



Newsletter - June 2005

State Band Championships

The band has been making preparations to defend its title at the State Band Championships. This year's event is to be held on 4th, 5th & 6th June at Churchlands Senior High School. The Adjudicator for the competition will be Dr Kevin Cameron from South Australia. Concert bands will compete on Saturday 4th June, brass bands on Sunday 5th June and solo and ensemble performances on Monday 6th June (Foundation Day). The 'set test' piece chosen by the WA Band Association for 'A' Grade brass bands is

'Chivalry' by Martin Ellerby, which was used in the Australian National Band Championships of 2004. The band will also perform the march 'O.R.B.' by Charles Anderson, for its hymn tune 'I Know Thou Art Mine' by Leonard Ballantine and for its 'Own Choice' test piece has selected to perform 'Between the Moon and Mexico' by Phillip Sparke. In addition to a number of the band's members helping WABA ensure that the event runs smoothly many of them will be manning the kitchen in order to provide food & drinks to the droves of loyal supporters who will attend the weekend. Midland Brick Brass is using the opportunity to raise funds for the forthcoming visit to Singapore in July.



Cream of the Crop

The Woodside & ArtsWA scholarships are awarded to musicians from the senior WA Youth Orchestra. Applicants audition before a panel of professional musicians & perform a concerto of their own choice. In addition the applicants for the ArtsWA scholarship have to present a proposal of their intentions should they be awarded the scholarship. This year David Timlin (Tutti Cornet with MBB) took out the Woodside Concerto competition receiving \$1000 and an opportunity to play the concerto with WAYO at their end of year concert. The ArtsWA competition winner was Matt Walker (Principal Trombone with MBB) receiving the \$3000 scholarship. Matt intends to travel to Germany after the completion of the 2006 WAYO European tour and audition for entry to universities there. Also a new small bore Tenor or Alto trombone is on the wishlist.

Moonlight Melodies

The band will, again, be taking part in the Moonlight Melodies Concert to be held, this year, on 23rd June at the Hazel Day Drama Centre, Presbyterian Ladies' College, McNeil Street, Peppermint Grove. The Concert is held to raise funding for chaplains for Shenton College. The programme will also include the PLC Stage Band and the Savoy Singers of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society who will be performing Trial by Jury. The band will then perform for the second half of the evening. The evening's entertainment will be recorded. Subject to satisfactory lighting, DVDs of the first half will be available at \$25 and VHS video at \$35. Audio CD(s) of the whole performance will be available at \$25. See the attached flyer for details.

Forthcoming Events

5 th June	-	WABA State Band Championships, Churchlands	2.00pm
23 rd June	-	Hazel Day Drama Centre, PLC, Claremont	7.30pm
3 rd July – 10 July	-	Singapore Tour	
November	-	Age of Kings Concert, Perth Modern School	TBA
December	-	Channel 7 Christmas Pageant, Perth City	TBA

Player Profiles

Catherine Betts



Catherine has recently joined the band and is doing a great job on tuned percussion for us. She started playing percussion at the age of 10 & won a scholarship to Churchlands Senior High School in 2000. By 2004 she had become the principal percussionist in the symphonic wind ensemble & senior orchestra. She graduated among the top 5 instrumental students at Churchlands in 2004. Currently Catherine is in her first year at UWA studying a Bachelor of Music (Performance) She is also a member of the university percussion ensemble "Defying Gravity"

Instrument Profiles

Continuing our series featuring the instruments of the band we move to the biggest instruments.

The Bass (Tuba)



The Bass or Tuba is the largest of the brass instruments used in the band. There are usually four in number, two of the Eb variety and two of the even larger BBb variety. The instrument was developed in the early part of the 19th Century to fulfill the need for a bass instrument to complete the brass section. Two basic forms exist today The upright version is preferred by brass bands and orchestras whilst the other, more commonly known as the 'Sousaphone' was specifically developed for marching bands. The Eb Bass used in brass bands is pitched a fifth lower than the Trombone and Euphonium whilst the BBb Bass is pitched a fourth lower than the Eb Bass. In brass bands the basses read in Treble Clef. Whereas, in orchestras the Tuba player reads in Bass Clef usually on an instrument pitched in either F or C.

The mouthpiece is deep and cup shaped combined with this the wide conical shaped tubing or bore creates the bass' sound which is thick and mellow and is not as penetrating as that of other instruments of a higher register. It has a total range of four octaves.

Like the Euphonium the bass is equipped with a fourth valve in addition to the normal three valves to assist in tuning the notes of the instruments lower register.

The bass is utilised in the brass band to provide the foundation upon which the band builds its sound. In the orchestra it's normal role is to provide additional weight to the string bass section. The bass is sometimes utilised as a solo instrument and in skilled hands can be an extremely capable instrument, less nimble than smaller instruments but capable of a range of expression.

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



Information sources include:

'The Brass Crest'

"The Shepherds Crook"

'The Classical Collection Magazine, Orbis Publishing

The Shenton Christian Council Proudly Presents...

Moonlight Melodies



Starring

* The Savoy Singers
(Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA)

* Midland Brick Brass

* Presbyterian Ladies' College Stage Band

Thursday 23rd June, 2005 - 7.30pm

@ Hazel Day Drama Centre,
Presbyterian Ladies' College,
McNeil St, Peppermint Grove

(Parking available on school oval off McNeil St)

Tickets
\$16



Delicious
After-show
Supper
\$6

For further information, tickets and group bookings contact -
Val Croker - Ph. 9384 2475

Geraldine Jorgenson - Ph. 9386 8440

Tickets also available for sale from Zenith Music, Claremont

*pensioner discount - tickets \$12 ea.

Supporting the Chaplains at our local Government high school - Shenton College