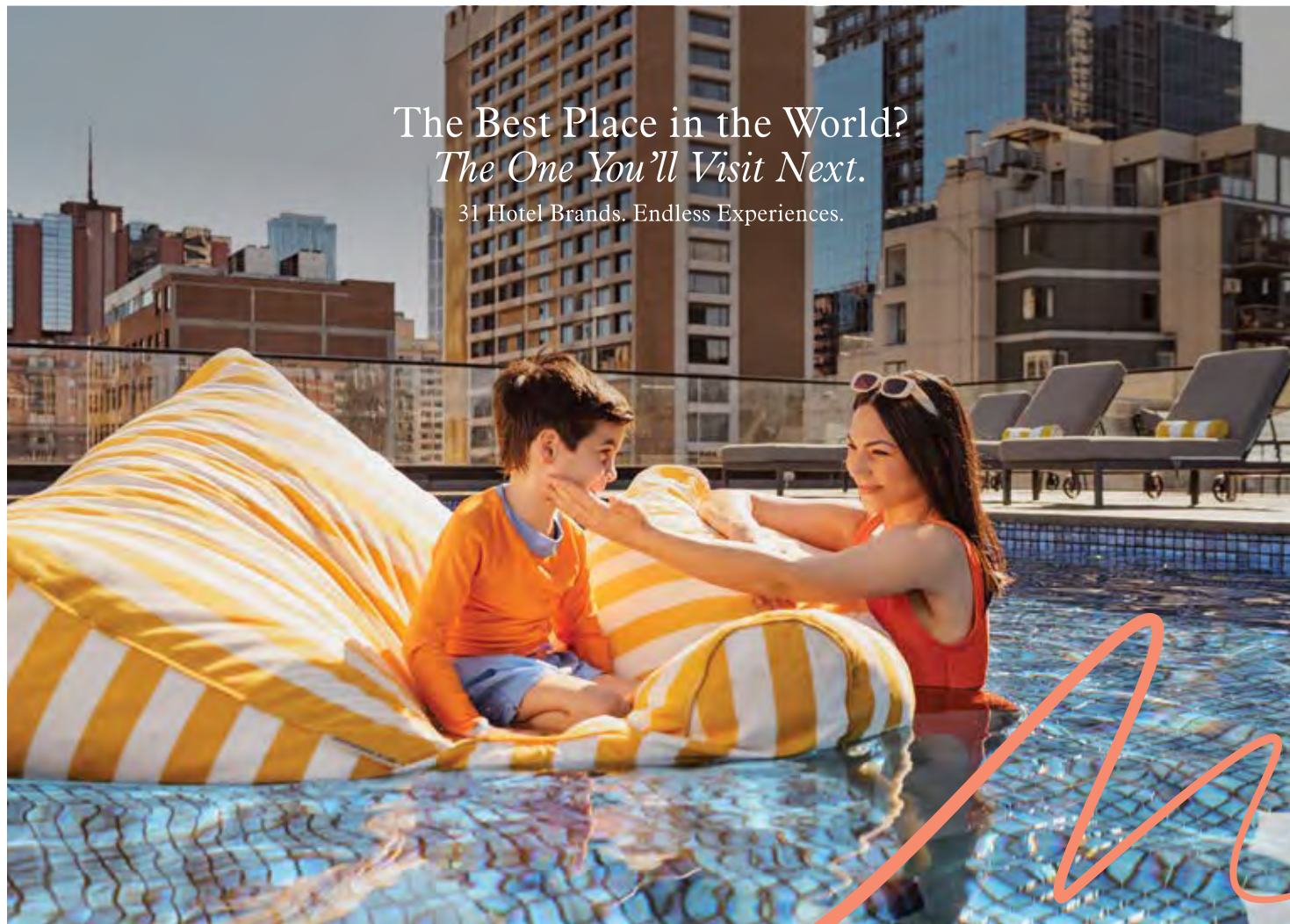
**"Caring for a pup, we can give back and contribute to the life of someone who is blind or has low vision."**  
- Liv, volunteer puppy carer.

Curious? Scan for more information.  1800 03 77 73  
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**VISION AUSTRALIA'S CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**  
carolsbycandlelight.com.au  
1300 84 74 66  
carolsbycandlelight@visionaustralia.org



## WHO HELPS COVER AUSTRALIA WITH CAROLS?

# AAMI DOES

As proud supporters of Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight for three years running, we're helping bring the joy of carols to more Aussies than ever before.

We've teamed up with families supported by Vision Australia and artist Lara Nakhle to give a classic carol a new twist and shared a sneak peek with the community at pop up performances by AAMI's carollers while on the road with our Roadside Cheer Assist team.

Now we're inviting people from all around the country to sing along with this songbook as Lara debuts her very special cover of We Wish You A Merry Christmas live at this year's Vision Australia's Carols by Candlelight event and in the Nine television broadcast.



vision australia's  
**carols by candlelight**

Presented by **AAMI**

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