



NEW ZEALAND Mouthpiece

The Official Journal of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Volume 69 | Issue 6 | August 2023 ISSN 2744-6298 (Online)

New Zealand Mouthpiece is proudly sponsored by JP Musical Instruments | www.musicways.co.nz | 09 477 0384 | info@musicways.co.nz

High fives from Wellington Brass - A Grade champions



Hutt City Brass - B Grade champions



2023 Junior Champion of Champions, Matt Donaldson with adjudicators Vickie van Uden, Leigh Martin and Michale Dowrick: and placegetters Clara Dujakovic (2nd) Hamish Williams (3rd) and Walter Hughes (Highly Commended.)



Woolston Concert Brass - C Grade champions

Banding Together

Another National Contest is done and dusted. Bands and soloists played to large appreciative audiences, and we all enjoyed catching up with banding friends and colleagues.



Congratulations to Ben Rickerby, the Dunedin Contest Committee and everyone involved in making this contest a success. It was wonderful to be back in Dunedin having the opportunity to hold all events under one roof at the Dunedin Centre. Also, a big thank you to Helen Lee, Denis Spurdle, Tom Davoren, Mark Ford and all the adjudicators, supervisors, volunteers, scribes and comperes. Well done all.

Contests are a stressful time for our band members. For conductors and players, there is the anxiety and nerves leading up to the performance and the exhilaration during and after. It is especially challenging for our dedicated band managers. Organising accommodation, rehearsals and transportation to and from events and simply ensuring everyone arrives safe and sound with all their

instruments and uniforms is a challenging feat. I want to give my personal thanks to Peter O'Shaughnessy and other members of North Shore Brass for picking up the contest workload in Dunedin, and for putting up with my grumpy moods and my disappearing at the most inconvenient times. My apologies to my very supportive and understanding family for putting up with me being a pain to be with most of the time, especially during contest week. What makes banding so special is being able to share my passion with life-long friends and family, so it was a real highlight for me to not only perform as part of a team I respect immensely but also watch both my daughters and wife enjoy the same experience. Oh so proud of Emily, April and Rachel. I guess I should also apologise to everyone who had to sit and listen to my same speech multiple times – I promise to do better next year, Grace Seaton and Liam Dixon.

My congratulations to everyone who performed no matter what the event or result, and a special shout-out to our outstanding accompanists. It was wonderful to witness the flawless playing of our Open and Junior Champion of Champions Kay MacKenzie and Matt Donaldson and their total joy and surprise in taking away these prestigious titles.

Well done also to Rangiora RSA Club Band, Woolston Concert Brass and Hutt City Brass for winning each of your grades which I am sure is an appropriate reward for all the hard work you all put in.

Finally, we must acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of Wellington Brass. To not only win five National Contests in a row but also be the most successful New Zealand band for the last ten years is simply exceptional. Judging music can be so subjective, so it says a lot about the quality and consistency of the band to have multiple adjudicators over the last ten contests place the same band at the top of the pack year after year. So take a bow, David Bremner and the talented musicians in Wellington Brass – you lift the bar every year, setting a standard that others aspire to. Most importantly, thank you for showcasing the best New Zealand brass banding to the world.

Yours in banding.

John Sullivan – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

UK Bound

By Taylor Rice. Reprinted courtesy of Sunlive, Sun Media Ltd.

Hours of practice, years of study and one big goal is making Whakatāne musician Luke Spence's dream a reality.

The 27-year-old euphonium player has been accepted to study a master's of music performance of euphonium at the prestigious Royal Northern College of Music, based in Manchester.

Excited about the incredible opportunity, Luke says he is keen to learn from some of the top brass musicians of this generation, such as Steven Mead and David Thornton, who he says have performed extensively all over the world.

"This has always been my biggest musical dream; to be surrounded by the top players in the world. My goal is to get my name out there and try to get as many great musical opportunities as I can over in England.

"[England] is home to some of the top

concert halls in the world, so playing at those venues is something I'm really looking forward to."

Luke says he is from a family where playing music is the primary hobby. His father, Alan Spence, even taught him music at Trident High School in Whakatāne, and his mother and siblings all play music together.

"It's a bit of a family affair really; we've always had fun playing music and have even done weddings together playing as a family."

Since 2014, Luke has been based in Wellington and finished studying music at Victoria University in 2017. His plan initially was to work in New Zealand until 2020 and then head overseas to pursue his master's but was stopped due to Covid-19.

According to Luke's [Givealittle](#) page, the costs of study fees and living costs combined to complete his degree are "substantial" and are in excess of \$100,000.



Gig Guide

Saturday 12 August

Luke Spence fundraising concert, 6.00pm at St Peter's on Willis, Wellington.

Sunday 13 August

'Master Works' by the RNZ Air Force Band, 1.30pm at Te Whaea, National Dance & Drama Centre, 11 Hutchison Road, Newtown, Wellington.

Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 September

Central Districts Association band contest in Palmerston North.

Saturday 2 to Saturday 9 September

National Band of New Zealand - 2023 Australian Tour Dates

Saturday 2 September: Hawthorne Town Hall, Melbourne, Vic

Sunday 3 September: Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo, Vic

Tuesday 5 September: City Hall, Newcastle, NSW

Wednesday 6 September: Salvation Army Congress Hall, Sydney, NSW

Friday 8 September: Salvation Army City Temple, Brisbane, QLD

Saturday 9 September: The Events Centre, Caloundra, QLD

Sunday 17 September

Auckland Bands Association youth band contest at Westlake Girls' High School, North Shore, Auckland.

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September

Canterbury Provincial Brass Bands Association solo and band contest at Te Aratai College, Linwood, Christchurch.

Waikato Bay of Plenty Association solo and band contest hosted by Cambridge Brass at Cambridge High School.

Sunday 24 September

Auckland Bands Association open grade band contest at Birkenhead College, North Shore, Auckland.

Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 October

The National Secondary Schools' Brass

Band training course at St Peter's College, Cambridge.

Saturday 7 October

In concert, the National Secondary Schools' Band and Development Band at the Cambridge Town Hall.

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October

North Shore Brass celebrates 100 years. Email

secretary@northshorebrass.org.nz

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 November

Masterton District Brass Band 150th celebrations.

Email: MastertonBrass@gmail.com

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 November

BBANZ AGM and Conference at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington

To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at

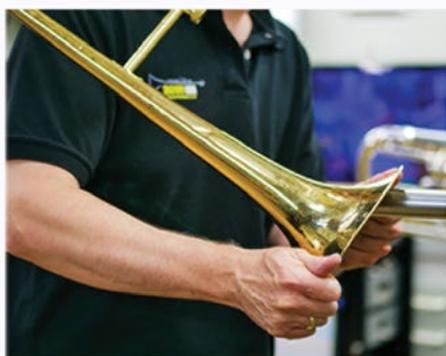
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Dunedin Festival of Brass

It may have been very cold in Dunedin, but the camaraderie was warm, and the competition red-hot at the 2023 National Championships. The revamped Dunedin Centre provided excellent venues for solo and band performances and a great meeting area in the foyer for socialising. There was a genuinely positive vibe around the venue as we gathered and celebrated brass banding.

The solo and ensemble events on the first two days of the competition showcased the calibre of talent in New Zealand. The mesmerising performances at the Invitation Slow Melody on the first night set an extremely high standard. Congratulations to Kevin Hickman, Wellington Brass, who won, having qualified earlier in the day for the event.

Congratulations to 15-year-old Matt Donaldson from North Shore Brass Academy on winning the Junior Champion of Champions. Congratulations also to Kay MacKenzie from NBS Nelson City Brass on her first win in the Open Champion of Champions.

Despite the cold on Friday, the Parade of Bands through the Octagon drew a large supportive crowd. Many bands showed innovation with their music choice and slick manoeuvres around the only change of direction. Congratulations to Woolston Brass on winning the overall marching title for the twelfth consecutive year.

The band events were as competitive and intense as ever. Wellington Brass, directed by David Bremner, wrote its name in our history books by winning its fifth championship title in a row and its ninth in ten years. In speaking about their riveting rendition of their Own Choice, *Audivi Media Nocte*, adjudicator Tom Davoren said it was "truly a landmark performance that I believe would stand itself in good stead in any contest that I've experienced anywhere else."

North Shore Brass (Harmen Vanhoorne) placed second in all events, and Woolston Brass (Tyme Marsters) was third.

In the B Grade, Tom Davoren was impressed by the playing standard of the grade and thoroughly enjoyed the performances of the Test, *Journey into Freedom*. Hutt City Brass, directed by Matt Stein, claimed the championship title with wins in the Sacred Item and Test. Last year's champions, Auckland City Brass under Mark Close, placed second with a win in the Own Choice. A third place in the Own Choice pulled Addington Brass (Adrian Dalton) into third in the aggregate.

Assistant Chief Adjudicator Mark Ford was equally impressed with the standard of the C Grade bands, even suggesting the winner should be heading to the B Grade. Having won the grade in 2021 and placed third last year, Woolston Concert Brass, under its new conductor Phil Johnston, won. Matamata Brass (Glenn Richards) was second, and newcomers to the grade, North Shore Brass Academy (Andrew Leech) third.

A special moment of the prizegiving was the presentation by President John Sullivan of a Life Membership award to Leigh Martin.

It was a one-two for Canterbury bands in the D Grade contest, with Rangiora RSA Club Band (Dwayne Bloomfield) first and New Brighton Silver Band, under new conductor Cameron Lee, second. Third place went to Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass in a fitting farewell to musical director Kath Herman, who has led the band for 18 years.

After a night of enjoying some southern hospitality, the contest concluded on Sunday morning with a workshop for composers led by Tom Davoren.

Helen Lee

BBANZ Contest Administrator and Executive Officer

Our grateful thanks go to:

Chief adjudicator Tom Davoren, assistant chief adjudicator Mark Ford and chief marching judge and venue manager Denis Spurdle.

The solo and ensemble judges: Colin Clark, Dale Vail, Dave Fiu, Errol Moore, Hannah Neman, Karen St Guillaume, Kyle Lawson, Leigh Martin, Dr Matthew van Emmerik, Michael Dowrick, Paul Black, Phil Johnston, Tyme Marsters, Sergio Marshall and Vickie van Uden.

Marching judges: David Leslie, Julie Garing, Allan McDonnell, Ben Robertson, Graham Hickman, Michael Dowrick, Shannelee Etches and Dave Fiu.

Supervisors, Comperes & Writers:

Stephen Leader, Murray Warrington, Marilyn Edgecombe, Laine Ratsep, Caroline Burt, Garth Coffey, Brian Nicholas, Wayne Jennens, Vaughan McEwen, Dave Merrall, Shannelee Etches, Shona Warrington, Lisa Crawley, Tim Kelly, David Bremner, Morraine Martin, Helen Lomas, Raynor Martin, Lisa Marshall and Graham Hickman.

Festival of Brass Organising Committee

Chair: Ben Rickerby. Secretary/Treasurer: Cathy Bennett

Committee: Kimberley Johnston, Peter McHenry, Anna Redmond, and Campbell Thompson.

Assisted by Zach Adamson - results reporter, and the many volunteers from Dunedin bands and further afield.

Thank you to our corporate sponsors and funding partners whose support ensured we provided the best contest experience for competitors and audiences alike:

Major Funding Partners: Regional Event Fund, Otago Community Trust and DCC Major Event Fund.

Aotearoa Foundation, ABI Music Ltd, Bendigo Trust, Besson, Brass Direct, Dame Adrienne Stewart, David Miller Associates, Four Winds Foundation, Kiwi Gaming Foundation, New Zealand Army Band, Pub Charity, Pelorus Trust, Royal New Zealand Air Force Band and Royal New Zealand Navy Band.



2023 Champion of Champions
Kay MacKenzie

2023 National Championships Results

Solo events

Under 15 Cornet

- 1 Celine Wu North Shore Brass Academy
- 2 Luca Cable Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Hugo Carter Buzzing Brass Wellington

Under 15 Other Instruments

- 1 Anessa Ginever Hamilton Auxiliary Brass
- 2 Spencer Keoghan Westport Municipal Band
- 3 Lachie McGregor Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass

Under 15 Percussion

- 1 Luke Cleugh Woolston Concert Brass

Junior Cornet

- 1 Jenny Howe North Shore Brass Academy
- 2 Hugo Carter Buzzing Brass Wellington
- 3 Harry Parker North Shore Brass

Champion instrument:

E♭ Cornet: Harry Parker North Shore Brass

B♭ Cornet: Jenny Howe North Shore Brass Academy

Junior Horn

- 1 Danielle Oram St Kilda Brass
- 2 Emily Sullivan North Shore Brass
- 3 Brianna Loan St Kilda Brass

Champion instrument:

Flugel Horn: Emily Sullivan, North Shore Brass

Tenor Horn: Danielle Oram, St Kilda Brass

Baritone: Toby Clark, Brass Whanganui

Junior Euphonium

- 1 Walter Hughes Hamilton City Brass
- 2 Anna Lee Hutt City Brass
- 3 Wesley Richards The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Junior Trombone

- 1 Matt Donaldson North Shore Brass Academy
- 2 Clara Dujakovic Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Isaac Oram St Kilda Brass

Champion instrument:

Tenor Trombone: Clara Dujakovic, Woolston Concert Brass

Bass Trombone: Matt Donaldson, North Shore Brass Academy

Junior Bass

- 1 Hamish Williams Wellington Brass
- 2 Liam Dixon Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Gabriel Kaiti Auckland City Brass

Champion instrument:

E♭ Bass: Hamish Williams, Wellington Brass

B♭♭ Bass: Liam Dixon, Woolston Concert Brass

Junior Percussion

- 1 Sho Woodhouse Canterbury Brass
- 2 Keina Rollinson Woolston Brass
- 3 Jacob Hickman Woolston Brass

Junior Slow Melody

- 1 Harry Parker North Shore Brass
- 2 Walter Hughes Hamilton City Brass
- 3= Jenny Howe North Shore Brass Academy
- 3= Emily Sullivan North Shore Brass

Highest placed Under 15 soloist: Luca Cable, Woolston Concert Brass

Junior Champion of Champions

- 1 Matt Donaldson North Shore Brass Academy
- 2 Clara Dujakovic Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Hamish Williams Wellington Brass

Highly Commended: Walter Hughes, Hamilton City Brass

Open Soprano

- 1 Raynor Martin Woolston Brass
- 2 Fendall Hill Brass Whanganui
- 3 Kerry Wood Marlborough District Brass

Championship Cornet

- 1 Andrew Large Waitakere Auckland Brass
- 2 Chris Lawrence North Shore Brass
- 3 John Lewis North Shore Brass

Amateur Cornet

- 1 Kay MacKenzie NBS Nelson City Brass
- 2 Jean-Luc Pitcaithly Woolston Brass
- 3 Liam Wright North Shore Brass

Open Flugel Horn

- 1 Tyme Marsters Woolston Brass
- 2 Brad Mancer Wellington Brass
- 3 Kevin Hickman Wellington Brass

Open Tenor Horn

- 1 Lachlan Spence Wellington Brass
- 2 Clynton Payne Wellington Brass
- 3= Hazel Wilson Woolston Brass
- 3= Murray Borthwick North Shore Brass

Open Baritone

- 1 Steven Booth Waitakere Auckland Brass
- 2 Georgia Hoy Woolston Brass

Open Euphonium

- 1 Byron Newton Upper Hutt Brass
- 2 Luke Spence Wellington Brass
- 3 Ross Gerritsen NBS Nelson City Brass

Open Tenor Trombone

- 1 Leo Read Wellington Brass
- 2 Dale Vail St Kilda Brass
- 3 Aishah Leitner North Shore Brass

Open Bass Trombone

- 1 Liam Bewley Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass
- 2 David Paligora North Shore Brass
- 3 Jonathan Greenwell Brass Whanganui

Open E♭ Bass

- 1 Jeshua Oram St Kilda Brass
- 2 Lyndon Large NBS Nelson City Brass
- 3 Byron Newton Upper Hutt Brass

Open B♭♭ Bass

- 1 Sam Pinder Woolston Brass
- 2 Chris Collings Wellington Brass
- 3 Lachlan Grant Auckland City Brass

Open Percussion

- 1 Sho Woodhouse Canterbury Brass

Masters

- 1 Mike Ford NBS Nelson City Brass
- 2 Clyde Dixon Marlborough District Brass
- 3 Kevin McMorran NBS Nelson City Brass

Masters Age Group winners:

55-64 years: Mike Ford, NBS Nelson City Brass

65-74 years: Trevor Kempton, St Kilda Brass

75-84 years: Peter Adams, Auckland City Brass

Open Slow Melody

- 1 Kevin Hickman Wellington Brass
- 2 Keenan Buchanan Brass Whanganui
- 3= Chris Lawrence North Shore Brass
- 3= Julie Woods Sydney City Brass, Aus

Invitation Slow Melody

- 1 Kevin Hickman Wellington Brass
- 2 Murray Borthwick North Shore Brass
- 3 Liam Wright North Shore Brass

Champion of Champions

- 1 Kay MacKenzie NBS Nelson City Brass
- 2 Mike Ford NBS Nelson City Brass
- 3 Tyme Marsters Woolston Brass

Highly commended: Andrew Large, Waitakere Auckland Brass

Ensemble Results

Junior Duet

- 1 Wellington Brass
- 2 Brass Whanganui
- 3 St Kilda Brass

Junior Ensemble A (3 to 5 players)

- 1 Brass Whanganui
- 2 The Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
- 3 St Kilda Brass

Junior Ensemble B (6 to 12 players)

- 1 Marlborough District Brass
- 2 North Shore Brass

Open Duet

- 1 NBS Nelson City Brass No 1
- 2 Wellington Brass No 3
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Brass

Section 2 winner: Te Awamutu Brass No 2

Open Ensemble A (3 to 5 players)

- 1 NBS Nelson City Brass
 - 2 St Kilda Brass No 1
 - 3 Marlborough District Brass
- Section 2 winner: Upper Hutt Brass No 2

Open Ensemble B (6 to 12 players)

- 1 Auckland City Brass
 - 2 Waitakere Auckland Brass
 - 3 Levin & Districts Brass No 1
- Section 2 winner: Levin & Districts Brass No 1

Open Trombone Ensemble

- 1 Addington Brass
- 2 Auckland City Brass
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band

Open Percussion Ensemble

- 1 Woolston Brass
- 2 Rolleston Brass

Band Stage Event**A Grade****Sacred Item**

- 1 Wellington Brass, *Be Thou My Vision*, (Trad. Arr. Wainwright)
- 2 North Shore Brass, *Crimond* (arr. Peter Graham)
- 3 Woolston Brass, *Amazing Grace* (arr. Cameron Pearce)

Test Selection, *Concerto No 1* (1999 edition) by Derek Bourgeois

- 1 Wellington Brass
- 2 North Shore Brass
- 3 Woolston Brass

Best soloist in the Test: Brad Mancer (flugel horn), Wellington Brass

Best section in the Test: Basses, North Shore Brass

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Wellington Brass, *Audivi Media Nocte* (Oliver Waespi)
- 2 North Shore Brass, *Concerto No10 for Brass Band, Percussion & Onde Martenot* (Ludovic Neurohr)
- 3 Woolston Brass, *Music of the Spheres* (Philip Sparke)

Best principal cornet: Jamie Lawson assisting St Kilda Brass

Championship

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Wellington Brass | Musical Director, David Bremner |
| 2 North Shore Brass | Musical Director, Harmen Vanhoorne |
| 3 Woolston Brass | Musical Director, Tyme Marsters |

B Grade**Sacred Item**

- 1 Hutt City Brass, *Be still and know* (Philip Raymnet)
- 2 Auckland City Brass, *Ubi Caritas Et Amor* (Chris Artley)
- 3 Marlborough District Brass, *Only in Sleep* (Ēriks Esenvalds arr. P. Littlemore)

Test Selection, *Journey into Freedom* by Eric Ball

- 1 Hutt City Brass
- 2 Marlborough District Brass
- 3 Auckland City Brass

Best soloist in the Test: Phil Johnston (bass) Marlborough District Brass

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Auckland City Brass, *Cloudcatcher Fells* (John McCabe)
- 2 Hutt City Brass, *Dances and Alleluias* (Philip Sparke)
- 3 Addington Brass, *Cap Hoorn* (Mario Burki)

Best principal cornet: Stephen Mosa'ati, Hutt City Brass

Championship

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Hutt City Brass | Musical Director, Matthew Stein |
| 2 Auckland City Brass | Musical Director, Mark Close |
| 3 Addington Brass | Musical Director, Adrian Dalton |

C Grade**Sacred Item**

- 1 North Shore Brass Academy, *Swedish Folk Song* (arr. P. Graham)
- 2 Woolston Concert Brass, *Mid all the Traffic* (Leonard Ballantyne)
- 3=Matamata Brass, *A Newborn Babe* (Bruce Broughton)
- 3=Rolleston Brass, *Deep Harmony* (Handel Parker arr. P. Maunder)

Test Selection, *A Little Light Music* by Philp Wilby

- 1 Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 North Shore Brass Academy
- 3 Matamata Brass

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Woolston Concert Brass, *Saint-Saens Variations* (Philip Sparke)
- 2 Matamata Brass, *A Portrait in Time* (Jacob Vilhelm Larsen)
- 3 Levin & Districts Brass, *Olympus* (Philip Harper)

Championship

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Woolston Concert Brass | Musical Director, Phillip Johnston |
| 2 Matamata Brass | Musical Director, Glenn Richards |
| 3 North Shore Brass Academy | Musical Director, Andrew Leech |

D Grade**Test Sacred Item**, *And my soul overflow!* By David Chaulk

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band
- 2 Buzzing Brass Wellington
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band

Own Choice Selection

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band, *Inspiration* (Jan de Haan)
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band, *Oregon* (Jacob de Haan)
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass, *New Beginnings* (Fredrick Schjelderup)

Stage March

- 1 New Brighton Silver Band, *Slaidburn* (William Rimmer)
- 2 Rangiora RSA Club Band, *Death or Glory* (Robert Browne Hall)
- 3 Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass, *Barnard Castle* (Goff Richards)

Championship

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band | Musical Director, Dwayne Bloomfield |
| 2 New Brighton Silver Band | Musical Director, Cameron Lee |
| 3 Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass | Musical Director, Kath Herman |

Street March**A Grade**

- 1 Woolston Brass, Drum Major Todd Turner
- 2 Brass Whanganui, Drum Major Jonathon Greenwell
- 3 Wellington Brass, Drum Major Matthew Stein

B Grade

- 1 Marlborough District Brass, Drum Major Denis Teeling
- 2 Addington Brass, Drum Major Dave Clearwater
- 3 Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass, Drum Major Hayley Baird

C Grade

- 1 Te Awamutu Brass, Drum Major Fraser Robertson
- 2 Rolleston Brass, Drum Major Brian Eckersley
- 3 Levin & Districts Brass, Drum Major Nigel Hewitt

D and Youth Grade Street March

- 1 Buzzing Brass Wellington, Drum Major Matthew Stein

Champion Drum Major: Todd Turner, Woolston Brass

Champion Drum Major of a B Grade Band: Denis Teeling, Marlborough District Brass and Dave Clearwater, Addington Brass

Champion Drum Major of a C Grade Band: Brian Eckersley, Rolleston Brass

Band gaining highest music points in the Street March: Brass Whanganui

Most entertaining band: Brass Whanganui, with a special mention to Marlborough District Brass and Addington Brass.

Special Awards

Administrator of the Year: Richie Richardson, nominated by Hutt City Brass

Pat Cole medal for youngest winner of an Open Solo: Sho Woodhouse, Canterbury Brass

Dunedin Ladies Brass Band trophy for the female soloist gaining the highest points:

Kay MacKenzie, NBS Nelson City Brass and Danielle Oram, St Kilda Brass

Quick Notes



Masterton District Brass Band is celebrating 150 years of continuous playing in the Wairarapa on 3-5 November 2023.

The celebration events start on Friday, 3 November, with a mix and mingle at the band room in Park Avenue. On Saturday morning, there will be a band practise for anyone wishing to be part of the massed band in the celebration concert. This will be followed by a Street March at lunchtime through the town and a celebration dinner in the evening. The final event is a concert on Sunday afternoon featuring the Masterton Brass Band, the Learner Band and the massed band.

We invite anyone who has had an association with the band to join in the celebrations over that weekend. In particular, we will send out the music for some of the massed pieces played at the Sunday Concert, so bring your instrument, or we may have a spare bass.

So, save the weekend and send us a note to make contact

Email: MastertonBrass@gmail.com

Facebook: masterton district brass band

Band Cell: 022 574 0742

Co-Presidents: Mike 027 443 9504 or Neil 027 611 5297



Dwayne Bloomfield, MD
of the Champion
D Grade band, Rangiora
RSA Club Band



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BESSON
LONDON

BARKERS'



Anzac Day - past and present

My first memories of Anzac Day were being taken by my mother to watch my father playing in the Dannevirke Band as they marched from the Town Hall, about one mile to the Domain (the town's park), where there was a cenotaph (memorial) where people and organisations laid wreaths. There would be a short ceremony, and my father would play the *Last Post* on his cornet, and we would all go home. This was the civic service where everyone could join in, but there was also a dawn service where only people who had served in the armed forces paid their respects to friends who died in the wars. My father went to these alone.

Later I joined the band and went off with my father. We played the national anthems and hymns in the Town Hall, then marched with the old soldiers to the Domain. This was a big affair with one pipe band in front, then veterans from the Boer War (1898 -1902) in jeeps behind them, and the soldiers from the First World War. The brass band with my father, my brother and I playing in it was followed by the men and women who fought in the Second World War, then there were a few who fought in the Korean War, followed by the high school cadets led by their pipe band, various youth groups and finally the town's second pipe band. Everyone would lay their wreaths at the cenotaph in the domain, and Dad would play the *Last Post*. On one occasion, when Anzac Day fell on the weekend, the high school held its own parade the following Monday. All the cadets, led by the school's pipe band, marched about two miles from the school to the Domain, where I had to play the *Last Post*.

When I was in Wellington and again in Hamilton, the bands I played with were not involved with the Dawn Service, nor did they march to the ceremony. But when I joined Cambridge Brass Band, we did the whole thing.

Our Anzac celebrations this year started with a concert the evening before. For weeks the band rehearsed along with Hamilton Auxiliary Band, giving a total band strength of 50 players and quite a squeeze on the small stage of Cambridge Town Hall. As the concert theme was honouring the Māori Battalion of the Second World War, we also had the kapa haka group from Cambridge High School perform. Despite the cold night, the Town Hall had standing room only, and not much of that.

The concert opened with the march *Army of the Nile*, which was particularly poignant as my father was a member of that army. In the second half, we also played *The Great Escape*, which also had meaning as my father had been captured by and escaped from the German paratroopers in the battle for Crete.



My Anzac Day begins when the alarm goes off at 4.30am. I get dressed into my band uniform with several extra white T-shirts on underneath, have a quick bite to eat and my cup of tea, then pack my tuba into the car and drive to Cambridge. As I drive, I can see the first frost of the year on our lawn. The car says it is one degree. I have to be there by about a quarter past five. It is still dark, and the roads around the Town Hall are blocked off. I attract the attention of a security guard and explain that I play the biggest instrument in the band and can't walk very far, so he opens the barrier and shows me where to park. Already about half the band are there helping put out the chairs. At 5.30am, we go out onto the steps of the Town Hall and sit quietly in our places. By now, the crowd slowly gathers in the darkness surrounding the square in front of the Town Hall. I could not see all the crowd, but I guess about 2000 were present. (The RSA organiser said they estimated between 2500 and 4000.) Not bad for a town of only 20,000. In the park across the road, there are a lot of whooshing noises as they fire up a huge red hot-air balloon which has an Anzac poppy on it. The flames inside the balloon make a huge red glow you can see through the trees.

At six o'clock, our conductor, Rob, plays a short bugle call on his cornet and the dawn ceremony starts. A Māori elder gives a blessing, the chaplain a prayer, the band plays the Australian and New Zealand national anthems and accompanies the crowd while they sing a couple of hymns. The chaplain leads more prayers, wreaths are laid, and then Rob plays the *Last Post* as the sun rises.

Everyone involved then heads downtown to a café contracted to serve breakfast. The band has to pack up our chairs, stands and put away our instruments, so of course, we are last to get to the café. Eventually, we get in and are handed a coffee mug with a shot of coffee and a shot of rum. A waitress brings breakfast (bacon and scrambled

eggs on toast, two sausages, and a piece of fishcake). Another cup of coffee or tea, and we are ready to go, except we do not need to get back to the Town Hall just yet, and no one is still trying to get in for breakfast. It is freezing cold outside and nice and warm inside, so we sit talking.

Back to the Town Hall for the civic service, where we are seated in front of the stage. We started by playing a march repeatedly until everyone had filed into the Town Hall and taken their seats. The ceremony was very similar to the Dawn Ceremony but with more hymns and musical items, including the band accompanying a bagpiper, as he played *Highland Cathedral* and *Amazing Grace*, and a singer.

The audience filed outside for the wreath-laying at the cenotaph while the band helped pack up and put away the chairs. All except Rob, who had to play the bugle calls (*Last Post* and *Reveille*).

Words by Chris Henty and photo from Richard Lummas





BESSON
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Next-Gen

In this issue, Lachlan Spence interviews the 2023 Junior Champion of Champions, 15-year-old Matt Donaldson, from North Shore.

What was your first musical experience?

I dabbled briefly with the violin and keyboard when I was three, but quickly upgraded to trombone when I went to ABI and asked for something purple (my favourite colour at the time). I was given a purple P-bone. Little did I know, this was the beginning of my passion. I joined Kumeu Evolution Brass at a young age, then moved to North Shore Youth Brass which I played for at my first nationals in Hamilton in 2019.

Does musical ability run through your family?

My Grandad Stan was a barbershop singer, piano accordion and bass guitar player. My mum Raewyn plays and teaches the flute. My dad James plays the cello, conducts, and has been head of music at many schools. My stepdad Mark plays the trombone and has conducted or played in countless bands and orchestras, his son Henry plays French horn and his son Arthur sings. My stepmum Beth plays the trumpet and percussion.

To date, what have been some of your musical highlights?

When I first touched the bass trombone, playing *Frosty the Snowman* with North Shore Brass Academy, winning the D Grade at my second nationals in 2022, playing in the Westlake High School production orchestra on tuba, and of course winning Junior Champion of Champions. Also, singing at the Big Sing Finale in 2022.

What have you gained from being in the Secondary Schools' Band?

I got to play lots of low notes in the Secondary Schools' Development Band last year and made some good mates.

What sort of things would you like to happen to support young players?

Sponsorships for young players to fund new instruments.

Who or what has been your greatest inspiration?

Mark Close, who put up with my lack of attention span when I first started learning and has continued to kindly lend me trombones, mouthpieces, mutes, etc. Also, Warwick Robinson, my high school band director, gave me the glory of "3rd trombone" in my first year and ignited my excitement for music.

What's the best thing about being in a brass band?

Playing loud.

Is there anyone you would like to thank for helping you with your achievements thus far?

My amazing mum, who spends most of her time driving me to band practises or dropping off music I forgot. Andrew Leech has always encouraged me and regularly has my back for last-minute instrument repairs. Jonathan Tan, my trombone teacher at school. All of my friends and role models for encouraging me and making music enjoyable.

What do you hope to achieve in the future?

Firstly to study in America, then to play in New York Philharmonic or Cory Band. I'd also like to do a conjoint degree in something academic... but music is far more important.

Quickfire questions

What type of music do you listen to most? 90s Rock.



Other interests? Brewing, baking, mountain biking, surfing and practising.

Favourite food? Anything but mushrooms and beetroot.

Favourite place? The beach or the band room.

Favourite film? Frozen.

Favourite instrument? Bass trombone.

Favourite piece of music? *Atchafalaya* by Snarky Puppy.

What do you dislike most? Playing softly.

For the more technical amongst us, what make of instrument do you play? An Edwards bass trombone and Yamaha tenor.

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Dinner Social Sunday 22nd October 2023
4:30pm
North Shore Brass Band Rooms
13 Taharoto Road, Takapuna



Find us on **Facebook** secretary@northshorebrass.org.nz
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Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Peter and Kylie Adams, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity), E Aldridge (in perpetuity), J Aldridge, Auckland Bands Association, D and M Dawson, Pete and Billie Harbidge, JB and NC Hollick, Carol and Trevor Kempton, I Levien, AG Lewis, John McGough, O Melhuish, D Miller, G and C Moseley, NBS Nelson City Brass, North Shore Brass, NZ Army Band, Otago Southland Brass Band Association, B and M Platt, Evan and Lorraine Sayer, M Smith, J and R Sullivan, The Estate of Joan Norma Morris. If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the Executive Officer.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Trevor Bremner MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Kevin Dell ONZM, Beverley Kench, Ian Levien QSM, Stephen Leader, Leigh Martin, Bill Platt, Evan Sayer, Dianne Smeehuyzen MNZM JP, Rodney Sutton MBE JP, Murray Warrington.

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WaiBOP Youth Day

Kerepehi Brass hosted the 2023 WaiBOP Youth Day at Hauraki Plains College in May. We were lucky to have Vickie van Uden as our guest conductor, kindly supported by BBANZ. There were 21 young players from across the region, coming from Cambridge Brass, Kerepehi Brass, Tauranga City Brass, Matamata Brass, Te Awamutu Brass, Hamilton City Brass and Hamilton Auxiliary Brass. It's great to see youth development going strong in many bands in the WaiBOP region. Working alongside Vickie was a team of tutors to lead us through section practises and several supporters who joined the band

to cover the gaps. Thanks to Clive Burnell, Ross McAdam, Memorie Brooky, Charlie Garcia-Gil, Sandra and Quentin Ginever, and Raewyn Leonhart.

Over the day, we worked through a short programme consisting of *Ghostbusters*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Happy*, the first movement of Eric Ball's *Indian Summer* and the march, *Rifle Volunteers*. The music was fun to play and challenging, and I'm proud of how much everyone improved over the day. The day finished with a concert for friends and family. Once again, another successful

youth day.

Thank you to Vickie for taking the time to be part of the day; we look forward to having you in the region again in October for the NSSBB training course. Thanks to Kerepehi Brass Band for providing food and a great venue at Hauraki Plains College. Final thanks to all those who came; we hope you enjoyed the day!

Simon Winship
Youth Representative
WaiBOP Brass Bands Association

Merv signs off after 82 years of playing

By David Haxton Reprinted courtesy of Kāpiti News

Merv Allison had a very important part to play during the VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) celebrations as World War II came to an end. In May 1945, the teenager was tasked to play the cornet as the Waihi Federal Silver Band marched down the main street playing *Victoria*.

"It was quite spontaneous. The band had to dig me out of school. I was the solo cornet player because so many others in the band were in the army. The streets were full, and everyone was really into it."

Not long afterwards, Allison and the band did the same again for VJ Day (Victory of Japan Day).

Despite being a long time ago, the memories are still vivid for Allison, who is now 90 years old and living in Raumati South, on the Kāpiti Coast.

Allison has played in brass bands, throughout the country, for an impressive 82 years. It all started at the age of six when his father Ralph taught him how to play the cornet. Two years later, he was playing in the Waihi Federal Silver Band and never looked back. He has played for the Auckland City Silver Band, New Zealand Artillery Band, Wellington Boys' Institute Senior Silver Band, Band of the 3rd Armoured Regiment (Derry's), Onslow Brass Band (Wellington Brass Band), Levin & Districts Brass Band, and the Kāpiti Brass Band.

Allison has also been a member of the National Band of New Zealand and a territorial member of the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band. Being chosen for the National Band in 1974 was a highlight.

"It was such a change for me and a real lift in everything because you're playing with the best players of the day, and you're playing together all the time no matter where you went."

An overseas trip to the United States and Canada is etched in his memory, especially a military tattoo in Toronto in front of "huge crowds."

"It was a very enjoyable three-month tour, and I was lucky my wife Barbara was able to fly over and join us for part of the trip."

And being involved with the Air Force Band was exciting.

"We would go on trips around New Zealand once a year and climb in and out of Hercules, which didn't help my hearing."

Performing in a brass band was always special.

"It's quite a thrill every time you play in front of an audience, and you've got all of your musical friends around you, making the right sounds. It's always a real joy to make music with others."

Allison said he had played "every instrument in the band over the years ranging from cornet down to tuba".

He has helped with the administration side of bands and has been a tutor to many.

Allison made the decision this month to stop playing in brass bands. He's had some hernia issues in the last few years, which have prevented him from playing larger brass band instruments because there would be too much pressure on his diaphragm. Allison



reverted to the cornet, the instrument he started playing as a child, as it didn't require much breathing.

Although he couldn't reach the full range, he could, at the age of 88, reach the third cornet range.

"It was the range I reached when I started playing in the band when I was 8, which made me laugh."

But he's had to rule out playing because of a lip problem which made it too painful.

"I told the band [Kāpiti Brass Band] I couldn't play anymore, but I can't resign because I'm a life member."

Not being able to play again was "a bit upsetting," but he's trying to stay positive.

"I've still got my ukulele."



NZSO groundbreaking Tour to Tonga

NZSO Musicians, The Royal Corps of Musicians and the Royal Tongan Police Band Concert, at Queen Salute College hall, Nuku'alofa.

For the first time in our 76-year history, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra (10 brass musicians, two percussionists, two Conducting Fellows, and four support staff) performed in the Kingdom of Tonga.

During our six days in Tonga, we performed combined concerts with The Royal Corps of Musicians, the Royal Tongan Police Band, and the Tupou College Brass Band. We visited nine schools, engaging with 1,420 Tongan students across the island.

The workshops, in particular, were inspiring and moving experiences for the NZSO musicians, performing and talking about their instruments and how they improve. The schools were incredibly engaging, responding to our workshops with songs, flowers and lots of food!

On our last day, NZSO players were again in the community with a 'pop up' performance at the famed Talamahu Market in Tonga's capital Nuku'alofa.

Everywhere we visited and played, we were made to feel welcome, and we were delighted by the quality engagement we had with Tongan musicians, schools and various communities.

An important aspect of the tour was our two Conducting Fellows that travelled with us. Anne Filimoehala and Sam Uatahausi were not only our compères for our workshops and concerts but also shared their experiences with the kids and talked about what music meant to them. It was moving to hear how important music is in their lives and how important this trip was for them, both being Tongan Kiwis.

One of the most notable issues in Tongan schools is the lack of instruments, so the NZSO is planning an instrument drive later this year. Any instruments that could be donated would be gratefully received. Watch this space for more news on this.

The tour was an amazing experience for

all involved and laid a solid foundation for future collaboration with our Pacific neighbours, along with what we're already doing with the Pasifika community in Aotearoa New Zealand.

As Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Carmel Sepuloni mentioned ahead of the tour - "This is a fantastic opportunity and a key milestone in the NZSO's transformation to a national orchestra representative of modern New Zealand. The NZSO recently developed their first-ever Pasifika strategy, and I'm very pleased with its progress in embedding Te Tiriti principles into its organisation. This tour is another step on their fantastic journey."

Article from NZSO Section Principal Trombone Dave Bremner and Pascale Parenteau, NZSO Senior Manager: Education & Community Engagement.



NZSO music workshop at Tailulu College, Nuku'alofa.

2023 NSSBB

The NSSBB management team would like to congratulate the 74 students selected in the two National Secondary Schools' Brass Bands. Musical directors Vickie van Uden and Reuben Brown had some tough decisions to make as they reviewed the audition videos. This year's bands are particularly strong, and we know all students will proudly represent their schools and brass bands. Thank you to all applicants for your time and effort preparing for your auditions. As previously advertised, this year's training course is taking place at St. Peter's School in Cambridge, with a public concert at the historic Cambridge Town Hall on 7 October. The management team is preparing the event itinerary in anticipation of this year's course.

Aside from our camp preparations, the management team also attended the National Brass Band contest in Dunedin. We want to congratulate all students who participated in solos, duets, small ensembles and band events. Seeing so many students in the Parade of Bands marching through the Octagon was also great. Vickie van Uden spent many hours behind the closed doors of the adjudicator's tent for the Junior Cornet and Junior Slow Melody solos. She was also in the team of adjudicators for the prestigious Junior Champion of Champions event won by NSSBB representative Matt Donaldson. Vickie said she is most impressed by the talent coming through with our junior players. As a management team, we want to encourage all students to maintain their

fitness as they build up to this year's course. I hope to inspire with this quote by Wynton Marsalis: "Invest in everything you do. There is fun in being serious." Work hard, students; see you in October.

Sandra Ginever – Band Manager



National Secondary Schools' Brass Band – Musical Director Vickie van Uden

Principal Cornet	Connor Franklin	Whangarei Boys High School	Whangarei District Brass
Soprano	Harry Parker Emma Shore	Kings College Oxford Area School	North Shore Brass Woolston Concert Brass
Front Row	Pire Poi Wilson Fletcher Gordon Mei Admiraal Sophie Ewens Serenity Hook	Matamata College New Plymouth Boys' High School Bayfield High School Newlands College Trinity Catholic College	Matamata Brass Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass St Kilda Brass Buzzing Brass Wellington St Kilda Brass
Repiano	Hugo Carter Anastasia Ika	Wellington College Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist	Buzzing Brass Wellington N/a
2nd Cornets	Oscar Stove Hoani Wilson Catherine Frew	Christ's College Matamata College New Plymouth Girls' High School	N/a Matamata Brass Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
3rd Cornets	Lizzie Barr Samara Beck Sophie Wood Claire Frew	Sacred Heart Girls' College Southland Girls' High Glenfield College New Plymouth Girls' High School	Hamilton Auxiliary Brass Ascot Park Hotel Brass Auckland City Youth Brass New Plymouth JAY Band
Flugel Horn (principal)	Emily Sullivan Mia Yee	Westlake Girls' High School Riccارتon High School	North Shore Brass Addington Brass
Solo Tenor Horn	Daniel Saunders	James Hargest College	Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass
1st Tenor Horn	Bridget Adams	Southland Girls' High School	Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass
2nd Tenor Horn	Jessica Playford	Nelson College for Girls	NSB Nelson City Brass
1st Baritone	Kate McGregor	Verdon College	Ascot Park Hotel Brass
2nd Baritone	Keleni Tupou	Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist	N/a
Euphonium (principal)	Walter Hughes Stella Hill	Fraser High School Hutt Valley High School	Hamilton City Brass Buzzing Brass Wellington
Trombone (principal)	Anessa Ginever	Morrinsville College	Hamilton Auxiliary Brass
Trombone (principal)	Logan Ready	Marlborough Boys' College	Marlborough District Brass
2nd Trombone	Shane Mannerings	Awatapu College	N/a
Bass Trombone	Matt Donaldson Benjamin Pickering	Westlake Boys High School Bayfield High School	North Shore Brass Academy N/a
Eb Bass (principal)	Hamish Williams Charlie Meek Grace Seaton	Wellington High School Auckland Grammar Rangiora High School	Wellington Brass North Shore Brass Woolston Concert Brass
BBb Bass	Liam Dixon	Cashmere High School	Woolston Concert Brass
Percussion (principal)	Keina Rollinson Jacob Hickman Aran Quaggin-Molloy	Rangi Ruru Girls' School Cashmere High School Scots College	Woolston Brass Woolston Brass Hutt City Brass

National Secondary Schools' Development Brass Band – Musical Director Reuben Brown

Principal Cornet	James Hendra	Westlake Boys High School	North Shore Brass Academy
Soprano	Aiden West Christopher Tsai	Tauhara College Rangitoto College, Auckland	Levin & Districts Brass North Shore Brass Academy
Front Row Cornets	Monika Duncan John Chesney Huey Duncan	Burnside High School James Hargest College Burnside High School	Addington Brass Ascot Park Hotel Brass Addington Brass
Repiano	Connor Rooke	Whanganui High School	Brass Whanganui
2nd Cornets	Amelie Keoghan Mitchell Cosford Noah Terry Valu Siuamisi	Buller High School Whanganui High School Hastings Christian School Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist	Westport Municipal Band Brass Whanganui N/a N/a
3rd Cornets	Melody Gordon Callum Shuker-Brown Isaac Lamb Aiden Jobe	New Plymouth Girls' High School Home school Francis Douglas Memorial College Hamilton Boys' High School	Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass North Shore Brass Academy Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass Matamata Brass
Flugel Horn	James Peng	New Plymouth Boys' High School	New Plymouth JAY Band
Tenor Horn (principal)	Liam Heaphy	Nelson College	NBS Nelson City Brass
2nd Horn	James Huni	Hamilton Boys' High School	Hamilton Auxiliary Brass
1st Baritone	Bryn Emmett-Pene	New Plymouth Boys' High School	Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
2nd Baritone	Toby Clark Tevita Voa	Whanganui High School St Peter's College	Brass Whanganui Palmerston North Brass
Euphonium (principal)	Vika Vea Inoke Unga Joseph Tongontonga	Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist	Papakura City Brass Papakura City Brass Papakura City Brass
Trombone (principal)	Bryn Morgan	Whanganui High School	Brass Whanganui
1st Trombone	Luke Eggers	New Plymouth Boys' High School	Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass
2nd Trombone	Arryn Duston	Buller High School	Westport Municipal Band
Bass Trombone	Vonya Cowie	Sacred Heart Girls' High School	Hamilton Auxiliary Brass
Eb Bass (principal)	Daniel Ross Mika Hayashi Tiare Valoa Aisa Ueda-Sarson	Burnside High School Wā ora Montessori Auckland Seventh-Day Adventist Cashmere High School	N/a Buzzing Brass Wellington N/a Addington Brass
Percussion (principal)	Maia Neighbours-Eckersley April Sullivan Callum Christie Caelan Nicol	Rolleston College Westlake Girls' High School Verdon College Buller High School	Rolleston Brass North Shore Brass Academy Ascot Park Hotel Auxiliary Brass Westport Municipal Band

Kete Puoro - New Zealand Repertoire

What music by New Zealand composers did you hear at the National Championships in Dunedin this year? It's hard to get to all the events if you are preparing to perform with your own band, but if you could get into the audience, you might have been pleased by the amount of local works you could hear.

It was great to see a couple of New Zealand tests set: the Open Tenor Horn solo by "New Zealand Australian" Fendall Hill and the D Grade reflective item by the late David Chaulk. It's great that the Association appears to be developing a convention of setting New Zealand works for the D Grade test each year, which is a great way to introduce bands (and audiences) to music in a less confrontational setting.

In the solo and party events, I enjoyed (from backstage) a work by Jack Bewley in the small ensemble event and a fine performance of Kenneth Young's *Reverie* in the Invitational Slow Melody. What did I miss? If you chose to play a New Zealand

solo or chamber work, please let me know.

No New Zealand works in any of the Own Choice band events, but there was a pleasing number of both arrangements and original works in reflective items in all grades. In the C Grade my band enjoyed rediscovering Thomas Rive's *Redeeming Love*; Rolleston played Peter Maunder's classic version of *Deep Harmony*, and Levin & District Brass showed the way with an arrangement of American Dan Forrest's *Come to Me* by Carina Holdaway.

In the B Grade, Auckland City Brass performed *Ubi Caritas Et Amor* written and arranged by Chris Artley, Tauranga City played Rive's wonderful arrangement of *Colne*, and in the A Grade, we had Dean Goffin's magnificent *The Light of the World*, as well as arrangements by Jack Bewley (from Duruflé's *Requiem*) and Cameron Pearce (*Amazing Grace* in an adaptation of the version he wrote for Dave

Dobbyn).

It's no secret that I think we should set more test music by New Zealand composers to make it easier for performers to establish the repertoire. I hope the risk is not real, but in Own Choice events, there's still a perception that a less conventional or less familiar work can be a disadvantage. However, own choice events can be an opportunity to take a risk and, more importantly, discover new works that suit your band. New Zealand composers write and arrange for the sound of New Zealand bands. If you're lucky enough to be able to work with a local composer to develop or adapt a reflective item or even a major work for your band, it could give you an edge, and the risk might pay off.

Aaron Lloyd (aarongrahamlloyd@gmail.com) is a composer, conductor, and new music fan based in Wellington. He is the current president of the Wellington District Brass Bands Association.



Tom Davoren & Team: Composers' Workshop

... About Eb Bass Solos and Lower Cornets!
Yes, it was, but the overall theme was this:

what Tom wished he'd known ten years ago. The importance of considered orchestration, background, midground, foregrounds, activations, and tutti doubling. Creating music for the overall success of the musicians. Orchestration is an opportunity to present coloured music in a way that maximises the potential for success of the performers.

After the excitement of four days of banding, the exhilaration of the performances, the penultimate notes, the results, the friendships made and renewed... the partying and fun, for some enthusiastic souls, continued.

Well worth getting up for after a late night of celebration!

Tom Davoren's Composers' Workshop took place on Sunday, 9 July, at the Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass Bands rooms, Dunedin.

I've taken his message to heart for the photo montage of the team who came along ... with layers, composition and arrangement to capture a great snap of those present!

So, to the content....

After asking the composers and arrangers amongst the team, why do it (instead of playing golf or any number of other things!), we collectively talked about and went on a journey of creating and co-creating music.

Some cool key points:

- Writing music is often about problem-solving.... Tom loves that!

- It's about self-expression but also doing something with purpose, so when creating music, you want to know how it ends!
- The difficulty when faced with the blank page and how some big-name composers in the brass world handle it. Philip Sparke treats it like a 'day job'; he deletes more than he writes.
- The challenges of Sibelius sounding a great balanced chord till you get the actual live number of players on it.
- Being open to change and rewriting what you've written.
- The power of an audible notebook for ideas and snippets.
- Take a line of music, and go on a journey with it; follow the narrative.
- And yes, it is a craft, but also a 'business'; you need to market and sell what you do as part of your work.
- Then we got to thinking about the layers of orchestration as composers, arrangers, conductors and performers: Such as:
 - The Background: Rhythmically supporting the core idea, providing momentum.
 - The Midground: Rhythmic and colouristic 'chatter', contrast, momentum, harmony.
 - The Foreground: Where the ear is drawn; create space for pitch and sound, and look at what's happening around the parts (Tom provided tips, and you can absolutely use low instruments as soloists).

He demonstrated how to incorporate the above to some wonderful effects, understanding the layers of sounds, for example, backgrounds in the *Bourgeois Concerto 1* (A Grade test piece). He mentioned that if the music is dense, consider how to voice it/play it differently (not just exactly what is on the page). Choose layers, voicing and dynamics to make the music work (the Conductor/MD should do this too!).

And in reference to the sub-title of this article, while there are parts that usually form the back, mid and foregrounds, don't be afraid to be creative. In *Journey Into Freedom* (B Grade test), there was a fantastic Eb Bass solo, and *Cloudcatcher Fells* (Auckland City Brass Own Choice), an activation/motif developed through the back row cornets! Nice!

So, in the final inspiration: Write music to empower your players.

What he outlined in his feedback, in the workshop and listening back to the recordings/judge's comments was, in my words, all about weaving together the band and the music in multiple ways, approaches and combinations. As he said, orchestrating and creating music for the overall success of the performers. That's where the magic is!

Look forward to all the outputs and impact of taking the ideas onboard.

Here is his website if you'd like to check out more of his works and thinking: www.tomdavorenmusic.com

Trish Wilson - Auckland City Brass, 3rd Cornet Team! Band Manager.



Bruce, Darrel, Quentin, Aaron, Tom, Stephen, Trish, Anessa, Leighton, Cody, Sandra, Stuart, Chris, Mia and Christopher. Composers, arrangers, MDs and Players!



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2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July
Contact person: Owen Melhuish
owenmelhuish@gmail.com

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.
Contact person Graham Hickman
festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com

Have Your Say

The National Contest is a key event in the New Zealand banding calendar, but our Annual General Meeting in November is equally important. This meeting is an opportunity for bands to not only lead changes to our rules and regulations but, more importantly, set the direction of our movement. It is also an ideal opportunity for conductors, players and administrators to get together to share ideas without contesting pressures. For these reasons, it is vital that we increase participation during this key weekend. Following on from the success of the conference with workshop sessions last year, we are doing it again and need your input. What workshops or discussion groups do you want? It could be anything from administration to conducting, from creating a safe teaching environment for students to nerves and anxiety, from adjudicating or fundraising and the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act.

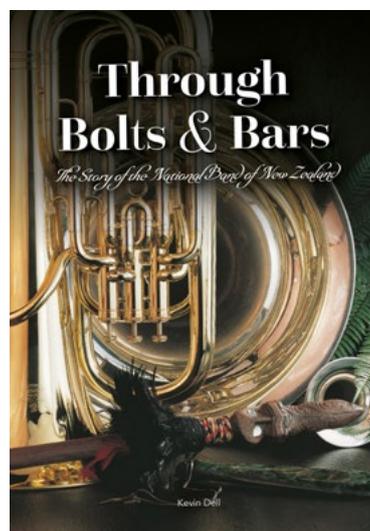
The BBANZ Conference to be held in Wellington will consist of multiple workshops on Saturday, 4 November, a social event Saturday night with a key-note guest speaker and then the AGM on Sunday 5 November.

Please send your ideas to our president John Sullivan at jsullivan@customcontrols.co.nz or to the Executive Officer at bbanzeo@gmail.com



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2026 National Championships

Applications are called for from organisations wishing to host the 2026 National Championships in the lower half of the North Island. Please contact Helen at the BBANZ Office to discuss your application and request an application form. Applications close on Thursday, 31 August 2023 and will be voted on at the AGM in November.



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The Official Journal of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Volume 69 | Issue 7 | September 2023 ISSN 2744-6298 (Online)

New Zealand Mouthpiece is proudly sponsored by JP Musical Instruments | www.musicways.co.nz | 09 477 0384 | info@musicways.co.nz

The National Secondary Schools Brass Bands Present

BAND TOGETHER

1PM, SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER
CAMBRIDGE TOWN HALL



MUSICAL DIRECTORS: VICKIE VAN UDEN & REUBEN BROWN
GUEST SOLOIST: AISHAH LEITNER

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Have Your Say

One of the key documents for your organisation is the BBANZ Strategic Plan. Our highest priority for some time has been youth as we focus on the future by growing the quantity and standard of our player base. However, increasing participation also comes from making banding as inclusive as it can be for all ages, genders and ethnicities. We are unique in that there are few barriers to learning brass or percussion in a brass band. Instruments are provided for loan or hire at little or no cost, while a local brass band is within travelling distance for more than 95% of New Zealand's population.



Following a very successful camp last year, the 2023 National Secondary Schools' Band and Development Band will assemble again next month in Cambridge. With over 70 players selected

for the two bands, it is exciting to see that 45% of these talented young musicians are female. This shows we are making progress; however, there is much more work to ensure our movement thrives in the long term and reflects New Zealand's diverse population. As always, we welcome your ideas on potential programmes and initiatives to help make our brass banding community more representative of this amazing country of ours.

Along with the National Contest, the other significant event in the New Zealand banding calendar is our Annual General Meeting, held each November. This meeting is an opportunity for all members to not only lead changes to our rules and regulations but, more importantly, set the direction of our movement. It is also an ideal opportunity for conductors, players and administrators to get together to share ideas without contesting pressures. For these reasons, it is critical we increase participation at the AGM, so again, the National Executive will organise workshop sessions as part of the weekend.

This year's workshops will include sessions on navigating changes to the Incorporated Societies Act, diversifying your audience, retention of players and fundraising. There is something for everyone. Thank you to the bands that suggested workshop topics. So join us on Saturday, 4 November, at the workshops. There will also be a social event on Saturday night with a keynote guest speaker and then the all-important AGM on Sunday, 5 November.

This conference weekend is an exciting opportunity to engage with a broad cross-section of our members; remember, this is your organisation, so get involved and help guide us.

Yours in banding.



John Sullivan – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

National Honour

In King Charles' first Birthday Honours list, BBANZ Life Member and Treasurer Murray Warrington was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to brass bands.

The official citation for the award reads:

'Mr Murray Warrington has contributed to the community and national brass bands for more than 60 years.

Mr Warrington joined the Hastings Citizen Brass Band in 1961 and has since held various positions, including President, Chairperson and Secretary. He was instrumental in obtaining a band room, new uniforms and instruments. As Band Manager, he organised a ten-day visit to China and Hong Kong in 1996, the first brass band from New Zealand to visit China. He managed the National Band of New Zealand in 1980, 2003 and 2005, organising tours of the North Island, the United States and a three-week tour of Europe where the band competed in the World Music Concourse (World Championships) in The Netherlands. He was a National Executive member of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand from 1980 to 1990 and has been Financial Controller since 1989. He managed the National Youth Band of New Zealand in 1987, 1988 and 1994, facilitating assemblies and tours. He was on the organising committee to bring the 2009 National Brass Band Championship Contest to Napier for the first time since 1956 and chaired the organising committee to hold the championship in Napier again in 2018. Mr Warrington has been a Trustee of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand Charitable Trust since 2011.

Congratulations to Murray that your long and dedicated service to brass banding, particularly to the Association and the National Band, has been recognised with the New Zealand Order of Merit. Thank you for your service, and to Shona for supporting you all the way.



Photo courtesy Hawke's Bay Today

Gig Guide

Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 September
Central Districts Association band contest in Palmerston North.

Saturday 2 to Saturday 9 September
National Band of New Zealand – 2023 Australian Tour Dates

Saturday 2 September: Hawthorne Town Hall, Melbourne, Vic

Sunday 3 September: Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo, Vic

Tuesday 5 September: City Hall, Newcastle, NSW

Wednesday 6 September: Salvation Army Congress Hall, Sydney, NSW

Friday 8 September: Salvation Army City Temple, Brisbane, QLD

Saturday 9 September: The Events Centre, Caloundra, QLD

Tuesday 5 September
Rhythm and Brass, featuring the New Zealand Army Band Brass Quartet and Jazz Ensemble
7.00pm at The Piano, Christchurch. Tickets available [HERE](#).

Sunday 17 September
Auckland Bands Association youth band contest at Westlake Girls' High School, North Shore, Auckland.

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September
Canterbury Provincial Brass Bands Association solo and band contest at Te Aratai College, Linwood, Christchurch.

Waikato Bay of Plenty Association solo and band contest hosted by Cambridge Brass at Cambridge High School.

Sunday 24 September
Auckland Bands Association open grade band contest at Birkenhead College, North Shore, Auckland. Chief adjudicator: Phillip Johnston.

Wellington District Band Association band contest at St Patrick's College auditorium, Silverstream, Upper Hutt. Chief adjudicator: David Gallaher.

Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 October
The National Secondary Schools' Brass Band training course at St Peter's College, Cambridge.

Saturday 7 October

Band Together, the National Secondary Schools' Band and Development Band in concert, 1.00pm at the Cambridge Town Hall. Tickets [HERE](#) (Search "Brass Band")

Sunday 8 October
Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass presents **World of Wonders**, 2.00pm in the Hutton Theatre at Otago Museum, Dunedin.

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October
North Shore Brass celebrates 100 years. Email secretary@northshorebrass.org.nz

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 November
Masterton District Brass Band 150th celebrations. Email: MastertonBrass@gmail.com

Saturday 4 November
BBANZ Conference workshops at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington.

Sunday 5 November
BBANZ Annual General Meeting at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington.

To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at bbanzeo@gmail.com



NATIONAL BAND OF NEW ZEALAND 2023 AUSTRALIAN TOUR

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BARKERS'



Obituary

Richard Richardson

25 May 1949 – 14 August 2023

Richard's first introduction to banding was when, as a 10-year-old, he helped his father, Frank Richardson (a life member and tuba player), build the Hutt City Brass Band room alongside other band members of that time.

Richard joined the Lower Hutt Municipal Band in 1960 at the age of 11. He played the cornet, horn, euphonium, and later his "arm was twisted" to play Eb bass for a contest 63 years ago! He won three local solo competitions on the bass and was a part of winning duets, quartets and ensemble groups at the local competitions, including a national title in an ensemble with his wife. Richard was playing tuba with Hutt City Brass, alongside his wife and two sons, when they won the B Grade championship in 2011, and this year was delighted to watch them on stage as they again took out the championship. Richard did win his own award this year as Administrator of the Year! Richard's last concert was on 30 April this year, where he was recognised for his band service and commitment to Hutt City Brass.

In 1967, at 18 years old, Richard was elected to the band committee and he has been a member for the past 56 years. In 1969 he was appointed Treasurer and served for 50 years in this position. From 2001-2003 and 2006 -2007 he also held the band's Secretary position.

At various times Richard was a member of the Wellington District Bands Association committee and/or filled in as a delegate. He was also a member of the organisational committee of the 2005 National Brass Band Contest held in Wellington.

During his time with the band's committee, Richard was often instrumental in organising fundraising events, including raffles, Christmas carolling, and large catering contracts. In total, it is estimated that Richard raised over \$300,000 for the band from grant applications over the past 25 years, enabling the purchase of instruments and providing funding to meet the high cost of attending many national contests around New Zealand.

Each Wellington band is responsible on a rotational basis for organising the local band contest and solo and party competitions. Richard took a leading role in the planning committee for these events, organising three local band contests and solo and party events on behalf of the band.

Richard was also a significant part of a team responsible for organising the ever-complex travel and accommodation arrangements for the band to attend numerous national contests outside Wellington.

Richard's wife, Lynda Carter, joined the band



in 1984, playing flugelhorn. For Richard and Lynda (current band president), banding became a family weekly event stretching over four decades. They played alongside their sons Hayden on repiano cornet and Jeremy on percussion, with their daughter Dayna coming to contests and concerts to celebrate and support.

Richard took a leading role in the amalgamation of the two Lower Hutt bands in 1993, leading initial discussions, setting up a committee, finalising a constitution, and as Treasurer, sorting out the nitty-gritty of financial accounts.

Richard and Lynda regularly assisted with the junior group, conducting, tutoring and joining them in concerts. It was an exciting time when their two sons, Hayden and Jeremy, joined the band's junior group, and the love for banding became a third-generation affair!

Through the decades, Richard and his family have always been involved in 'working bees' through maintenance of the band room, cleaning, and tidying up the music library.

Richard loved life, family and banding. With a terminal illness, he had time to say his goodbyes and was still working for the band until the end. Being a part of a band was an enriching and treasured life experience for Richard. He passed away knowing that Hutt City Brass band is thriving and in great hands and was thankful for his banding friends across New Zealand for the fun and fellowship over the years.

Hutt City Brass would like to thank Richard for his outstanding service and commitment.

Rest in Peace in Brass Band Heaven, Richie Rich!

Lynda Carter, Hayden, Jeremy and Dayna Richardson.

2023 NSSBB

Kia ora everyone,

This month I have the pleasure of making two major announcements:

The first is that the NSSBB end-of-course "Band Together" concert will occur on Saturday, 7 October, at 1.00pm at the Cambridge Town Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Tickets are already on sale, so please book early via [this link](#). Your support of this event is much appreciated. Our students are already working hard to learn their music. The 4-day training course will improve their performance, and our students are keen to perform for you.

And secondly, we are delighted to announce the team of tutors, support staff and NYBB mentors involved with this year's course:

Cornet Tutors: Todd Smith (Hamilton City Brass), Clive Burnell (Hamilton Auxiliary Brass), Bryce Gordon (Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass), Josh Rogan (Auckland City Brass) and Brendan Agnew (Hutt City Brass).

Horn Tutors: Ray Farrow (Brass Whanganui) and Anne Filimoehala (Waitakere Auckland Brass).

Baritone/Euphonium Tutors: Linda

Filimoehala (Waitakere Auckland Brass) and Simon Winship (Hamilton City Brass).

Trombone Tutors: Mark Bingham (NBS Nelson Brass), Aishah Leitner (North Shore Brass) and Mark Close (Auckland City Brass)

Bass Tutors: Jeshua Oram (St. Kilda Brass) and Lachlan Grant (New Zealand Army Band/Auckland City Brass)

Percussion: Rebecca Keoghan (Westport Municipal Band) and Jayden Matchitt (North Shore Brass).

Support Staff: Mandy Saunders (Invercargill), Annabelle Stewart (Tauranga), Hamilton Lea (Auckland), Matt Maunsell-Terry (Hawke's Bay) and Paul Lamb and Don Peng (New Plymouth).

National Youth Brass Band Mentors: This year, we are trialling a new addition to the band staff by having local National Youth Band players Leighton Ginever and Charlie Garcia-Gil from Hamilton City Brass at the course to share their experiences with the students. The NSSBB management team aims to encourage students to take the next step in their musical careers, and the NYBB programme is an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their talents.



So, there you have it; our preparations are well underway for NSSBB 2023 starting on 3 October. You've met the band staff, and you can do your part by purchasing tickets to the concert performance.

I will leave you with this Māori proverb which I think sums up the NSSBB team working together for NSSBB students:

He aha te mea nui o te ao. He tangata, he tangata, he tangata. What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people. I look forward to seeing students and their supporters in the audience come concert day.

Sandra Ginever – Band Manager



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REPAIRS

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2024 NYBB

Almost 60 applications were received from young brass and percussion players for the 2024 National Youth Brass Band, and Tyme Marsters, Nic Scott and I had the pleasure of listening to the auditions on 5 August in Christchurch.

The standard of auditions this year was incredibly high, and we had a lot of cornet and trombone applications, which is fantastic news for the future of brass bands in New Zealand with all these talented young players in the movement. However, it made our job selecting the band very hard, and some very good players unfortunately missed out. For those who weren't successful, don't lose heart - keep practising and enjoy another year of playing with your bands, and we look forward to receiving an audition from you next year.

The NYBB schedule is shaping up well, with the course being held in Wellington from 14 to 20 January, and concerts in New Plymouth, Feilding and Wellington. The guest soloist is Shannon Pittaway, bass trombone with the NZSO.

We are very grateful to the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band, New Zealand Army Band and local bands for their support and advice, and we look forward to playing to full houses for all our concerts. We will bring you more updates as the programme is confirmed.

And last but definitely not least, a huge congratulations to all the young musicians who have been accepted to the 2024 NYBB and the associate players. Tyme and Nic are very much looking forward to working with you in January and hearing what we know you're capable of.

Emily Richards
Band Manager



Guest soloist, Shannon Pittaway

Principal Cornet	Liam Wright	North Shore Brass
Soprano Cornet	Jonty Zydenbos	Hutt City Brass
Solo Cornet	Lewis Grey	Wellington Brass
Solo Cornet	Semisi Ahoatu	North Shore Brass
Solo Cornet	Zac Powell	Woolston Brass
Solo Cornet	Joe Inman	Brass Whanganui
Repiano Cornet	Jean-Luc Pitcaithly	Woolston Brass
2nd Cornet	Jack Banks	Addington Brass
2nd Cornet	Connor Franklin	Whangarei District Brass
2nd Cornet	Abby Wilson	Woolston Brass
3rd Cornet	Jenny Howe	North Shore Brass
3rd Cornet	Luca Cable	Woolston Concert Brass
3rd Cornet	Pire Poi Wilson	Matamata Brass
Principal Horn	Hazel Wilson	Woolston Brass
Flugel Horn	Emily Sullivan	North Shore Brass
1st Horn	Brianna Loan	St Kilda Brass
2nd Horn	Danielle Oram	St Kilda Brass
2nd Horn	Leon Kendall	St Kilda Brass
Principal Euphonium	Walter Hughes	Hamilton City Brass
Euphonium	Anna Lee	Hutt City Brass
1st Baritone	Toby Clark	Brass Whanganui
2nd Baritone	Kate McGregor	Ascot Park Hotel Brass of Invercargill
Principal Trombone	Jack McKenzie	Woolston Brass
1st Trombone	Leo Read	Wellington Brass
2nd Trombone	Amy Laithwaite	Auckland City Brass
2nd Trombone	Clara Dujakovic	Woolston Concert Brass
Bass Trombone	Matt Donaldson	North Shore Brass
Principal Bass	Jeshua Oram	St Kilda Brass
Eb Bass	Hamish Williams	Wellington Brass
Eb Bass	Charlie Meek	North Shore Brass
Bb Bass	Lachlan Grant	Auckland City Brass
Bb Bass	Liam Dixon	Woolston Concert Brass
Principal Percussion	Sho Woodhouse	Canterbury Brass
Percussion	Keina Rollinson	Woolston Brass
Percussion	Nicolae Didenco	Woolston Brass
Percussion	Charlie Garcia-Gil	Hamilton City Brass
Percussion	Jacob Hickman	Woolston Brass
Associate Players		
Cornet	Hugo Carter	Buzzing Brass Wellington
Cornet	James Hendra	North Shore Brass Academy



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Quick Notes

For many bands, contest just isn't contest without the cheerful face of **Stephen Leader** at the side of the stage. Since 2010 Stephen has been at every contest supervising solo and band events. For many of those years, Stephen was also the Chief Military Judge until retiring after the 2019 contest. Stephen was still very active as the driving force behind the 2020 national contest, which was eventually held in Christchurch in 2021. Having mentioned retirement from his supervising role on a number of occasions, Stephen confirmed this during the Dunedin contest. The management committee of BBANZ thanks Stephen most sincerely for his great work at the national championships.

Congratulations to the organising committee of the **2021 Festival of Brass**, chaired by Graham Hickman, as the event is a finalist in the Best Community or Not-for-profit Event 2023 - Over 3000 category in the 2023 NZEA New Zealand Event Awards.

The number of entries in this year's Awards was the highest ever, so the competition was incredibly fierce. The judges had the challenge of evaluating a cohort of very high-quality entries; therefore, being named a finalist is a significant achievement and worthy of celebration.

The winners will be announced at the NZEA New Zealand Event Awards Gala Evening at Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre on 9 November 2023.

Brisbane Brass, an A Grade band, is looking for its next Musical Director. After many years leading the group, Josh McKeachie has announced his decision to step down as Musical Director of BB1.

Brisbane Brass Music Assn Inc is now accepting expressions of interest for the position of A Grade Musical Director.

For more information on this role and the band itself, visit [HERE](#).



The | Saints

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Email lesgreenscholarship@gmail.com or phone 027 221 5208 by 3 November 2023

Entries will close on 8 December 2023.

Next-Gen

In this issue, Lachlan Spence interviews 17-year-old Connor Franklin, the principal cornet of the 2023 National Secondary Schools' Brass Band, from Whangarei District Brass.

What was your first musical experience?

Playing in a Whangarei Youth Music concert. I joined a brass band as per the direction of my tutor, Frank Lundberg. I also play in a jazz band at school.

Describe how musical ability runs through your family.

Father and grandfather both played the trumpet. My mother is an excellent pianist, often playing and teaching for the community

To date, what have been some of your musical highlights?

Gaining Trinity Grade 8, being in the 2022 NSSBB and playing at the Opononi Music Festival.

What have you gained from being in the Secondary Schools' Brass Band?

Meeting lots of new people with new ideas on how to play and be a better musician, especially regarding warming up, style and intonation.

What sort of things would you like to see happen to support young players?

More camps, events and get-togethers.

Who or what has been your greatest inspiration?

Wynton Marsalis, Harmen Vanhoorne and my tutors.

What's the best thing about being in a brass band?

Making music that sounds good together!

Is there anyone you would like to thank for helping you with your achievements thus far?

My tutor, Frank Lundberg.

What do you hope to achieve in the future?

I'd like to work as a paramedic while keeping up my playing in local groups. I hope to give my kids the brass band experience one day.

Quickfire questions:

What type of music do you listen to most? Neo-jazz (e.g., Fat Freddy's Drop) and classical.

Other interests? Juggler (Google it, you will laugh!)

Favourite food? Avo sandwich with lots of chutney.

Favourite place? Bay of Islands

Favourite film? Anything that has John Williams' music (ET, Harry Potter, Star Wars etc.)

Favourite instrument? Santur (Google it)

Favourite piece of music? La Conga del Fuego Nuevo by Arturo Márquez

What do you dislike most? People who don't practise enough!

For the more technical amongst us, what make of instrument do you play? Not a Prestige. (I'm very oppressed.)





BBANZ – Directory

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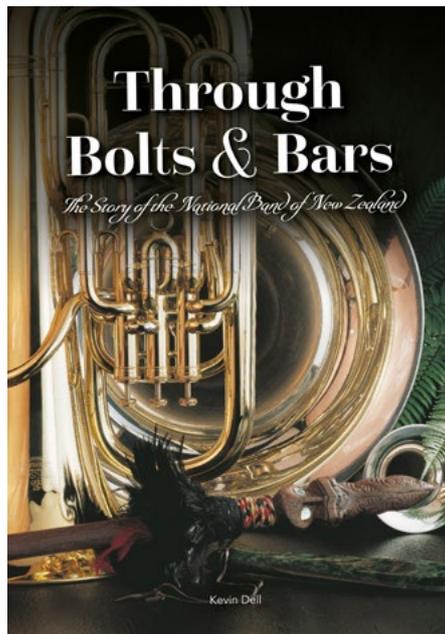
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Musical Directors: Vickie van Uden, Christchurch
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2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July
Contact person: Owen Melhuish
owenmelhuish@gmail.com

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.
Contact person Graham Hickman
festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com

Through Bolts and Bars

Kevin Dell's story of the National Band of New Zealand
Order from bbanzeo@gmail.com Cost \$50.00 plus p&p



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2023 National Band Tour

THE GATHERING (30 August) by Ross Gerritsen

When 29 brass, four percussionists, Manager and Musical Director of the 2023 National Band arrived at the North Shore band room, so began the voyage of the 22nd National Band of New Zealand. Following the extension of the 3-year cycle due to COVID, the much-anticipated tour to Australia (the first in the band's 70-year history) was finally happening.

As expected, there were a few personnel changes from the initial band David Bremner selected for the 2020 NZ projects. We were delighted to welcome five first-time members: Liam Wright (cornet), Mitchell Spence (horn), Patrick Di Somma (bass trombone), Georgia Hoy (baritone) and Lachlan Grant (BBb bass).

The band rehearsed for 2 ½ hours before taking the chance (thanks to the team at North Shore Brass) to have a quick drink and a catch-up before heading back to our hotel close to the airport. Typically, the worldwide check-in system for [unnamed hotel chain] had crashed, and a lengthy wait ensued before a late retirement.

A 5.00am start came with the realisation that [unnamed manager] had lost his passport. It was perhaps serendipitous that pea soup had rolled into greater Auckland overnight, giving the Auckland brass band community enough time to miraculously track the passport down – at the North Shore Bandroom – and get it to the airport in rush-hour traffic. (For all



your brass and woodwind sales and repairs, you can't beat Andrew Leech and the team at ABI!)

We're not sure if we managed to get the whole band into the Koru Lounge, but it was close – there are worse ways to spend time when you're delayed three hours. It may have been fortuitous for Air New Zealand that the reality of an extended rehearsal on arrival tempered celebratory drinks.

When the time came, 35 excited musicians jumped on the national carrier and headed for Melbourne and our first-ever rehearsal on Australian soil.

VICTORIA (31 August - 4 September) by Garth Coffey

On arrival in Melbourne, the band was whisked away to begin 14 hours of rehearsal over two days at the Footscray Yarraville

bandroom. Outside of these times, the players managed to venture around the Melbourne CBD from our accommodation based in Southbank to taste the local delights of Australia's food capital.

Saturday started with another short rehearsal at the Hawthorn Town Hall, the venue for our evening concert. During that time, we were pleased to be joined by Eugene "Po" and Sharon Puohotau. Po, a former member of Woolston Brass and a great supporter of New Zealand banding, couldn't make our concert, so seeing their smiling, friendly faces and having a quick catch-up was great.

The concert itself was very well received, with the band providing a rich and varied programme featuring Owen Morris, who also dazzled the audience with each of his pieces. We were also thrilled to welcome local legend Phillipa Edwards, who conducted and clapped the band through its traditional signature, *Through Bolts and Bars*.

The following day, the band travelled by coach to the historic gold mining city of Bendigo for another short rehearsal, where Phil Cobb later joined the band. If there was any jet lag, then Phil hid it very well.

That afternoon, the band held its second concert at the Ulumbarra Theatre – redeveloped from a jail that operated from 1863 through to 2004 and which cleverly fused heritage-listed penitentiary architecture and contemporary design into a world-class theatre. Our guest conductor on this occasion was Cally Bartlett, musical



director of the Bendigo Brass Band, who expertly led the band through our traditional march. The audience left with their music hearts full, and the band returned to Melbourne in time for a late dinner.

Victoria provided a great base from which to start our tour, and we left there the following day with many more fans and followers.

THE SOLOISTS by Garth Coffey

The band was blessed to be accompanied by two world-class soloists. Owen Morris performed with the band at our Melbourne concert. Owen was the Principal Trumpet with the Adelaide Symphony before becoming Principal Trumpet with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in 2019. He enjoys performing concertos with many local orchestras and has played at prestigious concert venues worldwide. Owen's playing was incredible, with great sound and consistency. We were fortunate to witness a young professional play with confidence and passion, providing a wonderful lesson for the band.

Philip Cobb is a highly sought-after and world-renowned trumpet and cornet master. In 2000, he gained a place in the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, where he became Principal Cornet. He studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (London). Phil had worked with the London Philharmonic, London Chamber and BBC Symphony orchestras, and by the time he had completed his BMus degree, he had secured a post in the London Symphony Orchestra. He recently left the LSO and is the Principal Trumpet of the BBC Symphony. He continues to maintain his solo career and interest in brass bands. He has just released his second solo CD called 'Songs from the Heart' accompanied by the International Staff Band.

Phil flew into Melbourne close to midnight directly from Europe. Despite this, he fronted early the following day, where I had the privilege to drive him the two hours it took us to join the band for a brief rehearsal in the Bendigo Band Room before our afternoon concert. From the moment Phil played his first notes with the band, we all knew we would be witnessing something special. Phil is a phenomenal player and artist and a great human, humble in all he does, and it was an honour for our band to accompany him.

NEW SOUTH WALES (4 - 7 September) by Julia Mallett

After a busy start in Melbourne, the band enjoyed kicking off our time in New South Wales with a bit of R&R on Monday afternoon. Sydney turned on the weather, so we took the opportunity to head out and see the sights - various groups visiting the opera house, aquarium, and maritime museum, walking around The Rocks and Darling Harbour, and catching up with family and friends in the city. A solid contingent from the band regrouped at the Sydney

Conservatorium on Monday night to attend the first of two fantastic masterclasses with Philip Cobb. Over a post-class kebab debrief, it was widely agreed that we all came away with some new ideas, tips, and tricks and that it was an inspiring evening very well spent.

While a motivated group enjoyed a run in the sun around the Sydney Opera House, the rest of us had a relaxed morning getting our laundry sorted before getting on the bus up to Newcastle (well, except for those who enjoyed a classier trip up the coast in a convertible!) We gave our third concert of the tour in the magnificent City Hall, performing to an appreciative audience in Nic Scott's hometown.

Despite the late return to Sydney, it was back into it on Wednesday, packing into the Salvation Army Congress Hall and performing a well-received show to an audience that included plenty of local banding friends. During this concert, we were thrilled to welcome Ron Prussing, Principal Trombone of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, to conduct *Through Bolts and Bars*. After a couple of days hanging out in smaller groups enjoying the city in between concerts, it was fantastic to come together for a social evening to say farewell to New South Wales and celebrate getting four fabulous performances under our belts.

QUEENSLAND (7 - 10 September) by Fraser Bremner

On Thursday, 7 September, after two amazing concerts in Newcastle and Sydney, the band flew to Brisbane for a well-earned day off. Some of us got along to Phil Cobb's second masterclass at the Griffith University Conservatorium of Music. During this masterclass, we witnessed Phil doing what he does best, and some amazing trumpet talent from the Brisbane area ... some of which blew us away when we found out that they were still in high school and playing at a university level!

The blessings of the timings on our concert days were that we had the morning off on Friday. Some people went for long walks to take in the sights, some went for a run, and some of us (Dave, my brother Mark, his partner Sarah and I) had the pleasure of being absolutely thrashed by Phil Cobb in a mini-putt game.

That afternoon, the band made their way on foot to the Salvation Army City Temple for a sound check ahead of the concert that night. If anything could raise the spirits of all performers and the management, it was having an almost full house in the temple. We can all agree that a great highlight was inviting past National Band Musical Director Howard Taylor to the stage not only to conduct the band in the march *Through Bolts and Bars* but also to be awarded his jacket



Workshop with Philip Cobb



From the Youth Band to the National Band Dale, Liam, Jordan, Patrick, Emma, Lachlan, Luke, Mitchell and Georgia.

pocket with the National Band Silver Fern (that listed his years as MD for the band) and a copy of Kevin Dell's *Through Bolts & Bars: A Story of the National Band of New Zealand*.

After a good night's sleep and some of us getting up at 5.00am on Saturday to watch the Rugby World Cup opening match between the mighty All Blacks and France (let's not talk about that, for obvious reasons), we boarded the coach to travel to Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast. Before the concert, a very emotional moment was experienced when Dave Bremner and Luke Spence presented Phil Cobb with a pounamu (a greenstone necklace) that was blessed and also worn by every member of the band prior to the presentation.

The concert in Caloundra was a very fitting end to our time in Australia - an almost sold-out crowd who ate up everything we served. They even laughed about our #2023RugbyWorldCupChampions joke after France beat the All Blacks early that morning. The honour of the final guest conducting spot went to Kiwi player and composer Fendall Hill.

Following the concert, we returned to Brisbane for a well-deserved curry at Brisbane's Punjabi Palace (the best curry in Brisbane!!) When the band arrived at Brisbane International Airport the following morning, as sad as it was that the tour had ended, we were all overwhelmed by the effect the experience of this tour had on us. These memories are ones that we will never forget.

THE LEGACY by David Bremner

So the tour goes into the history books, and we return to our lives and families. The tour will be a fond memory we will cherish and look back on. It might seem strange that in the 70-year history of the National Band, this was the band's first expedition to visit our neighbours across the Tasman. National Bands have traditionally ventured further afield, and I don't think the band realised the impact of this tour until we were on the ground, seeing the local bands engage with us, the students wanting to hear the band and Phil, and the Kiwis that turned out to hear us. I was left with an overwhelming

feeling of how important the National Band is to our banding community, not just here in New Zealand but also in Australia. This band not only wowed the audiences with their playing, but they were the best ambassadors for the New Zealand music community. I couldn't be more proud of this group and how it represented our country.

We are disappointed that Kiwis didn't hear this tour programme and our remarkable soloist, Phil Cobb. Still, I assure everyone that you would have been proud of these musicians who represented you all with honour, respect, and humility.

David Bremner
Musical Director



Thank you to the organisations and individuals who kindly supported the 2023 tour by the National Band of New Zealand as seat sponsors:

New Zealand Army Band
Dame Adrienne Stewart
The Royal New Zealand Navy Band
Deloitte
Nelson Pine
Graeme Aldridge MNZM (1965 National Band)
Custom Controls Ltd
Ian Levien QSM (1965, 67, 78, 89, 90, 92, 95, 2003 and 2005 National Band)
Kodi Studios and the Central Districts band community
Brass Direct
Kevin and Kathy Moseley (Kevin: 1980, 90, 95, 2005 and 2007 National Band)
Trevor Kempton
Trinder Engineering
The Nelson Mayoral Fund
B&D Mallet, Belinda Sawyer and Hoy family
George Bettle
The New Plymouth community
Sharesies
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Thank you to the organisations that gave logistical and promotional support:

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Fine Music
Taylormade Music
Skunkworks Community
Julie Woods and Dean Morely
Robert O'Brien
Simon Hocking of Travel Associates

Percussion instruments supplied by Melbourne Staff Band, Sydney City Band and Brisbane Excelsior.

Future Focused

It is a few weeks since I returned from Australia following the National Band Tour, and I am still battling with sleep patterns and general energy levels. Of course, this is all most likely



simply due to my old age and no doubt the young members of the band have bounced back quickly. I continue to feel very privileged and somewhat of an imposter to have the opportunity to perform with some of the country's best brass and percussion musicians. Under the musical direction of David Bremner, the band represented our country with distinction, delivering six high-quality concerts to very appreciative audiences in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. The real highlight had to be listening to and watching the legendary Philip Cobb perform live. Concert after concert, he delivered highly musical and near-perfect performances that genuinely inspired – it was a shame even more people weren't there to hear one of the world's very best.

The tour had many very special moments, including sitting next to talented young musician Liam Wright. Not only did he ensure that Graham Hickman and I remained on task during rehearsals and concerts, but his youthful excitement from being part of the band was infectious. I also have no doubt his "selfie" with Philip Cobb will remain his phone screensaver for many years. Maybe it won't be too many years before "selfies" with Liam

Wright become just as prized by others.

You might be surprised to know that, like Liam, 27 other members of this National Band, including the Musical Director, have also been in the National Youth Band. Of those, 12 have also been members of the National Secondary Schools' Band since its inception in 2000. (We must be doing something right.) That tradition of training continues with the announcement in last month's *Mouthpiece* of the 2024 National Youth Band members, who will tour the lower North Island in January. And this month, 73 young musicians assemble in Cambridge for the 2023 National Secondary Schools' Band's training course. I want to make special mention of Band Manager Sandra Ginever. A camp of this size is a major logistical and financial undertaking, and she has worked tirelessly to ensure the event is safe and rewarding for everyone involved.

BBANZ is very grateful to the many volunteers supporting Sandra, Vickie van Uden, Reuben Brown and guest soloist Aishah Leitner at this year's NSSBB. I am very confident it will be a huge success and a wonderful learning experience for members of both bands. I look forward to joining what I am sure will be a large audience to hear the bands perform at their concert on Saturday, 7 October.

BBANZ is YOUR organisation. Despite what many believe, it is not the Management Committee that sets the rules and regulations or the direction of brass banding in New Zealand but YOU, the players, member bands and District Associations. The annual conference is an ideal opportunity for conductors, players and administrators to share ideas

without contesting pressures. Saturday, 4 November, will consist of workshops and a social event that evening with a guest speaker. These workshops will cover a wide range of topics, as detailed on page 9.

On Sunday, 5 November will be the AGM. Many vital decisions on the future direction of your organisation are made or endorsed by those in attendance at the AGM. Bands have been very proactive and submitted several remits on our rules and regulations changes. All of these submissions are discussed and voted on at the AGM. Proposed changes may impact you and your band, so ensure all remits are reviewed in your bandroom so that your band representative is well-prepared for the AGM.

It is worth noting that only bands, District Associations and Life Members present have the right to vote at our AGM. We appreciate there is a cost to attend; however, we have done our best to provide more value to our members by adding the conference workshops. We must have input from as many bands as possible to set the direction of our movement. Let's meet in November to discuss our shared passion for brass banding, and make sure your voice is heard this year!

Yours in banding.



John Sullivan – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

AGM Preview

On Sunday, 5 November, every BBANZ-affiliated band, District Association and Life Member has the opportunity to have a say on the future of our movement, which is the purpose of our AGM. If all those eligible to attend our AGM turned up, there would be 80 representatives at the meeting. But the reality is that often only half this number attend because many bands believe the discussions and decisions made don't affect them. Well ... they do.

A case in point was a remit passed last year to change the music for the Open Percussion solos from Own Choice to test pieces. How many bands discussed this remit with their percussionists? Not many, I would guess, based on the startled reaction to the change

by the people planning to compete in the event. My purpose in mentioning this is to encourage all bands to take an interest in the Association's affairs, be aware of the long- and short-term impact changes to regulations may have, and be involved in the discussions and decisions made. Remember, we are a democracy, and you are welcome to have your say at the AGM.

Most of the standard AGM business is completed relatively quickly, and we usually think we'll be done by lunchtime. But then we get to the remits. There are over twenty remits up for debate this year, many of them coming from member bands. What an excellent example of democracy in action. Some are "housekeeping" remits to keep

our rules up with current practice; others, if passed, will affect the National Contest.

So, how do your band members feel about a live draw at the contest for the band events, including the marching points in the aggregate to decide the champion band, dropping the spiel by a compere before each band's performance, allowing players from one organisation rather than one band to perform together in an ensemble or allowing the management committee to decide where the national contest is held?

We look forward to hearing from you or your representative in November.

Helen Lee – Executive Officer

Gig Guide

Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 October

The National Secondary Schools' Brass Band training course at St Peter's College, Cambridge.

Saturday 7 October

Band Together, the National Secondary Schools' Band and Development Band, in concert, 1.00pm at the Cambridge Town Hall.

Tickets [HERE](#)

Sunday 8 October

Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass presents **World of Wonders**, 2.00pm in the Hutton Theatre at Otago Museum, Dunedin.

Saturday 21 October

A Century of Brass, featuring North Shore Brass and North Shore Brass Academy with special guest Don McGlashan, 7.30pm at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna. Book [HERE](#) a booking fee applies: Adults \$35.00, Seniors \$30.00 and Students \$10.00

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 November

Masterton District Brass Band 150th celebrations.

Email: MastertonBrass@gmail.com

Saturday 4 November

BBANZ Conference workshops at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington.

Sunday 5 November

BBANZ Annual General Meeting at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington.

Saturday 11 November

Rangiora RSA Club band presents **Armistice at Flanders Fields**, 2.00pm at Rangiora Baptist Church Centre, 111 East Belt, Rangiora.

Sunday 12 November

RNZ Air Force Band, presents 'Air Force in Concert', 2.30pm, at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington. Tickets available from Ticketmaster.

To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at bbanzeo@gmail.com

AGM and Conference

The 91st Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand will be held in Wellington on Sunday 5 November at the West Plaza Hotel, 110 Wakefield Street, Te Aro. Registration from 9.00am with the AGM running from 9.30am to approximately 3.30pm.

Conference

The 2023 BBANZ Conference will be held on Saturday 4 November, with free workshops from 12.30pm also at the West Plaza Hotel.



10A Parity Place
Glenfield, Auckland
PH (09) 443 5666
info@ABI.co.nz



www.ABI.co.nz



REPAIRS

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5Qs for Pasifika Brass Leaders

After a fabulous Dunedin 2023 national brass band contest, we look ahead to next year's Pacific Festival of Brass. It has been 13 years since a national contest was held in Auckland, and it's never been held in South Auckland. So, we will have a great time celebrating all things Pasifika and all things brass together!

In the following few issues of the *Mouthpiece*, we will feature some great Pasifika brass leaders based in Tāmaki Makaurau to share a bit more about them with everyone. Here's our first Q&A with Linda Filimoehala:

Q1: What's been the highlight for you with your solo euphonium playing?

A: For me, it is purely the joy of being able to explore the boundaries of my creativity. To keep learning new music and tell a story without words in every performance.

Q2: How long have you been conducting Kumeu Brass, and what do you like best about it?

A: I was appointed the MD for Kumeu in November 2019, just before the pandemic. What I really like is the uniqueness of each individual; there's never a dull moment. I also like their willingness to learn and grow as a group.

Q3: How did you conceive these innovative concerts you have been doing with your friends and family?

A: The concert series was a way to promote live music in Auckland after the pandemic. We also used it as a platform to create performance opportunities for rising stars as well as aspiring composers who would be interested in getting some of their work performed. It has been an absolute joy getting to work alongside many musicians and witnessing the talents that we have here in Auckland.

Q4: What was your inspiration for the logo design for the Pacific Festival of Brass 2024?

A: I wanted to design something that matched the theme of our festival. The Pacific Festival of Brass with plumerias (frangipanis) on each side. I chose the frangipani because it symbolises welcome, support and new beginnings. The cornet in the middle represents brass bands.

'Ifi Ke Mou Ifi' is part of the first line of the first verse of Tongan Hymn No.6. The verse is translated to *'play for the sake of playing and let its beauty be heard by everyone everywhere in the world.'*

Q5: What has been your proudest brass moment so far?

A: Nationals 2023, I slayed!

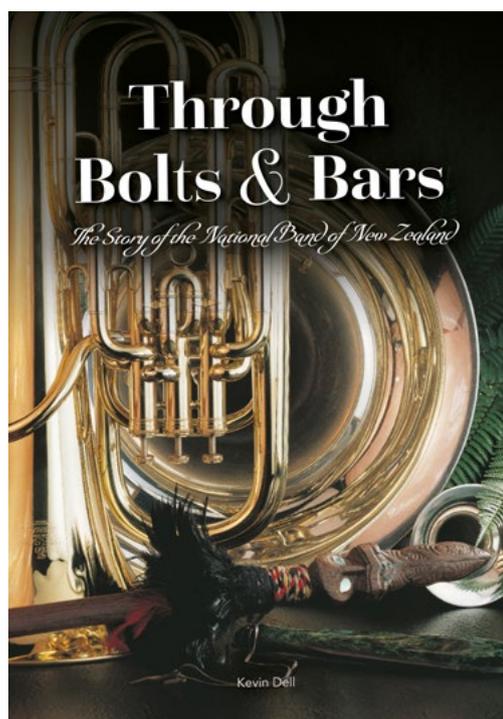


Linda Filimoehala

Through Bolts and Bars

Kevin Dell's story of the National Band of New Zealand

Order from bbanzeo@gmail.com Cost \$50.00 plus p&p



A Century of Brass

Many readers would have seen the recent notices about the 100th celebrations for North Shore Brass to be held over Labour Weekend. We are delighted to announce the celebration will get underway with a concert - *A Century of Brass* at 7.30pm, Saturday, 21 October, at the Bruce Mason Centre.

With North Shore Brass having been a part of the fabric of music, entertainment, and education of the North Shore for 100 years, this concert will commemorate this significant milestone with an evening of unforgettable experiences, combining performances by our own incredibly talented band members, a diverse repertoire spanning classical masterpieces, contemporary compositions, and arrangements as well as timeless favourites.

"Currently ranked second in New Zealand, North Shore Brass will perform under maestro Harmen Vanhoorne with several soloists sprinkled throughout the evening. Meanwhile, our Academy Band will showcase how they also entertain and support one of NZ's largest and most successful brass band training programmes", says Band President Owen Melhuish.

The special guest is a Kiwi music icon and friend of the band, Don McGlashan. Best known for his APRA Scroll award-winning songs "*Anchor Me*" and "*Bathe In The River*", he is also lauded as the frontman for the internationally-acclaimed Mutton Birds. He often performs on stage with a tenor horn or euphonium, having started playing with his father in the East Coast Bays Brass Band. Don McGlashan will be inducted into the New Zealand Music Hall of Fame in October, and the band is delighted to share the stage with such an acclaimed artist. "This continues a relationship with Don which began in 2013 when we first collaborated for the NZ Dance Company's *Rotunda* season," said Owen.

Two events are planned for the Sunday of Labour Weekend, with the band room open from 4.30pm to mix and mingle, view our memorabilia, and socialise with past and present members. Following this, a formal dinner will be held at the Milford Cruising Club, where many more stories will be told. This venue is appropriate as the band played at the opening of the Milford Cruising Club in 1926. Tickets for the dinner can be booked using [this link](#).



Don McGlashan

A new book on the band's history by local historian David Verran will be launched during the weekend. Stories of key events and characters and photographs from the early beginnings and beyond will detail the band's history.



Takapuna Citizens Band - 1935
 Back Row: ...Roberts, K. Moulder, A. Dephoff, P. McNair, P. Shaw, R. Powell, A. Smithers
 3rd Row: ...Crawford, ...Roberts, S. Taylor, S. McNair, N. Goode, L. Henderson,, F. Quelch
 2nd Row: B. Dephoff, H. Taylor, A. Taylor (Bandmaster), J. Henderson (President), F. Smyth (Drum Major), ...Gluett, ...Roberts
 Front Row: B. Dephoff, K. Taylor, M. Dephoff, P. Swamberg



Central Districts Contest

The Central Districts band contest 2023, held in Palmerston North, started on a warm and unusually windless spring day with the March at the Halt held in Te Marae o Hine/ The Square. All seven competing bands entertained the crowd and passers-by with some traditional marches and the odd modern diversion.

The first band playing on stage at the Speirs Centre, Palmerston North Boys' High School, were first-time participants Feilding Brass Training Band, taking advantage of the Central Districts' non-competitive section to give their young group a chance to play to a broader audience and receive feedback. It's always fantastic to see new groups on stage!

Saturday continued with the Hymn and Test event, concluded in fine style by Brass Whanganui, whose warm and emotive performance of *The Pohutukawa Stands* and magnificent rendition of *Bipolarity* won them first place in the top section. Palmerston North Brass swept the second section with their selection, including a

nice performance of *Stella*, while Brass Whanganui Concert Brass won the third section.

Sunday's concert programme provided a wonderful variety of music, including bands augmented by piano, guitar, vocals and acoustic effects. The results were seven captivating and entertaining concerts that engrossed and dazzled the appreciative crowd.

Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass won the top section solo event with *Only Time*, beautifully played by Neil Overton, while Brass Whanganui triumphed through the fireworks of *Starburst* and *From Dusk 'til Dawn*, an atmospheric and captivating description of a night in the life of a child in four movements by band-member Hamish Jellyman.

In the second section, Feilding Brass's first contest under Iraj Max Haas da Silva included the contrasting *Celebration Overture* by Corder, and their solo item *Star Dust*

shared that award with Palmerston North Brass, who won this section's concert programme with a mix ranging from Goff Richards' *When the Saints* through to an original reggae work. Hawera Brass rounded out the section with a delightful combination of film works aided by a stellar vocalist. Hawera also managed a superb job of keeping the crowd smiling despite their programme being sliced in two by an errant fire alarm!

In the third section, Brass Whanganui Concert Brass and New Plymouth JAY Band put huge bands on stage, and each performed well – a real testament to the strength of the player development in those bands.

Thanks go to the adjudicators, Buzz Newton and Reuben Brown, for their hard work and the great feedback provided to each band.

The contest was a very enjoyable weekend conducted in a great spirit of friendship and camaraderie that was a thrill to be a part of.

Craig Holdaway – Contest Manager



From the Devon Hotel New Brass Brass and JAY Band - James Peng, Section 3 trophy for the solo item. Neil Overton, winner of Section 1 solo item. Kille Contreras with the Section 3 Street March trophy.



Callum Morgan, New Plymouth JAY Band, with the trophy for the Section 3 Concert Programme, presented by Reuben Brown and Buzz Newton.



Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass

Free Workshops

As part of the AGM weekend, BBANZ will host a series of workshop sessions covering many aspects of banding, so there should be something for everyone's particular strengths and interests. The day's structure is that two workshops will run at once - you choose one to attend. There will be three sessions, followed by a combined session at which our guest speaker, Marc Taddei, will share his insights into understanding and diversifying your audience.

Celebrated for his "magnificent contribution as Music Director" by *The Press*, lauded as "a real interpreter of boldly romantic inclinations" by the *Dominion Post* and singled out for his "intensity, commitment and attention to detail", conductor Marc Taddei is the Music Director of Orchestra Wellington and the Vallejo Symphony Orchestra in the United States. During his tenure, critics have repeatedly remarked on his extraordinary connection with audiences and his zest for continually creating engaging, erudite, and innovative programmes.

Marc's impressive discography includes over thirty recordings on the Sony, BMG, Koch, Columbia, ABC Classics, Trust, ASV, Universal, Rattle, Atoll, Concordance, and Kiwi Pacific labels. Many of his recordings have entered both the classical and general music charts in New Zealand, including a double-platinum album.

His work in recording, television, and movies has been awarded the Pris de Bale (Switzerland), Vodafone Classical Recording of the Year, Luxembourg's Pizzicato Magazine Supersonic Award and Classic FM (UK) Recording of the Month.

The *Dominion Post* wrote, "Marc Taddei and his Wellington players have become a great success story in a short time. Taddei's programming is imaginative, his demeanour infectious, and his skill has seen a distinct increase in playing standards." The *Christchurch Press* praised Marc as "the Christchurch Symphony's music director, whose energy, exuberance, drive and vision proved beyond all doubt that music is an essential feature of daily life in a 21st-century city." While the *NZ Listener* stated, "Marc Taddei is to Christchurch what Sir William Glock was to the BBC Proms. His innovations this year alone surpass those of the Christchurch Symphony's entire history."



	Room 1	Room 2
12.15 - 12.30	Welcome and introduction	
12.30 - 1.30	Sounding Great: tips for tutors and players of all ages on how to make the best sound presented by Nic Scott.	Beyond the gaming machines: Fundraising ideas from Karla Paotonu, Fundraising & Partnerships Manager for Outward Bound Anakiwa New Zealand.
2.00 - 3.00	Stay with us: what do we need to do to retain players in our bands? Share your ideas and help write an action plan.	Taking Care of Business: Dealing with changes to the INC Act with Murray Warrington.
3.00 - 3.30	Afternoon tea	
3.30 - 4.30	A Taste of Europe: Harmen Vanhoorne shares his European banding experience and how he has adapted it to achieve success as a conductor and tutor in New Zealand.	BAM! What is it, and how will it help organise any band, presented by Brian Nicholas.
4.45pm	Social hour begins	
5.30 - 6.00	Guest speaker - Marc Taddei	
6.00pm	Carry on the social hour	

2023 NSSBB

Kia ora, everyone,

Our time of preparation is almost over. The third of October has always sat out there, somewhere in the distant future ... and yet here we are. Time stands still for no one. Vickie van Uden, Reuben Brown and I have worked to bring this year's National Secondary Schools' Brass Band Training Course together for over a year. We are proud to present two bands that will "Band Together," with the support of our fantastic tutors, and play alongside Aishah Leitner, this year's phenomenal guest soloist.

Preparation for such events does not happen by chance. Thank you to all those who have worked behind the scenes supporting our team.

I want to especially acknowledge music teachers and brass bands nationwide who have nurtured 70+ students to reach this point in their music careers. Having so many students attend this year's course is an honour. They will work hard to practise their pieces alongside the more social activities that such events need to create balance. By the end of the week, students will be thoroughly prepared to perform phenomenally on Saturday, 7 October, at 1.00pm at the Cambridge Town Hall. Book your tickets online via [this link](#)

As I reflect on bringing this year's course together, I would like to thank two of the local bands, Hamilton City Brass and Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass, for supplying percussion equipment to this year's course. Recently, the band I play for had a rehearsal sans percussion. Every brass player commented how much we missed our percussion team. It was a good lesson for us to appreciate those in our team who run from xylophone to glockenspiel, over to the bass drum and timpani, etc. I am sure you can agree the percussion section adds a whole new layer to the overall sound of the brass band. Without the support of the aforementioned bands, we could not achieve what we set out to do, so thank you again for generously supporting our course.

I don't want to give away too many secrets; students are in for a great time of banding, great music, and great camaraderie. I am sure that many lifelong friendships will be formed. I can't wait to catch up with my band friends again amongst the staff and students I have met over the years.

Isn't it great that we can provide so many students with these wonderful opportunities?

As always, I'm going to finish off with a quote. This time, from a drummer who was inducted into the Modern Drummer Hall of Fame, Vinnie Colaiuta, "Any time you strike the drums, you have to be aware that you are creating a musical event." I hope many readers can come to Cambridge Town Hall to watch our event; after all, our student musicians are the future of banding.

Nga mihi,
Sandra Ginever

— The National Secondary Schools Brass Bands Present —

BAND TOGETHER

1PM, SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER
CAMBRIDGE TOWN HALL



MUSICAL DIRECTORS: VICKIE VAN UDEN & REUBEN BROWN
GUEST SOLOIST: AISHAH LEITNER

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The | Saints

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Les Green Brass and Percussion Scholarship

A \$3000.00 scholarship spread over three years

For first-year students from beyond Dunedin

Scholarship terms and audition requirements
will be forwarded upon receipt of an expression of interest.

Email lesgreenscholarship@gmail.com or phone 027 221 5208 by 3 November 2023

Entries will close on 8 December 2023.

Election 2023

Not since 2017 has there been a need for an election to fill the seats on the BBANZ management committee. It is a sign of the strength of our organisation that four experienced people have been nominated to fill two seats on the committee.



Brendan Agnew, nominated by Hutt City Brass

After starting piano lessons at age five and trumpet lessons at 11, Brendan enjoyed several years of music-making before joining a brass band and realising what he had been missing. In his first week with Auckland City Brass in early 2012, he was handed a Bb cornet and told to have a go. The following week, the cornet was taken away, and he was told he was the band's new soprano player.

Moving to Wellington for university, Brendan played with Wellington Brass and Hutt City Brass and made appearances with the NZSO National Youth Orchestra and numerous ensembles at the New Zealand School of Music. Returning to Auckland in late 2015, Brendan worked as an itinerant music teacher, band director, and choir accompanist in several schools. During these three years, he made contest and concert appearances on soprano, Bb cornet, horn and percussion with Howick Brass, North Shore Brass, Dalewool Auckland Brass, and Papakura City Brass. Taking up the baton at Howick Brass in late 2018, he led them to victories in 2018 and 2019 at the Auckland contest and top-four finishes at the 2019, 2021 and 2022 national contests.

In January 2019, Brendan returned to Wellington to take up an administrative position with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, where he is now the Music Librarian - responsible for all musical material presented to the orchestra, managing commissioning and rental contracts, and ensuring copyright compliance.

Between 2020 and 2023, he served as Music

Director of the Wellington Youth Sinfonietta. Since stepping down as Music Director, Brendan has remained on the management committee of Wellington Youth Orchestras Inc. (which oversees Wellington Youth Orchestra and Wellington Youth Sinfonietta) as NZSO representative. He is also proud to sit on the committee of Music Futures, a registered charity that offers financial support and performance opportunities to young musicians in the Wellington region.

Having settled in Lower Hutt, Brendan plays soprano cornet with Hutt City Brass (where his wife Susan plays third cornet and is band secretary).

When asked why he is standing for the National Management Committee, Brendan responded: "Having been involved at almost all levels of brass banding in New Zealand since first joining Auckland City Brass, my life is richer from my experiences and the friends I have made. I am keen to ensure the future of New Zealand banding is sustainable, inclusive, accessible, and world-class, so it seems like a natural progression to join BBANZ's National Management Committee and do my part for an organisation and movement that has done so much for me. My background in music education, community music-making, and professional arts administration shows I have something to offer."



Leigh Martin, nominated by Rolleston Brass

During my many years of service to brass bands in New Zealand, I have been involved in most aspects of our organisation. I have been a member of band schools, National Youth Bands and National Bands. I have managed band schools and tutored at training courses for the Secondary Schools' Bands and National Youth Bands. I have taught young musicians and conducted local bands, the National Secondary School

Band, and been part of the support team for Secondary Schools' Bands and National Youth Bands.

I have worked on management committees for bands in New Plymouth and Christchurch and District Association committees in Canterbury and Central Districts. I am currently the Manager of Rolleston Brass in Canterbury - a band that formed in August 2020 and is now a C Grade band with learner programmes.

I was self-employed for thirty years and am currently a musician with the New Zealand Army Band.

My experience and enthusiasm for bands are evident, and I would like the opportunity to serve band people at the management level.



Kevin McMorran, nominated by Canterbury Brass

I have been involved with brass bands for over fifty years, playing with bands representative of every grade. I have also been heavily involved in administrative and leadership roles for most of this time.

New Zealand banding is facing challenges in a post-COVID world, with funding for arts-related activities becoming an increasing challenge. We also need to carefully think about how we respond to the challenges of the next ten years with careful, innovative strategic thinking.

It is important that bands of all levels thrive and that BBANZ provides sound advice and practical help to ensure we do not lose more community bands. We need to be adaptable in a changing musical world to ensure that we survive as an art form.

I am a qualified lawyer and chartered accountant with extensive tax knowledge. I

also have extensive management and project experience developing preventative solutions for problems of all types.

If elected, I look forward to working with all parties concerned to ensure the future of banding in New Zealand.



Emily Richards, nominated by Hamilton City Brass

I have played the cornet (and occasionally dabbled in the flugel) since I was seven. Growing up in the UK, I was lucky enough to play in the Hampshire County Youth Band between the ages of 10 and 18, which provided fantastic opportunities for us as young players, including overseas tours and performances on television and at the Royal Albert Hall. I also played with the City of Winchester Band, Regent Brass and City of Coventry Band.

Since moving to New Zealand in 2006, I have been based in Wellington and was a member of Hutt City Brass until 2015, including being President between 2007 and 2015. I was also President of the Wellington District Brass Bands Association from 2008 to 2018 and 2021 to 2023. I was closely involved with organising the very successful 2017 National Contest held in Wellington and was a member of the contest committee for the 2022 National Contest in Wellington. I have also been fortunate to serve on the BBANZ National Management Committee since 2017.

I was the Manager of the 2017 and 2018 National Secondary Schools' Brass Bands and have had the privilege of being the Manager of the National Youth Brass Band since 2020. The representative bands I have been involved with have all returned a surplus to BBANZ. Having been involved with youth representative bands for a few years, it has been truly inspiring to see these young players develop musically and as individuals. I remain committed to supporting these bands, which showcase the amazing talent of the younger members of our brass band whānau.

I am passionate about brass banding in New Zealand, particularly supporting and developing the new generation of brass band players and attracting people back to the movement who have taken breaks to enable brass banding in New Zealand to thrive. Through my day job, I bring strong financial, commercial and governance experience to help BBANZ ensure its financial sustainability and target resources to areas that best support its aims.

I would love the opportunity to continue using my skills and experience on the BBANZ management committee to ensure our movement remains strong. I would be happy to discuss any questions you or your band may have - please feel free to contact me at emilyrichards@gmail.com or 021 607 483.

Canterbury Contest

On Saturday, 23 September, eleven bands from Canterbury took to the stage at the rebuilt Linwood High School - Te Aratai College. As a change to the usual contest schedule, the C, B and A Grade bands got the Canterbury Festival Contest underway. The afternoon session started with four D Grade bands, including the first and second placed bands at the recent national contest. The day concluded with two great programmes in the newly established Development Grade, from Addington TRAINing Band and Woolston Junior Band. It was evident that much work had gone into preparing for this event, and there was a very positive vibe from the bands and the audience.

Thank you to our music adjudicators, Vickie van Uden, Raynor Martin and Kyle Lawson. Jody Keehan, a legend in the Canterbury music scene, judged the Entertainment aspect of the band contest. Over a quick lunch between sessions, Jody confessed she started her musical life in the Timaru Municipal Band.

The next day, 75 competitors amazed the judges with the quality of their performances in solo and ensemble events. Thank you to Adrian Dalton, Raynor Martin, Tyme Marsters, Cameron Burnett and Hazel Wilson for giving their time to provide helpful feedback to all competitors. Special shout-out to 14-year-old Luca Cable, who not only won both events in the Under 16 solo section and the overall Junior Champion title but also won the Open Slow Melody event.

The CPBBA Committee would like to thank the following organisations and people who contributed to the Festival to ensure its success: Kiwi Gaming Foundation, Woolston Brass and Todd Turner for supplying and transporting percussion gear, Dave Johnstone for designing the programme and all the amazing accompanists. Special thanks to event supervisors Stephen Leader, Todd Turner, Chris Gourlay, Peter Thorby and Lachlan Grant; door staff and runners Brent Andrews, Cameron Hoy, Jane Good and Grace Seaton (our next chief supervisor), and the set-up team from Rolleston and Addington Brass.

Helen Lee
CPBBA Contest Manager



Genevieve Flavall, Woolston Junior Band, collects the trophy for the Development Grade from adjudicators Raynor Martin and Jody Keehan.

Canterbury Contest Results

Under 10 Solo

- 1 Benjamin Holtmark van Dijkhof, Nor'west Zephyrs
- 2 Alex Straver, Addington TRAINing Band
- 3 Ben Eggers, Addington TRAINing Band

Under 13 Slow Melody

- 1 Erika Cable, Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Mika Muraji-Green, Addington TRAINing Band
- 3 Tianna Chen, Nor'west Brass

Under 13 Variation

- 1 Erika Cable, Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Mika Muraji-Green, Addington TRAINing Band
- 3 Sam Paget, Nor'west Zephyrs

Under 16 Slow Melody

- 1 Luca Cable, Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Mia Yee, Addington Brass
- 3 Willy Keith, Nor'west Brass

Under 16 Variation

- 1 Luca Cable, Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Mia Yee, Addington Brass
- 3= Willy Keith, Nor'west Brass
- 3= Thomas Flavell, Woolston Junior Band
- 3= Andrew James, Addington TRAINing Band

Under 19 Slow Melody

- 1 Monika Duncan, Addington Brass
- 2 Huey Duncan, Addington Brass
- 3 Katia Ashmore, Nor'west Brass

Under 19 Variation

- 1 Jack Banks, Addington Brass
- 2 Huey Duncan, Addington Brass
- 3 Monika Duncan, Addington Brass

Junior Champion of Champions: Luca Cable, Woolston Concert Brass

Under 15 Percussion solo

- 1 Kyle Yee, Addington TRAINing Band

Under 19 Percussion solo

- 1 Keina Rollinson, Woolston Brass

Open Percussion solo

- 1 Sho Woodhouse, Canterbury Brass

C and D Grade Slow Melody

- 1 Lilian Lei, Nor'west Brass
- 2 Barbara George, Addington TRAINing Band
- 3 Jacolien Sherriff, Nor'west Zephyrs

C and D Grade Variation

- 1 Jim Hill, New Brighton Silver Band
- 2 James Upton, Sumner Silver Band
- 3 Jacolien Sherriff, Nor'west Zephyrs

C and D Grade Champion: Jim Hill, New Brighton Silver Band

Open Slow Melody

- 1 Luca Cable, Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Pam Dempsey, Addington Brass
- 3 Louisa Clissold, Addington Brass

Open Variation

- 1 Haydn Randall, Woolston Junior Band
- 2 Leigh Martin, Rolleston Brass
- 3 Adair Sherriff, Nor'west Brass

Open Solo Champion: Leigh Martin, Rolleston Brass

Veterans Slow Melody

- 1 Steve Griffin, Rangiora RSA Club Brass
- 2= Barbara George, Addington TRAINing Band
- 2= Pam Dempsey, Addington Brass

Veterans Variation

- 1 Steve Griffin, Rangiora RSA Club Brass
- 2 Leigh Martin, Rolleston Brass
- 3 Jim Hill, New Brighton Silver Band

Veterans Champion: Steve Griffin, Rangiora RSA Club Brass

Championship Slow Melody

- 1 Kevin Hickman, Wellington Brass
- 2 Anthony Smith, Woolston Brass
- 3 Nic Scott, Wellington Brass

Championship Variation

- 1 Kevin Hickman, Wellington Brass
- 2 Anthony Smith, Woolston Brass
- 3 Nic Scott, Wellington Brass

Canterbury Soloist of the Year: Kevin Hickman, Wellington Brass

Junior Brass Ensemble

- 1 Mika Muraji-Green & Mia Yee, Addington Brass
- 2 RB Academy Ensemble, Rolleston Brass

Junior Percussion Ensemble

- 1 Woolston Junior Band

Open Duet

- 1 Karen Richardson & Robert Bisquera, Rolleston Brass
- 2 Sophia & Graham Hickman, Woolston Junior Band
- 3 Huey & Monika Duncan, Addington Brass

Open Ensemble

- 1 Addington Trombone Quartet
- 2 The Sumner Village People
- 3 Sumner Moonlighters

Development Grade

- 1 Woolston Junior Band (MD Vickie van Uden)
- 2 Addington TRAINing Band (MD Adrian Dalton)



Dwayne Bloomfield, MD of the champion D Grade Band.

D Grade

Sacred Item

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band
- 3 Sumner Silver Band

Major Work

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band
- 3 Sumner Silver Band

Stage March

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band
- 2 New Brighton Silver Band
- 3 Nor'west Zephyrs

Entertainment Programme

- 1 Rangiora RSA Club Band
- 2 Sumner Silver Band
- 3 New Brighton Silver Band

D Grade Champion Band: Rangiora RSA Club Band (MD Dwayne Bloomfield)

C Grade

Sacred Item

- 1 Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Rolleston Brass
- 3 Nor'west Brass

Major Work

- 1 Woolston Concert Brass
- 2 Rolleston Brass
- 3 Nor'west Brass

Entertainment programme

- 1 Rolleston Brass
- 2 Woolston Concert Brass
- 3 Nor'west Brass

C Grade Champion Band: Woolston Concert Brass (MD Phil Johnston)

B Grade

Sacred/Major Work/Entertainment

- 1 Addington Brass (MD Adrian Dalton)

A Grade

Sacred/Major Work/Entertainment

- 1 Woolston Brass (MD Tyme Marsters)

The Best Compere award went to Edward Garbutt & Andrew James (Addington TRAINing Band) and **Best Soloist** to Kevin Hickman (playing for Woolston Concert Brass).



*Junior Ensemble winners
Mika and Mia with
adjudicator Hazel Wilson.*



*Kyle Yee, winner of the Under
15 percussion solo with
adjudicator Cameron Burnett.*



*Luca Cable with his first trophy of the
day with adjudicator Adrian Dalton.*



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Next-Gen

In this issue, Lachlan Spence interviews 17-year-old Clara Dujakovic, runner-up in this year's Junior Champion of Champions, recently selected on trombone for the 2024 National Youth Band and a member of Woolston Concert Brass.

What was your first musical experience?

I meddled around with piano a bit when I was 7 and 8 years old, along with short bursts of various woodwind instruments, before starting trombone when I was 11. I switched from piano in my intermediate school jazz band six months later and never looked back!

Describe how musical ability runs through your family.

I grew up surrounded by jazz, with my mother being a pianist and my step-father a trumpet player. My father is also a brilliant singer - albeit with no formal music education - and used to be in a 'The Doors' cover band in Europe!

To date, what have been some of your musical highlights?

2023 Nationals, as it was the first time I got to experience the full glory of brass banding! Other than that, Cashmere High School's recent music tour to Sydney, our production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* last year, and the 2023 National Youth Orchestra have been amazing experiences.

Who or what has been your greatest inspiration?

All of the incredible musicians I watch perform and work around Christchurch and New Zealand - particularly my teachers and other Woolston Concert Brass players.

What is the best thing about being in a brass band?

The community and spirit when making music together!

What do you hope to achieve in the future?

I would love to, and aspire to, make playing trombone my career, but first, I am focusing on getting a music degree and taking everything one step at a time.

Quickfire questions

What type of music do you listen to most? Jazz or classical

Other interests? Tramping, netball (when uninjured), cooking.

Favourite food? Dal

Favourite place? Marlborough Sounds

Favourite film? *Monsters, Inc.*

Favourite instrument? Trombone

Favourite piece of music? Kamasi Washington's version of *Clair de Lune*

What do you dislike most? Being late.

For the more technical amongst us, what make of instrument do you play? Bach 42B0





Tertiary Scholarship

We invite applications from brass and percussion players, either beginning or continuing tertiary study in Dunedin in 2024, to join Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass through our tertiary scholarship programme.

We are a friendly B Grade band located next to the University of Otago campus. The value of the scholarship is \$500 plus a subscription fee waiver. Up to four may be awarded each year. Successful applicants are expected to remain committed playing members of the band for at least the duration of 2024.

To apply, email kaikmetrobrass@gmail.com outlining your brass band or other musical experience and study intentions, along with a letter of recommendation and contact details from a musical director or tutor.

Applications close December 1, 2023.



Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Peter and Kylie Adams, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity), E Aldridge (in perpetuity), J Aldridge, Auckland Bands Association, D and M Dawson, Pete and Billie Harbidge, JB and NC Hollick, Carol and Trevor Kempton, Brian Lee, I Levien, John McGough, O Melhuish, D Miller, G and C Moseley, NBS Nelson City Brass, North Shore Brass, NZ Army Band, Otago Southland Brass Band Association, B and M Platt, Evan and Lorraine Sayer, J&R Sullivan.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the Executive Officer.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Trevor Bremner MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Kevin Dell ONZM, Beverley Kench, Ian Levien QSM, Stephen Leader, Leigh Martin, Bill Platt, Evan Sayer, Dianne Smeehuyzen MNZM JP, Rodney Sutton MBE JP, Murray Warrington.

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Brieseman OBE JP, RM Brooker, Trevor Cudby, W Currie, Graham Dick, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin QSO , EJ Gohns, T Goodall, HL 'Drummer' Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, KL Jarrett MBE, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, Tony Lewis MNZM, WP MacLachlan, Riki McDonnell QSM, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith MBE, T Taylor OSM, LE Thorne QSM, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.


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Everyone has a special day in their town and a perfect opportunity to put on a concert or festival or ... well, you tell us what we might do to raise awareness of breast cancer research in your community through our shared love of brass bands.

Bands large, small, A Grade, or just starting out -

Bras and Brass is the perfect companion band for your journey. We are more than just a group of passionate musicians. Our team of experienced band professionals are keen to work with you and your band. As well as having the chance to feel as though you are contributing to a very worthy cause, this could be another opportunity to perform in your community and enjoy camaraderie with fellow bandies from across New Zealand.

If you'd like a visit from this band drawn from across the country, where the focus is for a good cause, please get in touch with band liaison Bronwynne Leech bronleech@gmail.com or band manager Mike Sander mike.sander@tpl.co.nz

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nznationalband@gmail.com

National Youth Brass Band
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Manager: Emily Richards
nybb2024@gmail.com
M: 021 607 483

National Secondary Schools' Brass Band
Musical Directors: Vickie van Uden, Christchurch
and Reuben Brown, Wellington.
Manager: Sandra Ginever
nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com
M: 021 211 2321

2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July
Contact person: Owen Melhuish
owenmelhuish@gmail.com

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.
Contact person Graham Hickman
festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com

National Band of New Zealand

The purpose of the band is to engage with and inspire all NZ brass bands and players, to reconnect with and grow our audiences domestically with the vision of having the band recognised as a worldwide leading exponent of brass band music.

Musical Director

BBANZ seeks expressions of interest for the next Musical Director of the National Band. The successful applicant for the position will be responsible for the musical leadership and artistic direction of the band for the next three years.

The successful applicant will share the vision for the National Band and have a plan to achieve the National Band's purpose over their term.

The successful applicant will be able to provide evidence of the following core skills, knowledge and experience:

- Leading a band of quality players.
- Innovative programme selections.
- Delivering major projects/initiatives as musical leaders of their own band.
- Musical knowledge and ability.
- Passion for musical excellence and the drive to maintain this.

Other duties

- Directing band rehearsals and workshops, focusing on continuously improving the band's standard.
- Planning with band management, programmes, concert repertoire and exploring new possibilities for band performances in domestic and international arenas.
- Featuring works by NZ composers, including new commissions.
- Supporting financial opportunities planned for the band.
- Creating and maintaining a supportive atmosphere.
- Providing motivation and encouragement to the band towards achieving the goals of the band.
- Holding auditions for band selection when required.
- Networking with other performing arts groups.
- Assisting with publicity, media campaigns and promoting the band.

Once the expressions of interest have been received, a shortlist of candidates will be asked to prepare an outline of a three-year programme for the National Band to inform the selection process.

The successful applicant will be required to agree to the terms and conditions set by BBANZ and will be paid an honorarium.

All applicants should provide a CV and covering letter to the Executive Officer of BBANZ at bbanzeo@gmail.com by 1 November 2023.

National Band Manager

Applications are called for from suitably experienced persons interested in managing the National Band for the next three years.

The successful applicant will have a drive to achieve the purpose of the National Band and be able to provide evidence of the following core skills, knowledge and experience:

- Managing a band or other not-for-profit community group.
- Budgeting and fundraising for bands.
- Delivering major projects/initiatives as managers of their own band.
- Working closely and effectively with Musical Directors.

Applications should refer to the purpose and vision of the National Band and include a high-level outline of a potential three-year programme for the National Band.

Applications should be in the form of a cover letter and CV outlining relevant experience and should be emailed to the Executive Officer of BBANZ at bbanzeo@gmail.com before the closing date of 1 November 2023.

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The Official Journal of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Volume 69 | Issue 9 | November 2023 ISSN 2744-6298 (Online)

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2023 National Secondary Schools' Bands



This year's training course was phenomenal. I have no other words. 70 students and 20+ staff worked meticulously to bring this year's course together. St. Peter's School in Cambridge provided the perfect setting with all accommodation, meals and rehearsal spaces in the same handy location. The Cambridge Town Hall was the perfect place for a near sell-out concert, drawing in known brass band friends, family, and "people off the street" who were listening to brass band music for the first time. Everyone walked away invigorated and inspired to pick up an instrument.

Before I go into detail about the concert, I must thank our sponsors who have enabled this year's course to go ahead: The Breeze (Waikato), Mr Rental, Lion Foundation, Pub Charity, Hamilton City Brass, NZCT, Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass, Hamilton City Brass, Four Winds Foundation, Waipā Networks and the Ministry of Education Vacation Music Grant. Without your support, funding a five-day training course would be challenging. We appreciate your efforts to support students in the brass banding movement. Thank you also to Simon Brew at the Cambridge Town Hall for publicising our concert.

Another group of people I wish to thank includes our musical directors, Vickie van Uden and Reuben Brown; our guest soloist, Aishah Leitner; our tutors: Todd Smith, Clive Burnell, Josh Rogan, Brendan Agnew, Bryce Gordon, Anne Filimoehala,

Ray Farrow, Linda Filimoehala, Hamilton Lea, Aishah Leitner, Mark Bingham, Mark Close, Lachlan Grant, Jayden Matchitt; Our national youth brass band mentors: Leighton Ginever and Charlie Garcia-Gil; and our support staff: Annabelle Stewart, Mandy Saunders, Matt Maunsell-Terry, Paul Lamb and Don Peng.

This year's course in a few paragraphs:

Tuesday: Students convened in the afternoon, ran through some of the music, did some meet and greet activities and formed a pipe cleaner band.

Wednesday: Full band rehearsal. Listened to Simon Dobson explain his take on composition and the story behind his *A Brief Symphony of Time*. With key points: "In order to be successful, be yourself and do things your way. Nobody actually cares what you are doing, so do things your way wholeheartedly." Waikato River Trails ran a team-building "amazing race" with a range of parlour games and physical and mental challenges. Then, there were more rehearsals.

Thursday: Students visited the Grassroots Velodrome to have a session with Andrew and Bronwynne Leech, who reminded our students that brass musicians are athletes. The band is the best place for support during difficult times and a brief introduction to the Brass and Brass organisation, which supports fundraising for breast cancer

research. Another highlight for many was the inaugural NSSBB ensemble challenge, which saw 70 students shuffled into three ensembles to play Noah Terry's rendition of the *Wellerman* and *Drunken Sailor*. Each group selected their conductor (Monika Duncan, Noah Terry and Logan Ready) and collaborated to put forward their best performance in a friendly competition. While the judges (percussion and support staff team) deliberated, I was fortunate to sit alongside the star-studded lineup of tutors to play in the staff ensemble's rendition of *Gabriel's Oboe*.

Friday: Our final day of rehearsals (totalling about 30 hours over the five days). Students also participated in the annual Quiz Night, which incorporated some local information, quirky pieces of information about students and staff and a spot of trivia, concluding with the astounding amount of walking a manager does between all the site venues during the course. (Yes, I walked a marathon in five days!!).

Saturday: Concert Day This year's concert programme was inspirational, beginning with Reuben Brown conducting the NSSBB Development Band through *Sabre Dance* (Edrich Siebert), *In Perfect Peace* (Kenneth Downie) and *The Dark Side of the Moon* (Paul Lovett-Cooper). Monika Duncan (cornet) and James Peng (flugel horn) showcased their talents after auditioning for their positions in A

Duet for Two Cats (Rossini, arranged by Howard Snell). This piece truly captured the audience's imagination and was the cat's meow! Guest soloist Aishah Leitner played a soulful rendition of *When She Loved Me* from the popular animated film *Toy Story* (arranged by Riwai Hina), and of course, who wouldn't love to play the *Floral Dance* for a top-secret finale.

After a quick change between bands, Vickie van Uden reintroduced Aishah Leitner and the team of nine trombones from across both bands (Anessa Ginever, Logan Ready, Shane Mannerings, Matt Donaldson, Benjamin Pickering, Bryn Morgan, Luke Eggers, Arryn Dustan and Vonya Cowie) to perform the high energy opener, *The Attack of the Killer Trombones* (Alan Fernie). Monika Duncan was invited to conduct the band through *Ivory Ghosts* (Gavin Higgins), which highlighted the many talents of our students and the importance of further educating them into Junior MD positions. Hugo Carter played a magnificent solo

of *First Light* (Ben Hollings). The audience was mesmerised by *A Brief Symphony of Time* (Simon Dobson), a thirteen-minute piece divided into four continuous movements that took us on a journey beyond our meek existence. In his interview, Simon Dobson mentioned how he began to seriously compose this piece after the death of Stephen Hawking, the influential scientist who wrote the book *A Brief History of Time*, which inspired the composer's title. The band played some favourites, including *Under the Boardwalk* (arranged by Philip Harper) featuring Emily Sullivan and Mia Yee on flugel horn and the bass section (Hamish Williams, Charlie Meek, Grace Seaton and Liam Dixon). Aishah Leitner took to the stage once again as part of a quartet with Emily Sullivan, Mia Yee and Walter Hughes (euphonium) to perform *All I Ask of You* (Andrew Lloyd Webber, arranged by Alan Fernie). A sensory delight for young and old as bubbles drifted across the stage while Aishah Leitner performed the *Ballet of the Starfish* (Martin Winter).

All 70 students who stretched across every aspect of the Cambridge Town Hall stage performed the final three pieces. First up was the world premiere of *Swing Kings* (Leighton Ginever), *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* (Mark Laurence) and the highly energised finale of *Salsa Pa'Gozar* (Philip Harper) featuring several soloists: Emily Sullivan (flugelhorn), Anessa Ginever (trombone), Mia Yee (flugel horn), Logan Ready (trombone), Connor Franklin (cornet).

There was something for everyone in attendance at this year's NSSBB "Band Together" concert. I am so proud of all our students who lifted their performance to the next level. Seriously, we had two bands who played out-of-this-world music. We are truly blessed in New Zealand to have such incredible musicians at such a young age.

Following the concert, we hosted the annual NSSBB prize-giving with students and their families back at St. Peter's School before everyone departed for home. This year's recipients were as follows overleaf:



Beautiful bubbles by Liam Dixon and Grace Seaton during *Ballet of the Starfish*



Band manager Sandra Ginever and Best Soloist Award winner Hugo Carter



Guest soloist Aishah Leitner

SPECIAL AWARD:

5 Year Service Award: Walter Hughes (2019-2023)

NSSBB AWARDS:

Principal Cornet Cup: Connor Franklin

Best Audition: Emily Sullivan

Outstanding Player: Hugo Carter

Most Improved: Kate McGregor

Section of the Year: Back Row Cornets

and Sopranos: Hugo Carter (repiano), Anastasia Ika (repiano), Oscar Stove (2nd cornet), Hoani Wilson (2nd cornet), Catherine Frew (2nd cornet), Lizzie Barr (3rd cornet), Samara Beck (3rd cornet), Sophie Wood (3rd cornet), Claire Frew (3rd cornet), Harry Parker (soprano), Emma Shore (soprano)

Musical Director's Award: Emily Sullivan and Mia Yee (both flugel horn)

Manager's Award: Keleni Tupou (euphonium)

NSSBB DEVELOPMENT BAND AWARDS:

Principal Cornet: James Hendra

Outstanding Player: James Peng

Most Improved: Bryn Emett-Pene

Section of the Year: Back Row Cornets and

Sopranos: Connor Rooke (repiano), Mitchell Cosford (2nd cornet), Noah Terry (2nd cornet), Valu Siuamisi (2nd cornet), Melody

Gordon (3rd cornet), Callum Shuker-Brown (3rd cornet), Isaac Lamb (3rd cornet), Aidan Jobe (3rd cornet), Aiden West (soprano) and Christopher Tsai (soprano)

Musical Director's Awards: Daniel Ross (Bb bass) and Aiden West (soprano)

Manager's Award: Connor Rooke (repiano cornet)

I return to the word "phenomenal," I am incredibly proud of everyone involved in this year's NSSBB course. We were single-minded in our focus and had a great time in rehearsals and non-band events. After spending five days with this high-energy group of wonderful young people, I feel inspired. Thank you again to everyone involved: sponsors, MDs, tutors, support staff and students. Also, a huge thank you to everyone who filled the Cambridge Town Hall. Those of you who missed the concert live can still catch it on [this link](#):

I hope you enjoy(ed) the concert as much as our team enjoyed putting it together. The NSSBB Facebook Page also captured the action with two exceptional photographers, Dana Foley and John Tsai, who have kindly shared their pictures with us [HERE](#).

A Note from our Musical Directors:

Vickie van Uden: I can't express how much

I've enjoyed working with the young people of the National Secondary Schools' Brass Band. There is some amazing young talent across New Zealand. I was privileged to be standing in the middle. Already, I can't wait for next year!

Reuben Brown: Looking back on two enriching years as the Musical Director of the Development Band, there have been many highlights and a myriad of positive memories. Thanks to all the musicians who made our band so vibrant, strong, and always with a giggle every couple of minutes. I cannot wait to see the journey unfold for all these young musicians.

Final Note: This year's course reminded me why it is such a joy to be the manager of the National Secondary Schools' Brass Band, and I am sure everyone in brass banding can agree:

He aha te mea nui o te ao

What is the most important thing in the world?

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

I am feeling truly blessed,
Sandra Ginever
NSSBB Manager



Tutors, MDs, band manager and support staff.



Reuben Brown



Vickie van Uden with the combined bands.

The NZ March King

Te Awamutu Brass farewelled its eldest member on 30 September following the death of 96-year-old John Gibbons.

John joined Te Awamutu Brass when he moved there in 1999, but had previously played for Takapuna Municipal Band, Auckland Artillery Band and Auckland Watersiders Band (1943-1957), Te Aroha Municipal Band (1958-59) and formed the Te Aroha College Band in 1958.

After a break, he joined Lower Hutt Municipal Band (now Titan City Brass) from 1976 until 1995. Then he moved north and played variously for Cambridge Municipal Band and Tauranga City Silver before moving to Te Awamutu.

Gibbons was a special player with so much experience and knowledge -- joining the band's tenor horn and cornet sections. He was dedicated to the bands he played in and often was awarded the Attendance Cup. This continued through his 80s and 90s in Te Awamutu, where he was present for most payouts and contests. He was an active competitor as a soloist at national and regional contests, with many successes. His last national contest was in Hamilton in 2019.

He has also repaired hundreds of instruments for bands around the Waikato at his own expense. In an interview for his 90th birthday, Gibbons said he got enormous pleasure from restoring cornets that are 80-100 years old. Bands described him as a gifted craftsman.

His other gift was writing brass music -- especially marches. He was prolific, completing 50 marches for many New Zealand bands, signature pieces that recall the history of their regions or people. Te Awamutu has several pieces that mark special occasions or events. Gibbons was working on number 51 at the time of his death.

He was also a pianist who played weekly for residents at the Assisi Home at Matangi, and he played for fellow residents at Rosehill Lifestyle Village, where he and his wife Joan lived.

Gibbons liked to "entertain the old people".

It is the marches that will be John Gibbons' legacy. Of note are *The Spirit of Le Quesney*, written for Cambridge Band to play when they visited their twin town in France for the celebration of the centenary of the liberation of Le Quesney (1918) from the Germans in WWI by New Zealand soldiers, and *The Heroes of Passchendaele*, which was written as a tribute to all the heroes who took part in the battle at Passchendaele, many of whom gave their lives in this battle.

John's first march was written in 1946, titled *Home of the Kiwi*.

Former music promoter and military music historian Gavin Marriott says it is the march *Hauraki* that John Gibbons will be remembered for internationally -- and he had a part in its writing.

In 2006, a concert of marches was staged in Te Awamutu by the International Military Music Society entitled *The March Kings of USA, UK and NZ - Sousa, Alford and Gibbons*.

Then 79-year-old Gibbons also presented the march to the 6th Hauraki Battalion - a territorial army unit for the Waikato/Bay of Plenty -- which was specially composed for them.

This was the first unit in New Zealand to have their own march.

At the end of a spellbinding night of music, Gibbons was himself stunned to be presented with a march composed in his honour by Steve Packer, bandmaster of the Royal New Zealand Navy.

The *John Gibbons March* was a tribute from the International Military Music Society.

Marriott says *Hauraki* began two years prior, in 2004, when the Mounted Band of the Household Cavalry undertook a tour of the North Island. Their bandmaster contacted him to ask for the music of New Zealand Army marches as he wanted to do a medley of them.

It was clear there was no such music, so

the bandmaster, who had composed for the Queen, promised to write a march.

Marriott was living in Hauraki then and contacted the 6th Battalion, and they were delighted.

About the same time, he was informed of composer John Gibbons living nearby in Te Awamutu, so he made the trip and, in his own words, "introduced myself to a chap who thumped out several partly written tunes on the piano".

"I said to myself, 'That part would make a nice intro, that part would make a nice trio, that part would make a nice chorus' -- and so I ran off with three of his incomplete compositions."

Using Gibbons' music, Marriott assembled the march, complete with lyrics, with help from Packer and students from Burnside High School.

Hauraki was recorded internationally and played by British bands, and the composers -- Gibbons and Marriott -- were made honorary Haurakis.

In the presence of many of his friends from the New Zealand Brass Band family, John Gibbons was played out by Te Awamutu Brass and one of his own compositions, *The Town of Taumarunui*.

Reprinted courtesy of the Te Awamutu Courier



Photo courteous of the Te Awamutu Courier

Future Focused

Congratulations to the management and tutors of the 2023 National Secondary Schools' Brass Band Camp for a highly successful camp. Hearing these 73 talented young musicians perform to a very appreciative audience at the Cambridge Town Hall was very rewarding. Well done, Band Manager Sandra Ginever, Musical Directors Vickie van Uden and Reuben Brown, Guest Soloist Aishah Leitner and the many volunteers who generously gave so much to provide a fun-filled week of learning and music making. Most importantly, it was exciting to witness the camaraderie and friendships being formed at these annual camps. Undoubtedly, many will develop into life-long friendships similar to those I cherish highly and have been vital in keeping me involved in brass banding for over 45 years.



This time last year, I enjoyed time with the Marlborough District Brass Band and Mosgiel Brass as they recognised their 160th and 150th anniversaries, respectively. This month, my own "young" North Shore Brass celebrates 100 years, and just like Marlborough and Mosgiel, I am well aware many New Zealand brass bands are well into their second

century of music making. Few musical organisations within New Zealand can boast this many years of continuous service to their local community. It highlights the key role brass bands have played and continue to play in towns and cities throughout the country. Bands have prospered through three centuries due to their commitment to serving the communities that support them and providing a healthy and nurturing environment for musicians of all ages. One can only guess at the thousands of players who, over the years, have been given the opportunity to learn and perform music in a family-friendly brass band environment in almost every town in New Zealand.

We must continue to evolve to ensure we will be around for at least another 100 years. Our Annual Conference and AGM, on Saturday, 4 and Sunday, 5 November, in Wellington, is an ideal opportunity for conductors, players and administrators to share ideas and discuss our future direction without contesting pressures. The free workshops will cover various topics, including How to develop a great sound, Fundraising, the new Incorporated Societies Act, Player retention, European banding adaption to New Zealand and Band Asset Manager. The day will round out with guest speaker Marc Taddei from Orchestra Wellington sharing his insights into understanding and diversifying your audience. And there is a social hour.

The next day, many vital decisions on your organisation's future are made and endorsed by those in attendance at the AGM. Bands have been proactive and have submitted several remits on changes to our rules and regulations, which undoubtedly will be debated with enthusiasm. Members from the 2024 Auckland Contest and 2025 Christchurch Contest committees will be present should you have any questions. One item that the Christchurch contest representative will cover is the plan to hold the marching on the Sunday morning of the contest and the social event that will be built around it. It is essential all bands are aware and can plan their travel in July 2025 accordingly.

Only bands, District Associations and Life Members present have the right to vote at our AGM. We appreciate there is a cost to attend; however, we have done our best to provide more value to our members by adding the conference workshops. Ensure your voice is heard by supporting this year's conference and AGM.

Yours in banding.

John Sullivan – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Wellington Contest

A very successful Wellington District Brass Bands Association Contest was hosted by the Upper Hutt Brass Band on Sunday, 24 September, with six member bands competing across all four grades. Judges for

the event were David Gallaher (music) and Stephanie Lambert (entertainment). Bands competed in three events: reflective item, own choice major work, and entertainment programme. In a departure from tradition

and at the judges' request, adjudication was open for all events. The best soloist in the entertainment programme was Lachlan Spence from Wellington Brass.

	Reflective item	Own choice	Entertainment Programme (music)	Entertainment Programme (presentation)	Championship (aggregate)	Place
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Section 1

Hutt City Brass	44	91	66	27	228	2
Trust Porirua City Brass	43	90	65	26	224	3
Wellington Brass Band	46	94	69	25	234	1

Section 2

Buzzing Brass	38	80	60	20	198	3
Levin & Districts Brass	40	84	62	22	208	2
Upper Hutt Brass Band	42	83	64	20	209	1

Gig Guide

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 November
Masterton District Brass Band 150th celebrations. Email: MastertonBrass@gmail.com

Saturday 4 November
FREE BBANZ Conference workshops at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington.

Sunday 5 November
BBANZ Annual General Meeting at the West Plaza Hotel, Wellington from 9.30am.

Saturday 11 November
Rangiora RSA Club Band presents **Armistice at Flanders Fields**, 2.00pm at Rangiora Baptist Church Centre, 111 East Belt, Rangiora.

Sunday 12 November
The RNZ Air Force Band presents **'Air Force in Concert'** 2.30pm at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster.

Saturday 18 November
Nor'west Brass and Friends in concert with guest soloists Kyle Lawson, Joel Williams, and Sylvia Vail, 3.00pm at Salvation Army Citadel, Columbo Street, Christchurch. Tickets **HERE**: Adults \$10.00, Students \$5.00, Children Free

Sunday 19 November
Levin & Districts Brass End-of-Year Concert, 2.00pm at the Levin Salvation Army complex.
Feature guest soloist Trevor Bremner with special guest conductor David Maas. Gold coin donation at the door. For further information, contact Chris Craddock at 027 410 2420.

Monday 20 November
Dampier re-imagined, 7.00pm at the Woolston Band Room, 37 Dampier Street, Christchurch (rain date Wednesday 22 November). Woolston Brass, in partnership with Jolt Dance, celebrates the historic Dampier Street Band Room. Free outdoor concert.

Saturday 25 November
Star Crossed - join Hamilton City Brass for a story-time concert of Romeo & Juliet. 7.30pm at Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts. Tickets are available **HERE** from Ticketek.

Saturday 16 December
Tidings of Comfort and Joy. Wellington Brass Band and the Bach Choir of Wellington join forces for an afternoon of irresistible Christmas joy. 2.00pm at St Mary of the Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Te Aro, Wellington. Tickets available **here**:

14 to 20 January 2024
The 2024 National Youth Brass Band training course in Wellington.

To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at bbanzeo@gmail.com



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Celebratory Afternoon in Invercargill

On 23 July, members of the Invercargill Garrison Band Society (AKA Ascot Park Hotel bands) gathered to celebrate achievements and acknowledge retirements. The afternoon began with the presentation of BBANZ Long Service awards to Ken Wellington (45 years), John Bath (51 years), Warren Crighton (51 years), Lee Newcombe (61 years) and Rodney Sutton (70 years). We had finally got everyone together, and the belated awards were presented by Grant Yorkstone (President). The timing couldn't have been better as Bathie, now retired as a player and not wanting a fuss, received his award with the others.

Once the awards were presented, they each got up and spoke of their time and musical career in the Society. There were emotional moments as they told their stories. Lots of laughter resonated around the band room from the supporters as more stories emerged from the woodwork as they looked back over their time as an IGB bandie.

Once the awards were finished, Grant addressed Matthew Dick for his service as musical director of the IGB Society from July 2012 to his last banding event, the Hamilton Nationals held in July 2019.

Matthew spoke of his time as the MD, taking the giant leap from a eupho player (a very talented one, I might add) whose only qualification was Grade 2 to standing in front of an A Grade band, no longer looking at one line of music but many. He spoke of the usual struggles as the MD, the highlights—taking the band to China and, of course, attending National contests and how Kevin Dell took him aside and talked him into taking on the role of MD, with his words, "You can't just work, you need something else". Bearing in mind at this stage, Matthew just started up the Jackson Plumbing business and has a young family



Kath Herman and her very proud mum.

as well. Thanks, Megan and Hannah, for being so supportive.

After Matthew's presentation, our attention then turned to Kath Herman. Her son Aaron stood to tell of the Auxiliary Band's many successes under Kath's reign, and then emails were read from past players and members. After many whoops and cheers, Kath stood up to receive her gift. She thanked the band, the players and the parents for their support over the past 18 years, making it possible for the kids to have the same opportunities she had when she was young. She thanked Rodney and Kevin Dell for all their expertise and support and acknowledged the tremendous support of Ernie (her hubby), sons Chris and Aaron, and

her parents, mentioning how proud her dad would have been today.

The afternoon ended with reading more emails from past members, David Gallaher and Murray Beckman, to name a couple, as we went down memory lane of the 1973 achievement, winning the A Grade nationals title under the baton of Rodney. I can picture your face, Murray, when you received the bill for the collect call the band made after ringing you in Suva telling you of their success. No doubt the culprits still smile when they think of this. The evening was wrapped up with a toast, one of a few, throughout the afternoon, and the potluck tea was served.

Kerri Hellyer – editor of the *Garrison Gazette*



Warren Crighton, Lee Newcombe, Rodney Sutton, John Bath and Ken Wellington

News from Rangiora

It has been an exciting past few years for the Rangiora RSA Club Band. Under the musical direction of Dwayne Bloomfield, the band has strengthened both in members and performances. Having won the D Grade title at the national contest in July, the band followed up a clean sweep at the Canterbury Provincial Contest in September.

Last year, the band was very fortunate to obtain a firm sponsorship from the Rangiora RSA Club. We have since changed our stage name to the Rangiora RSA Club Band. The Rangiora RSA "Club" is a very successful Club, separate but hand in hand with the Rangiora RSA. The Club is just topping the 5,000-member mark, giving the band great exposure and support.

Over the past few years, the band has performed several sold-out concerts in the Rangiora Town Hall, Ryman's Charles Upham retirement village, Rangiora RSA, and a concert for the Kaiapoi RSA. The band partnered with Sideline Swing for two "Brass meets Swing" concerts and a popular sold-out performance with the McAlpine's North Canterbury Pipe Band "A Salute to Edinburgh". Two special concerts featured Dwayne Bloomfield's composition of "Passchendaele", telling the story along with all the well-known wartime music.

We included the Rangiora 88 Squadron Air

Training Corps, who paraded during the concerts.

The band's next performance is on Armistice Day 11 November. Dwayne has written a new composition, "Armistice at Flanders Fields", which will be premiered at our Rangiora concert. With the help of band member John Gardner and the Rangiora RSA, this composition will be performed by bands on the same day worldwide. Starting in Rangiora, the concert will be played a few hours later in Brisbane. It will then move on to South Africa, the UK, Belgium, France, Canada and finally the USA. It is a fantastic concept promoting Dwayne's work along with Rangiora RSA and Rangiora RSA Club Band. All proceeds from the concert in Rangiora will be donated to the Salvation Army Emergency Services and the Rangiora RSA.

A lot of hard work goes into the band's performances, but in return, the band has developed a fantastic following. We have found that creating themes for our concerts draws support from our community. Having the privilege of Dwayne as musical director, assisted by Steve Griffin (Griff), prepares the band well for our performances.

We are always looking for new players; feel free to contact us if you are keen to join a great bunch of players with fantastic



Dwayne Bloomfield

support. We have a great year planned and look forward to building on our community support and continued sponsorship.

The Armistice Day concert tickets are \$20 and available from the Rangiora RSA Club, 82 Victoria Street Rangiora Phone 03 313 7123. The concert will be performed at the Rangiora Baptist Church Center, 111 East Belt, Rangiora. The band would love to see and welcome players from other bands to this special concert.

Steve Ditmer
President



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5Qs for Pasifika Brass Leaders



Will Kingi, recently appointed Festival Coordinator/Community Outreach for the Pacific Festival of Brass 2024.

Introducing William (Will) Kingi, Festival Coordinator/Community Outreach for the Pacific Festival of Brass 2024.

1. What first inspired you to become a musician?

Growing up in South Auckland, the first musicians I saw and heard were organists, pianists, guitarists and vocalists at Otara PIPC church; these were the musicians who inspired me to play. Every Sunday, I saw how much they loved performing and making music, and as a kid, I knew I wanted to experience that, too. Of course, I grew older and realised that actually the music they played went beyond just beautiful harmonies and lovely sounds - it wasn't just about entertainment, but there was a strong spiritual aspect to this kind of music as well. I think that's really what makes music such an important part of the human experience - to feel connected to something bigger than yourself.

2. What is your favourite performance memory?

In high school, I played timpani, and my music teacher (Nigel Weeks) asked if I along with another student, could fill in for some percussionists in his brass band. That was a great experience - the performance, but also the rehearsals as well. We rehearsed in Onehunga, and I remember just being blown away by the level of playing! And the members there were there because they loved making music together. I wouldn't have imagined that I would be back in the 'banding' world as the community outreach coordinator, helping to put on one of (if not the most) important events in NZ's brass band calendar.

3. What do you think of as the highlight of your career so far?

Teaching at Ferguson Intermediate School and at HD Shanghai Bilingual School. At Ferguson, I was lucky enough to teach at a school in the centre of Otara. And because there wasn't a music programme before my arrival, I had a lot of freedom in shaping and delivering a programme that would really resonate with the students there. It was a lot of practical learning, collaboration, and sharing of ideas and performances - this is an innate part of the South Auckland mindset. Adding to this, more recently, I was based in Shanghai, China, teaching at a similar grade level, and this was an incredible learning experience for me. It was a chance to learn about Chinese culture, try the most delicious food, and familiarise myself with how the people there understand the world. Most importantly, though, my time in Shanghai made me realise that if you're doing your job right, teaching is hard no matter where you go!

4. What is your favourite thing about living in South Auckland?

Definitely the food and definitely the people. There's an energy here that isn't really matched anywhere in Auckland (and maybe even New Zealand!). The people here love to smile and laugh, and more than anything, they love to share and make people feel welcome. People here give generously, whether it's with food or their time, it's a really special way we do things around here. And even with how this area is portrayed generally, there's so much good in this area. I hope that when people come to South Auckland next year, they'll witness that for themselves.

5. What excites you most about being involved in coordinating the 2024 Pasifika Festival of Brass?

The opportunity to delve deeper into the brass world in New Zealand and to connect with the people in this community. Like I said before, my first 'taste' of the brass world was in high school, so coming back to the brass community years later and sharing why South Auckland is a special place is really meaningful to me. I can't wait for people to try our food, see our dances and listen to the sound of South Auckland; everyone's in for a real treat, I reckon.

Auckland Contest Results

During consecutive weekends in late September, the ABA held its annual District Contest. For the first time, the decision was made to hold the Youth Band Contest on a separate date. So on 17 September, four youth bands turned up to Westlake Girls High School to perform in front of adjudicator Beverley Brockelbank and a large, appreciative audience.

Pleasingly, the gap in quality between first and fourth place was much smaller than in previous years. The contest was won by the Maamaloa Brass Youth Band for the second year, with Auckland 7th Day Adventist Community Band taking second place.

Both bands excelled, not only with their playing but with their public appeal, incorporating traditional Pasifika dances and songs.

Auckland City Brass Youth Band and North Shore Brass Youth Brass shared third place, with Callum Shuker-Brown (NSYB) winning

the soloist award, playing a David Chaulk arrangement of *Après un Reve* and Arnie Reid (ACBYB) taking the award for Best Compere.

The Jack McDonnell Trophy for Outstanding Service to Youth was awarded to Hamilton Lea from Auckland 7th Day Adventist Community Band.

The following weekend, four bands converged on Birkenhead College to compete in the 'B' Section and three in the 'A' Section in front of the Christchurch duo of Chief Adjudicator Phil Johnston and Assistant Adjudicator Cameron Lee.

Each band presented a 50-minute programme, including a Major Work, a Sacred Item, a March, a solo item and other pieces designed with public appeal in mind.

The B Section was a fairly even field and saw some very fine performances from every band. Caroline Filimoehala delivered an excellent performance of *IL Silenzio* to

win the soloist award. Maamaloa Brass gave a rousing rendition of *Simoraine* to win the March section. All other awards went to North Shore Brass Academy, conducted by Andrew Leech, who had a most successful day, winning the aggregate by a comfortable margin. In addition, Michelle Hendra won the Compere Award for the band.

The results were even more emphatic in the A Section, with North Shore Brass, led by Harmen Vanhoorne, winning every category. Against some stiff competition from Steven Booth, playing his own composition entitled *Demonic Dance*, and Anga Uasike, playing the classic *Variations on Rule Britannia*, Dave Wright triumphed in the soloist category, playing an arrangement of Charlie Chaplin's *Smile*.

Thanks are due to the three adjudicators, the Contest Manager, Kathy McDonald and all the volunteers.

Mark Close - ABA President

Results:

Youth Section	Music	Public Appeal	Aggregate		
AKL 7th Day Adventist Community Band	43	45	88		
Auckland City Brass Youth Band	41	43	84		
North Shore Youth Brass Youth	43	41	84		
Maamaloa Brass Youth Band	45	48	93		
'B' Section	Sacred	Major Work	Light Music	Public Appeal	Aggregate
Maamaloa Brass Band	35	129	46	45	255
Howick Brass	32	130	45	44	251
North Shore Brass Academy	37	134	46.5	46	263.5
Kumeu Brass	31	126	43	43	243
'A' Section	Sacred	Major Work	Light Music	Public Appeal	Aggregate
Waitakere AKL Brass	40	138	41	40	259
AKL City Brass	39	139	39	42	259
North Shore Brass	48	148	46	47	289

Auckland City Brass Youth Band with MD Tavite Tonga.





The winner of the Youth Grade Maamaloa Brass Youth Band, conductor Tevita Hefa.



The | *Saints*

Planning tertiary study for 2024 at Otago's University or Polytech?

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Email lesgreenscholarship@gmail.com or phone 027 221 5208 by 3 November 2023

Entries will close on 8 December 2023.



Tertiary Scholarship

We invite applications from brass and percussion players, either beginning or continuing tertiary study in Dunedin in 2024, to join Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass through our tertiary scholarship programme.

We are a friendly B Grade band located next to the University of Otago campus. The value of the scholarship is \$500 plus a subscription fee waiver. Up to four may be awarded each year. Successful applicants are expected to remain committed playing members of the band for at least the duration of 2024.

To apply, email kaikmetrobrass@gmail.com outlining your brass band or other musical experience and study intentions, along with a letter of recommendation and contact details from a musical director or tutor.

Applications close December 1, 2023.



Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Peter and Kylie Adams, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity), E Aldridge (in perpetuity), J Aldridge, Auckland Bands Association, D and M Dawson, Pete and Billie Harbidge, JB and NC Hollick, Carol and Trevor Kempton, Brian Lee, I Levien, John McGough, O Melhuish, D Miller, G and C Moseley, NBS Nelson City Brass, North Shore Brass, NZ Army Band, Otago Southland Brass Band Association, B and M Platt, Evan and Lorraine Sayer, J&R Sullivan.

If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the Executive Officer.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Trevor Bremner MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Kevin Dell ONZM, Beverley Kench, Ian Levien QSM, Stephen Leader, Leigh Martin, Bill Platt, Evan Sayer, Dianne Smeehuyzen MNZM JP, Rodney Sutton MBE JP and Murray Warrington MNZM.

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Brieseman OBE JP, RM Brooker, Trevor Cudby, W Currie, Graham Dick, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin QSO, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, HL 'Drummer' Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, KL Jarrett MBE, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, Tony Lewis MNZM, WP MacLachlan, Riki McDonnell QSM, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith MBE, T Taylor OSM, LE Thorne QSM, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.



Let's blow breast cancer away... band together, and help save lives.

In 2023, Bras and Brass performed as part of La Fiesta—Whanganui's annual Women's Network Festival to great acclaim, sharing the stage with the prestigious A Grade band, Brass Whanganui,

Now it's your turn. We are busy planning for 2024 and beyond. Partner with Bras and Brass for a weekend of banding fun, friendship and fundraising.

Everyone has a special day in their town and a perfect opportunity to put on a concert or festival or ... well, you tell us what we might do to raise awareness of breast cancer research in your community through our shared love of brass bands.

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Bras and Brass is the perfect companion band for your journey. We are more than just a group of passionate musicians. Our team of experienced band professionals are keen to work with you and your band. As well as having the chance to feel as though you are contributing to a very worthy cause, this could be another opportunity to perform in your community and enjoy camaraderie with fellow bandies from across New Zealand.

If you'd like a visit from this band drawn from across the country, where the focus is for a good cause, please get in touch with band liaison Bronwynne Leech bronleech@gmail.com or band manager Mike Sander mike.sander@tpl.co.nz

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28 Hyatt Grove, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112

National Band of New Zealand
Musical Director David Bremner
Band Manager: Garth Coffey, Wellington
nznationalband@gmail.com

National Youth Brass Band
Musical Director: Tyme Marsters, Christchurch
Manager: Emily Richards
nybb2024@gmail.com
M: 021 607 483

National Secondary Schools' Brass Band
Musical Directors: Vickie van Uden, Christchurch
and Reuben Brown, Wellington.
Manager: Sandra Ginever
nssbrassbandnz@gmail.com
M: 021 211 2321

2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July
Contact person: Owen Melhuish
owenmelhuish@gmail.com

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.
Contact person Graham Hickman
festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com

Woolston Concert Brass Music Director Vacancy from 2024

Lead and inspire a top New Zealand C Grade band, Woolston Concert Brass, based in Christchurch, and be part of the leading Woolston Brass Academy. Celebrating 132 years, the iconic Woolston organisation has 120+ members and provides a positive environment for children and adults to learn, play, perform and inspire each other and the community with excellent and diverse musical experiences through concerts and local and national contests.

Apply now by emailing your background, CV and why you are applying, to Music Director Tyme Marsters tyme@woolstonbrass.org and General Manager Todd Turner todd@woolstonbrass.org

For more information, to express your interest or to discuss the position in confidence, please email or phone Tyme 021 329 144 or Todd 021 114 1044. To request a copy of the position description and salary, please email todd@woolstonbrass.org

Short-listed candidates will be required to attend an interview and take a Woolston Concert Brass rehearsal on a Tuesday evening. Interviews and auditions may take place prior to the closing date as applications are received.

Applications close Friday, 24 November.



Woolston Brass is seeking a Flugel Horn player!

Join a top New Zealand A Grade band based in Christchurch and a fun and close-knit team that delivers excellent and diverse musical experiences all year round. Be part of an exciting 2024 concert programme and this iconic organisation celebrating 132 years.

Apply now by emailing your background, credentials, and an audition video recording which showcases your sound, range and technical abilities to Music Director Tyme Marsters tyme@woolstonbrass.org and Chairperson Robert Simpson robert@woolstonbrass.org

For more information, to express your interest or to discuss the position in confidence, please email or phone Tyme 021 329 144 or Robert 021 970 252.

Applications close Friday, 10 November.



AGM and Conference

The 91st Annual General Meeting of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand will be held in Wellington on Sunday 5 November at the West Plaza Hotel, 110 Wakefield Street, Te Aro. Registration from 9.00am with the AGM running from 9.30am to approximately 3.30pm.



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Mouthpiece

The Official Journal of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand Volume 69 | Issue 10 | December 2023 ISSN 2744-6298 (Online)

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NATIONAL YOUTH .
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7PM

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New Plymouth
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7PM

FRI, 19 JANUARY
Feilding Civic Centre

3PM

SAT, 20 JANUARY
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Thank you to all those who have contributed articles and photographs to the *Mouthpiece* throughout the year. Your input ensures we have a vibrant and interesting magazine worth reading. A big vote of thanks to **Rhys McDonnell, JP Musical Instruments** and **Brass Direct** for sponsoring the *Mouthpiece*. Thank you also to our regular advertiser **ABI Music**.

Without the support of these music industry businesses, we could not continue to produce the *Mouthpiece*.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday.

Happy banding!

Inside this Cracker Issue:

- A new Life Member
- Masterton and North Shore bands celebrate
- Summary of our AGM
- Meet the 2024 chief adjudicators

Note of Thanks

The Management Committee of the Brass Band Association sincerely thanks the individuals, businesses, trusts and organisations who have supported the activities of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand in 2023.

The New Zealand Mouthpiece

Sponsorship: JP Musical Instruments and Brass Direct

Designer: Dave Johnstone

Proof-reader: Jane Myhill

The regular advertisers: ABI Music Ltd.

BBANZ - general

Treasurer: Murray Warrington

Contest Manager: Denis Spurdle

2023 National Contest

Festival of Brass Organising Committee.

Chair: Ben Rickerby. Secretary/Treasurer:

Cathy Bennett. Committee: Kimberley Johnston, Peter McHenry, Anna Redmond, and Campbell Thompson. Assisted by Zach Adamson – results reporter, and the many volunteers from Dunedin bands and further afield.

Chief adjudicator Tom Davoren, assistant chief adjudicator Mark Ford and chief marching judge and venue manager Denis Spurdle.

The solo and ensemble judges: Colin Clark, Dale Vail, Dave Fiu, Errol Moore, Hannah Neman, Karen St Guillaume, Kyle Lawson, Leigh Martin, Dr Matthew van Emmerik, Michael Dowrick, Paul Black, Phil Johnston, Tyme Marsters, Sergio Marshall and Vickie van Uden.

Marching judges: David Leslie, Julie Garing, Allan McDonnell, Ben Robertson, Graham Hickman, Michael Dowrick, Shannelee Etches and Dave Fiu.

Supervisors, Comperes & Writers: Stephen Leader, Murray Warrington, Marilyn Edgecombe, Laine Ratsep, Caroline Burt, Garth Coffey, Brian Nicholas, Wayne Jennens, Vaughan McEwen, Dave Merrall, Shannelee Etches, Shona Warrington, Lisa Crawley, Tim Kelly, David Bremner, Morrine Martin, Helen Lomas, Raynor Martin, Lisa Marshall and Graham Hickman.

Major Funding Partners: Regional Event Fund, Otago Community Trust and DCC Major Event Fund.

Aotearoa Foundation, ABI Music Ltd, Bendigo Trust, Besson, Brass Direct, Dame Adrienne Stewart, David Miller Associates, Four Winds Foundation, Kiwi Gaming Foundation, New Zealand Army Band, Pub Charity, Pelorus Trust, Royal New Zealand Air Force Band and Royal New Zealand Navy Band.

2023 National Band of New Zealand

David Bremner (Musical Director) and Garth Coffey (Band Manager).

Seat sponsors: New Zealand Army Band, Dame Adrienne Stewart, The Royal New Zealand Navy Band, Deloitte, Nelson Pine, Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Custom Controls Ltd, Ian Levien QSM, Kodi Studios and the Central Districts band community, Brass Direct, Kevin and Kathy Moseley, Trevor Kempton, Trinder Engineering, The Nelson Mayoral Fund, B&D Mallet, Belinda Sawyer and Hoy family, George Bettle, the New Plymouth community, Besson, B & S Markneukirchen Klingenthal.

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Barkers, Brassbanned, Brass Music Specialists, Sshhmuters, Fine Music, Taylormade Music, Skunkworks Community, Julie Woods and Dean Morely, Robert O'Brien, Simon Hocking of Travel Associates, Melbourne Staff Band, Sydney City Band and Brisbane Excelsior.

2023 National Youth Brass Band

Tyme Marsters (Musical Director), Phil Johnston (Assistant Musical Director), Emily Richards (Band Manager). Section Tutors: Nicholas Scott (and guest artist), Anthony Smith, Raynor Martin, Ross Gerritsen, Aishah Leitner and Cameron Lee.

Grants and Donations: The Friends of the National Youth Brass Band (see page 14), Four Winds Foundation, Pelorus Trust, Kiwi Gaming Foundation and Mainland Foundation.

Logistical support: New Zealand Army Band, Woolston Brass, Westport Municipal Band, Marlborough District Brass, Michelle Starns (programme and poster design), Dale Vail (composer), Leigh Martin (transport) and Paula Boulcott (uniforms).

2023 National Secondary Schools' Brass Bands

Vickie van Uden (Musical Director), Reuben Brown (Development Band Musical Director), Sandra Ginever (Band Manager), and Aishah Leitner (Guest Soloist). Section tutors: Todd Smith, Clive Burnell, Josh Rogan, Brendan Agnew, Bryce Gordon, Anne Filimoehala, Ray Farrow, Linda Filimoehala, Hamilton Lea, Aishah Leitner, Mark Bingham, Mark Close, Lachlan Grant, Jayden Matchitt; National Youth Brass Band mentors: Leighton Ginever and Charlie Garcia-Gil; and support staff: Annabelle Stewart, Mandy Saunders, Matt Maunsell-Terry, Paul Lamb and Don Peng.

Grants and Donations: The Breeze (Waikato), Mr Rental, Lion Foundation, Pub Charity, NZCT, Four Winds Foundation, Waipā Networks and the Ministry of Education Vacation Music Grant.

Logistical Support: Hamilton City Brass, Eastern Bay of Plenty Brass, Simon Brew at the Cambridge Town Hall and Te Reo Hughes (poster and programme design).



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'Tis the Season

It's hard to believe, but yes, Christmas is once again almost upon us. A hectic time as work, school, and banding hype up before winding down for the summer. Most bands will be preparing for Christmas concerts and, in many cases, Christmas parades and carolling. For many bands, carolling is one of the primary fundraising projects for the year. It is a unique service that brings the joy of music to our local communities.



After the disruptions of recent years, 2023 saw the Association's activities back in full and again very successful. The year began with our highly talented National Youth Band touring the upper South Island before performing to a standing ovation in Christchurch. In July, the glorious sounds of our country's very best brass bands returned to Dunedin as it hosted our National Contest. The National Band toured Australia for the first time, entertaining many and accompanying world-class soloist Philip Cobb. In October,

70 young musicians rehearsed and performed in Cambridge at the National Secondary Schools' Band training course. And last month, the largest gathering of delegates since 2017 met in Wellington for the 91st Annual General Meeting.

The AGM and the recently introduced conference workshops are critical events in the banding calendar, and although "meetings" are not how everyone would like to spend their weekends, the robust and respectful debates and discussions are vital in shaping our organisation's future. We shouldn't be afraid of differing opinions, but instead, we must encourage members of all ages and backgrounds to actively participate so that we have a broad range of life experiences to call upon in our decision-making. Equally, we must embrace the opportunity for change because change enables growth and keeps us relevant. We only made it to where we are today because we took the odd risk and made small changes year after year. Our National Contest and representative bands are all a result of continual evolution and change. Not all change will succeed, but you won't know unless you try.

I want to thank every player, tutor, conductor, administrator, supporter and

volunteer for the work you do, which enables your band and, in turn, our organisation to prosper. We all have considerable demands on our time, so I am very grateful that you generously gave some of this precious commodity to brass banding. I'd also like to sincerely thank the businesses and groups that have generously supported BBANZ's activities through grant funding, sponsorship and logistics.

If you find yourself in the lower North Island during your summer holidays, why not plan your travels to hear some of the best young musicians in New Zealand with the 2024 National Youth Band? I assure you it will be worth the effort!

From my family to yours, I wish you a safe and very merry Christmas and look forward to catching up with you all again in 2024.

Yours in banding.



John Sullivan – President
Brass Band Association of New Zealand

Give a little, please

Natania Ngawhau recently completed a Bachelor of Music, majoring in Classical Performance on tenor trombone at the New Zealand School of Music (NZSM), and is now off to Austria next year, having been accepted to study Honours year at the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG).

Having started playing in the Nelson City Brass, Natania played in the National Secondary Schools and National Youth Bands. After moving to Wellington to study, she joined Hutt City Brass. At NZSM, she studied primarily with the Associate Principal Trombone of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Matthew Allison and the Principal of Bass Trombone, Shannon Pittaway. As a student, Natania was privileged to work with groups such as the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Wellington alongside various jazz, big band, brass bands, and other ensembles. She was also the principal trombone of this year's 2023 National Youth Orchestra.

Funds donated to the Givealittle page will aid in travel to and from Austria and living and study expenses. Natania said, 'This will benefit my career and trombone playing by creating new connections and opportunities to further my knowledge and experience in the world of music. I hope studying in Austria will have a huge impact on my future development as an aspiring orchestral musician and teacher.'

[Click HERE to support Natania](#)



Gig Guide

Saturday 2 December

Christmas @ Holy Trinity, North Shore Brass and Cantare Choir from Westlake Girls High School, 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Cnr St Stephens Ave & Parnell Rd, Parnell, Auckland. (Pre-concert entertainment from 6:30pm by the North Shore Brass Academy Band)
Tickets: Adults \$35, Seniors \$30, Students \$15, Family \$80
Doors sales or [book online HERE](#).

Sunday 10 December

Hutt City Brass **Christmas Concert**, 3.00pm at St James' Church, 71 Woburn Road, Lower Hutt. Koha entry.

Woolston Brass Town Takeover!

Christmas Celebration direct to the heart of the city.

Woolston Junior Band, 2.00pm at Margaret Mahy Playground (free event)

Woolston Concert Brass, 2.00pm at Turanga Forecourt (free event)

Woolston Brass, 2.00pm at the Bridge of Remembrance (free event)

A Woolston Brass Christmas - the massed bands of Woolston Brass: 3.30pm at the Christchurch Arts Centre (free event)

Saturday 16 December

Tidings of Comfort and Joy. Wellington Brass Band and the Bach Choir of Wellington join forces for an afternoon of irresistible Christmas joy. 2.00pm at St Mary of the Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Te Aro, Wellington.

Tickets available [HERE](#).

Auckland City Brass presents **A Christmas Celebration** in collaboration with Stellar Singers 7.30pm at St Matthew-in-the-City, Auckland CBD. Tickets are available via [Eventfinda](#).

14 to 20 January 2024

The 2024 National Youth Brass Band training course in Wellington.

Wednesday 17 January: free concert at Te Papa from 12.30pm.

Thursday 18 January: concert 7.00pm at New Plymouth Methodist Church, 66 Liardet Street, New Plymouth.

Friday 19 January: free pop-up concert 12.00pm at Majestic Square, 98 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui.

Concert 7.00pm at the Feilding Civic Centre, 84 Aorangi Street, Feilding.

Saturday 20 January: concert 3.00pm at Te Whaea, 11 Hutchison Road, Newtown, Wellington.

Thursday 4 to Monday 8 April

SAVE THE DATE Gumboots Band Showcase in the Manawatu with lead tutor Harmen Vanhoorne. Player enquiries to Kathy Clark 021 689 005.

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April

Otago Southland band and solo contest in Dunedin.

Sunday 7 April

New Zealand Army Band Diamond Jubilee Concert, 2.00pm at the Christchurch Town Hall

Tickets are available [HERE](#)
Adults \$25, Seniors/Students \$20, Children \$10

To have your events listed in the Gig Guide, email the editor at bbanzeo@gmail.com

Obituary Beverley Kench 1936-2023

With great sadness we report the death of BBANZ Life Member Mrs Beverley Kench.

Growing up in Ashburton in a Salvation Army brass band family, it was inevitable that Beverley would pursue music. She began by sitting in the horn section at church with her father, then moved on to the piano. Having passed all her grade examinations on the piano and won many contests, she sought another challenge - singing, which she was highly successful at. In 1968, after three years of training, Beverley won an Aria contest held in Invercargill, prompting a heading in the Christchurch Press of "Aria Contest to Housewife." She also reached the semifinals of the prestigious Mobil Song Contest, the year Dame Kiri Te Kanawa won. In 1971, Beverley made headlines again, as the "Only woman in Salvation Army band," selected to tour Australia with the Wellington South Salvation Army Band. She was the band's pianist and guest soloist performing pianoforte and singing items. Back in Christchurch, Beverley was the musical director and sang in productions staged by the Christchurch Gilbert & Sullivan Light Opera Society, and the leader of the Citadel Songsters.

It is as an accompanist par excellence that she will be remembered in the brass band movement. Beverley began accompanying soloists at the 1964 National Championships and was a contracted accompanist to the New Zealand Army Band for 50 years from 1965. Over the years, Beverley gave thousands of hours of her time helping soloists of all levels. She noted accompanying Kevin Hickman and Tyme Marsters to their wins in the Champion of Champions as highlights. Beverley was the first recipient of the Accompanist of the Year Award in 2004 and won it again in 2010.

When informed of her BBANZ Life Membership award in 2016, Beverley wrote: "It made me think how privileged I had been to be in the position of having accompanied so many 'greats' in the band world both from New Zealand and those soloists who popped into my life from overseas without a pianist and required my services for contests.

"Band music was born in me. Both sides of my parents' families, the Frews and the Simpsons, were in banding."



North Shore Brass Centennial Celebrations



ONE HUNDRED
YEARS OF
MUSICAL
EXCELLENCE
ON THE SHORE



North Shore Brass celebrated in style over Labour weekend with a high-profile concert at the Bruce Mason Centre, a reception at the bandroom to view memorabilia and a formal dinner at the Milford Cruising Club.

Many past members, friends, supporters and current members participated in our concert "A Century of Brass", which featured a good friend of the band, Don McGlashan. Don was recently inducted into the New Zealand Music Hall of Fame, so we were in the company of royalty. Some excellent arrangements by Brendan Agnew had our Academy Band and the senior band rocking in the second half to some familiar songs that the crowd loved. We also launched a 50-page book that records the band's history since 1923. Local historian David Verran carefully researched this, and sales were brisk.

The formal dinner had a little quiz where people needed to guess the march music on their tables. The guest speaker was a very entertaining Commodore, Andrew Brown, Deputy Chief of the Royal New Zealand Navy. After starting with the Hawera Municipal Band, Andrew continues to play in brass bands. He has spent many years at North Shore Brass as a key member of the cornet team.

The weekend was also a chance to launch our fundraising campaign to remodel the bandroom kitchen, named after Life Members Jean and Jack McDonnell, who have passed. Alan (Phred) McDonnell has championed a little campaign to replace the joinery, flooring and oven, which we will work on in 2024.

Many thanks to all the past members who travelled from near and far, our band committee that arranged the dinner, displays, reception and concert promotion, and our musicians and conductors for preparing a very memorable weekend.

Owen Melhuish - President
North Shore Brass Inc



The oldest former member Barry Moss and youngest Academy Band member April Sullivan cut the celebration cake.



A Personal Reflection

Returning to North Shore to celebrate 100 years: Barry Moss, Willie McDonnell, Allan (Phred) McDonnell, Blue Caldwell, Mike Austin, Trevor Cheer, Kerry Lloyd (nee McDonnell), Clive Lloyd and Jan Smith (nee Morrison).

Firstly, I must thank the organisers of the successful Labour Weekend events; very well done for providing opportunities to reminisce and reconnect.

The Saturday night concert, "A Century of Brass", was fantastic and lived up to its title. There was, of course, the high standard of musicianship expected of a top A Grade band. There was also astute programming, with acknowledgements appropriately woven in, to the many who had contributed to the band's history. It was nice that my family, the McDonnells' contribution, in particular my parents', was acknowledged by compere Don McGlashan.

President Owen Melhuish promoted a written history of the band. Explaining that it covered the highs and the lows of the band's trajectory made me think of one of the lowest times for the Takapuna Band.

Remembrance 1

In the mid-60s, the band struggled for players and mainly comprised school kids, namely McDonnells, Lloydys, Hacketts and Randalls. Many members will remember Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Hackett turning up over many years to make cups of tea for rehearsal breaks. Our good friend Terry Randall designed the present bandroom.

A goal was needed for this young group, so the band entered the D Grade competition in Auckland. As precious brass players could not be spared, I was called in to help with percussion as I could read music and count - the first female in the band.

Adjudicated by Lloyd Thorne, the band came dead last. There was only one way to go from here, and under Gil Morrison, the Takapuna Band rapidly made its way up the grades. By the time Clive Lloyd and I married in December 1970, the band was

knocking on the door of A Grade. Exciting times.

Remembrance 2

Historian David Verran mentioned a strong theme that clearly emerged through his research: FAMILY. He saw that whole families became involved, not just as instrumentalists but other family members, giving huge support to the running of the band. He went on to suggest that the band itself was like a family and that making music together forged strong bonds.

Taking this idea further, I reflected that brass banding gives nationwide connections. After our wedding, where the band surprised us by forming a Guard of Honour playing *Congratulations*, Clive and I moved to Rotorua and joined the band. We both played in this top-achieving band under Elgar Clayton. After our move to Wellington, we both played for Wellington Brass (then Onslow Band), initially with Norm Goffin.

Here, we reconnected with people we knew and played with in both Takapuna and Rotorua bands.

Fast forward to the National Championship 2023 in Dunedin. The contest was close between Wellington Brass and North Shore Brass. Who won the title did not matter to us - we were invested in both bands! The Brass Band as family.

The legacy of the McDonnells.

My brothers have played in National Bands and continue to play music for various bands and groups. Our son (Aaron Lloyd) played in Wellington Brass, has completed an MMus, and is proving a competent conductor.

Rhys (son of my late brother Riki) is a solo cornet in the current National Band and played a *sensational* solo in the Centennial Concert.

Thanks to all involved in a super celebration.

Kerry Lloyd (nee McDonnell)



Reunion of some Takapuna players at a joint concert with Levin Band and Upper Hutt Band in 2022. L to R: Clive Lloyd, Kerry Lloyd, Roy Hitchcock, Allan McDonnell, Blue Caldwell Front: Aaron Lloyd, conductor Upper Hutt Band.



Papakura goes Gospel in Hamilton

The Hamilton Salvation Army Hall was packed out last month with over 100 people who came to enjoy a joint concert with Papakura Brass and the Hamilton Community Gospel Choir.

Held on Saturday, 28 October, the two-hour show was packed with a variety of gospel music and toe-tapping tunes from the band.

The band started the show with a boisterous march and continued with a range of upbeat jazzy, Latin and Broadway tunes, including *Valero*, *Breezin' Down Broadway*, and *The James Bond Collection*.

Two vocal items were arranged especially for the band - *When you Believe* and *The Prayer*, sung by Papakura Brass cornet player Leigh Oliver and special guest Lieutenant Rebecca Moffat, accompanied by the band.

Other band stars entertained the crowd with their talent. Mike Chesnutt showcased a jazzy flugel rendition of *Under the*

Boardwalk, and Kerry Wood wowed the crowd with an ear-piercing and energetic rendition of *Live and Let Die* on soprano cornet.

Cornet player Jerome Kloeg suffered an unfortunate injury, breaking his hand a week before the concert. He simply switched to his left hand to play the beautiful solo *Share My Yolk* - demonstrating his talent and determination.

Interspersed throughout the night, the Gospel Choir sang a range of upbeat and inspirational songs, including *Faith* and *Amazing Grace*. The Hamilton Community Gospel Choir is an inter-denominational community choir of singers of all ages who sing music and songs in the traditional gospel genre but also embrace other contemporary gospel music that expresses Christian faith.

"It was a pleasure to be able to join the choir for what was a very successful concert. We

had so much positive feedback from the audience and the choir, and I was so proud of the band," says Papakura Brass musical director Brent Hayward.

"To be able to come together and make music and share our talents with each other and the community was awesome and reinforces why we love to do what we do."

Scan the QR code to watch the whole concert!



Cornet soloist Jerome Kloeg



Masterton Celebrates 150 years

Masterton District Brass Band is 150 years old this year, having played continuously since 1873. Imagine the scene - a beautiful afternoon, the young people of the Junior Band seated in the rotunda ready to play, the main band seated in front of the rotunda about to play *The Lost Chord* to a receptive audience, the sound of willow on leather from the cricket match in progress on the oval next to the rotunda. Are you imagining events as they may have been in 1873?

The answer is no! Three incongruities show otherwise. Arthur Sullivan composed *The Lost Chord* in 1877, four years after the band was formed. The rotunda was not built until 1902 as a memorial to the coronation of King Edward VII. And the clincher - the cricketers are wearing coloured uniforms, a very recent change. The scene is, in fact, 2023; the concert is the final act of the band's sesquicentennial celebrations, which were held from the 3rd to the 5th of November.

Quite some time in the planning, things started the weekend before with a working bee to make sure the bandroom was spick and span. Band members, including juniors and parents, got stuck in to ensure the place sparkled. Then, it was adorned with photos and newspaper clippings of times past, adding to the many pictures already hung around the bandroom, some dating back to the 19th century.

The first official event was a meet and greet in the bandroom on Friday evening. Old acquaintances were renewed, and yarns told. Many old faces, maybe not seen for up to 25 years, were instantly recognisable. Not quite so easy, perhaps, for some older members, was to instantly recognise those who were youngsters when last seen and now grown into adulthood. But after a perhaps embarrassing introduction, there would always be memories to reflect on.

Saturday morning was band practise. The band had been practising its concert programme for some time, but past members arriving for the celebrations were invited to join the band for part of the concert. They had been given music in advance and slotted in without hiccups.

Former musical directors Craig Thomson

and Robert Priday had also been invited to pick up the baton again for one or two pieces. Both are quite different in their approach and different again from current MD Kevin Pett. Nevertheless, the large band adjusted to both of them quickly. That was probably because the moment each took over, their particular foibles were instantly recognisable, as most of the band had played under both for years.

Following the rehearsal, the plan had been to have a street march just as had happened at the 125th jubilee and, indeed, at the 140th. But the fun police put paid to that, just as they have to some Christmas parades in the region and even, sacrilege, some Anzac Day parades. Gone are the days when a single traffic cop at either end of the street could close off the street for the few minutes the parade would take. Now we must have 'traffic management', it costs a fortune, we cannot afford it, and the whole community suffers as a result.

So instead of the street march, the band went across to the Library Square and played a few static marches, bookended with two renditions of *Congratulations*. This performance was well received by the small crowd which had assembled.

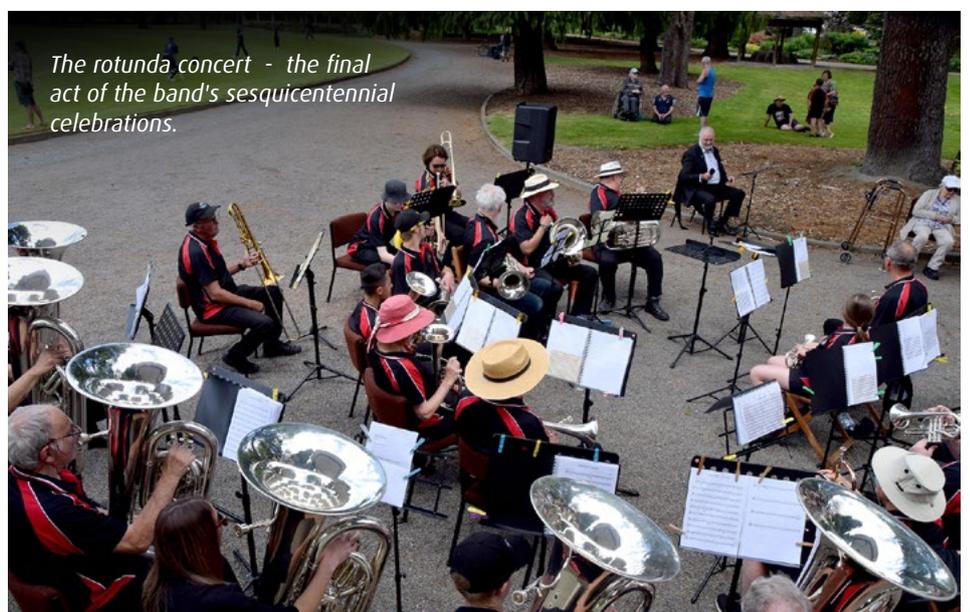
On Saturday night, there was a celebration dinner at Club Wairapa, with more chances

to reminisce. President Mike Hoskins had organised a 'Kahoot' quiz (if you don't know what it is, Google it) based on the band's history and brass music in general. It is true to say that it took a while for some to get the hang of it, but it was very much a fun thing to do.

And so, to the Sunday concert. The forecast had been for a strong southerly, with rain, by late morning, but the weather gods were kind, and at 2.00pm, the sun was shining, light wind, and no sign of rain. The concert was in three parts. The current band played first, followed by the junior band and finishing with the large band with past players and friends.

Besides educating the next generation of brass players, the primary functions of the band are to perform civic duties and to entertain the community. Since the band is, as it often is, in a rebuilding phase, the programme was selected to entertain rather than to test. The programme included *Colonel Bogey*; *I Don't Know How to Love Him*; *A Bridge Too Far*; *Derry Air*; *Take the 'A' Train*; *Georgia*; and *Vanguard*.

The junior band then performed *Men of Harlech*; *Batman & Co*; *Give Me Joy*; and *A Festive Parade*. The compère had not been alerted to the fact that *Batman & Co* comprised four separate pieces, so for



The rotunda concert - the final act of the band's sesquicentennial celebrations.

a while, the audience could giggle as each piece started, not matching anything that had been announced. Finally, after the band had played *Give Me Joy* he thanked them for «giving me joy». The junior band finished with *Happy Birthday*, a tribute to the band's 150th.

Then, it was time for the band to swell for the final part of the concert. It became a big band indeed with no fewer than eight basses. This section started with the 'Raiders March' (from the Raiders of the Lost Ark), followed by a medley of WW1 tunes. Craig Thomson took the baton to conduct *Solitaire*,

with Kevin Pett now freed to play the soprano solo. Craig continued with *Deeds of Valour* while Kevin regained his breath.

Skimbleshanks and *The Lost Chord* followed, after which Kevin handed the baton to Robert Priday, who led the band through *Army of the Nile*. The concert was rounded out with a rousing performance of *Slaidburn*, the band's 'go to' march for many years now, and finished with the band giving itself a metaphorical pat on the back by playing *Congratulations*.

In the end, the sun was still shining, and the wind was not blowing, and the band went

back to the bandroom to do what bands do after a concert. It had been a thoroughly enjoyable three days; farewells were made "...hope it's not 25 years before I see you again...".

Jim Barr

At the 100th jubilee, a history of the band's first 100 years was written. This was followed up at the 125th with an update. As part of the 150th celebrations, a history of the last 25 years has been added. These histories can be found at www.mastertonbrass.com



Masterton Band's uniforms through the years.



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Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from the ABI Music team.



5Qs for Pasifika Brass Leaders

Tavite Tonga

1. Tell us about the bass trombone - when did you start learning this, and how did this come about?

Like most bass trombonists, I started on tenor trombone when I was 11 and still pick it up from time to time when needed for ensembles and gigs. I started learning bass trombone in 2021 with my teacher, Doug Cross. I decided to switch because I realised I had a pretty alright low register and wanted to lean into my strengths. It's paid off so far, but there's still a lot of work to do.

2. What have you been up to this year outside brass banding?

It's been a pretty busy year filled with a good mix of playing and conducting. Playing-wise, I've been fortunate enough to have performed with Bach Musica, Hawkes Bay Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra of New Zealand. I also branched out this year and played in my first two musicals, *Wicked* and *The Music Man*. In terms of conducting, I'm still finding my feet and getting some experience and confidence under my belt. I've been taking the concert bands at Pukekohe High School for two years and enjoying every moment.

3. What's the most amazing performance you've ever participated in?

Man, this is a really hard one to narrow down. I've had a lot of really amazing, memorable performances in orchestra and banding, but it'd have to be Auckland Town Hall with the National Youth Orchestra of New Zealand this year. It was my first NYO, and to have the chance to perform in my home town in front of family and friends as well as a packed town hall was just a really surreal moment.

4. We know you conduct Auckland City Youth Brass - what do you enjoy most about working with young people?

I really enjoy seeing their growth as musicians and humans. It's rewarding work to help young people learn and foster their passion for music.

5. What would you most like to do in the future with your brass playing and conducting?

In terms of playing, I'd like to continue freelancing for the next couple of years alongside teaching. Eventually, I'd like to head overseas and sit my Masters in Trombone. I'd like to continue my conducting alongside my playing as it's been really helpful in developing my musicianship and ability to communicate with others in and out of music.

Conference and AGM

For the second year, a conference event was held alongside our AGM weekend. This year saw a strong interest in the financial/administration-based workshops, with some in attendance saying they would immediately change how they tell the story of their band when making funding or sponsorship applications. Thank you to Karla Paotonu, Fundraising & Partnerships Manager of Outward Bound, for her inspiring session on fundraising, to Murray Warrington for his practical session on dealing with the changes to the Incorporated Societies Act and to Brian Nicholas for a demonstration of BAM (Band Asset Manager). Karla's session can be viewed on the [BBANZ Facebook page](#).

In the other room, Nic Scott gave practical tips for developing sound and confidence as a player and as a tutor with your students. John Sullivan led a discussion on retaining players in the band movement, and then Harmen Vanhoorne spoke about the differences between banding in Belgium and New Zealand. My main takeaways from these sessions are:

1. To encourage new players to be brave when they are sightreading or learning a new piece by going for the big sound and the style.
2. There is a band for everyone, whatever their playing level, commitment level and social requirements.
3. And paying very high taxes in Belgium enables free education for all, including masters degrees, and gives a pool of community funding for all cultural activities.

The day concluded with drinks and nibbles while guest speaker Marc Taddei, musical director of Orchestra Wellington, shared his programming and audience engagement ideas.

Those who attended the sessions agreed it was a valuable opportunity to gain information from guest presenters and ask questions. But best of all was the opportunity to share ideas and chat with people in similar situations. The management committee will run this event next year, so let us know what sessions you'd like to entice you to attend.

Quick notes from the AGM meeting:

The results of the BBANZ election were announced, with Emily Richards returning to the management committee and Leigh Martin joining it.

The delegates endorsed an application from the Wellington District Brass Bands Association to host the 2026 National Contest.

The delegates also endorsed an increase of just under 5 per cent to affiliation fees.

As expected, the discussion on the Remits was passionate and lengthy. The Street March placings will not be included in the aggregate, nor will there be a live draw for band events. Own Choice music returns for the Open Percussion solo, and the Junior Slow Melody is now an official contest event. The updated rules are on the [BBANZ website](#).

The 2024 Conference and AGM dates are Saturday, 9 and Sunday, 10 November.

Helen Lee - Executive Officer

Trust Backs Brass Music

Palmerston North Salvation Army's Just Brass programme has received \$20,000 from the Earle Creativity and Development Trust to engage a local brass tutor. Max de Silva (MD of Feilding Brass) will work with local young brass players. He will guide their development as musicians, composers and performers, working with the established tutors Colin Davidson and Neville Lauridsen. The Just Brass programme was started

in 2017 and currently has 40 students in programmes in two schools in Palmerston North.

"I started the programme to extend musical and spiritual opportunities to develop young people in our community," says Colin, founding tutor.

Rural musicians of The Gumboots Band were again beneficiaries of the Earle Creativity and

Development Trust in 2023. The Trust's grant in 2021 saw internationally renowned brass legend Harmen Vanhoorne lead the band in a series of camps and workshops in 2022 and further workshops with soprano cornet specialist Colin Clak in 2023.

The Gumboots Band has received \$7000 for a four-day showcase event, including school visits, workshops and a free concert in Bulls from 4 to 7 April 2024.



L to R: Max de Silva, Colin Davidson, Roy Tankersley (chairman Earle Trust Music Selection Committee) Captain Sammy Millar, Major Brenton Millar, Kathy Clark (Gumboots Band project coordinator), and Dick Earle, founder of the Earle Creativity and Development Trust.

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2024 Chief Adjudicators

BBANZ is pleased to announce that Dr Brett Baker from the UK will return to New Zealand as the Chief Adjudicator in 2024. The Assistant Chief Adjudicator is Lieutenant Commander Michael Dowrick, Director of Music of the Royal New Zealand Navy Band.



Brett Baker is viewed internationally as a leading brass performer and educator. He is passionate about encouraging composers to write new repertoire and is one of the most recorded brass soloists. Brett was Programme Leader for Musical Arts (previously band musicianship) at the University of Salford for seven years. He continues to be an Artist for Michael Rath Brass Instruments and is Principal Trombone of the Black Dyke Band as well as Marketing Lead for Denis Wick & Alliance Products and Vice Chair of the Association of Brass Band Adjudicators.

As well as a performance schedule of 40 concerts a year, Brett enjoys presenting workshops, specialising in solo performance and band training. Brett has produced over 30 solo albums, eight under his own label White River Evocations, which produces and distributes CDs. He has performed as a guest soloist on a further 40 CDs. He regularly tours in the USA, Europe, Australia and New Zealand as a soloist, teacher, conductor and adjudicator. As a consultant, Brett has worked with Michael Rath Musical Instruments for over 18 years on instrument design and has assisted in producing a signature mouthpiece.

As a conductor, Brett has many associations with bands in the North of England and has achieved contest successes with Northop, Ratby and Longridge bands. He has been guest conductor of the University of Salford Brass Band, the brass band at the Royal Northern College of Music, the National Youth Band of Scotland, the European Youth Brass Band, Thoresby Colliery, Carlton Main Frickley Colliery and the Leyland Band.

In 2014 Brett conducted Tongwynlais Temperance at the National Finals of Great Britain in the Royal Albert Hall, London. Brett was conductor of the University of Salford Symphonic Wind Band from 2014-2019. He

is currently Musical Director and tutor of both the Yorkshire Youth Brass Band and the North-East Midlands Youth Brass Band and conducted the massed ensemble at Trombonanza Argentina.

Brett has regularly adjudicated the International Trombone Association in the USA, the National Solo Championships in Switzerland, regional area qualifiers for the National Championships of Great Britain, the Scottish Open, and in the Netherlands, Lithuania, New Zealand and Australia.

He has been a trombone tutor of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland, National Youth and Children's Brass Band of Great Britain, the European Youth Brass Band, the International Brass Band Summer School in Swansea, as well as lower brass tutor of the International Summer School in Dartington, Devon.

In 2020, Brett won the ITA Presidents Award for Solo Performance and services to the International Trombone Association, where he has been featured regularly as a soloist.



Michael Dowrick was born in Cornwall, UK, where he learned and played cornet and trombone at county and national levels with leading brass bands. He is a proud fourth-generation brass bander with maternal roots firmly planted in the Saddleworth Area of Lancashire.

He joined the Royal Marines Band Service as a musician in 1980, studying bassoon. On completion of training, he served with the Bands of the Commander in Chief Naval Home Command, HM Royal Marines Commandos, Royal Marines School of Music, as a Volunteer Band Instructor at *HMS NELSON* and as Chief Instructor of Higher Training at the Royal Marines School of Music, travelling extensively throughout the world and performing at many prestigious occasions. He wrote an extensive amount of music throughout his Royal Marines career, including for the Queen Mother's 100th birthday celebrations and Edinburgh Tattoos, Royal Tournaments and Horse Guards' Parades.

Having achieved the rank of Warrant Officer

(Bandmaster) in 1997 with distinction, he was commissioned in 2001. Michael then attended the Royal Northern College of Music, studying conducting with Sir Mark Elder, Baldur Brönnimann, Mark Shanahan, and Douglas Boyd. He considers Dr Timothy Reynish and Malcolm Binney, with whom he has studied since 1993, as his most significant mentors. He also studied arranging and composing with Dr Peter Graham and Dr Robin Dewhurst at the University of Salford and Adam Gorb and Paul Patterson at the Royal Northern College of Music.

After a very successful and fulfilling career, Michael retired from the Royal Marines as a Major in 2009 to migrate to New Zealand. From 2009 until 2014, he was the Music Director of Nelson City Brass, the Nelson Symphony Orchestra and the Nelson City Jazz Club Big Band; along with teaching and adjudicating, he was a Nelson School of Music board member. He has been a member of many music panels, including the British Academy Awards, and has sat on exam boards for the University of Salford, University of Portsmouth and the London College of Music & Media. He holds degrees from the Open University, University of Salford, the Royal Northern College of Music (Manchester University) and diplomas from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music.

He has conducted many brass bands, including the world-famous Besses o' th' Barn. He has tutored conducting at summer schools throughout the UK and New Zealand and acted as an adjudicator at the Australian National Band competition. He was awarded the Michael Brierly Conducting Prize from the Royal Northern College of Music and is a Silver Medal Holder of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. As well as conducting, adjudicating and tutoring, he has regularly been called upon as a music editor and arranger for music projects in the UK, Scandinavia, Europe, New Zealand and Australia. He is a writer member of the Australian Performing Rights Association.

In 2014, Michael was appointed Music Director of the Band of the South Australia Police, travelling with the band to Windsor in 2016 for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations and performing in Wellington for the Edinburgh Tattoo in New Zealand. In 2016, Michael returned to New Zealand when appointed Director of Music of the Royal New Zealand Navy. Recently, along with the Navy Band, he has completed several new projects in combination with New Zealand Opera and other professional groups. Two of his three children have been members of the New Zealand National Secondary Schools' Brass Bands and continue the brass banding line onwards to a fifth generation.



Next-Gen

In this issue, Lachlan Spence interviews 15-year-old Hugo Carter (Ngāti Maniapoto), winner of the Outstanding Soloist award at the recent NSSBB, selected as a development player for the 2024 National Youth Band and the newest member of Wellington Brass.

What was your first musical experience?

My Dad plays trumpet in NZSO, so I have been to concerts all my life. I began playing in Buzzing Brass and also play in my high school's big band, orchestra and concert band.

Describe how musical ability runs through your family.

Both of my parents play in the NZSO. My sister, Alice, sings and plays violin and piano and my brother, Benjamin, plays piano and cello.

To date, what have been some of your musical highlights?

The last two NSSBB courses and the 2023 national contest.

What have you gained from being in the NSSBB?

I had the opportunity to play a solo with the NSSBB this year, which I really enjoyed. I also got to meet people from all around the country and make some good friends who share the same interests as me.

What's the best thing about being in a brass band?

The music and getting to play with good brass players.

Is there anyone you would like to thank for helping you with your achievements thus far?

I would like to thank Byron Newton for guiding me through my first years of playing in a brass band (Buzzing Brass), David Bremner for giving me a place in Wellington Brass and, of course, my teacher, Mark Carter.

Quickfire questions

What type of music do you listen to most? Classical and jazz.

Other interests? Speedcubing.

Favourite food? Sausage roll.

Favourite place? Christchurch.

Favourite piece of music? Hummel trumpet concerto 1st movement.

For the more technical amongst us, what make of instrument do you play?

JP371SWS cornet.



BBANZ Life Membership

At the recent Annual General Meeting, Mrs Betty Bremner was unanimously elected as a Life Member of the Brass Band Association of New Zealand. Patrick Di Somma read the nomination on behalf of Wellington Brass.

Betty Bremner's journey in the world of brass bands began within the esteemed Edgcombe family. Growing up in Te Awamutu, her passion for brass bands was ignited early on. Since the 1960s, she has been an unwavering pillar of support for the brass band movement in New Zealand. Her journey took her from local bands to national recognition.

In 1970, Betty relocated to Christchurch with her husband, Trevor Bremner, where she embarked on a pivotal role as band accompanist on the piano. Starting with Woolston Band and later with New Plymouth Band from 1974, Betty's influence extended far beyond mere accompaniment. Her skillful and soulful piano accompaniments elevated countless performances, turning them into unforgettable experiences.

Betty's commitment to brass players and bands remains unshaken to this day. Even in 2023, she continues to lend her expertise as an accompanist in the Central Districts regional contest. Her legacy extends to having accompanied over 1000 brass performers across national and regional competitions. For more than half a century, Betty has been instrumental in enhancing the quality and impact of these performances, including numerous national and champion of champions events.

Furthermore, Betty's administrative dedication is equally commendable. Serving as a committee member with New Plymouth Brass Band for many years, she held key positions, including President of the Women's Committee and Secretary of New Plymouth Brass Band. Her organizational skills and commitment to the betterment of these bands have left an indelible legacy.

Betty's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. She has been honoured with the Accompanist of the Year award at the national contest, a testament to her exceptional musical talents and contributions. Beyond this recognition, Betty is already a Life Member of the New Plymouth Band, reflecting her profound impact on the band's community.

In light of Betty Bremner's unwavering commitment, exceptional musical contributions, and distinguished service to brass bands in New Zealand, Wellington Brass Band wholeheartedly recommends Betty Bremner for Life Membership with The Brass Band Association of New Zealand. Her legacy is one of dedication, excellence, and the embodiment of the spirit that underpins our brass band community.

Letters of support for this nomination were received from Woolston Brass, Brass Whanganui, the Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass Band and Te Awamutu Brass.

In acknowledging the award, Betty said, "It is a huge honour to receive this life membership of BBANZ - I would like to acknowledge everyone who has been with me on this journey - my family, loyal friends (bands and individuals) and especially Trevor. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to Wellington Brass for instigating this nomination. It means the world to me."



Matamata Brass is looking for a new M.D

Memorie is stepping down as MD which means Matamata Brass is on the hunt for a musical director to lead our C Grade Band into the future!

We are a hard-working, busy band who love performing in our community and competing at regional and national competitions. We also enjoy some social time together and have been camping, had a ten-pin bowling comp, and Guy Fawkes/Bonfire night, just to name a few.

We are looking for someone who loves brass banding, is passionate about youth development and can encourage players of all ages and abilities.

Matamata Brass has been represented in either the National Secondary Schools and/or the National Youth Bands for the past nine years.

Sunday nights are the current rehearsal night 6:30-8:30pm with the best suppers in town!

The day however can be changed to suit the new MD.

This is a paid position. So... if you have any further questions or want to join our band family, please contact our president on matamatabrass@gmail.com or 027 602 4145

Friends of the National Youth Brass Band:

Peter and Kylie Adams, BJ Aldridge (in perpetuity), E Aldridge (in perpetuity), J Aldridge, D and M Dawson, Tony Garing, Pete and Billie Harbidge, JB and NC Hollick, Carol and Trevor Kempton, Brian Lee, I Levien, John McGough, O Melhuish, D Miller, G and C Moseley, NZ Army Band, Otago Southland Brass Band Association, B and M Platt, Evan and Lorraine Sayer, J&R Sullivan. If you would like to support the activities of the National Youth Brass Band please contact the Executive Officer.

Life Members of the BBANZ

Graeme Aldridge MNZM, Betty Bremner, Trevor Bremner MNZM, Tony Cowan BEM, JP, Kevin Dell ONZM, Ian Levien QSM, Stephen Leader, Leigh Martin, Bill Platt, Evan Sayer, Dianne Smeehuyzen MNZM JP, Rodney Sutton MBE JP and Murray Warrington MNZM.

Life Members who have served BBANZ

JF Allen, GH Bailey, RE Belgrave, A Brieseman OBE JP, RM Brooker, Trevor Cudby, W Currie, Graham Dick, J Drew, RJ Estall, HCA Fox, WL Francis, NG Goffin QSO, EJ Gohns, T Goodall, HL 'Drummer' Hall, ER Holden, RB Hean, A Homer, KL Jarrett MBE, Beverley Kench, Mrs C Kendall, JC King, WS King, GB Knowles, Tony Lewis MNZM, WP MacLachlan, Riki McDonnell QSM, H Nielson, E Ormrod (sen), JG Osborne, E Palliser, J Rafferty, WV Siddall, R Simpson, P Skoglund, KGL Smith MBE, T Taylor OSM, LE Thorne QSM, FJ Turner, RS Waterston.

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Farewell to The Sid Creagh Memorial Band Hall – Home of Woolston Brass Inc.

Woolston Brass celebrated the historic Dampier Street band room with a free early-evening outdoor concert on 20 November.

Entitled "In Your Community: Dampier Re-imagined", the band, along with poet Denis Broadbent and Jolt Dance, performed on the doorstep of the band room with Jacob Root's amazing art mural in the backdrop.

The unique performance collaboration, led by Music Director Tyme Marsters, farewelled the

soon-to-disappear Sid Creagh Memorial Band Hall, the band's home for the past 132 years.

The earthquake-damaged band room will be demolished early next year to make way for a new purpose-built building – The Woolston Brass Inc Community and Arts Hub. The Hub will be much more than the home of the Woolston Brass organisation; it will be a facility that community groups and individuals can utilise to connect, collaborate and create.

By Caroline Turner
Marketing & Communications Manager

Woolston Brass is progressing the rebuild to the next stage in parallel with raising funds required to complete the project as they have only been permitted to occupy the current earthquake-damaged building until 2025; after that, it will not have a home.

An online fundraising platform has been set up for the rebuild project [HERE](#), and a public fundraising campaign will be launched next year. Let's band together to make this rebuild a reality!



The Woolston Brass Band played a concert to farewell their earthquake-damaged Dampier St band room. Photo: Geoff Sloan



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National Secondary Schools' Brass Band
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2024 National Contest in Auckland 10 to 13 July
Contact person: Owen Melhuish
owenmelhuish@gmail.com

2025 National Contest in Christchurch 2 to 5 July.
Contact person Graham Hickman
festivalofbrassnz@gmail.com



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