

# THE MUSIC STAND

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BAND ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC.  
SEPTEMBER 2020.



Vale  
David Neil  
Walker  
OAM





# From the President's Suitcase

As we head towards the end of a difficult year, we take time to think about the year ahead and the way back to a fully active movement.

Over the year, we have achieved and learnt so much. Bands have adapted to a new set of regulations which have impacted the way we interact with each other and our audiences, we have adapted to new technologies and reimagined our events to incorporate those technologies. We have re-imagined the rules for these new style of events at State level and then taken that as a basis for a re-imagined National Championships event, all with a focus on participation and providing purpose for or bands in a world where we cant play to a live audience.

The Management Committee haven't met in person since March, yet we have not missed a Management Committee meeting, have held a number of special meetings and even held our AGM, all via Zoom. We have relied on technology like never before, and, in some respects, the step out from our regular structures of operation have provided us with an opportunity and the freedom to trial things which we otherwise would never have been able to trial.

Although the State Band Championships were unable to proceed, Our State Band Festival - Online, is proceeding at a pace. We have 32 NSW Bands entered across the event and are welcoming 6 interstate Bands - 2 from Queensland and 4 from Tasmania. With 38 Bands it promises to be a fantastic event. We are hearing positive feedback regards the relaxation of the registration rules around the online event which will certainly give us good food for thought after.

We have received 26 entries in the State Party Championships events and a confirmation of participation from almost all of the Champion of Champions from the NSW State Solo and Party Championships. These events will be broadcast the Sunday before the Band Championships and promises to be a great day of the most wonderful music making.

Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, the situation with School Bands being shut down through Term 3 has meant only 1 School Band entry in the State Band Festival where we would usually have around 20 school bands in the State Band Championships.

The social distancing policies and advice around wind instruments and the difficult situation with some bands accessing their usual rehearsal venues has meant a number of our regular Brass and, particularly Wind bands have been unable to rehearse and participate, BUT, we are hearing of how almost all are managing to continue to rehearse in some form or another. It has impressed me at just how innovative, agile and resilient our Bands have proven to be.

We have had a few really big changes we can celebrate. After several months of work and advocacy, CreateNSW have allocated \$1.5m of the NSW State Government \$50 mil Arts Rescue and Restart Package specifically to Community Volunteer Performing Arts Organisa-

tions, in particular, Bands. This represents the largest single injection of funds by the NSW State Government to Community Music ever.

BANSW unfortunately was not able to be funded under this program, which speaks to the sound financial management of both the current management and is most certainly the previous Management Committees, however, this program has been made available to Community Bands to access.

Bands can access a one-off grant of \$5000 to assist them as we all build out of the past 7 months of shutdown. Information on how to apply have been provided to Band Secretaries and published on the BANSW Facebook Page. As funds are limited, I encourage ALL Bands to, if you have not already done so, send that email off to express your interest in making an application. We dont want any band to miss out on this great opportunity.

All Bands who received a 2020 Community Band Development Grant were advised in late August. Fortunately, Create have advised that the 2020 Grants can have the flexibility to be rolled into 2021 for Bands, provided they provide the BANSW Management Committee with details of this and an update of any changes to the originally applied for projects.

We are still working with Create on the 2021 Community Band Development Grants Program and also on the BANSW Program Funding through Create and I will of course keep you all updated as soon as we hear of any news.

I, representing the BANSW, have recently been involved in a new initiative called RIVMEO, a Roundtable of Instrumental, Vocal, and Music Education Organisations and Associations. This organisation, instigated by Matt Klohs, under the auspices of BANSW and ABODA, has brought together the Heads and representatives of 30 Community and Professional Associations from across NSW. The focus of the Roundtable has been advocate for clarity and sensible science based Rules and Guidelines from Health through this current period, and also to work to provide guidance and facilitate advice to Government as we work our way out from all of this.

There is great potential for this group and I look forward to working with our colleagues as we continue to meet and work through and out of the current situation and developing a role for this Roundtable to provide a conduit for support and promotion for the entire sector Post Covid.

All in all, it's been quite a busy few months, lots of change and lots of work and I invite you all to join me in watching the broadcast for the State Party Championships and CofC's events and the State Band Festival weekends, all proudly supported by Besson Buffet Group and broadcast on [www.brassbanned.com](http://www.brassbanned.com)

See you all soon, Stay safe and Stay sane,

Jeff Markham  
President  
BANSW



# Vale: David Neil Walker OAM

David Walker, Principal Euphonium of CNL Brass, died on 29 June 2020, aged 75 years.

David had been diagnosed with cancer in late December 2018. He had undergone chemotherapy treatment throughout 2019 and 2020, During that difficult time, such was his dedication to playing that his attendance at rehearsals and performances by CNL Brass was inspirational – he only missed a few rehearsals.

David's Funeral Service was held on Thursday 9 July. CNL Brass, together with several players from other Hunter Regional Bands, presented a thirty-minute tribute performance prior to the commencement of the Service. Some of the titles had been chosen by David. Highland Cathedral featured the sound of bagpipes, played by piper Paul Scott, a friend of David. The program concluded with one of David's favourite tunes, Time to Say Goodbye. A Guard of Honour was formed as the hearse left the Funeral Chapel.

David began his community band musical career by learning to play the cornet with Newcastle Transport Band and, over the years, he had been a member of West Wallsend Brass Band, Waratah Mayfield Brass Band, Kahibah Bowling Club Brass Band, of which he was Musical Director for about fourteen years and finally he registered with CNL Brass in 2005..He held the position of Principal Euphonium for the last twelve years. David was happy to assist any band that needed him, being versatile in playing cornet and baritone, as well as euphonium. David regularly featured as a soloist on euphonium at Concerts held by CNL Brass. When available, he supported schools and other organisations in playing the bugle calls at ANZAC Day Services. This certainly was the case at schools attended by his grandchildren. He was President of CNL Brass for two years in 2017 and 2018 but was unable to continue due to his health.

David had a "parallel life" as a musician in Australian Army Bands. He enlisted in the Citizen Military Forces (now the Army Reserve) at seventeen years of age, on 11 June 1962, in 2 Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment Band and spent a total of fifty years in Army Bands, retiring from Australian Army Band Newcastle with the rank of Warrant Officer Class Two on 22 June 2012 The rehearsal room of Australian Army Band Newcastle at Bullecourt Barracks, Adamstown, was re-named The David Walker Rehearsal Room just prior to his retirement.

While in the Army Reserve, he received five Awards. They were:

Reserve Force Medal with First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Clasps  
National Medal

Australian Defence Medal

Efficiency Medal

Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal



He was the Marshall for many years at the Hamilton RSL Sub Branch ANZAC Day Dawn Service and played the bugle calls. After this Service he joined CNL Brass to play at ANZAC Services supported by CNL Brass later in the morning, initially at Belmont RSL Sub Branch and in the last six years at Stockton RSL Sub Branch

2018 was a significant year of recognition for David. His long dedication and services to banding and the community saw him as the recipient of two Awards. He received the Band Association of New South Wales 60 Years Long Service Badge and, in a ceremony at Government House in Sydney, the Governor of New South Wales, General David Hurley presented David with the Order of Australia Medal. It was a very proud moment for David and his family.

David is survived by his wife Dorothy, his children Bronwyn, Stephen, Heather and Debbie and their children. Heather followed her father into banding and is currently the CNL Brass percussionist. The surname of Walker will live on in CNL Brass.

Allan Shaw  
President  
CNL Brass

# 2020 NSW STATE BAND FESTIVAL ONLINE

OF NSW INC

BANSW are so excited to welcome 37 bands from across Australia to our Online Festival.

All the things you need to know about our first ever online State Band Festival are here.

Each event in each grade will be considered as a "Stand Alone" event.

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

There will be no Aggregate Championships awarded and no Champion Band trophies

ALL video recordings, PDF of the scores as well as any declarations required are due from bands by Friday, 23rd October. The recordings will then be sent to the adjudicators for adjudication.

On 14th and 15th November – The weekend of the festival, the entire event will be Live-Streamed by Tim at Brassbanned.com. Results announcements for each event will be via both Brassbanned.com and BANSW Facebook and Website.

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.

Like it now so you can easily find: <https://www.youtube.com/c/bandassociation-ofnsw/>.

For all Band events, adjudications will be Open Adjudications.

All Band performances 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, but we hope that with the changes we have made, everyone can participate in this year's event and get back to doing what we all love, and that's making great music.

In recognition of the current fluid regulatory environments, we recognise that the ability for some bands to be able to come together in the one band room is affected. We know that a number of bands have been looking at more innovative ways of coming together to continue to rehearse. If your band has completed an innovative project such as an online performance, we would like to feature these throughout the State Band Festival.

If you wish to have your project video included, please send the link to [secretary@bandnsw.com](mailto:secretary@bandnsw.com)

# Introducing our Brass Adjudicator

## James Brice

B.Ed (Music), L. Mus A, A. Mus A:

With 30 years of professional conducting, teaching, performing, and extensive adjudicating experience, James is employed at the Knox Grammar School as the Head of Performing Arts.

James commenced his journey on euphonium in Melbourne, through the Victorian Bands League (VBL) Brass Band scene throughout 1986-1995. Initially playing with the Brighton Municipal Brass Band, James went on to accept principal euphonium positions with the Melbourne Transit Brass Band and the Footscray Yarraville City Band. James also performed with Hawthorn Band and Box Hill City Band. James was appointed Musical Director of the Moorabbin City Band (1992-95).

James won the Victorian Junior Euphonium & Baritone State titles in 1988-89 and the Open Euphonium championship in 1993 in Launceston.

James majored in Music Education, Performance and Conducting, and studied under Lt. Col Barry Bignell. He was successful in receiving his A.Mus A with distinction in 1993, his Licentiate Diploma in 1994. and his A.Mus A on Tuba in 1998.

In 1995, James acquired his appointment in the RAAF Air Command Band- Sydney as the Principal Euphonium/ Trombone and Tubist.

James was appointed Musical Director of the Castle Hill RSL North West Wind Ensemble and Youth Wind Orchestra, in 2005. He has since led these ensembles, together with his Knox Grammar School Ensembles to 59 NSW State and Australian National Championship title performances, together with 44 Award placements in the annual Sydney Eisteddfod.

James has recorded, performed on, conducted and produced several CD & DVD recordings, including 'Symphonic Variants for Euphonium' in 1995,



three 'ABC Live' recordings, music recitals for 2MBS FM, recordings for Manhattan Beach Music and Reed Music and fourteen recordings featuring the Knox Grammar School ensembles. The 2008 release of 'Wild Nights' featuring the North West Wind Ensemble (NWE), , together with 'No Strings Attached!' in July 2018.

James served on the ABODA-NSW Committee (2014-2017), as Chair the Professional Development Sub-committee. He has written articles on Adjudication, Recruitment and Retention, Australian Repertoire, and has prepared and presented 'The Good Music Guide – Composers in the Spotlight – Parts 1 & 2', providing an invaluable interactive Professional Development online resource for Wind Band conductors.

James was also appointed Musical Director of the NSW State Youth Concert Band in 2012 and has been a seasonal guest conductor with the Monash University Wind Symphony throughout 2012-2017. James is also a Brass Examiner for the Australian Music Examinations Board – AMEB NSW. In October 2019, James served as a guest international clinician working with Students, Band Directors and School Executive Staff in Shenzhen, Beijing, Wuhan & Zhengzhou.

James is delighted to appraise and adjudicate the Brass Bands performance recordings for 2020 NSW Band Association State Band Festival.

# SOUTHERN BRASS

An update from Southern Brass

As every band is feeling currently, Southern Brass have had an interesting ride during 2020.

The band celebrated a hugely successful 2019 with a fantastic Carols by Candlelight at Gunnamatta Park in Cronulla drawing a huge audience of families of all ages. A well earned break was enjoyed by our players ready for contest and concert preparation come January.

The initial few weeks of 2020 began well, some great sounds were coming from our hall and new faces were joining the ranks weekly in search of good company and music (surely not just for the Tim Tams at break time) - and that illustrious contest trophy! Southern Brass have proudly been promoted to B Grade after 18 months of consistent hard work and many solid performances. This was to be the year of their debut (or return!) to B Grade. Music had been carefully selected after many, many, hours of sight reading rehearsals (thanks Andy) and we were starting to feel comfortable with our parts.

But then Covid arrived, and like every other band we were forced to suspend rehearsals indefinitely. Now, I mentioned that we have new members joining us for good company (and quick wit!) so we couldn't let that go to waste. Each Monday night at 8pm, instead of turning up to rehearsal, we would all Zoom from our lounge rooms or back shed and participate in a night of Trivia online. The winner of each week became the host and quizmaster the following week. There was no dress code, dressing gowns and smoking jackets were proudly displayed, pets participated, cups were filled with "tea" and we all discovered just how much we didn't know. Of particular delight to most hosts were the Australian history and tv questions which stumped our English born Conductor!

To prove just how diverse an ensemble we are, after 8 (ish) weeks of trivia there was no outright winner, somehow almost everyone managed to win a week each thanks to the huge variety of questions and topics.

Also during the break many of our members kept up their skills by entering the NSW State Solos online, and some also entered the Gunnedah online Eisteddfod. It was wonderful to see so many members participating.

We were all beyond excited and a little nervous when rehearsals became an option again in July. A Covid safe plan was developed with strict guidelines, distancing and temperature checks. Our hall was measured for space and we knew we could safely fit with equipment.

We were ready to go right? Well, almost. Our beloved hall of almost 50 years had suffered water damage to the ceiling and it was in need of repair before we were allowed back in. Thankfully we were able to secure an alternate rehearsal venue "just for a week or two" thanks to the Miranda Salvation Army. This week marked our ninth rehearsal there, we are really hoping our hall will be repaired and re-opened soon!

We are missing a few of our regular members who are unable to attend rehearsals due to work commitments or health restrictions, they will be welcomed back with open arms...very long arms.... On their return.

In the meantime the band is busy preparing for the NSW State Band Festival Online, and in the planning stages for the National Online Festival of Bands in 2021. As always, new members are more than welcome at rehearsals each Monday night 8pm - especially if you own a Tuba!. It may be pertinent to message through Facebook to check our current venue!

Our thoughts remain with all our fellow bandsmen and women who are not able to rehearse currently, music is what brings us together and it is devastating for many having this taken away from them. We look forward to socialising and playing with our fellow musicians again when the time is right.



Castle Hill Bands have worked hard to continue our rehearsals this year. After term 2 saw our technological skills challenged (and dramatically improved) through 10 weeks of Zoom rehearsals, term 3 brought a welcomed return to our humble school hall.

While we were overjoyed seeing our bandy friends again, social distancing and a Covid safe plan in place ensured our reunions were safe, short and understated.

Our Youth Wind Orchestra were thrilled to welcome a plethora of new players and we were so happy to be back to some kind of normality in our weekly rehearsal.

Unfortunately the next challenge was to lose the use of our school hall to rehearse. This came at a time when many of our players had their school rehearsals put on hold and the need to continue became even more important to our young members.

With a bit of research and without missing a beat we packed up our percussion and moved to the beautiful Galston Community Hall – bringing our now mobile store room with us each week.

With an updated Covid safe plan, a tub of hand sanitiser, wipes, gloves and a hall big enough for us to keep our distance, we are so fortunate to keep playing.



Whilst we are missing our performance opportunities, we are so appreciative to the Band Association of NSW for the hard work they are putting into the upcoming online State Band Championships.

We are loving having a musical goal and we are working really hard to play our very best with the exciting and challenging repertoire from James.

# 2020 NSW STATE BAND FESTIVAL PARTY EVENTS

Entries for the Duets, Trios, Quartets and Ensembles (5 to 15 players) are asked to submit their entry no later than Friday, 25th September and their recordings and a PDF of their music by Friday, 9th October.

Age groups are Under 15, Under 19 and Open. Age is as at the date of contest (November) not the date of when we would have originally held the Party events.

Music is all Own Choice.

For all Party events, only a winner in each event will be announced.

Following the announcement of the winner, all adjudication recordings will be emailed to bands along with appropriate certificates.

Trophies/plaques are available for delivery/collection, and all performances (school bands may be subject to additional permissions) will be retained for bands to see on the BANSW YouTube Channel.

Time Limits:

Under 15 Duets, Trios, Quartets and Ensembles – 10 minutes.

Under 19 and Open Duets, Trios, Quartets and Ensembles – 12 minutes.

Entry fees are as follows:

- Duets and Trios are \$15 per entry.
- Quartets and Ensembles are \$20 per entry.

You can now pay for your entry fees at time of registering for your event or elect for an invoice to be issued. Once you have registered there will be a message to open the Shop page to allow for events to be paid.

General Conditions of Entry and Participation

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

All party entrants must perform their videos in full uniform, and all videos must be taken in one take with no editing.

With each video submitted, there will be a declaration required to confirm that all those appearing in the video are members of the band as registered with BANSW (or other State Association

Permits are not permitted in any of the Party events

Our YouTube page is at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/bandassociationofnsw/>.



# Australian National Online Festival of Bands

2 -5 April 2021

In light of the ongoing Covid19 pandemic, the National Band Council of Australia (NBCA) in conjunction with the Band Association of NSW (BANSW) is running the inaugural Australian National Online Festival of Bands (ANOFOB) instead of the Australian National Band Championships which would have been held in Newcastle, NSW over Easter 2021.

The NBCA encourages eligible bands to participate in this inaugural event under the conditions provided below.

The 2021 National Band Championships have been cancelled in light of the following considerations arising from the ongoing Covid19 pandemic:

- The 2020 Nationals had to be cancelled some four weeks before they were due to start because of the Covid19 pandemic. This late cancellation caused parties involved in the event to incur considerable financial losses.
- The current state of play across the country and fluid regulatory environments including border closures may continue for some time.
- The social distancing, cleaning and hygiene requirements and uncertainty about the limits on the numbers of people able to attend an in-venue event are not known at this stage.
- The preparations of bands planning to compete in the 2021 Nationals will be disrupted to varying degrees with bands from Victoria unlikely to be in a position to rehearse at all before the end of 2020.

These difficulties combined with the varying access to recording capabilities for bands across the country make it impossible to run a National Band Championships including the Solo and Party Championships in any other format for 2021.

# Australian National Online Festival of Bands

2 -5 April 2021

However, the NBCA and all State Associations recognise many bands across Australia and internationally would value the opportunity to participate in an alternative national band event over Easter 2021. The ANOFOB has therefore been developed to provide an alternative event to fill Easter with good band music. The 2021 ANOFOB will be run as a joint venture between the NBCA and the BANSW. Other arrangements for an alternative event for the Solo and Party Championships are currently being explored.

This festival will provide an opportunity for bands to submit for adjudication video recordings of them playing a sacred item, single own choice major work, on stage march or own choice concert item (or any combination of these four items). These performances will be replayed over the Easter weekend.

The festival is all about participation, providing bands with purpose for rehearsals through these times as we attempt to return to our usual high standards, making great music together rather than fierce competition for trophies and titles.

To provide all bands with the flexibility to maximise their opportunity for participation, the festival will operate under streamlined rules within a format that loosely mirrors the formal structure of the National Band Championships.

We look forward to seeing all bands participate in whatever capacity and events they are able to as we work our way through these difficult times.

Barrie Gott  
President, NBCA

Jeff Markham  
President, BANSW



# St. George Brass Band

## Leo Huang

(who won Under 15 and Under 19 High Tuba at NSW State Championships in both 2019 and 2020, aged 12), entered a competition in China and won Under 16 Tuba against 26 other competitors. He received 2000 Yuan (= about \$400) and a trophy. The adjudicators were orchestral tuba players from across China.



## Alex Putra

responded to Mark Walton's call for juniors to devise a campaign to get young people to play musical instruments. He made a comedy video and won his choice of (wood-wind) instruments. Now he is learning clarinet (he already plays cornet, euphonium, trombone, saxophone, piano and drums).



Both Alex and Leo were members of our Under 15 Quintet that entered the Musica Viva junior chamber music competition Strike a Chord. Playing my arrangement of Lully's incidental music to the Moliere play Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, they were awarded the Brass prize for NSW. The other members were Zachary Sharples (cornet), Harry Kane (cornet) and Holly Williams (baritone).



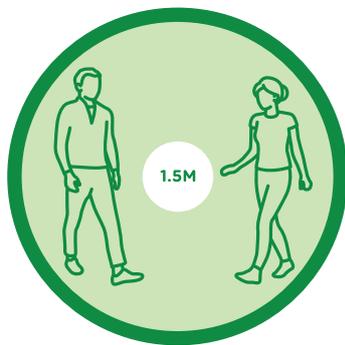
*We are pleased to advise that from our BANSW AGM 2020 our entire 2019-20 management committee has been re-elected for the 2020-21.*

*A big thank-you to Jeffrey Markham, Kristen Moodie, Fiona Day, Eddie Claxton, Jonathan Karanikas, Katrina King, Matt Klohs, Gemma Rolph, Bev Newitt and Toni Turner for their ongoing leadership of the Band Association of NSW. It is great to know we have so many committed and dedicated individuals who will freely volunteer their time to benefit all of our NSW banding community.*



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