

ANATS WA President's Report AGM 2022

The ANATS “year” of 2021 / 2022 has not been as smooth as past years. In fact, it has been one of frustration, where plans had to change, and change again. Some of this uncertainty was brought on by COVID concerns; some by an ever-changing professional and community landscape. To be part of the singing teaching industry certainly keeps you agile and adaptable!

LOOKING BACK:

August 2021: *Sing into Spring XI*. The WA committee re-launched this event in its “double” format of Twilight Showcase and ATAR Soiree. Hopes were high for a return to full houses for both programs, but numbers eventually dictated an amalgamation of the two performances into one. The 12 singers and their families appreciated the opportunity to gain perform experience in a low-stress environment.

ANATS WA started 2022 with plenty of energy and drive. Our Secretary, Nikki Sullivan, representing both ANATS and ANCA, presented at the ASME Summer School in January. The WA committee was then mere days away from holding our first event in February (*Contemporary Recording Processes*) when COVID protocols hit, and we had no choice but to postpone. It is disappointing to all of us that a combination of presenter and venue availability have not made this event a reality yet. We then turned our attention to a possible mid-year *Audiology* workshop ... and again, presenter and venue availability have not yet allowed this event to run. We have great hopes for holding at least one of these events before Christmas ...

ANATS WA continued to sponsor the Fremantle Eisteddfod and the North of Perth Festival, however; both of these community events running in 2022 in varying formats.

LOOKING FORWARD:

Performance afternoons and evenings have been a tradition for ANATS WA over the 30+-year history of ANATS. *Sing into Spring XII*, in Twilight Showcase + ATAR Soiree mode, is scheduled to take place on Saturday 27th August. It remains to be seen if this format will be well-supported this year. Community engagement and singer availability may dictate a change of approach beyond 2022.

The highly anticipated *National Conference* in Adelaide will see ANATS members able to congregate (in-person or on-line). The program is looking fantastic. The WA committee intends to hold a gathering during the conference for members who will be “attending” from the comforts of home.

Finally, 2022 / 2023 will see ANATS WA elect a new President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my years at the helm, but it is time to hand over to someone new. All organisations thrive on a refreshing of energies and personnel, and I am sure the new President will find ANATS WA a rewarding way to fill any spare hours! I believe passionately in creating a network and platform for the entire singing community to access, and plan to remain involved in ANATS WA in a less absorbing capacity for many years to come.

Stay well, stay warm and stay singing,

Rebecca Watson

President ANATS (WA)