



NEW ZEALAND

# Mouthpiece

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## National Youth Brass Band 2024



## A Player's Perspective

Greetings, fellow bandies!! With the beginning of the New Year, we again saw the spectacular rise of the National Youth Brass Band. Be it the incredible, demanding music or the outstanding level of performance from New Zealand's 'Whetu O Apopo', 2024 will definitely be a year to remember for the NYBB.

First and foremost, I would like to say a huge thank you to our Musical Director, Tyme Marsters; Associate Musical Director and Horn Tutor, Nic Scott; Featured Soloist and Trombone Tutor, Shannon Pittaway; and the rest of our amazing tutors: Kay MacKenzie (Front Row Cornets), Mark Carter (Back Row Cornets), Paul Black (Euphos/Baris), Matt Toomata (Basses), and Grant Myhill (Percussion). It is such a fantastic opportunity to be exposed to your experience and knowledge, and the lessons you have taught us will last a lifeTyme. It was a privilege to work with you. I would also like to extend my immense gratitude to Emily Richards, our dedicated Band Manager, who has managed to run another smooth and entertaining course. This course could not happen without the hours upon hours you have tirelessly devoted to the NYBB, nor would it run as well with another Band Manager. We are ever grateful for your efforts and can't wait to see what you've got in store for next year! Our band of 37 players, alongside two

associate players, met at Wellington's Scots College on the 14th of January, ready to begin the first of many long rehearsals. After a short walk to our rehearsal space in the school chapel, we had the opportunity to have lunch and catch up with friends from across the country before really getting into it. Immediately, we realised we were in for an intense and challenging week. (Some of us may have wished we had practised just a little more.) Our impressive repertoire of 20 pieces included another Jack Bewley composition, *Fantasia et Alia*, commissioned for our youth band, a trilogy of George Roberts' Bass Trombone solos as a tribute to the talented trombonist, and, of course, the major work. I was pleasantly surprised but also terrified, alongside the other first years, to be playing Johan de Meij's infamous test piece, *Extreme Make-over*. For those of you familiar with the test piece, you will probably join me in saying that there should not be that many dots on a sheet of paper! But it didn't end there. Shannon and Tyme had decided to throw another major work at us. Paul Sarcich's *Concerto for Bass Trombone*, which I'm pretty sure had more time changes in it than I do brain cells. But our incredible, clearly well-prepared players rose to the occasion. It's safe to say, though, after a long day of travelling and then intensive practising, we all slept quite well that night (and only slept on that night!)

The second day started earlier than many of us would've liked, with breakfast at 8.00am and to be warmed-up, ready to go at 9.00am. It was pretty clear who doesn't usually wake up till midday! After a long day of productive rehearsals, many of us were glad to finally have a decent rest, albeit at 7.00pm. During this time, we were fortunate to have Shannon present an informative seminar on ensemble performance. Mainly focusing on group tuning and rhythmic playing, we were then given the opportunity (forced) to play in an ensemble of our own, with an hour to learn a completely unrehearsed piece. An hour later, Shannon was waiting to judge our performance, which we got to do in front of all our peers. I don't remember who won (not my group, obviously), but one group (also not us) treated us to some rather amusing theatrics. The following night, the fun continued with the highly anticipated quiz night and a hugely beneficial Q&A session with our tutors and Tyme. With the splendid addition of pizza, the quiz night was probably a highlight of the whole week for the band. My team 'TLIH' (ask Lachie) was robbed of a glorious victory this year, but, as the humble person I am, a huge congratulations to 'Paul Sausage'. You'd better watch out next year!

On Wednesday, we headed down to Te Papa for our first concert. But we weren't to play

outside. This year, Emily, in all her amazingness, had managed to get us inside the building, free of the windy Wellington weather we all know and love. The short lunchtime concert included many pieces from our main concert programme in addition to a few 'lunchtime exclusives'. Don't tell anyone, but I also left all my music at the venue. Whoops! The gig was a great way to kick off our four days of performing with a decent-sized, supportive audience; however, it was also where we had to, grudgingly, let go of our associate players. They coped extremely well; we hope to see them in the full band next year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Air Force Band for providing all the stands, percussion, and other gear that was needed throughout the week. I don't think *Extreme Makeover* would have been the same without percussion.

Although the Te Papa concert was successful, it quickly disappeared from our minds as we prepared for our first evening concert in New Plymouth. The five-hour-long bus ride to get there was, well ... five hours. However, sleeping NYBB musicians did provide good models for some of our aspiring young photographers. When we did finally arrive in New Plymouth, we were greeted by an almost 30° heat. We were already sweating in our shorts and jandals with the air-conditioned bus, but as it turned out, New Plymouth Methodist Church didn't even have air conditioning. Do you know how hard it is to play when you're struggling to breathe? Thankfully, the executive decision not to wear suit jackets was made, and we managed to pull off a performance that was greatly appreciated by our audience. Big shout out to the Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass, who provided us with a delicious barbecue dinner that night.

Next stop was my beautiful hometown, Whanganui, for another lunchtime concert before continuing our tour towards Feilding. Of course, every concert will have its challenges, and in Whanganui, our comperes had to learn the art of voice projection, for there was no mic available. Their ability to cope with this unexpected change was impressive, and the concert still ran smoothly, a good warm-up for our evening concert at the Feilding Civic Centre. Finally, we were blessed with air conditioning, making the environment far easier to perform in, though still too hot for suits. Feilding was our biggest concert yet and pushed us towards the final leg of our tour: Wellington.

Our return to the capital was 100% worth it, with our best performance of the week. The live-streamed concert was held at Te Whaea and truly illustrated the band members' immense efforts throughout the long course. I can confidently say that this concert made me genuinely proud to be a part of the NYBB and was a great way to finish my first year.

And, of course, it wouldn't be a National Youth Band without the prize-giving at the end, kindly hosted by Wellington Brass Band at their bandroom. The prize-giving was a blast, with the socialising, speeches, awards, and the fines. Each year, a few band members watch everyone closely and pick out each of their mistakes to announce them as 'fines' in this embarrassing part of our prize-giving. But we'll keep those to ourselves. "What happens at Band Camp stays at Band Camp." I chuckled as I wrote that, remembering I was writing an article detailing almost everything we did. But all the awards were well-deserved, showing how much we'd come together as a band and individuals throughout the course.

Again, on behalf of the band, I'd like to thank our band manager, Emily Richards, our incredible team of tutors, our friends, family, and bands who supported us along the way, BBANZ, and Tyme and Nic, for pushing us till the end. Thank you!

Finally, a shout-out to "Toby and Kate for being decent musicians but choosing to play Baritone." - Lachlan Grant  
Thanks, Lachie!

Toby Clark - 1st Baritone NYBB



*Liam Dixon received the Most Improved Player award from Tyme Marsters.*



*Bandsperson of the Year, Brianna Loan, receives the award from Nic Scott.*



*The Section of the Year: Shannon Pittaway (tutor), Amy Laithwaite, Jack McKenzie, Tyme Marsters, Clara Dujakovic and Matt Donaldson.*



# From the Manager

We were delighted to be able to finally put on the tour that was supposed to happen in 2022, but that unfortunately had to be cancelled due to COVID. We had quite a few new players this year, and it was great to see old friends reuniting and new friendships being made. We had a lot of viewers from overseas tune in to our live-streamed concert, and it was wonderful to share our music with our international brass band family. For those who didn't see the concert, it is still available to watch on our [Facebook page](#).

Toby has given an excellent summary of the course, so I won't repeat that, but I just wanted to add a few thank you. Thanks to all the players who applied, particularly those who weren't selected for the band this year; it takes a lot of preparation and courage to submit an audition, and it can be disappointing when you're not selected, but please don't let this put you off from applying for future bands. A big shout-out to all our amazing section principals, who all turned up very well-prepared and led their sections superbly. And a huge thanks to Tyme and Nic for their musical vision and leadership; the band relished the challenge of the music you picked, especially *Extreme Make-over*.

We wouldn't be able to put on NYBB courses and tours without the fantastic support of the banding community. This year, we had phenomenal support from Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass, Feilding Brass, Brass Whanganui and Wellington Brass – New Plymouth generously put on a great feed at their bandroom.

We were incredibly lucky to feature Shannon Pittaway from the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as our guest soloist on Bass Trombone. It was a real privilege to watch a player of Shannon's calibre work with and inspire the band, and they had a great week getting stuck into Shannon's solo, particularly Sarcich's *Concerto for Bass Trombone*.

A huge thanks to the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band for their support with percussion and stands, especially to Denis Spurdle for driving the truck on the seemingly never-ending cycle of packing in and packing out and being an excellent travel companion. We were also very grateful to be supported by tutors from the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band and the New Zealand Army Band. Thank you to Grant Myhill, Paul Black, Nic Scott, and our fabulous 'civvy' tutors – Kay MacKenzie, Mark Carter, Shannon Pittaway and Matt Toomata.

The title of our concert series, '*Whetu o Apopo – Stars of the Future*,' builds on the themes from previous years and reinforces the critical role the young players play in the future of our movement. I've been fortunate to be involved with the NSSBB and NYBB for a number of years now, and it's been a privilege to see these talented young players develop not only as musicians but also as individuals as they

move on to further education or into the workforce. Thank you to everyone across the country who spends their time supporting youth development.

And last but by no means least, the most enormous thanks go to the 2024 NYBB musicians and associate players: as always, you guys were amazing (yes, even you Anna).

Emily Richards – Band Manager

And the awards went to....

Best audition	Liam Wright, North Shore Brass
Most improved player	Liam Dixon, Woolston Concert Brass
Best soloist	Walter Hughes, Hamilton City Brass
Bandsperson of the Year	Brianna Loan, St Kilda Brass
Musical Director's award for the most outstanding musical contribution	Liam Wright, North Shore Brass
Outstanding player	Sho Woodhouse, Canterbury Brass
Best section	Trombones. Tutor: Shannon Pittaway; Jack McKenzie, Amy Laithwaite, Clara Dujakovic and Matt Donaldson.

BBANZ thanks the following organisations and individuals for their financial and logistical support for the 2024 National Youth Brass Band:

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band  
 Four Winds Foundation  
 Pelorus Trust  
 Kiwi Gaming Foundation  
 One Foundation  
 Wellington (City Council) Arts & Culture Fund  
 Tony Garing  
 Royal New Zealand Air Force Band  
 New Zealand Army Band  
 Orchestra Wellington  
 Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass  
 Feilding Brass  
 Brass Whanganui  
 Wellington Brass  
 Michelle Starns (programme and poster design)  
 Jack Bewley (composer)  
 Riwai Hina (arranger)  
 Denis Spurdle (logistics)



*Percussion feature starring Keina Rollinson, Charlie Garcia-Gill, Jacob Hickman and Sho Woodhouse out the front and Nicolae Didenco on Kit.*

# Happy 2024

Happy 2024, everyone. I hope you all enjoyed some quality time with your families and have made the most of the summer holidays. I suspect most of you are glad you weren't sitting in the bandroom over January with the high temperatures we have been experiencing.



Instead, many of us are only now starting to think about locating our instruments and getting valves/slides/drumsticks working again before our first band rehearsals for the year. However, our finest young musicians did not have this luxury, as Tyme Marsters had sent out a challenging programme for them to prepare ahead of the 2024 National Youth Band of New Zealand. The band again performed with real distinction with outstanding concerts in Feilding, Whanganui, New Plymouth and Wellington. This year's NYBB was entitled "Whetu O Apopo - Stars of the Future", so it was a shame more people didn't take the opportunity to hear and meet the players who are exactly that.

Once again, I witnessed the vast amount of work that goes into organising and running a successful training camp and tour. A big thank you to Tyme Marsters, Emily Richards, Nic Scott, Guest Soloist Shannon Pittaway, tutors, NZ Army Band, Royal NZ Air Force Band and the many

others in this year's management team for their hours of preparation and hard work, all to provide wonderful lifelong memories to another group of young musicians.

The final concert's high quality and the players' wonderful team spirit is a credit to everyone involved. Like the other band members' parents, I especially want to acknowledge the players for "putting in the mahi" over the summer and making us so very proud. Another true banding highlight for me - thanks, Emily S.

One of the biggest challenges we continue to face each year is raising the funds required to operate our representative bands, as this year, we were again declined some key grant funding. As band treasurers and grant applicants will know, operational challenges within the hospitality sector continue to make it difficult to obtain grant funding. Often, we are only aware of our success or failure in the final days before a band assembles. It is not ideal when budgeting and planning a programme. Therefore, the course fee paid by each player is essential to enable the NYBB to operate. We fully appreciate it is not easy for families with members in the band to find this money each year, especially for those selected for other representative bands at the same time and for students funding themselves. Therefore, we must find alternative methods to obtain the necessary funds to continue to deliver the National Secondary Schools' Band, National Youth Band and National Band, which are all vital for the

sustainability of brass banding in New Zealand.

We are very open to ideas on how to help resolve this situation; however, one initiative we have underway is Payroll Giving. Payroll Giving is a reasonably "painless" way to give back to our movement by providing a regular income stream that allows the Association to plan with more certainty without having to always rely on declining funding from grants. All for the price of one coffee a week! Thank you to those who are already contributing in this manner, and if this also interests you, don't hesitate to get in touch with me or Helen to learn more about how you can help secure the long-term financial future of brass banding in New Zealand. Thank you also to those who donate annually to the Friends of the National Youth Band and those who also support the National Band

Finally, a quick note to all music directors: Be gentle at the first rehearsal. As for some of us, the call to the beach was far stronger than the call to the rehearsal room. Yes, Harmen, I am talking mainly to you!

Yours in banding.

John Sullivan - President  
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

# Grandad Goes Carolling

I was 10 when I joined Dannevirke Municipal Band as a 3rd/4th cornet. Carolling was the band's main fundraising effort. The band numbered about 25 playing members, a few of whom were adults. We divided into two teams, and three nights a week in December, we set out on the back of two trucks (chairs tied to the trays, us sitting on them holding our instruments and music stands.) The teams then targeted every house in the town, with four collectors from each truck knocking on every door for a donation. It was great when there were non-playing supporters to do this, but generally, the task fell to the 3rd and 4th cornets, 2nd horns and learners. The town landscape was quite different to today. Television had not arrived, few people had record players, radio reception was poor, and no one had air conditioning, so everyone had their

doors and windows open to let in the cooler evening air, and the kids would all be out playing in the street. A crowd would follow the truck as it stopped every 100 metres or so to play a few carols. Once or twice a night, a band supporter would come out and invite the band in for a drink. It was a real social occasion. Most years, we managed to finish every street in Dannevirke, and we would head off to play in Norsewood 20km north (easy, as there were only two streets) and one year, we even managed to head south to surprise the good citizens of Woodville 40km south. The highlight, however, was Christmas Day when those players who still remained in town gathered first at the hospital to play outside each of the wards, then headed off to the town's four hotels where we played to the guests in each of the private bars.

By the time I joined Cambridge Brass, the situation had changed completely. Television, air conditioning, paranoia and high wooden fences etc meant nobody gathered on the street for entertainment. Although some bands still tour their communities on the backs of trucks, Cambridge Brass Band still maintains a carolling tradition but it is much more community-based. Again, the band is divided into smaller groups, and we go off to each of the rest homes/retirement villages (of which there are a large number) and play for about 40 minutes. In addition, there is a carol concert and sing-along in the town hall and Christmas parades in Cambridge and nearby Putaruru. This year, we put on an additional performance at Braemar Hospital in Hamilton, where Grandma had her hip operation.

Chris Hendy



Carolling at Resthaven Hospital in Cambridge.

## Long Service Awards

In 2023, awards for long service to the brass band movement in New Zealand were presented to 25 people from 9 bands. Our heartiest congratulations to all those who have given so freely of their time to brass banding over many years.

Feilding Brass: Terry Hammond 50 yrs, Nigel Towers 45 yrs and Steve Mackley 40 years.

Hamilton City Brass: Memorie Brooky 33 years.

Hutt City Brass: Neville Farr 26 yrs and Elaine McAlister 25 years.

Levin & Districts Brass: Blue Caldwell 70 yrs, Chris Craddock 50 yrs, Chrissie Butts 45 yrs, and Nigel Hewitt 45 years.

Matamata Brass: Doug Rose 55 yrs, Yvette Lawson 33 yrs, Sharon Porter 32 yrs and Rex Thorley 25 years.

Mosgiel Brass: Oscar van Stekeborg 45 yrs, Karen Parker 30 yrs and Brian Lee 25 years.

Te Awamutu Brass: Steve Wilson 40 years.

The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass Band: Ken Austin 60 yrs, Neil Overton 35 yrs, and Gordon Holmes 25 years.

Trust Porirua City Brass: Bill Platt 70 yrs, John Jones 55 yrs, Rick Anset 50 yrs and Marie Rockell 40 years.

Long Service awards start from 25 years and are awarded to players and administrators of BBANZ bands. If you would like an application form, please email Helen at the BBANZ Office at [bbanzeo@gmail.com](mailto:bbanzeo@gmail.com)

# Gig Guide

## Saturday 24 February

'ON PARADE,' The Band of The Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery, 2.30pm at Hawkins Theatre, Papakura. Tickets: Adults \$24; Seniors & Students \$18 from [Eventfinda](#)

## Wednesday 28 February

**The Air Force on Tour:** concert by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band, 7.00pm at the ASB Theatre Marlborough, Blenheim.

## Friday 1 March

**The Air Force on Tour:** concert by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band, 7.00pm at the Ashburton Events Centre.

## Saturday 2 March

**The Air Force on Tour:** concert by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band, 7.00pm at the Mountainview High School, Timaru.

## Sunday 3 March

**The Air Force on Tour:** concert by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band, 1.30pm at the James Hay Theatre, Christchurch.

## Thursday 4 to Monday 8 April

SAVE THE DATE Gumboots Band Showcase in the Manawatu with lead tutor Harmen Vanhoorne. Player enquiries to Kathy Clark 021 689 005.

## Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 April

Otago Southland band and solo contest in Dunedin.

## Sunday 7 April

**New Zealand Army Band Diamond Jubilee Concert,** 2.00pm at the Christchurch Town Hall

Tickets are available [HERE](#) Adults \$25, Seniors/Students \$20, Children \$10

**To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at [bbanzeo@gmail.com](mailto:bbanzeo@gmail.com)**

# Quick Notes

Congratulations to our NZ bandies who made the 4barsrest award nominations for 2023.

Harmen Vanhoorne, musical director of North Shore Brass, was nominated in the Conductor of the Year category for the second year in a row. North Shore Brass and Wellington Brass were nominated in the Band of the Year section, with Wellington also listed in the Contest Performance of the Year for its rendition of *Audivi Media Nocte* (Oliver Waespi) to win the Own Choice section at our National Contest. 2023 Champion of

Champions Kay MacKenzie, from NBS Nelson City Brass, was nominated in the Player of the Year section and was selected in the 4barsrest Band of the Year along with Toby Pringle, with the 4barsrest team saying "Kay's 'Champion of Champions' solo title win in New Zealand capped off a fine year of achievement, whilst Toby Pringle was a beacon of classiness in leading Wellington to yet another New Zealand National title success."

PS. Iwan Fox of 4barsrest is keen to receive

news from local bands. Send your news to [general@4barsrest.com](mailto:general@4barsrest.com)

The **Waikato Bay of Plenty Brass Band Association** acknowledged the incredible amount of work Denise Sturt and Stephen Clayton have given to the Association over the years with Life Membership. Denise was the secretary and treasurer of the Association for many years, with Stephen serving as president. Both were instrumental in the staging of the 2015 national contest in Rotorua.



WAIBOP Association President Memorie Brooky, with new Life Members Denise Sturt, Stephen Clayton and WAIBOP Vice President Walter Genefaas.

Photograph courtesy of Richard Lummus.

# National Honour

In the New Year's Honours list, former BBANZ management committee member Trevor Kempton of Dunedin was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to the arts and local government.

The official citation for the award reads:

Mr Trevor Kempton has contributed his business expertise to support the arts on a voluntary basis.

Mr Kempton has had a long-term involvement with brass bands as a player and held administrative and leadership roles with Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass and St Kilda Brass. He served as a National Executive Member of the Brass Bands Association of New Zealand from 1992 to 2000, focusing on youth development and sustainability.

He chaired the Southern Brass Academy from its inception in 2007 until 2011, actively supporting the Allbrassclass learning initiative, and is a trustee of the Ken Smith Players Trust.

Mr Kempton joined the Board of Choirs New Zealand in 2004 as a trustee and Chair. He led the negotiation of long-term funding through the Creative New Zealand Kahikatea programme improving the financial sustainability of the organisation. He is a trustee of the Choirs' foundation and a key committee member of the Dunedin Community Music Centre since 1994, focusing on its financial stability. He served as a trustee and Chair of the Dunedin Arts Festival, guiding the organisation through a period of considerable change.



Mr Kempton served as an Otago Regional Councillor from 2010 to 2019, chairing the regional Transport Committee and helping re-establish Engineering New Zealand's Otago Heritage chapter as its Chair in 2016.

## Next-Gen

*In this issue, we interview 18-year-old Jenny Howe, winner of the Junior Cornet solo at the 2023 National Contest and first-time member of the 2024 National Youth Band, who plays with North Shore Brass.*

*How did you come to join a brass band?*

I had played piano and trumpet, but I joined North Shore Brass Academy as a front-row cornet in 2022 when my tutor Harmen encouraged me to pick up the cornet.

*Describe how musical ability runs through your family.*

My brother plays the flute in his school bands, but apart from that, none.

*To date, what have been some of your musical highlights?*

Winning the Junior Cornet and playing the *Concerto No 10 for Brass Band, Percussion & Ondé Martenot* with North Shore in the A grade own choice at nationals last year, and winning the D grade with North Shore Brass Academy in 2022 at my first national contest.

*What have you gained or enjoyed most about being in the Secondary Schools' and National Youth Bands?*

Playing new repertoire and getting to meet other young brass players from around NZ.

*What sort of things would you like to happen to support young players?*

More camps/workshops for young players

and more opportunities to play with experienced musicians.

*What's the best thing about being in a brass band?*

Being able to travel to different places around New Zealand with your friends for events such as national contests and youth bands.

*Is there anyone you would like to thank for helping you with your achievements thus far?*

I would like to thank my tutor, Harmen Vanhoorne, for getting me to pick up the cornet and encouraging me to enter solos because, without his support, I would never have joined a brass band. I would also like to thank my parents for driving me to lessons and supporting me financially, as well as Andrew Leech for letting me join his band even though I had never played cornet before!

*What do you hope to achieve in the future? Playing and work-wise.*

I am hoping to finish my medical degree in five years' time, but in the meantime, I would like to win the A grade with North Shore Brass and maybe enter an open solo at a national or regional contest.

Quickfire questions:

*What type of music do you listen to most?* Pop/indie/R&B

*Other interests?* Skiing and football

*Favourite food?* Any form of potato

*Favourite place?* Whale Bay



*Favourite film?* Ratatouille

*Favourite instrument?* Cornet

*Favourite piece of music?* Hope by Stijn Aertgeerts

*What do you dislike most?* Running

*For the more technical amongst us, what make of instrument do you play?* Besson Prestige cornet with a Denis Wick 4 mouthpiece



# 5Qs for Pasifika Brass Leaders



**Hamilton Lea, musical director of Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School (ASDAH) Brass**

**How did the ASDAH Brass Band start and what was your motivation for starting it?**

When I was at University of Auckland, the ASDAH chaplain (Pastor Pelikani' Esau) encouraged me to finish my degree and work at ASDAH (the church school Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School). At that time, Reverend Dr Fisi'ihoi Mone was the person with the school brass band and another key figure who encouraged me to start ASDAH Brass during my undergrad. There was also Fine Teulilo, and my University brass friends Samiu Uatahausi, Fakaanga Uasike, Musie Uatahausi, Tavite Tonga, Paula Namoa and Semisi' Aho'atu started working there voluntarily in 2019. The way I saw it, my work there was like a form of ministry, and it allowed me to share the word of God and serve my community through my love of brass bands.

**Can you talk more about ASDAH's first public performance?**

It was the school's prizegiving in 2017. It was a good experience because we trained for only two months to get them there. We played an arrangement of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and they were pretty good for a group that had only been playing for two months. And because they were able to play those songs, and the shock on the people's faces was incredible, it's something I'll always remember.

**What has been the career highlight while teaching at ASDAH?**

For me, the highlight has been seeing the development of the kids and seeing the standard of playing lifted each year. Now, the band can play higher standard pieces (one of which we presented this year at our school prizegiving).

**What has changed between when you first started with ASDAH brass and now?**

The culture within the band, it's a family vibe now. They learn about the school values (respect, excellence and commitment), and this guides our work ethic and how we approach each performance. Also, the ethnicities within the school are a lot more diverse now. In 2019, we developed the junior band (which feeds into our senior band). In the following year, 2020, we started seeing more ethnic diversity in the group, including Indian, Filipino and Samoan. It's always been a highlight to share the Tongan love for brass music with other cultures.

**What do you think is important for the continuation of the ASDAH Brass in the future?**

It's important for us as a collective to understand the school's vision and the importance of nurturing and growing the

kids. Brass music is something we can use to serve the community, and my hope is that our students can continue to promote brass music in their own communities too. There have been some key people helping shape the band into what it is today, and they'll be the ones who lead, train and support the future brass leaders in our band.



Calling for prospective tutors. If you are interested in being a tutor for the NSSBB course 2024 and beyond, please register your interest with Sandra Ginever at this email address. [nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com](mailto:nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com)

You will be sent a questionnaire to fill out.

We would like as many people from all parts of New Zealand to put their hand up. There is no guarantee of selection, nor is there any obligation to accept an offer to become a tutor. However, our MDs want to know of interested potential tutors so they can take you into consideration when the NSSBB comes to your area.



# Te Awamutu Bandroom 50th Birthday

November 25 2023, marked 50 years since our current bandroom was built by Dick Edgecombe so we celebrated by having a party and our end-of-year awards. It was great to see a variety of people come together to mark this auspicious occasion, including present and past members of the band, Lou Brown representing the local council, and Betty and Trevor Bremner, as it was Betty's father who built the bandroom. We celebrated with a fantastic buffet dinner from a local business (Excel Catering), sang happy birthday to the bandroom and had life member and band patron Pat McMillan cut the birthday cake. We also presented our awards for 2023, had a selection of desserts on offer from local business "Hoops & Scoops", and then mixed, mingled and boogied into the night.

The following members were recipients of this year's awards:

**Junior Attendance** - Emma Carr

**Junior Most Improved** - Jacob Carr

**Special Recognition** - Blake Murrell

**Te Awamutu Brass Attendance Cup** - Gaynor Krippner and Jean Fisher

**Numpty Award** - Ethan Omundsen

**Most Improved Player** - Mike Martin

**Outstanding Contribution to the Band** - Hannah Yarndley

**Most Outstanding Musician** - Jenny Yarndley

**Section of the Year** - Basses

**Soloist of the Year** - Caleb Nicolson

**Youth Award for Overall Excellence** - Asarina Johnson

**President's Underhill Rose Bowl Trophy** - Joyce and Bruce Airey

**TA Brass Local Service Awards** - Lynette Denton 10 Years, Gaynor Krippner 15 Years, Steve Wilson 40 Years.

**BBANZ Long Service Awards** - Steve Wilson 40 Years.

**TA Brass Life Membership** - Jean Fisher and Colin Robertson.

Te Awamutu Brass had a busy December lined up with a range of gigs, from private Christmas parties and performances at cafes and rest homes, to Santa parades, Rose Sunday and more. We have some great events lined up for 2024, starting with our "Colab Concert" with Taupo Brass, which is hosted in Te Awamutu this year. We want to thank all our supporters for cheering us on in 2023, and a very big thank you to all our helpers from near and far, both musical, financial and in supportive or worker roles. Keep up with all our experiences and whereabouts by following us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tabrass](http://www.facebook.com/tabrass)



*Life member and patron Pat McMillan.*



*Section of the year: The Basses: L to R: John Pye, Colin Robertson, Fraser Robertson, Daniel Starnes, Cara Denby, Alan Patterson (President) Absent - Caleb Nicolson.*



*Special guests  
Trevor and Betty  
Bremner.*

# The **AIR FORCE** *On Tour*

## **MARLBOROUGH**

**28 February**  
**ASB Theatre**  
[asbtheatre.com](http://asbtheatre.com)

## **ASHBURTON**

**1 March**  
**Ashburton Event Centre**  
[ateventcentre.co.nz](http://ateventcentre.co.nz)

## **TIMARU**

**2 March**  
**Mountainview High School**  
[ateventcentre.co.nz](http://ateventcentre.co.nz)

## **CHRISTCHURCH**

**3 March**  
**James Hay Theatre**  
[ticketek.co.nz](http://ticketek.co.nz)



# Porirua Celebrates

In November 2023, the band held a special occasion to formally recognise our members' great work and great milestones. We presented several annual awards, including:

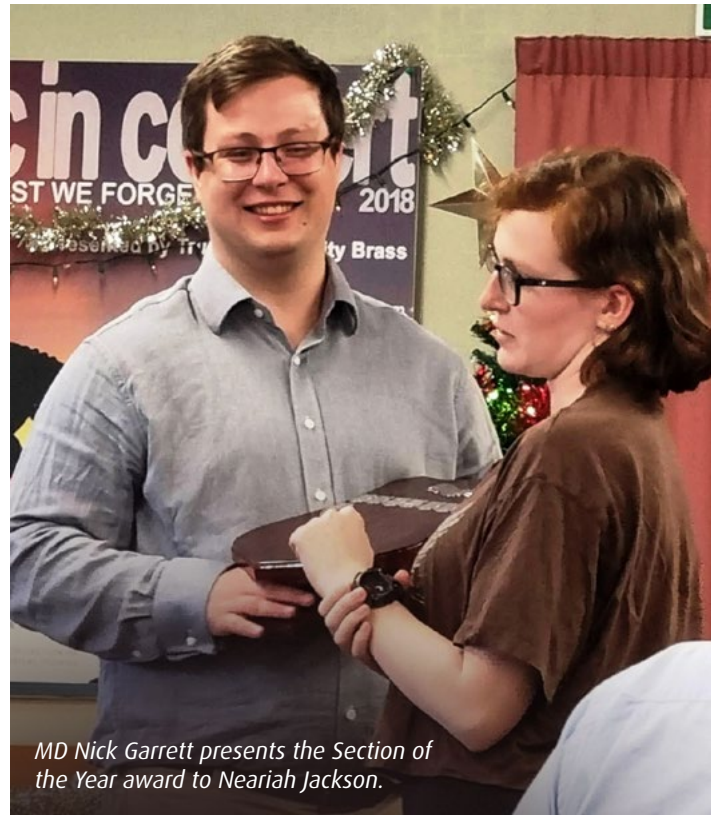
- the Lawton Family Cup, for the year's outstanding performance, awarded to Samuel Hudson;
- the Jones Trophy, for the greatest effort to realise potential, awarded to Cameron Patterson;
- the Marie Rockell Trophy, for best section, awarded to the Solo Cornets; and
- the Life Members' Cup, for outstanding service, awarded to Tom Daniels.

We also presented long-service certificates and badges from the Brass Band Association of NZ, for 50 years to Rick Anset, 55 years to John Jones and 70 years to Bill Platt.

In recent months, we've welcomed some new and returning musicians to our ranks, and Nicholas Garrett is settling comfortably into his work as our permanent Musical Director.

We are working hard to attend the national brass band contest in Manukau in July - hope to see you then.

Many thanks to Keryn Campbell and Cam Patterson for the photos



*MD Nick Garrett presents the Section of the Year award to Neariah Jackson.*



*Section of the Year: Solo Cornet team Edrick Child, Neariah Jackson, Andrew Brown, Kerry Garrett (Peter Gallagher absent.)*



*Cameron Patterson*



*Tom Daniels received the award for outstanding service.*



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## BBANZ – Directory

Postal: 159 Gayhurst Road,  
Dallington, Christchurch 8061  
Website: [www.brassbanz.org.nz](http://www.brassbanz.org.nz)

### Executive Officer

Helen Lee  
[bbanzeo@gmail.com](mailto:bbanzeo@gmail.com) M: 029 770 4588

BBANZ is a Registered Charity CC 37839.  
All donations are tax deductible

### National Management Committee

#### President

John Sullivan, Auckland  
[jsullivan@customcontrols.co.nz](mailto:jsullivan@customcontrols.co.nz)  
M: 021 736 832  
177 Hinemoa Street, Birkenhead, Auckland

#### Vice-President

Grant Langdon, Auckland  
[gklklangdon@gmail.com](mailto:gklklangdon@gmail.com) M: 022 089 1162

Wayne Jennens, Nelson  
[wtjennens@gmail.com](mailto:wjtjennens@gmail.com) M: 021 583 231

Brian Nicholas, Blenheim  
[brian.nicholas.nz@gmail.com](mailto:brian.nicholas.nz@gmail.com) M: 027 220 1711

Emily Richards, Wellington  
[emily@brassbanz.org.nz](mailto:emily@brassbanz.org.nz) M: 021 607 483

Lachlan Spence, Wellington and Whakatane  
[lachlan.spence2000@gmail.com](mailto:lachlan.spence2000@gmail.com) M: 027 9145 061

#### Treasurer

Murray Warrington MNZM, Napier  
[murrayshonaw@outlook.com](mailto:murrayshonaw@outlook.com)  
M: 021 860 128  
28 Hyatt Grove, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112

National Band of New Zealand  
Musical Director David Bremner  
Band Manager: Garth Coffey, Wellington  
[nznationalband@gmail.com](mailto:nznationalband@gmail.com)

National Youth Brass Band  
Musical Director: Tyme Marsters, Christchurch  
Manager: Emily Richards  
[nybb2024@gmail.com](mailto:nybb2024@gmail.com)  
M: 021 607 483

National Secondary Schools' Brass Band  
Musical Directors: Vickie van Uden, Christchurch  
and Reuben Brown, Wellington.  
Manager: Sandra Ginever  
[nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com](mailto:nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com)  
M: 021 211 2321

2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July  
Contact person: Owen Melhuish  
[owenmelhuish@gmail.com](mailto:owenmelhuish@gmail.com)

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.  
Contact person Graham Hickman  
[festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com](mailto:festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com)



has a vacancy for

## PRINCIPAL CORNET

Applications in strictest confidence to

Adrian Dalton (Musical Director)

[chchchooba@y7mail.com](mailto:chchchooba@y7mail.com) +64 22 354 8063

Applications close Friday 22nd March 2024 with a  
view to auditions in April

Addington Brass are an ambitious and welcoming  
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### Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity), E Aldridge (in perpetuity), J Aldridge, D and M Dawson, Tony Garing, Pete and Billie Harbidge, JB and NC Hollick, Carol and Trevor Kempton MNZM, Brian Lee, I Levien, John McGough, O Melhuish, D Miller, G and C Moseley, NZ Army Band, Otago Southland Brass Band Association, B and M Platt, Evan and Lorraine Sayer, J&R Sullivan.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the **Executive Officer**.

### Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Betty Bremner, Trevor Bremner MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Kevin Dell ONZM, Ian Levien QSM, Stephen Leader, Leigh Martin, Bill Platt, Evan Sayer, Dianne Smeehuizen MNZM JP, Rodney Sutton MBE JP and Murray Warrington MNZM.

### Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Brieseman OBE JP, RM Brooker, Trevor Cudby, W Currie, Graham Dick, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin QSO, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, HL 'Drummer' Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, KL Jarrett MBE, Beverley Kench, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, Tony Lewis MNZM, WP MacLachlan, Riki McDonnell QSM, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith MBE, T Taylor OSM, LE Thorne QSM, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.



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