



Newsletter - June 2006

Paul heads off to Europe

Paul De Cinque, Musical Director of Midland Brick Brass, announced to the band at rehearsal last month that he would be leaving Australia and heading off to the UK on a two year working holiday at the end of 2006. Paul has been the MD at MBB for three years. He was the band's Flugel Horn player prior to this. He has always said that he planned to travel once he had completed his degree in music education. Paul leaves Australia on December 27 and is going to be based in Manchester in the UK where he has some relatives. He plans to do some teaching in schools, playing in bands (already Wire Brass, a new band in Warrington, who have just been promoted to Championship section, have invited him along), some conducting and touring Europe (especially Italy!). In his second year he plans to do some more study, possibly at the Royal Northern College of Music. The band will certainly miss Paul. He is a talented, energetic, enthusiastic and entertaining MD, who has a real love for brass bands. He is a tremendous band tutor and wonderful musician. Paul hopes to return to Western Australia and play in Midland Brick on his return.



The committee have been actively searching for a replacement for Paul, since his announcement, advertising in both national and international band media. Watch this space for further developments.

WA State Championships

The band defended its title at the 2006 State Band Championships. This years event was held on Saturday 3rd June at Churchlands Senior High School. The Adjudicator for the competition was Barry Gott, a leading Salvation Army composer and Musical Director of the Brisbane City Temple Band. The 'set test' piece chosen by Barry for the WA Band Association for 'A' Grade brass bands was 'Harrisons Dream' by Peter Graham, which was certainly a test in every sense of the word. The band also performed the march 'Keighley Moor' by Tasmanian composer Joe Cook, which was featured by the 'YBS Band' when they toured Australia in August last year, for its hymn tune the band performed 'A Hymn for Diana' by Joseph Turrin and for it's 'Own Choice' test piece the band selected to perform 'Paganini Variations' by Phillip Wilby. The band also assisted WABA, as it did last year, by providing refreshments at the event. The day after the Solo competition was held and for the second year running Midland Bricks principal trombone player Matthew Walker took out the 'champion of champions' award and won the right to represent WA in the national Ern Kellar competition in Sydney next year.

Forthcoming Events

3 June	-	WA State Band Championships, Churchlands Senior High School	1.00pm
12 August	-	Combined Concert, Perth Undergraduate Choir, St Georges Cathedral	7.30pm
19 August	-	Trek the Trail, Mundaring Weir Hotel Amphitheatre, Mundaring	12.00pm
24 September	-	Spring in the Valley Media Launch, Houghtons Winery, Mid Swan	12.00pm
30 September	-	Oktoberfest, Austria Club of WA, Orange Grove	TBA

An Evening of Brass & Choir



Please join us as Midland Brick Brass joins eighty singers from The Perth Undergraduate Choral Society in presenting such works as the beautiful Schutz: Psalm 150, and Gustav Holst: A Moorside Suite (I - Scherzo, II - Nocturne, III - March) as well as such favourites as Parry: Jerusalem, Greensleeves and more. It will surely be a concert not to miss.

This memorable performance will take place at 7:30pm on August 12 at St. Georges Cathedral. For tickets please call Perth Undergraduate Choral Society on (08) 9389-6369 or email treasurer@pucs.org.au.

The band previously performed with members of PUCS during the Perth International Arts Festival of 2004 at Mandurah and Armadale.

The Perth Undergraduate Choral Society Inc is a choir based at the University of Western Australia, dedicated to encouraging the enjoyment and appreciation of choral singing for students of all WA Universities.

The choir numbers between fifty to one hundred singing members, depending upon the concert being performed and the time of year.

In order to expose choristers and audiences to a wide range of choral music, PUCS performs works of many different musical styles, including - traditional African, latin american, jazz, blues, negro spirituals, contemporary Australian works, English church and secular works, choral rock and contemporary pop.

MBB plan to attend Nationals in 2007

Despite the earlier news that the band would be losing the services of its Musical Director, Paul De Cinque, the full band has made an early decision to attend the National Championships in 2007. The competition, held over the Easter weekend, is to take place in Ivanhoe, Victoria. It has been ten years since the band last attended the national competition, that being held in Sydney where the band was placed second in the 'A' grade 'own choice' section under the baton of Ed Martin. A huge commitment is required by the band both financially & in terms of the time spent in rehearsal to take on such a venture.

Judith lends a helping hand



Tenor horn player and band secretary Judith Findlay has headed off to Indonesia with a number of Perth's medical fraternity to provide aid to the people of the earthquake ravaged area of Yogyakarta. Judith, a GP by profession, started getting motivated about disaster and emergency medicine after the first Bali bombings in 2002. She actually went to Bali, under her own steam, the week after the bombings to see what she could do to assist. Whilst there she visited various places and got involved replenishing the blood bank at Sanglah Hospital with blood bags – as you can imagine they used up three months supply in just the first few days.

This got her thinking – what would Perth do in a similar incident and what is the role of a GP? At that time, GPs were not even written into the disaster plan for WA. She

lobbied a few people including the Osborne Division – of which she is a member and slowly things have started changing. GPs now have a defined role and will be able to undergo training in this area.

This was partly why Judith joined the SES – to find out more about how major emergencies and disasters are handled in our state as well as outside WA. There IS a master plan which can be rolled into action.

Last year she undertook the 'Disaster Medicine' Course run by the Department of Health and in doing so got to know some people in the department. They soon discovered this was an area that Judith held an interest in and given she had some of the training required – she worked in the country for four years, had trained with the SES, had done the DOH course and she was a GP.

As the earthquake disaster unfolded in Indonesia, the need for large numbers of surgeons has reduced over time. They now need help from Public Health and Primary Health Care workers as well. They e-mailed Judith at the end of last week to ask if she could make herself available to go to Yogyakarta for two weeks, as part of a team of about seventeen, to relieve a team that was already there.

The team are taking their own tents but have it on good authority that they will not be camping unless they do overnight trips to outlying villages. Also they have packed all the medical and surgical equipment they think they might need. Judith imagines it may be a bit like MASH without the air-raids – however there may be just a bit of lava from the volcano, if they are really unlucky, but has packed a gas mask to absorb the sulphur dioxide just in case the volcano blows! They will have power even if they have to use their own generators so she'll try and keep us all posted of her progress, she has also packed her camera as well as her stethoscope so we look for to seeing some of the holiday snaps!

The team flew out of Perth on Sunday 9 June with Judith announcing that she would only be missing two band rehearsal! Good onya Judith, we wish you a safe return.

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 @wabass.com](mailto:secretary@wabass.com) or visit the band website on www.wabass.com