



Newsletter - September 2005

WA State Band Championships Result

Midland Brick Brass once again took the State 'A' Grade Championship title. The event was held at Churchlands Senior High School on 4th, 5th & 6th June. The bands



performances of 'set test' piece 'Chivalry' by Martin Ellerby, the march 'O.R.B.' by Charles Anderson, hymn tune 'I Know Thou Art Mine' by Leonard Ballantine and 'Own Choice' test piece 'Between the Moon and Mexico' by Phillip Sparke were described by 4 Bars Rest correspondent, Chris Bowman "with a performance that – if it were the test at the Australian National Championships in Adelaide this year – would have placed the band easily within the top half of A Grade". The Norm Snow Trophy winner (for Best Brass Instrumentalist in all grades of the competition) was presented to MBB's Soprano player Tim Jewell. In addition Matt Walker (Solo Trombone) took out the Champion of Champions Solo contest & will represent WA in the Ern Keller Solo Competition held in Sydney in February 2006.

For a full contest retrospective visit the 4 Bars Rest Downunder site on the following link:
<http://www.4barsrest.com/articles/2005/art483a.asp>

Singapore Tour



The band has recently returned from its trip to Singapore. The concerts organised by Professor Alan Lourens of La Salle College of Performing Arts were quite varied in their format. We flew out early on Sunday 3rd July having been given the star treatment by the Perth Airport check-in staff with 3 dedicated desks to our group. Arriving at Changi Airport about 1.00 pm we then headed off for the hotel. The rest of the day was spent finding our way around the various food halls & watering holes.

Monday was a free day so shopping at Orchard Road was the order of the day. Late afternoon the band attended a rehearsal to prepare for the next days performance. The first concert on Tuesday was at La Salle College of Performing Arts before an audience of music students which was well received. The percussion section also did a percussion workshop/performance later in the afternoon. That night a group of about 20 took off on the MRT (underground) & then bussed to the Night Safari at Singapore Zoo. Wednesday was a free day & a day trip to Malacca (Malaysia) was organised. A very interesting trip actually, with our knowledgeable tour guide, Das. What we saw of Malaysia was very different to Singapore, there appears to be a huge amount of high quality development taking place there at the moment. We stopped off just outside Johor Bahru where we were given a display of Batik production & had the obligatory shop attached where we were entertained by a small local band of percussionists on angklung, marimba & xylophone – of course que the percussion section & they were in on the act next! Then off toward Malacca about 90kms from Kuala Lumpur. We stopped for lunch & had a Chinese banquet with the works. Then off for a foot tour around the temples & streets of the old part of the city where its Dutch influence was very noticeable. We were also entertained by Tony & Carol Turners 'Disco' trishaw ride. Thursday saw a lunchtime concert at the Ministry of Information, Culture & the Arts followed by an evening concert at





La Salle College, this time in a more relaxed atmosphere for the new international students welcome BBQ. Later that night a large contingent made its way to a karaoke bar & entertained the locals with our own brand of singing.

Friday saw the band on Sentosa Island, this was an evening concert but we were required to do a sound check in the afternoon which proved very trying as it was an extremely hot day & there was no shelter for the band as we were playing in front of a laser, fountain & fire show as the warm up act. The concert went very well & was well received by the huge audience. The band then stopped for the fountain show which was very impressive

before returning back to hotel. Up early the next day & off for a look around Chinatown & the markets before having a dip to freshen up for the Saturday afternoon concert back on Sentosa Island but at the beach this time for 'Music by the Bay'. The evening saw the whole group of 42 down at the Boat Quay for dinner then up at 5.00am for the flight back to Perth.

Forthcoming Events

10 th Sept	-	Spring in the Valley, Lilac Hill Park, Caversham	11.00am
24 th Sept-1 Oct	-	Perth Royal Show, Claremont Show Grounds	7.00pm nightly
2 nd Oct	-	Midland Brick Cup Final	TBA
11 th Nov	-	Perth Golry, Members Equity Stadium, East Perth	7.00pm
7 th December	-	Carinya Village, Carol Concert, Plantation St, Coolbinia	7.00pm
10 th December	-	Channel 7 Christmas Pageant, Perth City	7.00pm
11 th December	-	Carols by Candlelight, Len Shearer Reserve, Booragoon	6.00pm
17 th December	-	Carols by Candlelight, Members Equity Stadium, East Perth	6.00pm

MBB at the Royal Show

As you will note from the above forthcoming events Midland Brick Brass will be performing each night at this years Royal Show. The band will be appearing in or around the main arena at approximately 7.00 pm.

Tony hangs up his Trom

After a seven year stint with the band Tony Turner (Bass Trombone & past secretary) has decided to hang up his trombone. In addition to playing & acting as Secretary Tony has provided an invaluable service to the band by accumulating a considerable collection of audio recordings & photographic history of the band over the years. Tony's decision to leave the band was based on his sense that his musical skills were deteriorating to the extent that he could no longer keep up with the bands progression. The band extend there sincere thanks to Tony & hope that he & wife, Carol, will enjoy his retirement from banding.

YBS Band Visit to Perth



The sensational YBS Band under the leadership of Professor David King visited Perth between 10-12 August. Midland Brick Brass members & members of Perths banding fraternity enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with the "Kings of Brass" at some social functions over the course of their stay & were entertained with a fantastic evening of quality music when the YBS Band performed at the Burswood Theatre. The YBS tour of Australia included concerts in Adelaide, The Barrosa Valley, Latrobe Valley, Melbourne, Brisbane, Twin Towns, Newcastle & Sydney over a 14 Day period.

To receive further information about the band contact the Secretary, Midland Brick Brass, P.O. Box 2165, Dog Swamp, WA , 6060 or e-mail on secretary@wabgrass.com or visit the band website on www.wabgrass.com