



Inspired by the song:

“HEART OF AUSTRALIA” AN ANTHEM FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS
Sing Along with Tarryn Stokes -- Winner of The Voice (Australia) 2023



Australian Schools





The song inspired the [Heart of Australia \(26 October\)](#) – Inspire, Celebrate & Unite. Each year our “Journey to the Heart” celebrations officially start on 14 February and culminates on 26 October.

Journey to the Heart (2025) - HeartsBeatSTRONG™

This year for our “[Journey to the Heart](#)” we will start inviting schools from all around Australia to learn and perform the “Heart of Australia” by singing along with Tarryn Stokes so that their “HeartsBeatSTRONG™”.

Schools can register to receive a HeartsBeatSTRONG™ package to learn & perform the song to give voice to what we truly love about each other and these lands & celebrate all that’s good in this world....

Brighton Grammar School - HeartsBeatSTRONG™

We invited the Boys Choir at Brighton Grammar School to learn and perform the song.

“...the boys loved learning and singing it.”

Hayley Blakiston, Head of Junior School Music



The song is receiving positive reviews:

John Foreman AM said, *“It’s a great song.”*

Marcia Hines AM said, *“Strong lyrics and incredibly heart felt.”*

Robert Bleakley, Developer and owner of the Verona Cinema Complex *“Congratulations on your great achievement, perhaps a new national anthem”.*

Tottie Goldsmith OAM said, *“On the first listen I had goose-bumps and on the second listen I was singing it like she was an old friend. The true sign of a classic and it made me feel proud to be an Ozzie. I only wish Olivia could hear it.... or maybe she can ... Just beautiful and congratulations.”*

Dean Carey, Head of Acting at two of Australia’s most prestigious schools: *“What a song! It captures so much and encompasses so very much. It calls to heart, first nation, the now nation, and everyone, with a combined sense of wonder and gratitude about the fact we all live on this great, great and ancient land. It is superb and just like Peter Allen’s, ‘I Still Call Australia Home’, or Sarah McLauchlan’s song, ‘In the Arms of An Angel’, it captures true heart, mystery and magic.”.*

Grace Forrest, Founder of Walk Free, *“I appreciate you taking the time to share the ‘Heart of Australia’ song with me – it’s truly lovely.”*

The song, “Heart of Australia” was written by Anatole Kononewsky and multi-platinum award-winning producers Adrian Hannan & Barbara Hannan. The song expresses the beauty of the Australian open, welcoming spirit of its people, paying tribute to the beating heart of the country.

“The song gives voice to what we truly love about each other and these lands — to celebrate all that’s good in this world” Anatole Kononewsky.



Nurturing Our Present and Emerging Custodians

Heart Connections (2025)

The song inspired "[Heart Connections](#)" – an initiative showcasing people whose ideas and activities inspire us — whose efforts unite & help lead the way – we actively promote the special work they do in our communities.

We will be implementing Getting Involved Very Easily (G.I.V.E.) this year.

During 2025 the aim is to continue to generate awareness and public support for the Heart Connections individuals and groups. (See our Heart Connections below.)



The vision is to bring together Australia's rich & diverse peoples of all ages and cultures to listen to your heart.

<https://www.heartofaustraliaday.com>

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Heart Connections – [Issue 1](#): Dwayne Bannon-Harrison - Ngaran Ngaran Cultural Awareness



Provides a powerful experience of indigenous food, ceremony and more — seeks to help change the narrative and shift mindsets by sharing Indigenous ways of knowing — allowing others to glimpse the power of ancient wisdoms — programs are designed to help participants reach greater wellness in mind, body and spirit. Features Dwayne Bannon-Harrison founder of Ngaran Ngaran Cultural Awareness programs — a Yuin-Ngarrigu man with connections to the Yorta-Yorta, Dja Dja Warrung, Watchabolic and Gunai language groups, who offers powerful experiences of indigenous food, ceremony and more, ‘connecting up people to ancient wif’.

CONNECT: [Ngaran Ngaran Cultural Awareness](#)

Heart Connections – [Issue 2](#): Nic Marchesi OAM & Lucas Patchett OAM – Orange Sky



Provides a free mobile laundry service for homeless people — it’s about creating a safe, positive and supportive environment for people who are too often ignored, or who feel disconnected. Nic Marchesi, a former a camera operator and editor for the ABC and Seven Network who, along with Lucas Patchett hatched the idea to throw two washing machines and dryers in the back of an old van in Brisbane to offer free laundry services to those in need, and now operates in 25 locations nationwide with over 3,000 volunteers.

Orange Sky isn't about solving the issue of homelessness or saving people, it's about creating a safe, positive and supportive environment for people who are too often ignored, or who feel disconnected.”

CONNECT: [Orange Sky](#)

Heart Connections – [Issue 3](#): The late Sonia Gidley-King (Founder) & Lorraine Sutton (Chairperson) - Wrap with Love




Provides knitted squares made into blankets for those in need – millions of people across the planet suffer extreme cold through poverty, war, earthquakes, homelessness, climate issues and more.


Australian victims of floods and fire, refugees and the homeless, and the indigenous communities of the APY Lands (between Adelaide and Darwin) have also been some of the many local recipients of these colourful blankets.

CONNECT: [Wrap with Love](#)


Heart Connections – [Issue 4](#): Janine Wood JP, Belinda Hawes & Debbie Jordaan - NO Limits Perth

	<p>Provides essential emergency support services to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people across Perth's northern suburbs. The assistance No Limits Perth offers, can be anything from basics such as food, transport, furniture, hygiene and personal items, to helping individuals and families find emergency accommodation. No Limits Perth also advocates for those in need.</p> <p>Uniquely, all items donated to No Limits Perth by the community are distributed without any cost.</p> <p>CONNECT: No Limits Perth</p>
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Heart Connections – [Issue 5](#): Helen Callanan - Preparing the Way

	<p>Preparing the Way is a training organisation dedicated exclusively to end of life doula care. We are committed to transforming how people support others at the end of life. Doula is an ancient word of Greek origin, meaning one who serves.</p> <p>'Our end of life doulas help demystify death, and have a non-clinical role, providing mental, physical, emotional and spiritual support to those nearing the end of their lives, and to those close to them.'</p> <p>CONNECT: Preparing the Way</p>
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Heart Connections – [Issue 6](#): Ken Marslew AM - Enough is Enough

	<p>Our mission is to reform society's attitudes to violence. Enough is Enough works with individuals and groups to encourage them to take personal responsibility for their actions and aims to promote violence prevention strategies in society as a whole. Almost thirty years ago Ken Marslew founded Enough is Enough, an organisation designed to tackle the violence currently experienced in our communities, by encouraging people to take responsibility for their actions.</p> <p>There are many reasons, Ken has learned, why people offend. Overall, he believes, the cause can be summarised as hurt people hurt people. Ken has made it his mission to deal with this hurt.</p> <p>CONNECT: Enough is Enough</p>
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Heart Connections – [Issue 7](#) - Susan Barton AM - Lighthouse Foundation



The Lighthouse Foundation has created several different programs to meet the different needs of homeless children. The Lighthouse Foundation has assisted more than 1100 young people and continues to expand their reach. It's about opening up opportunities so others can help out. Established to assist homeless young people, the Foundation has been going for more than thirty years.

Lighthouse has created several different programs to meet the different needs of homeless children. Therapeutic homes provide 24/7 live-in care and a dedicated Therapeutic Case Manager to help highly vulnerable young people to heal from the trauma they have experienced and develop practical life skills.

CONNECT: [Lighthouse Foundation](#)



More information visit: <https://www.heartofaustraliaday.com>

Heart Connections: <https://www.heartofaustraliaday.com/heart-connections/>

We respectfully acknowledge the First Nations peoples of these lands, we now all call home. The ingenuity, strength and diversity of Indigenous cultures enriches us all and we aspire to walk together, as a community, honouring the deep and profound foundations that they have laid for us.



Heart of Australia

The composers wish to acknowledge the song was written on the lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We sincerely hope that our work does justice to the thousands of generations of song-people that have gone before us on this country.

“Heart of Australia” Song:

<https://www.heartofaustraliaday.com/listen-to-the-heart/>