



ABC CD Completed

The band has finally completed recording its first CD on the ABC Classic FM label. The CD has been recorded in the ABC's studio in Adelaide Terrace & also at the Perth Concert Hall. It features a number of soloists including WASO principle trumpet Sean Priest, Peter Youngusband (Bass Trombone), Joe Cook (Euphonium) & Ed Martin (Trumpet). The CD will also feature a new march which was commissioned by the band to mark Ed's 20th year with the band. Named 'The Exile' this composition, by well-known Scottish composer/arranger Alan Fernie, includes a number of Scottish & Australian influences. Work on the inlay for the CD is still to be completed & the CD is expected to be released in the latter part of the year – just in time for that ideal Christmas present!

Recent Events

Midland Brick Brass has returned from a successful trip to Singapore, the seven-day visit saw the band play at some very exclusive venues. Our first concert was held at the Tanglin Club, formerly an all-British Club founded 135 years ago by a group of traders. These days the club membership is mainly made up of locals. The following evening we performed at the Mount Vernon Barracks before an audience of the Gurkha contingent, whose role in Singapore is to provide security for key installations & to supplement the civil defence forces. After the concert the band was treated to a wonderful curry supper before returning to the hotel in a police riot squad bus complete with grilled windows – this certainly turned a few heads outside the hotel. On Thursday evening we entertained at the Singapore Swimming Club which was a fabulous venue with 2 Olympic size pools, gym, sauna, spa, badminton, squash, tennis, 10 pin bowling, 3 restaurants, ballroom & 3 bars. The band was able to enjoy the facilities before & after our concert & were made very welcome by our hosts.

The following day we performed at the Royal Singapore Yacht Club, another outstanding facility. On Saturday evening the band played to a packed audience at St George's Church (formerly the Old Military Garrison church) as a fund raiser for the Missions to Seamen & afterwards enjoyed a fish & chip supper. Our final concert was for patrons of the British Club where we gave a lunchtime performance before a small but appreciative audience. Joining the band on tour was guest soloist Melvyn Bathgate (Principle Horn with Grimethorpe Colliery Band). Melvyn, an extremely accomplished Tenor Horn player was well received by audiences at each venue & blended very well with the band both on stage & off. The tour was structured to allow the travel party plenty of free time to enjoy all the sights & experiences Singapore had to offer & all who took part had an enjoyable time.

State Championships

The State Championships were held at Prendeville College, Ocean Reef on 28 May & once again Midland Brick Brass maintained its record scoring 94% for the hymn tune 'Crimond', 94% for the set test piece 'Sounds', 96% for the march 'Ravenswood' & 96% for own choice pieces 'Festive Overture' & 'Pines of Rome'. Congratulations are also due to Principle Euphonium John Kent who was awarded the Norm Snow trophy for best instrumentalist.

MBB Moves Home

For the last six years the band has called the Italian Club in Fitzgerald St, North Perth home but due to problems with the availability of the rehearsal room on our regular Thursday night we have decided to find an alternative venue. We are very fortunate to have found another home at the Lake Monger Recreation Centre in Gregory St & have moved all of our equipment & our vast library to the new site. Thanks to the members & Committee of the Lake Monger Club for allowing us to use their facility & for providing the necessary storage area. We hope the arrangement will be beneficial to both parties.

Alan Takes the Reins

Assistant Musical Director Alan Lourens has taken over the reins of the band as Ed Martin is given a well-deserved 6-month break. You can see Alan & the band in action at any of our forthcoming engagements.

Forthcoming Events

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| 17 September - | SoccerWest Grand Final, Boral Cup |
| 6 October - | SoccerWest, Top 5 Finals |
| 14 October - | Spring in the Valley, West Swan |
| 22 October - | Bandfest 2000. Pioneer Park, Gosnells (Various WA Bands from 1PM) |
| 9 December - | Channel 7 Christmas Pageant – Perth City |
| 23 December - | Band Christmas wind-up |

If you have a friend who would like to be added to the mailing list or like to receive information about the band call the Secretary, Kathy Salter on 9344 4285