



NEW ZEALAND

Mouthpiece

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2014 National Youth Band in Concert

The 2014 National Youth Band is at this moment training diligently under musical director Peter Adams and will be in fine form when presenting their three public concerts. The band's programme is a challenging one which includes A grade test piece *Isaiah 40* along with *The Healing Power of Flame* written for guest soloist Besson Artist Kristy Rowe.

The concert dates and venues are:

Thursday 6 February,

7.30pm at the Salvation Army Citadel,
431 Church Street, Palmerston North;

Friday 7 February,

7.00pm at the Wanganui Baptist Church,
285 Wicksteed Street, Wanganui;

Saturday 8 February,

4.30pm at the Memorial Theatre,
Student Union building, Victoria University,
Gate 1 Kelburn Parade, Wellington.
Tickets will be available at the door at all venues.

Funding for the band has been gratefully received from Besson, Pub Charity, the Infinity Foundation, the Winton and Margaret Bear Trust and the Friends of the National Youth Band.



National Band to Tour

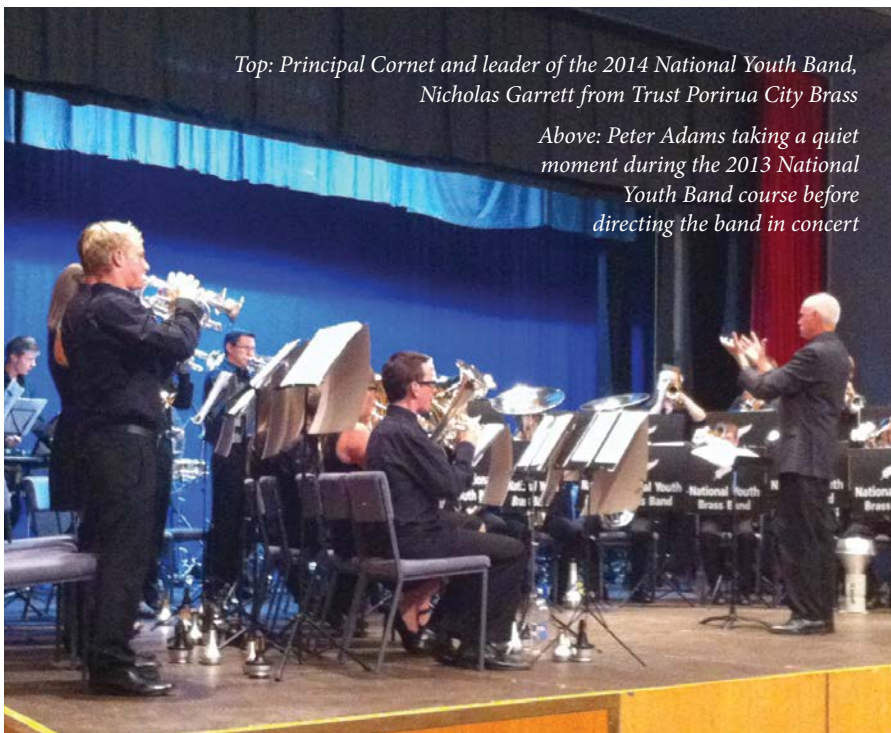
The Band Association has received invitations for the National Band to perform at the Korean International Wind Band Festival in mid September and from the China Performing Arts Agency to tour Beijing for about ten days prior to that. Budget and contractual details are yet to be finalized but provided they are satisfactory, the invitations will be accepted and the band selected in 2013 will make both tours.

Unfortunately musical director Dr Robert Childs has commitments to his new band Grimthorpe Colliery, and will not be able to direct the National Band. The process of appointing a new Director of Music is underway.



Top: Principal Cornet and leader of the 2014 National Youth Band, Nicholas Garrett from Trust Porirua City Brass

Above: Peter Adams taking a quiet moment during the 2013 National Youth Band course before directing the band in concert



In this issue:

- We learn a bit about bands during wartime from Brownie,
- Report on the inaugural *Brass Showcase* by the APO,
- Farewell a National Bandsman,
- And report on the activities of three of our community bands.

Welcome to 2014!

A Note from our President

With the dawning of a New Year many people make resolutions in the hope that they may improve their life in some way. However research tells us that 88 percent of us don't succeed, with many not even seeing out the first week of the behavioural change that we are seeking.



While it's not practical for an organisation such as ours to make New Year resolutions here is my wish list for the coming year.

- A successful National Youth Band camp commencing on 1 February at El Rancho Waikanae.
- Full audiences for our Youth Band Concerts which are being held in Palmerston North, Wanganui and Wellington.
- Good entries for our various solo and party event classes at the National Contest being held in July. The last AGM confirmed that the Open Own Choice Solo Event has become a permanent fixture.
- A well-attended National Contest in Invercargill. It's by competing that we maintain our standards.
- More educational opportunities for our bands and their members.
- A great tour by our National Band.
- Another successful National Secondary Schools Band. The 2014 NSSBB will be based in the Wellington region and we will again be showcasing the talent of our young musicians in local schools.
- New people prepared to stand for the National Executive committee.
- More bands being active within their communities and reporting on those activities to the banding committee through *The Mouthpiece*.
- To find more sponsors and supporters for the activities that we undertake.

I truly hope that we can achieve all of the above and we will be reviewing the list at year's end to see how many boxes we managed to tick.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

What's On

Thursday 6 February
National Youth Band 7.30pm at the Salvation Army Citadel, 431 Church Street, Palmerston North

Friday 7 February
National Youth Band 7.00pm at the Wanganui Baptist Church, 285 Wicksteed Street, Wanganui

Saturday 8 February
National Youth Band 4.30pm the Memorial Theatre, Student Union building at Victoria University, Gate 1 Kelburn Parade, Wellington.

'**Sunday Bandstand**' series of outdoor concerts in Christchurch, noon to 1.30pm each Sunday.
www.summertime.co.nz

9 Feb **Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens
Stedfast Brass at Cave Rock, Sumner

16 Feb **New Brighton Silver Band**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens

2 March **Sumner Silver Band** at Cave Rock, Sumner

9 March **Salvation Army Christchurch City Band**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens
Addington Brass at Cave Rock, Sumner

16 March **New Brighton Silver Band**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens
Sumner Silver Band
11am-12.30pm Allendale Fete, Allendale Domain

22 March **Stedfast Brass**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens
Addington Brass at Cave Rock, Sumner

20 March **Salvation Army Christchurch City Band**, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens

Friday 14 February
Space, Time and a New Pair of Shoes. **Woolston Brass** with multi-instrumentalist **Adam Page**.
7.30pm Middleton Grange Performing Arts Centre, 50 Acacia Avenue, Christchurch.
\$20 Door sales only
www.woolstonbrass.org

Friday 21 to Sunday 23 Feb
Wellington District Band Camp at El Rancho, Waikanae.
www.wdbba.org.nz

'**Brass at the Falls**' summer series of outdoor concerts at Falls Park, Henderson, Auckland each Sunday at 3.00 pm

2 March Kumeu Brass

9 March RNZ Air Force Base
Auckland Band

16 March Waitakere Auckland Brass

23 March The Band of the Royal Regiment of NZ Artillery

Friday 7 to Sunday 9 March
Auckland Bands Association Youth Band Camp at YMCA Camp Adair, Papakura

Sunday 16 March
Brass Forever Concert to celebrate the 150th commemorations of the Waipa District featuring the Royal New Zealand Navy Band and Te Awamutu Brass, 3.00 pm, Te Awamutu Bible Chapel, Swarbrick Drive, Te Awamutu.

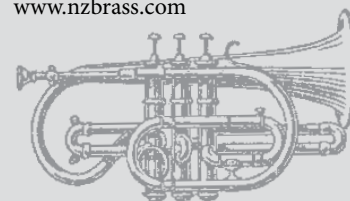
Sunday 30 March
In Close Harmony presented by **Dalewool Auckland Brass** and the Greater Auckland Chorus, 2.30 pm at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna.
www.nzbrass.com

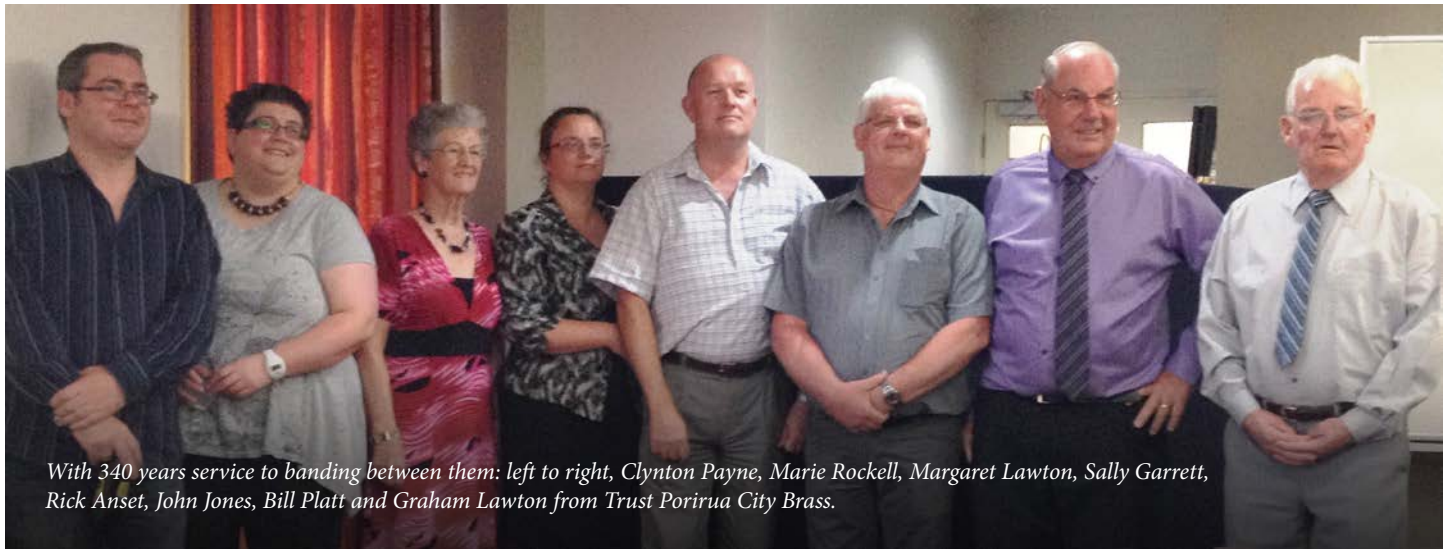
Friday 4 to Sunday 6 April
Canterbury District Association Youth Band Camp at Living Springs, Banks Peninsula.

18 - 22 April Easter weekend
50th Anniversary of the New Zealand Army Band

Saturday 26 April
ANZAC Concert by **Dalewool Auckland Brass**, 7.30pm at the Onehunga RSA, Auckland. www.nzbrass.com

Sunday 27 April
ANZAC Concert by **Dalewool Auckland Brass**, 2.30pm at Centrestage, Orewa, Auckland.
www.nzbrass.com





With 340 years service to banding between them: left to right, Clynton Payne, Marie Rockell, Margaret Lawton, Sally Garrett, Rick Anset, John Jones, Bill Platt and Graham Lawton from Trust Porirua City Brass.

Awards Night in Porirua

Trust Porirua City Brass held their annual end-of-year social and awards night on Saturday 23 November at the Porirua Club. This was an opportunity to acknowledge players, supporters and sponsors who have made significant contributions during the year. The function was attended by a large number of band members, life members, supporters and invited guests including the BBANZ President Evan Sayer and Executive Officer, Helen Hoy.

Recipients of the band awards were:

Matt Hurnen, winner of the 'John and Sandy Jones Trophy' for the player displaying the most effort to achieve their playing potential.

Clynton Payne, winner of the 'Life Members Cup' presented to the person who has made the greatest contribution to the band as a player, supporter or administrator.

Olivier Creighton, winner of the 'Rowe Memorial Cup' presented to the most improved junior player.

President of the Association Evan Sayer and Executive Officer Helen Lee presented eight BBANZ Long Service Awards.

Clynton Payne and **Marie Rockell**, each with 30 years of service
Margaret Lawton and **Sally Garrett**, each with 35 years of service
Rick Anset, 40 years of service
John Jones, 45 years of service
Bill Platt, 60 years of service
Graham Lawton, 65 years of service

Band Chairman Bill Platt took the opportunity to thank the Trustees of the Mana Community Grants Foundation for their ongoing financial support. He also acknowledged the financial assistance of Pub Charity during the year and referred to some of the year's highlights for the band. These included the acquisition of new uniforms and the band achieving 1st equal place in the B Grade contest at New Plymouth on aggregate points. As this result followed on from being runners-up at the Timaru contest in 2012, he suggested the band was probably the most consistent B Grade band in recent years. The outstanding effort and contribution of Musical Director Kerry Garrett was also acknowledged. It was noted that Kerry is one of the longest-serving musical directors to work with the same band in New Zealand.

The Band Chairman also acknowledged a number of the Band's playing members who were selected for national honours:

Marie Rockell, BBANZ Administrator of the Year

Nicholas Garrett, National Band of New Zealand, 2013 National Youth Band and principal cornet of the 2014 National Youth Band

Ashleigh Smith-Lines 2013 National Secondary Schools Band

Matt Hurnen, 2013 National Secondary Schools Band and 2014 National Youth Band.

News from the Sunshine Capital

Whakatane's Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass had a very busy schedule to end 2013 and now have some fantastic plans for 2014. In September we attend the Waikato Bay of Plenty Association contest in Matamata. We dominated both the Junior and Open grade solo and party events but were bridesmaids to Hamilton City Brass in the band events. Once again our band continues to push the musical boundaries by playing brand new music. A highlight of our programme was a memorable dedication to Colin Clayton.

In October many of our members were involved in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Band which assembled in Rotorua. Ten of our younger members were in the band while a number of our older members helped as tutors. We are also very proud that the recently-announced New Zealand Youth Band includes six of our players. This is the highest representation from any band and a great achievement for a small town. This once again confirms that our youth development programme is working extremely well and that once again we are punching well above our weight in this area. Needless to say the next batch of young stars are all making wonderful progress so there will be many more Eastern BOP band members going on to higher honours in the coming years.

December, as always, was very busy with Carols by Candlelight, Christmas Carolling, selling raffle tickets, performing in the local Santa Parade as well as our own successful Christmas concert, so we are without doubt getting out and about in our community. A special mention must go to our fantastic committee for their support and fundraising efforts. Our thanks also to Maurice Reid for conducting the Carols by Candlelight concert when Alan and Tania Spence attended a music seminar in Chicago. We look forward to Alan putting into practice the new ideas he gained from the seminar.

It is with sadness but also with pride that we say goodbye to Luke Spence, Sariah Ratford and Callum Mallett. All three players are off to university in 2014 and have already been offered seats in A Grade bands. Congratulations also to Luke for winning our top band player award and to Amy Williamson for winning the most improved player award.

We are well into planning our first concerts of 2014. In February we are presenting a 'Beautiful Melodies' concert, then we will be preparing a concert for Anzac Day. Later in the year we will be celebrating the band's centennial so 2014 is shaping up to be a very big year for the band.

Stephen Clayton
 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass

A One-band Man

At the Te Awamutu Brass Band annual Awards evening held in the band room on 19 November David Haberfield was presented with a Band Association long service award for 65 years. What made this award special was that all of David's 65 years of playing have been for only one band – Te Awamutu.

David started learning brass in August 1948 and since he could already read music and only had to master the technicalities of the brass instrument, he was a member of the Te Awamutu band within a month. He was the youngest member of the band seated at the end of the tenor horn section alongside the oldest member, Arthur Bygrave. His first National Championships was to have been in Auckland in February 1949 but an older player came back so he missed the opportunity to play.

David first participated as a player at the South Auckland contest held in Cambridge at Easter 1949. He vividly remembers one piece he played *Mountain Chief* under Musical Director Bob Close, and the adjudicator was Dick Estall. The cornet back row consisted of Bob Lee Sr. on soprano, with Lloyd, Allan and Roy Lee in the solo cornet section. He believes that Bob Lee Jr. was on euphonium along with George Vercoe. The band won at Cambridge and then again at Thames in Easter 1950.

David moved from tenor horn to euphonium alongside a very talented George Vercoe and he thoroughly enjoyed this time as George was known to all as an incredible musician. Under musical director Lloyd Lee, David was playing Bb Cornet, where he remembers his struggle to play E (4th space) for some time. He stayed on this instrument for many years filling in on soprano when needed. Over the years his love of the soprano grew and it is now his instrument of choice.

David has since played under several musical directors including Barry Lee, Barry Cullen, Steve Derbyshire, Greg Moveley, Malcolm Gapes, and presently Te Reo Hughes, who he has had the privilege of knowing since she was nine years old and watching her progress to where she stands today. David himself conducted the band for a short time. David has also marched under several Drum Majors: Dick Egglestone, Arthur Fletcher, Brian Calkin and Yvonne Cullen. Today he watches the band march from the footpath in a well-deserved retirement.

David's words of advice to the young players today are to pull your weight in the section and practice, practice, practice as practice makes perfect. A band is what you make it and in turn, the band makes you! The old adage is certainly true 'you get out what you put in'. Having completed 65 years of band involvement with the support of his wife Faye and his family, David does not regret a minute of it.



Denise Wilson presents David Haberfield with his certificate for 65 years of service to banding.



New life members Pat McMillan (left) and Michelle Robertson (right) with band president Denise Wilson.

Other awards presented during the evening went to:

Life Membership Awards to Pat McMillan and Michelle Robertson

BBANZ 30 year Long Service certificate to Steve Wilson

Auxiliary Group Awards:

Most Improved Player – Lynette Denton,

Attendance - Jenny Yarnrdley and Arnold Watson

Three years' service award – Kate and Hannah Yarnrdley

Senior Band Awards:

Attendance – Bronwyn Barrie,

Most Improved Player – Hayden Brown,

Youth Award - Jessica Haycock,

Section Leader – Steve Derbyshire

Section of the Year – Baritone and Euphonium: Steve Derbyshire, Steve Wilson, Jean Fisher and Pauline Allen

Outstanding Musicianship – Kaperiera Hughes

Underhill Rosebowl - Jim Irvine

Funding for WW1 Projects

Creative New Zealand is offering funding to commission First World War centenary collaborative arts projects of high artistic merit. The Centenary Programme co-commissioning fund will offer a total of \$1.5 million over the next three financial years. So if you or your band have an idea for a WW1 concert, commission or CD check out the CNZ website for details. www.creativenz.govt.nz Applications close on 30 June 2014.

Free Education!

The New Zealand Brass Foundation is offering bands a free educational opportunity. The Foundation is planning to send Byron Newton, International Euphonium Soloist and Besson Artist, around the country to present masterclasses and recitals. These events will be put on free of charge, and at no cost to individual bands. All bands need to do is provide a suitable venue with a piano as the Foundation will cover all other costs. The proposed date for the tour is 10 to 20 May.

If your band is interested in this opportunity please contact David Bremner of the New Zealand Brass Foundation at nzbrassfestival@gmail.com

Brass Showcase

I first heard a brass band as a 19-year-old accompanist. Coming from a background of concert band percussion, brass excited me with its power and dynamism; I was immediately hooked. Twenty-five years later, and now developing education programmes for Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, (APO) I am lucky enough to hear great brass every week.

The APO has mentored young brass musicians for more than 30 years, and is now broadening out to connect brass sectors in Auckland. 2014 marks the first year of a formal partnership between the APO and the University of Auckland School of Music. The two Auckland city organisations are now working together to ensure young musicians receive the best preparation for music industry careers, in a joint programme called INSPIRE.

Brass Showcase was conceived as part of INSPIRE and brings together winners of the Auckland regional and national brass solo competitions with university brass students, giving them the opportunity to perform solos outside of their usual contest and examination situations. Brass Showcase gives additional performance experience while enabling these players to share the stage with other great brass players. The result is motivation towards excellence and excitement about presenting to a responding audience outside of any competitive environment.

The first Brass Showcase took place in September 2013 at the University of Auckland School of Music Theatre. The APO Friends sold the tickets to the concert, which was almost full. Few in the audience had ever heard brass in recital before, especially not the brass band solo repertoire. They were amazed at the virtuosity of the performers, and are now keen to attend more brass concerts. Audience development for brass concerts is a great outcome of this initiative.

One aim of Brass Showcase is to increase the number of entries in the brass band solo competitions. By way of encouragement, we offer winners the chance to participate in the Brass Showcase concert. One player is then selected to perform in concert with the APO. For 2014, Riki McDonnell has been selected. A piece by Philip Sparke has been chosen, permission obtained from the composer, and an arrangement is being written for Riki and the APO. Riki is thrilled to be able to bring this composer's work and introduce the euphonium to a new audience.

We hope the Brass Showcase will develop over time as a way to motivate more brass players to participate in brass solo competitions, encourage more young players to study brass at university, and develop a broader audience that wants to see and hear brass on stage.

The 2014 Brass Showcase will take place at 2pm on 14 September, at the Kenneth Myers Centre, University of Auckland. For more info visit apo.co.nz or contact me at leem@apo.co.nz.

Lee Martelli
Education Manager – Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra

Note from the D of E

At the beginning of December the Band Association held its inaugural Education Symposium. While numbers attending were not as many as hoped for, the feedback we received after the event suggested that it was a worthwhile day and worth developing further.

Seven young, promising players worked with David Bremner (Brass) and Yoshiko Tsuruta (Percussion) in half day masterclasses. The players were given individual mentoring and instruction on what to work on and what to listen to to develop their skills. The general workshop began with a joint presentation by Andrew Jarvis, head of Brass at the New Zealand School of Music and principal Tuba of the NZSO and Mark Carter, sub-principal trumpet with the NZSO. This was followed by an introduction to the Alexander Technique as it applied to assisting with musical performance. The day concluded with a presentation by Dr Joe Harrop and Rosalind Giffney, leaders of the Sistema Aotearoa programme operating in Otara, Auckland. This programme has been teaching music to very young people using string instruments but will expand to brass instruments this year.

Thanks go to the presenters for giving their time and to the bands that supported their members in attending. Thanks also to the Wellington Community Trust for funding and to the Central Band of the RNZAF for the use of their bandroom and percussion gear.

On a different note it was a pleasure to hear Thomas Eves competing in the 2013 Gisborne International Music Festival. In 2012 Thomas was placed second overall. This time he performed excellently on piccolo trumpet, D/Eb trumpet, C trumpet and Bb trumpet but didn't make the final three. The standard of the competition was extraordinarily high. The winner was a classical guitarist who studies in London with Julian Bream. Thomas is a fine example of someone who started in the band movement (Woolston Junior Band at age eight) and has gone on to study music and gain

employment as a professional musician in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and Auckland Philharmonia.

Kevin Dell ONZM
BBANZ Director of Education

Pictured:
Thomas Eves and
Yoshiko Tsuruta



The 2013 Brass Showcase line up: Bryce Bartley (APO Friends President), Jonathan Baker (APO Tuba), Jennifer Hsu (KBB Music), Vivian Luo (Paul's accompanist), Paul Cho (trombone), Andrew Leech (euphonium), Steven Booth (baritone), Grant Langdon (flugel), Riki McDonnell (euphonium), David Tuitupou (cornet) and Lee Martelli (on floor!)

Musings from Brownie – Wartime Bands

With the centennial for the start of WW1 fast approaching, there seems to be a flood of related books being published. As well, we are becoming far more aware of our country's involvement during those "dark years". I suppose, having spent a few years in service bands, I knew that it would be only a matter of time before I would have to field questions such as: "Why were there no contests during WW1 and WW2?" and "What bands did we have in the services during the wars?"

Yes - good questions. Even though I did spend some 25 years in the services, I find myself somewhat embarrassed that I have little knowledge of wartime bands. In fact it may seem strange but I consider I know more about our brass band movement than what happened during the wars. All that aside, we will persevere.

The answer to the first question is quite straightforward. Bands in those days with few exceptions were male-dominated. With the "call to arms" many bands were decimated by the number of players who left to volunteer, particularly in the upper grade bands. D Grade bands were often less affected as the majority of players were either boys or older men. Some bands changed their names and became part of the military system, while others limped through the war years as best they could. It also saw the emergence of a number of boys' bands. As a result, it was considered to be fair to all bands that National Contests be suspended until peace returned.

The second question is where I run into difficulties. My mentor on this subject, Denis Dewe, is sadly no longer with us. As far as I was concerned, he knew it all. But we shall do our best. I am certain that there are some out there who after reading this may be able to help me fill in the gaps.

The bands we are dealing with are almost without exception bands within the Army. Up until 1980 the only naval bands that served the New Zealand Navy were from the Royal Marines in Britain. Our Air Force didn't come into being until WW2, with the Central Band of the RNZAF being formed later in the war. It is all very well isolating bands, and which Army unit they were commanded by, but what was the role of these bandmen in combat? For the majority of bandmen, particularly those from Battalion bands, it was as stretcher bearers. In other words, going forward with a stretcher, often under enemy fire, and extracting the wounded. If you've ever carried a stretcher for some distance with a person on it, you'll know it's no easy task.

One interesting tale I heard occurred during the German invasion of Crete during

WW2. The conductor of the New Zealand Brigade band on Crete also doubled as the unit's paymaster. The story goes that once the Allies were in retreat, the large metal trunk which was full of money became an encumbrance, and was duly buried. One wonders if it was ever recovered. Composer Dean Goffin was a member of a NZ Brigade band stationed in Egypt when he wrote the memorable Rhapsody in Brass. But speaking of chilling roles in wartime, I must mention the role that Royal Marine bandmen performed aboard major naval vessels. When one of these ships went into action the bandmen immediately reported to the ship's magazines. Their job was to load ammunition hoists to supply the big guns on deck. It is therefore hardly surprising that bandmen from the Royal Marines suffered more fatalities per head than any other branch in the Royal Navy.

In the late 1960s I was a member of the First RNZIR Battalion Band posted in Malaysia. At one stage two of us were in Singapore at the British Naval Base. While we were there the USS Ticonderoga, an aircraft carrier, was alongside on R&R from Vietnam. With a complement of 3,500 we figured that it had to have a band on board, which it did. We were shown down to a cabin which would have accommodated around 20 people, where we found two or three people writing letters home. Suddenly all hell broke loose. There were sirens wailing and the intercom going berserk: "Fire on the hangar deck!!". Fortunately it was only an exercise. But what amazed us was that within seconds all the bunks were suddenly occupied. We were told that when the ship went to "General Quarters" this is what bandmen were required to do, lie on their bunks.

Somewhat different from the role that we were trained in.

With the advent of helicopters, the role of battalion bandmen changed as there was no longer the same requirement for stretcher bearers. During the two years we spent in Malaysia we became very familiar with their local flora and fauna. Ants of all varieties, scorpions, snakes (many deadly), spiders bigger than your hand, to name but a few. Every second tree or shrub seemed to have razor sharp thorns and leeches. Once we were told to beware of rogue elephants, and if we saw one, to run uphill! This was the training ground which was used to hone our skills as riflemen, our new role.

In his books "The Music of the People" (1963) and "Challenging Brass" (1980) Peter Newcomb says almost nothing about the bands during the war years. Perhaps it is not too late to inspire someone or some organisation to research this subject and publish the findings. Not only is the role of those bandmen and their contribution an important part of our movement's development, it is also part of our national history.

And to finish on a lighter note, it was good to see brass bands again being recognised by the New Zealand Defence Force with Graeme Bremner receiving the Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD) in the New Year's Honours List. Congratulations Graeme.

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com

Pictured below: The Band of the Flagstaff Battalion, Home Guard. Dunedin 1943



Obituary ~ Leonard Harold Robinson 1946 – 2013

Lenny Robinson passed away on 21 November 2013 after a 15-year battle with Alzheimer's. At a service of love and celebration held in the North Shore Brass band room on 27 November, a large group of bandspeople, workmates, family and friends gathered, many people having travelled from the South Island.

A brass band of former colleagues from the New Zealand Army, Air Force and National Bands, under the direction of Kevin Jarrett MBE played tributes. Len was accorded the traditional military honours with Trevor Bremner playing the Last Post and Reveille on a WW1 bugle. Christopher A Campbell recited a sincere and passionate Ode.

Kevin Jarrett, Pete Adams and Murray Carey spoke of their favourite memories, and all saluted Gina for the dedication, love and courage she showed Len every day throughout his final years.

Len Robinson was an awesome tenor horn player but he will also be remembered as being one of the great characters of brass banding. You could guarantee he could break up any serious situation with just the right comment or antic. He had so much charisma; he could charm the birds out of the trees. Everyone loved this man.

Len's first band was the Ponsonby Boys' Band. He went on to play for Mt Roskill, New Lynn, Takapuna, Continental Airlines and the Christchurch Fire Brigade bands. In 1963 he was selected for the National Youth Band. He won the Eb Horn Championship in Rotorua in 1969 and then represented his country in the National Bands of 1970, 1974 and 1992. Len had a memorable time in the New Zealand Army for three years from 1971. He was recruited into the Air Force in the mid 1980s and remained a member of the Base Auckland Band until about 1994. He also performed (emphasis on the word performed) in countless Bavarian bands at Beer Fests around Auckland with Mike Ryan and his great mate, Pete Ballantyne, both deceased.

Len is survived by his wife Gina, children Lisa, Stephen and Mark, six grandchildren and his brother Ron.

Peter B Adams - Auckland



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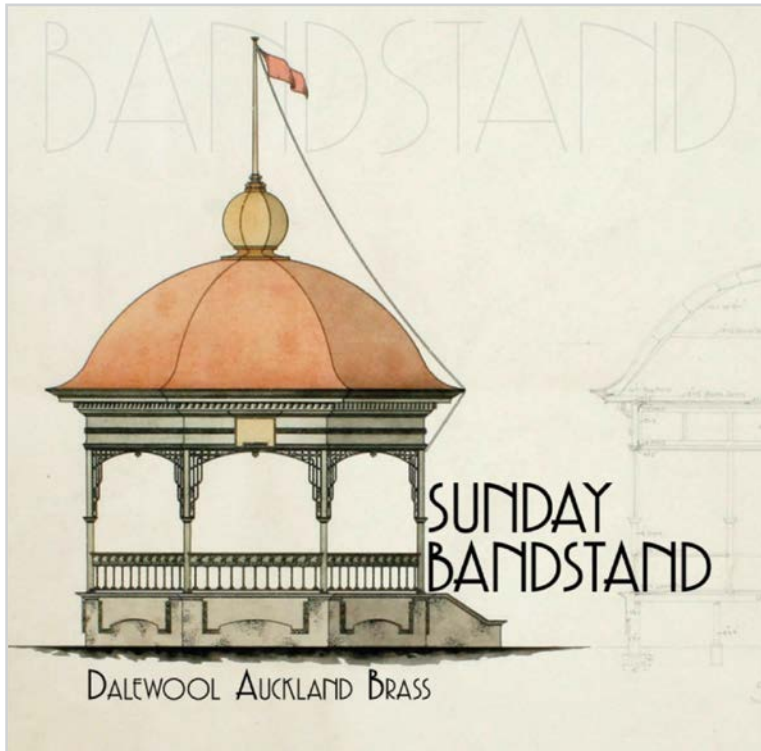
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Sunday Bandstand ~ Dalewool's New CD Recording



Just released from Dalewool Auckland Brass, *Sunday Bandstand* a magical performance of easy listening music and featuring some of New Zealand's top soloists.

Price: CD & postage \$25.00. Orders can be placed via the band's website www.nzbrass.com

Brass Factory Canterbury

A new training opportunity for brass musicians in Canterbury has recently opened. Brass Factory Canterbury is the brainchild of Tyme Marsters, cornet and flugel horn player extraordinaire and conductor of Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass. Having recently retired from the New Zealand Army Band after serving for over 20 years, Tyme has set up this privately-owned business as a way to share his knowledge, expertise and brass skills with players of all ages and stages. Over the past 20 years Tyme has taught many players of all ages and abilities. He has also worked with numerous artists who have helped develop his skills as a musician, conductor and tutor.

Brass Factory Canterbury aims to provide quality, well-structured brass instrument tutoring where students receive organised lessons, recognised tutoring material, ensemble and examination opportunities and all at affordable rates.

"I have a vision of up-skilling Canterbury's brass musicians, whether they are beginners or advanced musicians. I believe they will progress and develop their skills no matter what level they begin at," says Tyme. For more information on Brass Factory Canterbury, visit the website at: www.brassfactorycanterbury.co.nz



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Quick Notes

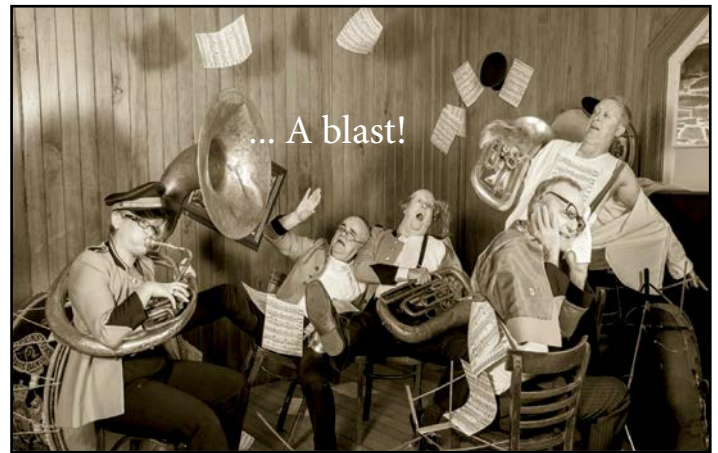
The Band Association has gained a new member band. **Sumner Silver Band** has joined BBANZ and is looking forward to completing in the D Grade at the National Championships in Invercargill. The Sumner Brass Band is believed to be one of the oldest bands in Canterbury, having started in the 1880s, although it has not had a continual existence. Disbanded during WWII, it was re-established in 1950. During this era the band thrived, reaching its peak in 1954 and again in 1959 when it won the National D Grade Championships. After the loss of conductor Noel Taylor the membership gradually dwindled until the band folded in the late 1960s. The Trustees sold the band uniforms, music and most of the instruments with the rest being donated to the Sumner Museum. But this was not the end of the band. In the mid 1990s the Sumner Foundation decided to engage a small group of brass musicians to teach local children. Instruments were gathered (some from the museum) and the Sumner Silver Band was reborn.



Sumner Silver Band on a hay wagon in 1919 and marching in the 1930s.



Media Stars? Have you noticed the brass band playing in the background of McDonald's new Kiwiburger commercial on television? Or did you see the two brass playing kids on the cover of the December issue of *North & South* magazine? Does this mean that playing brass is trendy? Whatever the thinking behind the campaigns, it is certainly great to see brass instruments and player/models in the mainstream media. And how about this Christmas card that MacTodd Lawyers of Queenstown sent to their clients? Each year a card is produced with a different theme to illustrate the wording of "Solicitors practicing". And so with help from the Queenstown Museum, instruments supplied by Barry and Anne Bain and uniforms from St Kilda Brass, this firm of non-brass banders produced this very clever card.



Volunteering "As Kiwi As"

Dianne Smeehuyzen may have retired more than a year ago as the President of the Band Association but she is still working behind the scenes in the movement that she loves. In February she will once again be in the kitchen at the Youth Band course cooking for the 50 players and tutors. Working as a willing volunteer has always been a huge part of Dianne's life as she explains in this article written for the NZ Credit & Finance Institute's newsletter, *The Pulse*.

New Institute Fellow, Dunedin Branch President and Credit Manager for Anderson Lloyd Lawyers, Dianne Smeehuyzen went to her first National Conference this year, but the observant may have noticed that periodically she kept stealing away to frequent the marquee next door to the Conference venue. Dianne simply couldn't keep away from the Oktoberfest Bavarian Showdown inside the marquee. However it wasn't the seven breweries on site, or the German cuisine that compelled her to be there. It was the brass band competition. Having been on the Management Committee of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand from 1999 including, president from 2006 to 2012, Dianne had been roped in to be a judge and being generous of spirit she agreed.

Dunedin's branch of the Institute has also been the benefactor of Dianne's generous spirit. When she moved from Christchurch in 1997, the Dunedin branch membership had dwindled and needed a shot in the arm to reignite interest. Dianne, who had been a member of the Christchurch branch since the late 1980s, provided the adrenaline and within a short period of time she had banded together a very strong committee. The branch has never looked back and each year it hosts a luncheon seminar every two months, and guess who does all the catering? Right! Dianne.

"I love to cook; I'll do curries, lasagna, seafood chowder... people come for the good food, besides it saves us money which we can put away to ensure that our Christmas function is top notch."

Her volunteer ethic began when she was 10, helping the Pack Leader at Brownies. In Christchurch she was a member of the Canterbury Netball Union and helped put the new Convention Centre in Hagley Park. In Dunedin she was a voluntary board member for the Community Care Trust.

"I like to volunteer for organisations that aren't affluent", says the present volunteer Wardrobe Mistress for the St Kilda Brass Band.

"Volunteering is just part of the New Zealand way of life; I get a lot of satisfaction from it. At our Dunedin branch functions there's great camaraderie and it's always so good to learn new things in the industry. I have to say though that I was thinking of retiring but now I've been made a Fellow, I'll have to keep going!"

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National Youth Brass Band

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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@extra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
lisa.crawley@nzdf.mil.nz

2014 National Contest in Invercargill 9 to 13 July

www.brasschamps2014.co.nz
Contest Committee Chairman:
Grant Yorkstone grant.yorkstone@awslegal.com
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
For accommodation assistance contact Nikki Buckley 03 211 3765 nikki@ilt.co.nz or Denise Lusby 03 218 3521 stay@45onavenal.co.nz

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

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If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

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What a Buzz!

Photo courtesy of
Ian Tilley Photography

Fourteen-year-old Logan Ford, the youngest member of the 2014 National Youth Brass Band, reports on the band's recent camp:

On Saturday 1 February, 36 young brass and percussion players gathered at El Rancho in Waikanae for the start of the 2014 National Youth Brass Band camp. Under the baton of Musical Director Peter Adams, the first rehearsal got under way, and we soon discovered that some of the pieces were more difficult than last year! However, the week progressed with a routine of rehearsals and sectionals and with our very talented and experienced tutors, the standard of the band improved immensely. On the third day of camp our guest soloist Kristy Rowe arrived from Brisbane. Her playing was amazing and she was an inspiration to us all. Kristy gave a masterclass and shared her knowledge of brass and particularly the baritone. It was great to have her around the camp and she fitted in really well with the band.

In our free time we would go swimming in the pool, play tennis on the courts or have

fun on the water slide, which kept us cool from the warm weather we had almost all week! A highlight was when a rehearsal was interrupted so that a team of instructors from El Rancho could take us on a team-building session, involving blindfolds, climbing walls and balancing on logs, to name but a few of the exercises. That certainly got everyone buzzing. (Pun intended!)

We had five full days of rehearsal before our first concert in Palmerston North. In the past days the band had grown from strength to strength and had blended together into a very cohesive team. We were all excited and a bit nervy about the first concert but we all felt ready for it. The concert was a great success as the band performed really well, which made everyone happy.

The next day we had two concerts in Wanganui. We arrived at Wanganui High School and played a shortened version of the concert programme to an appreciative audience of teenagers; certainly the cornets got rousing applause after *Hora Staccato*.

The next concert for the day was at the Wanganui Baptist Centre. After a quick sound check dinner was provided by the Wanganui Band. The evening concert was even better than the night before. It was great to see several national bandsmen at the Wanganui concert, and I'm sure that having famous bandsmen like Kevin Jarrett and Ian Levien in the audience made us determined to play our best. Mike Ford, our horn section tutor, stage manager,

Continued on page 3...

In this issue:

- We review the latest CD from Dalewool Auckland Brass
- Find out what is happening in the Districts
- Preview the NZ Brass Foundation education tour
- And hear from Brownie about what is a brass band.

Happy banding



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...from page 1

and also my Dad was heard to say that the band's rendition of *Hymn for Diana* would have won the A grade hymn test.

The final concert was in Wellington and was professionally recorded. (Hopefully we'll see the CD out soon.) Following our last performance, Wellington Brass provided us with a formal sit-down dinner in their band room, after which a prize giving was held. This year there were the usual five awards, plus one special one for the best Australian, which was awarded to Kristy. The other awards went to:

Most Improved Player:

Cody Tauranga – percussionist, Eastern BOP Brass

Best Audition:

Dale Vail – trombone, Wellington Brass

Most Outstanding Player:

Mitchell Spence - tenor horn, Wellington Brass

Best Bands Person:

Jeremy Richardson - percussionist, Hutt City Brass

Best Section:

Second and Third Cornets, tutored by Steve Gooding

After the awards ceremony we had a great opportunity to let our hair down and to cement the friendships that we'd made during the week.

Peter Adams, our musical director, did a fantastic job with the band and though he made sure that we strived to play our best, he always had a good sense of humour about him. He shared his vast musical knowledge with us all and brought the band up to an excellent standard. Our manager, Dr Garry Brown, also did an outstanding job and made the camp a fun experience. Thanks also to Dianne S and Helen L for their work in the kitchen. It's no mean feat keeping the band's bellies full of nutritious goodies.

For me, the highlights of the week were meeting Kristy and listening to her play, the choice of music, which was both fun and challenging to play, the team building exercises and just being a part of an awesome band.

I'm off to do some practise now...



A hug for Dad in front of the whole band was the price Logan Ford paid for a free lunch in Bulls.



From the conductor's perspective

Building on the success of the 2013 course, Manager Dr Garry Brown and Musical Director Peter Adams retained much the same format as previously with daily schedules of rehearsals, sectionals and recreation and two evening social events. Importantly, nearly all of the 2013 tutorial team who had worked so well in 2013 returned. Kevin Dell and Steve Gooding tutored cornets, Mike Ford horns, Byron Newton euphoniums and baritones, David Bremner and Rob Wilson trombones, and Rebecca Keogh percussion. The only new tutor was Bruce Jellyman who worked with the basses. These volunteers did an outstanding job that was obviously appreciated by the band members and Mike, Steve and Kevin stayed on for the concert tour to act as stage managers and assistants.

The National Youth Orchestra was also in residence at El Rancho and they hosted a joint band and orchestra quiz night (won by a team of band tutors and members!) as well as being very interested in what the band was doing.

Peter Adams chose a demanding programme that featured works by the emerging, younger generation of composers, Peter Meechan, Tom Davoren, Simon Dobson and Paul Lovat-Cooper, alongside established composers and works such as Robert Redhead's *Isaiah 40* and Ray Farr's brilliant arrangement of *Riverdance*. Every year the band tries to have a young guest soloist and this year we were extremely fortunate to have the Australian baritone soloist Kristy Rowe whose appearance was sponsored by Besson and Stephen Moschner. Kristy was an amazing musician who inspired all with her virtuosity, musicianship and easy-going nature. She performed four solos with the band, two especially written for her (*Kristy's Song* by Peter Meechan and *The Healing Power of Flame* by Tom Davoren), and also gave a seminar and masterclass to the band. The band members were fascinated by Kristy's skill at circular breathing and she happily shared tips on how to learn this technique.

After the four days of rehearsal in camp, the band hit the road with its "Going Places" concert tour. Evening concerts were given in Palmerston North, Wanganui (where the band also gave an afternoon concert to Wanganui High School) and Wellington. Local bands hosted the youth band and provided assistance with publicity, venues and feeding the band: a big thank you to Palmerston North Brass, Brass Wanganui and Wellington Brass. The band performed very well in all concerts, but the concert in Wanganui to a large, appreciative and knowledgeable audience was a highlight: the band played to the top of its form and deserved the standing ovation that it received. The Wellington audience was disappointing (we did clash with the rugby sevens) but a band tired from a week of hard work and late nights still performed well in a concert that was recorded by Wellington Brass's Andrew Weir.

The week spent with the National Youth Brass Band is becoming a highlight of my year: a fantastic group of young people enjoying making music together, a great, happy team of tutors and a very capable and unflustered manager in Garry Brown assisted by Helen Lee and Dianne Smeehuyzen who also catered superbly for the week. My thanks and appreciation to all.

Peter Adams

A note from our President

The New Year has started with the National Youth Band annual course and Concert Series. This was a great success with some wonderful playing by our young musicians and a truly inspirational guest soloist in Besson Artist Kristy Rowe from Australia. It was gratifying to have the support from the three bands who hosted the concerts and also to see the Association's life members, Friends of the Youth Band, sponsors and supporters attending the concerts. We were also delighted to see a good number of family members of the band at the concerts; many had travelled a fair distance to be there. It was also pleasing to see a good number of bands people from out of town bands had also travelled to listen and support the band.



We are indebted to a lot of people who made this happen including the Band's Musical, Peter Adams (Dunedin) and Manager Garry Brown (Wellington), the tutors and staff, Bruce Jellyman (Wanganui), Dave Bremner (Wellington), Byron Newton (Wellington), Rebecca Keoghan (Westport), Steve Gooding (Invercargill), Kevin Dell (Rotorua), Mike Ford (Nelson), Rob Wilson (Tauranga), Dianne Smeehuizen (Dunedin) and Helen Lee (Wellington). Like many before them, these volunteers gave up their annual leave to pass on their skills and knowledge to the next generation.

There were more people behind the scenes who also made a significant contribution including Trish Wills (President Wellington Brass) Emily Richards (President WDBBA) and Marie Rockell. Our thanks also to the Bands who hosted the concerts, the sponsors: Besson, Lion Foundation, Pub Charity, NZ Community Trust, Infinity Foundation and the Winton and Margaret Bear Charitable Trust as without their help it would not be possible to stage such an event.

The support from all these volunteers and financial supporters help to keep our youth band at the very top level of performers in both New Zealand and overseas. Thank you to you all.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

At Your Local

With the impending announcing of the test music due out this month the focus for many bands has turned towards the National Championships in July. But that is not the only contest in the country as all District Associations are preparing to host their annual regional championships as well as other training and performance activities.

The Auckland Band Association hosted a Youth Camp in early March at the YMCA Camp Adair, in Papakura. The Association's solo events are provisionally scheduled for Sunday 18 May and the band contest for 21 September. The band contest format may change to a Gala Concert arrangement for A and some B grade bands as a way to market the event for a wider audience appeal.

An All Comers Band Day is being hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Band Association at the band room of Rotorua Brass, Te Ngae Road, Rotorua from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Sunday 15 June. Everybody is welcome to attend.

In February the Wellington District Band Association hosted a Youth Training camp at El Rancho in Waikanae. The finale of the camp was a performance by the young musicians at the Brass in the Park day at the Soundshell in the Wellington Botanic Gardens which featured all the bands from the district. In April the Wellington District will join with the Central Districts Association to hold a combined band contest in Levin with the adjudicator being Phil Johnston, from Christchurch. The Wellington District solo and party event will be held in May providing a good opportunity for players to run through their National Contest pieces.

The Canterbury Association is to return to Living Springs on Banks Peninsula in April for its annual Youth Camp led this year by Tyme Marsters and Raynor Martin. International soloist Riki McDonnell will lead the judging team for the Canterbury solo competition on 4 May at which a new section for players from C and D grade will be trialled. The Big Bang percussion solos will be held on 6 June at the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra rehearsal room and the Provincial band contest is provisionally set for 18 October.

The Otago/Southland Association will host a full weekend of events in Roxburgh, Central Otago on 12 and 13 April. The solo and party competition as well as the band hymn and own choice competition will be held on the Saturday and the Entertainment contest on Sunday.

As you can see there are plenty of activities happening around the country so get out to your local event and join in.



*The National Youth Band section of the year:
Dominic Cornfield, William Swan, Sariah Ratford, tutor Steve Gooding,
Georgia Scherf, Joanna Craigie and Kimberley Dainty.*

What's On?

“**Sunday Bandstand**” series of outdoor concerts in Christchurch, noon to 1.30 pm each Sunday. www.summertime.co.nz

9 March Salvation Army Christchurch City Band, Central Lawn, Botanic Gardens. Addington Brass at Cave Rock, Sumner

16 March New Brighton Silver Band, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens. Sumner Silver Band 11-12.30pm Allendale Fete, Allendale Domain

22 March Stedfast Brass Central Lawn Botanic Gardens Addington Brass at Cave Rock, Sumner

20 March Salvation Army Christchurch City Band, Central Lawn Botanic Gardens

“**Brass at the Falls**” summer series of outdoor concerts at Falls Park, Henderson, Auckland each Sunday at 3.00pm

9 March RNZ Air Force Base Auckland Band

16 March Waitakere Auckland Brass

23 March The Band of the Royal Regiment of NZ Artillery

Friday 7 to Sunday 9 March

Auckland Bands Association Youth Band Camp at YMCA Camp Adair, Papakura

Sunday 16 March

Brass Forever Concert to celebrate the 150th commemorations of the Waipa District featuring the Royal New Zealand Navy Band and Te Awamutu Brass. 3.00pm, Te Awamutu Bible Chapel, Swarbrick Drive, Te Awamutu.

Friday 28 March

NZSO concert **La Dolce Vita** featuring Wellington Brass at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington 6.30pm. Ticketing details can be found at www.nzso.co.nz

Sunday 30 March

In Close Harmony presented by Dalewool Auckland Brass and the Greater Auckland Chorus. 2.30pm at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna. www.nzbrass.com

Monday 7 April

Classical Expressions 2014 concert series featuring Wellington Brass, 7.30pm at the Expressions Arts & Entertainment Centre, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.

Friday 4 to Sunday 6 April

Canterbury Band Association Youth Band Camp at Living Springs, Banks Peninsula. Lead tutors Tyme Marsters and Raynor Martin.

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 April

The Wellington and Central Districts Associations combined band contest in Levin. The adjudicator is Phil Johnston. www.wdbba.org.nz

The Otago/Southland District Association contest in Roxburgh, Central Otago. Saturday: solo and party competition plus band hymn and own choice. Sunday: Entertainment contest.

Monday 14 April

Morning Melodies with North Shore Brass, 11.00am at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna

18 - 22 April Easter weekend

50th Anniversary of the New Zealand Army Band

Saturday 26 April

ANZAC Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 7.30pm at the Onehunga RSA, Auckland. www.nzbrass.com

Friday 25th April

ANZAC Concert by North Shore Brass, 2.30pm at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna

Sunday 27 April

ANZAC Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 2.30pm at Centrestage, Orewa, Auckland. www.nzbrass.com

Sunday 4 May

Canterbury Provincial Solos at Selwyn House School. Lead judge Riki McDonnell

Sunday 11 May

Mother's Day Concert by Whangarei District Brass. A Concert of Two Halves as brass goes classic plus Tribute to WW1. 2.00pm at Forum North, Whangarei

Friday 6 June

The Big Bang percussion solos hosted by the Canterbury Provincial Association at the CSO rehearsal room.

Sunday 15 June

All Comers Band Day hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Band Association at band room of Rotorua Brass Te Ngae Road, Rotorua from 10.00am to 4.00pm. All enquiries to Denise Sturt at stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz



Musings from Brownie - Music for the People.

Recently, while listening to the radio (yes we still have it), I've found that brass bands seem to be mentioned more and more. When a brass band is announced, one focuses on the radio to hear what the piece is about, but often as not it's not what I expected. It may be a "brass band" of sorts, but "Jim, it's not as we know it". Generally the groups are swing or traditional jazz bands and have alongside their brass, wind instruments such as the sax family together with clarinets. It seems to me that to qualify as a "brass band" it doesn't matter what you have as long as there is a tuba or similar as the bass.

There are two ways of looking at this. Is this liberalisation of the term "brass bands" good or bad for us as a movement? To the purists it will be bad and I can picture their faces now. But I think it's good. Firstly it brings brass bands as a name back into the public eye or ear. And, generally, there is nothing wrong with the music that these groups play. Yes, our bands would have a problem copying them, but could this be a future direction that our brass bands may take? At the moment it seems to me that the movements, both here and in Britain, are becoming somewhat introverted with their aim being to conquer the ever-increasing technicalities of test music. No wonder the public at large are having difficulties understanding our music.

In 1963, Peter Newcomb wrote a book about the first 100 years of brass banding in NZ. The title was *Music for the People*. And so it was; bands playing promenade concerts and the like included music that people knew, could relate to and as a result be entertained by. If he had written a sequel for the last 50 years, I am certain it would not have been called *Music for the People Vol II*. Many negative titles spring to mind but I'll leave you to think of something more suitable.

So, back to those "brass bands" I referred to earlier. I imagine many of them would have a considerable following, especially those from New Orleans. So is there some middle ground where the two types of brass bands could meet? Oh, I can just imagine our "die-hards" muttering; "why do we need change? We've been like this for 150 years, what's wrong with it? What they play isn't real music." Funny how people still seem to enjoy it, though.

But I would suggest that comments like these are wrong as well as negative. I suppose one could liken it to not wanting to part with an old pair of slippers, or the like, for a new pair. The new pair may look different but chances are they'll be far more comfortable therefore enjoyable. But I digress.

Brass Bands as we know it have altered considerably over the last 150 years. Many of these changes have been gradual, while others, quite major. For instance, bands years ago always stood in a circle surrounding their conductor to perform. This occurred at contests as well which were normally held outdoors. Have you ever noticed in photos from that era, that conductors generally conducted with their left hands? The reason was that most of them played cornets with their right hand while conducting in rehearsal, or on the job as well. With the change to non-playing conductors it at least gave bass players a chance to show their worth.

Another major change is with percussion. In Britain for the best part of 100 years, percussion was not allowed to be played in a test. It was considered that unscrupulous conductors would take advantage of hiding their band's weaknesses when using percussion. It is of note that I haven't found a similar ruling for contesting in New Zealand. As a result it must be assumed that our conductors were far more trustworthy than their English counterparts.

There have been many other changes, and over the next couple of months I intend to explore the effects that they have had on our banding. There are basically two sides to this discussion - instrumental and musical. And, having looked at these changes, we'll do a little "crystal ball gazing" as to where the future may lead us. I can assure you there will be great howls of disapproval with some of my suggestions.

Allan F Brown (Brownie) mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com

Photo: *Blenheim Garrison Band performing at the Marlborough A & P Show, early 1900s. Reproduced from "Challenging Brass" by SP Newcomb.*



Letter to the Editor

Over the years I've been to several Regional and National championships both here and in the United Kingdom and I've definitely enjoyed the New Zealand experience more than the UK. Preparing two test pieces, a hymn, a march and sometimes a solo and/or an ensemble is bloody hard work at times but it is always worth it. Then after all the hard work the results come in and everyone gathers to hear them read out. Unfortunately I find the way the results are delivered here seriously underwhelming and I think it destroys what should be a dramatic and exciting moment. In the UK I remember being on the edge of my seat as the announcement came..."in third place the band that played number 4, Lower Stoddly Citizens Band!" At each announcement every band in the room still has a chance of getting a prize which is a great feeling. The results are obviously more complicated in New Zealand due to the competition having multiple elements but I feel that the way they are delivered at present spoils the surprise. By the time the individual scores for each band in each part of the competition have been read out the audience have added up the numbers and know which bands are in which spots for the overall top prize. What I would like to see is the top three places read out for each part of the competition without the points and then a grand announcement of the aggregate scores for the top three places. People can then get the rest of the scores after the results ceremony. I think this would add some more excitement to the proceedings and I would be interested to know what other members of the community think.

Jamie MacKay
Waitakere Auckland Brass

Free to a good home

Cyril Hawkins was a keen bands person and he, along with his brothers Ray and Stan, spent many happy days playing in the Hawera Band. Following his death his nephew Roger Linkhorn has been sorting out his uncle's estate and has delivered relevant photographs to the Hawera Band and to the Waiouru Museum. Cyril also had an extensive record collection that Roger would like to see go to a good home. Recordings of the 1962, 1965 and 1970 National Band of New Zealand have been donated to BBANZ along with a recording of champion soloists Ross McGavin and Errol Mason. But there are many more records to give away. If you are interested in the records please contact Roger at 04 5674407 or r.linkhorn@xtra.o.nz

Here is a sample of the records:

CWS (Manchester) Band – This Is Brass
The G.U.S (Footwear) Band – Brass in Perspective
The Band of the Coldstream Guards – Marching and Waltzing
Grimethorpe Colliery Band – Belle Vue Brass
The World of Military Bands
Fodens, Fairey's and Morris Motors – The World of Brass Bands Vol.2
National Brass Festival – Royal Albert Hall, 1972. Black Dyke Mills Band, The Fairey Band, Band Of Yorkshire Imperial Metals.
Bandsman Choice – Brighouse and Rastrick Band, Black Dyke Mills Band
Blooming Brass – The Brighouse and Rastrick Band.
Brass From Brighouse – The Brighouse and Rastrick Band
Golden Hour Of Brass Bands – Black Dyke Mills Band, Brighouse and Rastrick Band, Wingates Temperance Band, Band of The Yorkshire Imperial Metals, Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band.
Haydn Wind Concertos – Sinfonia Concertante in B flat, Horn Concerto No.2 in D, Trumpet Concerto
Suppe Overtures – Detroit Symphony
Acker Bilk – Strangers on the Shore
James Last – Trumpet A Gogo
George Gershwin – Rhapsody in Blue
Joseph Kuns's – Symphony for Blues

'SUNDAY BANDSTAND' by Dalewool Auckland Brass

Reviewed by Kevin Jarrett

Having listened to many CDs from this Band, I believe this is the best. The musicality of Nigel Weeks is obvious throughout the disc.

This disc has a varied and popular choice of music with many individual highlights and a lovely ensemble sound and balance throughout. The overture from *Italian in Algiers* by Rossini was outstanding. A lovely musical reading and excellent technique was evident. Other favourites such as *Perpetuum Mobile*, *Bohemian Rhapsody* and *The Band Played On* were played with vibrancy and a high degree of musicality. John Lewis showed his great versatility, while still featuring his most lovely sound in his two solos *El Cumbanchero* and *Georgia on my Mind*. He is certainly a wonderful player.

A real highlight for me was Kay MacKenzie's *Memory*. She had a lovely musical approach and excellent intonation throughout the range. Kay's playing throughout the disc was outstanding. The flugel obligato in *Memory* was beautifully done.

One of the real features was *Out of Africa*. This beautiful music was given a most musical rendition by Nigel Weeks. The horns and flugel were outstanding and the band's sound was beautifully balanced. Great to see two marches included. *Death or Glory* and *Simoraine* were good choices although I felt percussion were very distant in *Simoraine*. The band was generally well balanced and intonation only suffered a little in the *Benedictus*.

The finale *Stingray* was really exciting and ended a great listening experience. Nigel Weeks is a most musical man and his influence and musicianship has helped immensely in the production of this excellent disc. A brilliant CD cover tops it off – a must for your CD collection.



Quick Notes

Nigel Weeks of Auckland has been appointed as the Musical Director of the 2014 National Band that will tour China and Korea in September. Nigel has had a long and successful career in music education and has led Dalewood Auckland Brass to win the New Zealand Championship title on four occasions as well as winning the Australia Championship three times. After a break from banding, Nigel was back in the centre of Dalewood Auckland Brass last year directing them to a win in the Own Choice selection and second placing overall at the National Championships. Nigel's first major banding event for 2014 is to adjudicate the Yamaha Australian Band Championships being held in Brisbane over Easter.

The **New Zealand Symphony Orchestra** has kindly donated two free tickets to their *La Dolce Vita* concert on Friday 28 March in Wellington. The Italian-themed concert features Respighi's *Feste Romane*, *Fontane di Roma* with the finale being *Pini di Rome (The Pines of Rome)* featuring Wellington Brass. If you would like to go into the draw to win the tickets please send your name and contact details to the BBANZ Office by post or email before Wednesday 19 March. For concert tickets detail go to www.nzso.co.nz

As mentioned in Peter Adams' report on our Youth Band the **NZSO National Youth Orchestra** was also training at El Rancho camp for their summer concert tour. It was great to see that many of the NYO brass section are current brass band members. During the camp some of them would pop over to our rehearsal room to listen and to collect a home-made biscuit or dessert. Congratulation to the following on their selection in the National Youth Orchestra: Patrick Webb - Hamilton City Brass, Kieran Smith and Patrick Di Somma - Wellington Brass, Matthew Harris - New Brighton Silver Band and Max Wilkinson - St Kilda Brass.

Coming soon to a band email address near you!

The application forms for the **2014 National Secondary School Brass Band** will be available in April.

Musical Director **Mark Carter** is putting together a very interesting programme to be based at El Rancho camp in Waikanae from Wednesday 8 to Tuesday 14 October. Applications are open to brass and percussion players who are attending secondary school or are home schooled. You do not have to be a member of a BBANZ registered brass band to apply.

Applications will close on Friday 20 June so start practising now on an own choice piece that demonstrates your technical skill and beautiful sound. You won't want to miss being part of the special activities planned for the band while it is in Wellington on Sunday 12 October.

Calling all composers! If you are under 25 years of age and have an original composition for brass band that you would like to share with the world then here is an opportunity for you.

BBANZ is running a composition competition open to all comers under 25. The submitted compositions should be an original work scored for full brass band and be no longer than five minutes. The 2014 National Secondary School Bands will perform the winning composition in its concert programme. If you are interested in this competition please register with the BBANZ Office at brass@banz.org.nz Compositions should be submitted by Friday 29 August.

Contest Countdown

The Invercargill Contest Committee is pleased to announce that the Invercargill Licensing Trust is to be the naming right sponsor of the 2014 National Championships. The ILT is not only assisting the Championships financially but have made available staff members to work along side the contest committee. For more information about the venues and facilities for the ILT Brass Band Championships in Invercargill please visit the contest website at www.brasschamps2014.co.nz

The test music for band and solo events for the 2014 National Championships will be released on Tuesday 11 March. Molto Music and proprietor Billy Middleton have been reappointed as the Official Music Supplier. Contest entry forms will also be released on Tuesday 11 March with the closing date for entries being Saturday 10 May.



The NYB inspirational team of Kristy Rowe and Peter Adams.



NYB tutors Kevin Dell, Bruce Jellyman, Steve Gooding and Mike Ford BBQ up a storm.



NYB band manager Garry Brown presents Mitchell Spence with the Most Outstanding Player award.



BBANZ – Directory

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Website: www.brassnz.co.nz

Executive Officer: Helen Lee, Wellington.
email: brass@banz.org.nz
W: 04 499 9896 M: 029 770 4588

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Napier 4142

National Youth Brass Band

Musical Director: Peter Adams M.Mus Dunedin
Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

2014 National Contest in Invercargill 9 to 13 July

www.brasschamps2014.co.nz
Contest Committee Chairman:
Grant Yorkstone grant.yorkstone@awslegal.com
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
For accommodation assistance contact Nikki Buckley 03 211 3765 nikki@ilt.co.nz or Denise Lusby 03 218 3521 saty@45onavenal.co.nz

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

Our Thanks To:

BBANZ records a vote of thanks to the philanthropic groups, funders and sponsors who support our various projects.

ABI Music, Besson-Courtois, Creative New Zealand, KBB Music, Lion Foundation, Music Ways Ltd., Music Works, Pastel Software Wellington Ltd., Pub Charity and Johnstone Jones Design.

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, PB Adams, E Aldridge (in perpetuity), Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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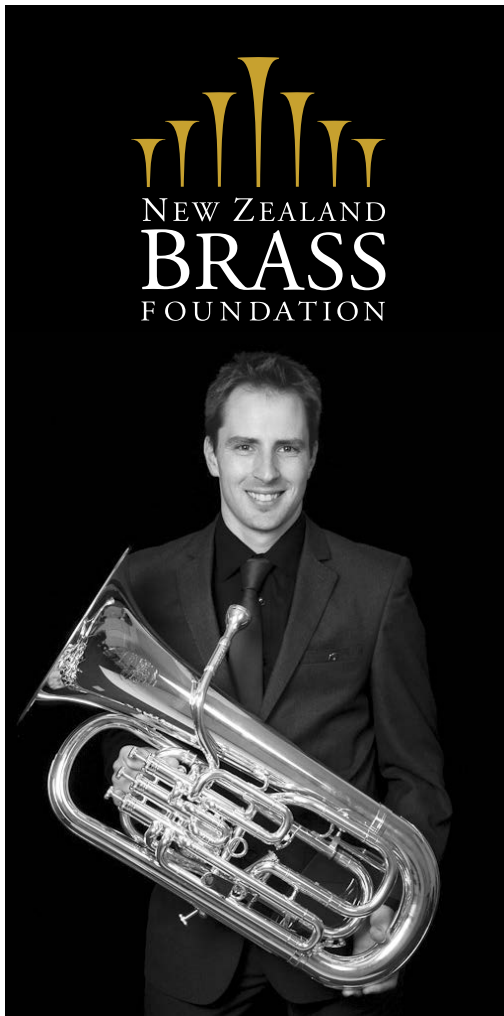
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Education Tour

Throughout the month of May, Besson Artist **Byron Newton** will be travelling the length of the country giving free seminars and recitals. These classes will take place in band rooms, are open to everyone and will be free of charge to those attending.

This event is taking place in conjunction with ABI Music and Besson instruments.

This tour is the first initiative of the newly formed New Zealand Brass Foundation, which has been setup to support and provide brass education in New Zealand. The Foundation's website is www.nzbrassfoundation.org.nz. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nzbrassfoundation. Please contact us at nzbrassfoundation@gmail.com if you have any questions, and while you are at our website please feel free to donate.

David Bremner - Trustee, NZ Brass Foundation

The clinics will take place in the following locations:

Wednesday 7 May Dunedin at Mosgiel Brass band room, 69 Church Street Mosgiel, 7.00pm

Thursday 8 May Invercargill at Ascot Park Hotel Brass band room 249 Spey Street, 6.00pm

Saturday 10 May Dunedin at University of Otago, 2.00pm

Sunday 11 May Christchurch at New Brighton Silver band room, Shaw Avenue, 2.00pm

Sunday 11 May Christchurch at Woolston Brass band room 37 Dampier Street, Woolston, 6.00pm

Monday 12 May Timaru at Alpine Energy Timaru Brass band room, 10 North Street, 6.00pm

Wednesday 14 May Nelson at Nelson Brass band room Hathaway Terrace, 5.30pm

Friday 16 May Wanganui at Brass Wanganui band room Queens Park off Campbell Street 7.00pm

Saturday 17 May New Plymouth at Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass band room Rogan Street, 2.00pm

Sunday 18 May Matamata at Matamata College hall, Firth Street, 3.30pm

Sunday 18 May Hamilton at Hamilton City Brass band room, 245 Clyde Street, 7.00pm

Monday 19 May Whakatane at Trident High School drama studio, 7.00pm

Tuesday 20 May Auckland at North Shore Brass band room 13A Taharoto Road, Takapuna, 6.30pm

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Mouthpiece

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The New Zealand Brass Festival

Brass enthusiasts should plan to be in Wellington from 10 to 12 October this year to hear some of the finest brass players from New Zealand and around the world. The New Zealand Brass Festival will feature a truly international line-up with Swedish trumpeter Hakan Hardenberger, (pictured) American Jazz trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, and Australian multi-instrumentalist James Morrison headlining three days of world class performances. Other artists include Sydney Symphony Orchestra's principal trumpeter Dave Elton and principal tubist Steve Rosse, Queensland Symphony Orchestra principal trumpeter Sarah Wilson, Besson Artist Byron Newton, and Auckland's Ace Brass trio.



Members of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra brass section will join New Zealand's champion band Wellington Brass, the New Zealand Army Band and the Rodger Fox Big Band in performances during the festival. Educational classes including clinics, seminars and recitals will also be on offer.

The festival weekend promises to be a wonderful celebration of brass music as international and local performers come together to provide world-class music, education and motivation to listeners and brass players of all ages and stages. For tickets and more information go to www.nzbrassfestival.org.nz or email nzbrassfestival@gmail.com

You won't want to miss this amazing weekend.

The New Zealand Brass Festival would like to thank the following:

Sshhmites, Music Works, Yamaha, The NZSO Foundation, Brass Direct, Vanguard Orchestra, ABI Music, The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, The New Zealand Army Band and Rogue & Vagabond – Craft Beer Bar.



James Morrison

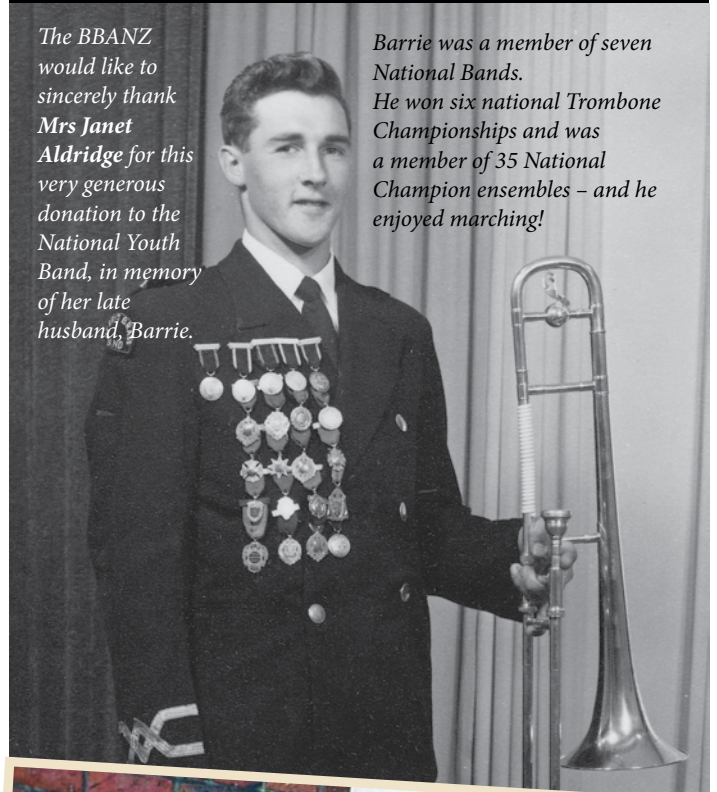


Wycliffe Gordon

\$50,000 Boost for Youth Band

The BBANZ would like to sincerely thank Mrs Janet Aldridge for this very generous donation to the National Youth Band, in memory of her late husband, Barrie.

Barrie was a member of seven National Bands. He won six national Trombone Championships and was a member of 35 National Champion ensembles – and he enjoyed marching!



Barrie (aged 20) and some years later with Janet when they attended the British Open with Woolston Brass in 2000.

In this issue:

- List the test music for the 2014 National Championships
 - Review Trevor Bremner's latest CD
 - And find out what has been happening in the capital
- Happy banding!



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What's On?

Monday 7 April
Classical Expressions 2014 concert series featuring Wellington Brass, 7.30pm at the Expressions Arts & Entertainment Centre, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 April
The Wellington and Central Districts Associations combined band contest in Levin. The adjudicator is Phil Johnston. www.wdbba.org.nz

The Otago/Southland District Association contest in Roxburgh, Central Otago. Saturday: solo and party competition plus band hymn and own choice. Sunday: Entertainment contest.

Monday 14 April
Morning Melodies with North Shore Brass, 11.00am at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna.

18 - 22 April - Easter weekend
50th Anniversary of the New Zealand Army Band including a public concert at the Air Force Museum on Saturday 19 April, 5.30pm and a Street March and church service on Sunday 20 April.

Friday 25th April - ANZAC Day
Trust Porirua City Brass - dawn service at the Porirua RSA 6.00am then Porirua City Council Civic Service at the cenotaph in Porirua city from 9.00am.

ANZAC Remembered, a concert by Woolston Brass, 2.00pm at the Air Museum of New Zealand.

Saturday 26 April
ANZAC Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 7.30pm at the Onehunga RSA, Auckland. www.nzbrass.com

Sunday 27 April
ANZAC Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 2.30pm at Centrestage, Orewa, Auckland www.nzbrass.com

Sunday 4 May
Canterbury Provincial Solo Competition at Selwyn House School. Lead judge Riki McDonnell.

Wednesday 4 to Tuesday 20 May
The Brass Foundation Education Tour. Free recitals and workshops throughout New Zealand by Besson Artist Bryon Newton. For dates and venue details see page 9.

Sunday 11 May
Mother's Day Concert by Whangarei District Brass. A Concert of Two Halves as brass goes classic plus Tribute to WW1. 2.00pm at Forum North, Whangarei.

Saturday 17 May
NZ Music Month Concert, Woolston Brass. www.woolstonbrass.org

Sunday 18 May
Matamata Brass Festival at Matamata College.

Wednesday 21 May
North Shore Brass in concert with Besson Artist Byron Newton, 8.00pm North Shore Bandroom.

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 May
West Coast Band Association solo and band contest in Nelson.

Sunday 25 May
Auckland Band Association solo contest at Tangaroa College, Haumia Way, Flat Bush.

Friday 6 June
The Big Bang percussion solos hosted by the Canterbury Provincial Association at the CSO rehearsal room.

Sunday 15 June
All Comers Band Day hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Band Association at band room of Rotorua Brass, Te Ngae Road, Rotorua from 10.00am to 4.00pm. All enquiries to Denise Sturt at stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September
Waikato Bay of Plenty regional brass band contest hosted by Hamilton City Brass at Southwell School, Claudelands, Hamilton. Solo and party events on Saturday with band events on Sunday. All enquiries to Denise Sturt stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Wednesday 9 to Sunday 13 July
The ILT National Brass Band Championships in Invercargill. www.brasschamps2014.co.nz

A note from our President

The National Management Committee had their first face-to-face meeting of 2014 on Sunday 9 March at the Association's Wellington office. Much of the time was spent discussing reports and arrangements of events for the current year. We did, however, have some time to discuss our National Contest and its relevance to today. We would, as a group, be the first to admit that we don't have all the answers but decided that it may be time to reconsider how, when, where and why we hold a National Contest. As a result of this discussion it is intended that all interested parties will be invited to attend a discussion regarding the organisation, management and participation of our National Contests. This will be held in Wellington on Friday 31 October prior to the Annual General Meeting the next day. The Association's Executive Officer will advise time and place in the near future. We would like to hear from contest committees, band conductors, participants and anybody who can provide constructive ideas on how we can improve the event.



The management committee's next face-to-face meeting is on 17 and 18 May. The two-day meeting dedicates one day to future planning of activities for the next five years. These discussions include Contests, National Bands, National Youth Bands, National Secondary Schools Bands, education, membership, finance, succession planning and any other matter that may affect the Association in the foreseeable future. This meeting will be held in Auckland and the management committee would like to invite representatives from the Auckland bands or for that matter any band that may be in the area to meet the committee informally and discuss matters pertaining to this common interest that we have. Location and timing of this meeting will be advised by the Association's Executive Officer shortly.

As agreed at the Association's Annual General Meeting last November, applications to host the 2017 National Contest will be accepted from both the lower North Island and the top half of the South Island. Our Executive Officer will shortly be sending out to bands, districts and other interested parties the requirements to apply to host the National Contest. Applications close on 31 August 2014 after which time all applications will be sent to each member band to discuss. The location of the 2017 Contest will then be decided by a vote at the Association's AGM. Therefore it is important that each band's representative at the meeting is well informed of the band's preferred choice.

For those participating in district competitions over these next weeks, prepare well and play well on the day.

Evan Sayer - President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand



Musings from Brownie - More Music for our People.

This month I would like to delve into the musical development of our movement. A fine statement, but where does one start? Does any music still exist from 150 years ago? And, what did bands sound like back then? We have no means of knowing. Possibly the only way to answer these questions, and other related ones, is to examine the development of test music over the years.

Many would agree that the music selected as test pieces at National Contests seems to be getting harder each year. Well, that is the nature of the beast after all. Therefore 100 years ago tests would have been a lot easier and more than likely bands would not have had the capabilities we take as the norm nowadays.

Some years ago Roxburgh Brass commemorated its 125th anniversary and it was decided to present a concert with music drawn from its history. In 1926 the band won the C Grade at what must have been the South Island contest. The test they played was a transcription from an opera entitled *Maritana*. It began with a pompous opening and ended in a similar manner. In between was a series of songs/airs linked with cadenzas by the solo cornet and euphonium. Other than those two instruments, which also carried the various melodies, almost every other instrument was merely accompaniment. To our modern ears this style of music sounds so dated.

And the A Grade was little different. Contesting began here in 1880, and it wasn't until 1925 that bands finally got the chance to play an original piece written for brass bands, *On the Cornish Coast*. In Britain they had been playing original compositions consistently for over a decade prior to New Zealand's first.

I recently found a quote from the *Musical News and Herald*, dated 1 October 1921, which is of interest.

"We were talking to Mr Cyril Jenkins about his test-piece used at the Crystal Palace by the Brass Bands last Saturday. After his experience last year [*Coriolanus*] Mr Jenkins decided to write a piece this year that should be technically much more difficult. Many experienced bandmasters predicted that the new work would be impossible to perform, and after the contest the same experts stated that the study involved had improved the technique of the best bands by at least 25 per cent and that of the worst by 100 per cent. Mr Jenkins called the piece "*Comedy of Errors Overture*", but his publishers felt this would be considered too pointed a title in the early stages of practice, and substituted the title "*Life Divine*"."

Perhaps a rather extreme example of what the whole concept of contesting is about but each year test music often presents new challenges to be conquered. It is of interest that *Life Divine* was not used as a test piece in New Zealand until 1964.

The early 1930s saw a flood of original test music and after the break for WWII the use of transcriptions or arrangements became almost a thing of the past. Many top composers began exploring the musical possibilities provided by brass bands, perhaps finally legitimising the movement as an accepted musical entity, thus ridding ourselves of that "cloth cap" image. Another feature was the creation of the New Zealand Brass Band Association (NZBBA) in 1931, as prior to that date there were two organisations running contests separately in each Island.

I am not about to attempt to name these composers or try and isolate their various contributions, as in many cases it is a matter of opinion. But it is my opinion that the first contest performance of Gilbert Vinter's *Spectrum* in 1971 was, at the time, spectacular. The judge was K.G.L. Smith, and he awarded the band - Skellerup Woolston - 149 points from a possible 150. I have recently listened to a recording of that performance and found it was far from faultless and not as spectacular as one remembers. It just goes to show how far our goal posts and required standards have moved forward.

Another piece that comes to mind is Elgar Howarth's *Fireworks* from 1975. In its own right I believe, at the time, it was a spectacular composition but for different reasons to *Spectrum*. Gone were the days of secondary instruments within sections hiding behind their leaders. Everyone in the band was exposed and required to play a solo - second horn, second Bb Bass, second and third cornets etc. It didn't matter which instrument you were playing, you had your moment of glory. But importantly, as I've mentioned before, this was the first time in the UK that percussion was included as a part of the band, and this was the start of what we use today.

While talking of contests from yesteryear, two other major changes have occurred. While they aren't regarded as musical in themselves, they must have had a considerable influence on the performance of bands. Less than 100 years ago bands were still contesting outside, standing in a formation described in my last article. One wonders how modern bands would react to having to play this year's test music, standing outside. Perhaps I am going too far by suggesting we do this in Invercargill, in mid July. But it is significant that when bands did do this, thousands of people paid their money to witness the occasion.

What I have endeavoured to do this time around is to give a small insight into a very large subject: the musical development of test music over the years - a process which seems to us as being gradual, but has over time been quite considerable. In my next article it's out with the crystal ball as we discuss what the future may bring.

Allan F Brown (Brownie) mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com



In 1975 *Fireworks* by Elgar Howarth was performed by the Skellerup Woolston Band - Musical Director Mervyn Waters.



Band Camp – Wellington Style

This year's Wellington District Band Camp was held at El Rancho camp in Waikanae. The camp began early evening on a Friday night. There were heaps of familiar faces and a couple of new faces including rumours that Toby Pringle's evil trombone-playing twin brother, Cody, was in attendance. (Unfortunately this could not be confirmed until photographic evidence was obtained.)

We were lucky enough to have the great Nick Sharpe from Nelson back for the weekend as our conductor. We rehearsed five pieces in the weekend including one that challenged the whole band, a frantic Eastern European type number called *Drop Kick Horo* which Nick challenged the band to play in under two minutes. Led in spectacular fashion by our drummer Josh Ingle, we eventually conquered this challenge during the final concert. The more experienced members of the band also rehearsed a ten-piece version of Khachaturian's *Sabre Dance*, a piece which tested

their skill to a higher level.

When there was no band practice, there was plenty of other stuff to do including swimming, going on the playground and the older kids even played truth or dare!

Sunday came around quickly and everyone was well prepared to travel to Wellington and perform what we had been working on at 'Brass in the Park'. The 'Wellington Band Camp All-Stars' did a splendid job and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the music.

It was then time for everyone to leave and say their goodbyes after an awesome weekend of music making. Bring on next year's band camp!

Andre Brown, Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Band and Cassandra Horsnell, Masterton District Brass

NZ Army Band 50th Jubilee Reunion

This month the New Zealand Army Band will celebrate the unit's Golden Jubilee. The Band was officially established on 4 April 1964 and has played a significant role in both a ceremonial and a public entertainment function in New Zealand and overseas. A reunion of former members will be held in conjunction with the celebrations. More than 200 people will assemble in Christchurch over Easter weekend to celebrate the milestone and to acknowledge the contribution the Band has made to the community of Christchurch over the past 50 years.

To celebrate the Army Band will present a public concert on Saturday 19 April at 5.30pm in the Air Force Museum, Wigram. This will be a concert that will highlight the best of the Army Band from the past 50 years and should not be missed. Tickets are limited and available from the Air Force Museum and committee members.

On Sunday at 12.15pm the Army Band will march into Cathedral Square where a short service will be held and a wreath will be laid to pay respect to our former members who have passed away. At the completion of this a combined band of approximately 70 current and former bandsmen will perform a public Street March through the streets of Christchurch. This will be followed by a church service at the city's Transitional ("Cardboard") Cathedral at 1.00pm.

For more details about the Reunion events please contact Graeme Bremner, chairman of the organising committee: gaemgold@xtra.co.nz






Trust Porirua City Brass and musical director Kerry Garrett at Brass in the Park



Brass in the Park at the Soundshell in Wellington's Botanic Gardens



Soloist Toby Pringle accompanied by Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Brass, musical director Clyton Payne.

Instrument Review - The JP377 Sterling EEb Tuba

The quality finish and setup of the new JP377 Sterling EEb Tuba is second to none. The sound is big and round while still retaining control over clarity and articulation. The instrument creates a rich full tone that can be easily projected in all registers. I found the tuba to be in tune throughout the complete register. The notes are very easy to centre, thus aiding the ease of intonation. The valves are great - machined well and with an excellent quick action. The tuba has blended nicely with both the lighter and heavier orchestral repertoire. When playing with a team of tuba players in a brass band the Sterling EEb Tuba blended smoothly to produce the solid platform as required for Woolston Brass. I am proud to recommend and endorse the JP377 Sterling EEb Tuba as an excellent performer for all tuba repertoires.

Nigel Seaton
Principal EEb Tuba, Woolston Brass
Principal Tuba, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra

Capital Events

For a number of years, the Wellington District Brass Band Association (WDBBA) has kicked off the banding year with its 'Brass in the Park' event, an all-day band concert featuring all the bands from the District. Of course prior to the day all district players frantically retrieve their instruments from under the bed or behind the lounge suite or from wherever they were placed at the end of the carolling season and check to see if they (the instrument and the player) remain in good working order. Sunday 23 February saw the free public event again held at the idyllic Wellington Botanic Garden with its very special Soundshell dedicated to "... the Bandsmen of the Wellington District who served their King and Country and those who also made the supreme sacrifice". As many know, brass bands were indeed the exclusive domain of the men in the town in those days but have since moved with the times to be well represented by men and women including the young and not so young.

Seven bands played throughout the day with a wide variety of music appealing to many musical tastes. Special mention is made of Toby Pringle from Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Brass who was a busy boy playing in four of those bands including the Wellington Youth camp band. Last year, Toby was selected, after audition, for both the National Secondary Schools Brass Band and the National Youth Brass Band. Nine players from Wellington bands were selected for the 2014 National Youth Band which is a great achievement and indicative of the quality of Wellington banding. These talented young players were keenly sought after at 'Brass in the Park', and many of the others were seen to play in three bands on the day. Porirua Youth Brass was in on the act using the opportunity to run a BBQ fundraiser. The next WDBBA event is the combined Wellington and Central Districts Contest in Levin over the weekend of 12 and 13 April where we look forward to engaging with our banding friends in the neighbouring district.

Dennis Dawson, Secretary WDBBA

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You are cordially invited...

On behalf of the National Management Committee of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand I would like to invite bands, soloists and supporters to attend the ILT National Brass Band Championships being held in Invercargill from 9 to 13 July 2014. The Chief Adjudicator is Dr Stephen Cobb, Territorial Music Director and Conductor of the International Staff Band, England. The Assistant Chief is Brent Large from Auckland, and Stephen Leader from Christchurch is the Chief Military Judge.

The test music selected for the band events will provide listeners with some beautiful melodies and the players with some technical challenges. The A Grade test piece, *On Alderley Edge* written by Peter Graham in 1997, was used that year for the National Championships of Great Britain. Graham's inspiration for the piece came from the North Cheshire village of Alderley Edge which is dominated by a 600 foot wooded escarpment (known locally as the Edge) where landmarks such as Wizard's Well, Stormy Point and The Devil's Grave have inspired storytellers for centuries. This work presents a musical portrayal of many of these sites and also recalls some of the legends which have arisen from them. *On Alderley Edge* has been performed in New Zealand on at least three occasions as an Own Choice selection in the A Grade.

Pageantry by Herbert Howells has been described as "one of the true masterpieces of the brass band movement" and will certainly test bands in the B Grade competition. Written for the 1934 British Open Championships it was a revelation at the time. In 1995 the piece was subjected to a very sympathetic update in the form of additional percussion writing by Philip Wilby. The original score required only drums with occasional reference to timpani. This update apparently caused a huge furor in the British banding press but whatever your feelings are on this, I am sure you will enjoy the medieval splendour depicted in *Pageantry*.

Sir Dean Goffin was one of New Zealand's first prolific Salvation Army composers who wrote music not only for the Army but for non-Army bands as well. His Rhapsodic Variations - *My Strength My Tower* is the C Grade test piece. It was conceived as a test piece for brass band but its publication was prevented by his commissioning as a Salvation Army officer, until it was modified for publication by the Salvation Army.

For the first time since 1987 the D Grade bands will perform a set test item. A remit passed at last year's AGM adds a test Sacred Item to the grade's contest events. The well-known *Amazing Grace* arranged by William Himes will be played by all bands in the grade.

I look forward to seeing you in Invercargill in July. Best wishes to all the bands and soloists who are intending to compete at the Championships. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any enquiries.

Helen Lee

Contest Manager and Executive Officer -
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Draft schedule of contest events

Wednesday 9 July

Events from approximately 11.00am.

Solos for Under 15 groups, Juniors, Masters, Open Slow Melody and Open Own Choice event.

All percussion events - Open, Junior and Under 15 solos and Ensemble.

All Open ensembles

Junior Champion of Champions

Invitation Slow Melody

Thursday 10 July

From 9.00am - all Open solos and all Junior Ensembles

Open Champion of Champions from 7.30pm

Friday 11 July

Sacred or Reflective item and test selection for A, B and C Grades

Street March for all grades

Saturday 12 July

Own Choice selection for A, B and C Grades. Championship results announced.

D Grade and Youth Grade events. Championship results announced.

Sunday 13 July, 2.00pm

The Band of the Year entertainment competition featuring invited bands.



The venue for the band events - the Civic Theatre

Test Solos

Eb Soprano Cornet	<i>Connemara</i> , Bertrand Moren	Marc Reift edition
Championship Cornet	<i>Zigeunwerweisen</i> , Pablo de Sarasate arr. Dokshitser	Marc Reift edition
Amateur Cornet	<i>La Mandolinata</i> , Herman Bellstedt arr. Simon	Hickman edition
Flugel Horn	<i>Concertino for Flugel Horn & Strings</i> , Alan Ridout	Emerson edition
Tenor Horn	<i>Abenzoares</i> , Tony Cheseaux	Marc Reift edition
Baritone	<i>Fantasia for Euphonium</i> , Gordon Jacob	Bossey & Hawkes
Euphonium	<i>At Hell's Gate</i> , Bertrand Moren	Marc Reift edition
Tenor Trombone	<i>Cavatine</i> by Saint-Saens ed. Chris Mowat	Brass Wind Publications
Bass Trombone	<i>Concerto in One Movement</i> , Alexej Lebedev	Hofmeister edition
Eb Bass	<i>Dashing Away with the Smoothing Iron</i> , Steadman-Allen	Winwood Music
BBb Bass	<i>Carnival</i> , Bertrand Moren	Marc Reift edition

Test music for band and solo events is available to purchase from Molto Music, BBANZ's Official Music Supplier. To place an order please contact Billy Middleton on midzo65@gmail.com or 021 836 255 or via www.moltomusic.co.nz

Quick Notes

The National Band of New Zealand has now been invited to perform at the opening ceremony of the Korea International Wind Band Festival along with other concerts in Beijing and Seoul in September. The Band will give one concert in Auckland before departing on 2 September for its tour.

The Dampier Street rehearsal room of **Woolston Brass** had a lucky escape recently when a fire broke out in the roof. A bandroom neighbour, who just happens to be a firefighter, heard "fizzy" electrical noises coming from the bandroom so called the emergency number. By the time the fire brigade arrived things were really smoking, so they broke the door down and made a hole in the roof to get at the source. An electrical short circuit had set alight a row of birds' nests in the ceiling cavity. The roof and the door have since been repaired, and thanks to some fast action from the band's resident electrician (principal euphonium Davey Boyes), the disruption to the band's rehearsal routine was minimal. The other users of the hall, the 50's-Up band, Woolston Concert Brass and learners' groups, were only displaced for one rehearsal.

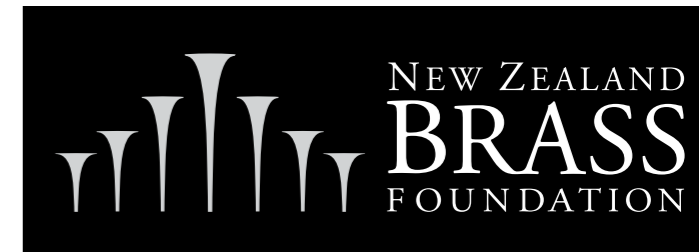
The 2014 National Youth Band will feature in the April issue of the *Brass Band World* magazine. BBW is published in England and reports on local and international brass band happenings. Composer Tom Davoren is putting together the feature, which will include some of Ian Tilley's great photographs of the band. The Youth Band will also feature on the Ministry of Culture and Heritage website, *Te Ara*, the online Encyclopaedia of New Zealand. A photograph of the band along with a one minute sound clip of the band playing the *Prelude to Act III Lohengrin* (recorded by Andrew Weir) will represent modern brass banding. A great deal of research by non-banding people has gone into the brass band listing for the website resulting in a fascinating account of New Zealand's bands. The *Te Ara* website is online now but the brass listing is still under construction and should be on-line by August. www.TeAra.govt.nz

Brisbane will resound to the sound of bands when it hosts the 2014 **Yamaha National Band Championships** over the Easter weekend. Seventy-eight brass and concert bands from across Australia as well as Hong Kong and Japan will compete for championships titles. The competition begins on Thursday 17 April with the Junior Concert Band events. The next day the brass bands take to the stage to perform their Hymn and Test piece. On Saturday while the brass bands compete in the Street March, the Open Concert Bands perform their Hymn, Test, Own Choice and Stage March. The band events conclude on Sunday with the brass band Own Choice selection and Stage March. The Championships concludes on Monday with the solo and ensemble events for all brass and concert band instruments. For more information visit www.nationalbandchampionships.com

Free to a Good Home

W. H. (Bill) Cross of Balclutha recently wrote to the Band Office with a list of band-related publications that he would like to donate to an enthusiast. Bill's collection includes *The British Bandsman* 1957-1980, a copy of the very first issue of the *New Zealand Mouthpiece* from Vol 1 No 1 February 1956 to present day, issues of the *New Zealand Bandmaster* from 1953 to 1955, *Wright and Round Brass Band News* 1936 and 1956, *Sounding Brass and Conductor* 1974-1980 and several copies of the *British Empire Band* journal. If you are interested in any of these publications please contact Bill at 7 Stewart Street, Balclutha 9230 or call 03 418 2348.

Bill is the author of his own publication, *The Brass and Pipe Bands of the Clutha District*. In the book Bill records the histories of seventeen brass bands from the District including Balclutha Brass, Kelso Brass, Kaitangata Drum and Fife, the 14th Otago Regiment, Blue Spur Brass and Tapanui Ladies Brass to name but a few.



Don't forget about the **New Zealand Brass Foundation's** free seminars and recitals by Besson Artist Byron Newton on around the country during May.

- Wed 7 May** Dunedin at Mosgiel Brass band room, 69 Church Street Mosgiel, 7.00pm
- Thur 8 May** Invercargill at Ascot Park Hotel Brass band room 249 Spey Street, 6.00pm
- Sat 10 May** Dunedin at Otago University, 2.00pm
- Sun 11 May** Christchurch at New Brighton Silver band room Shaw Avenue, 2.00pm
- Sun 11 May** Christchurch at Woolston Brass band room 37 Dampier Street, Woolston, 6.00pm
- Mon 12 May** Timaru at Alpine Energy Timaru Brass band room 10 North Street, 6.00pm
- Wed 14 May** Nelson at Nelson Brass band room Hathaway Terrace, 5.30pm
- Fri 16 May** Wanganui at Brass Wanganui band room Queens Park off Campbell Street 7.00pm
- Sat 17 May** New Plymouth at Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass band room Rogan Street, 2.00pm
- Sun 18 May** Matamata at Matamata College hall, Firth Street, 3.30pm
- Sun 18 May** Hamilton at Hamilton City Brass band room 245 Clyde Street, 7.00pm
- Mon 19 May** Whakatane at Trident High School drama studio, 7.00pm
- Tue 20 May** Auckland at North Shore Brass band room 13A Taharoto Road, Takapuna, 6.30pm

"Melodies From A Lifetime" by Trevor Bremner

Reviewed By Kevin Jarrett

The wonderful sound and musicianship that we have come to expect from New Zealand's most successful cornet soloist is evident throughout this lovely CD by Trevor Bremner.

From the opening tribute to Gil Evans we hear a mix of memorable melodies throughout the disc. Trevor's lovely sound and the beautiful way he shapes his music is complemented by outstanding accompaniments from his wife Betty on piano and the Wellington Brass Band conducted by David Bremner.

Some favourites for me were *To a Wild Rose*, *Dark Haired Marie*, *Share my Yoke*, *My Life is Like a Red, Red, Rose* and *High on a Hill*; all so beautifully treated and played with amazing control. There is a wonderful choice of music on the disc and the playing shows off the beauty of the cornet. Just the CD you need to listen to and relax with after a stressful day.

Melodies from a Lifetime should be in all band lovers' collections. And more importantly all aspiring young players should purchase this disc and listen to a master at work. A marvellous recording - thank you Trevor for letting us hear you at your best.



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National Youth Brass Band

Musical Director: Peter Adams M.Mus Dunedin
Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

2014 National Contest in Invercargill 9 to 13 July

www.brasschamps2014.co.nz
Contest Committee Chairman:
Grant Yorkstone grant.yorkstone@awslegal.com
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
For accommodation assistance contact Nikki Buckley 03 211
3765 nikki@ilt.co.nz or Denise Lusby 03 218 3521
stay@45onavenal.co.nz

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

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with the view to picking up the baton in June.

Please send any queries and expressions of interest to
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Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band
please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell
ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis
MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

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Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T
Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC
King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen),
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Meet the Judges

The Chief Adjudicator for the 2014 National Championships is Dr Stephen Cobb. This is not Dr Cobb's first visit to New Zealand as he was the Bandmaster of the International Staff Band when it toured here in 1995. (pictured below) After our National Championships he is travelling to Australia to work with the Melbourne Staff Band.

Stephen Cobb was born into a family of talented musicians, coming to prominence early on as a cornet soloist. For many years he combined a successful career as a music educator with membership of the International Staff Band (ISB), serving as the band's principal cornet player and as its deputy bandmaster. He also held the position of principal cornet and then Bandmaster of the band at Hendon Salvation Army Corps. During his years leading Hendon Band numerous overseas tours, concert performances and recording projects were undertaken as well as collaborations with many high profile soloists and ensembles, establishing a reputation as one of the UK's highest profile Salvation Army bands. As a soloist, Stephen made recordings and performed in prestigious concert venues around the world, both as a featured guest soloist and in concerts with the International Staff Band and Hendon Band.

In 1994 Stephen was appointed the conductor of the International Staff Band. Under Stephen's leadership the ISB has made appearances in a number of major brass banding events, such as the National Brass Band Championships Gala Concerts and other shared concert and recording projects with bands such as Black Dyke and Cory. These activities have seen the profile and reputation of both the ISB and its conductor significantly elevated in the wider brass band movement with concerts and recordings receiving significant critical acclaim.

Stephen made the move from working in the world of education into employment with the Salvation Army, becoming the National Bandmaster for the United Kingdom. This role saw him taking an active role in supporting and encouraging local leadership by undertaking visits to Salvation Army centres around the UK, leading rehearsals and training events with both senior and junior bands and generally offering help to the local bands and their bandmasters.

He was subsequently appointed to his present post of Territorial Music Director, overseeing all areas of Salvation Army musical activity in the United Kingdom.

In this role, Stephen has brought renewed drive and energy to the Salvation Army's great musical traditions. His establishment of the Territorial Youth Band and Youth Choir groups, made up of the finest young players and singers in the territory, typifies his innovative leadership. Drawing on his rich experience as an educator and conductor, as well as his commitment as a Salvationist, these groups are having a great influence on young Salvationist musicians. Such has been their success that the model has been brought into use in several other Salvation Army territories around the world.

In the wider musical world, Stephen has directed the National Youth Brass Band of Wales and the Cornwall Youth Brass Band. He has adjudicated at the National Youth Brass Band Championships of Great Britain and is a member of the panel of examiners for the Royal Marines' School of Music. He has also conducted a number of high profile contesting bands in rehearsals, concerts and recordings. In July 2006 Dr Cobb completed the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in instrumental conducting at Salford University and in 2010 he was presented with the Worshipful Company of Musicians' 'Iles Medal' in recognition of his services to the brass band movement.



In this issue we:

- Have news from New Plymouth and Invercargill
- Report on Youth Camps in Auckland and Canterbury
- And have a full report on the Australian Band Championships
- Happy New Zealand Music Month!



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A note from our President

Since writing last edition's message for *The Mouthpiece*, the Association has received a very generous monetary gift from the family of the late Barrie Aldridge. This gift has been earmarked by the family for our youth



activities. We are extremely grateful for this gift. At this stage the money has been placed on deposit in the Brass Band Association of New Zealand Charitable Trust and the interest component will be available in each coming year for the development of our youth programmes. Such gifts allow us to plan ahead with some certainty and, as all our band managers will know, funding for any activity is never guaranteed and puts you on tenterhooks prior to the event taking place as to whether we can feed all the participants as well as we would like to.

The Association has a long and proud history of developing young musicians, some of whom make music their career while most go on to make contributions via their local communities. This Anzac Day marked the start of commemorations of the 100 year anniversary of the start of the First World War. Our community bands will no doubt play a role in such a significant national event.

In last month's column I gave notice of a meeting to discuss our National Contest. At the recent combined Wellington and Central Districts Band contest a member of one of the participating bands expressed his concern after reading this that the die has been cast by the National Executive to discontinue our Annual National Championship Competition. I was quick to advise that nothing could be further from the truth. I'm aware of the old cliché that if it ain't broke then don't fix it, however it's more a case of how can we do things better. As an ardent supporter of our youth, one of my gripes is that we don't make more of the Junior Champion of Champions event. It is sandwiched between the last solo and party events of the day, occurs when supporters are trying to catch a quick meal, and before the official opening and the first showcase event, the Invitation Slow Melody. The result is that the audience normally consists of a few parents and supporters. In my view this should be our first showcase event of the contest where the best young musicians under the age of nineteen demonstrate their talent in front of their peers, parents and the banding community. But how can we create a schedule of events that allows this to happen? I look forward to listening to the suggestions that we receive and hope that we can continue to produce such a world-class event regularly and make it an even better experience.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

What's On?

Wednesday 7 to Tuesday 20 May

The Brass Foundation Education Tour. Free recitals and workshops throughout New Zealand by Besson Artist Bryon Newton. For dates and venue details see page 8

Saturday 10 May

Closing date for entries to the National Brass Band Championships

Sunday 11 May

Mother's Day Concert by Whangarei District Brass. A Concert of Two Halves as brass goes classic plus Tribute to WW1. 2.00pm at Forum North, Whangarei

RNZ Air Force Band in concert at Southwards Car Museum, Paraparaumu

Saturday 17 May

NZ Music Month Concert, Woolston Brass at Middleton Grange Performing Arts Centre. 7.30pm

RNZ Navy Band in concert at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell

Sunday 18 May

Matamata Brass Festival at Matamata College

Wellington District Association solo contest at Hutt International Boys' School, Trentham, Upper Hutt

Wednesday 21 May

North Shore Brass in concert with Besson Artist Byron Newton, 8.00pm North Shore Bandroom

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 May

West Coast Band Association solo and band contest in Nelson

Sunday 25 May

Auckland Band Association solo contest at Tangaroa College, Haumia Way, Flat Bush. Adjudicators Phil Johnston and Brent Large

Saturday 31 May and Sunday 1 June

New Zealand Concert Bands Festival at Baradene College, Auckland

Friday 6 June

The Big Bang percussion solos hosted by the Canterbury Provincial Association at the CSO rehearsal room.

Sunday 15 June

All Comers Band Day hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Band Association at band room of Rotorua Brass, Te Ngae Road, Rotorua from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

All enquiries to Denise Sturt at: stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Wednesday 9 to Sunday 13 July

The ILT National Brass Band Championships in Invercargill
www.brasschamp2014.co.nz

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September

Waikato Bay of Plenty regional brass band contest hosted by Hamilton City Brass at Southwell School, Claudelands, Hamilton. Solo and party events on Saturday with band events on Sunday.

All enquiries to Denise Sturt: stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Monday 1 September

National Band of New Zealand one and only New Zealand concert Auckland Girls' Grammar School

Wednesday 8 to Tuesday 14 October

National Secondary Schools Brass Band in Wellington

Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October

New Zealand Brass Festival, in Wellington www.nzbrassfestival.org.nz

Meet the Judges (continued) Brent Large – Assistant Chief Adjudicator

Born in England to parents who were life-long Salvationists, it is not surprising that Brent Large commenced his brass band playing with the Salvation Army. Brent's early conducting experience was mainly choral. He was a Songster Leader at the Sparkhill Corps in Birmingham. Upon emigrating to Auckland with his wife Annette in 1969 he joined the Newton Citadel Salvation Army Band under the late Frank Rawbone and continued his choral conducting with Newton Citadel Choir.

In 1981, mainly as a result of a developing friendship with Riki McDonnell, Brent was invited to join the Continental Airlines Auckland Brass Band (now Dalewood Auckland Brass) for their tour to America and Holland. This was the start of a whole new banding life. Brent enjoyed some success as a soloist winning four National Tenor Horn championships and the International Brass Musician of the Year contest in 1988. The following year he competed in the finals of the British Open Solos and was placed fifth. Brent remained with the Continental until 1990. He was treasurer of the band for most of this time and was made a Life Member.



In 1990 Brent was appointed the Musical Director of Auckland City Brass and led the band to success in the B Grade. He remained with Auckland City for about five years and then returned to play solo horn with Dalewood under Nigel Weeks. There were many highlights during the next few years but one in particular was playing with the band in the British Open Contest in Birmingham, England.

Brent returned to conducting in 1998 as Musical Director with North Shore Brass. During the next 10 years under Brent's leadership North Shore won the B Grade and was promoted to the A Grade and won the Band of the Year Title in 2007. Brent was made a life member of North Shore Brass in 2008. In more recent times Brent has been playing tenor horn with Waitakere Auckland Brass where he holds a position of associate musical director.

In addition Brent joined the RNZAF Base Auckland Band in 1995 and membership gave many travel opportunities. Brent toured with the band to Hong Kong and China and was also selected to go to Gallipoli for the Anzac Day Services in 2007. Following major changes in Defence Force policies Brent was appointed Bandmaster of the band in 2012, a position he still holds.

Brent is very proud that his three sons Andrew, Lyndon and Tim have all shared his interest in banding and are actively involved in the scene. He has adjudicated many times at Provincial Contests in Australia and New Zealand as well as being a solo judge at New Zealand National Championships. He is looking forward to the role of Assistant Chief Adjudicator this year.

Band Camp – Auckland Style

In March last year the Auckland Band Association re-launched their Youth Camp programme. Due to the success of that camp (spread by word of mouth from Auckland to Whangarei) this year's camp promised to be bigger and better.

Held once again at Camp Adair in the Hunua ranges, the weekend was a great success and reaffirmed the value of reinstating this event as an annual highlight of the Auckland Band Association calendar. Billy Middleton was the Musical Director of the camp. His vibrant character and musical expertise were a winning formula and created a great rapport with all the young and eager brass enthusiasts attending. Billy placed a key emphasis on the ability to tap into the emotional potential of music, which encouraged students to invest in giving the best of their capabilities and allowed for a highly rewarding weekend.

The principal helpers supporting Billy included Ian Levien and Sarah Arnel (cornets), Kay MacKenzie (horns and baritone), Adrian Raven (euphoniums and basses), Marc Nethercot (trombones) Jenny Raven (percussion), with Judith Little and Laine Ratsep helping in the kitchen. A positive buzz about the camp was certainly

evident with the number of players from Auckland bands popping in over the weekend. All visitors were keen to lend a hand and hear the new and upcoming talent being fostered in our community.

As a new initiative, special focus was given to the performance of chamber music. Camp musicians formed quintets or quartets and learned key skills involved in balancing their individual independent parts within a small group. In a similar vein to a TV 'got talent' show, the tutors all took great pride in working with their individual ensembles and coached them towards a spotlight performance in the final concert. Promisingly, feedback indicates that this endeavour has resulted in players from respective bands planning to form ensembles in preparation for the upcoming ABA Solo and Party contest in May.

The final concert showcased the culmination of the weekend's work. The repertoire was a pot-pourri of works including Aram Khachaturian's 'Dance of the Rose Maidens' arranged Sandy Smith and the jazz favourite *Misty* arranged by Darrol Barry, which featured soloist Emma Rzepecky from Takapuna Grammar School.

Those players arriving at the camp on Friday

night feeling doubtful of their abilities progressed immensely over their weekend journey. Friendships were rekindled and new bonds formed, practise promises were made, mini band managers had a new wealth of contacts to add to their lists, and all went home with enthusiasm to continue to grow the event next year. Plans are now underway to expand this event to create more opportunities for young musicians across Auckland to meet more regularly during the year.

Kay MacKenzie – Camp Manager



Band Camp – Canterbury Style



The thrill of being part of a beautiful cacophony is one of the highlights of playing in a brass band. The Canterbury Band Association (CPBBA) decided to bless over 40 youth, from kids who were having their first experience in a band to young adults who've been playing their whole life, with this honour in early April.

Upon arrival we were sorted into our sections and met our conductors, Tyme Marsters and Raynor Martin. The first practise was a hit, quite literally as one song, *Caribbean Holiday*, required each member of the band to play a percussion instrument, and *The Big Top* was quite a bang too. *Eight Easy Pieces for Brass* proved not as easy as expected as Raynor took us through that too.

With full band practises several times a day we were kept quite busy, but we were also split into seven small ensembles to perform a variety of styles from blues to Bach. The theme from *Star Wars* made an appearance, as well as several short suites. One of the young musicians, Matt Harris, stepped up and conducted an ensemble himself with little or no help from our esteemed conductors.

But be not mistaken, band camp was equal parts band AND camp! In between our frequent practises we made good use of Living Springs'

extensive resources. From the pool table to the swimming pool, table tennis to the monorail, and most intensively, the free hot chocolate machine! Courtesy of Kate, Janet and Tim (our wonderful camp parents), there was also a talent show-like competition dubbed "Brass Factor", where each group was required to put together a 10 minute skit containing a brass item. We saw everything there, from dances to music items to Theatresports to scary stories. There were definitely some hidden talents in the mix.

Finally, the big moment arrived on Sunday: the concert. Tyme and Raynor had prepared us well, and the songs went fantastically, with many a solo role being embraced by the musicians. The music was a hit, and before we finished with *Caribbean Holiday*, there were prizes! The first was the best section, which went to the minimalistic, but loud bass section, with the second being for the camp nice guy: Alistair McHaffie. The leadership award went to Luke Longworth, while the overall best player was awarded to the previously mentioned Matt Harris. The concert finished with a bang (courtesy of our percussionist, Bailey Johnston), and overall, the camp finished on a high note.

Luke Longworth and Cathy Reimer, Woolston Concert Brass

Greymouth Band Hall Ruined

Members of the Greymouth Municipal Band woke on Easter weekend to find it wasn't such a Good Friday after all! Cyclone Ita had the band hall in her sights and she didn't let her go! In the early hours of Thursday night the winds whipped through Blaketown lifting roofs, blowing over fences and demolishing our band hall.

Band members, their families, friends and even some strangers to us, worked tirelessly to save what we could before we were ordered off the sight because the stage end of the hall had become too dangerous to be working around.

Luckily most of the instruments that were in the hall are accounted for, however we have lost most of our percussion instruments, our piano, a large number of music stands, tables and chairs, our pool table, table tennis table and our entire kitchen! But the worst part is all the music we have lost. We have had reports of music being found on the Blaketown Beach. The bands "Old music" library has been saved, but all our newer modern music, including around \$1000 worth of new music, is no-where to be seen.

However, the band will play on – and once we know what we can re-build, we will rise again. Any donations of music, equipment or money to purchase replacements would be greatly appreciated. The band Secretary, Helen Russell, can be contacted via email at: greybrass@kinect.co.nz or post Greymouth Municipal Band, PO Box 293, Greymouth.



New Plymouth Brass Long-Service Awards

The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass is thriving right now, with many eager youngsters enrolled in various training programmes. However, we are also lucky to have in our ranks some older and possibly wiser members. At the Band's annual dinner in late 2013, twelve players received Brass Band Association long-service awards. Nine of those were on hand for a photograph. Their youthful and healthy appearance is of course a tribute to the rejuvenating benefits of playing in a brass band! Particularly meritorious is Trevor Bremner's award for 66 years and counting.

New Plymouth Brass traces its history unbroken back to an April day in 1859. However, not all of those awarded admit to being present on that day.

Left to right: Don Macphail (43 years), Linda Warren (27 years), Ken Austin (50 years), Trevor Bremner (66 years), Morraine Martin (37 years), Bryce Gordon (36 years), Leigh Martin (40 years), Rod Greensill (35 years), Kinsley Sampson (45 years) Absent from the photo: Ray Farrow (26 years), Neil Overton (25 years) and Keith Overton (30 years). Keith had already played in British bands for 30 years before moving to this country.



Invercargill Life Memberships

The Invercargill Garrison Band Society recently awarded the honour of Life Membership to Hazel Christie, Trish Gooding and Jennifer and Barrie Sinclair. These four recipients have given stalwart service to the society over a long period of time.

Since 1988 pianist Hazel Christie has accompanied band members for contests, competitions and Trinity Examinations. She spent many hours transposing music, practising with the musicians and calming their nerves. Hazel is renowned and highly respected for her patience, her musicianship in being able to adapt during performances when necessary, her encouragement of younger players and her tremendous musical ability.

Trish Gooding is widely regarded as the matriarch of the very talented Gooding family. She joined the Ladies Committee of the band when Steve was courting her in 1979. The ladies were instrumental (no pun intended) in raising funds, sewing uniforms and supporting a range of band activities. Trish's culinary skills have been much appreciated at the many suppers she has provided over all these years. Over the past thirty-eight years Trish has been an active member of both the Junior and Senior Band Committees, always as either treasurer or secretary and now as manager of the band. Trish Gooding has been and remains the backbone of the Invercargill Garrison Band.

The Sinclairs, like the Goodings, are highly regarded for their involvement with the band which began as parents of talented children who have graduated through the ranks of the Auxiliary and Senior

Bands and on to careers in music overseas. Barrie Sinclair, known for his methodical and meticulous organisational skills, has been involved in the society since 1991 when he supported his sons who were performing in the Christchurch Contest. In 1993 Barrie joined the H & H Cougar Auxiliary Brass Band Committee, soon taking on the role of President which he held until 2008. Since 1994 he has worked as a supervisor at both National and District Association. Barrie's administrative expertise was recognised in 2003 when he received the Brass Band Association Administrator of the Year award.

Jennifer Sinclair has also been involved in the organisation for just as long as her husband Barrie but in a more musical capacity. Jennifer is a very talented musician and began her involvement as an accompanist in 1992 at the Otago and Southland Brass Bands Association Provincial Contest in Gore. Not to be outdone, Jennifer joined the Senior Band as a percussionist, went on to play the tenor horn for the Auxiliary Band and then back to the Senior Band on baritone and then trombone. More recently Jennifer has become highly regarded as an exceptional accompanist. In the recent Provincial Contest, she accompanied more than twenty soloists. Jennifer welcomes the musicians into her home and her generous advice, based on so many years of experience, is most welcome. As well as having such a varied musical involvement with the organisation, Jennifer has contributed at management level by serving on the Management Committee from 2001 until 2004, holding the office of Secretary.

Laurel Swan - Ascot Park Hotel Brass



The life members the Invercargill Garrison Band Society present for the occasion: **Back row** (from left) Ken Wellington, Bill King, Syd Yeo, Kath Herman, John McKinlay, Steve Gooding, Warren Crighton, Bob Pope **Front row:** John Bath, Jennifer Sinclair, Barrie Sinclair and Trish Gooding



The new life members (from left): Jennifer Sinclair, Barrie Sinclair, Trish Gooding (absent Hazel Christie).

Australian Band Champs

by Kristy Rowe, guest reporter

The Australian National Band Championships were held over five glorious, sunny days in Brisbane, QLD, throughout the Easter weekend. The contest kicked off on Thursday 17 April with the Junior Concert Bands. Good Friday brought Brass Bands to the contest stage, with performances of the Hymn and Test Selections from both Junior and Open sections. The Open test selections this year were Kenneth Downie's *St. Magnus* (A Grade), Derek Bourgeois' *The Forest of Dean* (B Grade), Downie's *St. Austell Suite* (C Grade) and *Stantonbury Festival* by Ray Steadman-Allen (D Grade).

Saturday morning kicked off to an energetic start, with the Parade of Bands in Brisbane City centre, attracting generous crowds, whilst back at the contest venue the Open Concert Bands were battling for their titles, performing all four contest pieces (Hymn, Test, Own Choice and March) which continued long into the night. Easter Sunday brought the Brass Band contest to the home straight, with the Junior and Open Brass Bands performing their Own Choice and Stage March. This year's A Grade own choice selections ranged from *An Epic Symphony* by Fletcher (1926) to the most recent being Gregson's *Of Distant Memories* (2012). The variety and quality of pieces selected ensured a great listening experience for the audience and it was evident that many of the bands enjoyed performing in this session the most. A Bandies Bash party was held at the contest venue on the Sunday evening, providing a great atmosphere to catch up with banding friends and unwind at the end of the long contesting journey.

The solo contest took place on Easter Monday. The largest section this year was the High Tuba (Eb Bass) section, with 15 entrants competing, taking approximately four hours from start to finish! The Open Champion of Champion winner was Isabella Harvey on Tenor Horn from City of Holroyd Brass with Minami Takahashi on Tenor Trombone from St Mary's District Brass winning the Junior title.

Brass Band Results:

- Open A Grade - Brisbane Excelsior
- Open B Grade - Townsville Brass Band
- Open C Grade - Darebin City Brass, Northern Brass
- Open D Grade - Goldfields Brass Band
- Junior A Grade - Gunnedah Shire Band
- Junior B Grade - Warriparinga Youth
- Junior C Grade - Morawa District High School Senior Band

For a complete list of results, please visit www.nationalbandchampionships.com/index.php/results

Kiwi Spotlight

Every year, many Australian brass bands are lucky to receive the assistance of their brass banding friends from New Zealand, to help fill gaps and allow the band to reach its full potential on the contesting stage. One such New Zealand saviour this year was sixteen-year-old soprano player Toby Pringle, who travelled across from Wellington to assist the Gunnedah Shire Junior Band of NSW for the contest. The Gunnedah Junior Band holds a proud tradition of contesting in Australia, having won 12 National titles in the last 13 years (no attendance at Nationals 2013). The lead up to this year's contest was proving quite a challenge, having lost 16 key players in the last 12 months due to age restrictions.

The front row cornet section for this year's Nationals were the bands third cornet section just 12 months ago and for nine players, this was their first ever contest. The young band, of average age 13, rose to the challenge. Toby came into the band as a leader, bringing experience, in addition to the undeniably brilliant sparkle that a soprano cornet adds to a brass band. Toby helped to bring the cornet section up to the next level and the Gunnedah Shire Band would like to thank him most sincerely for sharing his time and talent with them.

Talking with Toby

You certainly have a great talent on the Soprano, how long have you been playing for?

My first time playing Soprano was two years ago when both the National Secondary Schools Band and Wellington District Youth Band had need of a sop player.

What have been your biggest musical influences to date?

Some of my biggest influences to date have been the Upper Hutt Brass Band, without them I would not be playing brass at all. Also, Kerry Garrett, who has mentored me over the past few years on Bb cornet. Also, more recently, David Bremner and Mark Carter from Wellington Brass.

What have been the highlights of your trip to Australia?

Obviously doing extremely well in the competition would be high on the list, but I think overall the highlights were the moments spent with the band doing memorable things, like highly competitive laser tag and volleyball, seeing the sights and singing myself hoarse on the long bus trip!

How have you found your first Australian band contest?

A whole lot of fun. It was great meeting new people and competing against a different set of people.

Was there anything about Australia or the contest that stood out as being different than you had expected?

The playing standard of the Gunnedah youth band was phenomenal! It's amazing how a group of people of different abilities and ages (the youngest in the band is seven and the oldest was almost 19) could sound so fantastic! I think this is because of the fantastic mentoring and leadership from both Anthony and Laurence Rowe.

Hopefully I will be back next year. Thank you Gunnedah band.

Ed. Congratulations to Toby who was placed second in the Junior Bb cornet solo, to Steven Booth of Waitakere Auckland Brass who won the Open Baritone solo and to Megan Gooding from Ascot Park Hotel Brass who played principal cornet for Box Hill City Band which placed second in the B Grade band contest.



The National Band

In little over four months' time the New Zealand National Band will begin a concert tour in China and Korea. Our promoters in both countries have afforded the Association a fantastic opportunity to showcase the talents and expertise of our best musicians. At the request of the tour promoters the National Band will be accompanied by a Kapa Haka party. The eight members making up this group have been selected from the East Coast region. National Bands have often performed overseas with such groups, offering the audience a unique New Zealand cultural experience.

The China Performing Arts Agency has so far arranged concerts in six diverse cities, in performing art theatres with seating capacities of 1000 to 1500. The first concert is in Jinan about 400 kilometres from Beijing. Jinan is the capital of the Shangdong province in Eastern China and has been inhabited for about 4000 years. The band then heads south-east of Jinan to Dezhou, a transport hub for China. Then on to the Jiangsu Province to the cities of Xuzhou and Nanchang which is the capital of the Jiangxi province and known for its scenery, heritage and culture. The tour party then heads south to Shenzhen. It is one of the fastest growing cities in the world and is immediately north of Hong Kong. The final concert in China is in Xiamen. Like Shenzhen it is one of China's special economic zones which attract foreign investment. From Xiamen the tour party will fly to Seoul where it will perform in the opening ceremony of the Korea International Wind Band Festival as well as concerts in the city.

The National Band will meet in Auckland on Thursday 28 August for four days of intense rehearsal before heading overseas. The band and Kapa Haka group will give their one and only concert in New Zealand on Monday 1 September at Auckland Girls' Grammar School. Please show your support by promoting the concert widely and being in the audience to wish them well.

We are very fortunate that our promoters in both China and Korea are meeting all costs associated with staging and promoting the concerts as well as accommodating, feeding and transporting the tour party from the time we arrive. Of course there are still a number of expenses to be paid for before the tour party leaves the country and as is the nature of the times most of this will be borne by the tour members themselves. Therefore your support is keenly sort to assist our players with fundraising. A seat sponsorship campaign is now underway and has already received \$4000 from Southwood Export Ltd of Invercargill who have requested to sponsor the Musical Director Nigel Weeks. Sponsorship levels range from just \$150 to \$1000 but any donation would be gratefully received.

I look forward to bringing you more news of this exciting event.

Kevin Dell

Co-manager National Band of New Zealand



The National Band, only NZ concert 1 September Auckland

Quick Notes

Our condolences go to the families of two wonderful women of brass banding who passed away earlier this year. **Mrs Joan Hookway** was a great worker of behalf of bands especially in the Auckland region and was a member of the BBANZ National Management Committee in 1981-82. **Mrs Doris Bremner**, the matriarch of one of this country's most successful banding families, passed away in February aged 97. Doris was the wife of the late Keith Bremner who, along with his sons and grandsons, played with distinction in brass bands. Mrs Bremner was the patron of the New Zealand Army Band.

The 2014 New Zealand Brass Festival has early bird discounted tickets on sale now plus an extra special deal on offer to the banding community. Until the end of May a full pass can be purchased from the Festival's website for the discounted price of \$200. An extra discount is available for group bookings: when you purchase nine tickets you will receive a tenth one free. Headlining this year's festival is world-renowned trumpet soloist Hakan Hardenberger, New York Jazz Trombone sensation Wycliffe Gordon and the Wizard of Oz James Morrison. The Festival will also feature, from Australia, Dave Elton, Sarah Wilson, Steve Rosse and New Zealand's own Byron Newton and Ace Trio. Wellington will be the place to be from 10 to 12 October. Tickets can be purchased from www.nzbrassfestival.org.nz

On now around the country the **New Zealand Brass Foundation's** free seminars and recitals by Besson Artist Byron Newton.

- Wed 7 May Dunedin at Mosgiel Brass band room, 69 Church Street Mosgiel, 7.00pm
- Thur 8 May Invercargill at Ascot Park Hotel Brass band room, 249 Spey Street, 6.00pm
- Sat 10 May Dunedin at Otago University, 2.00pm
- Sun 11 May Christchurch at New Brighton Silver band room, Shaw Avenue, 2.00pm
- Sun 11 May Christchurch at Woolston Brass band room, 37 Dampier Street, Woolston, 6.00pm
- Mon 12 May Timaru at Alpine Energy Timaru Brass band room, 10 North Street, 6.00pm
- Wed 14 May Nelson at Nelson Brass band room, Hathaway Terrace, 5.30pm
- Fri 16 May Wanganui at Brass Wanganui band room, Queens Park, off Campbell Street 7.00pm
- Sat 17 May New Plymouth at Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass band room, Rogan Street, 2.00pm
- Sun 18 May Matamata College hall, Firth Street, as part of the Matamata Brass Festival 3.30pm
- Sun 18 May Hamilton at Hamilton City Brass band room, 245 Clyde Street, 7.00pm
- Mon 19 May Whakatane at Trident High School drama studio, 7.00pm
- Tue 20 May Auckland at North Shore Brass band room 13A Taharoto Road, Takapuna, 6.30pm

Musings from Brownie - Music for our People Again

Over the last couple of months I have endeavoured to highlight various advances made through the years within our movement, in the hope of explaining some of the changes to our younger members and to remind those who are somewhat longer in the tooth. Speaking of which, I had an email from Fred Knopp who remembers back to 1954 when an A Grade Test was *The 1812 Overture*. It was played with no percussion! At least it would not have taken long to set up the band - somewhat different to nowadays.

In fact, one wonders how long it will be before our Association changes its name to NZB&PBA - New Zealand Brass & Percussion Band Association. Or, as some would prefer, NZ Percussion & Brass Band Association. Let's face facts; the percussion section will continue to grow as composers seek to add new sounds to our brass ensembles.

So let's now look into the future. What is going to happen? Well, as stated, the percussion will continue to grow as, I believe, will the use of mutes. I can see some quite radical developments with mutes which will produce many new and exciting sounds for our bands

This leads onto instrumentation. Will it remain constant as it has for some 100 years? My answer is yes and no. Yes, the basic band will stay constant, but more players will be expected to play more than one instrument. For example a trombonist may be required to also play an Alto Trombone. The cornet family may have to play both trumpets and flugel horns. It is of note that the 1903 Hinemoa Band had cornets also playing flugels back then.

Will composers expect brass players to extend their playing range? Currently in the A Grade every player is expected to be proficient through two and a half octaves, with some requiring three. I am in no doubt that the required range will not become less, but will grow. Pedal notes from the basses are now the norm. How long will it be before "super C's" will be written regularly for the top end?

I'm a starter for most changes, as long as it works and improves musical performance. However recently I heard of a change being made for test music, the inclusion of pre-recorded soundtracks. One in particular featured whale sounds. Isn't it the aim of a contest to put players under pressure? One wonders how much pressure there will be involved with pressing the "On" button of a sound system. And who decides how much of the test will be a soundtrack as opposed

to the band playing? Personally I think we should leave the whales to their ruminating and look in other directions to enhance our bands. And performing individuals should continue to have to deal with contest nerves. One last question - how do you judge a brass band accompanied by a pod of whales? Or, is it the other way round?

This leads me on to my next thoughts about our future. The use, as I term it, of supporting instruments, for example a piano. Yes it is a member of the percussion family, and, before I get a deluge of emails, is also a member of the string family. But where do we find a pianist? To my knowledge almost every band does have at least one. Imagine, instead of a band attempting to sound like a piano, wouldn't it be far more sensible to actually have a piano playing the part? Why not in test music as well?

By including "supporting instruments" our repertoire could be extended into other genres of music. We could then stop "painting ourselves into a corner" musically speaking, with regards to public support. For a start, by including instruments which are not brass, we will be involving new groups from the public who would not normally follow our music. It would allow bands to become more versatile and perhaps to many, more interesting.

I have this image in my mind of a "test" being written which would include a number of supporting instruments. The subject of this test, a musical stroll through New Orleans incorporating the various styles of jazz the city is known for. But most importantly, that the music must be authentic - not like many of those substandard jazz arrangements bands are currently forced to play. Yes, we'll need a piano, probably also a banjo and clarinet. What's wrong with say a trumpet (cornet player), and a trombone playing jazz breaks? I personally think it would be like a breath of fresh air.

But, I feel that this won't happen in my lifetime. I just feel that our bands are not that adventurous which is sad. Sure there's a great number of band members who don't fully understand such things as the "blues scale" etc - I'm one of them. So why not bring someone into our bandrooms to show us how to do it? Are we, as a movement, too proud to do this, and will we continue to "paint ourselves into that corner", while listening to the ruminating whales drifting by?

Allan F Brown (Brownie) mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com
Pictured below: New Orleans-style instrumentation





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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@extra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2014 National Contest in Invercargill 9 to 13 July

www.brasschamps2014.co.nz
Contest Committee Chairman:
Grant Yorkstone grant.yorkstone@awslegal.com
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre
Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

Note of Thanks

I would like to thank the many friends from near and far who sent cards of sympathy and remembrance for my wife Audrey Eyers who passed away following a short illness on 13 March.

Audrey was a Life Member of Brass Wanganui having been official accompanist for Wanganui Garrison Band for over fifty years. She had played in most New Zealand Town Halls at contests and had accompanied many champion soloists including Ken Smith, Jack Clague, Ray Cox, Bill Platt, Kevin Jarrett, Jay Neal, Selwyn Holmes, Peter Adams, David Thomas, Roy Jackson, Colin Bent and others. She played accompaniments at the Royal Concert for the Queen Mother in the 1960s and for the National Male Choir of New Zealand on its Millennium tour of Wales, where I was guest soloist playing solos in eight cathedrals. Audrey was a volunteer church organist for seventy years and played for four Wanganui choirs. She should have been the one to receive the QSM.

She was "the wind beneath my wings."

Jim Eyers QSM

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity) E Aldridge (in perpetuity) PB Adams, J Aldridge, Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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NZ Army Band Reunion



Bands people from around the country and across the globe gathered in Christchurch during Easter weekend to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the New Zealand Army Band. Read all about the Jubilee activities on page five.



Drum Majors at the ready. Tony Cowan BEM (left) and Staff Sergeant Tristan Mitchell prepare to march.



Kevin Jarrett MBE and the latest recruit to join the Army Band PTE Hettie Adams cut the Jubilee cake.

In this issue we:

- Report the results from the recent Canterbury Solo and Ensemble contest
- Farewell two long-serving members of southern bands
- Have news from Waitakere Auckland Brass
- And Brownie wraps up his series on Music for our People.

The next issue will be out in August as we take a break in July to enjoy the National Championships.

Happy contesting!



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INVERCARGILL CONTEST

We're going to be at the contest again this year, so come along and see us at our trade stand and try a few instruments, or spend some time relaxing at the BESSON Bar!

We're proud to sponsor the Live Streaming this year, so that your friends and family can watch you compete from their homes. Join Tim and his team at Brassbanned.com

EMERGENCY REPAIRS—We'll have our tools there this time too, and will be available to help keep you playing if something goes wrong.



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Tuesday 15th July – Workshop
7.30pm start at Trust Porirua City Brass Band room,
Wineera Drive, Porirua

Wednesday 16th July—Trust Porirua City Brass
7.30pm start, Baptist Church, 225-229 Main Road, Tawa
Admission by gold coin donation for both events

Friday 18th July—Deco Bay Brass
7.30pm Start, Napier Salvation Army,
58 Tait Drive, Greenmeadows, Napier
Admission Fee - \$20.00

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A note from our President

The National Executive Committee met in Auckland over the weekend of 17 and 18 May for their quarterly face-to-face meeting. By meeting in Auckland we were able to meet up with members of the Auckland Bands Association and “chew the fat”, so to speak, on banding matters.



Our May meetings always include one day dedicated to planning the future activities and events that the Association is involved with. Contests, education, representative bands and our rules and regulations were all discussed in detail and plans formulated for the years ahead. While we may plan the events, the funding of these activities, however, is never that straight forward. In recent years we have become more reliant on grants from the Gaming Trusts to fund many of our activities especially our youth programmes. We sincerely thank the Gaming Trust for their support as some of those activities would not happen otherwise.

Recently I received via the internet a flyer from The Royal Conservatory espousing the benefits of Music Education. Neuroscientists have demonstrated that learning to play an instrument or sing leads to changes in a child's brain that make it more likely the child will reach their full cognitive and academic potential. The results include

Stronger connections between brain regions

More grey matter

Improved brain structure and function

Better memory and attention

Higher IQ

While I'm sure that many readers will be nodding their heads in agreement it's a pity we cannot convince other powers that be what a valuable contribution brass bands make to our communities.

Our National Contest is now less than two months away. I would like to thank the following organisations for their financial and logistical support of the 2014 National Championship: The Invercargill Licensing Trust, Besson, Music Works, The New Zealand Army Band, Music Ways, Royal NZ Navy, Re-percussion, ABI Music Ltd, E Hayes & Sons Ltd, The Four Winds Charitable Trust and The Pelorus Trust.

The Contest Committee have been working hard to make this an enjoyable contest and I look forward to meeting up with many of the friends that I have made over the years from the brass banding community.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

What's On?

Friday 6 June

The Big Bang percussion solos hosted by the Canterbury Provincial Association at the CSO rehearsal room.

Sunday 8 June

Box Office Brass presented by Hutt City Brass, 3.00pm at St James' Church, Lower Hutt. Free entry

Celtic Brass presented by Dalewood Auckland Brass, 2.00pm Dorothy Winstone Centre, Auckland Girls' Grammar School

Sunday 15 June

All Comers Band Day hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Band Association at band room of Rotorua Brass, Te Ngae Road, Rotorua from 10.00am to 4.00pm. All enquiries to Denise Sturt at stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 21 June

Vintage Brass concert 2.00pm Whangaparaoa College Auditorium, Stanmore Bay

Sunday 29 June

Seriously Brass presented by Woolston Brass and Woolston Concert Brass. Sunday 29 June, 2pm. Jack Mann Auditorium (College of Education, University of Canterbury), Solway Ave, Ilam Tickets available at the door (cash only); Adult \$15, Senior Citizen/Student \$10, Child \$5 or email caroline@woolstonbrass.org to book early www.woolstonbrass.org

Wednesday 9

to Sunday 13 July
The ILT National Brass Band Championships in Invercargill Daily results at www.brassbanz.org.nz Live streaming of band events at www.brassbanned.com

Tuesday 15 July

Workshop with international Euphonium Soloist and Besson Artist Steven Mead, 7.30pm at the Trust Porirua City Brass Band room, Wineera Drive, Porirua. All welcome – gold coin donation entry.

Wednesday 16 July

Steven and Misa Mead in concert with Trust Porirua City Brass 7.30pm at the Baptist Church, 225-229 Main Road,

Tawa. Admission by a gold coin donation and a warm welcome is extended to all bands persons, friends and supporters.

Friday 18 July

Workshop with international Euphonium Soloist and Besson Artist Steven Mead, 7.30pm at the Napier Salvation Army Hall, 58 Tait Drive, Napier. Admission \$20

Monday 18 August

Morning Melodies with Dalewood Auckland Brass, 11.00am at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 August

Conductor Training Course led by Rupert D'Cruze of the Waikato Symphony Orchestra details at: <http://rupertdcruze.com/conductor-training-2/>

Monday 1 September

National Band of New Zealand one and only New Zealand concert 7.30 at Auckland Girls' Grammar School

Thursday 25 September

Last Night of the Proms presented by Dalewood Auckland Brass, 7.30pm at the Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau

Saturday 27

and Sunday 28 September Waikato Bay of Plenty regional brass band contest hosted by Hamilton City Brass at Southwell School, Claudelands, Hamilton. Solo and party events on Saturday with band events on Sunday. All enquiries to Denise Sturt stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Wednesday 8

to Tuesday 14 October National Secondary Schools Brass Band in Wellington

Friday 10

to Sunday 12 October New Zealand Brass Festival, in Wellington
www.nzbrassfestival.org.nz

Sunday 12 October

Orewa Concert by Dalewood Auckland Brass 2.00pm at the Centrestage Theatre, Orewa

Saturday 1 November

Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand, West Plaza Hotel, Wellington

News from Waitakere

Waitakere Auckland Brass welcomes Kerry Wood as the new Musical Director. Kerry will chart the band's musical programme excluding the National Contest when Russell Gray arrives from England to take the band to compete at the Nationals.

Kerry replaces previous Musical Director Steven Booth who has unfortunately retired from the role due to continuing pressure of work as an IT Manager in the new Auckland Super City. The band takes this opportunity of thanking Steven for his dedication over the past six years. The good news is that the band is not losing him completely. He will remain in the band as a player (Solo Baritone) and we are indeed lucky to have a musician of his calibre in our ranks. Steven is the current National Baritone Champion and was runner-up in the Champion of Champions event at 2013 National Championships. He recently won the 2014 Australian Baritone Championship.

Kerry is also a talented musician. He started playing in Gisborne becoming the principal cornet of the Gisborne Band at age 12. He then moved to Rotorua to play for Rotorua Brass which was newly promoted to A Grade under the musical direction of Elgar and Colin Clayton. Kerry's move to Hamilton began a long involvement with the local brass band. Under his musical direction the Hamilton Auxiliary Band won the D Grade National Championship and many regional titles. He was then appointed to conduct Waikato Times Hamilton Brass leading to several regional contest wins and the development of an exciting and innovative concert programme. During this period Kerry completed his LTCL on cornet, won several New Zealand and Australian soprano cornet titles and travelled regularly to Auckland to play for Continental Airlines Auckland Brass.

Upon transferring to Auckland Kerry played soprano for Waitakere Band under various conductors, Alan McKenzie, Howard Taylor and Andrew Snell and assisted the band with their concert and contest success. He was at this time also contracted to conduct Auckland City Brass, which won the B grade title under his direction.

For the last 10 years Kerry has been a member of the North Shore Brass, holding various roles including conductor, principal cornet and his most enjoyed seat, that of soprano. Kerry recently recorded a collection of soprano cornet solos and the CD "Kaleidoscope" received positive reviews. Kerry is looking forward to an exciting future with the Waitakere Auckland Brass band which will include performing at the Shanghai Tourism Festival in September 2015.

The Shanghai Tourism Festival has been going since 1990 and each year attracts about eight million people to it. The opening parade is broadcast live on television and radio to an audience of over 200 million. Following Ron Archer's meeting with the New Zealand Consulate in June last year an official invitation has been extended to the band to perform at the festival in 2015. A sub-committee, which includes Sir Bob Harvey and Brian Corban, is currently investigating funding ways and means. We are also investigating the possibility of competing at the Swiss Open and being in London for the Rugby World Cup immediately following the festival, providing sufficient band members can get the leave required.

In other news the band's first event for 2014 was the Annual Band Awards Dinner which was postponed from 2013. This took place on a beautiful summer's Saturday at Ron Archer's place on 1 February. The award winners were:

Karl Beaufort - Most Improved Player
Bronwynne Hildreth - Best Band Volunteer
Horns section led by Brent Large - Section of The Year
Hiro Kobayashi - Most Outstanding Player
Grant Langdon - Bandsman of the Year and Player's Player
Courtney Hildreth - Best Wine Connoisseur, one of the most popular awards

Contributed by Waitakere Auckland Brass from their *Post Horn* newsletter



Karl Beaufort -
most improved
player.

Obituary - Bevney Bennetts 1928 - 2014

It is with great sadness that we record the passing on 9 May of a much loved band member, Mrs Bevney Bennetts. Bev began her banding at the age of 11 as a foundation member of the Dunedin Ladies' Brass Band. Her passion for brass band music never waned; neither did her passion for teaching others, especially children. In 1958 she started teaching pupils in the Roxburgh band room. This continued for the next 23 years after which she taught Brass at Roxburgh Area School until 2000. Bev was a fine soloist winning the Ladies' solo at the Wanganui National Contest in 1947. In 1950 she won the Open Baritone Championship at the Christchurch contest, becoming the first woman in the British Empire to win an Open solo. Bev was a member of the Roxburgh Brass Band from 1950 until her passing. During that time she conducted the band for 20 years and spent 18 more years as its deputy conductor.

Bev's service to banding and music has been acknowledged in many ways over the years. She was listed on the Dunedin Ladies' Brass Band Honours Board in 1948, made a Life Member of Roxburgh Band in 1982 and of the Otago Southland Brass Band Association in 2001. In 1990 she received the New Zealand Commemoration Medal and a 50 years Long Service Award from the Brass Band Association.

But most of all she was our Bev, ever ready to help and a great friend. She was a stellar lady who will be missed and remembered by us all.

Jean Dance, Roxburgh Pioneer Generation Brass



Obituary - Harold James Morgan 1930 - 2014

It is with sadness that Kaikorai Metropolitan Band records the death of one of its long-serving, loyal bandsmen. Harold Morgan passed away on 24 February 2014. Harold had been an active member of the Kaikorai Band until he moved into care two years ago.

Bandsmen and friends from throughout New Zealand will remember, with a smile, Harold's everlasting enthusiasm and ever present sense of fun and enjoyment. His room at "Marne Street" where he was being cared for was full of memorabilia from his family, the bands he had played in and of his favourite sport - bowls.

Harold started his banding career in 1945 with the 1st Dunedin Battalion Regiment and joined the Kaikorai Band in 1949. He recalled that, as a young lad, he played in Dunedin's Octagon with the band when it welcomed the servicemen back from WWII.

The 1950s and 1960s was the great era for Kaikorai Band and Harold was a prominent part of its success under the conductorship of Norman Thorn Sen. Harold was a member of the trombone trio which won the National Championship title for Kaikorai on three occasions and was a member of three New Zealand National Brass Bands - 1965, 1970 and 1976.

Harold was a staunch marcher and holds the record for marching in more Dunedin Festival Week parades than any other person. Many will remember, with a smile, the impressive "blat" that Harold could produce from his traditional G trombone while marching in the centre of the front row of the band.

How will we remember Harold Morgan, G trombone player? He was kind, fun-loving, diligent, reliable, and enthusiastic: admirable qualities which we all value. We were privileged to know you - Harold.

Cathy Bennett, National Management Committee

Contest Time

Twenty-six bands will compete at the 2014 National Championships being held in Invercargill in July. All ten New Zealand A Grade Bands are attending but only five B Grade bands are travelling south. There are good numbers in the other grades with six C and five D/Youth Bands. As the total number of bands is slightly less than the usual we are taking the opportunity to hold all five grades in the one venue, the Civic Theatre.

The advantages to bands of running one venue are that there will be no clash for players if they are performing in more than one grade, all grades get the same high standard of venue and percussion and it will be easy for the audience to hear all grades. The advantages to the organising committee and BBANZ are less cost in venue hire, recording the judges' comments, no possibility of two grades finishing at the same time on the Saturday, fewer volunteers required to staff venues and no need to rush between the venues. The disadvantage is time pressure – but if all bands set up and clear the stage quickly we shouldn't have a problem.

Entries in the solo and ensemble events are very strong, equalling the number of competitors at last year's contest. Contest events will get under way with the Junior Solos and Open Ensembles at 11.00am on Wednesday 9 July. A highlight of the first day of competition will be the Junior Champion of Champions in the late afternoon which is a free event. Later that evening the audience will be treated to some beautiful melody playing at the Invitation Slow Melody. The performers in this year's event will be: Trevor Bremner, Kyle Lawson, Andrew Leech, Matthew Stein, and Dale Vail as well as the winner and placer getters from the 2013 event, David Maas, Phil Johnston and John Lewis and the winner of the 2013 Champion of Champions Riki McDonnell. There is one more spot up for grabs in this prestigious event. It will go to the winner of the Open Slow Melody contest being held earlier in the day.

The Open solo events will get under way at 9.00am on Thursday and conclude that evening with the Open Champion of Champions. Friday sees the B Grade then C and A Grade bands all in the Civic Theatre performing their Sacred Item and Test Selection. There will be a break at 1.00pm for the Street March. I believe the long range weather forecast is for sunny skies and a balmy 10 degrees. Saturday will be very exciting as all bands from all grades perform their Own Choice Selection and the results are announced. The Championships conclude on Sunday 13 July with the Band of the Year event featuring St Kilda Brass, Alpine Energy Timaru Brass and home-town band Ascot Park Hotel Brass.

I am looking forward to bringing you a great contest from Invercargill but if you can't make it there you can watch the band events on live streaming at www.brassbanned.com Thank you to ABI Music Ltd for their sponsorship of the live streaming.

See you in Invercargill
Helen Lee - Contest Manager

Army Band Golden Jubilee

Easter weekend was a very busy one for all personnel of the New Zealand Army Band as we celebrated the band's Golden Jubilee. One hundred former band members and their partners joined with current members of the NZAB for a few days of shared fellowship and camaraderie.

The Jubilee commenced on Friday 18 April with an official opening function at the Hornby Workingmen's Club. The function proved to be a great success as many old acquaintances were reconnected and new friendships formed. A poignant moment of the evening was the reading of The Ode and playing of the *Last Post* and *Rouse* in remembrance of those members of the unit who have passed away.

On Easter Saturday a photo session was held at Burnham Military Camp followed by lunch at B Block 800 Man Mess. This was a real stroll down memory lane for the past members. After lunch, current NZAB personnel headed to the Air Force Museum of New Zealand to prepare for the feature event of the weekend, a Gala Concert followed by a black tie dinner. Both events were a huge success with a sell out crowd of over 1100 people enjoying the concert. The band played superbly under the direction of Director of Music Captain Graham Hickman and Bandmaster Staff Sergeant Phil Johnston.

Land Component Commander Brigadier Kelly was in attendance at the concert and later provided the highlight of the weekend by presenting a Chief of Army Commendation to the unit for its outstanding work at the 2013 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Although this award was presented to the current unit effective November 2013, all past members felt great pride as such an award would not have been possible without their loyal service that laid the foundation for those of us who have followed.

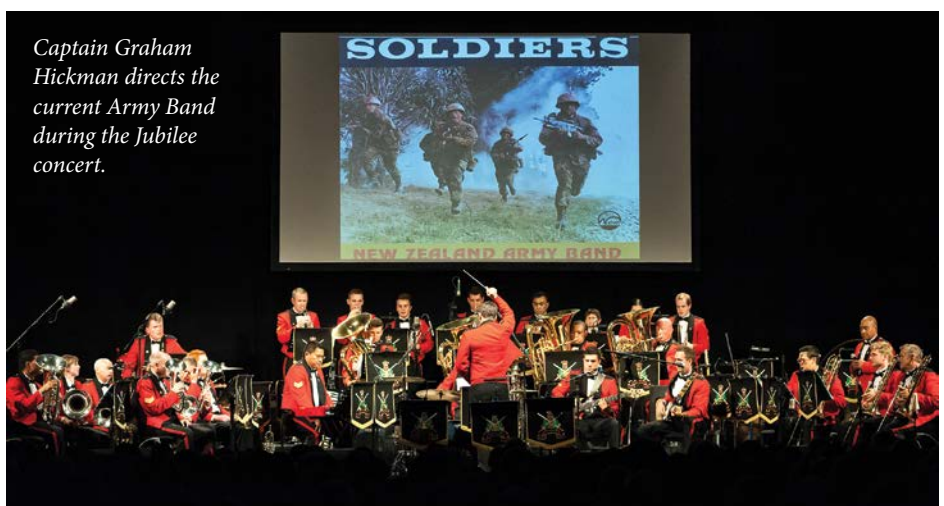
Easter Sunday started with a street march and short marching display by the current NZAB finishing outside the ruins of the Christ Church Cathedral. The band was then joined by the past members for a public service before marching en masse through the streets of Christchurch to attend a service of celebration and thanks at the Transitional Christ Church (Cardboard) Cathedral.

Following the service all Jubilee attendees congregated back at the Hornby Workingmen's Club for the "Big Blow". This was a fun event that gave the opportunity for the old bands and bandmen to get together and play some music. There was a lot of laughter and of course more stories were told of how things used to work in the army!

The Jubilee concluded on Easter Monday with a golf tournament and BBQ back at Burnham. The weekend was a great success and as a member of the current unit I would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort made by the Jubilee committee under the leadership of WO1 Graeme Bremner. The success of the weekend is testament to your efforts. Thank you so much.

Esprit De Corps!!

Cpl K J Hickman - NZAB Comms Cell IC



Canterbury Solos

The Canterbury Provincial Brass Band Association (CPBBA) held its annual solo competition at Selwyn House in Christchurch, on 4 May. Over 50 players from 12 bands, including the regions newsiest band Nor'west Brass, performed in a range of slow melody, own choice and ensemble categories.

We were delighted to have Riki McDonnell and Keeneth Love as our judges for the day. Our thanks go to them for a great job. Riki will need no introduction to most readers thanks to his impressive international resume as a soloist, while Keeneth is the conductor of Rangiora Brass and conducts and teaches in the North Canterbury region.

Of note this year was the introduction of a C/D grade category, encouraging anyone over 19 and from a C/D grade band to perform without the pressure to compete against those in the open class. Even though this was the category's first year, it was great to see nine entrants performing to such a full and supportive audience. The trophy for this event is dedicated to Geoff Butler who recently completed 75 years' service to banding in Canterbury and in particular the New Brighton Silver Band. Geoff was on hand to present the trophy to inaugural winner, Kate Sanders of Sumner Silver.

On behalf the CPBBA I congratulate all the performers, and extend our thanks to the helpers on the day and the accompanists.

David Mallett
President - CPBBA

U13 Slow Melody

- 1 Abby Wilson - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Lucas Rabbidge - Alpine Energy Timaru Brass
- 3 = John-Luke Langford - Kaiapoi Brass
- 3 = Zoe Johnston - Woolston Junior Band

U13 Own Choice

- 1 John-Luke Langford - Kaiapoi Brass
- 2 Abby Wilson - Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Toby Buckner - Woolston Concert Brass

U17 Slow Melody

- 1 Emma McMorrان - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Tyler Seaton - Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 = Zachary Nicolson - Alpine Energy Timaru Brass
- 3 = Zachary Powell - Woolston Concert Brass

U17 Own Choice

- 1 Emma McMorrان - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Grace Beatson - Alpine Energy Timaru Brass
- 3 Zachary Nicolson - Alpine Energy Timaru Brass

U19 Slow Melody

- 1 Matthew Harris - New Brighton Silver
- 2 Georgia Hoy - Woolston Brass

U19 Own Choice

- 1 Matthew Harris - New Brighton Silver
- 2 Georgia Hoy - Woolston Brass
- 3 Caroline Norman - Nor'west Brass

Junior Champion of Champions

Matthew Harris - New Brighton Silver

C/D Grade

- 1 Kate Sanders - Sumner Silver
- 2 = Martin Bennett - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 = Craig Williamson - New Brighton Silver
- 3 = Vickie Ward - Sumner Silver Band
- 3 = Janet Powell - Woolston Concert Brass

Open Slow Melody

- 1 Graeme Bremner - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Bruce Muschamp - Addington Brass
- 3 = Carolyn Ramsbottom - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- 3 = Gavin Styles - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Open Own Choice

- 1 Carolyn Ramsbottom - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- 2 = Tania McKay - Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 = Sam Pinder - Woolston Brass

Veteran Slow Melody Graeme Bremner - Woolston Concert Brass

Veteran Own Choice Graeme Bremner - Woolston Concert Brass

Championship Slow Melody

- 1 Phil Johnston - Woolston Brass
- 2 Tyme Marsters - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- 3 Bill Vail - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Championship Own Choice

- 1 Tyme Marsters - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- 2 Phil Johnston - Woolston Brass
- 3 = Brent Hoy - Woolston Brass
- 3 = Bill Vail - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Senior Champion of Champions

Tyme Marsters - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass and Phil Johnston - Woolston Brass

Open Duet

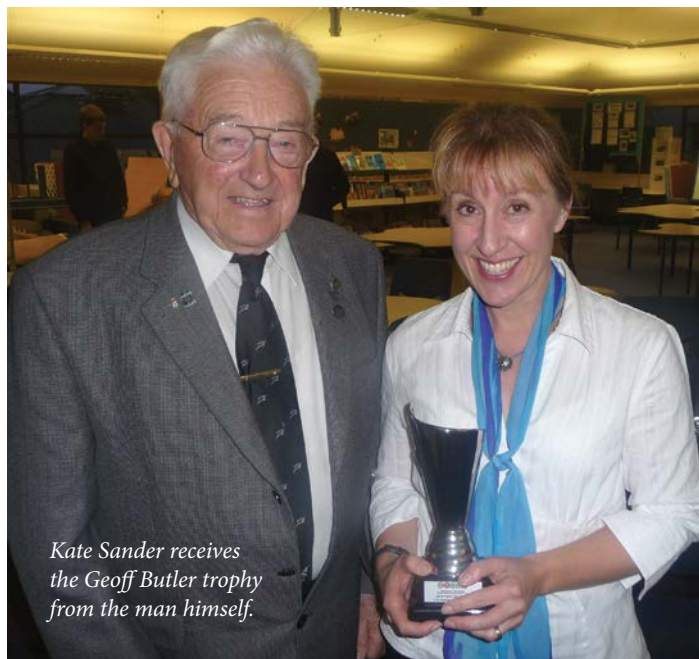
- 1 Carolyn Ramsbottom/Bill Vail - Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- 2 Bob Reid/David Thorne - Rangiora Brass
- 3 Cyrenne Seaton /Martin Bennett - Woolston Concert Brass

Open Ensemble

- 1 Nor'west Brass

Junior Group

- 1 Nor'west Brass
- 2 Woolston Junior Band



Kate Sander receives the Geoff Butler trophy from the man himself.

Out Now!

The application forms are on our www.brassbanz.org.nz website for the **2014 National Secondary Schools Band**. We catch up with the Musical Director of the band Mark Carter for an outline of what he has in store for keen young players.

"I am very much looking forward to my role as MD for the National Secondary Schools Band, this year and next. It will be a great privilege to work with the top school aged brass musicians from across New Zealand.

"This year's course will be based in Waikanae at El Rancho Camp from 8 to 14 October. As we are so close to Wellington it will be a great opportunity to be a part of the New Zealand Brass Festival. The band will attend masterclasses and concerts given by the guest artists; James Morrison, Wycliffe Gordon and Håkan Hardenberger. Hearing these players in New Zealand will be a real treat. We also have a great line-up of tutors to work with the band, taking sectionals and workshops, all backed up by a great management team.

"This year we are looking for young composers to write a short piece for brass band. Perhaps there is a young Philip Spark out there! The winner will get their piece performed and recorded by the 2014 National Secondary Schools Band."



One New Zealand concert only

The 2014
National Band of New Zealand
 and Kapa Haka group

Monday 1 September, 7.30pm
 Dorothy Winstone Centre, Auckland Girls' Grammar School
 14 Howe Street, Freemans Bay, Auckland
 Tickets \$20 at the door
 Children under 12 free of charge.

2014 National Band
SUPPORTERS TOUR
 2/20 September 2014



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Musings from Brownie - Music for our People – The Coda

When I began this current series, I wanted to look at the future directions our banding may take us. In doing so I have delved back into our history to find explanations of how things have developed, and with this in mind, where they may lead us in the future. I know that anyone who offers any opinion about our future is likely to be “shot down”, especially if they deviate from the accepted norm. As I found out.

At the recent Otago Southland provincial contest (which was very successful despite the weather) groups of bands people gathered to “solve the movement’s problems”. I was asked what I intended to write about over the next couple of months. It was before the last article was published, so I mentioned my thoughts about bands venturing into jazz, complete with breaks. There was a stunned silence. I was told that brass bands will never improvise and there was no place for it in serious music. Strange, church organists have been doing it for centuries with improvisation being a part of their formal qualifications. Their music can be fairly serious too. After all, our movement has “borrowed” enough of it.

Another question was - what form of jazz? I know it’s a large field with many differing forms. Personally, if we were to take up the challenge, I believe we should stick to the simpler styles - trad, blues, etc, and leave progressive and other abstract forms alone. While on the subject of jazz, I saw an interesting quote the other day - “Jazz, music of our people”. Does that tell us something?

To complete this series, I would like to discuss what I term as “concert music” - the lighter music which bands play. Fifty years ago the supply of suitable music for bands was very limited. But we were fortunate at the time that much of the then “pop” music had good melodies. So too did the string of musicals being produced.

A number of enterprising bandsmen turned their hand to arranging music and for years the Army Band led the way in producing up-to-date music. To be fair, many of these “arrangements” were fairly basic. The popular concept being at the time was “quantity rather than quality”. But these tunes were very effective when entertaining the public, back in the days when bands did marching displays. Remember them?

What I have noticed over recent years is that we still seem to be playing much of that same music. I have been asked many times why our music is at least 20 years old. But yet many of these arrangements are new. Is it that there has been very little decent popular music produced during this time? I tend to agree. I have mentioned before, I’ve yet to hear a brass band playing “rap” music. Is this another reason why the public consider bands to be “old fashioned”? Sure the

new arrangements of this older music are far more sophisticated than their counterparts of yesteryear, but will the public at large appreciate this?

Amongst these new arrangements are many old jazz standards. Why do we continue to persist with having four or five basses trying to sound like a string bass? Have you ever noticed that the brass band movement is the only musical genre which calls Tubas - Basses? Wouldn’t it be preferable to have tubas playing tuba parts and leave those bass parts to, say, a bass guitar? There, I feel better now as it’s been one of my frustrations for years.

With the advent of the “web”, one can access virtually anything you wish, and occasionally, something you didn’t wish for. The amount of music that can be reached with the click of a button is staggering - even by brass bands, good and bad. We have become far more discerning in what we watch. Generally it must be very good, different, or both. And all this can be seen at home for the minimum of cost.

I was reading recently that concert halls are about to make a comeback, that people in general will become weary of watching music on a small screen, particularly if one works with one, and will want to witness the real thing again. But they will only attend these concerts if they are of the highest standard and/or different. There’s the challenge for our movement and our bands. But are we up to it? Throughout this series I have used Peter Newcomb’s book entitled “Music for our People” as the theme. But in another of his books - “Challenging Brass”, I found this quote. It is from an Editorial in the *Dunedin Evening Star*, 16 May 1970.

“A Lifetime Hobby

It would be wrong to say that bandsmen spend long hours practicing for the benefit they can bring to the community. They do it in the first place because they enjoy it; it is their hobby, a lifetime hobby in many cases, but it would be equally wrong to deny that there is a strong element of service in what they do. All ceremonial occasions, festival parades, even the capping procession, are enriched by the presence of the bands, their stirring music, and their impressive marching. It is only right, therefore, that the bands should have the support of the community to which they bring so much.”

Is this still the case? If not, why not? Surely we only have ourselves to blame.

See you at the contest.

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com

Hollywood Bowl crowd in the sixties





BBANZ – Directory

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National Youth Brass Band

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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@extra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2014 National Contest in Invercargill 9 to 13 July

www.brasschamps2014.co.nz
Contest Committee Chairman:
Grant Yorkstone grant.yorkstone@awslegal.com
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz
The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

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If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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Wellington Brass NZ's Champion Band

Dave Bremner and members of his winning band Wellington Brass celebrate their second A Grade Champion in a row.



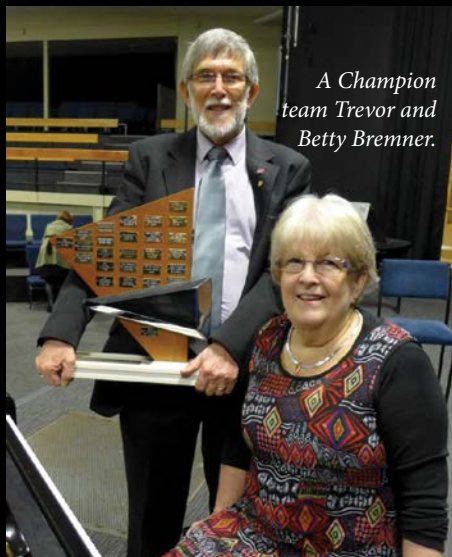
Chief Adjudicator Dr Stephen Cobb with Toby Pringle the winner of the Junior Cornet and Junior Champion of Champions.



Well done to Mitchell Spence (left) 3rd place in the Champion of Champions, Trevor Bremner the winner and Riki McDonnell in 2nd place.



The winner of the Invitation Slow Melody, Riki McDonnell and accompanist Lee Martelli.



A Champion team Trevor and Betty Bremner.

In this issue we:

- Have the results from the 2014 National Championships
- Share news from Te Awamutu and the RNZ Artillery Bands
- Say farewell to an international banding stalwart
- And have results from the West Coast contest

Happy banding!



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A note from our President

The 134th National Contest has come to an end, leaving memories of an enjoyable week of music making and friendship. The weather gods certainly played their part as Invercargill was the place to be during the week. If the contest had been held anywhere else in New Zealand, we would have been battling storm conditions as well as the cool temperatures. I am sure you will join me in offering sincere thanks and congratulations to Grant Yorkstone and his contest committee for a job well done. Thanks also go to all of the volunteers present who ensured the smooth running of the contest arrangements – your efforts are greatly appreciated.



Since returning home I have received many comments about the live streaming of the contest. There was a very significant audience from around the world who logged in and viewed the performances of our bands. Having all bands perform in the one hall did mean that all grades were able to be streamed. Our thanks go to Tim Kelly of brassbanned.com and his team for making this happen and to ABI Music for sponsoring the live streaming. Viewers reported that the quality of both the picture and audio signals were very good and made for great viewing from your lounge with, as one viewer noted, his glass of red lemonade. Yeah right.

We were also well supported by sponsors and the music industry trade stands. We thank you all for your support as these contests would not be the success they are without you. Our thanks also go to the New Zealand Army Band and Re-Percussion for the supplied percussion instruments.

One of the most difficult decisions prior to the contest is adjudicating the Accompanist and Administrator of the Year awards. It is difficult because we have so many talented and willing administrators and accompanists who give their time and talents to assist bands and soloists. This year the accompanist award was made to Mrs Olga Stancliff from Whakatane and the administrator to Ms Kimberley Johnston from St Kilda. Thank you to all bands that chose to recognise their accompanists and administrators by nominating them for these awards.

With the National Contest behind us we look forward to our many other projects. The 2014 National Secondary School Band will be announced soon and our National Band will embark on a concert tour to China and South Korea on 2 September. The National Band will perform only one New Zealand concert in Auckland on 1 September. This is your opportunity to hear some of New Zealand's best brass and percussion musicians in concert. Opportunities like this don't come around that often so I would encourage everyone to attend and to support the band.



**Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand**

What's On?

**Monday 18 August
Morning Melodies** with Dalewool Auckland Brass, 11.00am at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna

**Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 August
Conductor Training Course** led by Rupert D'Cruze of the Waikato Symphony Orchestra, details at <http://rupertdruze.com/conductor-training-2/>

**Sunday 24 August
Howick Brass** in concert at the Howick RSA, Auckland

**Sunday 31 August
RNZAF Band Air Force Proms concert**, 2.30pm at the Wellington Opera House. Book at Ticketek.

**Monday 1 September
National Band of New Zealand** one and only New Zealand concert Auckland Girls' Grammar School. Tickets \$20 at the door. Children under 12 free of charge.

**Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September
Band Camp** for Marlborough Nelson West Coast District Association at Rotoiti Lodge, Nelson Lakes National Park

**Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September
OKTOBERFEST** on the Waterfront, Wellington

**Thursday 25 September
Last Night of the Proms** presented by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 7.30pm at the Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau

Friday 26 to Sunday 28 September

150th Anniversary of the Band of the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery. For details contact the Band Secretary, Bob Davis, at radavis@clear.net.nz or Tel: 09 413 5322

**Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September
Waikato Bay of Plenty** regional brass band contest hosted by Hamilton City Brass at Southwell School, Claudelands, Hamilton. Solo and party events on Saturday with band events on Sunday. All enquiries to Denise Sturt stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

**Wednesday 8 to Tuesday 14 October
National Secondary Schools Brass Band** in Wellington

**Sunday 12 October
Orewa Concert** by Dalewool Auckland Brass 2.00pm at the Centrestage Theatre, Orewa

**Saturday 18 October
Canterbury Provincial Band Championships** at the Performing Arts Centre, Middleton Grange High School, Christchurch

**Sunday 19 October
Annual General Meeting** of the Marlborough Nelson West Coast District Association

**Friday 31 October
Open discussion evening:** Should we continue with our contest in its current form? 7.30pm Wellington. Venue TBA. All welcome.

**Saturday 1 November
Annual General Meeting** of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand, West Plaza Hotel, Wellington

Winners of the B Grade Championship and Street March, the Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass celebrate with the trip to Bluff.

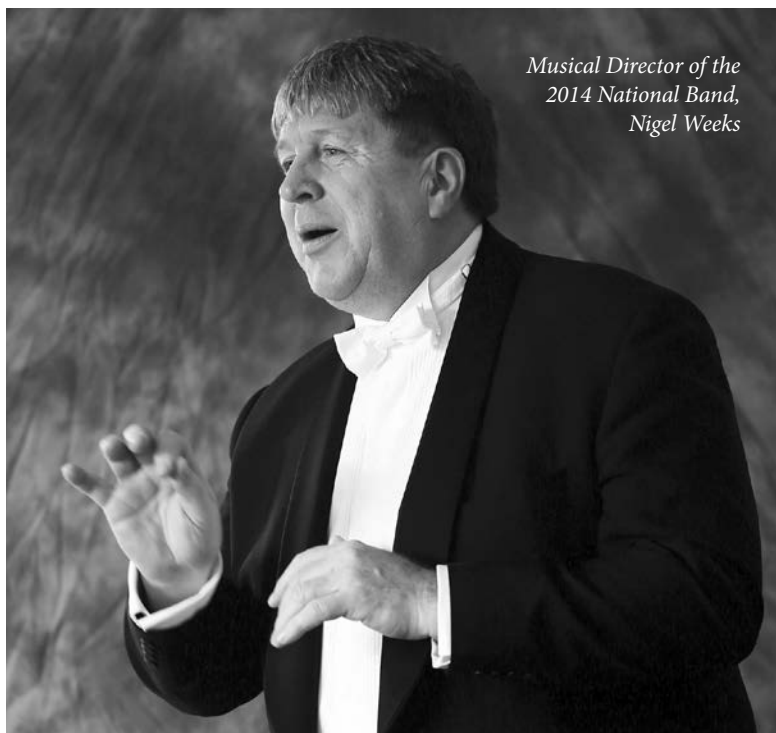


National Pride

We are pleased to announce the members of the 2014 National Band who will tour to China and Korea in September. Due to many different reasons a number of players selected in 2013 are no longer available to tour. Musical Director Nigel Weeks has auditioned for replacements and has selected a highly competent band.

The National Band will perform one concert in New Zealand only. This will be held in Auckland on Monday 1 September. The tour party will then depart for South-East China. Concerts have been arranged by the China Performing Arts Agency in the following cities: Dalian Dezhou, Xuzhou, Nanchang, Yueyang, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Xiamen. Following this the tour party will depart for South Korea to perform in the Korea International Wind Band Festival in Seoul. The aim is to wow the international audiences with our New Zealand culture, New Zealand music and our highly talented musicians.

We would like to thank the individuals and businesses who are supporting the National Band through seat sponsorship. If you would like to make a donation to assist the band with its tour please visit www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/bbanz or send a cheque to the BBANZ Office. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in the concert programme. Thank you.



*Musical Director of the
2014 National Band,
Nigel Weeks*

The members of the 2014 National Band of New Zealand are:

Musical Director	Nigel Weeks	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
Principal Cornet	John Lewis	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Peter McDermott, Auckland and John Bartlett
Soprano Cornet	Colin Clark	North Shore Brass	Sponsor: North Shore Brass Academy
Bb Cornet	Kevin McMorran	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: Bill Platt, 1978 & 1995 Nat Band
	Clyde Dixon	Marlborough District Brass	Sponsor: Jeff Mulraney, 76, 78, 89, 90, 92, 95 Nat Band
	Anthony Smith	Alpine Energy Timaru Brass	Sponsor: Newmans Music Works, Timaru
	Kyle Lawson	Woolston Brass, Christchurch	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart
	Matthew Stein	Wellington Brass	Sponsor: Mike Sander, Wellington
	Nicholas Garrett	Trust Porirua City Brass	Sponsor: Winton & Margaret Bear Charitable Trust
	John Sullivan	North Shore Brass	Sponsor: North Shore Brass Academy
	Graham Hickman	Woolston Brass, Christchurch	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart
	Raynor Martin	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
Flugel Horn	Tyme Marsters	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: The Brass Factory Canterbury
Tenor Horn	Mike Ford	Marlborough District Brass	Sponsor: Jim Edmondston 1980 Nat Band
	Bill Vail	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: John Bartlett 1970 Nat Band
	Sergio Marshall	Waitakere Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Hamilton City Brass
Baritone	Ross Gerritsen	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
	Steve Griffin	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: <i>The Local Bar</i> , Barrington St, Christchurch
Euphonium	Riki McDonnell	Wellington Brass	Sponsor: JP Sterling Brass Instruments
	Steve Miles	St Kilda Brass, Dunedin	Sponsor: Peter Adams, Dunedin
Tenor Trombone	Andrew Yorkstone	Woolston Brass, Christchurch	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart
	Mike Ashton	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
Bass Trombone	Joe Thomas	Waitakere Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Rob Wilson, 1980 Nat Band
Eb Bass	Fraser Robertson	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
	Keenan Buchanan	Brass Wanganui	Sponsor: Les Green, 1965, 76, 80, 89 Nat Band
BBb Bass	Leigh Martin	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass	Sponsor: The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
	Joel Williams	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass	Sponsor: Ron Harris, Auckland 1961&62 Nat Youth Band
Percussion	Grant Myhill	Wellington Brass	Sponsor: Owen Dell 1973 & 74 Nat Youth Band
	Jessica Hix	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
	Mike Tan	Dalewool Auckland Brass	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
	Rebecca Keoghan	Westport Municipal Band	Sponsor: AWS Legal, Invercargill
Kapa Haka group:	Te Rangi Marie Rautjoki, Edmund Eramiha, Avril Keelan, Kiri Dell, Hamo Dell, Marcus Reihana and Levi Iwingaro Matthews		
Tour management:	Kevin Dell, Graham Dick and Evan Sayer		

John Lewis the Leader and Principal Cornet of the National Band in 2005, 2007, 2009 and now 2014.



The 2014 National Band of New Zealand and Kapa Haka group

Monday 1 September, 7.30pm
Dorothy Winstone Centre, Auckland Girls' Grammar School
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Children under 12 free of charge.



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The 2014 Brass Band Championships

Invercargill from Wednesday 9 to Sunday 13 July. The chief adjudicator was Dr Stephen Cobb, assistant chief Brent Large, and chief military judge Stephen Leader. The solo and ensemble judges were: Peter Adams, David Bremner, Dwayne Bloomfield, David Chalk, Colin Clark, Kevin Dell, Matthew van Emmerik, Russell Gray, Murray Hickman, Brent Hoy, Bruce Jellyman, Phil Johnston, Byron Newton, Grant Sinclair, Alan Spence, Rodney Sutton and Nigel Weeks.

Solos

Under 15 Cornet

1	Jonty Zydenbos	Marlborough District Brass
2	Clarke Spence	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
3	Daniel Dalglish	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass

Under 15 Other Instruments

1	Leo Read	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
2	Liam Bewley	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
3	Jack MacKenzie	Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary

Junior Cornet

1	Toby Pringle	Wellington Brass
2	Ashleigh Smith-Lines	Trust Porirua City Brass
3	Logan Ford	Nelson City Brass

Junior Horn

1	Georgia Hoy	Woolston Brass
2	Claire Yorkstone	Ascot Park Hotel Brass
3	Jack Bewley	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass

Champion instrument:

Flugel Horn: Jessica Schweizer, St Kilda Brass

Tenor Horn: Claire Yorkstone, Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Baritone: Georgia Hoy, Woolston Brass

Junior Trombone

1	Sam Hart	Wellington Brass
2	Horace Zhang	Ascot Park Hotel Brass
3	Matthew Hurnen	Trust Porirua City Brass

Junior Euphonium

1	Luke Spence	Wellington Brass
2	Todd Smith	Marlborough District Brass
3	Josiah Brown	Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Junior Bass

1	Matthew Harris	New Brighton Silver Band
2	Andre Brown	Brass Wanganui
3	Jordan Seaton	Woolston Brass

Junior Percussion

1	Dominic Jacquemard	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
2	Cody Tauranga	Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
3	Dryw McArthur	Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Champion instrument:

Timpani: Dominic Jacquemard, The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Kit: Dominic Jacquemard, The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Mallet: Dominic Jacquemard, The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Junior Champion of Champions

1	Toby Pringle	Wellington Brass
2	Luke Spence	Wellington Brass
3=	Dominic Jacquemard	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
3=	Matthew Harris	New Brighton Silver Band

Championship Cornet

1	Matthew Stein	Wellington Brass
2	Kyle Lawson	Woolston Brass
3	John Lewis	Dalewood Auckland Brass

Open Soprano

1	Kay MacKenzie	Dalewood Auckland Brass
2	Kerry Wood	North Shore Brass
3	Brent Hoy	Woolston Brass

Amateur Cornet

1	Chris Lawrence	North Shore Brass
2	John Sullivan	North Shore Brass
3	Megan Gooding	Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Open Flugel Horn

1	Tyme Marsters	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
2	Sarah Hickman	Wellington Brass
3	Patricia Robertson-Bickers	Dalewood Auckland Brass

Open Tenor Horn

1	Mitchell Spence	Wellington Brass
2	Bill Vail	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
3	Mike Ford	Marlborough District Brass

Open Baritone

1	Steven Booth	Waitakere Auckland Brass
2	Ross Gerritsen	Dalewood Auckland Brass
3	Steve Griffin	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Open Euphonium

1	Riki McDonnell	Wellington Brass
2	Matthew van Emmerik	Box Hill Brass (Australia)
3	David Mallett	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Open Tenor Trombone

1	Luke Christiansen	Waitakere Auckland Brass
2	Andrew Yorkstone	Woolston Brass
3	Mike Ashton	Dalewood Auckland Brass

Open Bass Trombone

1	Joe Thomas	Waitakere Auckland Brass
2	Russell Boyle	Brass Wanganui
3	Tony Garing	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Open Eb Bass

1	Fraser Robertson	Dalewood Auckland Brass
2	Joel Williams	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
3	Erin Lee	St Kilda Brass

Open BBB Bass

1	Phillip Johnston	Woolston Brass
2	Leigh Martin	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
3=	Sam Pinder	Woolston Brass
3=	Gordon Barney	St Kilda Brass

Open Percussion

1	Fraser Bremner	Wellington Brass
2	Hamish Upton	Woolston Brass
3	Catherine Clarke	St Kilda Brass

Champion instrument:

Timpani: Fraser Bremner, Wellington Brass

Kit/Multi: Hamish Upton, Woolston Brass

Mallet: Hamish Upton and Fraser Bremner

Masters

1	Trevor Bremner	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
2	Riki McDonnell	Wellington Brass
3	Chris Campbell	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Age Group winners:

55-64 years: Riki McDonnell

65-74 years: Trevor Bremner

Over 75 years: Bill Platt Trust Porirua City Brass

Open Other Instruments

1	Clare McKinlay	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
2	Bryce Gordon	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
3	Jamie Mackay	Waitakere Auckland Brass

Open Slow Melody

- 1 Sergio Marshall Waitakere Auckland Brass
- 2 Stephen Booth Waitakere Auckland Brass
- 3 Tyme Marsters Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

Invitation Slow Melody

- 1 Riki McDonnell Wellington Brass
- 2 David Maas Brass Wanganui
- 3 Trevor Bremner The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Champion of Champions

- 1 Trevor Bremner The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
- 2 Riki McDonnell Wellington Brass
- 3 Mitchell Spence Wellington Brass

Ensembles

Junior Duet

- 1 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass No 2
- 2 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass No 3
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Brass No 2

Junior Ensemble 3 to 5 players

- 1 Wellington Brass
- 2 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
- 3 Marlborough District Brass

Junior Ensemble 6 to 12 players

- 1 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass

Open Duet

- 1 Woolston Brass
- 2 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass No 1
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Open Ensemble 3 to 5 players

- 1 St Kilda No 1
 - 2 Wellington Brass No 1
 - 3 Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass
- Section 2 winner: Nelson City Brass

Open Ensemble 6 to 12 players

- 1 Dalewood Auckland Brass
 - 2 Brass Wanganui
 - 3 Woolston Brass No 2
- Section 2 winner: Levin & District Brass

Percussion Ensemble

- 1 Woolston Brass
- 2 St Kilda Brass

The Street March

A Grade

- 1 Woolston Brass: Drum Major Graeme Bremner
- 2= Ascot Park Hotel Brass: Drum Major Matthew Dick
- 2= Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass:
Drum Major Brian Eckersley

B Grade

- 1 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
Drum Major Amanda Bollond
- 2 Addington Brass: Drum Major David Clearwater
- 3 Alpine Energy Timaru Brass: Drum Major Garth Poland

C Grade

- 1 Te Awamutu Brass: Drum Major Yvonne Cullen
- 2 Nelson City Brass: Drum Major Andrew Clark
- 3 Mosgiel Brass: Drum Major Graeme Middlemiss

D Grade

- 1 New Brighton Silver Band: Drum Major Jim Hill
- 2 Sumner Silver Band: Drum Major Peter McCallum

Youth Grade

- 1 Nelson City Brass Academy: Drum Major Hannah Logan

Champion Drum Major: Amanda Bollond, The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Champion Drum Major of a B Grade Band: Amanda Bollond, The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Band other than A Grade gaining highest points in the Street March: The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Stage Results

A Grade Sacred Item

- 1 Wellington Brass, *I Know Thou Art Mine*
- 2 Dalewood Auckland Brass, *Peace*
- 3 Woolston Brass, *I'll Walk with God*

Test Selection *On Alderley Edge*

- 1 Wellington Brass
- 2 Dalewood Auckland Brass
- 3 North Shore Brass

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Dalewood Auckland Brass, *A Tale As Yet Untold*
- 2 Wellington Brass, *Music of the Spheres*
- 3 North Shore, *A Tale As Yet Untold*

A Grade Championship

- 1 Wellington Brass, David Bremner
- 2 Dalewood Auckland Brass, Nigel Weeks
- 3 North Shore Brass, Colin Clark

B Grade Sacred Item

- 1 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass, *Stella*
- 2 Addington Brass, *Peace*
- 3 Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass, *Mid All the Traffic*

Test Selection *Pageantry*

- 1 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
- 2 Auckland City Brass
- 3 Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Auckland City Brass, *The Plantagenets*
- 2 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass, *Ad Undas*
- 3 Addington Brass, *Prisms*

B Grade Championship

- 1 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass, Leigh Martin
- 2 Auckland City Brass, John Gluyas
- 3 Addington Brass, David Fiu

C Grade Sacred Item

- 1 Westport Municipal Brass, *Stella*
- 2 Te Awamutu Brass, *I'll Walk with God*
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary, *Amazing Grace*

Test Selection *My Strength – My Tower*

- 1 Te Awamutu Brass
- 2 Nelson City Brass
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Te Awamutu Brass, *Kaleidoscope*
- 2 Westport Municipal Brass, *Triptych*
- 3 Woolston Concert Brass, *Inspiration*

C Grade Championship

- 1 Te Awamutu Brass, Te Reo Hughes
- 2 Westport Municipal Brass, Graham Mason
- 3 Nelson City Brass, Mike Dowrick

D Grade Sacred Item – test *Amazing Grace*

- 1 Rangiora Brass
- 2 Roxburgh Pioneer Generation Brass
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Rangiora Brass, *Music for Festival*
- 2 Roxburgh Pioneer Generation Brass, *Seven Wonders*
- 3 Sumner Silver Band, *St Austell Suite*

Stage March

- 1 Rangiora Brass, *Red Musketeer*
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band, *The Washington Post*
- 3 Roxburgh Pioneer Generation Brass, *Roxburgh*

D Grade Championship

- 1 Rangiora Brass, Keeneth Love
- 2 Roxburgh Pioneer Generation Brass, Allan Brown
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band, Craig Williamson

Youth Grade

Sacred Item 1 Nelson City Brass Academy, *Sanctus*

Own Choice 1 Nelson City Brass Academy,
Dark Side of the Moon

Stage March 1 Nelson City Brass Academy, *The Big Top*

Championship 1 Nelson City Brass Academy, Mick Dowrick

Band of the Year

St Kilda Brass, musical director Peter Adams
Soloist – Steve Miles St Kilda Brass

Special Awards

Accompanist of the Year:

Olga Stancliff, Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass

Administrator of the Year:

Kimberley Johnston, St Kilda Brass

Pat Cole Medal: for youngest winner of an Open Solo
Fraser Robertson, Dalewood Auckland Brass

Dunedin Ladies Brass Band Trophy: for the female soloist
gaining the highest points: Kay MacKenzie, Dalewood
Auckland Brass

Best section in the A Grade Test: The Basses from
Woolston Brass

Best soloist in the A Grade Test: Mark Carter soprano
cornet, Wellington Brass

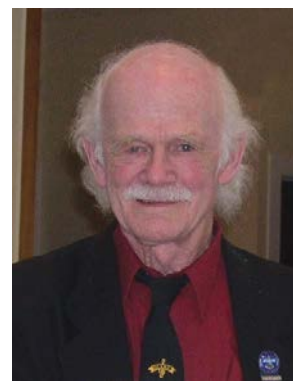
Best principal cornet in the A Grade Own Choice: John
Lewis, Dalewood Auckland Brass

Best soloist in the Youth Grade: Tom Hulland soprano
player, Nelson City Brass Academy

Our sincere thanks go to our sponsors and funders who supported the ILT National Brass Band Championships: The Invercargill Licensing Trust, ILT Foundation, Music Works, Besson, New Zealand Army Band, ABI Music Ltd, Royal New Zealand Navy Band, Music Ways Ltd, E Hayes & Sons Ltd, HW Richardson Group, McDermott Coachlines, Invercargill City Council, the Radio Network, Molto Music, Re-percussion, The Pelorus Trust, The Infinity Foundation and The Four Winds Foundation.

A Quiet Gentleman of Brass

John Gibbons recently received a BBANZ long service certificate recognising 55 years of contribution to the banding movement. John's interest in brass banding started in 1943 while he was working in Auckland. There he played with Takapuna Municipal, Auckland Artillery and the Auckland Watersiders' Band. In 1958 he moved south joining the Te Aroha Municipal Band and forming the Te Aroha College Band. After a break of 20 years in which time John gained his L.R.S.M. on trumpet in 1959, he returned to brass banding, joining the Lower Hutt Municipal Band. After 19 years John moved to the Waikato where he played for Cambridge Brass and Tauranga City Silver before joining Te Awamutu Brass in 1999.

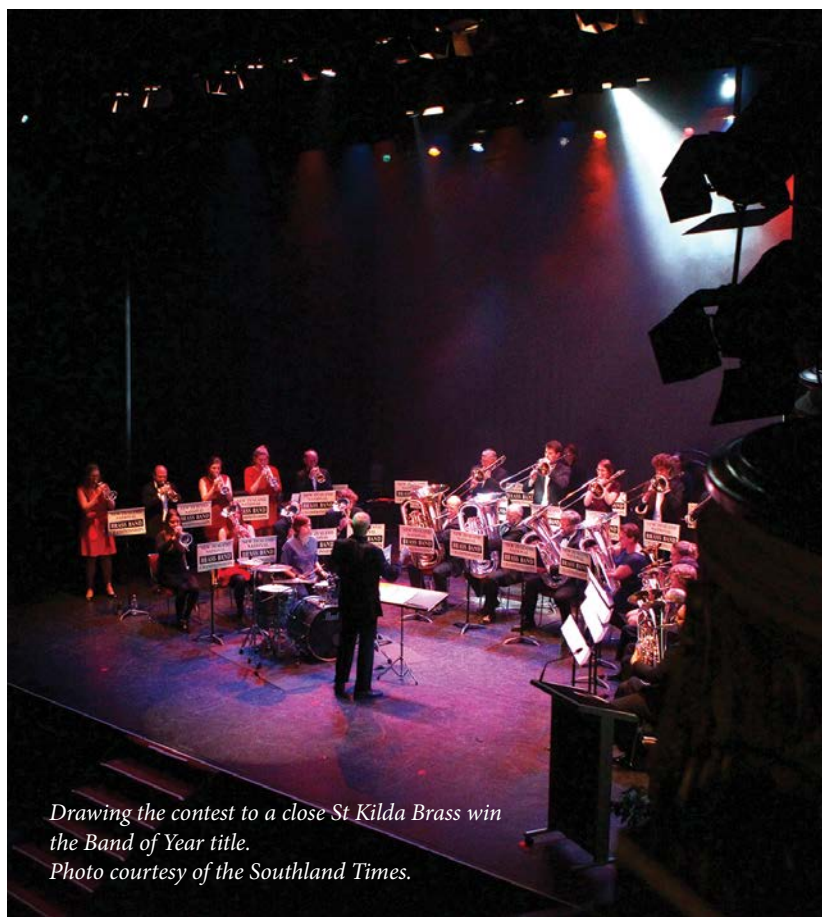


John has held many volunteer positions in bands from committee member, secretary, librarian, custodian, sergeant and deputy conductor. He has also composed 44 marches and arranged several other items for bands. The latest march was one commissioned by Takapuna College. John has taken part in solo and party events at national and provincial contests gaining several first, second and third placings with the most recent first placing in the Veterans' Class at the 2013 Waikato BOP contest.

In retirement John has spent hundreds of hours repairing and restoring cornets for Te Awamutu Brass and the wider banding community. John is a pianist who has played every Thursday at the Assisi Retirement Home in Hamilton with his wife Joan always at his side. In June at the age of 86 John and Joan left our district to live in Whangarei closer to their family.

John lives and breathes brass bands. He is a quiet gentleman with a strong determination to achieve who has given much to our band. There are many people like John in the brass band movement who are the mainstay of the organisation. Thank you John.

Denise Wilson - President, Te Awamutu Brass



*Drawing the contest to a close St Kilda Brass win the Band of Year title.
Photo courtesy of the Southland Times.*

Coast Contest

The Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast Brass Band Association held their annual contest in Nelson over the weekend of the 24 and 25 May. The chief adjudicator was Shane Foster, assisted by Chris Campbell with Stephen Leader acting as chief supervisor along with judging the Street March.

Junior Duet

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Sam Powell/Jonty Zydenbos | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Eleanor Grigg/Casey Lane | Marlborough District Brass |

Open Duet

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Kevin Moseley/Clyde Dixon | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Jeff Mulraney/Dennis Teeling | Marlborough District Brass |
| 3 | M Moynihhan/M Curtis | Marlborough District Brass |

Senior Ensemble

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Nelson City Brass No 1 |
| 2 | Nelson City Brass No 2 |

Novice Solo

- | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Eleanor Grigg | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Shaan Walker | Motueka District Brass |
| 3 | Celia Allen | Nelson City Brass |

Under 13 Air Vari

- | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Jonty Zydenbos | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Jake Walker | Motueka District Brass |

Under 15 Air Vari

- | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Tori Greenbank | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Emma Hoult | Motueka District Brass |

Under 17 Slow Melody

- | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Sam Powell | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Jonty Zydenbos | Marlborough District Brass |
| 3 | Keegan Lane | Marlborough District Brass |

Under 17 Air Vari

- | | | |
|---|-------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Keegan Lane | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Sam Powell | Marlborough District Brass |

Veterans' Slow Melody

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Peter Goodman | Nelson City Brass |
| 2 | Maurice Abrahams | Nelson City Brass |

Intermediate Air Vari

- | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Matthew Cutts | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Ray Blampied | Nelson City Brass |

Premier Air Vari

- | | | |
|----|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Graham Moseley | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2= | Todd Smith | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2= | Jeff Mulraney | Marlborough District Brass |

Premier Slow Melody

- | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Dennis Teeling | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Graham Moseley | Marlborough District Brass |
| 3 | Clyde Dixon | Marlborough District Brass |

BAND EVENTS

Street March

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Nelson City Brass |
| 3 | Westport Municipal Brass |
| 4 | Motueka District Brass |

Entertainment Concert

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Marlborough District Brass |
| 2 | Nelson City Brass |
| 3 | Westport Municipal Brass |
| 4 | Motueka Municipal Brass |

Hymn, Selection, And Stage March Contest

	Hymn	Selection	March	Total	
1	Marlborough District Brass	93	92	93	278
2	Nelson City Brass	92	86	92	270
3	Westport Municipal Brass	89	88	87	264
4	Motueka District Brass	80	84	85	249

Denis Wick Products is very pleased to announce that Steven Mead is to take on a new role as International Ambassador for the Denis Wick brand. Steven will be involved in promoting Denis Wick mutes, mouthpieces and accessories all over the world. He will also be involved in the design, development and testing of new products. He leads an incredibly busy life as an internationally-famous soloist and recording artist and will bring his considerable energies to promoting Denis Wick Products through his concerts and masterclasses.

Steven Mead commented:

"From my earliest memory I was playing on a Denis Wick mouthpiece, and already then it was a trusted and highly respected brand. My involvement with the company began in 1995 with the release of the SM Series of mouthpieces. Since that time I've had an even closer connection with the staff at DWP and now feel very honoured to have been appointed to this new role as an International Ambassador for the company. I'm looking forward to new innovative projects and being able to promote this fabulous brand at all my concerts and tours."

Stephen Wick of DWP is very supportive of Steven's connection with the company:

"Steven's involvement in the design of the euphonium and baritone mouthpieces has been hugely fruitful for many years. His designs for the new Ultra euphonium mouthpieces have become bestsellers all over the world. We are looking forward to working together with Steven and to him becoming an ambassador for our products"



The 150th Anniversary of the RNZ Artillery Band

The Band of the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery can trace its roots back to 1845 and the Maori Wars, and the story of the 58th Rutland Regiment, which was despatched to New Zealand from New South Wales. History records that many of the men of the Rutlands took their discharges in the young Auckland, some of them joining the Band of the Auckland Volunteer Rifles when the Militia was formed in 1858. The first reported public appearance of the Band appeared in the 'New Zealander' of 23 October 1860, for the laying-up of the Colours of the 58ths.

From this beginning, the Artillery Band was formally established in 1864, and despite several changes of name and command, it has given 150 years of unbroken service in war and peace - making it the oldest band in New Zealand with a continuous playing history.

The oldest surviving photograph of the band is dated 1885, and hangs today in the bandroom in Panmure, Auckland along with a splendid collection of archival photographs spanning some 125 years. Throughout this time the band has formed part of the fabric of society throughout the greater Auckland area and beyond, performing at military and civic events with great distinction and popularity - and to this day remains in constant demand and high regard.

The band has lived through two world wars and other major conflicts, and has experienced the many ups and downs of the international and domestic political and economic climate, but it has survived them all. In more recent times, it has represented New Zealand at the World Expo in Brisbane in 1988 and at the 60th Anniversary of the Australian Reserve Forces in 2008. It also played a prominent part at the Commonwealth Games in 1990.

Although the Band has in recent years withdrawn from the contesting scene, due to the demands of its military and civil engagements, it has won many national and regional championships over the years. Despite being disestablished by the New Zealand Defence Force in June 2012, along with six other Reserve Force bands, the Artillery Band has soldiered on as a volunteer band, managing to keep its head above water financially and to sustain its playing strength as it approaches its 150th Anniversary celebrations. These will take place over the weekend of 26 to 28 September 2014, and will include:

Friday evening 26: Social Gathering and Registration (venue to be confirmed)

Saturday 27

11.00am Grand Parade along Auckland Waterfront

11.45am Symbolic Dockside Farewell to troops embarking for WW1

12.15pm Civic Reception for Band Members, past and present

1.15pm Public Concert in Shed 10 on Queen's Wharf, including all former members who wish to take part

6.00pm Formal Dinner at Papakura Camp Mess

Sunday 28

10.00am Church Service at St Matthews-in-the-City

The Band's organising committee is keen to trace all former members, who are invited to contact the Band Secretary, Bob Davis, at radavis@clear.net.nz or Tel: 09 413 5322



The band played on while protesters ambush the parade in Auckland on 12 May 1971 for 161 Battery RNZ Artillery returning from Vietnam.

Kev's Quiz

Kevin Jarrett has put together a few quiz questions to test the memory of our older readers and to inspire our young readers to follow in the footsteps of some of our great bandspeople.

1. Name the NZ cricket captain who played solo cornet for the Motueka Band.
2. Who was the first female member of the Woolston Band?
3. In which city did Errol Mason win his first (of 10) cornet championships?
4. Who was selected for the National Band of New Zealand at age 14?
5. Who conducted the New Lynn Citizens' Band to win the B Grade test in Dunedin in 1987?
6. Which legend of brass banding judged the National Contest in Wanganui in 1953?
7. Who is the prominent present-day lawyer who played cornet and bagpipes in the 1979 Youth Band to Australia?
8. Name the family that had a father, son and grandson play for the National Band of New Zealand?
9. Who was the conductor of the Champion A Grade Band at the 1956 national contest in Invercargill?
10. The winner of the 1955 Open Horn Championships was from the Kerepehi Brass Band. Name him.
11. At the 1947 contest in Wanganui, two players were recalled to decide the cornet championship that night. Who won the title?
12. Who won the first Errol Mason memorial solo contest?
13. Name the three New Zealand cornet players who became Professors of Brass at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.
14. Who wrote the 1962 A Grade Test Tam O'Shanter's Ride?
15. Who was the drum major of the 1962 National Band of New Zealand?
16. Who won the 1927 open Baritone solo playing for the Jupps Band?
17. The 1953 National Band of New Zealand won the British Open band contest at Bellevue, England. Who wrote the test piece The Three Musketeers?
18. Name the Australian who won the New Zealand Champion of Champions in 1980.
19. This gentleman was nine times North Island vice-president and was many years president of our Association. He was also a playing member of the 1970 National Band.
20. Which prominent member of the current Executive had a father who won the Veterans' solo in 1983?

Post or email your answers to the BBANZ Office by Monday 25 August to go in the draw to win two CDs supplied by Mr Jarrett. The answers will be published in the September issue of the Mouthpiece.

Kaikorai Takes Street March - Musings from Brownie

But before those in Woolston fumble for their tablets and the like, and seek my email address, I should point out that this occurred 50 years ago in 1964 at the National Contest in Wellington. It is of note that Kaikorai went on to win the A Grade Championship that year as well. Those who can remember back that far will be aware that bands did considerably more competition marching than occurs today. If one delves into the results, particularly the A Grade from around that date, one will find that the top marching band normally also finished as one of the top three bands when the stage results were announced.

This has always made me wonder about those who were (and probably still are) adamant that marching damages the embouchure. It seems to me that if one is fully playing fit, then marching shouldn't be a problem. To suggest that it is, to me, implies that the one doing the complaining is more than likely not to be playing fit in the first place. Or, one who hasn't memorised the march.

This leads me to the Street March competition at our recent National contest. As expected, Invercargill turned on the weather for us, so at least drum majors could justify the expense of their travel. Yours truly even marched. I'm not altogether certain as to how this came about, but there I was lining up with the rest of them. I reacted to the familiar commands and stepped off smartly. However before long I found that I was forced to take rests from playing - something I'd never had to do in the past. But I am able to report that I was still playing when we halted - or was I on autopilot?

My initial reaction, once my body functions had returned to near normal was to say that perhaps my age was finally catching up with me. Then I heard teenagers from the band complaining that they too had had to stop playing as they had become breathless as well. This initially struck me as rather odd, as many of them weren't even born when I performed my previous Street March.

Then I was told that my shortness of breath was due to my smoking. Sure, I know that having been a smoker for most of my life it probably hasn't improved my health. And I'm not about to debate this subject but it is interesting to note that 50 years ago, when smoking was socially acceptable, by far the majority of players in bands smoked. In fact back then it was a case of three or four non-smokers per band - today it's the other way round. I remember band practices at an A Grade band (funny how its name slips my memory), when a player was required to play he either continued to hang onto the lit cigarette, or placed it on the music stand still going. If you've ever wondered why some of the old music has got burn marks along the bottom of the sheet, now you know the reason. Anyway, just another example of how things have changed over the years.

So, after receiving all this negative encouragement, I got to thinking again. What was it that those earlier bands had that we appear not to have today? Back in those days I remember that Sunday morning was the time given over to drum majors. For the best part of two months we were out there strutting our stuff, mainly to conquer the Quickstep course. Most of the time this also included playing on the march. Some drum majors even had "helpers" just to add to the misery. One wonders how those drum majors of yesteryear would have handled the feminising of today's bands. A few stock sayings come to mind which I won't repeat as I know they will be edited out.

But after two months of marching practice, bands were not only marching well, but also playing well on the march. So my question was answered. If you expect a band to play well on the march there's only one way to achieve it. One must practice playing on the march. This will help develop the breathing patterns necessary for marching that are not required in the bandroom. Given sufficient practice the breathlessness should disappear and the band's performance will dramatically improve. The younger guys I referred to earlier were playing well in the band, but only while they were seated. Mind you, I thought I was too. Therefore one wonders how much time is devoted nowadays to practicing playing on the march - particularly in the lower grade bands. I believe that if adequate time was spent practicing this, then our Street March Competition would improve markedly. Another word that springs to mind is "pride".

However, marching aside, there were two other positives from the last contest which stick out in my mind. Firstly, that the lower grade bands were able to perform in the main hall. Normally we seem to be stuck out in the suburbs often in inferior halls. It means a lot to these bands to be included in with the "big boys" (and girls). But, was this made possible because of dropping entry numbers particularly in the B Grade?

The other positive was the live streaming of the contest. From what little opportunity I had to see it, I thought it was excellent. Yes I know that it's been used a couple of times before, but it's the first time that the lower grades have been included. I can see that it has the potential of becoming a very valuable tool for band training. A big well done to those who made it possible.

Now you may have wondered why in my last article a photo of Hollywood Bowl was included. In 1965 the National Band of New Zealand played at that venue and received a standing ovation. Food for thought - until next month.

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com



Woolston Brass winning their sixth Street March Championship in a row in Invercargill. (Photo courtesy *The Southland Times*)

Quick Notes

Change of Baton at Howick Brass: Graeme Brown is stepping down as Musical Director of Howick Brass on 24 August at a concert at the Howick RSA. Graeme has been the band's musical director for the past 11 years, and although the band has had many successes during this time, the highlight was winning the C Grade Championship in New Plymouth in 2013. Most of Graeme's 43 years of banding have been with Howick where he started as a learner in 1971. He then joined the Waitamata City Silver Band (Continental Airlines Band) in 1974 where he stayed for 12 years before returning to the Howick Band when his father assumed the position of musical director.

Graeme now hands the baton over to Luke Christiansen, who is well known in NZ banding circles as a fine trombonist and former member of the National Band. Luke started his musical career with Howick Brass which makes his appointment even more special for the band. Luke also has considerable experience with the orchestral movement both as a musician and as the artistic co-ordinator for the Manukau Symphony Orchestra.



The handing over of the baton from Graeme Brown left to Luke Christiansen

High Honours: Our congratulations go to Alan Spence, musical director of Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass who was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for services to music in the Queen's Birthday honours list. As the director of the band and as the Head of Music at Trident High School in Whakatane, Alan has been responsible for the training of many of New Zealand's most successful young brass and percussion musicians.



Congratulations also go to 18-year-old Todd Smith from Blenheim whose composition *Vita Destructa* premiered at the seventh National Australia Brass annual NABfest in Melbourne in July. Todd is a member of Marlborough District Brass and 2014 National Youth Band and a past recipient of the Adrienne, Lady Stewart Performance Bursary.

He is also a member of the National Australia Brass 'ABC forum' (Australasian Band Composers Forum) and is to receive compositional direction from Professor Peter Graham as part of the National Australia Brass Academy Mentor Project (AMP).

The new composition commissioned by National Australia Brass is Todd's first major international commission and was performed by National Australia Brass conducted by Dr David King at the final concert of the festival. It will now be recorded by British band Brighthouse & Rastick. *Vitae Destructa* is dedicated to the Patron of National Australia Brass, Adrienne, Lady Stewart, in recognition of her commitment to promoting excellence as a key philanthropic figure in the world of music and the arts.

Rotorua Revival

On Sunday 15 June a group of 27 brass players converged on the Rotorua Bandroom for a fun-filled day of music making and the sharing of good old stories.

The composite band was conducted by Steve Thompson from Tauranga and had representatives from five of our local bands as well as a special guest appearance from Kerry Wood on soprano. The band members ranged in age from 13 years to however old Cliff White from Tauranga is (I don't want to guess). The band played through about 15 pieces of music, much of which was new to many. It was fantastic for many of us to be back in the Rotorua bandroom again where so many of us have such great memories. The day was without doubt something that we will build on in years to come. A special thanks to Steve Thompson and Denise Sturt for their efforts in organising the event.

Stephen Clayton
President - Waikato Bay of Plenty Association

Going Live

One of the highlights of the National Contest was the quality and availability of the live streaming of all the band events. The streaming was watched all around the world and also by many players at the Champions. Here are some statistics from Tim Kelly of Brassbanned.

Brassbanned had a fantastic time live streaming the 2014 National Brass Band Champions. Although we did not have enough venue internet capacity to stream in HD, we were delighted with the quality of the SD stream that we were able to deliver. There was high online traffic throughout the stream with many thousands of people watching all over the world. We had some high profile viewers including Peter Graham (composer of the A Grade test piece) Sarah Willis (Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra) Philip Harper and the Cory Band from Wales and the Eikanger Bjorsvik Band from Norway as well as many others.

Here is brief summary of some of the statistics as well as some feedback we received from viewers.

Total Unique Viewers: 5,598

Top Countries: New Zealand: 67%, Australia: 16%, United Kingdom: 8%
Japan: 2.6%, United States: 1.85%

Top Cities: Auckland: 21%, Christchurch: 8%, Wellington: 8%,
Melbourne: 6%, Hamilton: 4%, Invercargill: 4%, Sydney: 3%, Brisbane:
3%, Dunedin: 2%, Tauranga: 2%

Peak Concurrent Viewers: 843 at 9.00 pm on Saturday 12 July

Notable Tweets and Facebook comments:

Peter Graham – great job with the steaming – clear as day!

Left: Alan and Tania Spence with three of their sons Mitchell, winner of the Open Tenor Horn and 3rd in the Champion of Champions, Clarke 2nd in the Under 15 Cornet, Luke winner of the Junior Euphonium and 2nd in the Junior Champions of Champions.

The Cory Band – You book the flights and we'll book the bus! Sounding and looking great (The Cory Band offering to come to the 2015 NZ Championships if someone pays their airfare...)

Eikanger-Bjørsvik – super streaming! Cheers from Norway.

Philip Harper – rock and roll!

Steven Mead – really enjoying the live NZ coverage...from Sydney. Top notch quality...bravo bravo!

4barsrest.com – Great stuff Tim--really enjoying the music making back here in Wales. Keep up the cracking work - Iwan

Sarah Willis - Enjoying your live stream from Sapporo, Japan, dear Tim! The brass band world is lucky to have you! Missing the live chat though, they are so much fun in your other live streams... good luck to everyone taking part down there in NZ!

Phillip McCann – University of Huddersfield. Wonderful to see and listen to great brass playing from NZ. Wish more people in other countries (no prizes for guessing) had your enthusiasm and passion to live stream without the thought of profit! Congratulations and best wishes to all in the brass band movement in NZ.

Verity Powers – Loughborough University. Enjoying your live stream 6 miles from Alderley Edge in UK Thank you

Matt Taton – Band Director at Mount Pleasant Public Schools. Enjoying the stream from Michigan, USA. *Pageantry* was our test piece years ago at NABBA. Tricky little solo cornet solos! Well done all!

Augustico Ruiz Henao –Principal Trombonist at Banda Sinfónica Juvenilde, Colombia. Colombia is present with Auckland (City) Brass – Bravo Pablo

Caroline Blackmore – Woolston Brass. Loving the live streaming, especially being a player myself, I can listen to other bands while getting ready in the hotel before heading off to warm-up rehearsal for our performance later tonight. Keep up the great work!



Members of Wellington Brass watch the live stream from their contest HQ.

Obituary Bob Mulholland 1938 - 2014

Bob Mulholland had a lifelong love and respect for all aspects of the brass band movement - ever since he started to play the cornet in the Stockport Citadel Junior Band. His father, Robert, was the highly respected Bandmaster at Fairey Band during one of its most successful periods of post war success, a connection which gave the younger 'Bob', as he universally became known, a great deal of associated pride.



The Mulholland family later emigrated to Napier, New Zealand, where Robert Mulholland conducted the Napier City Band. Bob was principal cornet of the band and was a member of the 1967 and 1970 National Band of New Zealand. During his 17 years in Napier he became a respected journalist and captained the Napier City Rovers soccer team.

On his return to the UK, he initially worked in local newspapers, gaining a reputation for excellent reporting and a keen eye for stories with strong social compassion - traits that were very much part of his personality. His talents were later spotted by national newspapers such as the *Daily Mirror*, where during their heyday he became an influential member of their pioneering reporting teams. In 1991 Bob founded *Brass Band World* magazine through his highly successful publishing company Peak Press. The monthly magazine revolutionised brass band publishing and reporting: the high quality production values enhanced by strong, well informed features and reviews, the first ever brass band rankings system and extensive use of colour photography. He later sold the magazine, but not before it had become essential reading to the rapidly changing band world.

Ian and Denise Levine visited Bob and his wife Jennifer on their recent trip to the UK. Ian reports "Still in pride of place in his lounge is a certificate of appreciation from BBANZ dated 2002. He was a great supporter of New Zealand banding - National Bands in particular. Kevin Dell and I first met him in 1967 as a member of the KGL Smith National Band and he went on to tour with the Elgar Clayton-led 1970 National Band. He also came to the Netherlands from the UK to support the 1978 National Band at Kerkrade and again many years later to the same venue in 2005 and 2009. He was also highly supportive of the Woolston tours to the British Open in 1975 and 2000."

Riki McDonnell remembers: "Bob (along with Mike Kilroy) gave me the break I needed to get into the British and European brass band scene. When I went to compete in the British Open solo championships back in 1993, Bob sponsored a concert the evening before at Buxton Opera House with the Fairey's Band. He had commissioned Philip Sparke to write the euphonium duet *Euphonism* which Mike and I world premiered at that concert. I also got to perform my British open solo with piano at this concert. Following this performance with Fairey's and their musical director Major Peter Parkes it was "game on" for my first CD recording - *Midnight Euphonium*. The duet Bob commissioned features on the CD. Bob created my opportunities; he was one of the kindest and most caring people I have ever been blessed to know."

Extracts from 4barsrest with input from Riki McDonnell, Stephen Clayton and Ian Levien



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National Youth Brass Band

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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

Notice of Meeting

The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand will be held in Wellington on Saturday 1 November at the West Plaza Hotel 110-116 Wakefield Street.
Registration and morning tea from 9.00am with the AGM running from 10.00am to approximately 4.00pm.

Remits and Discussion Papers: Any Band or District Association requiring any business to be considered by the AGM shall give written notice of the business, in the form of a motion, to the Executive Officer by Tuesday 2 September.

2017 National Contest

Applications to host the 2017 National Contest are open to any organisations in the lower half of the North Island or top half of the South Island. Applications are to be emailed to the BBANZ Office on the required form by Sunday 31 August 2014.



Trombone for Sale \$1800

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Contact Robin Ensoll 09 489 5235 robinjoy@xtra.co.nz

Mouthpiece Subscriptions

Due to the increase in postage the price of an individual subscription to the Mouthpiece will increase from \$51.15 to \$55.00 for the 2014-2015 year.

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity) E Aldridge (in perpetuity) PB Adams, J Aldridge, Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, J Edmondston, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

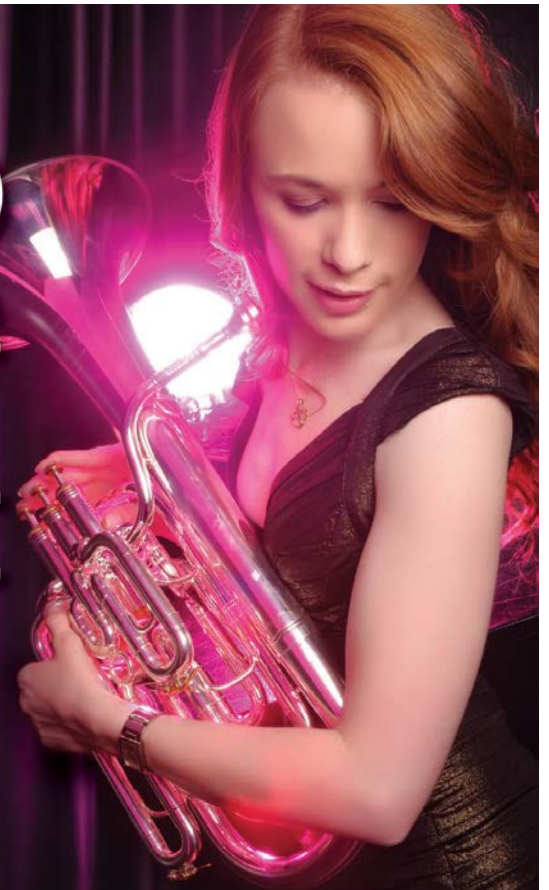
JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

Available from the BBANZ Office, Besson Artist Kristy Rowe's latest CD *Center Stage*. Kristy is accompanied by the Gunnedah Shire Band and the CD features several of the pieces she performed with the 2014 National Youth Band of New Zealand.

Cost \$25.00 + \$5.00 p&p. Please make cheques out to BBANZ or email brass@banz.org.nz for bank account details.

CENTER STAGE

Kristy Rowe
AND THE GUNNEDAH SHIRE BAND



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Mouthpiece

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Tonga Time

A return trip to the friendly island of Tonga proved to be yet another unforgettable musical extravaganza. Thanks to sponsorship from Musicways, over 600 exuberant, enthusiastic school children had the opportunity to develop their musical talents further. And thanks to the generosity of the New Zealand banding community, more children than ever had mouthpieces, playable instruments and music to work with.

The third annual Tongan Brass Festival started with a new challenge: a solo competition for school musicians held at the Tongan Police Band Headquarters. Planned originally as a slow melody event it developed from there to include air varies, vocalists, band and piano accompaniments. Initially there were 18 entrants but by the time the event started this had grown to 32. What a fantastic start to this new initiative. Riki McDonnell and I just had to make a quick adjustment and divide the entrants into three categories to judge. The lack of tuning with the piano was a little concerning, but after realising that tuning slides were immovable, locked solid, we gave some leniency toward the soloist.

Each year the Festival grows and this year there were nine school bands ready to take on own choice hymns, marches and the selected test pieces – Eric Ball's *Indian Summer* or *Dark Side of the Moon* by Paul Lovett-Cooper.

Most of the bands numbered between 60 -70 in their ranks and there was no shortage of volume when it was required!

Some very good performances were heard with a special mention to the winning band – Tupou College under Elone Niu (formerly of the Porirua Band) who produced a stunning performance of the Lovett-Cooper test piece. This band will be touring New Zealand and Australia later in the year and I would definitely recommend a listen.

The entertainment part of the Festival is always a highlight and again this year it didn't disappoint. Dancing, singing, playing, excellent



The champion school band of Tonga, Tupou College with musical director Elone Niu

percussion items and 10 violinists were on show to an ecstatic audience of 3500, with many more listening outside the building. The huge crowds were so enthusiastic and loud at times that they swamped the sound of the music. Judging this event is just great fun. You just cannot help but get caught up in all this exuberance.

In the break, Riki and the conductor of the Tongan Police Band on soprano sax performed solos... the crowd again going wild.

With the regular guest at the Festival, the Princess of Tonga, overseas the country's Prime Minister was the guest of honour this evening. He loved every minute of the evening. With special sponsor awards presented, it was another midnight finish. But did it matter? Not at all. Especially for those watching the show from the comfort of their homes as the whole Festival was screened live on Tongan TV, Internet and radio. How fantastic for Tongan friends in Brisbane to watch the show live.

One of the highlights of the whole trip for Riki and me was attending the Sunday morning church service at the school of the winning band. A common ritual for the few hundred

Tongan school boys it was a very special occasion for us to be part of. With only a quick run through with the band before the service we were ready to go. These boys were well prepared and just such a pleasure to work with. Their discipline is something to be proud of and you can see why they are champions in almost everything that they undertake. A solo with Riki, duet with Elone the conductor, signing that brings a lump to your throat and an upbeat Salvation Army number played with such vigour and enthusiasm, I wish all bands had half of what these youngsters gave in their music making, just such a pleasure to conduct. With the service over, the 68 piece band led the 500 schoolboys marching across the sports fields to a well-earned lunch. What an experience!

And so another Festival is over and the great news for next year is that there is the possibility of major sponsorship as a significant Tongan business has shown an interest in getting involved. To finish, it is just left to thank Musicways, Atunaisa Taumoepeau (Aka Naisa) and the Tongan Police Band and all the friendly islanders who worked so hard behind the scenes.

Howard Taylor, Principal Adjudicator



All the marching bands and officials including Tongan Commissioner of Police, Grant McFee.

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A note from our President

The next three months promise to be action packed and hopefully very rewarding for all the participants.

The first major event is the tour to China and Korea by the 2014 National Band accompanied by a Kapa Haka group. The experience of the Under 18 Youth Band that toured China in 2012 will, I'm sure, be replicated on this tour and the National Band will be appreciated for their fine musicianship and as worthy representatives of New Zealand.



However, more importantly we have a National Secondary Schools Band being convened in early October in the Wellington region. This is such an important aspect of the Association's work as it secures the future of our bands and our brand of music making. There have been a large number of applicants for this band and I don't envy the musical director and the tutors in trying to select the members. While we would like to take all the applicants it is just not feasible from a logistical or financial point of view to do this. The Secondary Schools Band will give public concerts on Sunday 12 and Monday 13 October in Wellington and Lower Hutt as well as several concerts in local schools. The musical director of the National Secondary Schools Band is Mark Carter who, when he is not playing trumpet in the NZSO, plays soprano cornet for Wellington Brass and conducts the Hutt City Brass Band.

The Association's Annual General Meeting is being held in Wellington on Saturday 1 November. This meeting is the opportunity for bands, through their spokesperson, to have their say on how the Association is performing. Make sure your band is represented as the location of the 2017 National Contest will be decided at that meeting. Information from the applicant organisations will be sent to bands in advance so that those entrusted with your vote may do so according to your band's wishes.

On the Friday night prior to the AGM your National Executive is hosting a meeting to discuss our National Contest. The principal objective is 'how can we do it better'. To ensure that we make progress in this forum a number of topic headings will be circulated to bands beforehand. This is not designed to stymie discussion in any way but to keep ideas and suggestions flowing.

In November we have scheduled another education workshop. This is a 'teach the teacher' type forum with emphasis being placed on teaching resources and techniques. More details of this will follow in *The Mouthpiece* and on the Association's website.

As you can see there are plenty of activities on offer and I hope to see you at one of them, at least.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

What's On?

Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September

Band Camp for Marlborough Nelson West Coast District Association at Rotoiti Lodge, Nelson Lakes National Park

Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September

OKTOBERFEST on the Waterfront, Wellington. Tickets available now from Ticket Direct.

Saturday 20 September

7.30pm Air Force Museum of New Zealand, Wigram, Christchurch.

Bold As Brass - the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and Woolston Brass with guest artist John Foster, Musical Director Kenneth Young. The finale is the world premier of Young's *3rd Symphony for Band and Orchestra*.

Sunday 21 September

Auckland District Band Contest at the Hawkins Centre, Papakura

Thursday 25 September

Last Night of the Proms presented by Dalewool Auckland Brass, 7.30pm at the Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau

Friday 26 to Sunday 28 September

150th Anniversary of the Band of the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery. For details contact the Band Secretary, Bob Davis, at radavis@clear.net.nz or Tel: 09 413 5322

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September

Waikato Bay of Plenty regional

brass band contest hosted by Hamilton City Brass at Southwell School, Claudelands, Hamilton. Solo and party events on Saturday with band events on Sunday. All enquiries to Denise Sturt stonehavenlodge@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 28 September

Spring Concert presented by Whangarei Districts Brass and featuring guest soloist Riki McDonnell, 2.00pm Christ Church Anglican Church, Whangarei. Tickets \$10 at the door.

Wednesday 8 to Tuesday 14 October

National Secondary Schools Brass Band in Wellington

Sunday 12 October

Orewa Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass 2.00pm at the Centrestage Theatre, Orewa

Saturday 18 October

Canterbury Provincial Band Championships at the Performing Arts Centre, Middleton Grange High School, Christchurch

Sunday 19 October

Annual General Meeting of the Marlborough Nelson West Coast District Association

Friday 31 October

Open discussion evening: *Should we continue with our contest in its current form?* 7.30pm Wellington. Venue TBA. All welcome.

Saturday 1 November

Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand, West Plaza Hotel, Wellington



Does the way we speak influence the way we play?

Matthias Heyne is a Ph.D. student at the University of Canterbury working on 'The Influence of First Language on Playing Brass instruments'. Originally from Germany, Matthias played with the New Brighton Silver Band at the Invercargill contest.

Matthias writes: Although I had had some thoughts previously about the relationship of brass playing and spoken language, my Ph.D. project really came about through the availability of Doctoral Scholarships at UC and the acquisition of an ultrasound machine by the people of UC's wonderful New Zealand Institute of Language, Brain and Behaviour.

For my research, I'm looking at what trombone players do with their tongue while they play and while they speak. As you would know, the tongue plays a really important role in producing speech sounds as well as in playing brass instruments, so to acquire this data, I record players while reading a wordlist and while playing some simple etudes. All recorded tongue shapes are then extracted and averaged across different vowels and sustained notes, enabling me to plot them together and look for possible patterns and/or correspondences. I have found some interesting individual differences between a New Zealand English and a Tongan player which seem to be related to the vowel systems of their native languages but of course I need more data to make any substantial claims regarding the hypothesis underpinning my PhD research.

My research wouldn't be possible without you, the brass playing community of New Zealand, and I'm looking for participants for my ultrasound study to be recorded in Christchurch and possibly also in Auckland. If you would be willing to give me about two hours of your time this would be great, especially if you're a native speaker of Tongan or another language/dialect other than NZ English! I'm also running an online questionnaire on my topic which you can easily find by googling the title of my Ph.D. research. Please contact me at matthias.heyne@pg.canterbury.ac.nz with any questions and/or comments.



Oktoberfest – The Bavarian Showdown returns

Following the success of the inaugural event last year *Oktoberfest - The Bavarian Showdown* returns to Wellington's waterfront on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September. The dates coincide with the start of the 181st Munich Beer Festival in Germany and local organisers hope to fill a giant marquee on Odlins Plaza for the New Zealand event.

Leighton Roberts from Wellington Brass, for whom the event is a fundraiser, said "This year's event will be bigger and better with a larger marquee and an additional brewery. The bands will be better and more competitive, as they battle for the title of 2014 New Zealand Champion Bavarian Beer Band. The emphasis will be on combining the traditional with a Kiwi twist. From feed-back last year we learned a lot about what the ticket-holders were expecting and wanted. We have taken this on board to ensure an even better experience for all".

The event will involve two ticketed nights where the *Wellington Steinbenders* will return to defend their title, along with crowd favourite the *Wanganui Bratwursts*. Joining them will be bands from New Plymouth and Auckland as well as local Wellington bands. There will also be a family day on Saturday at which people of all ages can enjoy authentic food, lovely brews and entertaining music by the Bavarian bands. For more information please visit www.oktoberfest.co.nz and/or book tickets at www.ticketdirect.co.nz



New ANZAC Music

Next year's Anzac Day marks the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign. Anzac Day remembers those who have lost their lives in conflict so that New Zealanders can live peacefully in freedom. The New Zealand Army has tirelessly taken on peacekeeping missions around the globe. Unfortunately this has come at a significant cost to New Zealand, as a number of soldiers have become casualties of the various conflicts.

The New Zealand Fallen Heroes Trust was established in 2012 to support the casualties and families of those lost in conflicts since 1999, the year New Zealand troops first landed in East Timor. The Trust provides support for families and aims to make a real difference in the lives of New Zealanders who have been affected by these tragedies.

Staff arrangers from the New Zealand Army Band have put together a collection of war-themed music which will be released to all civilian bands in time for Anzac Day next year. Music will be made available for bands to download in return for a donation of which 100% will go towards the New Zealand Fallen Heroes Trust. Any donations made will be at the discretion of each individual band as it is well understood that most bands in New Zealand are charities in their own right

Not only is this a great opportunity for bands to expand their repertoire with some fresh music, but will also provide the New Zealand Fallen Heroes Trust with some much-needed support. More information will be available in the next issue of *The Mouthpiece* or contact PTE Tom Baker at thomas.baker@nzdf.mil.nz



Capital Contest

The Wellington District Brass Bands Association held their annual Solo and Party Event Competition at Hutt International Boys College, Upper Hutt on 18 May. The adjudicators were Chris Clark, Clynton Payne and Colin Honey.

Under 13 Air Varie

- 1 Gregor Lehany Wellington Brass
- 2 Alex Smith Trust Porirua City Brass

Under 13 Slow Melody

- 1 Rosie Argyle – Wright Trust Porirua City Brass
- 2 Sam Argyle-Wright Trust Porirua City Brass
- 3 Nathan Argyle-Wright Trust Porirua City Brass

Under 16 Air Varie

- 1 Troy Rhodes Trust Porirua Brass

Under 16 Slow Melody

- 1 Byron Bunny Masterton District Brass
- 2 Alex Lopez-Sanchez Kapiti Brass Band
- 3 Caleb Madgwick Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club

Under 19 Air Varie

- 1 Luke Spence Wellington Brass
- 2 Toby Pringle Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club
- 3 Kip Cleverly Wellington Brass

Under 19 Slow Melody

- 1 Toby Pringle Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club
- 2 Luke Spence Wellington Brass
- 3 Matt Hurnen Trust Porirua City Brass

Novice

- 1 Tamara Nash Trust Porirua City Brass
- 2 Euan Morgan Masterton District Brass
- 3 Taylor Howe Masterton District Brass

Open Air Varie

- 1 Mitchell Spence Wellington Brass
- 2 Kieran Smith Wellington Brass
- 3 Gary Collins Levin and Districts Brass

Open Slow Melody

- 1 Clynton Payne Trust Porirua City Brass
- 2 Dale Vail Wellington Brass
- 3 James North Trust Porirua City Brass

Veterans (all instruments)

- 1 Bill Platt Trust Porirua City Brass
- 2 David Kinzett Masterton District Brass
- 3 Paula Boulcott Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club

Junior Duet

- 1 Porirua Youth Brass
- 2 Masterton District Brass

Junior Small Ensemble (3 – 5 players)

- 1 Porirua Youth Brass
- 2 Masterton District Brass

Junior Ensemble (6 – 11 players)

- 1 Porirua Youth Brass

Open Duet

- 1 Trust Porirua City Brass No 2
- 2 Trust Porirua City Brass No 1
- 3 Masterton District Brass

Open Small Ensemble (3 - 5 players)

- 1 Trust Porirua City Brass No 1
- 2 Trust Porirua City Brass No 2
- 3 Levin and Districts Brass

Open Ensemble (6 - 11 players)

- 1 Trust Porirua City Brass No 3
- 2 Masterton District Brass
- 3 Levin and Districts Brass

Quick Notes

Congratulation to the musicians from the brass band community who were selected as members for the **National Youth Orchestra** July programme. On trumpet Matthew Stein (principal), Brendan Agnew and Kip Cleverly from Wellington Brass and Patrick Webb from Hamilton City Brass. Trombone - Julian Kirgan formally of Wellington Brass (principal), Andrew Yorkstone, Woolston Brass (associate principal), Dale Vail and Patrick Di Somma (bass trombone) both from Wellington Brass, Matthew Harris from New Brighton Silver Band – tuba and Hamish Upton, Woolston Brass - percussion.

Congratulations also to the “cats” (as Roger Fox calls them) who were selected for the **2014 New Zealand Youth Jazz Orchestra**. On trumpet Josh Saville formerly of Woolston Concert Brass and James French, Palmerston North Brass. On trombone Sam Hart and Luke Spence from Wellington Brass and Daniel Jeong from the National Secondary Schools Brass Band. The orchestra and guest trombonist Luis Bonilla (USA) met in Wellington in mid August and toured the lower North Island with their final concert part of the NZSM Jazz Festival.

Kenneth Young - performer, conductor and composer, is well known to orchestra and brass followers alike. This month his two worlds combine as his *3rd Symphony* is premiered by Woolston Brass and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

“It’s a piece I’ve always wanted to write,” said Young, “having had a foot in both camps all my professional life. The colour possibilities always fascinated my imagination. So when I expressed this to Gretchen La Roche at the CSO she decided to commission the work from me, something I am very grateful for. It has taken nine months, is in four movements and is about 38 minutes long. There is no programme as such; I’d rather the listener went on their own journey.” Young is currently the composer-in-residence at the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra.

Jeff Mulraney writes as a follow up to his article in *The Mouthpiece* last year on the standard of playing on the Street March: “It is pleasing to note a decided improvement in the standard of playing, particularly from the A Grade bands, at the Nationals, held in Invercargill, this year. I was the second music judge stationed immediately after the salute. Considering the length of the Street March, bands were still playing well when they passed me, although some of the cornet players looked a bit worse for wear at that stage. In general, there seemed to be a more balanced sound with only a few bands still being dominated by the trombones and/or the bass drum and in one case a number of side drums. I trust the standard will continue to improve for next year in Rotorua in order to build on the gains made in Invercargill.”



Tom Daniels directs the winning junior ensemble from Porirua Youth Brass

A Note of Thanks

Our sincere thanks go to the individuals, businesses and bands that have supported the 2014 National Band of New Zealand and Kapa Haka group through seat sponsorship and donations. These include the Infinity Foundation, the Pelorus Trust and the ASB Community Trust.

Musical Director	Nigel Weeks	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
Principal Cornet	John Lewis	Sponsor: Peter McDermott, patron of Dalewool Auckland Brass
Soprano Cornet	Colin Clark	Sponsor: North Shore Brass Academy
Bb Cornet	Kevin McMorran	Sponsor: Bill Platt, 1978 and 1995 National Band
	Clyde Dixon	Sponsor: Jeff Mulraney, 1976, 78, 89, 90, 92, 95 National Bands
	Anthony Smith	Sponsor: Newmans Music Works, Timaru
	Kyle Lawson	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart, Christchurch
	Matthew Stein	Sponsor: Mike Sander, Wellington and Ian Levien, 1965, 67, 78, 89, 90, 92, 95, 03, 05 National Bands
	Nicholas Garrett	Sponsor: Winton and Margaret Bear Charitable Trust
	John Sullivan	Sponsor: North Shore Brass Academy
	Graham Hickman	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart and John Bartlett 1970 National Band
	Raynor Martin	Sponsor: The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
Flugel Horn	Tyme Marsters	Sponsor: The Brass Factory Canterbury
Tenor Horn	Mike Ford	Sponsor: Jim Edmondston 1980 National Band
	Bill Vail	Sponsor: John Bartlett 1970 National Band
	Sergio Marshall	Sponsor: Hamilton City Brass
Baritone	Ross Gerritsen	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
	Steve Griffin	Sponsor: <i>The Local Bar</i> , 250 Barrington Street, Christchurch
Euphonium	Riki McDonnell	Sponsor: JP Sterling Brass Instruments
	Steve Miles	Sponsor: Peter Adams, Dunedin
Tenor Trombone	Andrew Yorkstone	Sponsor: Adrienne, Lady Stewart, Christchurch
	Mike Ashton	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
Bass Trombone	Joe Thomas	Sponsor: Rob Wilson, 1980 & 1990 National Band
Eb Bass	Fraser Robertson	Sponsor: Southwood Export Ltd
	Keenan Buchanan	Sponsor: Palmerston North Brass and Les Green, 1965, 76, 80, 89 National Bands
Bbb Bass	Leigh Martin	Sponsor: The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
	Joel Williams	Sponsor: Ron Harris, Auckland
Percussion	Grant Myhill	Sponsor: Owen Dell 1973 & 1974 National Youth Band
	Jessica Hix	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
	Mike Tan	Sponsor: The New Zealand Army Band
	Rebecca Keoghan	Sponsor: AWS Legal, Invercargill
Kapa Haka	Avril Keelan (leader), Te Rangi Marie Rautjoki, Kiri Dell, Edmund Eramiha, Marcus Reihana, Iwi Matthews, Hamo Dell, (received a scholarship from the ILT Foundation) Group Sponsor: Wiwi Ngati Kapa Haka Group, Ruatoria	

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Available from the BBANZ Office, Besson Artist Kristy Rowe's latest CD *Center Stage*. Kristy is accompanied by the Gunnedah Shire Band and the CD features several of the pieces she performed with the 2014 National Youth Band of New Zealand.

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CENTER STAGE

Kristy Rowe
AND THE GUNNEDAH SHIRE BAND



Besson in New Zealand

Besson is very proud to announce that we have appointed ABI Music in Auckland as our sole official dealer in New Zealand. The partnership with ABI Music will allow for future collaborations and more direct contact between our company and the New Zealand banding community.

In the past year Besson has provided a variety of support throughout New Zealand to the banding community, including school development, band competition support and international artist touring. We were delighted to support development work by local Besson Euphonium artist Byron "Buzz" Newton touring to schools with ABI Music. Grass roots development of brass is crucial in what we hope will be an ongoing involvement in nurturing our next generation of younger players. Cornet player and Besson Artist Tom Hutchinson, from the Cory Band, had a very successful (if short) tour towards the end of last year in Auckland and Wellington. His vibrancy and consummate showmanship won over the crowds at his performances. We do hope to see him again soon on our shores.

Besson Baritone Artist Kristy Rowe from Australia joined forces with the New Zealand National Youth Band at the start of the year. As soloist for the concerts and tutor, this young artist was a fantastic inspiration to players not so much younger than herself, and she demonstrated the path that it is possible to take to reach the top of brass banding worldwide.

Besson were one of the principal sponsors of the 2014 National Band Championships and we are very honoured to be the supporter of the Champion of Champions event and congratulate Trevor Bremner on an outstanding performance.

For those people who were not all banded out after the Nationals in July, there was a great opportunity to see Besson Euphonium Ambassador Steven Mead and Besson Euphonium Artist Misa Mead during their

flying visit to the North Island during which they gave outstanding concerts in Porirua and Napier. This was a wonderful chance for the local bands Trust Porirua City Brass and Deco Bay Napier Port Brass to work with world class players and to learn from their vast wealth of experience.

Alongside our fully European-made Prestige and Sovereign series of instruments, Besson is growing their 1000 Series student line, and towards the end of 2014 will be releasing a brand new 700 Series of intermediate-range instruments.

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With thanks to all the banding community,
Stephen Moschner
Sales Manager
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2015 National Youth Band

Applications are now open for the 2015 National Youth Band. Applicants should be under 23 years of age on 23 January 2015 and be a registered player with a BBANZ member band. The 2015 course and concert tour will be based in Blenheim from Saturday 24 January to Sunday 1 February. There is also the possibility of the NYB attending the Queensland Music Festival in Australia in late July and the January band would be the band going on that trip.

Application forms and the audition study are available from brass@banz.org.nz or can be downloaded from our website www.brassbanz.org.nz

Musings from Brownie - The AGM

Well I see that the next AGM has been notified. To me it doesn't seem very long since the last one. One wonders what new remits are being formulated in the various bandrooms around the country. This reminds me of one in particular which came into effect at the last contest. I'm speaking of the Hymn Test which was introduced into the D Grade. Or should I have referred to it as the Sacred/Reflective Item Test?

Our band found the exercise somewhat novel and it was a pity, because of our draw, we were unable to listen to the other bands playing their versions. I feel that it is also significant that I have heard very little "feedback" on the subject - particularly of a negative nature. Could it be a successful change to the D Grade format? Only time will tell.

I mentioned in the last *Mouthpiece* that I blew for another band at the contest, a C Grade band. The hymn they used was exactly the same arrangement as used for the D Grade Test. I found it quite novel playing what was a completely different musical interpretation to what I had trained our band to do. And of course the question arose - who's right and who's wrong? Also both bands played for the same judge. However I am able to report that both bands scored placings in their respective results. Which means, I guess, that we were both right - or does it?

Recently I heard a news report on radio that the Hawera Band's bandroom is in danger of collapse. It seems like a continuing saga - first Kaiapoi, then Greymouth and now Hawera. From what I can gather, after 130 years the borer is finally beginning to let go hands. I hope they can hang on until the band finds alternative accommodation for itself. In looking into this, I was somewhat surprised to see that Hawera is currently non-affiliated to BBANZ and yet some 60 years ago they were our A Grade champions. That got me wondering how many other bands, still with their bandrooms, are currently unaffiliated. I can think of two immediately, Balclutha and Warkworth who have brass groups still functioning. Strange how they happen to be at either end of the country, so what's in between?

I raised the subject with the Executive Officer Helen Lee about the possibility of creating a social membership for these "forgotten bands", and was surprised to learn that the Association already has this kind of membership. For no charge any person who can demonstrate an interest in the Association's objectives may be an associate member with the right to be kept informed of the Association's activities. Plus any person or non-affiliated band can also subscribe to *The Mouthpiece*. Over our history of some 160 years, the number of bands that have "come and gone" run into the hundreds. I am sure that those who are no longer members of the Association are still interested in following banding activities via *The Mouthpiece* and website.

The coming AGM will also decide where the National Contest will be held in 2017. Will it be three North Island contests in a row? I've heard a rumour that it could be in Blenheim. The "grapevine" (they grow a few around there) tells me that they could have a "beaut new" venue built by then. But does this help bands in the deep south? Like many, I have travelled from Auckland to Wellington by bus and have found that it fills in the better part of a day. (The distance being a little over 600 km.) And going the other way the trip from Invercargill to Blenheim is over 850 km. I'm told it would take some 14 hours for the journey - with band practice to follow? One could fly, but as I understand it, it's via Wellington and therefore expensive.

I have been approached by a number of people, mainly from lower grade bands, about the absence of a contest in the South Island in 2016. All have told me that their bands can't afford to travel to Napier, and if possible, can an alternative band festival/contest be organised in the South Island? Timaru is one venue suggested after their successful contest in 2012. But it is agreed that wherever it is held, it must be fairly central. The format of the festival could be interesting as well, as each district committee runs contests which differ from one another. It could also be a chance to experiment with new events. I feel that such a festival, run well, could create considerable interest. So this topic certainly needs more discussion both at the national level as well as with relevant district committees. Food for thought?

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com

Army Band Events

The New Zealand Army Band recently held their annual unit solo competition and formal dinner. The judges for this year's solos were Mr Steven Miles for the brass players and Mr Hanafi Machirus for the rhythm section. It was indeed a privilege to have two such well-qualified gentlemen to adjudicate for us. Each member of the unit had to perform a piece in the style of an Aria (Slow) and Concerto (Fast) over the two days of competition. The competition proved to be very close and competitive in all sections. The results were as follows:

Open Brass Aria Competition

- 1 SSGT Nick Johnston
- 2 PTE Jack Harré
- 3 PTE Andrew Yorkstone

Open Brass Concerto Competition

- 1 PTE Joel Williams
- 2 PTE Jack Harré
- 3 CAPT Graham Hickman

Premier Brass Aria Competition

- 1 LCPL Marc Ellis
- 2 CPL Kevin Hickman
- 3 PTE Joel Williams

Premier Brass Concerto Competition

- 1 SSGT Phillip Johnston
- 2 CPL Kevin Hickman
- 3 SGT Callum Hewson

Rhythm Technical Competition

- 1 CPL Jason Shortland
- 2 SGT Riwai Hina
- 3 PTE Cameron Lee

Rhythm Open Competition

- 1 PTE Cameron Lee
- 2 CPL Vaea Peterson
- 3 CPL Jason Shortland

The overall winners for each section were Brass CPL Kevin Hickman and Rhythm CPL Jason Shortland.

At the completion of the solo competition the band was hosted at the Burnham Camp WO's and Sgt mess for our annual formal dinner. Distinguished guests in attendance were DCA Brigadier Phil McKee, the band's Formation Commander Col Martin Dransfield, CO of the band Maj. Peter Boywer and our guest speaker journalist Joe Bennett.

During the evening several presentations were made including 'The Band Master's Bugle' awarded to the musician of the year and the 'Triple M Cup' awarded to the Private soldier who not only displays the core values of the New Zealand Army, but displays the attributes of 'Triple M' (Music, Military and Man/Woman). This year's winners were CPL Kevin Hickman (Band Master's Bugle) and PTE Andrew Yorkstone (Triple M Cup). LCPL Steve Smith was also presented with a certificate for 20 years service to the unit. After the presentations all in attendance were entertained by guest speaker Joe Bennett.

The evening was a great success and special thanks must be given to CPL Holloway and his team from 3 CSS Bn who provided a superb meal and atmosphere that was greatly appreciated.

CPL K J Hickman - NZAB Comms Cell IC

Right: DCA BRIG McKee presents LCPL Smith with his New Zealand Army Band 20 year service certificate.

Below: CAPT Hickman presents LCPL Ellis 1st prize for the Premier Aria event



Key's Quiz – the answers

Q1. Name the NZ cricket captain who played solo cornet for the Motueka Band. **A: Bevan Congdon**

Q2. Who was the first female member of the Woolston Band?

A: Tania Downard (now Tania McKay and currently playing with Woolston Concert Brass)

Q3. In which city did Errol Mason win his first (of 10) cornet championships? **A: Timaru**

Q4: Who was selected for the National Band of New Zealand at age 14? **A: Peter B Adams, Auckland**

Q5: Who conducted the New Lynn Citizens' Band to win the B Grade test in Dunedin in 1978? **A: Karen Spurdle (Apologies for the typo in the last issue the year was 1978 not 1987. Ed.)**

Q6: Which legend of brass banding judged the National Contest in Wanganui in 1953?

A: Harry Mortimer

Q7: Who is the prominent present-day lawyer who played cornet and bagpipes in the 1979 Youth Band to Australia? **A: Jonathan Krebs**

Q8: Name the family that had a father, son and grandson play for the National Band of New Zealand? **A: The Ormrods. Ernie Senior, Ernie Junior and Alan**

Q9: Who was the conductor of the Champion A Grade Band at the 1956 national contest in Invercargill? **A: Dave Christensen, Woolston Brass**

Q10: The winner of the 1955 Open Horn Championships was from the Kerepehi Brass Band. Name him. **A: Vay Vivian**

Q11: At the 1947 contest in Wanganui, two players were recalled to decide the cornet championship that night. Who won the title? **A: Louis Fox**

Q12: Who won the first Errol Mason memorial solo contest? **A: Ross McGavin**

Q13: Name the three New Zealand cornet players who became Professors of Brass at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. **A: John Robertson, Gordon Webb and Ken Smith**

Q14: Who wrote the 1962 A Grade Test *Tam O'Shanter's Ride*? **A: Dr Denis Wright**

Q15: Who was the drum major of the 1962 National Band of New Zealand? **A: Keith Manning**

Q16: Who won the 1927 open Baritone solo playing for the Jupps Band? **A: K G L Smith**

Q17: The 1953 National Band of New Zealand won the British Open band contest at Bellevue, England. Who wrote the test piece *The Three Musketeers*? **A: George Hesse**

Q18: Name the Australian who won the New Zealand Champion of Champions in 1980. **A: Wayne Bowden**

Q19: This gentleman was nine times North Island vice-president and was many years president of our Association. He was also a playing member of the 1970 National Band. **A: Tom Taylor**

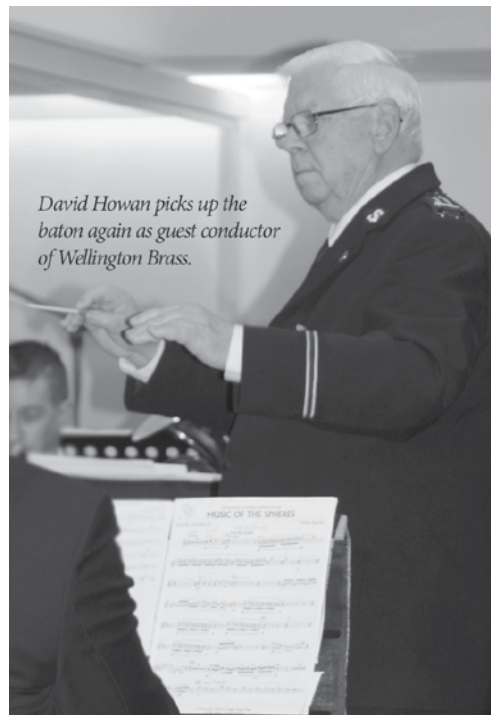
Q20: Which prominent member of the current Executive had a father who won the Veterans' solo in 1983? **A: Helen Lee – daughter of Bob Lee.**

Celebrating 120 Years

As part of the 120th anniversary celebrations for the Wellington South Salvation Army Band, Wellington Brass presented a feast of great music at the Wellington South Salvation Army Hall on 6 July. The concert was compered by retired WSB Bandmaster David Howan and featured Wellington Brass Band's contest music as well as many well-known Salvation Army compositions. The Champion band was on top form as this was their final performance before the National Championships. The programme included the quick march *Jubilee*, sacred item *I Know Thou Art Mine*, the classic Salvation Army marches, *The Red Shield* and *The Wellingtonian*, in which conductor David Bremner invited Bandmaster David Howan to conduct. The march fantasy *The Joybringer* included some members of the band singing *Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam* when the melody was featured. Soloists from the band also performed repertoire from the Salvation Army catalogue with Buzz Newton playing *Glorious Liberation*, principal cornet Matt Stein performing *A New World* and Riki McDonnell *Comfort My People* accompanied by Martyn Smith on the piano.

The concert also included the national contest test piece *On Alderley Edge* and the band's own choice selection *Music of the Spheres*. Younger members of the band Toby Pringle, Kip Cleverley, Callum Mallett and Luke Spence performed *Manchester Sketches*, their entry in the National Junior Quartet event.

The Wellington South Band thanks Wellington Brass for being part of our 120th celebrations which will finish with a weekend of celebration at Labour Weekend to which past members have been invited to attend. The weekend will feature soloists Matt Stein of the Royal NZ Navy Band and David Fiu of the NZ Army Band, both past members of the Wellington South Band.



David Howan picks up the baton again as guest conductor of Wellington Brass.



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National Youth Brass Band

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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

Notice of Meeting

The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand will be held in Wellington on Saturday 1 November at the West Plaza Hotel 110-116 Wakefield Street.

Registration and morning tea from 9.00am
with the AGM running from 10.00am to Approximately 4.00pm.

On Friday evening 31 October
an open discussion will be held prior to the AGM.
The topic: "Should we continue with our contest in its current form?"
7.30pm Wellington. Venue TBA. All welcome.

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Mouthpiece Subscriptions

Due to the increase in postage the price of an individual subscription to *The Mouthpiece* has increased from \$51.15 to \$55.00 for the 2014-2015 year.



Find out who will be in the 2014 National Secondary Schools Band in the next issue.

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity) E Aldridge (in perpetuity) PB Adams, J Aldridge, Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, J Edmondston, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.



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The 2014 National Band of New Zealand and Aotearoa Maori Group.

Photograph courtesy of Cactus Photography, Auckland

Inter-National Band

Ross Gerritsen, 1st baritone with the 2014 National Band of New Zealand blogs his way round China and Korea.

Day 1:

The last National Band disbanded five years ago at the end of the 2009 World Championships in Kerkrade. For the 12 members of the current band who were on that trip - it's great to be back! We're joined by 13 people for whom this is their first National Band and six who have been away and come back.

We rehearsed this evening at Macleans College. The band's Musical Director, Nigel Weeks, is Head of Music at Macleans and we're very fortunate to have access to the school's fabulous facilities. The two-hour plus rehearsal was most definitely a cobweb eradication exercise as we found our feet and worked on building a programme to take on the road.

Day two of rehearsal for a National Band is never exciting. As Riki McDonnell says, "Today is the exception that proves the rule". Other than really good chocolate slice at morning tea there hasn't been much to write about. We're starting to gel and it's getting exciting!

Day 3:

There comes a point where the honeymoon is over and it's time to crack the whip. Nigel demanded the first name and shame of the tour after principal trombone, Andrew Yorkstone chalked up three 'not following the conductor' indiscretions including playing a whole section of *West Side Story* which was cut two days ago and rehearsed twice since.

The band is delighted to announce that Sergeant Tyme Marsters has been appointed

Drum Major of the 2014 National Band for the Festival Parade in Seoul. Due to baggage restrictions Tyme is unable to take a mace but will pick up some chopsticks for the job.

Day 4:

Blink and it's gone. 21 hours of rehearsal in three and a bit days and we're now packed out of Macleans College and ready to move into the Dorothy Winstone Centre at Auckland Girls' Grammar tomorrow. This is a HUGE programme and there are lots of sore faces around. When you look at the lineup, the bandies amongst you will understand what it's been like: *Pines of Rome, Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, Arabian Nights, Ruslan and Lyudmila, Pictures at an Exhibition* and *William Tell*. Loud, fast and FUN! Don't worry there's plenty of 'lushness' too.

The nuts and bolts have been starting to fall into place. Simon Hocking handed out our plane tickets today. John Sullivan dished out our visad passports (new word). Our uniforms are now in our possession and we finally have a complete itinerary for the Chinese leg of the trip. So the 2014 National Band is locked and loaded.

Day 5:

The band was extremely proud to perform for family, friends, bandspeople and school students this evening at Auckland Girls' Grammar School. It's immensely satisfying to show off what we've been up to. Our sincerest thanks to everyone who was able to come to the concert.

Day 7:

We are now well and truly touring. This entry comes to you from one of the many terminals at the Beijing International Airport. We're not really sure how big this place is, but after we arrived we had to get on a train to get to baggage claim. The trip

has been understandably uneventful since we left Auckland 26 hours ago. While the six hour stopover in Singapore seemed like a drag, it resulted in us arriving in Beijing at 7:00am local time, so those who got sleep at the Singapore terminal and on the Singapore-Beijing leg are doing OK.

We now have another (domestic) flight to Dalian which is the venue for tomorrow night's concert. A four hour wait in the airport, a two hour flight then a coach to the hotel awaits us where we will be able to unpack, shower and head out for some dinner and sightseeing before what we hope will be a good night's sleep.

Day 8:

We arrived at our hotel yesterday afternoon and headed straight for beer! You may have seen the pictures of us in the German-style beer garden drinking imported European Beer - a bit strange when you're in China but hey, this is a brass band after all. Dinner options were many and varied. The hotel's revolving restaurant serves a full buffet with ALL YOU CAN DRINK BEER for NZ\$13, so a number of the band defaulted to that option while a few of us went exploring in the hope of finding Peking Duck. After 40 minutes of drawing pictures of ducks, making quacking noises and playing charades with a number of locals and restaurateurs, we finally found what we had been looking for and feasted on duck the proper way - pancakes, hoi sin sauce, leeks and duck all carved beside the table. Fantastic.

After an eclectic breakfast ranging from traditional western fare to pickled fish bones, duck eggs and pickled lots of other things, we are off for a morning of exploring before we congregate early afternoon to head to wherever our concert is. We have no idea what the venue

is like, how many people will be there or what the reception will be like.

Day 9:

The venue for our first concert was the Dalian Development Area Grand Theatre. As with any large city there are 'rough' areas and 'nice' areas, but Dalian seems to be pretty polarised in this regard. There are parts of town that look as though they haven't been cleaned in years, and then there's the Dalian Development Area which is pristinely beautiful. The theatre is world class. The stage is massive and the back stage area would be at least five times the stage space. The full fly tower was able to store our entire sound shell which was in the early stages of being flown back up into the ceiling as we packed down the stage. It was truly state of the art and a pleasure to play in for our first gig on Chinese soil. The audience was a fair size (approx. 250.) They had paid between NZ\$25 and NZ\$35 - just a shame that they were dwarfed by a huge theatre!

Chinese efficiency was exemplified by what we have tagged the IPCG or Impending Performance Commencement Gong. At 6:59pm, the theatre gong (a recording) sounded once to alert the audience and performers that the show was about to start. Ten seconds before we were due to walk on stage the gong sounded five times and on we marched. The interval was scheduled for 10 minutes - and 10 minutes it was. After nine minutes the gong sounded once and you know the rest.

We're not really sure who made up the audience - perhaps brass players, venue subscribers or maybe just curious locals. There was no talking at all other than Nigel introducing the soloists, "Soprano cornet, small, only one in band, Colin Clark".

The Maori group was predictably loved by the audience. They are awesome! Some small children cried, but that too is probably predictable. It seemed the audience didn't know what to expect from us and were slow to warm up but by the end of the concert, especially after *La Fiesta*, they were well and truly new fans of the National Band. After the concert we had our final visit to 'Mr Beer' who proves that:

- 1: NZ beer is overpriced, and
- 2: It's OK to drink can beer... half a litre at a time.

Some finished up at 1:00am which on a normal concert night wouldn't be worth a mention, but with a 4:00am wake-up call pending we knew there was a tough day ahead.

Day 10:

4:00am starts make for tough days. We all eventually arrived in Dezhou after being split into two groups, taking two flights and two buses to our next hotel. The flight was only an hour and the coach ride just under two hours, but by the time we had checked in to the hotel and headed down for lunch we had already been up for 10 hours.

There wasn't really anything (shopping wise) close to the hotel and the hotel restaurant

was certainly the only eatery. Think boarding school dining room in a very tired hotel rather than the hotel restaurants you might be accustomed to. It was evident that they weren't expecting us - quite a wait for some (not that it really mattered). Chicken and corn soup, rice, noodles with egg and tomato, spicy chicken in AMAZING gravy (including the feet), pork in sauce, slow cooked beef stew, Roti-like bread, Coke and some other bits and pieces. NZ\$7 each - fantastic value.

We were very weary at our rehearsal this afternoon - the effects of a long day were clearly visible and this carried through somewhat into the evening's concert. The theatre is essentially a carbon copy of the one in Dalian. 700 tickets had been sold to this concert, although there didn't seem to be quite that number in the audience. They loved the band but there will need to be a refocus to get back to the quality of the Dalian gig. There is no concert tomorrow (Saturday) so we have 48 hours to get battle ready again.

We have our first train experience tomorrow. We have heard that they can be quite an 'experience' so I guess we'll just have to wait and see. Thinking it might be tough to stream the rugby but we'll give it a good nudge. Having a fabulous time.

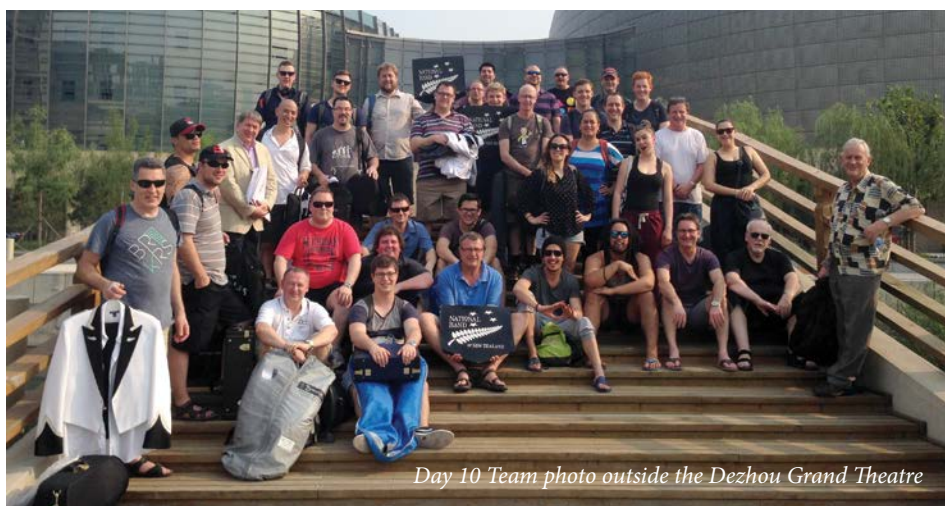
Day 11:

When you travel somewhere like China you never really know what you're going to get from day to day. In some cities there's LOTS of English around. The shops often have their name in English as well as Chinese...menus have English translations...some retailers know enough to give you basic help. Then in other places there's nothing...at all. Many of us are now adept at whipping out our phones and using translation apps to communicate. The locals find this quite amusing; however, they find everything about us amusing. Tonight at a Steamboat Restaurant (cooking your own raw meat/noodles/mushrooms/greens in a boiling broth at the table) the waitresses knew NO English and there certainly wasn't any help from the menu. With the help of the app, we were able to cook up a feast of chicken, beef, pork, two types of mushroom, bok choy, lettuce and spinach for what seemed like an impossible \$NZ12 each (including beer).

Just when you think you're into the swing of things you turn up at a new hotel, Best Western Xuzhou and there's a window between the bedroom and the bathroom - you start to wonder what ulterior motives there might be!

Today started with a morning off.

A respectable 2:00pm checkout allowed us the chance to have a wander. A huge mall three



Day 10 Team photo outside the Dezhou Grand Theatre



Day 12 Nigel Weeks commandeers a small yellow bus at the Xuzhou Museum of Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses of the Han Dynasty.



Day 9 Rehearsal time at the Dalian Development Area Grand Theatre for the first concert in China.

blocks from the hotel was an easy taxi ride, and when it costs three of you 46 cents each it's not worth walking! The roads/drivers scare the living daylights out of us but the chaos seems organised so you go with the flow.

After checkout, we had a short bus trip to the Dezhou Train station where we had an hour's wait before boarding the bullet train. The trains run to schedule – no matter what. It was made very clear to us by our tour guides, Jackson and Joan that we needed to get to our carriage quickly with all our gear and worry about what we were going to do with it AFTER we were all on board and the train was on its way. Clearly the locals weren't used to seeing a brass band get onto the bullet train with 41 suitcases and 27 instruments including four tubas.

The train travels at 300km/h. It doesn't seem that fast as you look out the window...but nonetheless it's really comfortable, smooth and it gets you where you're going, and very fast – even with a number of stops along the way. Think Wellington to Taupo in 1.5 hours.

We're in a very different city now to the last two; Xuzhou seems much 'flashier'. Although it was dark as we drove in from the station, it seemed more beautifully kept and there's a lot going on. I guess we will have the opportunity to see tomorrow. We are in the Best Western Hotel which is by far the nicest hotel we have had so far. Free High Speed WiFi modems in every room and 'western' hotel mattresses.

Day 12:

You run the risk on these tours of going from hotel to rehearsal to concert to hotel to bus to hotel and back without ever really seeing anything 'touristy'. Of course you have to make these opportunities for yourself so today we did. A group of 16 or so headed to the home of the Han Dynasty. We didn't have the opportunity to see the Terracotta Warriors in Xian but today's experience was a pretty good alternative. We ventured down into the King's Mausoleum which was excavated in 1995 and was beautifully preserved for thousands of years. Wanting to see the entire complex in the short period of time, we hired two small yellow buses which took us to each of the four attractions. Nigel charmed the bus driver into letting him drive the vehicle - only to freak out when we drove off. It was quite funny watching her chasing Nigel through the complex.

We have two concerts here in Xuzhou. The Music Hall is another stunning building, slightly smaller than the previous venues but just as impressive. A good audience tonight – again, they were quite cold at the outset but we had won them over by the end after a double encore and two standing ovations. Nigel pulled the master stroke when he asked a five year old boy from the audience to conduct the *William Tell Overture*. Our hosts tell us that Chinese audiences love comedy, opera and ballet, so a brass band is not on their radar at all. This explains to some extent the reserved audiences and I guess also the small number of people attending.

Monday and Tuesday are likely to be the most challenging days of the tour. Tomorrow

is mid-autumn day in China so it's a public holiday. This is a time when families come together - which explains why there have been a lot of weddings in town. Our concert is mid-afternoon. We will have checked out of the hotel at midday so will hang around at the theatre until the coach takes us to the local train station for a 9:30pm departure on an overnight sleeper. We have been told that there are (literally) soft bed carriages and hard bed carriages. It transpires that we will be in the hard beds.

Day 13:

As with the pending election, the leader is always under the microscope. His indiscretions are highlighted tenfold, and it's always nice to know that he has his failings like all of us! So you can imagine the cheer this morning when Nigel was required to pay 25 Yuan (\$5) during checkout to replace the coat hanger he had inadvertently 'borrowed' from the hotel. The hotels here are fastidious in their checking of rooms at checkout and there is no chance here to souvenir the odd glass, hand towel or (quite nice) embroidered laundry bag.

We have now been away a week and there is an aroma developing among the band folk. Many took the opportunity to get loads of clothes laundered at the hotel but the plan was foiled when the front desk informed us that we would not be getting them back on time because it had been raining... go figure. A quick call to our hosts and that nonsense was put to bed. Our freshly laundered bits and pieces arrived early this morning... amazing how they all managed to dry in the rain and dark overnight.

This afternoon's concert was at the same venue as last night's, with a similar sized audience. Again, the audience was very slow

to get going but by the end was fully into it and wanted more. Nigel ventured into the audience again and found a young boy to conduct the band. He seemed a little freaked out (understandably) at such a proposition and at one point basically froze and stopped conducting. Nigel came back to the middle of the band and got him going and he did a great job through to the end. It turned out that he was blind - which explained a lot - a great story for him and his family. The delight on the mother's face when Nigel gave her his flowers was wonderful. Members of the band stayed behind to have photos with 16 blind children for whom this was a wonderful experience.

We have had the odd bout of churning tummies and some discomfort, but this morning we had our first man down. Kyle Lawson our Repiano cornet was so ill that he was admitted to hospital for observation after contracting a virus. He missed the concert and his seat was filled very capably by Raynor Martin. Third 3rd cornet to Rep is a serious promotion and a big gig to sight-read! One of the most poignant moments in our programme is a cornet trio in *Somewhere* from *West Side Story*, between the Repiano, Solo Cornet and 2nd Cornet. Every night we get to hear this played by the principal cornets of Dalewood (John Lewis), Woolston (Kyle) and Wellington Brass (Matt Stein) and it is quite stunning - one of the many musical treats in the programme. Raynor did a great job on Repiano including his sight-reading effort of the trio. Kyle joined us this afternoon and is on the mend.

So to the bit you've all been waiting for - the overnight train. But you will have to wait for the next issue of *The Mouthpiece* to read about this adventure and about our time in Korea.

A Note of Thanks

Our sincere thanks go to the individuals, businesses and bands that have supported the 2014 National Band of New Zealand and Kapa Haka group through seat sponsorship and donations.

ASB Community Trust
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The New Zealand Army Band
Winton & Margaret Bear Charitable Trust
Wiwi Ngati Kapa Haka Group, Ruatoria

Thank you also to the individuals and organisation that provided logistical, publicity and administrative support:

The China Performing Arts Agency, Korea International Wind Band Festival, Band co-managers - Kevin Dell OMNZ and Graham Dick, BBANZ President - Evan Sayer, Mrs Hinetu Dell, the Auckland Band Association, North Shore Brass, Owen Melhuish, Kathy Clark, John McGough, Dave Johnstone - Johnstone Jones Design, and Adprint Ltd.

A note from our President

This month's column is being written in the 'Presidential Suite' of the Domlord International Hotel in Guangzhou, China as I am on the road with the 2014 National Band of New Zealand. The suite is your average twin hotel room and shared with another member of the touring party. Photographs and a travel blog in this issue will give you a detailed account of the tour by the National Band



Between now and Christmas the Association has three very important events taking place. These are the 2014 National Secondary Schools' Band, the Association's Annual General Meeting and a Brass Tutors' workshop. Dates are in *The Mouthpiece* and details will be available on the Association's website.

The Association's Audited Annual Financial Reports are due to be distributed shortly and once again they show a financial surplus. The financial surpluses from both the New Plymouth (additional to what was accrued in last year's Financial Reports) and Invercargill Contests have spared any red ink appearing in the final result. The Executive Committee continues to monitor costs and is acutely aware of the effect rising costs have on our member bands. Costs are therefore closely scrutinised before any commitments are made and our future direction will always have to be tempered by what can be afforded.

Work has started on an online membership database which will allow bands to maintain the membership records of its members. We intend that future contest entries will also be received in this manner and so give bands better control and remove some of the office tedium from our overworked and underpaid Executive Officer. Once implemented, the Executive Committee will then be in a position to consider the configuration of the office and whether a 'virtual' office is the most cost effective way to manage the Association's business in the future.

Remember that on the Friday night prior to the AGM there is the opportunity for those interested in our National Contests to put their views forward. This is a discussion evening about how we can make our contests better. I look forward to seeing a good representation of our membership at both the Friday night discussion and the AGM.

Evan Sayer - President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

What's On?

Sunday 5, 12, 19, 26 October
Brilliant Brass radio series presented by David Bremner each Sunday at 10.00am on Radio New Zealand Concert

Wednesday 8 October
New Zealand Young Brass Musician of the Year competition - Final, 7.30pm St Andrew's on the Terrace, 30 The Terrace, Wellington

Wednesday 8 to Tuesday 14 October
National Secondary Schools' Brass Band training course, Waikanae.

Sunday 12 October
Orewa Concert by Dalewool Auckland Brass 2.00pm at the Centrestage Theatre, Orewa

Monday 13 October
The 2014 National Secondary Schools' Brass Band in concert at St James' Church, Lower Hutt. 7.00pm.

Saturday 18 October
Canterbury Provincial Band Championships at the Performing Arts Centre, Middleton Grange High School, Christchurch

Sunday 19 October
Annual General Meeting of the Marlborough Nelson West Coast District Association

Friday 31 October
Open discussion evening: Should we continue with our contest in its current form? 7.30pm Wellington. The Wakefield Suite, West Plaza Hotel. All welcome.

Saturday 1 November
Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand, West Plaza Hotel, Wellington

Saturday 15 November
BBANZ Brass Tutors' Workshop 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Wellington Brass bandroom. To register, email Jeff Mulraney jeffmulraney@yahoo.co.nz

CD Release, a recital by Byron Newton (euphonium) and Rachel Swindells (piano) to mark the release of Byron's new CD *Kiwi Dragon*. 7.00pm, Wellington South Salvation Army Hall, Newtown. Gold coin donation.

Saturday 24 January to Sunday 1 February 2015
2015 National Youth Brass Band training course will be held at Woodbourne Air Force Base, Blenheim with concerts in Westport, Nelson and Blenheim.



National Band manager Kevin Dell enjoys a quite moment outside the Dezhou Grand Theatre.



The winners of the National Band's noodle eating contest are the 2nd cornet section, Nick Garrett and Matt Stein.

Brass Tutors' Workshop

There are many pressures on tutors, not only those directly involved with school itinerant teaching but also those tutoring after school in the band setting. Expectations are high and time is limited. The rationale behind this workshop is how we can fully utilise the time we have with the students to produce the best possible results.

The aim of this day-long workshop is to facilitate brass/music tutor networking by providing an interactive, informal environment in which to share ideas and approaches to brass teaching. Teaching techniques will be discussed as well as other resources and ideas for brass tutors. It is envisaged that participants will bring examples of the resources they use and the approaches they think work best in the tutoring situation, so that these ideas can be shared amongst the group.

Workshop Structure: The proposed approach is as follows:

Focusing Question 1: We have a new student taking their first lesson in brass playing. How should we approach this lesson?

Focusing Question 2: It is the second time we see the student. How do we follow up what we have started in lesson 1?

Focusing Question 3: What resources do you recommend to assist in the instruction of this student? (Please bring examples and/or publishing details to share with the group)

Focusing Question 4: "Too much to do and so little time". Time management can be a problem. How can we make the most of the time we have with the student?

The workshop will also include a session by Kevin Dell on techniques to combat performance anxiety.

If you have any questions about tutoring, bring these to the workshop so that we can share them and try to offer suggestions to help. It would be very helpful if you could send your questions in advance so that the three of us can look for solutions/ideas.

It is hoped that if this workshop is successful, some networking and sharing of ideas will take place amongst the participants and that this will be a catalyst for further workshops at a more regional level.

Details: Saturday 15 November from 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Wellington Brass bandroom. All are welcome and there is no charge for the event. To register your interest, please email Jeff Mulraney at jeffmulraney@yahoo.co.nz

Jeff Mulraney; Rob Wilson and Kevin Dell
BBANZ Education team

Quick Notes

The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra is offering discounted tickets to bands people to its upcoming concert series *Bold Worlds* which features international trumpet player **Hakan Hardenberger** as guest soloist. When booking just ask for BRASS 15 to receive \$15.00 off an adult ticket price from the following booking agencies: Ticket Master 0800 111 999 (Auckland), Ticketek 0800 842 538 (Hamilton and Wellington) and TicketDirect 0800 484 2538 (Dunedin). Service fee applies. Phone or counter bookings only.

Brilliant Brass, the radio series presented by David Bremner returns to Radio New Zealand Concert this month. The programme is on each Sunday morning in October from 10.00am. One of the sessions will feature a history of the National Band.

The winner of the two CDs for **Kev's Quiz** was Clyde Dixon from Wanganui. Only one point behind were Lachlan and Clarke Spence from Whakatane. They might have had a bit of help from their parents, but a great effort never the less so a CD is on its way to you as well. Look out for another quiz from Kevin Jarrett in a future issue.

Entries are open for the **2015 Centenary of ANZAC National Band Championships** to be held in Sydney, Australia from 3 to 6 April. The chief adjudicators are Allan Withington (Norway) and Prof. Gary McPherson (Australia) and the venue for the contest is the Seymour Theatre Centre, Darlington. A special wreath laying ceremony will take place after the Parade of Bands on the Saturday to mark the Centenary of Anzac. More details about the Champions can be found at www.2015nationals.org and contest entries close on 19 December 2014.

AGM Preview

On Saturday 1 November, every BBANZ affiliated band, District Association and Life Member has the opportunity to have a say in the future of our movement, which is the purpose of our Annual General Meeting. If all those eligible to attend our AGM did indeed turn up, there would be almost 75 representatives at the meeting. But the reality is that often half this number attends. To encourage greater awareness and hopefully greater participation, here is a preview of some of the remits on the agenda for the 2014 AGM.

Remits are changes proposed to the rules of the Brass Band Association or to the Contest Regulations. The remits that are passed at this meeting will be binding and in place for the next national contest. This year the majority of the remits have come from bands rather than the National Management Committee. For example: North Shore Brass is suggesting a change to how the draw for band events is carried out. They are suggesting a trial for the A Grade section where the draw is done on the day of the band events.

Trust Porirua City Brass has submitted a remit regarding the champion band in each grade. They suggest that in the event of two or more bands being awarded the same aggregate points, they shall be deemed to be joint winners of their grade. If a band is good enough to tie on aggregate points, then they should be declared joint winners and be able to share in the glory of their winning performances. With funding being so difficult these days, it is much easier to promote a winning combination than a runner up (even with the same points as the winner) and funders look for, and expect, results from organisations that they help and support.

In light of the discussion at last year's AGM around a test Sacred or Reflective Item for D Grade bands, Masterton District Brass is suggesting we take this a step further and reintroduce the set test selection for the grade.

As part of this new remit was changed at last year's meeting, we will require the leave of two thirds of delegates present at this year's meeting to discuss it. D Grade bands make up 31% of our member bands but they rarely attend an AGM. So it will be most interesting to see how many D Grade bands actually attend the AGM to have a say on something that affects them directly. Or do we need a remit next year that allows for postal voting from bands or members who are the only ones directly affected by a remit?

Once the official part of the AGM is completed, the meeting then becomes an open forum. This year there will be only one topic: "Should we continue with our national contest in its current form?" The National Management Committee is hosting a separate discussion evening on this topic the night before the AGM and will then bring the best ideas from that discussion to the general meeting. After such intense discussion on the one topic we should definitely have a plan for the future.

So... will we be hearing from you or your representative on 1 November?

Helen Lee – Executive Officer
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

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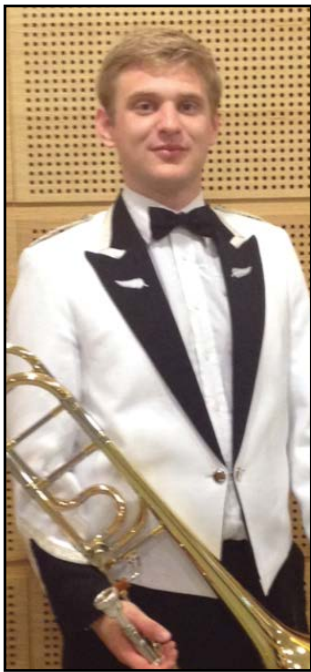
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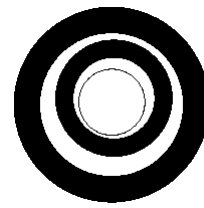
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Andrew Yorkstone, Kyle Lawson and Kieran Smith - finalists in the Young Brass Musician competition.



Young Musician Competition

The finalists of the inaugural New Zealand Young Brass Musician of the Year Competition (NZYBM) have been announced. The new competition run by the New Zealand Brass Foundation offers young brass musicians an opportunity to showcase their solo talents in a concert performance with brass band accompaniment. The winner will receive a \$1000 scholarship from the NZ Brass Foundation and be offered solo engagements with the Woolston Brass and Dalewood Auckland Brass Bands in 2015.

The five finalists are:

Luke Spence, euphonium (Wellington Brass) **Toby Pringle**, cornet (Wellington Brass) **Kieran Smith**, cornet (Wellington Brass) **Andrew Yorkstone**, trombone (Woolston Brass) and **Kyle Lawson**, cornet (Woolston Brass)

The finalists were selected from a video audition round consisting of a 6 to 10 minute solo performance with piano, brass band or recorded backing accompaniment. The audition round jurors were David Bremner and Phillip Johnston; both were incredibly impressed with the standard of applicants, but unfortunately they had to narrow it down to the finalists selected.

The five finalists will each perform a contrasting programme of around 15-20 minutes in the final and will be accompanied by the Wellington Brass Band. The jurors for the final will consist of David Bremner, Phillip Johnston, and David Elton from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Competition founder and event organiser Byron Newton had the following to say about the event. "The competition has been designed in the mould of the BBC Radio 2 Brass Player competition in the U.K. which acts as a springboard for up and coming brass soloists. By having open adjudication, other important soloist skills (that are perhaps overlooked at our National Contest) are on display such as stage deportment. Also, the soloists will have limited time to rehearse with the Wellington Brass Band so they will need to plan how they approach the rehearsals".

The Final will be held on Wednesday 8 October 2014 at St Andrew's on The Terrace, Wellington starting at 7:30pm. Admission is by gold coin donation (which goes towards the NZ Brass Foundation) and there is no charge for students.

2014 National Secondary Schools' Brass Band

Soprano Cornet:	Toby Pringle	Hutt International College
Solo Cornet:	Kip Cleverley	Wellington College
	Mollie Cornfield	Takapuna Grammar School
	Daniel Dalgleish	Trident High School, Whakatane
	Logan Ford	Garin College, Nelson
	William Swan	James Hargest College, Invercargill
	Patrick Webb	Hamilton Boys' High School
Repiano Cornet:	Sam Powell	Marlborough Boys' College
	Solomon Baldock	King's College, Dunedin
Second Cornet:	Sarah Wright	Dunstan High School
	Alex Lopez-Sanchez	Paraparaumu College
Third Cornet:	Annabella Thomas	Nayland College, Nelson
	Clarke Spence	Trident High School, Whakatane
Flugel Horn:	Jacob Mancer	Wanganui College
Solo Horn:	Claire Yorkstone (Co-Principal)	James Hargest College, Invercargill
	Anne Filimoehala (Co-Principal)	Auckland Girls' Grammar School
First Horn:	Bettina Schweizer	Matamata College
Second Horn:	Emma McMorrان	Riccarton High School, Christchurch
	Lachlan Spence	Trident High School, Whakatane
Euphonium:	Harry Smith (Principal)	King's College, Dunedin
	Daniel Jeong	Tauranga Boys' High School
First Baritone:	Georgia Hoy	Burnside High School, Christchurch
Second Baritone:	Zachary Nicolson	Timaru Boys' High School
	Sam Loan	James Hargest College, Invercargill
First Trombone:	Leo Read	Home School, Whakatane
Second Trombone:	Jack McKenzie	James Hargest College, Invercargill
	Matt Hurnen	Tawa College
Bass Trombone:	Liam Bewley	Trident High School, Whakatane
Eb Bass:	Keegan Lane (Principal)	Marlborough Boys' College
	Liam Golding	Waimea College, Nelson
Bbb Bass:	Andre Brown	Hutt International College
Percussion:	Dominic Jacquemard (Principal)	Francis Douglas College, New Plymouth
	Andrew Schweizer	Matamata College
	Dryw McArthur	James Hargest College, Invercargill
	James Manktelow	Trident High School, Whakatane
Musical Director:	Mark Carter, Wellington.	
Manager:	Lisa Crawley, Christchurch	

Hear the 2014 National Secondary Schools' Band at St James' Church Lower Hutt, 7.00pm Monday 8 October.

Musings from Brownie - 1974

Recently I was clearing out an area of the house, as one does, and came across a copy of *The Mouthpiece* dated September 1974, which of course is 40 years ago. Needless to say I was curious to see what was happening at that time, and to see how things have changed since.

Still featuring in the national news at this time was the untimely death of our then Prime Minister, Norman Kirk, who had died suddenly the previous month. It was reported in *The Mouthpiece* that he was, at one time, a member of the Christchurch Salvation Army Band. Unfortunately, details of what he played and when, were not included. Perhaps Kevin Jarrett may be able to enlighten us on the subject.

There was also a list of the 1974 National Youth Band. While I recognise most of the names, I cannot but wonder why I haven't seen many of them at recent contests? However some names are still around today - J McKinlay, B Jellyman and the Moseleys from Blenheim. It seems a shame that we are able to get young players up to this playing standard and then, for whatever reason, they disappear off the scene. Is it just a fact of life, or, are we not doing something that would retain them?

On this subject there was an article from Greymouth Municipal Band. In his report, the President, Mr W P Baucher stated -

".....that at one stage in the not too distant past the band looked as though it would have to go into recess but, thanks to some stalwart members, it had pulled through. The support of the public of Greymouth had been most generous throughout the year and without it we would not have been able to travel to Dunedin.

.... the highlight of the year had been winning the D Grade championships in Dunedin this year.

Mr Pat Roche, the conductor, said that membership now stood at 29 and there was a

waiting list for the learners' class." Nice to see a positive report.

Perhaps the secret lies in this from the Mosgiel Municipal Band -

"Coming events also include: An Ice Skating Trip, Band Camp, and a Chicken and Champagne Evening."

I can't help but wonder about the last activity, and what format the evening took.

There were also results from the Otago and Southland Brass Band Association Solo and Party Contest, in particular the C and D Grade Quartets.

*"1st Balclutha Brass 70 pts
2nd Gore Town and Country 68 pts
3rd Dunedin Ladies 60 pts"*

Sadly we don't see any of these bands competing nowadays.

I am certain that if a band is to be successful then the following comments made by Mr P Ryan, President of the Levin Municipal Band, in his annual report are relevant.

"As long as the band retained its public appeal, then the response to fund raising would be a generous level and this is something which should not be overlooked."

I don't think many will disagree with him.

Aside from Norman Kirk's death, there were a number of other obituaries including one for H Neilsen who did most of his banding in the Auckland area. Part of his obituary caught my eye -

"He left New Zealand in 1914 with the Main Body of the New Zealand Forces, was wounded at Gallipoli, and evacuated to England. Here he joined the first ANZAC Band ever formed in the Australian and New Zealand Base Camp at Weymouth, England."

What do we know about this band? It also implies that there were other ANZAC bands. It's a pity that there doesn't seem to be more information around on this subject.

The Editor of *The Mouthpiece* back in 1974 was Jim Rafferty, and featured on the front page was the following -

"Subscription Rate N. Z. Mouthpiece: \$1 per year approximately 10 Issues post free. N. Z. and Overseas. Airmail Extra."

You have only to check the BBANZ website to see that today's prices have changed somewhat.

But 1974 and 2014 do have one thing in common - National Bands touring overseas. Here's a comment from the 1974 *Mouthpiece* -

"National Band News

Following its successful sojourn at the Royal Canadian Exhibition in Toronto, the National Band of New Zealand has embarked on its tour of the United States of America. Enthusiastic audiences acclaimed the performances of the Band in Toronto, whilst the marching displays enthralled the capacity crowds."

If my memory serves me correctly, Riki McDonnell is the only member who was a playing member of both bands, 40 years apart. I don't know what one can say about this other than that the scenery will be somewhat different this time around compared to his earlier tours.

Prior to the 1974 band going overseas, it did a ten-day concert tour of New Zealand. Here is an excerpt from the editorial printed in the *New Zealand Herald* -

"Bands have something of a special place in the New Zealand way of life. The fact that the National Band has the ranking of a world leader derives from an enthusiasm for playing in bands which, fortunately, still permeates the community. This more than ever makes the latest tour, which has been planned and worked for over the past two and a half years, an occasion worthy of the nation's pride."

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com



The 1974 National Band of New Zealand and Aotearoa Maori party.

Puzzle from the Past

Grant Stantiall writes: I have recently been given around 15 framed photos that originally belonged to the Marton Municipal Brass Band. They used to be displayed in the bandroom and then in a restaurant in Marton called *The Bandroom Restaurant*, owned by Kit Jefferies, a trombone player in the band at the time. I used to play in the band in the late 1970s to mid 1980s and will be bringing the photos back to Marton to pass onto my father who is a custodian of the bandroom there.

There is one photo which is extremely interesting and I don't know if any of the readers of *The Mouthpiece* would be able to shed some light on it. It is possibly members of the Marton Band at Ratana. If anyone can shed more light on this photo please contact me at 1 Moule Place, Woodstock, Hamilton 3214 or kiwicenary@xtra.co.nz



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National Youth Brass Band

Musical Director: Peter Adams M.Mus Dunedin
Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

Notice of Meeting

The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand will be held in Wellington on Saturday 1 November at the West Plaza Hotel 110-116 Wakefield Street.
Registration and morning tea from 9.00am
with the AGM running from 10.00am to Approximately 4.00pm.

On Friday evening 31 October
an open discussion will be held prior to the AGM.
The topic: "Should we continue with our contest in its current form?"
7.30pm Wellington. The Wakefield Suite, West Plaza Hotel.
All welcome.

2015 National Youth Band

Applications are now open with application forms and the audition study available from brass@banz.org.nz or downloaded from our website www.brassbanz.org.nz

Applicants should be under 23 years of age on 23 January 2015 and be a registered player with a BBANZ member band.

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity) E Aldridge (in perpetuity) PB Adams, J Aldridge, Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, J Edmondston, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Briesman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith, T Taylor, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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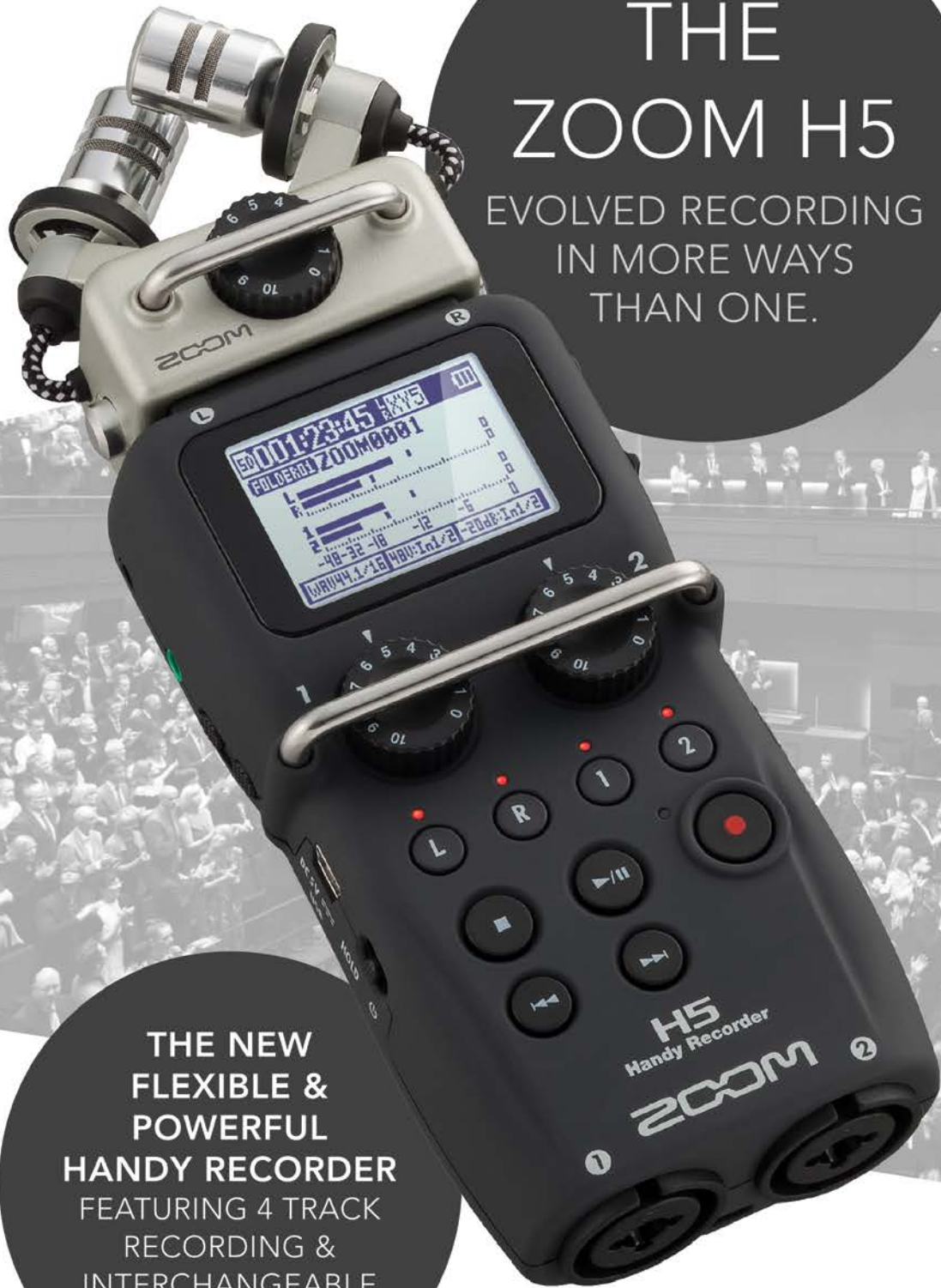
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Patron: Rt. Hon. John Key – Prime Minister of New Zealand

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Brilliant Kids!

*Photographs of the National Secondary Schools' Band
courtesy of Ian Tilley Photography*



Girl power! Making up the majority of the best section and taking out two of the top prizes were: (back row) Anne Filimoehala, Sarah Wright, Mollie Cornfield, Bettina Schweizer, Georgia Hoy, (front row) Emma McMorran, Annabella Thomas and Claire Yorkstone.



No one could explain why Toby Pringle and William Swan chose to wear duck heads for the official band photos.

Thirty-five students from 24 secondary schools around New Zealand certainly gave it their all at the 2014 National Secondary Schools' training camp held recently in Waikanae. Under the direction of Mark Carter the band played with gusto and flair. Kevin Dell, Director of Education, was in camp for the week and said that the band performed at the level of a good B Grade band with some great work especially in the main piece, *Tam O'Shanter's Ride*. Not bad for only one week together and from players as young as 12. Congratulations to all the members of the NSSBB, especially those who received the following awards.

Best Audition: **Claire Yorkstone**, James Hargest College, Invercargill

Most Improved Player: **Liam Bewley**, Trident High School, Whakatane

Best Section: the **Tenor Horns** (tutored by Mitchell Spence)

Most Outstanding Bands Person: **Keegan Lane**, Marlborough Boys' College

Most Outstanding Player: **Georgia Hoy**, Burnside High School, Christchurch

Principal Cornet: **Kip Cleverley**, Wellington College

You can read all about the camp in next month's issue.

In this issue we:

- Have the second part of the National Band tour blog,
- Farewell a respected New Zealand composer,
- Hear about the West Coast Association band camp,
- And list results from the Waikato BOP District contest.

Happy banding!



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A note from our President

Are we our own worst enemies?

During the past two months I have had the privilege of being part of both the National Band's tour of China and Korea and also the National Secondary Schools' Brass Band management group.



The performance standard of both bands was very high and could be measured very favourably against the respective best bands in the world. However, funding both bands is a difficult ask for the respective management teams and relies heavily on user pays in order to remain viable. It is true that the availability of Governmental arts funding is scarce for our sector of the performing arts and we rely heavily on gaming trusts to support us, which we are most grateful for.

Unfortunately for both bands, their local concerts did not attract the support they deserve from our own movement. It would be nice to see bands do more to attend these concerts by our representative bands, using them as an opportunity to motivate and inspire. In China, in particular, the National Band attracted audiences much larger than their Auckland concert in a country that hardly knows what a brass band is and where there is obviously a language barrier to overcome. We recognise that there is a vast difference in population sizes but our lack of local support for our representative bands could be the death knell for public concerts and we will have to resort to flash mob performances to get our form of music making out to the public at large.



**Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand**

To Kevin Dell
Manager of the National Band of New Zealand

Dear Kevin,

Greetings. I am writing to offer warm congratulations on the National Brass Band's wonderful performance at the Seoul Arts Centre on 15 September. They drew a marvellous reaction from the large audience and everybody was greatly impressed with the conductor and level of musicianship of the band members.

I should also like to take this opportunity to express profound thanks to the Band's Kapa Haka group for joining us at an Embassy function held the next evening. Their cultural performance made our occasion truly memorable.

Please convey my regards and best wishes to Musical Director Nigel Weeks and all members of the Band.

Yours sincerely,
Patrick Rata
Ambassador

New Zealand Embassy Seoul | Te Aka Aorere

What's On?

**Saturday 15 November
BBANZ Brass Tutors'
Workshop** 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Wellington Brass bandroom. To register, email Jeff Mulraney jeffmulraney@yahoo.co.nz

Combined Concert with Tauranga Brass, Tauranga City Silver Brass and the Tauranga Salvation Army, 2.00pm at the Tauranga Salvation Army Hall, Cameron Road, Tauranga

CD Release, a recital by Byron Newton (euphonium) and Rachel Swindells (piano) to mark the release of Byron's new CD *Kiwi Dragon*. 7.00pm, Wellington South Salvation Army Hall, Newtown. Gold coin donation.

**Saturday 22 November
North Shore Brass Academy** at the Orewa Christmas Parade, 2.00pm.

Variety Concert by Kumeu Vintage Brass, 2.00pm Massey High School Performing Arts Centre, 274 Don Buck Road, Massey, Auckland www.kumeubrass.org.nz

Last Night of the Proms presented by Trust Porirua City Brass, 7.00pm Elim Christian Church, 11 Heriot Drive, Porirua. Book at www.ticketsdirect.co.nz

**Saturday 29 November
Christmas Proms** presented by North Shore Brass, 2.00pm at the Centrestage Theatre in Orewa with guest artist vocalist Rebecca Nelson. (Check out our Facebook page North Shore Brass for more information)

**Saturday 13 December
Brass Boot Camp** for all Auckland youth players, 1.00 – 6.00pm at the Dalewood Auckland Brass Band room, 98 Captain Springs Road, Onehunga. Organised by the Auckland Bands Association with camp director - Billy Middleton.

Saturday 24 January to Sunday 1 February 2015

2015 National Youth Brass Band training course will be held at Woodbourne Air Force Base, Blenheim.

Concert dates:
29 January,
NBS Theatre, Westport

30 January,
Theatre Royal, Nelson

31 January,
Civic Theatre, Blenheim

Friday to Sunday 13-15 February

Wellington District Brass Band Association youth camp www.wdbba.org.nz

**Sunday 15 February
Brass in the Park**, all the bands from the Wellington District will perform at the Wellington Botanic Gardens

**Sunday 19 April
Wellington District Brass Band Association contest**

**Saturday 3
and Sunday 4 October**
South Island Brass Festival, Timaru Theatre Royal info@sibrassfestival.co.nz



Musical Director Nigel Weeks and the National Band in rehearsal at Xiamen

The National Band tour blog by Ross Gerritsen continues.

Day 13:

We arrived at the local railway station and after hanging around for an hour went through security and into what can only be described as a holding pen. I guess this is to be expected for the main train station in a city of over eight million. While it's not something any of us want to remember for the rest of our lives, mention should be made of what can only be described as the most unbelievable toilets in existence.

There are many different class configurations on the overnight trains. This one has standing (yes for 10 hours), hard seat, soft seat, hard sleeper and soft sleeper. It was a real challenge getting ourselves and our gear onto the train. The Bb tubas barely fitted through the door and in the end we had to ask the conductor of our carriage to find storage for them in another part of the train. Even though there were a number of spare beds in our carriage they could be occupied by passengers getting on the train while we slept so the tubas unfortunately didn't get a bed of their own.

So our day ends with a \$3 bottle of wine and a pack of Oreos waiting for supper. The lights are off and people are snoring already; 41 bands people, Kapa Haka performers and management sardined in a train travelling 700km in the dark on 'beds' the like of which are only surpassed by those the 2009 National Band slept on in Kerkrade. Fortunately it's only for one night....perhaps the rocking motion will bring sweet dreams; if not the wine might.

Day 14:

So the train experience is over and we are freshly showered and at our hotel in Nanchang. At first glance it feels more 'in the wops' but at 5.5million people we're far from being in a town. Due to its proximity to both the famous Yangtze River and the Pearl River Delta regions, it is (as we saw) a major railroad hub in Southern China. (Thanks, Wikipedia)

Each day we receive a food allowance of 100 Yuan which is \$NZ20. Originally our hosts were going to organise meals for us each day but the logistics of that were difficult and the decision was made to leave us to our own devices. However, today is slightly different. We have been told that Nanchang food is significantly hotter than in other areas of China and finding cuisine that agreed with our stomachs would be difficult. So today the food has been provided - lunch was 11 courses and dinner 14. Fantastic tasting food with lots and lots of different types of tofu cooked in a number of ways as well as the usual corn soup, rice, noodles, fantastic selections of greens and some bits and pieces we can't quite work out. The restaurant was tucked in behind tonight's theatre. Perhaps it's for the theatre staff...hard to tell. It's gated so certainly not for the public.

It's hot and humid here which is taking a toll on the uniforms. Shirts that you'd usually get two concerts out of on tour aren't lasting the distance and we're fully embracing the notion of the Chinese laundry. This evening's concert

was a case of same gig - different town. Most of the comments from previous concerts can be applied to this one. Fantastic venue, good crowd who took a while to warm to us and a stunned kid who conducted the band.

Day 15:

A couple of days ago we braced ourselves in readiness for the impending trauma of travelling on the overnight train. Today's bus trip was in a different league. We knew from the outset that it might take six hours but that was reduced to possibly five when we looked at the route options. What we didn't count on was the mother of all traffic jams getting out of the city (nearly an hour and a half to get to the freeway). And on the country roads cars, bikes, motorbikes, children, chickens, dogs all share the road in some strangely organised disorganisation. The Chinese don't use their car/bus/motorbike horns to toot at you aggressively like we do. They use them in a more cautionary way, "I'm coming up behind you - make sure you don't turn in to my lane". When you get used to it, it's still chaotic but at least the tooting has a sensible function. Over eight hours after departing, we finally arrived, bunked into our new hotel, had a quick lunch and then headed for our concert.

Day 16:

This morning was a 6:00am checkout followed by breakfast and a short bus trip to the train station to board the Bullet Train for the 828km trip to Guangzhou. Taking just over three hours - it really is the ultimate way to travel.

We were picked up at the station by the Guangzhou Opera House Coach (clearly we are important) and arrived at the fabulous Donlord Hotel where we will spend two nights. Most of the band headed out exploring. We haven't had many opportunities to shop and sightsee so this was a great opportunity to do so.

While today is a day off for the band, it's not the case for the Kapa Haka group. They performed a concert this evening in one of the Opera House studio theatres. The band was in the audience and it was fantastic to see them perform from in front rather than from behind! Their programme was a fabulous mix of performance, audience interaction and demonstrations of Maori culture.

Day 17:

This evening's concert was most definitely the musical highlight of the tour. The Guangzhou Opera House is beautiful and worthy of its significant reputation. The audiences were clearly knowledgeable and responded in an unfailingly positive way to our programme. The acoustics in the Opera House is the most lively that the band has played in, so much so that we had to move out of the sound shell and closer to the audience in order to stop the sound from becoming too boomy. With plenty of time to rehearse in the afternoon we felt comfortable by performance time and performed the best concert of the tour to date.

We met the New Zealand Consulate General briefly after the concert and she spoke very kindly of our performance and was clearly proud to have representatives of New Zealand in her adopted city.

Day 18:

This entry is basically to drop a pin on the map for Xiamen. Outstanding hotel and awesome party on the final night in China. The hotel bar staff didn't know what hit them when we all arrived and started ordering rounds of drinks, chips and club sandwiches. Quite a comedy really

Security at Chinese airports is fastidious - so much so that we nearly missed our plane from Guangzhou to Xiamen as the plane missed its take-off window and we ended up having to wait on the tarmac for 45 minutes. Subsequently Sunday morning for the flight to Korea we left an hour earlier than planned and ended up waiting for check-in to open for over 2 hours!

Day 20:

Our experiences in Seoul have been amazing. The people, shopping, music, temperature, food, festival and culture are all fantastic - we are truly privileged to have been invited here and to play amongst such great ensembles and soloists.

Yesterday (Monday) those who hadn't had a late night managed to surface for breakfast in the hotel restaurant (basement), consisting of scrambled eggs, fried rice and potato salad... but shock horror - no coffee so the masses headed out to find a caffeine fix.

Our coach picked us up at 1:00pm to take us to the Seoul Arts Centre (which is probably the most spectacular complex many of us have seen) to perform at the opening concert of the Korea International Wind Band Festival. The main theatre is flanked by two concert chambers and both nights there have been three simultaneous concerts in action.

We quickly discovered that this was a special acoustic and that the band would sound great here. Part of our performance was to accompany a local 17-year-old trombonist who played two movements of Ferdinand David's '*Concertina*'. She was understandably nervous but slowly warmed to the band and by the end of 30 minutes we were comfortable that the performance would go well.

The band received ovation after ovation throughout the programme. There is not a sound like ours at the festival. Our programme showed what a brass band is capable of: highlighting control in *O Magnum Mysterium*, technical and artistic prowess in *Arabian Nights* and brute force in *Pines of Rome*. Our guest soloist received rapturous applause as the locals loved seeing one of their own perform with the National Band. It is fantastic that the festival is supporting young musicians as their careers in music develop. This audience 'got' *Arabian Nights* and went quite crazy when it was backed up by *La Fiesta* - a serious crowd pleaser. The concert was professionally

recorded and we are working on getting copies before we leave Seoul.

Joe Burgstaller, a former trumpet with Canadian Brass, performed at this Festival. Some of the members of our band were lucky enough to meet him after his concert. Joe was at our concert last night and said of the band, "I loved your performance. It was really well done with a great programme, but my highlight was your Flugel Horn player, man, amazing." The story comes from our flugel player Tyme – but I have corroboration that it's true. This is a great endorsement from a fantastic musician.

The half time entertainment was a South Korea School Honours Band. Sixty children (oldest 10 years) played three pieces completely from memory. Outrageous!

The second half of the concert was performed by the Bob Cole Conservatory Wind Orchestra from Long Bay, California. A fantastic Concert Band in the true American tradition.

The concert finished later than expected. This coupled with heavy traffic (11:30pm – go figure!) resulted in late hotel return. Many of us were very thirsty and without a gig today you can imagine what transpired

Today was a proper day off. No official commitments and the opportunity to get into the heart of the city. At 10:00am our lovely festival chaperone Kayden (a university student who volunteered to help at the Festival) arrived at the hotel to escort a group of us through the subway system to get us to the centre of town.

On arrival at the station we came across a stall which offered tourists the opportunity to dress up in local costume. The locals thought it was hilarious – especially the bare feet. Unfortunately one of the attractions on the way, a local palace, was closed so that option was gone. We had a number of other tourist opportunities – visiting a traditional Chinese housing estate, markets and high end shopping – and/or eating. We headed off in groups and had a good five hours exploring and spending money! Split from Kayden we were on our own getting back to the hotel. Some took the easy option of getting a taxi back (NZ\$22) while others had a crack at the subway which required at least one transfer (NZ\$1.20).

As Festival participants we were offered free tickets to the final 'Special Concert' of the festival featuring the Budapest Saxophone Quartet and German Brass. Both groups were exquisite and very much worth the NZ\$95 ticket. It was nice to be on the audience side of a performance for once.

Day 21:

Today was Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) day which saw the majority of the tour party visit this very interesting historical area at the boarder of North and South Korea.

After the tour we headed back to the hotel to enjoy the rest of the day off. Some are planning on heading back to the Festival for a master class while others have plans to head back into the city for some Seoul night life.

Day 22:

With the last full day in Korea coming quickly to an end it is time for the last entry in the 14nationalband blog. Mutes are packed away, uniforms have crawled into suitcases on their own, the last items of clean clothes have been kept for the flight home and the legacy is nearly complete. National Bands, whether touring on home shores or exploring the world, are special ensembles and the music and experiences will remain in this blog as long as the internet exists and of course in the thousands of photos and memories that have been collectively amassed.

Our last day on tour started with a morning off...another late night resulted in many needing the down time! We had a 2:00pm coach pickup to the Olympic Park. While it was only 25km away it took over an hour to get there in rough traffic. After being taken to our 'dressing tents' (Nigel had his own) we had our marching practise. Drum Major elect Tyme Marsters had planned the rehearsal well and within 25 minutes we had everything sorted and could retire to the tents to cool off. The weather and impending need to play in our uniforms meant we marched in white shirts without ties and jackets.

The march was unnecessarily long. We walked the 1.5 km to the start, formed up and then marched all the way back. There was no one in the 'crowd' along the route apart from the supporters of the band who had to walk back with us. A crowd had gathered at the end, proving that the march could have been 300 meters and achieved the same goal! The organisers said there were 11 bands marching but there were more like just seven or eight. One of the bands, who didn't know how to (or didn't want to) march, was told to walk the march route with their instruments. I don't think the organisers intended for them to walk with the instruments in their cases...quite funny!

The parade marched into the main square in the park which had been set up with a huge stage and a fantastic sound and lighting rig. There were performances from 5:30-7:00pm by a number of groups and we assume that

they were just background entertainment as the crowd gathered for the closing ceremony. At 7:00pm we took to the stage for the last time and performed a light programme. Then there was a bit of speaking and presentation and the big finale. We remained on stage for the massed band items but unfortunately hadn't been sent any music so we just looked decorative. All good!

Back to the hotel for a final drink and some presentations before either an early night or an all-nighter for some. We have a 5:00am pick up – enough said.

That brings me to the end of the 14nationalband blog. I've had fun writing it and the positive feedback has been great, thanks. Forty-two people, four countries, 11 concerts, one parade, two fast trains, one sleeper train, eight flights, countless bus trips, two hospitalisations, a flock of ducks, five interpreters, 756 cases of diarrhoea, one police call-out (not us!), 11 standing ovations, seven hotels, two comfortable beds, 851 servings of KFC, one trip to the DMZ and a whole pile of fantastic memories.

Thanks for reading.
Ross

An award presented by the 1953 National Band members to the Most Valuable Player on a National Band tour went to solo cornet **Kevin McMorran** of Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass.



The festival stage at the Korea International Wind Band Festival.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR VACANCY

Nelson City Brass invites expressions of interest from conductors excited by the prospect of taking a long established C Grade band to the next level.

A well-established Junior Brass Group and Youth Academy ensure an ongoing stream of young musicians progressing through to the Senior Band.

Further opportunity exists for teaching brass to private pupils and, for a person with suitable qualifications, within local schools.

Please contact:

secretary@nelsonbrass.org.nz

or PO Box 451, Nelson

or Wayne Jennens 0274 448 939

Applications close 31 January 2015

Band Camp - West Coast Style

The 2014 Nelson Marlborough West Coast Band Camp was held in blissful St Arnaud over the weekend of 12 to 14 September.

On the Friday night everyone assembled excitedly at the lodge in preparation for a full weekend ahead. 'Bandies' travelled from far and wide to attend this camp from locations including Marlborough, Nelson, Takaka and Westport. There were also some who traversed across the strait from Wellington and Masterton.

The conductors for the three band camp bands were Graham Moseley (Beginner Band), Kevin Moseley (Intermediate Band), and Nick Sharpe (Senior Band). Friday night proved to be a challenge as everyone got to see and play the music for the first time. The first rehearsal for all the bands gave everyone an idea of how difficult some of the music was and how hard they would have to work to perform it. Before everyone knew it, it was Saturday morning and a full day worth of rehearsals was to come.

For all the bands some pieces were more technically challenging than others. Paul Lovatt Cooper's *The Enigma Machine* set a high standard for the Senior band to work towards, which started to sound better and better throughout the day. Challenging pieces for the Beginner and Intermediate bands included *Flapjack* by Alan Pring, and a particularly rhythmic version of S Club 7's *Reach*. Throughout the day everyone worked extremely hard and their effort paid off.

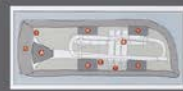
At the end of Saturday everyone was shattered but of course in true 'band camp style' there was not a huge amount of sleep for many people! The traditional Saturday night movie was followed by lots of talking, laughing, fun and very little appetite for rest. Eventually it quietened down and everyone got some sleep in preparation for the big concert the next day.

Sunday morning saw a quick rehearsal to polish off the music and then it was back to the camp for the much dreaded clean up and pack down. After this was completed everyone headed down to the Lake Rototiti Community Hall.

All of the bands put on a sensational performance of the pieces that they had been practicing for the weekend. Starting with the Beginners band,



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Happy band campers - the team from Marlborough District Brass.



Intermediate band, and finishing with the Senior band, the concert was a great hit with the audience.

The junior band drew huge applause from the audience, announcing their own pieces and finishing with a great version of Bob the Builder, whilst the Intermediate band played their pieces with considerable gusto.

The Senior band started their section of the concert with *Visions* by Mario Burki which, as well as featuring the whole band singing while placed around the hall, featured members of the band improvising on modal scales. Todd Smith (Euphonium), Jess Rogers (Flugel Horn), Andre Brown (Tuba) and Tom Hulland (Soprano Cornet) pushed their comfort boundaries and all did a fine job to perform these solos. After playing *Patricia*, *The Second Waltz*, and the cartoon inspired *Powerhouse* (complete with smashed crockery) the band then rounded off the concert with an accomplished rendition of *The Enigma Machine*.

BBANZ management committee member Jeffrey Mulraney, who was in attendance at the camp, said "I thought the standard of the senior youth band this year was the highest achieved in recent times and reached a good B Grade level. It was great that participants travelled from as far away as Masterton to go to the camp. The beginner and intermediate

bands did well. With nearly 100 students it all bodes well for the health of brass bands."

Once the spectacular concert had come to an end, everyone began saying their goodbyes and started heading off in every direction back to their hometown. I'm sure like me everyone thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and will look forward to the next one!

A huge thank you to all the organisers of the 2014 Nelson Marlborough West Coast Band Camp as it wouldn't have happened without them, especially fund-raiser extraordinaire Christine Moseley who successfully gained funding from Pub Charities and Pelorus Trust without whose support the camp would not have been possible.

Andre Brown and Kassandra Hosnell
Band camp members



Members of the Senior Band chill out

The audience show their appreciation of the performance by the Intermediate Band under the direction of Kevin Moseley.



Waikato BOP District Contest

During the last weekend in September the Waikato Bay of Plenty Brass Band Association held its annual area contest. This year the event was hosted by Hamilton City Brass. The Chief Adjudicators were Kevin Dell, recently returned from the National Band tour, and John McGough from Auckland. Over 100 competitors took part in the solo and ensemble events on the Saturday with six bands competing in the band events on Sunday.

Novice

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Simon Winship | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 2 Joshua Adamson | Matamata Brass |
| 3 Nicole Schweizer | Matamata Brass |

Under 13 Slow Melody

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| 1 Leo Read | Eastern BOP Brass |
|------------|-------------------|

Under 13 Variation

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| 1 Leo Read | Eastern BOP Brass |
|------------|-------------------|

Under 16 Slow Melody

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Zachary Adamson | Matamata Brass |
| 2 William Herewini | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 3 Clarke Spence | Eastern BOP Brass |

Under 16 Variation

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Lachlan Spence | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 2 William Herewini | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 3 Clarke Spence | Eastern BOP Brass |

Under 19 Slow Melody

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Daniel Jeong | Tauranga City Silver |
| 2 Lachlan Spence | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 3 Jessica Hancock | Te Awamutu Brass |

Under 19 Variation

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Daniel Jeong | Tauranga City Silver |
| 2 Bettina Schweizer | Matamata Brass |
| 3 Leo Read | Eastern BOP Brass |

Junior Percussion

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 Andrew Schweizer | Matamata Brass |
| 2 Kimika Clements | Matamata Brass |
| 3 Annelisa Tiddy | Matamata Brass |

Under 19 Duet

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 D Dalglish & C Wilson | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 2 J Hancock & H Perry | Te Awamutu Brass |

Under 19 Quartet

- | |
|---------------------|
| 1 Eastern Bop Brass |
|---------------------|

Ensemble Primary School

- | |
|--------------------------------|
| 1 Matamata Intermediate School |
|--------------------------------|

Open Slow Melody

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Memorie Brooky | Te Awamutu Brass |
| 2 Patrick McCarthy | Eastern BOP Brass |
| 3 Luke Spence | Wellington Brass |

Open Variation

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Hayden Cullen | Te Awamutu Brass |
| 2 Mason Holloway | Hamilton City Auxiliary |
| 3 Ken Douglas | Rotorua Brass |

Championship Slow Melody

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Sergio Marshall | Hamilton City Brass |
| 2 Lisa Rogers | Hamilton City Brass |
| 3 Kerry Wood | Waitakere Auckland Brass |

Championship Variation

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Luke Christiansen | Waitakere Auckland Brass |
| 2 Luke Spence | Wellington Brass |
| 3 Kerry Wood | Waitakere Auckland Brass |

Veterans' Slow Melody

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Richard Edgecombe | Hamilton City Brass |
| 2 Peter Cranson | Tauranga Brass |
| 3 Clive Burnell | Hamilton City Brass |



Being in a band teaches you many skills. Clarke Spence gets some pointers from William Herewini.



The competitors in the Open Quartet with adjudicator John McGough. The entrants were: The Bases (Papas), the Girls (Mamas) and Young Ones (Muchachos). On this occasion youth won the day, but wait 'til next year!

Veterans' Variation

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Peter Cranson | Tauranga Brass |
| 2 Kerry Wood | Waitakere Auckland Brass |
| 3 Richard Edgecombe | Hamilton City Brass |

Open Duet

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 L Rogers & S Marshall | Hamilton City Brass |
| 2 C Burnell & E Cardwell | Hamilton City Brass |
| 3= S & K Flint | Cambridge Brass |
| 3= B Finnigan & M Holloway | Hamilton City Auxiliary |

Open Quartet

- | |
|-----------------------|
| 1 Eastern BOP Brass 3 |
| 2 Eastern BOP Brass 1 |
| 3 Eastern BOP Brass 2 |

Ensemble D Grade

- | |
|---------------------------|
| 1 Matamata Brass |
| 2 Hamilton City Auxiliary |

Band Events

D Grade/Auxiliary Bands

- | |
|---|
| 1 Matamata Brass (1 st in the Hymn, Own Choice, Entertainment programme) |
| 2 Hamilton Auxiliary Brass (1 st in Soloist and Public Appeal sections) |

Open Grade

- | |
|--|
| 1 Hamilton City Brass (1 st in the Hymn, Own Choice, Entertainment programme and Public Appeal section) |
| 2 Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass (1 st in Soloist section) |
| 3 Te Awamutu Brass |
| 4 Cambridge Brass |



Following in their parents' footsteps the Dell sisters Kiri, Avril and Hamo shine on the National Band tour.



Drum Major Tyme Marsters puts the National Band through their paces in Korea.

Musings from Brownie - Christmas Reading?

Well finally my pleas were answered, and I was loaned a book relating to WW1 - "And the Band Played On" by Robert Holden. On the cover is a photograph of an army band marching through the ruins of a French village and the subtitle "How music lifted the Anzac spirit in the battlefields of the First World War". Finally I would be able to find out what really happened - at least that's what I thought. Unfortunately the old adage - "you can never judge a book by its cover" rang true. A disappointment to say the least.

Having waded my way through it, I decided to surf the web to see what more I could find out about it. Amazon had it listed, and also included a reader's comment. Whoever wrote it goes under the name of "Improv", and sounds to me like a frustrated Aussie bandsman. The review is entitled - "And the Bands Failed to Turn Up." Here's what follows -

"If you are interested in Australian band history and were thinking you should borrow or purchase this book, forget it. It's a total dud. The cover photo and title (which is also the title of several earlier books) sounds very promising but it waffles on in an uninformed way - with metaphor piled upon metaphor - about songs, singing, poetry, etc., but very little in the way of data about banding, bands, or band music - offering the excuse of lack of primary source documentation. However a glance at the bibliography shows that the author did not even attempt to look (or perhaps does not even know about) the several Australian band journals of the period. It is unreferenced, has no index, and is basically a joke as a source on WW1 banding. But I am the real clown for wasting \$29.92 on this bit of historical nonsense, sight unseen."

I wonder if he realises that the book is now retailing for \$9.95. But, I guess he sums it up fairly well.

What really got me about the book was that the word Anzac was continually used, but there was even less about the Kiwis than there was about bands in general. Therefore it doesn't take much to realise that there was virtually nothing about our bands. That's the negative side out of the way, as I feel there were some positives.

When hostilities for WW1 commenced, I have estimated that we had at least 300 brass bands in New Zealand (Southland alone had 45). Many of these bands were Garrison Bands with roots as army bands back to the Maori Wars. Therefore I believe that our situation was somewhat different to the Aussies. At the start of the war, the Aussies volunteered in their thousands and numerous battalions began training. None of these infantry battalions, each of which was manned by at least 1,000 troops, had bands initially. From what I can gather it was up to individual commanding officers to establish bands. Obviously some were more interested than others. Also, the Australian army refused to supply the instruments. These were obtained by running public appeals to raise the necessary funds.

Prior to heading for Gallipoli, the Anzac troops were stationed in Egypt for further training. During this time bands had the time to practise and to work themselves up and some became quite polished. However when the Aussies embarked for Gallipoli, their instruments were left behind having been deemed as "unprofitable baggage". But it appears that the Kiwis had at least one band as there is a report from Gallipoli of how a concert was interrupted by Turkish shelling.

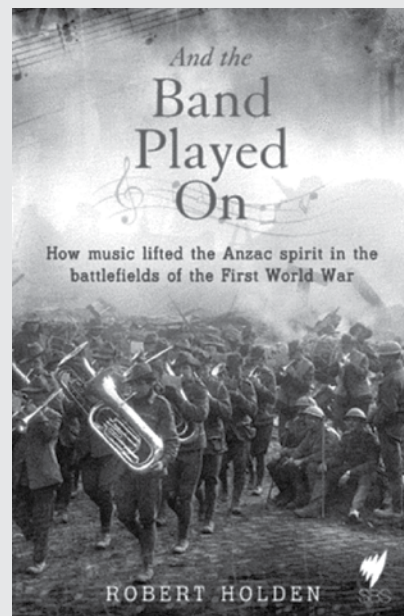
After Gallipoli the Anzacs were redeployed to the Western Front. Many of the battalions used their bandsmen as stretcher-bearers. When these battalions were in the front line, bandsmen were scattered throughout their battalion to perform this role. In one action

an Australian battalion lost 16 stretcher-bearers. When the band reformed to play as the battalion was withdrawn, it was commented that there were considerably more instruments "left over" than being played.

It was then that the Australian Command came to realise the value of bands. That "bands were too badly needed for cheering up the troops", and resulted in bandsmen generally being no longer used as stretcher-bearers. Entertainment was provided for the troops and this was accomplished by the way of "smoke concerts". This led to the creation of a number of concert parties, many of whom toured extensively and ended up with international reputations.

In retrospect I have "filled in a few gaps". Not a great read but I'm pleased I did get through it. Perhaps my military background assisted me with that. So, until next month.

Allan F Brown (Brownie)
mouldyoldbrass@gmail.com





BBANZ – Directory

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Manager: Dr Garry Brown, Wellington.
rgmbrown@xtra.co.nz

National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter, Wellington
Manager: Lisa Crawley, Christchurch
l.crawley88@gmail.com

National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks
Co-managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick

2015 National Contest in Rotorua 8 to 12 July

Contest Committee contact: Stephen Clayton
stephen.clayton@asb.co.nz
Contest Manager: Helen Lee brass@banz.org.nz
The venue for the contest is the Rotorua Convention Centre

2016 National Contest in Napier 13 to 17 July

Contact person Murray Warrington mwarrington@wtr.co.nz

FREE EVENT! Brass Tutors' Workshop

Saturday 15 November from 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Wellington Brass bandroom. All are welcome and there is no charge for the event. To register your interest, please email BBANZ Management Committee Member Jeff Mulraney at jeffmulraney@yahoo.co.nz

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Rt. Hon. John Key – Patron, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity) E Aldridge (in perpetuity) PB Adams, J Aldridge, Auckland Band Association, T and B Bremner, G Coomer, T and B Cudby, J Edmondston, RA Hancock, RJ Harris, JB and NC Hollick, JE Irvine, DA Johnson, I Levien, AG Lewis, M Luxford, MJ Mellon, Marlborough District Brass, L and M Martin, O Melhuish, B and M Platt, MT Sander, E Sayer, JE Seales, M Smith, C Tregurtha, R Young, G and R Yorkstone.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the BBANZ Office.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Trevor Cudby, Kevin Dell ONZM, Graham Dick, Kevin Jarrett MBE, Ian Levien QSM, Tony Lewis MNZM, Bill Platt, Murray Warrington

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Brieseman OBE JP, RM Brooker, W Currie, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, Drummer Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, WP MacLauchlin, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith MBE, T Taylor OSM, L Thorne, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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Lawson Claims Young Musician Title

The final of the inaugural New Zealand Young Brass Musician of the Year competition took place in Wellington on Wednesday 8 October. Held at St Andrew's on The Terrace, the event with its accompanying \$1000 first prize was won by Kyle Lawson, a 22-year-old cornetist in the New Zealand Army Band and principal cornet of Woolston Brass. Kyle will now be the featured guest soloist with two of the country's top bands, Woolston Brass and Dalewool Auckland Brass.

The competition, very much in the mode of the BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Soloist Competition in the UK, was open to all brass players in New Zealand aged between 16 and 25 and offered the opportunity to showcase their solo talents in concert with full brass band accompaniment.

The first round saw soloists provide a video audition of between 8-15 minutes, consisting of a solo performance with piano, brass band or recorded backing track accompaniment. Jurors David Bremner (Principal Trombone New Zealand Symphony Orchestra) and Phillip Johnston (Bandmaster NZ Army Band), then selected five finalists who presented a programme of 20 minutes accompanied by New Zealand National Champion Band, Wellington Brass.

David Elton (Principal Trumpet of the Sydney Symphony), who joined the panel for the final, commented that Kyle's performances of *Napoli* (H. Bellstedt), *Believe Me if All Those Endearing Young Charms* (D. Hunsberger), and *Tucker* (E. Leidzen), were delivered with complete control, enhanced with a beautiful tone which held the audience's attention from start to finish.

The exceptional line-up of finalists saw 21-year-old cornet player Kieran Smith perform *The Debutant* (H. Clarke), *Pastorale* (G. Richards), and *Song and Dance*, (P. Sparke), with 22-year-old trombonist Andrew Yorkstone playing *Clouds* (A. Ritchie), and *Morceau Symphonique* (A. Guilment). Luke Spence, a 19-year-old euphonium player performed the second movement of the Horowitz *Euphonium Concerto*, and *Pantomime* (P. Sparke), whilst 16-year-old cornetist Toby Pringle, delivered *Rhapsody for Cornet and Brass Band* (G. Langford) and *Pastorale* (G. Richards).

The competition was founded and organised by Byron Newton with the help of the New Zealand Brass Foundation which provided the prize money and flights for the finalists.



The performers and judges: David Elton, Toby Pringle, Andrew Yorkstone, Phil Johnston, Kieran Smith, Kyle Lawson, Luke Spence and David Bremner.



Young Brass Musician of the Year - Kyle Lawson.

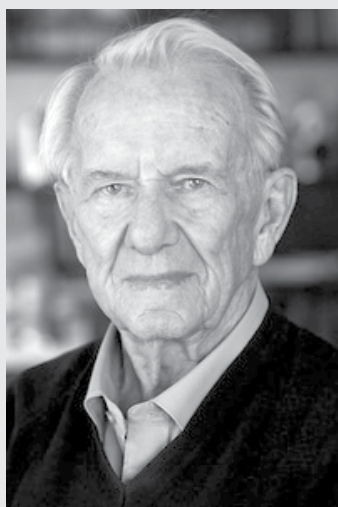
Obituary John Ritchie 1921 - 2014

New Zealand composer, Professor Emeritus John Ritchie was born in Wellington, in 1921. He graduated in music at the Otago University and trained as a teacher at Dunedin Teachers' College. Ritchie served in the Navy in World War II and subsequently undertook post-graduate study with Walter Piston at Harvard University from 1956-57.

In 1946 he was appointed to Canterbury University, becoming Professor and Head of Music in 1962. Ritchie served as acting and Deputy Vice-Chancellor from 1973-83.

During 1967-68 he held a Visiting Professorship at Exeter University and served on the board of Trinity College of Music, London.

He conducted many choirs and, in 1959, formed the John Ritchie



String Orchestra and later the Christchurch Civic Orchestra. He was a guest conductor of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and the New Zealand Ballet. In 1974 he was Music Director of the 10th Commonwealth Games and in 1986 for the Papal Visit of Pope John Paul.

As a composer he is known for choral music, music for brass, concerto-type works, carols and church music. These include *Partita for brass quintet*, *Introduction and Allegro for euphonium and piano*, *Threnody* (written in 1989 as a tribute to Mervyn Waters), *Papanui Road Overture* (full orchestra) and *Flourish for an Occasion*, a fanfare written for the Skellerup Woolston Band to perform at the opening of the Christchurch Town Hall auditorium in 1972.

John Ritchie was Professor Emeritus at Canterbury University until his death. He was awarded the CANZ Citation for service to New Zealand music in 1992. He had a family of three daughters and two sons. His wife, Anita, a nationally recognised soprano, died in 2001.

John Ritchie passed away on the morning of his 93rd birthday, 29 September 2014.

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Celebrating - a new band room



The good news story of 2014 has to be the opening of a new bandroom for the Kaiapoi Brass Band of Canterbury in May.

In September 2010 its bandroom on Charles Street was destroyed in the Canterbury earthquakes but the band has now settled into new premises and hopes to reclaim its place on the national stage.

Band president Dale Maher says: "Over the years Kaiapoi was a champion band. In the 1970s and 1980s we won national competitions and in the 1990s we held our own. Since 2000 we have struggled and it just got too difficult to continue competing."

The band is now up and running again in new premises on Stone Street, Kaiapoi, with around 23 musicians. Mr Maher says the band has lost several experienced members who were displaced following the earthquakes but has picked up a few keen young people as it begins to rebuild and work towards the celebration of its 130th year in May 2015.

Kaiapoi Brass Band would like to invite all former band and committee members and friends of the band to its celebrations on the weekend of 8 and 9 May, 2015.



The official opening of the new hall.

In this issue we:

- Celebrate two new Life Members of the Band Association,
 - Report on the 2014 Secondary Schools' Band,
 - Name the 2015 National Youth Band,
 - And list the results from the recent band contests in Auckland and Canterbury
- Merry Christmas!

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A note from our President

Your Association held its Annual General Meeting in Wellington on Saturday 1 November. I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to all the delegates, observers and life members who attended. Your input into the running of the Association is most important if we are to function efficiently and in the manner that best represents our sector of the performing arts in New Zealand.

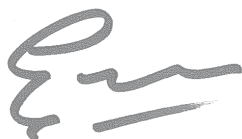


The evening prior to the AGM, interested parties were given the opportunity to discuss our National Contests and how to improve them. The aim was to find ways we can make it easier for bands and band-persons to participate and to make the experience more enjoyable for all. From the discussions the principal barriers to participation would appear to be cost and the duration of the contest. However there is no silver bullet that will resolve all the issues for bands and organisers alike in one hit. The National management committee and contest officials will continue to seek improvements but these will be tweaks rather than any form of total re-arrangement.

Those present at the AGM voted in favour of a Wellington location for the 2017 National Contest. The contest will be hosted by the Wellington District Bands who have secured Parliament Buildings as the venue for the premier solo events. The band events will take place in the Michael Fowler Centre and Wellington Town Hall or Opera House. Following the AGM we were alerted to the British Lions touring through New Zealand during June and July of 2017. The Management Committee will discuss what impact this may have on our normal July contest and recommend what actions will be best for our banding community.

This past year has been especially busy with youth bands, contests and a National Band tour to China and Korea. The success of each of those activities was outstanding. Thank you to all those who organised, attended and participated in these activities. No event would happen without the efforts of many volunteers.

On behalf of the National Management Committee and Executive Officer, Helen Lee, I wish you all best wishes for the festive season and for the New Year with whatever challenges and highlights it may bring.



Evan Sayer – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand



The 2014 National Secondary School's Band

What's On?

Saturday 13 December

Brass Boot Camp for all Auckland youth players, 1.00 – 6.00pm at the Dalewool Auckland Brass Band room, 98 Captain Springs Road, Onehunga. Organised by the Auckland Bands Association with camp director - Billy Middleton.

Sunday 14 December

I Love Christmas presented by Woolston Brass and their Academy, 2.30pm at the Charles Luney Auditorium, 12 Winchester Street, Merivale, Christchurch.

Saturday 24 January to Sunday 1 February 2015

2015 National Youth Brass Band training course will be held at Woodbourne Air Force Base, Blenheim.

Concert dates: 29 January, NBS Theatre, Westport
30 January, Theatre Royal, Nelson
31 January, Civic Theatre, Blenheim

Friday to Sunday 13-15 February

Wellington District Brass Band Association youth camp
www.wdbba.org.nz

Sunday 15 February

Brass in the Park, all the bands from the Wellington District will perform at the Wellington Botanic Gardens

Saturday 14 February

Jazz in the Park presented by 'Sunshine Capital Big Band' aka Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass and Trident High Big Band 5.00pm-8.00pm in the Rose Gardens, Whakatane

Sunday 19 April

Wellington District Brass Band Association contest

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 May

Kaiapoi Brass Band 130th jubilee celebrations. To register email kaiapoibrass@gmail.com or write to The Kaiapoi Brass Band Secretary, c/o - 5 Rapley Street, Kaiapoi 7630.

National Youth Band 2016, 2017 and 2018

Applications are called for from suitably experienced musical directors who wish to lead our outstanding young musicians during their annual training course and concert tours from 2016.

Please send a current CV outlining your musical training and conducting experience to the BBANZ Office by
Thursday 12 February 2015.

The National Band

Applications are called for from suitably experienced managers or management teams who have a vision for future concert or contest events for the National Band for the next five years. An application should detail possible tours or events the National Band could perform at, should aim to be self-funding and offer a plan to promote the activities of the band.

Please send a current CV outlining your relevant experience and activity plan for the band to the BBANZ Office by
Thursday 12 February 2015.



Band Camp – NSSBB Style

Band manager Lisa Crawley reflects on a fantastic week of music making by the National Secondary Schools' Brass Band.

The 2014 NSSBB band camp began in a similar way to the end of the 2013 camp – with extreme weather. Wellington put on some of its famous windy weather for the flights into the capital and although no one was delayed for too long, there were a few very bumpy flights. By 4.00pm the band was assembled in our makeshift band room at El Rancho camp in Waikanae and the rehearsals began. By the end of the first practice we knew we were onto something good – even with a couple of the band members missing due to being involved in the Young Brass Musician competition. We would've loved to attend the competition but having only arrived in camp that afternoon, and after early starts and long drives, by 9.00pm there were some very tired faces around the band.

The next morning the last four band members turned up along with the section tutors and the day was spent in sectionals and band practice. Bass tutor Don Banham introduced the band to his 'breathing gym' exercises and that, combined with lots of hymn playing, developed the band's sound dramatically.

Over the next few days I sat and listened to the band get better and better. I've said it to so many people since being home: "If you had heard the band without seeing them, you would not believe they were all high school students!" They completely and utterly blew my mind!

On Friday afternoon the band went into Wellington city to rehearse in the Air Force band room before heading to the Michael Fowler Centre to watch our musical director,

Mark Carter, perform with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. The concert featured an extended brass section and internationally-renowned trumpeter Hakan Hardenberger. This was a spectacular concert and as a number in the band had not heard a live professional orchestra before it was a unique opportunity to do so. On Saturday the band travelled back to Wellington to support their very own principal cornet, Kip Cleverley, soprano cornet, Toby Pringle and guest soloist, AMUS Matt Stein, perform in a masterclass with Hakan Hardenberger. After such a full couple of days of rehearsals and travel it was time to unwind with a quiz night hosted by tenor horn tutor Mitchell Spence.

On Sunday we prepared for our first public performance – an open rehearsal at El Rancho camp. We were not sure if anyone would turn up but thinking positively we found a larger room at the camp to perform in and after moving all of our gear in we were set to go. There was a surprisingly good-sized crowd at the rehearsal which ended up being more of a concert – the band played so well that Mark really had no need to stop them. It was a real buzz to have Kevin and Heather Jarrett and Peter Adams in the audience along with locals from Waikanae who were so impressed by the standard of the band one lady stood up at the end and thanked the band on everyone's behalf. The band deserved an afternoon off so a team building/games session with access to the water slide was arranged with Sam our camp host. The day finished with a talent quest won by William Swan on piano, accompanied by interpretive dancers Toby Pringle and Dryw Macarthur. The performances from the competitors were over-shadowed by costumes and over-acting from the judging panel of Mark Carter, Don Banham and international



guest judge Richard Madden from Brisbane.

Monday was our 'D-Day' – the big concert in Lower Hutt that we had been building up for all week! This was preceded by a 'flash mob' performance outside the Waikanae library which went down really well. Our principal Eb bass player, Keegan Lane, even managed to collect over \$60 and a box of chocolates by putting his bass case out. Then it was off to Lower Hutt to set up the concert venue, rehearse, grab dinner at the mall and have a formal photo shoot with the amazing Ian Tilley all before the concert. The concert itself went incredibly well. The band played some really tough music and they absolutely nailed it! The only thing that didn't go incredibly well was the disappointing number of people in the audience. To those of you who made it – thank you, and to those of you who didn't – you missed out on a truly spectacular evening of music making. These kids played their hearts out and it was magnificent.

The camp finished on Tuesday morning with a massive tidy-up, presentations to the staff and goodbyes to the Year 13 students Keegan Lane, Jacob Mancer, Patrick Webb, Annabella Thomas and Georgia Hoy. Patrick received a certificate to acknowledge his five years as a member of the band. Then it was off to the airport with a stop at Midland Park for another flash mob performance.

I feel very privileged and honoured to be the manager of the Secondary Schools' Band so I would like to thank the BBANZ for selecting me for this role. I have learnt a lot over my years as an assistant on camp and even more now after this year's experience. After listening to the Secondary Schools' Band I guarantee that New Zealand brass banding has a bright future ahead! To the players and your tutors, teachers and conductors – keep up all the great work.

The Management Committee of BBANZ would like to thank the following for their contribution to the 2014 National Secondary Schools Band:

Mark Carter – musical director
Matthew Stein – guest soloist and tutor.

Tutors: Kevin Dell, Mitchell Spence, Patrick Di Somma, Byron Newton, Don Banham and Jessica Hix.

Band Manager: Lisa Crawley

Funders and sponsors: The Ministry of Education, Pub Charity, Pelorus Trust and the Wellington Community Trust.

Logistical Support: Andrew Weir – poster design, Hutt City Brass – percussion, Ian Tilley Photography, Marie Rockell – audition recording, the New Zealand Navy Band and the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band.



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Obituary: Ian Marriner 1936-2014

Ian played in bands from the age of 12 years. I first met Ian in 1956, in Christchurch, where he was a member of the Band of the 3rd Armoured Regiment. He was a key member of their solo cornet team and remained so for many years.



When the New Zealand Army moved its Armoured Units to Waiouru in 1957 the band was renamed Derry's Brass Band. (The original Derry's Band was a private band which began in Christchurch in 1901.) Ian was fully involved in Derry's; he trained learners and was secretary for two terms.

In 1966 he moved to Wellington for his work and joined the Onslow Brass Band (now Wellington Brass). He lived in Stokes Valley and brought up his family of six children there. While playing for Onslow, he was selected for the National Band of New Zealand in 1970, 1976 and 1978. Ian also won the National Amateur Bb Cornet Championship in 1976 and, with Don Bly, won the National Open Duet Championship in 1980. Proving himself an effective administrator, Ian was elected secretary of the Onslow Band from 1980 to 1983. He served on the Management Committee of the New Zealand Brass Band Association in 1984, 1985 and then from 1989 to 1991. He was also involved with the Wellington District Brass Bands' Association and served as President, I understand, for three terms in the mid 1990s. He was elected as a Life Member of the Onslow Band at about this time.

Not long after retiring from work in 2002 Ian suffered a serious stroke. Although he could not fully work his right arm, his determination did lead to playing the cornet again and he joined the Upper Hutt Brass Band until he succumbed to recurring ill health. Ian was a great family man, a top musician and a hard worker for the hobby he loved and enjoyed.

Prepared by Merv Allison

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A Lifetime of Banding



At the recent Annual General Meeting two long-servicing and dedicated members of the banding fraternity were unanimously elected as Life Members of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand.



For over 65 years **Trevor Bremner** MNZM has contributed greatly to brass banding here in New Zealand and overseas as a player, tutor and conductor. He has taught or mentored many brass players. Some have gone on to make successful professional careers in orchestras and many others are currently playing in top bands here in New Zealand and overseas.

Wellington Brass has had the privilege of having Trevor play for them from time to time over the last few years in concerts and on the contest stage. On each occasion he had a very positive influence on the players not just with his artistry but with his focus and professionalism. His desire for perfection was never more evident than whilst recording his latest CD *Melodies from a Lifetime* when he managed to complete all the tracks with band accompaniment in one day. As one tired young player remarked "the man is a legend".

His achievements as a soloist are extraordinary:

- Winning the New Zealand Cornet Championship title eleven times
- The New Zealand Champion of Champions title four times
- Two Australian National Cornet titles
- One Australian Champion of Champions title
- The Errol Mason Brass Musician of the Year Championship three times
- The Ern Keller Memorial Award in Australia
- Runner-up and third placings in the British Open Solo Championships

In 1959 Trevor was selected for the first National School for Junior Bandsmen and the 1960 National Youth Band, later becoming its deputy conductor in 1976. Trevor was a member of the New Zealand National Band in 1962, 1965 and 1985.

In 1974 Trevor was appointed musical director of New Plymouth City Band leading them to second place in the A Grade the next year followed by wins in the B Grade in 1995 and 2000. In recognition of his service to the musical life of New Plymouth he was made an Honorary Ambassador of New Plymouth City Council in 1998 and was awarded Member New Zealand Order of Merit in 2000.

Needing to practice in odd places over the years and in the absence of a suitable practice mute Trevor designed the Sshhmute. Developed over several years in his New Plymouth workshop the Sshhmute is now in full commercial production and has received glowing testimonials from many world-class instrumentalists including James Morrison and Christian Lindberg. This invention has reflected well on New Zealand - raising its profile in the brass world as a country of innovation.

Last year Trevor received a Brass Band Association Long Service award for 65 years of service. However it is our submission that Trevor has given generously of himself and been a wonderful ambassador for the movement in New Zealand and overseas which we believe makes a compelling case for him to be made a Life Member of the Association as a reward for his endeavours.

Submitted by Wellington Brass and endorsed by The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass.

Dianne Smeehuyzen

Like many of us Dianne started in brass bands through family connections and has been a member of a number of bands in the Dunedin and Christchurch areas. She served on the committee of the Canterbury Provincial Brass Bands Association and as a committee member and president of the Otago Southland Brass Bands Association. In both regions she has been deeply involved in the organisation of district youth bands and camps as well as supervising district competitions.

In 2001 Dianne was elected to the National management committee, went on to serve as vice president and then on the retirement of Kevin Dell, was elected to the position of president in 2006 until her own retirement in 2012. During her time on the committee, Dianne was fully involved in the supervising of events and also management duties at our national contests. This, on top of all the other



roles and activities that are demanded of our president. I can attest to the fact that the role of president is a busy one and there is rarely a dull moment whether you are begging for money, writing emails, making phone calls, responding to the office, arbitrating a disagreement between bands or simply writing your monthly column for *The Mouthpiece*; there is always something or someone wanting your attention. Dianne devoted many hours to our movement and went above and beyond the call of duty for us many times.

Dianne has been very passionate about the need for our Association to record the history of bands through the memoirs of our elder statesmen. She is currently the project co-ordinator for our Oral History project whereby those who have made a significant contribution have their knowledge and thoughts recorded. She is about to undergo the third stage of training with Archives New Zealand in order that our history is preserved so that future generations may benefit from the contribution made to New Zealand society by our sector of the performing arts.

In 2011 Dianne voluntarily gave up her annual holidays and organised the catering for the National Youth Band's training camp and tour in New Plymouth. She repeated this effort in 2013 at the camp in Pukerau and then again this year in Wellington. Dianne has particular training in the food industry and her budgeting and preparation for the camps was first class, as was the food delivered.

The National Executive of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand unanimously nominates former Executive Member and former Association President Dianne Smeehuyzen for the honour of Life Membership of the Association.

Prepared and submitted by Evan Sayer, President BBANZ

Musical Coup for Youth Band

In a first for the New Zealand National Youth Band, a new piece has been written especially for it by one of the UK's leading brass band composers, arrangers and adjudicators – Stephen Roberts. Roberts is the composer of *Arabian Nights*, the 2013 British Open Test piece which the National Band played on its recent tour of China and Korea. He is currently writing a new work for the 2015 British Open.

Musical director of the National Youth Band Peter Adams adjudicated with Roberts in Australia in 2008 and they have remained friends since. After Peter sent Stephen recordings of his 2012 - 2014 youth bands, which featured performances of some of Stephen's arrangements, Professor Roberts (who teaches at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall) decided he wanted to write a new piece especially for Peter and the Youth Band. The result is *The Snaring of the Sun*, a 12 minute descriptive piece which will challenge the band technically and musically.

The piece is a celebration of youth and is based on a Maori legend of Maui. Roberts says, "I have written the music as a series of descriptive scenes, rather like a film, using eclectic styles to capture the narrative. Because of this the piece follows the story quite literally. It starts with a sunrise that descends almost before it has begun and darkness falls leaving the world a desolate place. Maui appears with a forthright theme that jumps and twists to describe his prowess as an athlete. He talks tenderly to his mother who cannot dry her tapa cloth and decides to capture the sun. He sounds his battle cry or Haka and invokes his magic powers as he treks into the wilds to find the sun. Once found, Maui ensnares the sun after a furious battle and in an ensuing quiet passage persuades him to travel more slowly and give mankind heat and light. The sun rises again and this time shines in a life-affirming manner."

2015 National Youth Band

A total of 59 applications were received for a seat in the band. It took the selection panel Musical Director Peter Adams, National Band principal tenor horn Mike Ford and band manager Garry Brown over eight hours to watch all the videos and then several days to finalise the band. It was evident that much effort and care went into the applications. Peter and Mike commented on the generally high standard of performances, which made the selection process quite challenging, and competition was very close for a number of positions. Congratulations to the following players:

Principal Cornet	Megan Gooding	Ascot Park Hotel Brass
Associate Principal Cornet	Nicholas Garrett	Trust Porirua City Brass
Solo Cornet	Kieran Smith Brad Mancer Patrick Macaskill-Webb	Wellington Brass Wellington Brass Hamilton City Brass
Soprano Cornet	Toby Pringle	Wellington Brass
Repiano Cornet	Logan Ford	Nelson City Brass
2nd Cornet	Dominic Cornfield William Swan Sariah Ratford	North Shore Brass Ascot Park Hotel Brass St Kilda Brass
3rd Cornet	Kimberley Dainty Sam Powell Clarke Spence	St Kilda Brass Marlborough District Brass Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
Flugel Horn	Jessica Schweizer	St Kilda Brass Band
Principal Tenor Horn	Mitchell Spence	Wellington Brass
1st Tenor Horn	Claire Yorkstone Callum Mallett	Ascot Park Hotel Brass Wellington Brass
2nd Tenor Horn	Bettina Schweizer Emma McMorrin	Matamata Brass Woolston Concert Brass
Principal Euphonium	Luke Spence	Wellington Brass
Euphonium	Nina Gooding Harry Smith	Ascot Park Hotel Brass St Kilda Brass
1st Baritone	Emma Cardwell	Hamilton City Brass
2nd Baritone	Georgia Hoy	Woolston Brass
Solo Tenor Trombone	Dale Hounscome-Vail	Wellington Brass
2nd Tenor Trombone	Sam Hart	Wellington Brass
Bass Trombone	Max Wilkinson	St Kilda Brass
Principal Eb Bass	Scott Rusbridge	Wellington Brass
Eb Bass	Matthew Harris Keegan Lane	Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass Marlborough District Brass
Principal BBb Bass	Andre Brown	Brass Wanganui
BBb Bass	Robert Parker	North Shore Brass
Principal Percussionist	Jeremy Richardson	Hutt City Brass
Percussionist	Dominic Jacquemard Cody Tauranga Dryw McArthur	The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Hear the 2015 National Youth Band in concert on :

**29 January, NBS Theatre, Westport, 30 January, Theatre Royal, Nelson
31 January, Civic Theatre, Blenheim**

Auckland Contest

The Auckland Bands Association band contest was held at the Hawkins Centre in Papakura on Sunday 20 September with ten bands competing.

A record four youth bands entered the competition, including, for the first time, the recently formed Takapuna Grammar School Brass (Ted Dawson) which was placed second behind the North Shore Youth Brass Band (Ken Cant). In the B section Howick Brass (Luke Christiansen) are champions again and in the A section North Shore Brass (under guest conductor Owen Clarke) were clear winners with Owen also winning the Best Compere award.

Among the awards for the day was the Jack McDonnell Memorial trophy for contribution

to the youth of Auckland. This was awarded to Ted Dawson of Takapuna Grammar School Brass who has trained students from both Takapuna Grammar and surrounding schools to now have a full brass band of 33 students after only two and a half years. Ted is a well-known musician particularly in the orchestral circles having played in the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra on French Horn before retiring and teaching at several other school music departments. The TGS Brass is quite unique in New Zealand, being the only high school full brass band that competes. They have plans to attend the Rotorua contest in 2015 in the Youth Section.

*Owen Melhuish
President, Auckland Bands Association*

Youth Section

- 1 North Shore Youth Brass Band
- 2 Takapuna Grammar School
- 3 Papakura Auxiliary Brass
- 4 Kumeu Evolution Brass

Best soloist Alexander King - North Shore Youth Brass Band
Best Youth compere Emily Tan - North Shore Youth Brass Band

B Section

- 1 Howick Brass
- 2 Kumeu Brass

Best soloist Norman King – Howick Brass

A Section

- 1 North Shore Brass
- 2 Waitakere Auckland Brass
- 3 Papakura Brass
- 4 Auckland City Brass

Best soloist Andrew Leech - North Shore Brass

Letter to the Editor

What a wonderful few weeks in Wellington during September and early October.

First there was the Oktoberfest Bavarian Showdown - congratulations to Wellington Brass for a well organised and exciting event. Follow that up with the Young Musician of the Year Contest, an amazing concept brought to Wellington by the NZ Brass Foundation and superbly organised by Buzz Newton and Dave Bremner. Naturally, I was backing Andrew Yorkstone on Trombone to win, while Kaye backed our own Cornet player in the family. However nothing should be taken away from the winner Kyle Lawson. He is a fantastic player who proved again what a hard man he is to beat! Yet another from the stable of Brass Wanganui.

The negative from both these events? Well, you could be forgiven for thinking that the only brass bands in the lower North Island are New Plymouth, Wanganui and Wellington. Where was everyone else? At the Young Musician of the Year competition, apart from the Wellington faithful and family members, the largest group of brass musicians travelled down from Wanganui. We know as brass players it is difficult to get general "bums on seats" for events, but

support from other bands in the Wellington area was a little thin on the ground!

Congratulations to those who saw the value of the evening and were there.

The National Secondary Schools Band was convened nearby on the Kapiti Coast the same day as the Young Musician of the Year. It was a great opportunity for these students to see musicians they can aspire to be but no, they weren't there. Toby Pringle was one of the finalists and Andre Brown was part of the accompanying band of Wellington Brass - both of these young men are in the Secondary Schools' Band. Let's also add that Wellington Brass members Mitchell Spence, Matt Stein and Byron Newton were all tutoring the next day with the NSSBB! It is a shame that the NSSBB band schedule couldn't have included this event. After all, these young players are some of the future finalists in this competition. Encouraging our junior players is paramount to sustaining our brass future so everything should be done to work together to achieve this.

In short, we all struggle to get audiences for our concerts; Wellington with the

Oktoberfest brought brass bands to a whole new generation of listeners, and showcased some of the best young musicians at the Young Musician of the Year. The least local musicians could do is get off the couch and come and watch.

Regards

Chris and Kaye Smith, Wanganui

Editor's note: As an assistant to the manager and musical director of the NSSBB I know that it would have been very difficult to logistically have the whole NSSBB at the Young Musician event on their first day together. The NSSBB was only together for six days and that time had to be balanced between rehearsing and listening. We chose to attend unique events such as the Hakan Hardenberger masterclass and performance with the NZSO. We too were disappointed with the number in the audience for our concert by the NSSBB. To paraphrase the letter above "if encouraging our junior players is paramount to sustaining our brass future" why didn't people come and support the 35 young musicians from 24 different high schools who made up the 2014 National Secondary Schools' Band?

Canterbury Contest

Saturday 18 October saw the 2014 Canterbury Provincial Brass Band Association's provincial contest held at Middleton Grange School. Our judge this year was Queen's Service Medal winner Kevin Moseley; conductor of the Marlborough District Brass Band for the past 25 years, National bandsman and conductor of the National Youth Brass Band of New Zealand from 2007 to 2009.

Nine bands competed at this year's event, with our judge Kevin Moseley commenting on the high standard of playing throughout the day, and noting the particularly tight competition in the A and B grade events.

In the D grade Keeneth Love and Rangiora Brass continued their good form from the Nationals, winning both the Hymn and Test categories, with Barry Clarke and Kaiapoi Brass winning the Entertainment. Woolston Concert Brass as the only C-grade band again impressed with the standard of their playing under Nick Johnson.

The honours were split in the B grade, with Addington Brass and Dave Fiu taking out the Hymn and Entertainment categories and Alpine Energy Timaru Brass winning the Test under Garth Poland.

Woolston Brass conducted by Phillip Johnston concluded the contest with a clean sweep of the A grade events, despite tough competition from Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass directed by Tyme Marsters.

The best soloist award went to 2014 National

Band member Anthony Smith playing *My Love is Like a Red Red Rose*, and the Woolston Junior Band's numerous compere won the award for best compere.

Bill Vail and Nor'west Brass entertained the crowd while the results were collated, providing a great end to the day and a great way to feature Canterbury's newest brass band.

We would like to acknowledge the Mainland Foundation for their generous support of the contest, Addington Brass and Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass for the use of their percussion gear and stands, Sumner Silver Band for providing helpers on the day, and Nor'west Brass.

The CPBBA committee

A Grade hymn, test and entertainment

- 1 Woolston Brass
- 2 Leopard Coachlines Canterbury Brass

B Grade hymn and entertainment

- 1 Addington Brass
- 2 Alpine Energy Timaru Brass

B Grade test

- 1 Alpine Energy Timaru Brass
- 2 Addington Brass

C Grade hymn, test and entertainment

- 1 Woolston Concert Brass

D Grade hymn

- 1 Rangiora Brass Band
- 2 Kaiapoi Brass Band
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band

D Grade test

- 1 Rangiora Brass Band
- 2 Kaiapoi Brass Band

D Grade entertainment

- 1 Kaiapoi Brass Band
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band
- 3 = Rangiora Brass Band
- 3 = Woolston Junior Band

Best soloist: Anthony Smith (Alpine Energy Timaru Brass)

Best compere: Woolston Junior Band



Chief Adjudicator Kevin Moseley and his writer Irene Campbell prepare for action at the Canterbury Provincial Contest

Remembering Gallipoli: Gareth Farr's *Onslaught for Brass Band* Now Published

Composer Gareth Farr is well known to audiences and musicians in New Zealand and the style of his music reflects his personality – bold, brash, or delicate and sensuous, but always engaging. While Farr is primarily known for his orchestral and



percussion music, he has penned a number of exciting works for brass band throughout his career — and no doubt many readers here will have experienced them firsthand. *Waipiro* (2000) was Farr's first work for brass band and was commissioned by the Brass Band Association of New Zealand as the B Grade test piece for the National Championships in 2000. In 2003, he wrote *Tawhirimatea* (the Māori god of wind) for the National Youth Brass Band of New Zealand. And more recently, Woolston Brass Band and Strike Percussion performed the premiere of Farr's *The Nor'West Arch* (2011), written as a memorial to the victims of the Christchurch earthquake.

In 2004, the New Zealand Army Band commissioned Farr to write *Onslaught* to mark the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Gallipoli. In anticipation of the centenary commemorations in 2015, Promethean Editions is pleased to announce the release of *Onslaught* as a published edition study score

(PE133S), conductor's score (PE133SC) and complete set of 30 performance parts (PE133P).

As many New Zealanders remember, 3000 New Zealand soldiers were part of an amphibious Allied invasion that took place at what is now known as Anzac Cove, on Turkey's Gallipoli Peninsula, on 25 April 1915. Under heavy fire they made their way up the beach in an attempt to divert and prevent Turkish forces from strengthening their defence against the main Allied landing further south at Cape Helles. During an under-resourced and poorly-conducted campaign that would span 260 days, 2,721 of the 8,556 New Zealand soldiers who landed at Anzac Cove perished. Among those that fought were the members of four New Zealand army bands. By the end of the fighting, the casualty rate was such that there was only one band's worth of members left alive.

Farr discusses the writing of *Onslaught* as both a conceptual and orchestration departure from his usual style:

"Much of my music is extremely loud and percussive, but almost always in a joyous and celebratory style. *Onslaught* is certainly loud and percussive, but in a manner that sounds like the end of the world. Despite the work's overall volume there are, however, moments of eerie quiet that express the long periods of time spent in a trench with absolutely nothing happening – there is only the horror of waiting and waiting, knowing something terrible is coming, but not knowing when. Having never

played in a brass band, it is always a challenge for me to write for this ensemble. I'm trained to write in orchestral colours and textures, and there is almost no instrumental crossover between the two ensembles. Producing contrasts within the brass band is another difficult task, as its instruments are from the same family, but after a lot of consultation with the players I discovered all sorts of ways to achieve it in this piece."

Onslaught communicates on a strongly physical and visceral level in its portrayal of the intensity and chaos of battle. A sharp military rhythm is immediately recognisable as it is passed around the cornet section, while an ominous sustained chord in the bass register instils the dread at what is to come. The pounding of artillery is evoked in thunderous, relentless percussion passages while elsewhere syncopated chordal stabs heighten the atmosphere of unpredictability in bursts reminiscent of gunfire. Though the only brief given to Farr was to "write the loudest piece of music in the world" *Onslaught* does incorporate a degree of light and shade. A subdued and poignant melodic passage at the work's conclusion evokes the battlefield in the aftermath of combat – the loss and futility now made visible.

Onslaught is now available for purchase from Promethean Editions: www.promethean-editions.com. Farr's *The Nor'West Arch* for brass band is in production and is due for release in December 2014.

Many Notes of Thanks - in fact a *Symphony of Thanksgiving!*

The Management Committee of the Association would sincerely like to thank the individuals, businesses, trusts and organisations that have supported the activities of the Brass Band Association in 2014.

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2014 National Youth Band

Musical Director: Peter Adams

Band Manager: Garry Brown

Guest Soloist: Besson Artist Kristy Rowe

The Tutors

Grants and Sponsorship: Besson, Pub

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Steve Keig – Victoria University Wellington,

Emily Richards WDBBA, Rata Records, Ian

Tilley Photography, Marie Rockell, Pastel

Software and Newstalk ZB Wellington.

2014 National Secondary Schools Band

Musical Director: Mark Carter

Band Manager: Lisa Crawley

Guest artist: Matthew Stein

The Tutors

Grants and Sponsorship: The Pelorus Trust,

Pub Charity, Wellington Community Trust

and the Ministry of Education Vacation Music

Grant.

Logistical Support: Andrew Weir – poster

design, Hutt City Brass – percussion, Ian

Tilley Photography, Marie Rockell – audition

recording, the New Zealand Navy Band and

the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band.

2014 National Band

Musical Director: Nigel Weeks

Managers: Kevin Dell and Graham Dick
Guest Artists: Aotearoa Maori Group

Grants: ASB Community Trust, Infinity
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Musings from Brownie - and so another year draws to a close

Recently I received a hurry-up email from the editor for my Christmas article. That time already? I know that the retailers see it differently; they seem to begin earlier each year trying to entice us to buy now. But it doesn't feel right to me with fireworks going off in the background. As well, someone in Auckland was complaining on the radio that they still have to use their electric blanket. But that's life - better get back to banding.

After having resurrected that old copy of *The Mouthpiece* recently, I was again reminded of how things had changed during those 40 years. In particular at Christmas time, which was a major fundraiser for bands, and involved not only the players, but their supporters as well. It reminded me of an incident encountered by a collector recorded in Harry Mortimer's book - 'On Brass'. I quote -

'A bandsman was calling from door-to-door with his collecting tin, and not doing particularly well. Walking all the way up a long garden path he reached a front door and knocked. After much shuffling and grumbling from within the front door was opened an inch and an old lady peered through the aperture. "Yes? What do you want?"

"We're collecting for the Horwich Railway Mechanics Institute Public Subscription Silver Prize Band," announced the caller.

"What's that you say?" asked the old lady, cupping her ear.

"We're collecting for the Horwich Railway Mechanics Institute Public Subscription Silver Prize Band," repeated the man, fortissimo.

"You what?" shrieked the old dear.

"We're collect..... Oh, never mind," and set off down the path again.

"Mind you shut the gate!" she bawled.

"Oh, bugger the gate," mumbled the bandsman.

"Aye, and bugger the Horwich Railway Mechanics Institute Public Subscription Silver Prize Band an' all," cackled the triumphant old lady.'

Like many in our movement, I began my banding in a D Grade band. Christmas carolling was a major event on that band's calendar and was organised like a military

operation. Not only was a carolling band required, but an adequate truck and sufficient collectors. The band also required lighting as there was no such thing as "daylight saving" back then. I'm certain that today's Health and Safety monitors would also have something to say about how the chairs were "tied down", and the rear of the truck never seemed to have a tail board. The truck's suspension or lack of it still features in my mind. There was also nothing gentle about its braking systems either.

However, on the completion of each evening's carolling it was back to the bandroom to "count the takings". It was like something out of Charles Dickens, watching them total the take, and seeing which collector managed to be champion of the evening.

But the weeks of carolling culminated on Christmas Day with the band visiting the various "borough dignitaries". This involved a few carols at each address, then off the truck for well-earned seasonal refreshments. I wonder how many bands still carry on this tradition. And in particular on Christmas Day? I have no doubt that the trucks of today are far more comfortable to travel on as well, compared with those of yesteryear.

I remember as well carolling on Christmas Day when I was in Malaysia with the IRNZIR Band. The route our truck took was to various senior officers from our Battalion. What sticks out in my memory was the variety and sophistication of the Christmas gifts that Santa left for their children. We had nothing like it available in New Zealand at that time and before long we joined the children in discovering the mysteries of their gifts.

Talking of things military, I have been asked a number of times if there were New Zealanders involved in the Christmas singing on the Western Front during WW 1. The event I'm referring to is when both sides laid down their arms and met in "no man's land" to sing carols on Christmas Eve 1914. But at that time our troops were still gathering in Egypt to protect the Suez Canal. Gallipoli was yet to happen and the ANZAC

troops had been withdrawn from that front prior to Christmas 1915.

When stationed overseas with the military, Christmas was also marked with the distribution of "Red Cross Parcels", which contained various goodies to remind us of home. I would have trouble now remembering what they contained except for the tin of Kauri Tobacco. I have no doubt that this item has now been replaced with something "healthier", but wonder if troops overseas still receive this parcel of nostalgia from the Red Cross.

So, all that remains now is to wish all those who actually read my articles a Merry Christmas. Enjoy the holiday break and be ready to face your rejuvenated conductors in the New Year. Have a good one - see you next year.

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Below: Members of the Matamata Citizen's Band out carolling, 1981.



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