



Newsletter - January 2007

Midland Brick Brass announce new MD

After an extensive search Midland Brick Brass are pleased to announce the appointment of Gareth Jones as their new Musical Director. Following the announcement in June from current MD Paul De Cinque that he would be heading to UK and Europe in 2007 MBB undertook to find a suitable replacement.

Nineteen potential candidates were identified from responses to advertisements in local and national media and word of mouth recommendations received by the band.

Seven candidates were offered an opportunity to audition, following the final audition the band members were asked to indicate their preference. Mr Gareth Jones was the preferred choice, by a clear majority and will commence his tenure with the band in January 2007.



Gareth has spent a number of years teaching in Norway and whilst there conducted bands, choirs and orchestras all over Norway and parts of Europe. Also during his time in Norway he has adjudicated the Norwegian National Band Championships and in 1990 was invited to be the judge, together with William Relton, on the first television programme featuring brass bands in an entertainment competition. This was similar to the BBC's Best Of Brass. He was the musical director of the National Youth Brass Band of Norway from 1987-1990 and from 2001-2003 he also worked with the Field Band Foundation in Cape Town, South Africa for a few weeks each year. Gareth has been a resident of Perth since 2005 where he is a Junior School Music Specialist at Scotch College, Perth. The band are looking forward to working with Gareth and preparing the pieces for the National Championships in Melbourne at Easter & the State Championships in June.

Players on the move

Midland Brick Brass players Dave Timlin (Tutti Cornet) & Matthew Walker (Principal Trombone) are on the move. Both have completed Bachelor of Music Performance degrees at the University of Western Australia and performed regularly with WASO. They have now decided to further their studies applying to some of Europe's finest music establishments. Dave has applied to study in Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Munich, Berlin, Hamburg, Trossingen and Detmold in Germany, as well as Basel in Switzerland & will be leaving in March in order to attend a masterclass being run by one of his prospective tutors. Matthew has in addition applied to study in Stuttgart & the Hannover Hochschule. Their choice to study in Germany was influenced by the relative high musical standards & low tuition fees on offer there. It was also noted that the local beer was of a very high standard! A number of issues face the pair in the first months of their stay including finances, visas, accomodation, university auditions & of course the language barrier. To apply for student visas Dave & Matt have to give proof of at least \$1000 per month of intended study. To that end both have been applying for scholarships, entering competitions & of course saving every dollar they can. The band wish both Dave & Matt every success in their ventures & their talented musicianship will be very much missed.

Other moves have seen the return of Baritone player Michelle Ward back to the band after an eighteen month break after the birth of son Lachlan. Alex Meredith moves from Eb Tuba to BBb Tuba to fill a long term vacancy & Euphonium player Justin Freeman makes the move to fill the vacant seat on Eb Tuba. The band also welcomes back Jason Payne on Bass Trombone who has been absent due to study commitments. The band also farewelled Gudren Ingimundardottir who returned to Iceland after a few months of schooling in Perth.

Award Winners



The band held its annual dinner & awards evening on Saturday December 16 2006 at the Cheers Bar & Cafe in Victoria Park. As is the tradition presentations were made to the Band Person of the Year & an award for Musical Achievement throughout the year. The recipients this year were Alex Meredith (bandperson) & Martin Bowker musical achievement) Alex can be seen receiving the awards with MD Paul De Cinque & Persident Allan Conroy. This year saw the presentation of the perpetual trophies made available last year by former player Tony Turner. Also acknowledged at the event were long time President of the band Allan Conroy who has been a tireless worker for the band & Joe Spencer, a volunteer who mans the bar of the Wembley Recreation Centre each week in order to keep the bands whistles wet! Another feature of the evening was an appearance by Santa (alias Laurie Trengove) who made a series of not-so prestigious awards to members of the band for their faux pas during the year.

Jason & Neilina's new arrival

Jason & Neilina Payne celebrated the arrival of their daughter Ella Grace on 11 October at 6.10pm. Weighing in at just a tad over 3 kilos (or 6lb 8oz in the old money). Jason reports that both mum (a former percussionist with Canning City Band) & daughter are doing well & that thus far there have been very few sleepless nights.



Forthcoming Events

17 Feb	-	WABA Music Reading Day, TBA	TBA
March	-	Kalamunda Rotary Club, Stirk Park, Kalamunda	6-8.30 pm
4 -10 April	-	National Championships, Ivanhoe, Melbourne	
25 April	-	ANZAC Day Parade, Perth	9.00 am
2 June	-	WA State Band Championships, TBA	TBA

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