

## **First Gala night at ACU (Australian Catholic University) May 2010**

The ACU vocal ensemble is a non auditioned community choir made up of students and staff who simply enjoy singing - no background is required.

We performed 2 pieces - an African piece with body percussion and vocal improvisation and a 4 part round about the joy of singing. Our next gig is the school of education graduation at the Melbourne Town Hall in June.

The B.Ed 3rd year percussion ensemble is made up of approximately 15 enthusiastic students who I met in the creative arts unit this semester and we rehearsed weekly over 5-6 weeks after music class. Besides a handful of experienced musicians, most of the students hadn't ever played in an ensemble or performed on stage. Similarly to the vocal ensemble, no music background was required. The only expected prerequisites were enthusiasm and commitment and these students had plenty of that!! They chose to play 'We will rock you' by Queen and 'Another brick in the wall' by Pink Floyd and did an outstanding job - the photos tell it all.

Lastly, the acoustic trio 'Vinyl' is made up of my hubbie, Phil and friend/maestro guitarist/vocalist Russ Castleman. We enjoyed performing a couple of Beatles numbers, 'Shower the People' by James Taylor and my favourite song in the world 'Somewhere over the Rainbow'. Just for the record (!!!), 'Vinyl' was aptly named for the gala night as the slightly more worn, older and synthetic version of 'Suade'. And although the 3 of us were indeed older and somewhat more worn than the members of 'Suade' we enjoyed ourselves immensely and still managed to get a few 'coo-ees' from the audience.

The gala was a brilliant night and there is alot of talent within the ACU community. We look forward to seeing many of you at the next one!!