

The Hobart City Band Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 2nd December 2010, Ogilvie High School

President's Report

Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities and achievements of The Hobart City Band Inc. for the period 17 January to 2 December 2010.

In 2010 The Hobart City Band (referred to below as "The Band") has:

- experienced great contest success;
- presented a varied programme of well-received concerts;
- participated in local community and national events;
- led a residential band camp at Orana (Primrose Sands) for junior musicians from throughout Tasmania;
- assisted with the organisation of the 2010 National Band Championships held in Hobart;
- performed at private functions;
- held social events;
- improved the reporting of The Band's activities;
- drafted a new constitution for member discussion;
- made progress on a number of other management initiatives; and
- started planning for The Band's trip to Adelaide in 2011 to compete in the Australian National Band Championships.

Contest success

Rehearsing for and competing in band contests at the national, state and local level was a major focus in 2010 for Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony, Brass Band and Youth Winds. The hard work that preceded each contest was rewarded with the gaining of one or more championship titles for each contesting ensemble; the winning of \$1100 in prize money and numerous awards for individual members:

- **2010 Yamaha Australian National Band Championships** - Hobart, 2-5th April
 - Wind Symphony – 2010 Australian National Open A-Grade Concert Band Champion;
 - Brass Band – ninth place (out of fourteen bands) in 2010 Australian National Open A-Grade Brass Championships – an excellent result considering the Brass Band was competing for the first time in A-grade;
 - Junior Brass - 2010 Australian National Junior B-Grade Brass Champion (unopposed);

- Youth Winds – third place in the 2010 Australian National Junior B-Grade Concert Championships;
 - Solo Contests: *First place* - Trumpet (Simon Reade); Alto Saxophone (Ben Price); Tenor Saxophone (Thomas McKay); Oboe (Renee Badcock); Junior Euphonium (Jack Adolph); Junior Tuba in Bass Clef (Katelyn Davy). *Second place* - Open Tuba in Bass Clef (Joe Cook); Clarinet (Derek Grice); *Third place* - Clarinet (Niyama Kay); Junior E Eb Bass (Katelyn Davy); Junior Side/Snare Drum (Andrew John); Party Contests: *Second place* - Wind Symphony Quintet; *Third* - Junior Brass Quartet.
- **Tasmanian Bands League 2010 State Championships** - Launceston, 16th October
 - Brass Band - 2010 Tasmanian Open A-Grade Brass Champion - this is the first time that Hobart City Band has won an A-Grade Brass Band Championship;
 - Wind Symphony – Tasmanian Open A-Grade Concert Champion (unopposed);
 - Youth Winds - Tasmanian Junior B-Grade Concert Champion (unopposed);
 - Junior Brass – Tasmanian Junior B-Grade Brass (unopposed).
- **Tasmanian Bands League State Solo and Party Championships** - Launceston, 29 - 30th May
 - Hobart City Band members won seven of the 13 special trophies awarded, including, for the first time, the Jack Lusted Trophy;
 - Other trophies won by Hobart City Band members were for:
 - Open Champion of Champions (Joe Cook, Eb Bass);
 - Junior Champion of Champions (Jack Adolph, euphonium);
 - Open Euphonium (Jack Adolph);
 - Highest Points Gained in a Solo (Simon Cawthorn);
 - Open Quartet and Junior Quartet.
 - Hobart City Band members also won 16 gold medals, five silver medals and came second in Open Ensemble (5-7 players).
- **The 10th Derwent Valley Autumn Festival** - New Norfolk, 18th April
 - Brass Band - third prize (\$150);
 - Youth Winds - second prize (\$350).
- **City of Hobart Eisteddfod** - Hobart, 7th July
 - Brass Band – First in *Class 1070 McCann's Music Variety Entertainment – Open*, receiving \$500;
 - Wind Symphony - received a \$100 Award in *Class 1070 McCann's Music Variety Entertainment – Open*;
 - Youth Winds - First in *Class 1010 Brass or Concert Band - Year 12 and under*, receiving an Award Certificate.

Hobart City Band Inc. concerts

During 2010 The Hobart City Band Inc. produced four concerts covering a wide range of musical styles. Each concert featured one or more of The Band's five on-going ensembles - Wind Symphony, Brass Band, Youth Winds, Junior Brass and Swing Band. The concerts were performed in a variety of Hobart venues and were generally well-attended by highly appreciative audiences:

- **Annual Winter Gala Concert** - Saturday 17th July at 7pm, Stanley Burbury Theatre
 - 101 members of Hobart City Band Inc. performed;
 - The Wind Symphony, Brass Band, Junior Brass Band, Youth Winds and Swing Band took the stage in turn;
 - The Brass Band was also joined for one item by the Junior Brass Band;
 - The programme included compositions by Richard Wagner, James Curnow, Percy Grainger, Andrew Boysen, Peter Meechan, Clive Sansom, Darrol Barry, Hugh M. Stuart, Ralph Hultren, Phillip Sparke, Edrich Siebert, Bill Whelan, Duke Ellington, Erroll and Johnny Garner, Lennie Niehaus, Gordon Goodwin and others.

- **Brass Solos Concert** - Sunday 22nd August 2010 at 3pm, Hobart Town Hall
 - The Brass Band was joined by Sean Priest, Lecturer in Trumpet and Brass Performance at the School of Music – Conservatorium, Monash University and Head of Brass and Percussion at Carey Baptist Grammar School, Melbourne;
 - Sean Priest and five of the Brass Band’s own members performed solos:
 - *Serenata* (Anderson, arr. Joe Cook) – Soloist: *Simon Reade* (trumpet);
 - *Flowerdale* (Sparke) – Soloist: *Ian Martin* (soprano cornet);
 - *Prelude and Capriccio* (Gregson) – Soloist: *Sean Priest* (cornet);
 - *Czardas* (Monti) – Soloist: *Jack Adolph* (euphonium);
 - *Jubilance* (Himes) – Soloist: *Sean Priest* (cornet);
 - *Benedictus* (Jenkins) – Soloist: *Phil Riley* (euphonium);
 - *Capriccio* (Newton) – Soloist: *Joe Cook* (Eb tuba)
 - The concert opened with *Vitae Lux* (Alnaes, arranged by Aagaard-Nilsen) and closed with *The Torchbearer* (Graham);
 - Sean Priest also led a workshop for the members of the Brass Band.

- **Youthful Harmonies** - Sunday 31st October 2010 at 3pm, Hobart Town Hall
 - A concert featuring Youth Winds (37 players) and Junior Brass (21 players);
 - The Junior Brass performed *Divertimento for Brass* (Barry); *Bugler’s Holiday* (Anderson), featuring Ashleigh Paradise, Nicole Taylor and Louisa Snell on trumpet; *Legend in Brass* (Curnow); and *The Two Imps* (Alford) featuring Brianna Steel and Andrew John (percussion);
 - Youth Winds performed *Candide* (Bernstein) - the ensemble’s “own selection” performed at the State Championships; *Veni Veni Emmanuel* (Reade), featuring Tom McKay on alto saxophone; Boysen’s *Symphony No. 4*; *American Riversongs (section 1)* (La Plante); *Simple Gifts* (Ticheli); *River of Ancients* (Sweeney) and *Fantasia* (Camphouse).

- **Concerto Concert** – Friday 26th November at 8pm, St. David’s Cathedral
 - A programme of concertos by Piazzolla (*Libertango*), Dahl (*Concerto*), Gregson (*Concerto*) and Maslanka (*Desert Roads*) performed by the Wind Symphony and featuring (respectively) soloists *Simon Cawthorn* (trumpet), *Jabra Latham* (alto saxophone); *Joe Cook* (tuba) and *Derek Grice* (clarinet);
 - Reviewer Elizabeth Ruthven described Joe Cook as giving “a warm and satisfying performance of Gregson’s *Tuba Concerto*” and, referring to Maslanka’s *Desert Roads*, wrote “stunning clarinet technique from Derek Grice made this an outstanding experience”
 - Commenting on the Wind Symphony, Elizabeth Ruthven wrote “The band’s broadened repertoire is gaining deserved attention from the local concert-going audience. Those present confirmed their appreciation”. (*The Mercury*, Monday 29th November 2010).

2010 Australian National Band Championships Gala Concert and the Parade of Bands

The Wind Symphony was privileged to participate, by invitation, in the 2010 Australian National Band Championships Gala Concert (Federation Concert Hall, Hobart, Sunday evening, 4th April 2010) compered by ABC radio personality, Christopher Lawrence. Under the baton of composer Johan de Meij (Netherlands), the Wind Symphony performed Johan de Meij's prize-winning composition, *Symphony No. 1, The Lord of the Rings* in front of a capacity audience. Playing from the balcony, Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony also joined the Mahidol Senior Wind Symphony from Bangkok, Thailand, under its Director, Dr. Christopher Hughes, performing *Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral* by Wagner.

On Saturday 3rd April, the Brass Band was one of 32 bands that marched through central Hobart in the National Band Championships' Parade of Bands. The Band's Patron (Alderman Rob Valentine, the Lord Mayor of the City of Hobart) in mayoral dress, watched from a dais in Murray Street.

Community events

The Band's ensembles performed at a number of community events and official ceremonies:

- Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony, Sandy Bay (Tuesday 26th January) - Wind Symphony;
- Cancer Council's 24 hour Relay for Life (27th February) – Swing Band;
- Derwent Valley Autumn Festival, New Norfolk (Sunday 18th April) – Swing Band, Wind Symphony, Youth Winds and Brass Band;
- Hobart ANZAC Day Parade (Sunday 25th April) - Brass Band;
- Tasmania Day Celebrations, Parliament House Lawns (Sunday 7th November) – Swing Band;
- The TasSwing Ball, Hobart (13th November) – Swing Band;
- Myer Hobart Christmas Pageant (Saturday 20th November) – representatives from each ensemble;
- Official opening of the Callington Mill, Oatlands, attended by the Premier and Governor (Sunday 28th November) – Swing Band;
- Private functions at Government House - on a number of occasions the Brass Band has performed fanfares.

Social events

The Hobart City Band Inc. held a pizza evening for its members in April to celebrate The Band's success at the National Championships. On 31st October, members of Youth Winds and Junior Brass went bowling and for pizza after the Youthful Harmonies concert. On Saturday 4th December, a quiz night is being held (Howrah Scout Hall).

Administration and management

The Committee of Management has met approximately once per month and communicated frequently by email. The large size of the Committee and the busy schedules of its members have meant that it has been difficult to find a time when everyone can attend meetings. Inevitably this has meant that at times the work-load has fallen on the shoulders of a willing few who have very ably completed tasks.

The Committee's activities have included:

- programme and activity planning, budgeting, organising venues, publicity, catering, purchasing new instruments, correspondence, maintaining records and preparing grant submissions;
- cataloguing The Band's library of music (on-going);
- writing a new constitution - a draft will be circulated to members for comment in 2011; and
- discussing the development of a package for presentation to potential sponsors (on-going).

In April, the Committee decided to put into recession the Development Band (established in 1999) due to a non-viable membership level. It will be re-formed if the demand for such an ensemble again arises.

Sourcing funds to finance The Band's activities is an on-going concern - a uniform (in particular for the Brass Band), a public address system and stands for outdoor performances remain high on The Band's wish-list. Early in the year The Band purchased a set of tubular bells.

Prior to and over Easter a number of Committee members (and also some other members of The Band) were heavily involved with the organisation of the 2010 National Band Championships held in Hobart.

Publicity and communication

Several articles about Hobart City Band's up-coming activities and its contest successes during 2010 have appeared in *The Mercury*. A number of very complimentary reviews of Hobart City Band concerts have also been published.

The Hobart City Band's web site (www.hobartcityband.org.au) has continued to provide the public with general information about The Band and to provide members with rehearsal and other "in-house" information. A new section "News" was added to the site in 2010, providing up-to-date reports on The Band's activities and successes.

An approximately monthly E-newsletter for members and people registered as *Friends of Hobart City Band* has also been introduced.

Thank you ...

Looking back, 2010 has been a year of considerable advancement both from the musical and management points of view. What has been achieved has been very much a team effort. In closing, I'd like to thank:

- our conductors - *Simon Reade* (Wind Symphony/ Swing Band); *Simon Cawthorn* (Brass Band/Junior Brass) and *Claire Reade* (Youth Winds) - for their dedication, musical leadership and professionalism;

- the outgoing Committee - its members have worked as a team and collectively have put in many hours behind the scenes to ensure that essential administrative tasks have been completed in a timely manner; events have run smoothly and The Band has progressed - special thanks to *Bob Kuns* (Secretary) and *Elizabeth Hey* (Treasurer) for performing those important roles;
- our Patron - *Alderman Rob Valentine* (the Lord Mayor of the City of Hobart), for his continuing interest in The Hobart City Band and the banding movement;
- the families and friends of our members for their on-going support; and last but not least ...
- all Hobart City Band members for belonging to The Band and together making The Hobart City Band Inc. such a vibrant, dynamic and well-respected musical association.

The Hobart City Band Inc. has “... *plenty to trumpet about*”. *

It's a privilege to have been The Band's President for the last two years and I wish The Band continuing success and development in 2011.

Hannah Wood

President

2 December 2010

*Taken from the heading used on an article in *The Mercury* reviewing the Wind Symphony's Concerto Concert performed on the 26th November (*The Mercury, Monday 29th November 2010*).