



Newsletter - September 2004

Moonlight Melody Concert

The band joined forces with the Savoy Singers (from the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA) & the Christ Church Grammar Senior School Choir with organist John Bates to help raise funds for the chaplaincy at Shenton College. The Concert was held at Christ Church Grammar School Chapel on Friday August 13. The band was pleasantly surprised to see former MD Dr Alan Lourens on 2nd Euphonium who stepped in to cover for Ken Day whilst he recovers from recent surgery.



New look Logo

Following the decision by the Midland Brick company to continue their sponsorship of the band the last few months has seen the executive of the band involved in discussions with the company & its public relations company regarding various aspects of the band. The outcome of this will see the rebadging of the band with the logo shown at the top of the page. New stand banners emblazoned with the logo have been ordered & a new formal uniform is expected around December.

State CD's

Recordings of the bands successful performance in the recent State Championships are available on CD for only \$20. For details contact Tim Jewell on jewell1@arach.net.au

Convention Centre opening

The band performed at the opening of the Perth Convention Centre on August 28th. The performance took place on the Lotterywest Stage in Pavilion 3 during the opening expo 'WA on Show'. It was anticipated that 200,000 people attended over the course of the 5 days of the opening.

Forthcoming Events

9 th October	-	Oktoberfest – UWA Boat Shed, Matilda Bay	tba
8 th December	-	Carols – Carinya Village, Menora	7.00 pm
11 th December	-	Channel 7 Christmas Pageant, Perth	7.00 pm
12 th December	-	Carols – Len Shearer Reserve, Booragoon	tba
28 th February	-	Rotary Centennial Celebrations, Forest Place, Perth	tba
20 th March	-	Hymns of Praise, Winthrop Baptist Auditorium	tba

Midland Brick Special Offer

Midland Brick is pleased to offer Midland Brick Brass Band members and direct subscribers to this newsletter the special price of \$9.50 sqm for 80mm interpave and pavestone pavers (NCP), in various colours ranging from beige through to charcoal.

Please contact Stuart Bore at our Cannington Branch on 9350 7914 for more information. To redeem this special offer, you will need to present your copy of the Midland Brick Brass Newsletter.

Instrument Profiles

The Tenor Trombone



The **Trombone** derives its name from the Italian 'Tromba' meaning trumpet & 'one' a suffix meaning large. It was originally created around the mid 15th century as a bass trumpet due to demand for a deeper member of the brass section.

In Britain, early trombones were known as 'sackbuts' which literally means 'push-pull' in the French language & similarly 'sacqueboute' meaning 'draw-tube' in Spanish. Although it was common throughout Europe during the 16th century, it was almost exclusively used in church music, particularly for doubling the choir voices with its soft mellow tone.

The modern Tenor Trombone is pitched in Bb & has a range similar to that of the Baritone. Its design is the simplest of all modern brass instruments consisting of two sections of cylindrical brass tubing that are fitted together. Starting from the mouthpiece the tube commonly has only two bends & flares towards the Bell generally beginning near the second bend covers approximately one third of the length of the tube. In total the length of tubing required to produce a trombone is about 3 ½ metres. The sound produced from this straight design is the brightest of all the brass band instruments.

The 'Slide' replaces the valves of other instruments thus allowing the player to vary the pitch. There are seven natural positions which correspond to the combinations possible on a three valve instrument. In the first position the slide is fully retracted & in seventh position the slide is fully extended. The slide also makes possible one of the trombones unique playing effects known as the 'glissando' where the slide is moved continuously from an extended position to a shorter position.

In brass bands the trombone is used to colour the sound of the band & is frequently used in the tenor line. It is also used in combination with the cornets because of its bright sounding qualities. It is commonly used as a solo instrument.

The trombone is also commonly found in orchestra's & military bands as well as in jazz, big band, salsa & ska bands. A three valved version without a slide is preferred in marching bands.

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



Information sources include:
'Wikipedia' the free encyclopedia.
'The Brass Crest'
'The Classical Collection Magazine, Orbis Publishing Co'

To receive information about the band call the Secretary, Tony Turner on 93881263 or e-mail on atur0636@bigpond.net.au or visit the band website on www.wabrass.com