



REDLAND CITY BANDS INC

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone,

More reflections on yet another year that has escaped and bolted although this one didn't get away without some great things happening for our organisation.

Sadly though I would like to recognise the resignation of Rod Bridges as Leader/Conductor of the Big Band. What a legacy he leaves. Rod came to us about 4 years ago and took over the Big Band when it was playing a style of music very similar to our current Stage Band. Under his leadership (and with the use of his arrangements made specifically to fit the capability of the band and its players), he has given them a sophistication and an edginess that is great to listen to. His experience and presence was unquestionable as was his enthusiasm for his craft so we can only salute him and thank him for the value that he has added to the Big Band and our organisation generally. Of special note was his generous donation of all the charts that he has over the years produced, thus allowing his involvement to last.

Concerts were a little lighter on this year, especially for the Stage Band however they will be working hard to give themselves more opportunities to entertain our community next year. What has worked



really well is the continued use of our hall for concerts on a Friday night; one memorable one was the movie theme night put on by the Beginners and Wind Ensemble – great music but also great atmosphere with the decorations. It's a great feeling playing and being in the audience in such an intimate venue. I hear that the WE is thinking of grouping its members into small ensembles next year for a concert, similar to the Beginners Solo night so it should be a great spot for that.

Two of our major events of the year went off well (as usual) - the Seniors concert in particular being well patronised as was our end of year concert, which added the Improv Group and the Stage Band to create some variation. The Big Band's three dances went well, although the last one was not as well attended as we had hoped and we are trying to analyse why. And finally Inaccord – just continues to amaze me with the regularity of their play outs which creates such a demanding schedule for a group of our more "mature" players.

Three out of three

Another highlight this year is our success in obtaining grant funding.

Did you read page 12 of this week's Bayside Bulletin under "Local Groups gain Grant Funds"???????
We are listed amongst the sporting and community groups across the Redlands who will benefit from the latest round of grants for the State Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund!!!!!!!!!! WE WERE SUCCESSFUL!!!!

First communication from Joy Lovely, Treasurer of RCB.

Everyone by now will have noticed the new music stands, you may have placed your posterior on some of the new chairs we are testing, seen our trophies displayed in a new cabinet, or been present at the Seniors concert which was funded via a grant. These funds came from either the Redland City Council or the State Govt via the Gaming Machine Fund. Earlier this year, the Committee formed a "Grant hunting team" and they have been ably led by Treasurer Joy who has taken herself on numerous courses and workshops to give us the greatest chance of success.

As well as this fantastic Grant application success, we have also been SUCCESSFUL in our application under the Redland City Council's Community Grants Program for \$3000 for our project "Redland City Bands Inc Strategic Plan".

From Joy

And what success - three out of three so far - with the fourth, for risers to elevate the percussion and brass sections, yet to be determined.

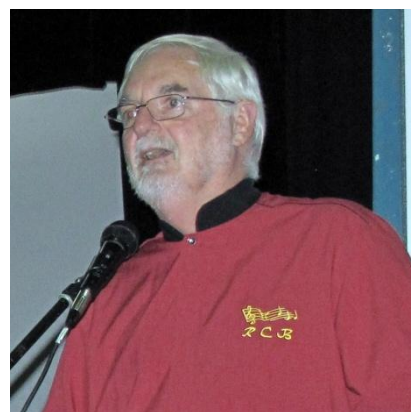
One grant that we have obtained that isn't immediately visible is that of a grant to allow us to employ a consultant to help us develop a strategic plan. 'Oh oh', I suddenly hear a lot of yawning at the thought of developing a strategic plan – about as interesting as watching V8 Supercars (or a conductor) I hear others say. BUT in some ways it could be one of the most important things that we have done for many years. It will make us answer some pretty basic questions like:

- Why do we exist as an organisation?
- What do we hope to achieve individually and as an organisation?
- Where are we now and what do we want to be in say 5 years?

The process has started with the consultant meeting the Committee last meeting, at which it was emphasized that the consultant is the scribe, who guides the process, the content comes from us. Very soon you will receive a survey which I really hope you will complete and next year there will be a workshop where whoever comes can have their input. Please be involved.

And that pretty well brings us to Christmas. Only one outing for the Christmas Band this year; we didn't get invited to the Redland City Council's carols and the organizers of Wellington Point ran out of energy so it isn't being held this year. With only one, it should be a good one.

Enjoy what's left of the year and have a Happy Christmas.



Cheers, George



Concert Band Report

John Allen

The Concert band has enjoyed another good year, being part of several successful concerts, particularly in Anzac Day commemorations and travelling to Buderim for the annual exchange visit. Louise McGill covered for me for several weeks while I was in China. She prepared the Band for its concert at Tranquil Waters retirement Village and conducted and presented the program at that venue. The concert met with great success. Well done, Louise, and many thanks! The band performed very well at the End of Year concert on November 17. Highlights of that concert were the two items conducted by Louise, Yorkshire Ballad and Pirates of the Caribbean, and the trumpet duet, Conchita, played so confidently by Tim and Rebecca Reed. Mother Pam Reed's contribution at the back of the Band on base drum was a useful addition to the duet, also. All items on the Concert Band program were very much appreciated by the audience. The program was characterised, as usual, by the variety in the selection of pieces played.



MY CHINA VISIT

My three week tour of China was excellent. I learnt much about this teeming country, enjoying time in the hugely populated cities (over 20 million people in Beijing and Shanghai and over 30 million in Chongqing) and viewing some of the world famous sights. Chongqing is the fastest growing city in the world, and the multitude of hi-rise apartments everywhere provide a clear picture of the crowds living in that city. Highlights of the tour were:

Climbing part of the Great Wall, the first part of which is nearly vertical, making it hard work negotiating the centuries-old, uneven steps;

Being overwhelmed with the age and scope of the Terracotta Warriors;

Four days cruising on the busy Yangtze River;

Mixing with crowds on the streets and in the markets;



Bargaining for purchases in the shops and markets;

Being fascinated by the endless traffic in the major cities, especially at roundabouts;

Enjoying the speed train ride from Beijing to the Airport, covering the 30 kms in just 8 minutes, reaching speeds up to 430 kph. The train we were on passed a sister train going in the opposite direction at a combined speed of over 700 kph!

Having a relaxing half hour with our feet in a tank nibbled by small 7 cm long nibble fish in Kunming;

Viewing several spectacular kung-fu and dance shows;

We were frequently stopped by Asians to have their photo taken with us. No words were uttered but they made it clear what they wanted. Then a great big smile of thanks;

Seeing the black and white (Collingwood) and red pandas in a zoo, a Chinese 'must';

Listening to the only band I encountered, a six-piece brass group on a wharf somewhere along the Yangtze, playing an American marching tune;

and

Chinese food every day, consisting always of rice and eight or nine other dishes.

Overall, it was a first-class, well-organised tour, with accommodation, plane trips, transport (we travelled over 7500 kms by plane, bus, boat and train) and meals all found.

NEXT YEAR

Next year, in addition to the formal concerts, Anzac day and retirement village visits, special events will include a visit from the Buderim Band in June, and the possible participation by the Band in the Apple and grape Festival parade in Stanthorpe in early March. The Band has played in this last event several times in the past, and has always enjoyed a great day out.

As usual, the Band could do with an influx of new players, particularly in the brass section. If you know of any prospective players, please encourage them to join up. A greater number of players over all the Band means we can expand our repertoire much more.

A big 'Thank You' to all members of the Concert Band for your input this year. I appreciate your loyalty, especially those who have been able to attend rehearsals and performances on a regular basis. I know many of you have work, family and other commitments, so your attendance is valued very much.

Many of next year's dates have been booked in already and are available on the Band website. Make sure they go in to your diary now if they are not already there, in order to avoid double booking. I look forward to another year of playing and enjoying good music in the new year. A reminder that January 22 is the date for the first rehearsal in 2014.

Have a well-earned and restful Christmas-New Year season.



Many thanks, John Allen



WIND ENSEMBLE REPORT

Allen Clark

An excellent year

The Wind Ensemble has had another excellent year which has culminated in us tackling some fairly difficult music in readiness for the end of year concert.



We held some sectional rehearsals earlier in the year which has assisted some in making the transition from Beginning Band, and given myself and Louise an opportunity to see how well the various players are developing. This helps us to structure our rehearsals and provide insight on where to focus our attention. Our most recent two playouts, being at Raby Bay with the Beginning Band and in the Bandroom for the Movie Theme night, were well received. My thanks goes to Vaughn and Narelle Clarke for providing some large Movie Theme posters which created a fantastic atmosphere for the evening. I have attached a photo of the Trumpet section playing Blues Brothers.

We have placed an order for new music for next year and this is very exciting. The selection includes Jupiter by Holst and 1812 Overture – both new Grade 3 arrangements which suit our band perfectly. In addition to this, the committee has accepted my recommendation to purchase some ensemble music. We will put this to good effect next year when we plan to have a concert at the bandroom, which will include small ensembles, planned for the first half of the year.



Many thanks

Allen Clark

(Paraphrased) Thought for the day:

"Ask not what your band can do for you, but what you can do for your band."

Written on anniversary of JFK's assassination

INACCORD REPORT

Inaccord has had another enjoyable and successful year.

To date **BEENLEIGH** (end of November) fifty-three concerts have been presented in venues from Beenleigh to Annerley, Wynnum, Sandgate and Chermshire, as well as across the Redlands, with nine still to go **ANERLEY** for December.

One engagement we look forward to is playing in front of the Cleveland Uniting Church to help celebrate their light display. This year we will **WYNNUM** be there from 7 pm on Tuesday 17th December. Why don't you drop in and enjoy the music and singing.

We have now had a good innings for fourteen years, with quite a number of players joining in and then dropping out after a few years. Currently we have **SANDGATE** a playing roster of eight, but from time to time two or three are not available.

With an average age now of eighty we are beginning to feel that we have only a year or so left without the recruitment of a few retired musos willing to play every **CHERMSSIDE** week or so usually for an hour or so mid morning.

AND ACROSS THE REDLANDS

If you would like more information ring Glen on 38290234.

Thank you Glen Vieritz and all members of Inaccord

The ABC Produces a monthly magazine devoted to classic music. The magazine, called *Limelight*, includes articles about music events in Australia, CD, book and movie reviews, and forthcoming ABC radio programs.



There is also a page of letters to the Editor, the best of which being declared Letter of the Month. The writer of this letter wins a handsome prize.

Below is the letter of the Month for April of this year. Note the author and the unbelievable huge prize awarded.

LETTER OF THE MONTH for *LIMELIGHT The Classical Music & Arts Magazine*, April 2013

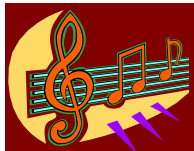
LA TRAVIATA TRAINING

Many thanks to ABC Classic FM for the superb Verdi operas presented over the Australia Day long weekend in January. My seminal encounter with my favourite opera *La Traviata* occurred in 1954 when I was undergoing National Service training in southern Tasmania. Entertainment on the Saturday night was generally a movie, usually a western or a sci-fi fantasy. On one particular Saturday night, however, the movie was *La Traviata*. Can you imagine two hundred Nashos crammed into a hall viewing this opera? I don't know what the others thought, but I enjoyed the experience very much. I have been an opera devotee ever since. I have also conducted concert bands and brass bands for nearly 50 years now, and this year band members will have a number of Verdi pieces to enjoy, which actually transcribe very well for band. Let the purists shudder!

John Allen, OAM, Birkdale, QLD

LETTERS PRIZE

Letter of the month wins this superb 75-CD set of Verdi's complete works on the Decca Label.



LAURIE SMITH REMEMBERS

Part 4

A Performing Arts building for the Redlands

During my time as President (1990s), there was a strong push by all performing Arts groups in the Shire to lobby the Council, the State Government, and the Federal Government to provide a suitable building for the Performing Arts, as the facilities on offer were totally inadequate. The Council invited representatives of the Performing Arts groups to join in the planning of such a facility, and, as President of the Band, became part of that Committee.

There were regular meetings to discuss the needs of all organisations, the most suitable design, the site etc. I envisaged that the Budget would be substantial and at each meeting reminded the Mayor and Councillors of the day that this was to be a Community facility and that local organisations were certainly not wealthy in terms of proposed hire fees. We were continually assured that this aspect of the venture was being considered.

The lowest point of my time as President of the Band

The Council had raised a substantial amount through levies on Rates, and received a Government grant to enable the Centre to be built. During the course of the construction, the Council decided that a contract be formed to run the Redlands Performing Arts Centre (RPAC), and the prime focus was to use the facility for commercial hiring and performances. Unfortunately, local performing groups such as the Redland City Band could not meet the hiring costs and still cannot. **This is why local Community Groups are unable to use the facility for performances.** The result of this exercise was the lowest point of my time as President of the Redland City Band.



Once again, thank you Laurie

A message from Kirsten

Hello from Kumayaga!

I have been living and working in Japan for 8 weeks now. I am an assistant English teacher and I teach at 3 schools:

Kumagaya Higashi Elementary,
Kumagaya Higashi Junior High School and
Ishiwara Elementary.

I am loving my job and the kids here are so very well behaved ... Not sure you would see this in Australia! It is very cold here not like at home where I hear it is stormy and hot.

Christmas is not really celebrated over here but to all my Aussie Band friends, Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!



Kind regards

Kirsten Morley

LOCAL HISTORY in the REDLANDS

Hi Ayla,

Lovely to hear from you. Thanks for the (September) newsletter - it looks great. ... just a minor clarification: we still exercise the right to refuse some donated material as not everything will be suited to the collection (and we do have space restrictions). However, material which is relevant and which enriches our understanding of the history of the community will be our main priority.

Thanks again for your interest and for promoting the Local History Library to you members .

Kind regards,

Leonie Taylor, Local History and Heritage Librarian | Redland Libraries

THE BEGINNINGS OF OUR REDLANDS BAND

With the help of Local History and Heritage Librarian, Leonie Taylor, I have been able to find the earliest of references to the beginnings of our Band Story. Our starting point was a photo (now re-framed to help preserve it) taken in 1919 of the original CLEVELAND SHIRE BAND. Here is that photo:



Council Meeting Records from 4th August 1917 give the first indication of the desire to form a town band. You will note the instruments held by members. Over the years these are lost and found again, but today those that have survived are in the care of -?- yes, us, the REDLAND CITY BANDS ORGANISATION.



The people in this picture are listed below the photo. They are:

BACK ROW L to R: Edgar Rogers, Leeson Englemann, Uncle Eberhardt, Bill Phillips, Bill Mander, Lionel Armstrong, Mick Eckhardt

MIDDLE ROW L to R: George Parry, Alf Sutton, Duncan Burns, Dugald MacDonald, Bill Lawrence.

FRONT ROW L to R: Mick Rogers, Bert Wilson, Charles Godfrey, Ernie Rogers, Cam Taylor.

BOYS: L: Archie MacDonald. R: Bert Wilson Jnr.

Of course, none of the names mean anything to me, but with a little research, reference was found to the Englemann Butchery on the Westpac corner (opposite the Sands Hotel) Cleveland. The problem here though is the discrepancy in spelling of the surname. Is one a typo or are there two different families of such a similar name?

In the limited time available to me, I have gathered (thanks to Leonie Taylor at Cleveland Library) some of the relevant Council Records and as well a couple of Redland Times' articles, from which we learn a little of the pre-history of our RCB story. It is but a dabble. Should anyone in the RCB wish to follow the clues herein, that would be welcome research indeed.

DATE (Council Meeting)	REPORT
4 AUG 1917	<u>Brass Band</u> . The Chairman stated that a movement was on foot with the project of forming a local brass band, and expressed the opinion that it was one of those movements which called for support from the Local authority. The matter was favourably discussed by the members, but it was decided that the extent of the support should be deferred for the present.
4 SEPT 1917	<u>From</u> F. Fish, Secretary of the Cleveland Brass Band, soliciting financial assistance to enable the Committee to purchase band instruments. Councilor Walter proposed "That when the Committee have actually received the sum of £50 from subscribers, the Council grant a donation of £25. Seconded by Councilor Taylor. Carried
9 OCT 1917	<u>From</u> The Cleveland Shire Brass Band, intimating that they had already banked £50, in accordance with the Council's condition re a Grant in aid of their funds, and now asked that the promised donation of £25 be paid to them. Councilor Taylor moved "That the donation promised of £25 be passed for payment." Seconded Councilor Walter. Carried
6 NOV 1917	<u>Shire Brass Band</u> : Councilor Walter proposed "That the Cleveland Shire Brass Band be written to asking them to render a selection of music at the public unveiling of the Shire Honour Board." Seconded by Councilor Eickenloff. Carried
4 MAY 1932	Requests from the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce include: "... that it was decided to try and re-start the Cleveland Band, and with that end in view desired to know where the old instruments could be obtained, should the effort succeed. Councilor Walter moved "They be informed that as soon as the Band is formed the instruments would be forthcoming, as the location of the instruments is known." Seconded by Councilor Foggitt. Carried. <u>Re Cleveland Citizens Band instruments</u> . The Secretary wrote demanding the return of the instruments loaned to the Wynnum and Windsor Bands. Councilor Foggitt moved "They be informed that as the instruments are vested in trustees, the matter is out of the hands of the Council and therefore refer to the trustees." Seconded by Councilor Fraser. Carried.

What is learned from the above, is (i) the original name of the Band and its orientation as a Brass Band; and (ii) the jump in dates from 1917 to 1932, indicating that the CSB disbanded somewhere along the way.

Below, in the Newspaper reports, we can see (iii) that if the band reformed in 1932, hence it must have stopped before that date, and again later before the formation of the RCB (us) in 1984. One comment refers to a history of the Band – which would be excellent to find – and a reference to the conductor (- Skinner) in approximately 1944.

Here are the Newspaper Reports:

REDLAND TIMES

NEWSPAPER REPORT

15 FEB 1984

SHIRE BAND FORMED AT CULTURAL CENTRE

The Redland Shire Band was formed at a public meeting held in the Redland Cultural Centre last week.

Redland Shire Council Chairman Merv Genrich called the special meeting to allow interested people to attend and discuss the formation of a band.

Cr Genrich said it was important that the redlands “which is full of talent”, had a band to serve the community.

The State Member for redlands, John Goleby, addressed the meeting and recounted the history of the formation of the original Cleveland Brass Band and said how pleased he was to see Vince Boughen present, as Vince was one of the few people who attended the original meeting to discuss the formation of the Cleveland Brass Band.

Mr Goleby said: “It is dedication and interest of people in the shire that will ensure the success of a new band. There must be many talented people with the boundaries of this shire who could involve themselves in entertaining others through the art of music.”

Cr Genrich called upon Perry Axford of Thornlands, who has had more than 30 years’ experience with some of Australia’s top bands, to give a resume of the requirements in forming a band.

Mr Axford toured the world with the Footscray Band in 1978 and was musical director of the Kew Citizens Band of Victoria, when it toured the Philippines in 1980. He has been teaching students brass instruments for the past 20 years.

“The three areas that need the most attention in the immediate ...”

3 OCT 1984

SHIRE BACKS BAND

The Redland Shire Council is so pleased with the shire band that it has decided to contribute \$500 to the band’s support.

The band was reformed this year after the shire had been without a band for many years. The council’s donation is intended to help provide uniforms and instruments.

Cr Geoff Skinner told last week’s general meeting of the council that he believed the council should take steps to retain any instruments it bought, “For the sake of continuity.”

He said that his father had been conductor of the Redland Shire Band 40 years ago and that after the band broke up, the bass drum had haunted his house for a number of years.

“I finally gave it to the Ormiston State School,” Cr Skinner said, “but I think the shire should hang onto such things.”



You may remember a comment made in the September Newsletter of this year 2013, where I quoted sections from the RSB 1988 AGM Reports. There we learned from President Bob Cole, of the change from Brass Band to Concert Band, with the first rehearsal happening on the 28th January 1987, under the direction of Mr Edward Kennedy.

Just to whet your appetite for more, here is a photo taken of the REDLAND SHIRE BRASS BAND taken in 1987. The names from this band are listed below the photo. You may recognise some of the characters here, especially handsome guy, 4th from the right in the back row? No? Think Scotland!



BACK ROW (L to R): Yvette Cole, Robert Hanbidge, Michael Axford, Ben Axford, Jeff Wecker, Bob Hunter, Bruce Dudley, Phil Davis, Don White.

MIDDLE ROW (L to R): Carol Bohlen, Jamie White, Rohan Axford, Cole Brandon, Danny Lamb, David Coville, Bill Bohlen, Michael Hales, Bob Axford.

FRONT ROW (L to R): Vince Bowgen, Ray McMurray, Lisa McMurray, Perry Axford (Conductor), Diane Cole, Ron Hawkins, Norm Mundy.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*Who am I?
Who are we?*

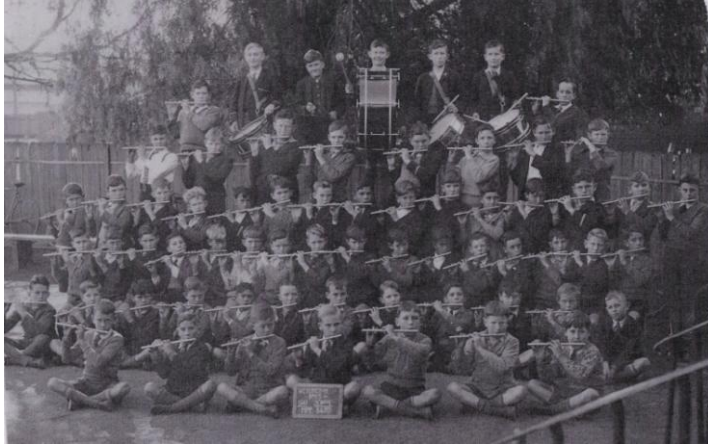
The only words sent me was just the heading. Attached was this photo on the left ...



I can tell you, (i) that's not me whistling a low A flat, and (ii) it came via the email address of Allen Clark!

From an appreciative audience listener

After the recent Concert Band performance at the Adventist Retirement Village, Cilla Wills was approached by one of the residents who claimed to have played in a Flute Band at school in New Zealand back in 1941. They used to practice before and after school hours, and apart from some school performances, became the town marching band when required. After much searching through boxes of precious keepsakes back in his hostel room, he was very proud to pass this photo on to me. " I can't



imagine what that many flutes would sound like! And so beautifully held! I have enlarged and laminated this photo for him to display in his room, plus some other 'dubious' photos of him in women's clothing some 50 years ago, which I would not have otherwise mentioned, except for the fact that he asked me to enlarge them also, and which are now proudly displayed on the outside of his door in the Hostel! He doesn't seem to get as many male visitors as he used to!"

Many of the residents who attended our concert came to me afterwards and said how thrilled they were at our performance- it was the best music they had heard for many years! "

Cilla please communicate the Concert Band's appreciation for this contribution

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This time last year (2012) I posed a number of questions in an effort to help you to reflect in anticipation of the February 2013 AGM. Here I repeat those questions and add a few more, all in an effort to help us prepare for the 2014 AGM:

- *Would you like to see the current committee continue into 2014?*
- *Who will serve this organisation – in whatever capacity – to the best of his/her ability?*
- *Will you be prepared to support an elected person in a capacity other than as a committee member?*

Or you might go so far as to question sections of the Constitution and ask (eg):

- *Should positions of leadership in the committee have a limited term of office?*
- *Should out-going committee members need to remain members for a period of six to twelve months in order to assist new officers and aid any transition process?*

What about the questions President George has already posed, relative to the Strategic Planner:

- *Why do we exist as an organisation?*
- *What do we hope to achieve individually and as an organisation?*
- *Where are we now and what do we want to be in say 5 years?*

Or what about these:

- *What is the purpose of a Beginner's Band, a 2nd Level Band (Wind Ensemble) and the Cocert Band?*
- *Is the RCB encouraging genuine new beginners, with the promise of assisting them to grow through the structure already designed, to finally reach Concert band standards?*



There really isn't enough room in a Newsletter to say **THANKS** to all those people who help out in many ways. From Sausage sizzles to Dances, Concerts, Committee, Roadies, Promotions, Conductors, Players, Parents (chauffeurs) and Listeners.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS & PHONE Nos:

President: George McDonald	0412 933 635
Vice-President: Tjaart van der Walt	38495690 or 0424688937
Treasurer: Joy Lovey	3824 2861 or 0400 529 451
Secretary: Charis Burrridge	3134 0362 or 0466 560 019
Property Officer: Allan Guldbaek	3829 0234 or 0417404972
Publicity Officer: Luke Kinman	0432 035 142
Library Officer: Glen Vieritz	38290234
Concert Band Rep: Zoe Arthy	0400 103 661
Wind Ensemble Rep: Brad Ledger	38210823
or Lisa Clark	38228833
Inaccord Rep: Glen Vieritz	3829 0234

CONDUCTOR'S PHONE NUMBERS:

Concert Band: John Allen	3822 9593
Wind Ensemble Band: Allen Clark	0419 671 490
Beginner's Band: Reece Jarman	0424 517 012
Big Band: Rob Bridges	3391 1331
Stage Band: Kym Hall	0412 601 934
Big Band Rep: Chris Smith	34880578
Stage Band Rep: Chris Roberts	32078504
Beginner's Rep: Cynthia McCluskey	38211223

FOR BETTER OR WORSE 2



The compiling of this Newsletter is the final responsibility of the RCB Publicity Officer Luke Kinman. I happily agreed to assist him by becoming the Newsletter Editor. Thanks all for your contributions to this December issue. Special thanks go to John Yanni who was the photographer at the EoY concert - hence the excellent quality of photos. Thank you John. Happy reading all.

Ayla

