



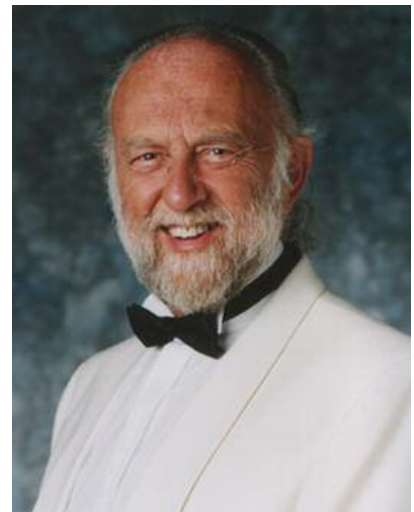
# Newsletter - March 2005

## New Players Welcomed

The Band welcomed a group of new players for the start of the new year. We have Claire McGowan on Eb Bass, Justin Freeman on Euphonium, Sara Manners returns after an eighteen month break on Horn, Amy Twining on Cornet, Alexia Reeves on Cornet, Anniken Skram Ødegård on Cornet & Ben Noonan returns to Perth in April after playing at the elite level in England on Cornet. The band is very pleased to welcome them to the ranks & hopes there stay will be long & enjoyable. See page 2 for profiles of the new arrivals.

## Banding legend pays a visit

The band was most fortunate to be visited by Richard Evans during February. Richard was on a short trip to Australia which commenced in Perth on the 14<sup>th</sup> February progressed via Brisbane & terminated in Sydney on 25<sup>th</sup> February. Whilst in Perth Richard conducted a workshop/rehearsal with Midland Brick Brass which was thoroughly enjoyed by the members. The City of Canning band were also fortunate to enjoy Richard's experience. Richard Evans is one of the most colourful and flamboyant characters on the British brass band scene today. He was the founder member of the National Youth Brass Band, becoming principal cornet under the direction of the late, great Harry Mortimer, OBE, CBE. He spent two years with the Black Dyke Mills Band & began full time teaching and worked as a freelance trumpet player with the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, the Manchester Mozart Orchestra, Syd Lawrence, and many other famous ensembles. During this period his conducting skills were being perfected in a vast theatre of experience, including brass bands, choral societies, and the directions of opera. 1976 saw him moving to the Fairey Engineering Band, continuing to gain a reputation for flair and innovative musical direction to the highest standard. At the beginning of 1978, Richard was recruited to rebuild the Leyland Vehicles Band with the specific remit of achieving the Championship status within three years. The band made history with their meteoric rise through the brass band super league and their name changes, Leyland DAF, BNFL, JJB Sports Leyland Band, and finally Leyland Band. Richard is currently resident conductor of the now world famous Grimethorpe Colliery (UK Coal) Band.



Richard's prowess as conductor, teacher, adjudicator and movement leader was rewarded in 1986 when he was the recipient of the J. Henry Iles Medal presented by the Worshipful Company of Musicians of the City of London. He has worked with Bands all over the world, Japan, USA, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium and Denmark. He proudly holds the post of Musical Director of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland.

After the rehearsal Richard talked with a number of the players & was delighted to 'catch up' with Sara Manners who is a former member of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain whom Richard conducted & with Anniken Skram Ødegård as he is a former conductor of the Norwegian band, Stavanger.

## Forthcoming Events

13 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Hymns of Praise, Winthrop Baptist Auditorium	2.00-4.30pm
26 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Volunteer Fire Brigade, Fremantle	8.00-10.00am
25 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Anzac Day Parade, St Georges Terrace Perth	9.00am
1 <sup>st</sup> May	-	Bright Futures Festival, Pioneer Park, Gosnells	tba
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	-	WABA State Band Championships, Churchlands	tba
3 <sup>rd</sup> July – 10 July	-	Singapore Tour	

## Player Profiles

### Ben Noonan

Ben gained his first introduction to brass bands in 1993, joining the Southern Districts Band on Repiano Cornet. He quickly moved onto the front row before becoming Principal Cornet in 1994. Ben's success as a soloist includes being four times WA Cornet Champion between 1997-2001, WA Champion of Champions in 2000 and 'A' Grade Champion on Flugel in 2002. In 2001 he represented Western Australia in the prestigious Ern Keller Memorial Contest in Sydney. In 2003 he moved to England to experience top level banding in the United Kingdom and joined the Reg Vardy (Ever Ready) Band on Solo Cornet.



### Anniken Skram Ødegård

Anniken hails from a small town on the North-West coast of Norway, called Åndalsnes. She started playing cornet when she was seven years old & joined the local school band when she was nine. When she was eleven years old she started playing in two amateur bands, Åndalsnes Musikkforening and Vestnes Musikklag. She played with VML for four years and with ÅMF for seven years. Then joined Tomra Brass Band for four years before she was accepted in the Stavanger Brass Band, the current Norwegian champions, where she stayed from August 2002 until December 2004 before leaving for Perth. Anniken will be in Perth for two years to complete a degree in Bachelor of Nursing at Edith Cowan University.

### Amy Twining

Amy started playing trumpet in year 6 at St Mary's school. She played in various music groups & bands throughout school & was principal of the Hale/St Marys band in 2002. She commenced a Music Education degree at UWA in 2003 & has been a member of the university wind orchestra, symphonic band & brass ensemble. This year sees her also joining the Philharmonic Orchestra. Amy won the brass section of the Joodalup Eisteddford in 2002.



### Claire McGowan

Claire commenced brass studies on the trumpet at the age of 9, moving to the Euphonium at age 11, and tuba at the age of 12. She attended Perth Modern Senior High School on a music scholarship from 1994-1997. Claire has completed a Bachelor of Music Performance degree at the UWA and a Certificate IV in Jazz Studies at Edith Cowan University. Claire has performed with the WA Symphony Orchestra's Education Chamber Orchestra, the WA Youth Orchestra, the WA Youth Jazz Orchestra, the WA Wind Orchestra, the National Children's Wind Orchestra, the UWA Orchestra and Brass Ensemble, the Con Big Band, the WAAPA Wind Ensemble, and many other state and national ensembles. Currently, Claire teaches lower brass students at Methodist Ladies' College, St Hilda's Anglican School for girls, Penrhos College, Christchurch Grammar School, Scotch College, and Aquinas College.

### Alexia Reeves

Alexia started playing trumpet at age 11 at the West Bussleton Primary School & thoroughly enjoyed the experience of playing in school bands & the Bussleton Brass Band with fellow MBB players Matt Walker, Dave Timlin & Jeremy Turner. After a brief stint with Victoria Park Band Alexia had not played for a couple of years due mainly to being busy studying for a law degree at UWA. She is enjoying the opportunity to play in bands again.



### Justin Freeman

Justin began playing Trumpet in year 5 of school & was offered a scholarship on Euphonium at Churchlands School from which he graduated last year. He has now commenced a music performance degree at UWA. Justin is a former winner of the 'Open' brass section at the Joondalup Eisteddford. He enjoys composing & performing his own music & is hoping to become a professional performer on completion of his studies. He also has to undergo a crash course in ready Treble Clef currently being a Bass Clef reader.