

State Band Championships

The band again took part in the State Band Championships. This years event was held on 29TH and 30TH May at Churchlands Senior High School. The Adjudicator for the competition was Major Eric Andersen formerly of the Australian Army Band, Perth. The band played for it's performance the Hymn – The Day thou Gavest, Set Test Piece – Pageantry by Herbert Howells,



March – Castell Coch by TJ Powell & for our Own Choice Test Piece – A London Overture by Phillip Sparke. Thanks to Paul Graver (a former player with the band during the 80's) for filling in on Tenor Horn. The band played very well & once again took out the top prize remaining State Champions. Other successes in the band were the ensemble featuring Paul De Cinque, Sarah Ross, Martin Bowker & Alex Meredith & Paul De Cinque took out the Champion of Champions Solo competition.

New Conductor

Following a period of six months under the baton of Bill McAllister, Paul De Cinque has stepped up to take over the helm. Bill led the band through a number of enjoyable concerts during his period in charge & we extend our gratitude for the work he put in. Paul stepped in to conduct the band at the State Championships & will be conducting the band for the near future. Paul has been with the band for eighteen months & has until recently been playing Flugel Horn. Paul also conducts the City of Victoria Park Band & is student conductor of the West Australian Youth Orchestra & is currently completing a Bachelor of Music Education at the University of WA.

Shenton College Concert

The band has been invited to take part in a concert organised to raise funds for the chaplaincy at Shenton College. The Concert will take place at Christ Church Grammer School Chapel, Queenslea Drive, Claremont on Friday August 13 starting at 7.30 pm & will feature the Christ Church Grammer Senior School Choir with organist John Bates, the Savoy Singers (from the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA & the band. A flyer is attached for further information.

Forthcoming Events

Fri 13 th August	Shenton College Concert	7.30pm Queenslea Dr, Claremont
Sat 22 nd August	Riki McDonell & Canning City Band	2.00pm Churchlands Sen High School
September	Concert with PUCS	Time & Date TBA
Wed 8 th Dec	Carols at Carinya	7.00 pm Carinya Village, Menora
Sat 11 th Dec	Channel 7 Christmas Pageant	7.00 pm Perth City

Instrument Profiles

The Euphonium



The euphonium derives its name from the Greek meaning 'sweet voiced' or 'great voiced'. The instrument was developed during the 1820's from the Tenorbasshorn in Bb, finally taking its present form during the 1840's.

The euphonium is built in an upright shape & has a large conical bore which gives it a rich, deep tone. With a range of up to four octaves in experienced hands, the instrument plays a role similar to that of the Cello in the symphony orchestra. Considered the principal tenor voice of the band the Euphonium is the most mellow sounding instrument, though its sound is more powerful than that of the baritone it can, however, be overcome by the brighter sound of the trombones or cornets.

Today's Euphoniums are generally built with four piston type valves, the fourth valve can be located in line with the conventional three valves or positioned for use by the left hand. The fourth valve is employed in the lower register of the instrument to assist in tuning.

In the brass band there are normally two euphoniums, whose parts are often divided & are frequently used to play the counter melody, however the instrument is commonly used as a solo instrument.



The Euphonium has taken on many forms over the years. The double-belled Euphonium (pictured left with former Euphonium player & conductor Alan Lourens) was featured in a recording by the band of 'The Wee Cooper O'Fife' in 1999. This instrument has all the attributes of the normal Euphonium but in addition features another smaller bell which can be either fixed or directional, by depressing a fifth valve the sound is diverted from the main bell to the smaller. The idea of this was to replicate the sound of the trombone. Its origins are thought to have come from the small circus bands made popular in the USA during the 19th Century. Euphoniums are also found in marching bands, here the instrument while

maintaining its basic size & length of tubing is modified to take on the shape of a large cornet. (see picture right)



When used in brass bands the player utilises a degree of vibrato to enhance the rich tone, however when the instrument is used in an orchestral setting the vibrato is not generally employed & the instrument is played by the fourth trombone or tuba player.

The picture to the right shows a size comparison of the cornet against the Euphonium

Information sources include:

- 'The Brass Crest'
- "The Shepherds Crook"
- "Als Tenor Horn Page"

To receive information about the band call the Secretary, Tony Turner on 93881263 or e-mail on secretary@wabass.com or visit the band website on www.wabass.com

