



# **President's Report 2011**

Hannah Wood

Presented to the Annual General Meeting

Saturday 14th January 2012, 4pm

The Band Room, TCA Ground, Domain, Hobart

The Hobart City Band Inc., G.P.O. Box 116, Hobart 7001, Tasmania

[www.hobartcityband.org.au](http://www.hobartcityband.org.au)

## Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities and achievements of The Hobart City Band Inc. for 2011 (3 December 2010 to 14th January 2012).

The Hobart City Band Inc. (The Band) has again had a very busy and successful year.

The Band has continued to operate five major ensembles (Wind Symphony, Brass Band, Junior Brass, Youth Winds and Swing Band) with a total membership of 91 (including three non-playing life members, four conductors and 38 juniors (42%).

In 2011 The Band competed in National, State and local band championships; produced a diverse concert programme; took part in community events and played a leadership role in the development and musical education of young Tasmanian players.

The highlights of the year were The Band's highly successful trip to Adelaide to compete in the 2011 Australian National Championships; The Band's 10<sup>th</sup> Gala Event; the Tasmanian Band Championships; the introduction of the Wind Symphony's Composer Series of concerts and the establishment of a formal cooperation between The Band and the University of Tasmania's Conservatorium of Music.

## Contests

Preparing for and competing in contests continued to be a high priority during 2011. The Band's ensembles and individual members achieved some outstanding results:

- **2011 Yamaha Australian National Band Championships - Adelaide, 21 - 24 April**

The Wind Symphony, Brass Band, Youth Winds and individual members brought home 12 National titles and also achieved seven second places, two third places and three fourth places.

The Band's results included:

- **Youth Winds** – 2011 Australian National Junior B-Grade Concert Champion;
- **Wind Symphony** – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 2011 Australian National Open A-Grade Concert Band Championships;
- **Brass Band** – 8th place in 2011 Australian National Open A-Grade Brass Championships;
- **Solo and Ensemble Contests:**
  - **Concert Champion of Champions** – Derek Grice (B Flat Clarinet)
  - **Junior Concert Champion of Champions** – Andrew John (Baritone Saxophone)
  - **First Place:** Bassoon (Rebecca Haight); Baritone Saxophone (Andrew John); Alto Saxophone (Benjamin Price); B Flat Clarinet (Derek Grice); Flugel Horn (Simon Cawthorn); Junior Baritone Saxophone (Andrew John); Junior Bassoon (Conor Yemm); Junior Flute (Isaac Letchford); Junior Flugel Horn (Nicole Taylor);
  - **Second Place:** B Flat Trumpet (Simon Reade); High Tuba (Joe Cook); Tenor Saxophone (Thomas McKay); Junior High Tuba (Katelyn Davy); Open Quintet (Hobart Wind Quintet); Junior Quintet (Hobart Junior Brass Quintet)
  - **Third Place:** Mallet Percussion (Brianna Steel); Junior Mallet Percussion (Brianna Steel);
  - **Fourth Place:** Open Quartet (Hobart Brass Quartet); Junior B Flat Clarinet (Claire Henry); Junior B Flat Trumpet (Louisa Snell)

- **Tasmanian Bands League 2011 State Championships** – Farrall Centre, Hobart, 8 - 9 October, 2011

Each of The Band's competing ensembles performed well and was awarded, unopposed, the State title for its grade:

- Brass Band - 2011 Tasmanian Open A-Grade Brass Champion. Overall mark 92% ;
- Wind Symphony – 2011 Tasmanian Open A-Grade Concert Champion. Overall mark 90%.
- Youth Winds – 2011 Tasmanian Junior B-Grade Concert Champion. Overall mark 79%;
- Junior Brass – 2011 Tasmanian Junior B-Grade Brass. Overall mark 73%.

- **Tasmanian Bands League 2011 State Solo and Party Championships** - Launceston, 4 - 5 June, 2011

Hobart City Band members were highly successful:

- For the second year in a row, Hobart City Band won the Jack Lusted Trophy. The Jack Lusted Trophy (awarded to the Bandmaster) reflects the winning performances of Hobart City Band members as a whole, being based on a tally of points awarded for first, second and third places in each event. Hobart City Band scored a total of 66 points, which was 17 points clear of its closest competitor.
- Hobart City Band member, Jack Adolph, won the W.J. Bentley Trophy as Junior Champion of Champions (Euphonium) and The Ken Lee Trophy as Gold Medal winner for Open Euphonium.
- Hobart City Band members won a total of 16 Gold Medals and nine Silver Medals with six of the Gold Medals and two of the Silver Medals being won by Hobart City Band member Andrew John.
  - **Gold medals:** Andrew John (Junior and Open Baritone Saxophone, Junior Snare Drum, Junior Mallet Keyboard, Junior Timpani, Junior and Open Multi-percussion); Rebecca Haight (Open Bassoon); Dan Brown (Open Snare Drum and Open Mallet Keyboard); Nicole Taylor (Junior Flugel Horn); Jack Adolph (Junior and Open Euphonium); Robyn Males (Open French Horn); Simon Cawthorn and Simon Turk (Open Brass Duet); Simon Cawthorn (Open Slow Medley);
  - **Silver Medals:** Grace Innis (Junior Clarinet); Brianna Steel (Junior and Open Mallet Keyboard); Andrew John (Open Snare Drum); Nicole Taylor (Junior Trumpet); Dan Brown and Andrew John (Open Brass Duet); Phil Riley (Open Euphonium); Simon Turk (Open Bb Cornet); Robyn Males (Open Tenor Horn).

- **City of Hobart 2011 Eisteddfod** – Federation Concert Hall, Hobart, 1 July 2011

Hobart City Band ensembles competed in the section *McCann's Music Variety Entertainment – Open* and achieved a clean sweep. The Brass Band came first, receiving \$500, and the Youth Winds and Junior Brass came second and third, each receiving \$100.

- **The 37<sup>th</sup> Ern Keller Memorial International Soloist of the Year**, St. Mary's Band Club, Penrith, Sydney, 20 February 2011

Hobart City Band member Joe Cook (competing in the 2011 Ern Keller competition as Tasmania's representative, against nine other representative competitors from Australia, the Federation of Australasian Brass Bands (FABB), Japan, New Zealand and the UK) won the title of **2011 Australasian Soloist of the Year**. Joe, playing the tuba, will represent Australasia at the British Open Championships.

## Concerts

During 2011 The Hobart City Band Inc. produced six concerts covering a wide range of musical styles. Each concert featured one or more of The Band's ensembles. They were performed in a variety of Hobart venues to appreciative audiences. New in 2011 was the introduction of the Composer Series of concerts given by the Wind Symphony; a combined concert with Derwent Valley Concert Band and a Gala Dinner-Concert featuring each of The Band's ensembles.

The Band's concert programme for 2011 included:

- **Open Rehearsal for the National Championships** - St. David's Cathedral, Hobart, Sunday 17 April 2011, 2pm

Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony, Brass Band and Youth Winds held an open rehearsal in front of a large and appreciative audience of family and friends. Each ensemble played the four pieces prepared for the Australian National Championships (Adelaide, 21 - 24 April). As is required for the competition, each ensemble performed a hymn, a march, the prescribed test piece for their grade and a piece of their own choice. Conductors: Simon Reade (Wind Symphony); Simon Cawthorn (Brass Band); Claire Reade (Youth Winds).

- **10<sup>th</sup> Gala Event** - City Hall, Hobart, Saturday 23 July 2011, 7pm

A Gala Concert featuring each of the Band's ensembles was first held in 2002 and, following its success, has been held each year since, in mid-winter. To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> of these Annual Gala Concerts and to celebrate a decade of growth and diversification, The Band hosted a formal dinner during which each of its five ensembles performed. The evening was also a celebration of the success of Hobart City Band's ensembles at Tasmanian State and Australian National Band Championships and the popularity in the community of the Swing Band.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was the Band's Patron, Alderman Rob Valentine, the Lord Mayor of Hobart. The dinner was attended by parents and friends of Band members, members of Clarence, Glenorchy and Derwent Valley Bands as well as the performing members of Hobart City Band. The Band was pleased to welcome, as special guests, Dr Andrew Legge (Conservatorium of Music) and TasSwing's performing troupe, *The Lindy Mob*.

The music programme included: *La Fiesta Mexicana* (Reed) - Wind Symphony (Conductor: S. Reade); *An American Elegy* (Ticheli) - Youth Winds (Conductor: C. Reade); *Knights of Cydonia* (Muse) - Junior Brass (Conductor: R. Males); *Spanish Medley* (*Amparito Roca*, Teixidor; *Adagio*, Rodrigo; *Spain*, Corea) - Brass Band (Conductor: D. Grice); *Classic swing selection* - Swing Band (Director: S. Reade) with The Lindy Mob; *More from the Swing Band* (vocalist Donna Woods).

- **La Fiesta Mexicana** - Farrall Centre, North Hobart, Saturday 20 August 2011, 7.30 pm

Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony and The Derwent Valley Concert Band jointly presented a concert celebrating the indigenous music and culture of Central and Latin America countries.

Taking the stage first, the 46-member Derwent Valley Concert Band played *Marcha Provinciana* (Chavez); *Latin Voyage* (Tailor) and *Suite No. 2 (Latinos-Mexicana)* (Alfred Reed) under the baton of its Chief Conductor, Lyall McDermott. Lyall was Conductor of the Hobart City Band's Youth Winds from 2004 until 2010.

After a short interval, Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony (Conductor Simon Reade, with 49 instrumentalists) continued the theme, performing *Sinfonia India* (Chavez's most popular work) and *La Fiesta Mexicana* (Herbert Owen Reed).

As a finale, the two bands combined to perform *Danza Final* (from *Estancia* by Ginastera, arr. John). The concert was held in front of an audience of about 100 people.

- **Composer Series: Works Of Percy Grainger** - Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music Recital Hall, Hobart, Thursday 1 September 2011, 7 pm

This concert was performed by Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony as the first in a series of concerts hosted and promoted by the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music. The programme included: *Molly On The Shore*; *Irish Tune from County Derry*; *Shepherds Hey*; *Down Longford Way*; *Shenandoah*; *Prelude In The Dorian Mode*; *The Immovable Do*; *Six Dukes Went A-Fishin*; *Early One Morning*; *Blithe Bells* and *Children's March*. Conductor: Simon Reade.

- **Youth Winds and Junior Brass End of Year Concert** - Baha'i Centre of Learning for Tasmania, Hobart, Sunday 27 November 2011, 3.30 pm

The Band's two junior ensembles, performing in turn, presented a varied programme to family and friends.

The Junior Brass, led by Acting Conductor Robyn Males, performed a lively and popular selection of works including: *Instant Concert* (Walters); *Pavane in Blue* (Huggens, arr. Beekingham); *Selections from Grease* (Jacobs and Casey, arr. Mabon); *Memory* (Lloyd Webber, arr. Goff) and *The Floral Dance* (Moss, arr. Broadbent).

The Youth Winds, conducted by Claire Reade, performed *Sumer is icumen in* (Trad.); *Serenade* (Bourgeois); *American Elegy* (Ticheli); *Agincourt Carol* (Anon.); *Concordia: Praeludium* – world premiere (Barber); *Dusk* (Bryant) and *Selection From Wicked* (Schwartz arr. Jay Bocook)

- **Composer Series: Works of Don Kay** - Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music Recital Hall, Hobart, Thursday 15 December 2011, 7 pm

Playing to a capacity audience, the Wind Symphony's programme included four works originally scored by Don Kay as an orchestral or choral piece and subsequently arranged for the Wind Symphony by Simon Reade or Simon Barber and Simon Reade. Three of the pieces\* were world premieres and two were introduced personally by Don Kay. Conductor Simon Reade outlined how the arrangements for wind band had come about. *Tasmania* (1989, arr. 2005 Reade) featured a prominent oboe solo at the beginning and just before the end. *Land of Moinee* (1983, arr. 2011 Barber/ Reade) is the fourth movement of Kay's *Symphony for Cello and Orchestra*. In this arrangement\* the violin and cello solos were substituted by clarinet and bass clarinet, closing with an extended flute solo. In *Hanging Rock, Mt. Roland* (the fourth movement of Kay's major choral work, *Northward The Strait*) the chorus was replaced by various combinations of trumpets and saxophones\*. The final and major work of the evening was an arrangement (2011 Barber/Reade) of Kay's unperformed orchestral Symphony 3 "*Affirmation*" (2007)\*.

Feedback received from members of the audience was that this was one of the best concerts to date performed by Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony.

## Community Events and Private Functions

The Band's ensembles performed, with pleasure, at a number of community events, official ceremonies and private functions:

- **Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony** - Sandy Bay, Tuesday 26 January 2011 - Wind Symphony;
- **Cancer Council's Relay For Life** – Domain Athletics Centre, Hobart, Saturday 26 February 2011 – Swing Band;
- **Hot August Jazz** - North Hobart, 28 August 2011 – Swing Band;
- **Tasmania Day Celebrations** - Parliament House Lawns, Hobart, Sunday 7 November 2011 – Swing Band;
- **Myer Hobart Christmas Pageant** - Saturday 19 November 2011 – Brass Band augmented with members from other Hobart City Band ensembles;
- **Private functions** – Swing Band.

## **Residential Camps**

Hobart City Band led two residential camps for young players during 2011:

- **Youth Winds Camp**, Friday to Sunday, 12 – 14 March 2011, Conningham

This camp, led by Claire Reade (Conductor of Youth Winds), was held to prepare for the National Championships.

- **Junior Band Camp**, Monday to Thursday, 5 - 8 September 2011, Orana Guide Camp, Roches Beach

The camp was for Tasmanian musicians age 17 and under who play woodwind, brass or percussion. The camp was hosted by The Hobart City Band Inc. with the support of the Tasmanian Bands' League, Derwent Valley Concert Band and Clarence City Band. The Camp Coordinator and Musical Director was the Conductor of Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony, Simon Reade. Simon was assisted by Hobart City Band conductors Claire Reade and Robyn Males and Hobart City Band members Fred Woods and Michael Young.

## **Cooperation with the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music**

In 2011 The Band entered into an on-going cooperative arrangement with the University of Tasmania. In recognition of the high standard of music offered by Hobart City Band Inc., its members may now have their participation in Hobart City Band's ensembles assessed as units (Ensemble Skills) towards the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music's Diploma of Music Performance. A considerable number of members are enrolled in the course under the supervision of The Band's Musical Director, Simon Reade. In support of The Band, the Conservatorium of Music has to date donated \$5000 to The Band and agreed to host and publicise a series of free concerts performed by Hobart City Band's Wind Symphony. Two of these concerts took place in 2011 (the Percy Grainger and Don Kay Concerts).

## **Social Events**

By popular request, a quiz night was held prior to the 2011 National Championships and a Christmas function was held at the Marmalade Café on 16 December 2011.

## **Administration and Management**

The Committee of Management has continued to be pro-active in advancing the objectives of The Band. The Committee met approximately once every six weeks and its members communicated frequently by email. The Committee's regular activities have included programme and activity planning, budgeting, organising venues, publicity, catering, purchasing new equipment, correspondence, maintaining records and preparing grant submissions.

On-going projects include cataloguing The Band's library of music, revising the Constitution and developing a package for presentation to potential sponsors.

The Band was fortunate to receive some additional funding in 2011 that allowed the Committee to focus more on developing The Band's musical programme and less on fund-raising.

Thank you to:

- Fairbrother's for its \$2000 sponsorship, which assisted with travel expenses to the National Championships;
- the Tasmanian Community Fund for a grant of \$5850 for the purchase of Wenger music stands (with trolleys) and a specialist conductor's stand for the Youth Winds (and available also for general use by The Band). The stands were used for the first time at the 10th Gala Event on 23 July 2011;
- the Conservatorium of Music for a donation of \$5000 and for hosting, at the Conservatorium's Recital Hall, the Composer Series of concerts;
- the 62 people who purchased an Entertainment Book, earning for The Band \$682.

The Band is dependent for the management of its affairs on the goodwill of its Committee members, all of whom serve on the Committee in a voluntary capacity. The Committee worked well as a team but on a number of occasions, especially in the run-up to major functions, the workload fell heavily on the shoulders of a few. The Committee has recognised (and started to address) the need to streamline its administrative procedures and to devise ways to better spread responsibility for operational tasks. Increased efficiency in the use of limited man-power for administrative tasks will continue to be a focus of the Committee in 2012.

## **Communication and Publicity**

The Hobart City Band's web site ([www.hobartcityband.org.au](http://www.hobartcityband.org.au)) continued through 2011 to provide the public with general information about The Band and its *News* and *Calendar* sections provided details of up-coming concerts and reports on The Band's activities and successes. Through its members-only section, the web site provided Band members with rehearsal and other in-house information.

The Band's e-newsletter continued to keep members and people registered as *Friends of Hobart City Band* personally informed about The Band's activities.

In 2011 The Band established an official Hobart City Band Facebook Group and also official Hobart City Band Members-only Groups for both the Junior Brass Band and the Youth Winds, with Facebook being the preferred method of communication for many of The Band's junior members.

Through the year feature articles in *The Mercury* promoted a number of The Band's upcoming events and several concerts were favourably reviewed in *The Mercury*.

The Conservatorium of Music publicised the two concerts in the on-going Composer Series.

## Thank You

The Band's 2011 achievements have further developed The Band's reputation within both Tasmania and Australia as a successful and progressive band organisation achieving musical excellence.

The Hobart City Band Inc.'s 2011 achievements are a product of the enthusiasm and dedication of many people working together as a team.

I'd like to thank:

- our 2011 Committee members - for giving their time to ensure that the organisation and its events ran smoothly, with special thanks to *Bob Kuns* (Secretary) and *Elizabeth Hey* (Treasurer);
- our conductors - *Simon Reade* (Wind Symphony/ Swing Band); *Simon Cawthorn* (Brass Band/Junior Brass (on leave from May 2011)); *Derek Grice* (Acting Conductor Brass Band from May 2011), *Claire Reade* (Youth Winds) and *Robyn Males* (Acting Conductor Junior Brass from May 2011) - for their energy, inspiration and musical leadership;
- our Patron - *Alderman Rob Valentine* for his commitment to and support of the Band during his years as the Lord Mayor of Hobart;
- every one of our members, each of whom has contributed personally to the high standard of performance reached by the Band's ensembles; and finally ...
- the families and friends of our members for their on-going support, with special thanks to those who travelled to Adelaide to support us at the National Championships.

It has been a privilege to be the President of The Hobart City Band Inc. for 2011.

I wish The Band continuing success and development in 2012.

Hannah Wood

President

14th January 2012