



# THE MUSIC STAND

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BAND ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC.



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# From the President's Suitcase

The NSW State Band Championships are changing for 2020.

At the last Management Committee Meeting there was much discussion about the current state of play for bands across NSW and it was realised that with social distancing requirements and limits on the numbers of people allowed to gather together, the prospect of a band being in a position to have full rehearsals in the lead-up to the 2020 event is unlikely for most bands.

It was also pointed out that there are, and would continue to be, significant logistical and social distancing requirements that we would need to be managing in venue as part of the current Covid19 world. These additional requirements, combined with the very difficult rehearsal scenarios for all of our bands, as well as being mindful of the varied demographics of our movement and the difficulties this can pose in a Covid19 environment, it was very quickly realised that a traditional State Band Championships was just not going to be possible for 2020.

We are, however, acutely aware that all of our bands are looking for purpose for rehearsals as we gradually make our returns, and we hope that the changes detailed below will help provide that incentive to return, rehearse, engage and participate and get us all back and ready for a full year in 2021.



## 2020 NSW STATE BAND FESTIVAL



So, we have pivoted the whole event to an Online Festival and I now introduce to you the NSW State Band Festival - Online !!

The changes are significant and designed to allow bands the flexibility to participate in whatever way they are able to, so please read through them all.

# General Conditions of entry and participation

All current Band Gradings will remain as per existing BANSW or State Gradings.

All registration requirements remain as per the 2020 Registration requirements of BANSW or appropriate State Association Registration requirements.

The minimum number of players in a band performing in any video is 16 (Incl. percussion) plus a conductor for ALL bands. The maximum number to be as per the existing By-Laws.

All Bands must perform their videos in full uniform and all videos must be taken in the one take with no editing.

With each video submitted, a list of the names of those appearing in that video along with a declaration that all members are members of that band as registered with the BANSW must be provided (help us get into practice for Nationals). Remember, for ALL Bands the Membership registration fees for 2020 have been dropped to a flat fee of \$125 per band. Registering new members is included in the fee for 2020.

All videos should be recorded and uploaded between the 1st of October and the close-off date listed below.

Permits are allowed and must be listed as such and must be registered members of the BANSW. No "permit forms" are required. Simply list at the bottom of the list of names the names and instruments of the permit players. Numbers of permits allowed are as per the existing By-Laws.

## The Event

Events in all grades for Open and Junior Brass and Concert as follows: Sacred Item (Time Limit 6 mins), Single Own Choice Major Work (Time limits as per existing to apply), On Stage March (As per the NBCA Approved March List), and, Own Choice Concert Item (Time Limit 6 Mins). For Under 13 Divisions (1, 2 and 3), one program totaling 15 minutes of concert items can be submitted.

Each event in each grade will be considered as a "Stand Alone" event, meaning every band doesn't need to enter all events. They can enter any or all of the items. It really is up to the Bands to determine.

This means that for those bands who have been unable to have full rehearsals, they can still have everyone engaged and rehearsing by splitting the bands into say a Hymn Band, a Concert Item Band and or a March Band, etc... crossover of players between the various groups entered from the 1 band is fine without the need for external permits, but any external permits must be listed as such.

## Entry Fees

\$50 per entry incl. GST). -

A band entering one item is \$50 (+GST), two items - \$100 (+GST), three items- \$150 (+GST) and All 4 - \$200 (+GST).

Under 13 Division groups, a flat fee of \$50 per entry will apply regardless of the number of pieces performed

## Placings

Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each category for each grade with Trophy and Certificate for each to be issued. No points are to be awarded or issued and no placings beyond 3rd place will be allocated.

BANSW feel that this is the fairest way to negate the possibility of differences in video and sound recording qualities, band number sizes, etc... 2020 will be more about participation, getting us back into Band and playing to our usual high standards than about the usual battle for 'sheep stations'.

There will be no Aggregate Championships awarded and no Champion Band trophies either. Unfortunately with the removal of points and the inability for many bands to be able to enter all components for each grade, an Aggregate Championship just wouldn't be fair, so, to encourage all of us to be involved in whatever way possible, yet still have a goal and a bit of competition, placings only, No aggregate Champion Bands.

## Adjudication

Recorded Adjudications for each performance will be provided to all Bands. Bands will be required to submit entry forms by Friday 11th September.

ALL video recordings are due from bands for all events as well as a pdf of the scores and the declarations and the list of names of players appearing in the videos by Friday 23rd October.

The recordings will then be sent to the adjudicators for adjudication.

14th and 15th November - The weekend of festival, The entire event will be Live Streamed by Tim at Brassbanned.com (for any School Bands who do not authorise the video of their band to be broadcast, only the sound will be streamed). Results announcements for each event will be via both Brassbanned.com and the BANSW Facebook and websites.

Following the announcement of results, all adjudication recordings will be emailed to bands along with appropriate certificates. Trophies/plaques are available for delivery/ collection , and all performances will be retained for bands to see on the BANSW YouTube Channel.

## Champion of Champions and Party Events

The 2020 NSW State Solos Champion of Champions events for all age groups and Quartets and Ensemble events will also be online and will be live streamed as an event via Brassbanned.com for the 7th and 8th November. All winning Soloists from the State Solo and Party Championships are invited to submit a new video recording and music for their Champion of Champions events. Soloists can be accompanied or unaccompanied according to what you are able to arrange or arrange.

Entries for the Duets, Quartets and Ensembles are asked to submit an entry and their recordings and a pdf of their music by the 11th October. Entry fees for the Duets is \$15 per entry and for Quartets and Ensembles, \$20.

For all C of C's and Party events, a First place only is given. Adjudications will be provided for Ensemble events but, as is usual for the CofC's no adjudications will be provided.

A few things to note:

For All Band, Ensemble and CofC events, adjudications will be Open Adjudications. All Bands performances (for school bands - subject to permissions) and the winning videos of the CofC's and Ensembles will be retained on our BANSW Youtube channel on or after the event weekends.

The realities of these times have meant some significant changes for us all. They have posed difficulties for everyone, but we hope that with the changes we have made, that everyone can participate in this year's event and get back to doing what we all love, and that's making great music.

Please if you have any questions on the above, don't hesitate to ask us either via messenger on the Facebook page or send us an email.

We look forward to seeing you all. Stay safe and stay sane.



Jeff Markham  
President  
BANSW

# Wollongong City Brass & Wind Bands

In February 2020, our brass and wind bands held a combined concert for our local Seniors Week. This was an amazing and very successful concert which was enjoyed by all.

If restrictions are lifted, later in the year we have two concerts planned, the first by our wind band in October and the second is for both senior and junior brass bands in November

Sincere thanks and appreciation must go to our three Musical Director's (Kevin, Des & Leanne) for their dedication to the band during the COVID-19 situation. They held weekly Zoom sessions for members of each band to stay in touch, and of course keep the 'lips in'.

During the lock-down period our very talented Wilkie family of 5 (all members of our own bands) made a recording complete with video of the whole brass band arrangement of 'Prismatic Light'. All 22 parts were covered by the family members with each playing 4 or 5 parts (all parts recorded separately) and then the recordings put together resulting with the sound of a full band. This was very well done and sounds fantastic.

Wilkie family: Mum & Dad: (Jenny & Alan), Thomas age 14 years and twins Amber & Erin age 13 years. Hear and see this recording <https://youtu.be/qpdrc-6DR2IU> – it's amazing. The Wilkie family had fun putting this together while at home... with a brief visit to the band hall for percussion!

## Back to band

Over the last two weeks our bands have re-commenced face to face rehearsals by having two sessions each rehearsal night to include all members and at the same time enabling the social distancing regulation to be upheld. This has been an exciting time and so good to hear

and play in a group once again as a complete ensemble.

Our Three bands (Senior Brass, Junior Brass and Senior Wind bands) are now working towards the State Band Championships planned to be held in November. Everything is so unsure for the whole banding community but, we will all carry on in hope.

N.S.W. State Solo Championships - We are very proud and congratulate two junior brass members who were successful in winning their respective sections at the Solo's held last weekend.

Joseph Giuffre - Under 15's Low Tuba  
Sara Todner - Under 19's Flugel Horn.

Other members competed but some results are yet to be released.

Our thoughts go to Ron Batey – a Life Member of our band who is currently in hospital. We are all thinking of Ron and wish him well.

Christine Wallbaum  
Publicity Officer"

# 2020 NSW STATE SOLO ONLINE CHAMPIONSHIPS



## RESULTS

All winning performances can be seen at [our BANSNSW Youtube](#)

### Open Events

Open Baritone	Jeff Ma Willoughby Concert Band
Open Bb Cornet	Richard Sandman Holroyd Brass Band
Open Flugel Horn	Brian McGuinness Castle Hill RSL North West Wind Ensemble
Open Tenor Horn	Nicky Abkiewicz Sydney City Brass
Open Trumpet	Enya Hui Barker College
Open Bass Trombone	Not Contested
Open Euphonium	Jeff Ma Willoughby City Band
Open High Tuba	Gregory Bennett Hunter Wind Ensemble
Open Low Tuba	Gregory Bennett Willoughby City Band
Open Tenor Trombone	Max Gregg North Shore Wind Symphony
Open Clarinet	Sunstone Shi The King's School Symphonic Band
Open Double Reed	Edmond Buzby North Shore Wind Symphony
Open Flute/Piccolo	Justin Smallwood North Shore Wind Symphony
Open Saxophone	Jamie Robinson The King's School Symphonic Band
Veterans Solo	Ossie Jellyman Central Coast Brass

## **Under 15 Events**

U/15 Bb Cornet	Harry Kane St George Brass Band
U/15 Flugel Horn	Anthony Arfanis St George Brass Band
U/15 Trumpet	Jayden Fung Northern Youth Symphonic Wind
U/15 Euphonium	Sebastian Rowe Gunnedah Shire Band
U/15 French Horn	Consuela Zhang Roseville College
U/15 High Tuba	Leo Huang St George Brass Band
U/15 Low Tuba	Joseph Giuffre City of Wollongong Brass Band
U/15 Tenor Horn	Elliot Bangert Sydney City Brass
U/15 Tenor Trombone	Tristan Pofandt Surfers Paradise Brass Band QLD
U/15 Clarinet	Lachlan Utteridge Barker College
U/15 Double Reed	Emily Ava Wan Abbotsleigh School
U/15 Flute/Piccolo	Amy Tashjian Northern Youth Symphonic Wind
U/15 Saxophone	Ramon Moein Northern Youth Symphonic Wind

## **Under 19 Events**

U/19 Baritone	Will Leslie Darebin City Brass VIC
U/19 Bb Cornet	Amity Cleal Gunnedah Shire Band
U/19 Euphonium	Sebastian Rowe Gunnedah Shire Band
U/19 Flugel Horn	Sara Todner Wollongong Brass & Wind Bands
U/19 High Tuba	Leo Huang St.George Brass Band Sydney
U/19 Low Tuba	Patrick Grant Willoughby Band
U/19 Tenor Horn	Elliot Bangert Sydney City Brass
U/19 Trumpet	Cindy Hu Castle Hill RSL YWO
U/19 Bass Trombone	Samuel Wong St George Brass Band
U/19 French Horn	Elinor Trevelyan-Jones Abbotsleigh School
U/19 Tenor Trombone	Tristan Pofandt Surfers Paradise Brass Band QLD
U/19 Clarinet	Justin Wang The King's School Symphonic Band
U/19 Double Reed	Gahyun Lee Meriden School
U/19 Flute/Piccolo	Elaine Xia Barker College
U/19 Saxophone	Hannah Millar The Shire Concert Band

## Percussion

Open Mallet Keyboard	Isabella Fang Meriden School
U/15 Drum Kit	Joshua Chee ARDEN Anglican School
U/15 Mallet Keyboard	Christian Martinez Barker College
U/15 Snare Drum	Elijah Perris The Golden Kangaroos
U/15 Tympani	Christian Martinez Barker College
U/19 Drum Kit	Yunosuke Mitsui Surfers Paradise Brass Band QLD
U/19 Mallet Keyboard	Isabella Fang Meriden School
U/19 Snare Drum	Jerry Zheng Castle Hill RSL YWO
U/19 Tympani	Jerry Zheng Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra - YWO

## Trophy Events

Hansen Trophy	Amy Fox Abbotsleigh School
Lisa Butcher	Hannah Gibbons Waratah Brass - Newcastle
Dora Simm Trophy	Tristan Pofandt Surfers Paradise Brass Band
Presidents Shield	Jeffrey Ma Willoughby City Band
Paul Cerezo	Sunstone Shi The King's School Symph. Band



## Canberra Brass Inc. Musical Director – Expressions of Interest

Canberra Brass Inc. is calling for expressions of interest from experienced Music Directors to provide musical direction to Canberra Brass Inc. and conduct the organisation's flagship band, Canberra Brass.

### **Canberra Brass Inc.**

In 1984, four musicians got together at the Hall Village primary school to play some brass music. From those humble beginnings came the Hall Village Brass Band and in 2012, the organisation changed its name to Canberra Brass Inc.

Canberra Brass Inc. now comprises two brass bands:

- Canberra Brass, a highly competitive national B grade level brass band, and
- Victoria Street Brass, which provides playing opportunities for musicians with a wide range of skills and experience

These ensembles play a wide range of music from many styles and eras. The band is an important part of the ACT cultural community and regularly performs for a wide variety of functions and occasions. The band is made up of amateur musicians from all walks of life, school and university students, professional musicians and school music teachers, all of whom are drawn to the band through their love of excellent brass music.

Further information about Canberra Brass Inc. can be found at [www.canberrabrass.org.au](http://www.canberrabrass.org.au).

### **Musical Director**

The person we are seeking will be able to work with a diverse range of musicians, have good communication skills, experience conducting a range of ensembles especially brass bands and demonstrated ability to develop and present quality musical programs.

### **Selection Process**

Applicants should lodge an expression of interest that includes:

- a summary of their musical conducting and performance experience, and
- an outline of how they would approach the role of Musical Director of Canberra Brass Inc.

Selected applicants will be invited to an interview with representatives of the band following which applicants may be invited to conduct a rehearsal of Canberra Brass. The final decision on the appointment of the new Musical Director will be made by the Canberra Brass Inc. Committee.

An honorarium will be offered to the successful applicant.

Expressions of interest should be emailed to the President, Canberra Brass:

[canberrabrass.president@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabrass.president@gmail.com).

**Applications close on 29 July 2020**

# The Brass Band Conference 2020

## Better banding for all

19 September 2020 /// [www.bbe.org.uk](http://www.bbe.org.uk)



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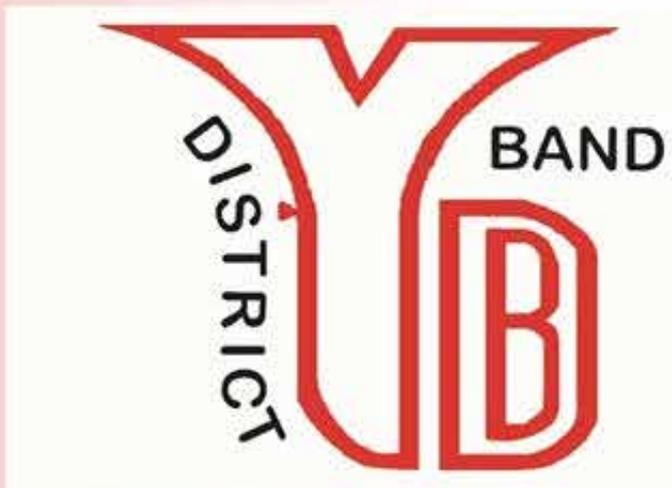


# YWO ARE RECRUITING

Are you aged between 11 and 19 & play a concert band instrument at a Grade 4 level or above?  
Come along and join a rehearsal with one of Sydney's leading youth wind ensembles.

CONTACT: [FIONA@YWO.COM.AU](mailto:FIONA@YWO.COM.AU) / 0407780836

 Find us on Facebook



# Yagoona District Band Inc.

## Currently Looking For: A Musical Director

Yagoona District Band is currently seeking an enthusiastic musical director to grow the band and continue to develop players musical capacity.

The band has successfully competed as South West Sydney Brass in State Championships over the last 5 years and is involved in a range of community playouts including fetes, Carols by Candlelight, Santa Arrivals and ANZAC Day. The small number of members are happy, committed and capable. We now seek someone with the passion, drive and ability to build the Band to full strength and take it to the next level.

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings between 7.30-9.30pm , Band Hall Reserve, Birrong

For further information contact Steve Cairns on: 0431 600 610

Please send your CV to [Yagoonadistrictband@gmail.com](mailto:Yagoonadistrictband@gmail.com)



# Dr Bob's Conducting Workshop

## Which tempo is the right tempo?

Welcome to my workshop here in The Music Stand.



Today we are going to discuss tempi. Music is subjective, its like food, 'one man's meat is another man's poison.' If music is subjective and not an exact science how can adjudicators place bands in order of merit? I suppose they look for the technical aspects of a performance; intonation, dynamics, balance etc. and consider the general musical shape of the interpretation.

Some might argue that the choice of tempo is part of the interpretation. Others believe that if a composer includes metronome marks on his/her music that those indications should be adhered to by the letter of the law.

In this week's class I'd like to consider 'what tempo is the right tempo?' When players are asked what is the primary role of a conductor? most would answer; 'to set the correct tempo.' Similarly a composer's main concern when entrusting a score to a conductor is that he/she grasps the right tempo. Most conductors when studying a new score try right from the start to feel the correct pulse of the music.

The problem is that tempo markings are sometimes vague, especially if they are worded in Italian or the vernacular. Metronome indications don't always work, as admitted by composers when their markings fall short of their expectations in live performance. However, generally speaking the choice of tempo is based on the composer's markings, but other factors determine the 'right tempo'. How playable the music is and how well the music unfolds, the 'right tempo' should make a band sound its best.

Before a conductor can truly judge all these elements and more, he/she needs to have spent hours, days and weeks living with the music.

I remember preparing Stephen Robert's arrangement of The Planets for the British Open a year or two ago. I went to the library to listen and

## *Which tempo is the right tempo? continued*

compare the tempi of some of the great conductors. I studied Holst conducting his own music as well as recordings by Boult, Haitink, Previn and Solti. The tempo variation in Jupiter was incredible from the slowest to the fastest the difference was 30 metronomes with Holst being second fastest!

I suppose one can expect wide variation when the tempo indications lack metronome marks. However, when performing the same exercise on Elgar's Enigma Variations (which includes metronome marks) for the Nationals in 2003. I was equally surprised to discover substantial variations in tempi between great conductors. Nimrod unveiled the biggest variation as can be seen from the table below.

Yehudi Menuhin	4'03"
Zubin Mehta	3'45"
Norman Del Mar	3'56"
Daniel Barenboim	3'20"
Leonard Bernstein	6'08"

Nimrod is marked crotchet equals 52 beats per second, the movement has 43 bars of 3/4 time. Mathematically the duration of the movement works out at 2'30". To arrive at a total duration of 4 minutes the average tempo would need to be crotchet equals 32 beats per minute. Leonard Bernstein performs Nimrod at an average of crotchet equals 21 beats per minute, less than half the speed the composer indicated. Incidentally Alan Withington's superb performance of Nimrod with the Fairey (FP) Music Band at the 2003 Nationals was 4'15", the slowest on the day?

Professor David King's performance of Michael Ball's All the Flowers of the Mountain last year at the Nationals was probably the slowest performance of the day and the composer and everyone else enjoyed every minute of it.

It would appear that the pulse a conductor sets is a uniquely personal thing. Some believe that the pulse a conductor sets is related to their heart beat. This idea might account for the increased tempi many players experience on a contest performance.

Many conductors take into account the acoustic of the hall they are preparing their performance for. It's certainly true that Birmingham Symphony Hall,

## *Which tempo is the right tempo? continued*

Blackpool's Ballroom, The Royal Albert Hall and Swansea's Brangwyn Hall pose quite different challenges for the listener which can be eased by the choice of appropriate tempi by the conductor.

I suppose the big issues are; If a composer marks his/her music with metronome marks should we strictly adhere to them? If there are no metronome marks and the composer merely states Allegro, Andante, Moderato etc. How does a conductor decide the pulse?

If a composer indicates a metronome mark follow by c. (meaning circa = approximately) how much leeway should performers have?

I don't know the answers to the questions I've posed. However I do know from my limited experience as a conductor of bands that knowing the music inside out and delivering a performance with conviction and spontaneity will throw up different tempi on different occasions, in different halls by the same performers.

Because tempi is so easy to judge against the metronome, many inexperienced adjudicators use it as their main assessment tool. I am scared to death when I hear of adjudicators turning to their metronomes to decide if the pace of the music is correct. I know some conductors who think metronomes should be banned from the adjudicators box!

The argument about the pros and cons of contests and their worth is a never ending debate. I think that the benefits yielded by bands in their contest battles far outweigh the disadvantages.

However, I do believe the contest environment stifles true expression with regard to tempi.

Having just received my score of Bramwell Tovey's wonderful *The Night To Sing* (2005 British Open test piece) this subject might become quite topical. The score indicates crotchet equals 42 beat per minute (very slow) and contrastingly crotchet equals 184 beats per minute (absolutely flying!!).

Copyright Dr Bob Childs 2018

# Getting to know our members!

## Spotlight on THE WILKIE FAMILY



It doesn't feel like long ago that Thomas and his twin sisters, Erin and Amber had their first music lessons on trumpet, clarinet and saxophone. Now, five years later, the whole family is fully involved with the City of Wollongong Brass and Wind bands and what a fantastic time they've had.

It all started when Thomas had done about six months of lessons with Des Cannings, Musical Director of the City of Wollongong Junior Brass Band, who suggested he should come along to rehearsal. Thomas loved the band from the start, playing 3rd cornet and rising to the challenge.

It wasn't long before Des asked if Amber and Erin would like to try playing percussion for the band since they were sitting and waiting for their brother during rehearsals. It was a hesitant start with both girls, 8 years old at the time, hitting the timpani and bass drum so softly you could hardly hear it. Jenny and Alan (Mum and Dad) then became involved assisting the girls with their percussion parts to help them gain confidence. Alan was at an advantage having played piano previously but it was all new for Jenny who had spent her youth dancing to music rather than making it.

The kids soon started playing with the City of Wollongong Junior Wind Band too so the girls had an opportunity to

play their clarinet and sax as part of an ensemble. It all looked like such fun that Jenny and Alan were feeling a bit left out.

Alan was the first adult family member to join the band trying his hand at playing trombone. Sitting in with the Junior Wind and Brass bands and working out how to play. About six months after this the whole family became involved when Jenny was encouraged, mostly by Christine Wallbaum, to have a go at the baritone horn. By this stage she had sat in on a year of Thomas' trumpet lessons so decided to have a go herself.

As they progressed the family started playing with the City of Wollongong Senior Bands and the rest is history. Jenny thoroughly enjoyed playing and switched to Euphonium. With the encouragement of Jonathan Gatt, the Senior Brass Band Musical Director at the time, she found herself

seated in the Euphonium section and moving up the line.

There was a long period that the five family members played with all four bands – the City of Wollongong Junior Brass, Junior Wind, Senior Brass and Senior Wind. That has cut down slightly now with Jenny and Alan only playing with the Senior bands.

The family has played in every concert, ANZAC Day march and NSW State Band Championships in the time they have been involved and Jenny is now the Band Secretary and Alan is on the Committee.

Music brings the family together and they all love playing with the bands. They would like to thank all the current and previous City of Wollongong Band Musical Directors, Des Cannings, Leanne Walton, Jonathan Gatt and Kevin Skues who have been so supportive of their journey!



# Leeton Town Band

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## 2020 OUTBACK BAND SPECTACULAR in LEETON

### CANCELLED

Dear Past, Present and Future Participants,

Our committee sincerely apologises for this late notification, however, after much discussion and debate, the LTB committee has made the difficult decision to officially cancel the 2020 event. We currently face too much uncertainty due to COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, and believe it is the right decision to make during these challenging and unprecedented times.

In saying this, we will now be planning for a bigger and better Outback Band Spectacular for 2021. [We invite you to save the date for:](#)

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the bands who have supported our event over the years and look forward to hosting you in Leeton again in 2021.

Trust you have all been staying safe during these trouble times and continue to take care of yourselves, your band members, friends and family.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Kind Regards,

Ruth Tait

Secretary

Leeton Town Band



# 2020 NSW

## CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS & PARTY EVENTS

# ONLINE

7-8

NOV

LIVESTREAMED ON [BRASSBANNED.COM](http://BRASSBANNED.COM) / [YOUTUBE](https://www.youtube.com/)

