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Attention:

Human Resources Manager

Dear Sir / Madam,

*The Sum of the Parts (music)* is a new Novocastrian business seeking to bring singing into the workplace. You may consider this a bit 'left of field', but those 'in the know' recognise and acknowledge the numerous and diverse benefits that can accrue from fostering an opportunity for colleagues to sing together in the workplace.

If I can sufficiently pique your interest with this letter, I would like to have a conversation with you about providing group choir training and leadership for your staff IN your workplace during one lunch hour each week.

This initiative mirrors similar programs being offered around the world (including London and Melbourne), whereby staff use their lunch hour to sing with colleagues in a structured program of learning and rehearsal. Research and experience show that both the employee and the employer have something to get out of this weekly opportunity.

**For the employer** there is real potential to help:

- Build a stronger sense of community in the workplace and between the employer and employee
- Build an improved sense of staff loyalty and commitment to the employer
- Put a predictable work-related highlight in the working week
- Improve staff morale.

There are plenty of resources on the web which can inform you further about these potential benefits, and I am more than happy to point you in the right direction. A good starting point is my website at [www.thesumoftheparts.com.au](http://www.thesumoftheparts.com.au).

Of course the employee will obtain benefits from the benefits just described for the employer. However **for the employee** there are additional significant individual benefits to be accrued. The employee can...

- Access music lessons and singing in a time and place that is more convenient
- Get to know their colleagues in a totally different light
- Benefit mentally and physically from the act of singing
- Develop a new skill.

My business model is built upon providing this service to a minimum of six staff (preferably ten) who each pay \$10 for 45-50 minutes of singing group rehearsal each week. To achieve that I ask for your support in providing:

- An appropriate sized meeting room (for 10 to 20 people) once a week for an hour
- A means of communicating with your staff about this initiative (typically through an internal regular staff newsletter, through email networks, or an attachment to payslips). This would only really need to occur once at the beginning.
- Your willingness to support the relevant staff members to have an hour for lunch once a week (this may or may not be already be the typical 'lunch hour').

Whilst the TSotP approach involves payment being made directly from staff to myself, some employers make the most of this opportunity by engaging my services directly and offering the service free to their staff. I am happy to discuss this if it seems more appropriate to your needs.

I look forward to discussing this with you further, and shall contact you in the near future,

Yours sincerely

Mark Jackson  
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