

● MUSIC

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Both Polle and Kirzinger said there was a lot of talent in the area, which helped grow their ranks.

After the presentation concluded, members and former members who were present located themselves in the many photos from the slide show. Former member Michelle Waldbillig from Melfort made the trip to watch the presentation.

Over the last 67 years, the group has supported the girl guides, the Arts Centre, the YWCA, the Victoria Hospital, group homes, the purchase of musical instruments at Pine Grove, The Heritage Centre, Herb Basset Home, Pineview Terrace, Sherman Towers, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and the EA Rawlinson Centre. They also provide an annual scholarship awarded at the Prince Albert Music Festival.

"It's not just our musicality, we over the course of our history have been supporters of the community, including donating pianos and keyboards scholarship and bursaries at the music festival," Kirzinger explained.

They also took over the former Rotary Carol Festival and have made it the Watsonairs Christmas Carol Festival 32 years ago. All proceeds from the event go towards the Salvation Army Cheer Fund.

The Watsonairs were responsible for the purchase of the grand concert piano that currently resides at the EA Rawlinson Centre for the Arts after setting aside money each year towards the project.

"That was that was Gladys' vision,



Members of the Watsonairs Choral Group led the audience in Christmas carols to conclude the Coffee and Conversation at the Prince Albert Historical Museum on Sunday.

MICHAEL OLEKSYN/DAILY HERALD

and that piano was purchased by the Watsonairs," Kirzinger said.

The presentation concluded with several members who were present leading the audience in Christmas Carols.

"That's what we do," Polle said. "It's Christmas, so there's some Christmas caroling with the Watsonairs tonight."

All the data from the presentation was entered into the Bill Smiley Archives afterwards. Kirzinger said

she expects the group to keep going strong in the years ahead.

"After 68 years, I don't think we're ending anytime soon..

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