



MAY 2020

THE MUSIC STAND

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BAND ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC.



YWO.com.au



From the President's Suitcase

Dear All,

What can I say, it's been a difficult few months with everything canceled, no rehearsals, no social gathering, many of our friends and colleagues finding themselves either at home working in very familiar, yet also unfamiliar surroundings, or, simply without a job.

Although our movement has almost ground to a halt, I am impressed but unsurprised at the tenacity of spirit of our bands. In this time of social upheaval, we have adjusted and adapted and proven that nothing can kill the spirit of community which thrives in all of us, and nothing exemplified this more than ANZAC Day.

I can't begin to count the number of videos and comments I saw evidencing our members out on the street on the morning of the 25th April 2020.

I also was out on my front lawn in the freezing cold light of the dawn, cornet in hand, to play to acknowledge the sacrifice of our service men and women. It was indeed a most moving personal tribute. Having grown up as a Tenor Horn player, I've always listened to the Last Post and Rouse. Never actually played them, so this year was, for me, very special.

What was even more special was the response to the call, not just from my neighbours, but from our entire banding community. Across the nation our members, regardless of their instrument, played to make a personal yet public acknowledgment like never before. It was incredible, unsurprising, but incredible.

The impact for our communities was significant. In the words of my neighbour, who witnessed active and often bloody and awful service in Vietnam, what we did in our simple act on our driveways on a cold and still morning was to bring ANZAC Day and everything it means from the Memorials into the homes and hearts of everyone in our communities.

ANZAC Day 2020 may have missed the parades, the Dawn Services, the breakfasts at the club, the 2-up in the club or pub in the afternoon. It may have been different, BUT, because of the simplicity of what our musicians across the whole nation did, because of our determination to be part of our communities, we adapted and we played.

These current restrictions have meant we need to adapt. I'm so pleased to see so many bands using video conferencing to keep in touch, in many cases, even to hold rehearsals. These times have been unheralded, and yet, as with the past, our movement has found ways to continue through.

The Association has also had to adapt. You all will have seen the changes we have made to this year's program. It was a great shame to see the cancellation of the Metropolitan



there was no other option. The cancellation of these two events made it all the more important that the State Solos and Band Championships go ahead in a new format

We have tried to maintain some semblance of normality. We have been continuing to hold our meetings via video conferencing and we have been relying on social media a little more than usual to spread information. I would like to thank Justin Screen who looks after our Social Media for the brilliant work he is doing.

I would like to thank the Management Committee for their work through this period, and, in particular, Kristen, who has kept things going in very difficult circumstances.

The closing date for the State Solos entries is almost upon us so please get these in now. You then have a few weeks to get your videos in. We have already received a number of entries, and I urge you all to be part of the event. Music is all Own Choice, so, for those in school, with performance exams coming up, this is a perfect chance to get some independent feedback on your performances before exam day.

The 2019 Band Activity Survey results are in. We had 32 responses to the survey which was a pretty good number, and the split of the responses was surprisingly balanced. Split 50/50 between City and Country, and, almost 50/50 between Brass and Concert. The results summary are contained in this issue and make for some interesting reading.

Our preparations for the 2021 Nationals are ongoing and we are almost ready to launch the website and to make announcements regards our two main adjudicators. All very exciting. plus we have just had our Music Selection meeting and I am very excited at the selections we have made for you. Thanks to our Music Selection Sub Committee members for their time and work in putting this list together.

That's about it from me at this stage, Hopefully rehearsals will be back soon and we can all start to get our chops back in and we can't wait to see you all at States in November.

Please keep watching the BANSW Facebook page, website and your Band secretaries inboxes for further updates as the restrictions and guidelines are eased.

Stay safe, stay sane and keep practicing.

Jeff Markham
President BANSW.

2020 NSW STATE SOLO & PARTY CHAMPIONSHIPS



27-28 JUNE

ONLINE

Introducing our Adjudicators

Joshua Hill

completed his undergraduate and post-graduate study at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music having also studied Korean traditional music at the National Gugak Centre in Seoul. Joshua is a core member of Australia's premier percussion ensemble SYNERGY PERCUSSION. He has performed and recorded with many of Australia's orchestras and ensembles including the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Canberra Symphony, Ensemble Offspring, Symphony Australis, Australian Baroque Brass, Taiko, NSW Police Band and the Australian Air Force Air Command Band. Joshua has also been



part of many recordings for ANIME, computer games and soundtracks for feature films.

Brian Evans

is Principal Third Trumpet/Cornet in the Opera Australia Orchestra, of which he has been a member since 1975 (45 years) playing in every chair in the section in a vast repertoire of operas and ballets. He began his musical activities at age 7 on banjo mandolin and progressed to tenor horn when he joined The Sydney Boys' High School brass band (1966). He soon changed to cornet and soprano cornet, becoming principal cornet in year 9, leading it to national school band champions in 1971. He played tenor horn, soprano cornet and B flat cornet with Waverly Municipal Band for 12 years including a number of years as principal cornet during its heydays in the 1970's.

His concert band experience includes solo cornet with Australia Army Band Sydney (aged 19), Sydney Concert Band and NSW Arts Unit ensembles. After leaving the army he benefited greatly as a member of the ABC National Training Orchestra and has played with most major orchestral ensembles in Sydney, including the SSO, ACO and Sydney Philharmonia.

An active soloist, Evans has performed throughout the world. He was a featured artist during the 2003, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2013 and 2016 ITG and 2008 China Trumpet Guild conferences and has performed as guest soloist with the Hornsby Girls High School touring band in China, Europe, USA and Japan as well as with the Honolulu Community Concert Band in their 2006 Sydney Opera House appearance. He has taught at several schools in Sydney, and maintains a private studio of around 15 students from beginner to post graduate level.

As a clinician, Evans has presented classes in Japan, China (where he presented his lecture, "The Trumpet and Cornet in Western opera – an introduction") and USA and was artist in residence at the Brisbane Conservatorium of Music, Griffith University, in October 2016. He presented the lecture "Trumpet for the non-player" at the



2018 Music Education Conference for professional development in music education as part of the NSW School Band Festival.

As a champion of new music, especially from Australia, Evans has been involved in many local, international and world premieres in numerous situations including through his chamber ensemble, Trio Australis.

He has adjudicated at several school eisteddfod, was an adjudicator for the Asian International Trumpet Competition 2008 and in 2009 he was an adjudicator for the Ern Keller International Band of the Year competition.

After a 40 year hiatus, Evans returned to banding in 2018 as principal cornet for a concert with Pacific Brass and returned to contesting after a gap of 41 years, playing Solo Cornet with Australian national A Grade champions, Sydney City Brass. Brian is founding and current president of the Australian Trumpet Guild and served the International Trumpet Guild as a director for 18 years, including as President 2015-2017 and hosted ITG's annual conference in Sydney in 2010.

He is listed in *Bibl.: Keim, Friedel. Das große Buch der Trompete (Schott); and Trumpet Greats, (Hickman Music editions)* Further information: www.thebrassstudio.com

While all of our lives have become restricted as we are temporarily confined to our homes in a way we have never been before, we are witnessing some amazing musical creativity around the globe. From YouTube parodies to apartment block sing-alongs we are watching the ability of music to increase our sense of social cohesion, to convey our emotions and to keep our communities together.

Castle Hill YWO and N WWE have mobilised their members to continue to play and share music. Not only have we continued our weekly rehearsals, albeit from different homes around the Hills District, but we have also embarked on new and exciting recording projects. YWO are so proud to share our Isolation Project [African](#)

[Symphony](#) which shows how hard we have continued to work and love what we do. Alongside, our North West Wind ensemble members recorded their ANZAC Day tribute with [Colonel Bogey March by Kenneth J. Alford](#) recorded at 39 locations across Sydney. These are both available on our Facebook pages or at the YouTube links.

Both Junior and Senior Band members continued to support our returned service men and women on ANZAC Day as so many rose early to play in their own driveways. While this was immensely different from our usual City March, our members showed pride and musicality commemorating from their own homes. Many dressed in uniform and held 'services' for their neighbours.

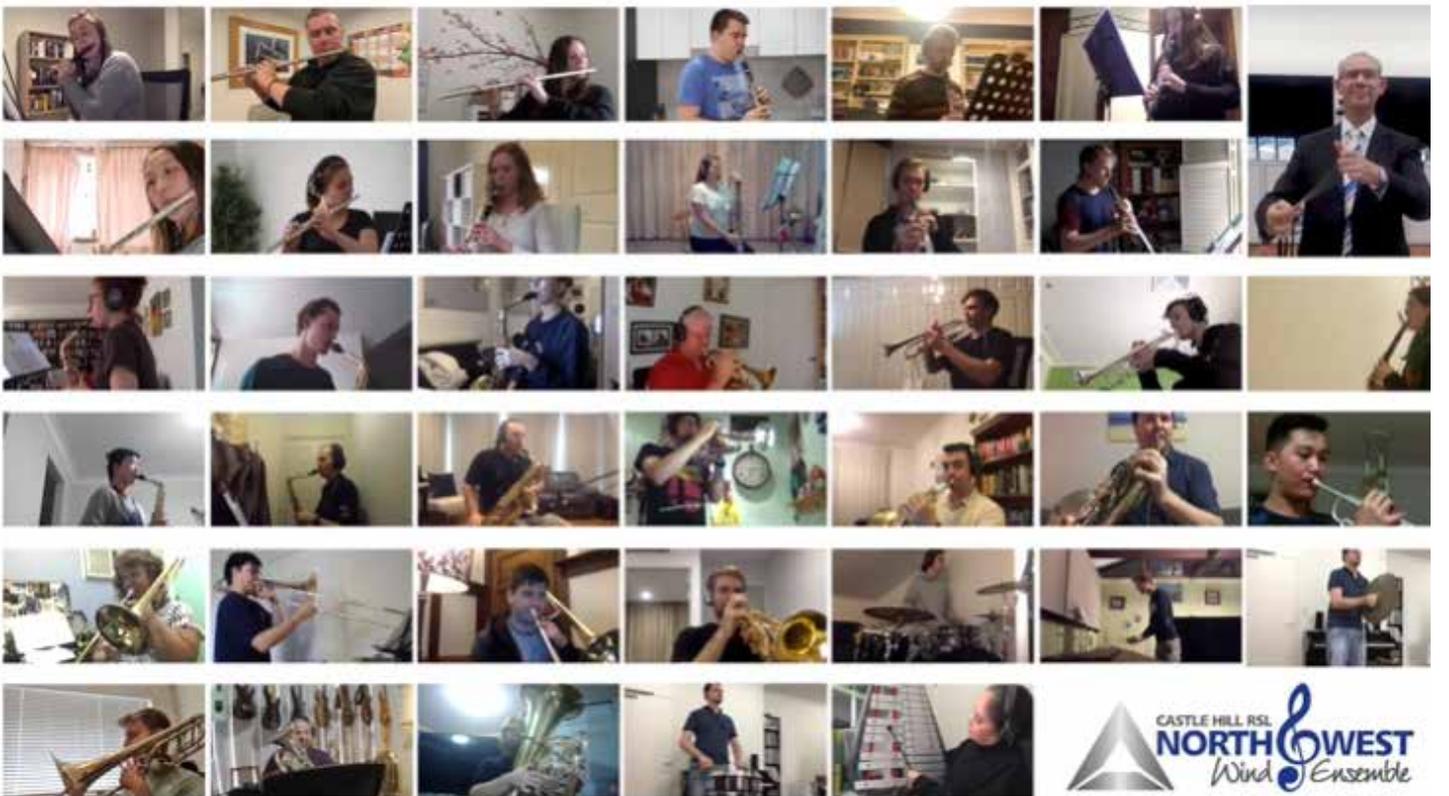




Castle Hill RSL
Youth Wind Orchestra
 perform African Symphony by Van McCoy, arranged by Naohira Iwai - Isolation Project April-May 2020

While we are hopeful to return to our in person rehearsals in the not too distant future, we are also very pleased with the growing technological skills and competencies that we have developed and mastered along the way.

We are so grateful to have leadership from the amazing James Brice, who has led us with commensurate professionalism, enthusiasm and passion. We are ever hopeful of a Castle Hill YWO and N WWE 'Welcome Back' extravaganza.



CASTLE HILL RSL
NORTH WEST
 Wind Ensemble

2020 NSW STATE SOLO & PARTY CHAMPIONSHIPS



NOW ONLINE
Check our website for more details
www.bandnsw.com

27-28
JUNE

Entries close May 31

Recordings due June 14th

@bandsnsw



St. George Brass Band

As with all other bands, our program for the year has been all but destroyed but our Musical Director, Lauren Faulks has done a marvellous job of keeping the Band together through Zoom rehearsals. We have had around 25 members involved in each of these rehearsals, a bit down on our traditional rehearsals but healthy enough in these times.

Groups of members have been sending each other recordings of their part of a piece and the tech whiz amongst them has combined the parts so that it sounds like the whole group is playing at once.

Alex Putra has had so much time on his hands that he has been able to record himself playing the various parts of our Own Choice piece (in case The States ever occur), a real one-man band. Not bad for a 12-year-old.

Fingers crossed that we can start ensemble rehearsal soon and full band rehearsals in the near future.

James Moule
Secretary



61 years of service to NSW Banding

Phil Mead

This year, Phil Mead, Drum Major for Yagoona District Band would have clocked up his 62th consecutive ANZAC Day march in Sydney. Unfortunately Covid-19 has broken this remarkable run, something not even open heart surgery back in 2004 had previously been able to interrupt.

Despite this break in usual proceedings, Phil was still able to mark ANZAC Day with appropriate reverence and the mandatory social distancing as many Australians did. And like many other Band members, Phil continued his commitment to serving the local community by participating in a driveway ceremony, alongside his son Jeff (suitably attired in Yagoona Band uniform). This year, he swapped his Drum Majors mace and whistle, for the sombre and emotive words of the Ode Of Remembrance.

But where did it all start? And who do we have to thank for bringing Phil into the NSW banding family? Phil's older brother Barry was a Drum Major with Blue Mountains City band and also Sydney University Regiment Pipe band



Phil believes this was the main reason he took up Banding, but it was the musical "uncle" who was friends with the late Frank McGuiness that got Phil in the door at St George Sutherland Shire Band – way back in early 1959. And the rest – is history. Drum Major for St George Sutherland from 1963 until moving to Yagoona District Band in 1992.

In 1975, Phil won Australian National Open Percussion Champion of Champion and has also been National Champion Drum Major on many occasions.

In 1988, Phil along with sons David, Steve and Jeff as members of Suther

land Shire Silver Band became State A Grade champions – a real milestone that Phil is proud to share with his sons – especially because the band had toiled away for many years climbing up through the grades.

Anyone who has shared a stage or marched behind Phil, will attest to his consummate professionalism, his talent, skill and musicality. But many of the states best percussionists will tell you that it is his tutoring skills, his ability to teach and his enthusiasm that makes Phil the legend that he is. His shared love of percussion is evident with son David a multiple times Open Percussion Champion of Champions and two of Phil's grandchildren (Keiley and Ryan) also following on in Phil's footsteps. But what about the other side of banding? The administrative side that is often overlooked or dismissed by many people?

It is here that Phil and his wife Mary have made a massive contribution to community banding. Some (Phil himself) would say it is a significant contribution, but all those who know Phil and Mary, and what they have done, would say "significant" isn't good enough to describe their commitment.

Monumental, Massive or Outstanding are more accurate words to describe the contribution that Phil and Mary have given to community banding.

Phil served on the committee of BANSW from 1990 to 2006 and his wife Mary was Secretary from 1999 to 2005. He was on the committee for Sydney Metropolitan Band Branch from 1990 to 2014 and Mary was Secretary from 1992 to 2014. Numer-

ous times, Phil has been a Contest Supervisor at different competitions, Drill Judge at a number of National Band Championships. Tireless volunteers for various community banding events, both Phil and Mary were recognised with Life Membership of Band Association NSW in 1998 and 2003 respectively.

2001 saw the awarding of the Hughes Community Award (presented by Danna Vale M.P) for "personal commitment and active contribution as an Australian volunteer working in support of the local community".

In 2006 Phil and Mary were the recipients of a Government of NSW Community Service Award presented by the Premier in recognition and appreciation of their service to the community.

2014 saw recognition from the RSL NSW branch acknowledging Phil's contribution to ANZAC Day over the years with a Certification of Appreciation.

2017 saw acknowledgment with the introduction of the Phil Mead Perpetual Trophy for Open Percussion at the NSW State Solos

Phil says he has absolutely no regrets about his banding journey and is proud to have been able to share the journey with wife Mary, his brothers, three sons and now his grandchildren. And his message to younger players out there – "Enjoy what you do and be committed to want you want to achieve. Practice hard and strive to always do your best as part of the team. "



2020 NSW STATE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS



14-15
NOV

Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre

Penrith





ANZAC DAY 2020

Toronto Brass were honoured to have been a part of this very special and moving Anzac Day. From across Lake Macquarie, Newcastle and the Hunter Valley many of our members played the Last Post at dawn, in response to "Music for Mateship". This was a nationwide initiative, that called on musicians across Australia and New Zealand to mark the day by playing their instruments from their drive-ways. This was very well received in our community.

Anzac Day is one of Australia's most important national occasions but this year it will be celebrated differently because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



COPING IN ISOLATION

Toronto Brass have replaced our Thursday night rehearsals with an online "Zoom Trivia" themed fun night. This has been organised by our beloved solo horn player/Vice President, Robbie Scanlon. This has been a surprisingly unifying event each week, followed by a social drink or two and a catch up (online of course).



Dr Bob's Conducting Workshop

Planning for a Healthy Band- Part 2



Following on from the last Music Stand newsletter when we discussed the need for bands to create interesting events and promotions to keep their band personnel happy.

We also identified the need for bands (who are in the process of re-building) to set themselves achievable goals.

These goals when realised can act in the same way as contest successes. Lifting the morale and spurring everyone on to achieve greater things and thus perpetuating an enthusiastic

working atmosphere in the bandroom.

We continue today by discussing

- Contests
- Tours
- Recording projects
- Commissioning New Music

Contests.

Contests are very important in lifting standards and keeping pace with the opposition. However, some contests are less high profile than others. It's a good idea if you are a newly promoted band or a band in the building process to attend a low profile contest. The warm feeling of succeeding is equally good whether you enter a regional qualifier or a local association contest.

Some of our mid-placed championship bands enjoy competing in overseas contests such as the Swiss Open, French Open and even the World Championships in Kirkrade. I'm sure these events are looked on as more than just contests.

Dr Bob's Conducting Workshop

Planning for a Healthy Band- Part 2 continued

Tours.

I've found that if you are prepared to work at a project, they usually come off. The idea of a tour is not beyond the reach of most bands. The cheapest way to do this is by exchange visit and joint concert. The important thing is to try and match your band with a similar band abroad. This can be done via the Internet. The most successful way of realising a tour for your band is to invite a foreign band to Britain first, organising them a joint concert with you and organising home-stays for them. The following year you can visit them.

Recording Projects.

If you have the money to self promote a CD great. If not, don't give up on the idea. Most Sixth form Colleges, Music Colleges and University Departments have recording facilities. Try making contact with them and discussing a project. It might include using students in the production, either on the technical side or as composers, players or conductors, but it still allows the band the valuable experience of performing with the 'red light' on.

Commissioning new music.

Again if you have money, this becomes less of a problem. If you don't, you might try an application for funding from various arts bodies. However, you might write to the many music colleges and universities and ask if they have any budding young composers who would like to write your band a piece of music. If you can raise a modest sum of money as "Prize Money" you could hold a composition competition..... You might end up with several good new pieces.

In conclusion you can see that there are lots of good ideas just waiting to materialise. They will take a lot of organising and co-ordinating. I am not suggesting that any one person be responsible for all of this. Delegation is the art of good management!

A busy band is a happy band and a happy band is a healthy band! These are the ingredients to pave the road to success.



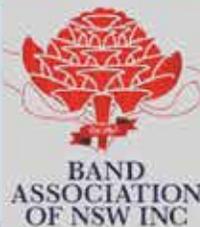
2021

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Newcastle NSW

April 2 - 5

Newcastle City Hall & Civic Theatre





Getting to know our members!

Spotlight on GEMMA ROLPH



Hi, my name is Gemma Rolph and I am a member of the Castle Hill RSL North West Wind Ensemble (NWWWE). I first joined NWWWE back in 2010 after having such a great time performing with the Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra (YWO) since 2009. I started off playing Bb clarinet when I first joined, but have been playing bass clarinet with NWWWE since 2015 now and absolutely love it!

Some memorable moments from my years so far with YWO and NWWWE would include my first Nationals with NWWWE in Hobart. It was so amazing to be performing on the stage with so many talented musicians and still is heaps of fun. Another highlight would definitely have to be the YWO tour to the USA in 2010 including performing at Disneyland (even though it was pouring with rain, it was still awesome!) and attending the Midwest Clinic in Chicago.

Over the years, I have also had heaps of fun competing in many National and NSW State Solo Championships on both b and bass clarinet. In 2012 I felt very honoured to be awarded the NSW State Open Concert Champion of Champions performing Bucolique by Eugene Bozza which is a moment that I will never forget. I also love performing with fellow clarinetists from NWWWE in small ensembles in the States and Nationals too!

We have performed many arrangements over the years, but some of my favourites would have to be Molly On The Shore, Rhapsody in Blue and per

forming a Disney Medley!! Some of the things that I love about NWWWE and YWO are the lifelong friendships and incredible musical opportunities that we have to perform all over Australia and internationally (including the USA and New Zealand), even recording a CD too!

All with massive thanks to our amazing musical director James Brice!

At the moment I am really excited to be preparing for the NSW State Solo Online Championship coming up really soon and have been really enjoying NWWWE's online Zoom rehearsals each week recently as well, during this time when we are unable to meet and rehearse together in our usual space.

The isolation recording projects that we have been working on are so much fun too!! It's so amazing to hear and see everyone's individual performances of their parts altogether in the finished product, so cool!!



STILL LOOKING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOME

5 second hand flight cases -
3 Timpani and 2 Xylophone -
and are offering to donate them to one of our registered bands.

Pick up from North West Sydney ASAP.
Please contact secretary@bandnsw.com to
express your interest or for more details



BAND SURVEY SUMMARY



2019 Band Activity Survey Summary		Total
Membership (Allowing for multiple bands in the one organization)		Bands
Brass Bands		44
Concert Bands		83
Total Registered Bands		127
No. of Community Bands		97
No. of School Bands		29
Semi Professional Bands		1
Sydney Metro Bands		78
Regional Bands		49
Community Bands with Website		59
CALD (approx.)		2140
Disability (approx..)		163
Indigenous (approx.)		83
Performances		
Indoor Concerts	4.72 (avg. per band)	600
Outdoor Concerts	5.70 (avg. per band)	724
Street Parades	2.75 (avg. per band)	349
Total Performances	Approx.	1673
City Band Performances	Approx.	953
Regional Band performances	Approx.	720
Tours NSW		9
Tours Interstate		2
Tours International		0
Total Audience Numbers		
Indoor Concerts	378 (avg. per band)	226,800
Outdoor Concerts	432 (avg. per band)	312,800
Street Parades (est. minimum 8000 per parade + ANZAC Day allowance of 1 mil.)	Approx.	1,704,100
BANSW Incl. Live Streaming	Approx.	14,500
Total Audience Reached	Approx.	2,258,000
Council Support		
Council support		67%
Country Bands		60%
City Bands		73%
Rehearsal Space		
Unshared fully owned		20%
Rented		21%
Council unshared		6%
School room or hall		26%
Council shared		27%
Rehearsals		
1per week		88%
2per week		10%
More than 1 per week		2%
Monday: 14%	Tuesday: 31%	Wednesday: 29%



ANZAC DAY

2020

