

# The Music Stand

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BAND ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC.

DECEMBER 2019



Youth Band

ISSN 2651-9119

The Band Association of NSW Inc. is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW

# Some Social Media Advice from the Band Association of NSW Social Media Team



If your band has a Facebook page (or Facebook Group) it should be using the Facebook Event function to spread the word about your band's next event. If your page administrator is already doing this for you, Great!, however, if not, they should continue reading this article.

<https://thrivehive.com/benefits-of-using-facebook-events/>

Facebook can take a lot of the work of spreading the word about your event off of your hands. Creating a Facebook event is simple, quick and immediately goes to work for you expanding your audience reach. It's so simple to do and provides several benefits that word of mouth, direct mail marketing or a standard Facebook post cannot. It is also the easiest way for us at the BANSW, to help spread the word for you, as we can add your event to our Facebook Event Calender too and share it again as a post closer to the date.

Creating a public Facebook event allows anyone with a Facebook account to invite people to your event themselves! Like being tagged on Facebook, an event invitation notifies a Facebook user when they've been invited to your event. This prompts the person to either reply that they're interested or that they're attending the event. After they've replied, their RSVP of "interested" or "going" shows up in their friend's news feeds thus putting your event in front of even more people. Every time someone clicks "Interested" or "Going" on your Facebook Event, it will be shared in their friends' news feeds. Facebook events also automatically send reminders to attendees when your event is approaching helping to increase your attendance rates on your actual event day.

<https://thrivehive.com/how-to-make-a-facebook-event/>

On your event page, people are able to comment and connect with one another which helps to establish a community tied to your band. It also enables you to make mass announcements to all event invitees. Change of location? Time? Program change? Then having this medium to communicate pertinent information to your attendees can be very useful at times.



The attendance tracking feature of Facebook events benefits you in more than one way. First, it's super easy to keep track of headcount. You also have visibility into those invitees who declined or replied 'maybe'. Allowing the guest list to be visible allows people to see who is already keen on attending your event and helps encourage their attendance too.

Facebook also allows you to add co-hosts to your event. Your co-hosts are able to edit the event and add it to their calendar so they can promote it too. If you are doing a combined concert with another band it is best for one band to create the event post then add the other band as a co-host. Both bands will be able to share and edit content and administer the guest list and ticketing options. We often receive requests to share Facebooks events from bands that are in fact playing at the same event. We find 2 separate event listings when one would have done the trick. One listing would have had the added benefit of consolidating both bands reach.

<https://sproutsocial.com/insights/facebook-events/>



## Events

The earlier you can get your event on your Facebook Events page, the better! Not only will it give you more time to promote, but your followers will be able to look at what you and they have coming up and plan accordingly.

The platform is fairly straightforward, but there are strategies the Facebook Events team recommends to get the most out of the Events feature. These are using the location tags that enable users to find your event when searching for activities, date and time fields which help Facebook's algorithm surface your event in users' feeds, the ability to sell tickets directly on the Facebook platform using Eventbrite. Also, the automatic promotion of your event in the news feeds of engaged users' friends, with the ability for users to send events directly to friends to rally the troops is its most powerful feature.

We hope you find this information useful. Please follow any of the links in the article to get more information if you need. We are keen to share more of your band events via Facebook in 2020. Start planning now, and once your dates are confirmed, create your Facebook Event listing and send us a message (via Facebook!) so we can add it to our BANSW calendar too. Thanks, BANSW @bandsnsw #bandsnsw



# From the President's Suitcase

Hi All,

Well here we are again coming to the end of another year of events and even as we are busy with Christmas concerts, Carolling and parties, we still take some time to reflect on what the year was for us all.

Our Association had a great year.

We launched the new layout for our website, the culmination of a huge amount of work, particularly by our Secretary, Kristen Moodie and Ian Madden as well as many other contributors.

The National Championships saw us start the year in a Blaze of Glory with NSW making up over 30% of the bands attending and an even greater proportion of the Solo entries. Our bands achieved great success with some awesome performances and great music made, and a lot of fun had.

The 2019 General Meeting saw a full Management Committee put in place for the first time in many years. We hosted the State Solos with the largest number of entries for several decades and the partic



ipation of Mr Chase Hawkins from the US as both adjudicator and clinician for the weekend.

Our State Band Championships in August saw a large number of bands participate, and the largest numbers viewing on the Live Stream that we have seen for a State Championships.

We held some very successful and well attended workshops throughout the year with the most recent being with Mr James Gourlay.

Our Facebook activity has never been higher and is proving to be a great way of communicating for both the Association and for our Member Bands thanks to Justin.

The year hasn't been without it's usual challenges, however through the hard work and support of our Management Committee, we once again managed through a very good year.

All of this wouldn't have been possible without the support of CreateNSW, Our major Sponsors Besson Buffet Group, the Penrith City Council and The staff and management of The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, Tim at Brassbanned.com, Brenden Collins, Julie Woods, Our Trade Stand supporters, the members of the Management Committee, Kristen Moodie our Secretary and, our team of wonderful Volunteers.

Before I close off for the year, a few reminders.

Registrations are all due. The process for renewal has never been easier so no excuses for not getting them done.

Early in 2020 the Band Activity

Survey will be available for completion. I can't tell you how important this is to be submitted -if you haven't completed it by the set date then you can expect a phone call from me! Completion the survey takes about 10-15 mins to do online, but the data we are collecting is so important to us, especially as we head into 2020 and the building our our business plan to be used for the re-application for our 4 year CreateNSW Grants Funding.

Please join me in thanking our Management Committee - Jonathan, Eddie, Fiona, Katrina, Bev, Matt, Gemma and Toni and our Secretary, Kristen for all of your hard work over the past year. I look forward to us working throughout next year as we start to prepare in earnest for the 2021 Nationals.

Merry Christmas and enjoy the short break, It's will be a big 18 months ahead, but with your support it will all work seamlessly as usual.

Thank you and Merry Christmas to all of our Volunteers, to the Management Committees of the Metropolitan and Hunter Groups. Without your hard work and support our events just can't happen.

Merry Christmas to you all and to your families, Eat well, drink well, party well, and stay safe and see you all in the New Year.

*Jeff Markham*

*President*

**BANSW**

# FIRE & RESCUE NSW BAND AND MARCHING TEAM



Fire + Rescue NSW Band is having a busy end to the year. In November we were back at one of the friendliest concerts of the year down at Balmoral Beach.



It is a real family event, as we acknowledge Beth and Ivan's 60th Wedding Anniversary. A very generous day where the family puts on an event the entire community can enjoy. We all love the Sausage Sizzles and Mr Whippy Ice Creams and of course the location and that view!

We then played at the Sydney Machina Social Club Charity Event which was at St Ives Showground. There were fabulous range of cars on display and a great crowd to entertain. This was a great opportunity to raise some funds for the Burns Unit. It was great to see so many people giving so generously. We want to take this time to thank all Service Men and Women for the hard work whilst working to contain the fires and minimise the damage of the bushfires all over NSW.



The last Friday of November was another Parade at the Training Facility at Orchard Hills. It was an extra special Parade as not only was there 16 new recruits to welcome to the Fire + Rescue NSW Family but 22 Station Officers receiving their commissions. Our last parade will be 20th December for the final round of recruits of 2019. We wish them all luck for many years of Service with Fire + Rescue NSW.

Our final rehearsal where we hope a "special guest" will arrive to give the children of the Fire + Rescue NSW Band some early Christmas Presents will resume back at the end of January so that we can rehearse for our Australia Day Concert at Government House. This is a public event so please come along – we would love to see you there.

We want to take this time to say have a wonderful Festive Season and a Safe, Happy and Healthy 2020 with family and loved ones. Please be mindful of the dry environment that is surrounding us. Be extra careful out there and be aware this long, dry fire season.



# Newcastle PCYC Brass



Newcastle PCYC Brass Band have a busy time leading up to Christmas. They took part in the Hunter Regional Band Association's Bands in the Park which was held at Speers Point Park in early November. It was a very enjoyable day, although a little windy but there were plenty of people about enjoying the music of the bands that played. Newcastle PCYC Brass Senior Band took the stage first and then the Junior Band took over and played very well. The following week we played at Warners Bay as part of their Saturday Markets and once again the music was enjoyed by a large number of people who were shopping but many stopped and enjoyed the music. The setting was beautiful and the weather was just perfect.

On the weekend of the 1st December the Band will be attending their annual Band camp at Tocal which allows



them to have intensive practice and the chance for them to bond as a band, enjoying sharing food and their musical talents. This Camp is subsidised by Create NSW which means that the camp is affordable for all members to attend.

After this weekend they will be en-

tertaining the residents at Koombalah Aged Care facility on December 6th, and they will be playing again at the Warners Bay Markets on December 21st. As I said a busy time up till Christmas.

The two pictures attached are from their playout at Warners Bay Markets.



# Southern Brass

Southern Brass success!

Well what a busy second half of the year we have had, the band has been in high demand over the past 6 months, and for good reason!

The band once again contested the NSW State Band Championships in August, 2018 saw the newly renamed Southern Brass win C Grade after a 10 year hiatus from competition. We are certainly pleased to report that Southern Brass won the Hymn, Test and Own Choice and were crowned overall C grade winners once again! This was a sweet victory after a long journey rebuilding the band and welcoming many new faces to our ranks. None of the band have taken this victory for granted, as they say it's the journey that counts, not the destination. In the words of our illustrious Music Director Andy Yule - "The harder we work, the luckier we get"



Another wonderful moment during the State Championships was seeing our amazing Treasurer Bill Lewis awarded Life Membership of the Band Association of New South Wales. Bill has assisted at Metropolitan Solos, State Solos and NSW Band Championships for over 27 years and is a familiar face to many bandsman in NSW. We are lucky to have him helping us in our band and saving our bacon (when he is not cooking sausages at Bunnings!). Nothing is too much trouble for Bill if a

hand is needed and he just gets in and does anything the band asks of him, despite his daughter not playing in the band for the last 18 years! . We love you Bill and you thoroughly deserve this award.

One of the goals of Southern Brass has been to build a junior band program. The launch of this initiative was a highly successful workshop and concert held in November at Club on East. 34 young musicians joined forces with Southern Brass tutors in a free half day workshop and concert. The workshop was gratefully supported by Joan Thorp who conducted the session and provided a majority of the music for the workshop thanks to [www.thorpmusic.com](http://www.thorpmusic.com).

We would also like to thank Howard, Martin and Phil from Taylormade Music for their sponsorship of the event ([www.taylormademusic.net](http://www.taylormademusic.net)). Howard and his team are the Australian distributors for JP Musical Instruments. [www.jpmusicalinstruments.com](http://www.jpmusicalinstruments.com) and Phil attended the event with a range of instruments for the young musicians to try.

The workshop concluded with yet another sell out concert by Southern Brass - "MUSIC FROM THE BIG SCREEN". Once again it was a full house who were entertained by a varied program ranging from movie classics to some lesser known themes - think Jaws meets Baby Shark! Our workshop participants were also featured in the concert performing 2 works on their own then combining with Southern Brass for a wonderful finale. The feedback from parents was very positive, we hope to see some of these young musicians join us regularly in the future



## Southern Brass continued

hosting Carols by Candlelight at Gunnamatta Park Cronulla for well over a decade and it is always well supported with hundreds of locals in attendance. This years event "Christmas Brass on the Grass" on Sunday 8th December from 6pm is shaping up to be another great evening for families. We would love to see everyone there!

If you are interested in joining a band that is no longer old fashioned or boring, then you are on the way to making a great choice. Join Us! Rehearsals are OPEN, INCLUSIVE, FRIENDLY, FUN, CHALLENGING. If you can walk, sit and breathe and have a desire to play with like minded, enthusiastic players, want to sharpen your skills, maybe learn new skills or just enjoy a group of people making magic happen, then come along. Rehearsals are held at our hall at 77 Eton Street, Sutherland Monday 8-10pm.

Southern Brass has been supporting Kingsgrove RSL on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day for over 45 years and again this year we provided ceremonial support, a bugler for the last post and entertainment during the official function on Remembrance Day.

As with any band, regular attendance at rehearsals is paramount and only the best of excuses will be accepted. We were recently given a new excuse for missing rehearsal when our one and only Ron Lee (a spritely 96 yrs old and still playing) apologized as he had to attend his Son's 70th Birthday dinner!!

The focus now turns to everyone's favourite time of the year - Christmas Carols! Southern Brass has been





## SPRINGTIME IN THE RIVERINA

The excitement of your horse winning the Melbourne Cup has faded – what now??? Well, on the following weekend you could make your way to the beautiful Art Deco town of Leeton in the NSW Riverina for the Outback Band Spectacular.

Now in its 13th year, the Outback Band Spectacular is an annual highlight in the calendars of a number of bands from across NSW and the ACT. In 2020 the weekend will begin on Friday 6th November with a series of workshops being offered to players young and old in separate instrument sections. These will be co-ordinated jointly Leeton Town Band and the Hornsby RSL Golden Kangaroos. We will be employing the services of professional tutors who will provide insight into further developing personal skills on your instrument.



Friday night sees local and visiting performers and their families and friends getting together for the highly anticipated 'Meet 'n Greet'. The Golden Kangaroos Stage Band have traditionally provided musical entertainment during the meal and after dinner it's all welcome for a fun 'jam' session. Saturday morning will involve a number of street performances by small and large ensembles before the gathering at Leeton's famous Roxy Theatre for the massed band rehearsal.



Saturday evening is the focus of the weekend – at the Roxy Community Theatre. Performances by individuals and bands before intermission and afterwards the highlight for players and audience alike – the massed band performance. This has grown over the years – to the point that the stage has to be extended to accommodate the 200+ musicians!! Truly a stirring experience.

Sunday begins with a leisurely breakfast in a beautiful park in the middle of Leeton, the option of tours of local wineries or other rural enterprises before a happy drive home.

Interested in bringing your band along to be involved in a fantastic musical/cultural weekend??? Contact Leeton Town Band via email [secretary@leetontownband.com.au](mailto:secretary@leetontownband.com.au)

Come and join the fun!



The first concert in May 2019 was 'Incredible!' and no the SHCB members were not blowing their own trumpet ... well some musicians were, but 'Incredible' was the name of the concert which, as the promotional poster stated featured music 'that's larger than life'.

By the time we reach the end of the year the Southern Highlands Concert band will have performed six concerts.

The commitment and talent shown by all band members, who regularly turn up to Wednesday night rehearsals, undoubtedly shines through in each performance with audiences' appreciating a wide range of music from the band during the year.

With well-loved music from Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cole Porter, John Williams and Queen, to name just a few, many people in audience could be seen singing along to their personal favorites.

Next came the Family Concert where band members, led by Musical Director Julian Paviour, really had the chance to let their hair down, paint themselves green and



dress up as their favourite film characters! The Monsters, Mischief and Mayhem family concert featured talented and enthusiastic students from the Bandemonium school band program and provided everyone with an afternoon of musical activity, fun and entertainment.

The music, which was drawn from films, cartoons, rock, the circus and even the classics had been chosen to appeal to both the young and the young at heart and with the amazing Keva Abotomey as the mischievous MC and vocalist the afternoon was a huge success.

In September it was time for the band to step outside and perform in the rotunda in Corbett Gardens, Bowral, as part of Tulip Time. This event, now in its 59th continuous year, is one of Australia's oldest and best loved floral festivals attracting tens of thousands of visitors over it's seven day run and the added attraction of the Southern Highlands Concert Band playing on the weekend delighted the huge crowd that gathered round. Performing at these type of events helps to broaden the love of concert band music to those who may not have had access to it before and it's something the band is always keen to be involved with.





continued

Into November where all music scores had turned toward the United States of America in preparation for the Americana Concert, featuring Noni Hansen and Stephen Wheatley. The programme contained several pieces that would have been in many peoples American top 20 including 'An American in Paris', 'Fanfare for the Common Man' and Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story classic, 'Mambo'. Compositions from Stephen Foster, George Gershwin delighted the audience with the final number being YMCA, a song released in 1978 by the Village People that is still as popular today as it was back then. The arrangement included a stunning trumpet solo by John Corley which brought the concert to a fantastic end. One member of the audience summed

up the afternoon by saying "I'm leaving with a smile on my face and a skip in my step!" What more can you ask for? An added bonus of the afternoon was the record breaking raffle which raised hundreds of dollars with money going to the Bush Fire Appeal.

The final event for 2019 will be playing for a Carol concert at Harbison, Burradoo on December 11th.

Next year the SHCB look forward to performing more quality music concerts to members of the Southern Highlands whilst also providing a medium for musicians of all ages to enjoy and develop their musical abilities.

Rehearsals are held at 7:15pm on Wednesday evenings during school terms at the Bowral Memorial Hall, Bendooley Street, Bowral. Visitors always welcome.



## Cardiff North Lakes Brass

### Christmas Carols Ensembles.

A one-hour performance by a Carols Ensemble of eight players will be given at

- Bunnings Warehouse Wallsend on Saturday, 7 December, at 11.30am.
- Bunnings Warehouse Kotara on Saturday, 7 December, at 1.30pm.
- Bunnings Warehouse Wallsend on Saturday, 14 December, at 11.30am.



### Christmas Concert

CNL Brass will present its annual Christmas Concert for the community on Sunday 15 December, commencing at 2pm, at the Cardiff Senior Citizens Centre, Cnr Harrison Street and Myall Road, Cardiff.

### Christmas Function

CNL Brass will entertain family and friends at its rehearsal venue, Ulinga Community Hall, Cardiff South, on Wednesday 11 December, commencing with a Concert at 7pm, followed by supper and the presentation of relevant awards.

**“From Argentina to Oregon” Concert  
Sunday 15 September 2019**

The Spitfire March, composed by Australian Robert McAnally to honour Australian pilots who flew Spitfires in the Battle of Britain during World War II, opened the Program “with a flourish”. Don’t Cry for Me Argentina, a no. 1 hit from the musical Evita, in which the spirit of the dead Evita exhorts the Argentinian people not to mourn her, drew sustained applause. Flashes for Band, a composition of five movements, each of a different musical style and played by the band for the first time, was well-received. The everlasting music of The Beatles was featured with a medley of five gold hits, including Eight Days a Week and Yesterday. Billy Joel’s rather sombre, but appealing Leningrad, followed. The first half concluded with the very lively and foot-tapping folk song from the mid 1800’s, All Around My Hat.

The Band opened the second half with one of William Rimmer’s many Marches, The Cossack. The audience was delighted with I Dreamed a Dream from Les Miserables. The feature number for the Concert, Jacob De Haan’s Oregon-Fantasy for Brass Band, a ten-minute composition with essentially American Themes, challenged the audience to imagine the scenes that the composer was endeavouring to convey musically about the American State of Oregon. Love Changes Everything, from Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Musical Aspects of Love followed and, with both the recent Stage Musical and Movie Mamma Mia promoting the music of ABBA, the ABBA Gold Medley of four no. 1 hits, including Dancing Queen and Fernando, drew applause. The ballad I’ll Be There was a hit for The Jackson 5 in 1970 when

Michael Jackson was only eleven years of age. It was a hit with the audience today. Does Your Mother Know, from Mamma Mia, a lively ABBA dance number, kept the audience interested. The Concert finished with a Scottish flavour with Musket, Fife and Drum. In simple terms, a good time was had by all.



**Crossroads Christian Fellowship Concert  
Thursday Evening 26 September 2019**

CNL Brass presented its second one hour Concert for the year, entertaining about forty developmentally disabled people on Thursday evening. The band supports the Garden Suburb Uniting Church Committee, who host the evening. Eleven numbers were played, two of which were medleys, featuring the songs of The Beatles and ABBA. Both were very popular. The Concert commenced with The Spitfire March, written by the Australian composer Robert McAnally. Musical Director Bruce Rowlatt invited a very keen audience member, David, to accept the “assistant” conductor role. David conducted the very lively march The Cossack. Included in the Concert was the “always requested” The Floral Dance. It was certainly an enjoyable occasion for both the audience and band members.

Allan Shaw                      President                      CNL Brass



# Dr Bob's Conducting Workshop

## *Preparing a Test-Piece*



I hope you are enjoying my articles here in The Music Stand. Today we are going to discuss contest preparation. It's important that the conductor knows his score, the old saying that the conductor should have the score in his head and not his head in the score is quite true. But how do you become familiar with a new score. The simple answer is to look through it several times, noting transitions from one tempo to the next. I find examining the score through the eyes of a player is quite useful, recognising what solo parts are going to

be problematical. Looking through the score with specific agenda also helps. Maybe explore sections of the work that will require sensitive balance. This might draw you closer to the percussion line or to solo passages with heavy accompaniment. When you look at a solo cornet or euphonium part, it's quite easy to scan the piece as a whole. You can see the various sections of the piece quite clearly. This is not the case when reading a full score, because the score has so many pages.

To assist me getting to know a new piece I sometimes draw a horizontal line at the top of a piece of paper and then divide the length of the line into equally spaced bar numbers or rehearsal letters. Underneath the line I'll plot certain events in the piece, like solo passages, extreme dynamic changes, tempo changes, difficult rhythmic sections and so on. I find this picture very useful in terms of the architecture of the piece. From this simple control sheet I can see the piece as a whole, it helps me get to know the piece quickly and saves me lots of time in rehearsal flicking through the score trying to

find certain passages.

When you know the piece well enough, plan your rehearsals. Know what you want to achieve before you go to rehearsal. Practice the awkward corners from one section to the next. Listen out for good ensemble, not just at the start of a phrase but also at the end, ragged ends of phrases are often picked up by keen adjudicators. Intonation is the bugbear of lower section bands; conductors need to be aware of where the potential problems are. Usually extreme register throws up poor intonation as does differing pitched instruments playing a unison note i.e. cornets playing low Db against horns playing an Ab.

Don't try and perfect the piece in one rehearsal. An over keen, fast rehearsal doesn't allow the players to absorb what you are saying and it doesn't allow them time to make notes (with a pencil) on their parts. Identify a problem and ask yourself how long it will take to put right. The answer might be a week or even a month, good conductors allow their players time to learn new techniques.

# Dr Bob's Conducting Workshop

## *Preparing a Test-Piece continued*

I remember playing for Gerard Swartz and American conductor once. In some rehearsals he deliberately took the fast music very fast and the slow music very slow. He admitted later that he wanted to scare the players into doing some practice on the technical bits and he wanted to stretch the lungs of the players in the slow music to make it easier for them when he eventually conducted at the right speed.

Many conductors get hung up on the importance of interpretation, my advice on the subject is not to be too extrovert. Try and play the piece the composer wrote. Don't create a grand stand finish if there isn't one printed.

Finally, from time to time it's a good idea to record performances in the bandroom, have a good listen and be self critical. Listen to several performances over a period of a month and ask searching questions of yourself.

My father was a very good conductor and he used to work a band very well. The first few weeks of his preparation was all to do with getting the notes in the right place. Making sure the music was rhythmically correct and that

the dynamics were all well graded. Finally he would identify sections of the piece that were susceptible to poor intonation and he would help players who were struggling with extreme high or low passages. In effect he would work like a traditional resident conductor getting the nuts and bolts right, making sure everything was neat and tidy and in its place. He would mould an almost perfect performance similar to that which a computer might play back. Only after achieving that would he search for the inner music.

I remembering him saying on more than one occasion, "Music begins where perfection ends". What he was saying was that the conductor should adopt two roles when preparing a test-piece. First the role of the resident conductor, getting all the notes, dynamics, tempi etc correct and secondly, taking a fresh look at the work through the eyes of a professional conductor. Identifying higher order skills like; shaping phrases, creating atmosphere and drama, generally sprinkling that magic gold dust that makes the hair on the back of your neck and arms stand up, that

special quality in a performance that's easy to recognise but difficult to create.

This approach to preparing music for a competition was further endorsed by a euphonium idol of mine, Mr Lyndon Baglin.

On summing up his remarks off the stage of a solo contest, he made reference to a competitor who had obviously not prepared his solo work very well, but insisted on showing off by exaggerating dynamics, blatantly faking passages, taking licks up or down an octave and adding virtuoso glissandi where not marked. Lyndon offered these words of wisdom to the culprit; "Young man be careful your ornaments don't become bigger than your mantelpiece!!" Good luck to everyone and remember that excitement and adrenalin doesn't make you play better, it only makes you play faster and louder. Always be in control and try to portray the composer's intentions with high fidelity.

Copyright Dr Robert Childs  
2018

# St. George Brass Band

Two major events have occurred for us since the last report: the Hunter Solos and our World Tour of Lithgow.

From our 18 entries from the six Band members in the Rathmines event, earning 11 wins, 4 second places and one third. It is a pity that more local bands didn't support the event as it was well organised.

At just twelve years of age, Alex Putra of South Hurstville is a veteran of brass band competitions.

Alex participated in six events and gained 1st Place in every one. He played euphonium in five events but changed to cornet to partner Zachary Sharples in Under 16 Duet.

Alex's nine-year-old younger brother, Jay, in his first public solo performance gained a 3rd place, behind two other St. George members in Under 13 Slow Melody.

Especially remarkable achievements for St. George Brass:

- Winning every section in the Under 13 age group
- Winning all three duet sections
- Winning all three ensemble sections.

Our tour in October started with a car show in Portland on the Saturday morning. After lunch, we played with Lithgow Brass in the meeting rooms in the grounds of Hoskins Memorial Church. At 5pm, we did

*All aboard the steam tram at Valley Heights.*



a Flashmob imitation in the Cook Street Mall as part of the Halloween Fair.

On Sunday 27th, we called in to play in Little Harley at the Back to Hartley fair.

On our way home in the afternoon, we played at the Valley Heights Rail Museum, riding on the steam tram that used to run from Kogarah to San Souci in our heartland.

It has been a wonderful year for our Band. The juniors have been inspirational. We have been averaging over 30 at rehearsals. All that is left is carolling (and more carolling!).

James Moule  
Secretary



*Winners at Rathmines by the shores of Lake Macquarie.*

## HOLROYD BLASTS ITS WAY INTO A NEW GENERATION...



### HOLROYD BRASSTRAINING BAND

In the October school holidays, Holroyd Brass Band embarked on a new initiative to encourage primary school students to play brass and percussion instruments, with the goal of starting a brand new training band. Did we succeed? Did we ever!!!

After targeting local schools, especially those without established band programs, we hosted a 2 – Day holiday workshop for absolute beginners on brass and percussion. We had 17 excited kids, all of whom said they wished it was for more than 2 days!

Dividing up into 2 groups, they alternated between percussion and brass lessons, learning the fundamental skills for each and the basics of music through lots of musical games. To get everyone outside and moving, they played musical treasure hunt and percussion relays.

At the end of the 2 days, they performed for their



parents, with the assistance of the tutors, with rousing performances of the Queen medley “Power Rock”, plus “Baby Shark” and “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” on tuned percussion.

All the tutors and assistants were volunteers from Holroyd Brass Band, with the majority having completed (or currently finishing) music or music education degrees and we were most grateful they could give up their holiday time to take part.

So what now? At the end of the workshop, we invited all the participants to join the new Holroyd Brass Training Band. 70% of the kids signed up, and the Training Band commenced rehearsals in Term 4, under the baton of Joel Nicolai (Holroyd Brass – Flugel).

Holroyd Brass Band will be hosting another beginner workshop in 2020. Details will be available at [www.holroydbass.com.au](http://www.holroydbass.com.au), on Facebook and in The Music Stand.

Holroyd Brass Training Band rehearses on Tuesday afternoons during school term, from 5pm – 6pm, at the Holroyd Band Room, in Mays Hill (Merrylands). For further information, please contact Celia (Band Manager) on 0423 988 092 or email enquiries to [cityofholroydbassband@gmail.com](mailto:cityofholroydbassband@gmail.com)

The Holroyd Brass Training Band will be giving their first public performance at the Holroyd Brass Band Christmas Concert, on Sun 8th December, commencing at 2pm, at Merrylands RSL (FREE ENTRY).

On Friday 15 November 2019 Wallarah Community Band hosted the annual Banding Together event at the Wyong Race Club. The NSW ARTS grant awarded to WCB assisted with the costs of funding this event.

Music Director Rowen McBride and his team of tutors spent the day with 109 primary school students from Central Coast schools to provide instrumental workshops for students to learn four pieces to perform together at the end of the day to a large audience.

Jean Lavender, President WCB attended the concert welcoming all students and their families to the concert highlighting the importance and lifelong benefits of developing young musicians now and into the future.

The combined Banding Together band's superb performance demonstrated the skills each student gained from the day as well as finding new friends to Band Together.





Walarah Community Band held its annual concert on Sunday 17 November 2019 at Wyong Golf Club. The audience were entertained with pieces from Movie Themes to Edward Elgars Enigma Variations.

Rowen McBride, Music Director, presented band awards and highlighted the achievements of the band for 2019:

National Band Championships

B Grade Concert Band First place Own Choice & Third place Test piece.

NSW State Band Championships

First Place Concert Band test piece, Hymn, Own Choice.

2019 Band Awards were awarded to:

Hailey Latta -	Junior Band Person
Jelle van der Ham -	Masons Band Youth Development Award
Joanne McPhan-	WBC Band Person of the Year



# YAGOONA DISTRICT BAND

## Yagoona does Christmas.

Once again the silly season is upon us, and if it feels to most, that it gets earlier and earlier each year – then spare a thought for the many brass bands spread across the country who have to break out the santa hats and dust off the carol books as early as the first weekend in November each year.

Shopping centres, local councils and other community groups start requesting a band of carollers to parade Santa round various Westfields, Stocklands Villages, round parks and other random places.



Previous years have seen the Batmobile and the Fire brigade giving Santa a lift.... Who knows what's next.....

If you want to find out, Yagoona band are always looking for new players to join the band, and who knows next year you could be there along with Yagoona band to see Santa arrive in the DeLorean from Back to the Future.... or a tank?

Contact Yagoona Brass Band via email [yagoonadistrict-band@gmail.com](mailto:yagoonadistrict-band@gmail.com) if you want to get involved.

Each time Santa arrives in varied and wonderful fashions and it's always entertaining. This year Yagoona band have paraded Santa through Westfield Parramatta, Carlingford Court and Bonnyrigg Plaza.

We have serenaded Santa when he came to visit Little Zaks Preschool Academy Christmas party in Putney Park and will in the very near future be leading the carols for the Carols by Candlelight at Playford Park.

So far, Santa's methods of arrival have been Valet Parking, materialising out of a lift and riding on a motorbike decked out with reindeer antlers, flashing lights and tinsel...



## Castle Hill RSL

# Youth Wind Orchestra

Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra (YWO) have thoroughly enjoyed the lead up to Christmas this year. Our Friday Night Live Big Band (FNL) has been exceptionally busy. In October, on a magnificent Sunday afternoon, FNL performed on the banks of the beautiful Hawkesbury River for the annual Ebenezer Church Twilight of Jazz. Here they entertained crowds of picnickers and music lovers and raised valuable funds to build water wells in West Papua.

We continued into November with our annual fundraising Casino Royale themed Big Band Night. What a night of fun this was, with games, music dancing and prizes! As well as raising some great money for our great organisation.



YWO then marched into November with their annual shopping centre parades around city. We always love this time of year as we spread joy and carols throughout Sydney.



Our final performance will be on Sunday December 8th for our end of year concert with North West Wind Ensemble. Our highlight will undoubtedly be our joint 100 piece performance of The Year of The Dragon! We think we will blow the roof off the Centre!

Our concert is at The Hills Grammar School in Kenthurst and will start at 2.00 pm. Tickets are available at the door.

Youth Wind Orchestra rehearses on Friday nights at Crestwood High School in Baulkham Hills. New player enquiries are always welcome. For more information contact Fiona Day, President on 0407780836 or [fiona@ywo.com.au](mailto:fiona@ywo.com.au)





## COMMUNITY BAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 2020

The Community Bands Development program is a devolved funding program by Create NSW and administered by the Band Association of NSW Inc. ([www.bandnsw.com](http://www.bandnsw.com))

One application per band organisation (which may include an unlimited number of projects) may be submitted. Applications are limited to a maximum of \$2000 per application.

Projects must be conducted in the 2020 calendar year and funds spent by 31 December 2020.

### Eligibility:

Only Community bands who are members of the Band Association of NSW and who are located in an NSW Local Government Area are eligible to apply for this funding.

### Types of projects funded:

Funding is available to support and promote banding by means of increasing banding activity within NSW communities, increasing performance standards and growing audience numbers through:

- Workshops and Band Camps which involve one or more of the following aspects: Adult and Junior band skill development and / or integration, Band organization outreach, Community / School band relationship development;
- Concerts directed at widening audiences (venue hire, advertising and promotion costs, guest artist fees);
- Developing Sister band relationships between city and country / regional bands (tours, concerts, tuition / mentoring visits);
- Advertising and promotional activities;
- Development of individual members promotional, production and administrative skills where there will be a direct benefit to the applying Band organisation;
- Web / IT development;
- New music commissions associated with a concert or program;
- New music purchases for Junior Band or concert programs;
- Instrument repair program to support a new or ongoing existing Junior Band program;
- Other equipment purchases such as Music Stands/Stand Banners and other items which will assist with increasing the bands community exposure, audience reach and ability to attract more players.

**APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING TO COVER NORMAL OPERATING COSTS WILL BE REJECTED.**

### How to apply.

Submit an application with details of your project by 15 December 2019 through the SmartyGrants program available at <https://artsnsw-smartygrants.com.au/BANSW:BDG2020>

Assessment of each application will be made by the Management Committee of the Band Association of NSW Inc. and applicants may be notified by their local member as soon as possible after approval or by the BANSW before the 1st March 2020.

Payment is made by Bank Transfer once documentation which accompanies an approval is completed and returned to BANSW Inc.



## Hunter Regional Band Association: Bands in the Park, Saturday 9 November

### WIND INSTRUMENTS REDEFINED

The Hunter Regional Band Association staged a 'Bands in the Park' in the Speers Point Park rotunda on the shores of Lake Macquarie on Saturday 9 November.

Five bands played a varied program from 9.30am till 1.30pm in sunny but very windy conditions, musical directors waiting patiently as players invented new ways to use pegs to keep their scores under control in the hope that their stands didn't blow over.

Lake Macquarie Winds played first, followed by Newcastle PCYC Brass and then the PCYC's Junior Band, with Waratah Brass Academy next and Western Lake Macquarie Concert Band finishing the day. It was a good mix of brass and concert band music, and particular credit should go to the many young players taking part in the two junior bands.

The music was well received by those who chose to stay and listen, hopefully by those shopping at the markets nearby, and possibly by people in the next suburb, Warners Bay, given the strength of the wind.

### *Western Lake Macquarie Concert Band*



# PARRAMATTA CITY BAND (inc. 1911)

B Grade

Seeks expressions of interest for the position of

## Musical Director

The Parramatta City Band is a busy community band who rehearse on Thursday nights from 7:45 - 10pm at their bandroom in Jubilee Lane, Parramatta

Please send your Resume/C.V. to Kevin Skues by 30 January 2020

[aljerer@hotmail.com](mailto:aljerer@hotmail.com) 0414 476 061

Auditions will be held during February/March to start in April



 Find us on Facebook



**BANDSNWS**

# EVENTS DIARY - 2019/20



## DECEMBER

- Sunday 1 Swing into Summer - Hosted by Toronto Brass  
Toronto Workers Club 2pm
- Sunday 8 Central Coast Concert Band - Summer Catch 1pm  
Gosford RSL Club
- Sunday 8 Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra and North west Wind Ensemble  
'Players Choice'  
Hills Grammar School, Kenthurst 2 pm
- Sunday 8 A Celebration of Christmas - Manning Valley Concert Band  
Manning Entertainment Centre 2 pm
- Sunday 8 A Very Holroyd Christmas  
Merrylands RSL 2pm
- Sunday 8 Christmas Brass On The Grass - Stherland Shire Brass  
Gunnamatta Park 6pm
- Wednesday 11 Carols by the Sea with Bondi Brass  
Bondi Beach 6pm
- Friday 13 Engadine Carols for the People - Leichhardt Celebrity Brass  
Cooper St Reserve, Engadine 6pm
- Saturday 14 Goulburn Carols - Canberra Brass Inc.  
St Andrews Presbyterian Church 6pm
- Sunday 15 Christmas Celebrations with Waratah Brass  
Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre 1.30pm

## 2020

- June 27/28 2020 NSW State Band Solo and Party Championships
- Aug 29/30 2020 NSW State Band Championships



NORTHHOLM  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



# NORTHHOLM



LEARN WITH

**PURPOSE**

LIVE WITH

**PASSION**

*Quality Education for K-12*

## **MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR Y7 AND Y11**

ENTRY IN 2021

Northholm Grammar School invites students who study music and will enter Year 7 or Year 11 in 2021 to apply for a scholarship.

Applications close 10 February 2020.

Details can be found at [northholm.nsw.edu.au/scholarships](http://northholm.nsw.edu.au/scholarships)  
or by calling our Head of Enrolments on **9656 2000**.