



MUSIC TO OUR EARS

Edition 2, July 2009

From the President

Welcome!

We are pleased to confirm the permanent appointment of Tracey James as conductor of the Swing Band.

Jeremy Thomas from Beginner Band and Ayla Relf from Concert Band have taken on roles to help us do the work we do. Jeremy is our new Publicity Officer on Committee and Ayla has offered to look after Friends of the Bands. Welcome!

General Business

Our budget has taken a hit as the annual grant from the council has been reduced and we look like only having one BBQ at Bunnings as a fundraiser, so we have placed a short term hold on buying any new music until we can review our budget for the year.

We are planning a working bee to rearrange the hall - the main aim is to use the storage room more efficiently by moving the orange and blue storage racks in.

We have asked Council to install lights above the percussion area.

Committee has approved a request from Graham Martin to form a specialist band based on the Duke Ellington Cotton Club Band. These

bands have a defined composition of instruments and music. They plan to rehearse on Friday nights.

The annual Christmas Carols at Victoria Point that we usually play at has been cancelled because they couldn't find volunteers for the committee to organise it. The committee is looking for another option.

Out in front

This edition we introduce a new section called out "Out in front". Each edition we will feature a different conductor. We begin our series with our Director of Music, Mr John Allen OAM who celebrated 50 years of conducting in June.

John has had many years' experience with brass, concert and marching bands, both in this country and in Canada and the USA. His early experience as a player and conductor was with brass bands in Tasmania. He was a successful competition performer on the cornet and soprano cornet before becoming a conductor, and won the Tasmanian State Championship on the latter instrument in 1961.

John began his conducting career with the Invermay Silver Band in Launceston in June 1959. That's 50 years ago, and he has been conducting ever since. With the Latrobe Federal Band, he won

the C Grade Championship at the famous South Street, Ballarat, band contest in 1965, the first Tasmanian band to win a grade championship at that event. In addition, he won the Best Conductor award (all grades) at that contest.

In 1969 he moved to North America where he studied and taught music. He earned a BMus degree from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and a MMus degree from the University of Oregon, majoring in school instrumental music and conducting. Following his student days he was a band teacher in two Canadian high schools for three years. In Vancouver, John was a member of the University of British Columbia Concert Band and conducted an Italian Alpini Community Band, consisting of Alpine war veterans. While at the University of Oregon, he played trumpet in the University of Oregon Big Green Fighting Ducks (100-piece football) Marching Band.

John returned to Australia in 1979 to take up the position of Lecturer in Music at the Southern Cross University in Lismore, NSW. His particular areas were Theory, Aural Skills, Keyboard and Ensemble Conducting. He also became conductor of the Lismore City Concert Band, which he helped form and which he directed with great success over 18 years. This Band performed regularly in concerts, parades, festivals and eisteddfods in the Northern Rivers Area of NSW and Brisbane. The Band's successes included winning the secondary school bands' section of the Lismore Eisteddfod for 10 successive years up to 1995. One of the highlights of his time with the Lismore band was in 1988 when the Band (with 90 players) represented the City of Lismore at the World Expo in Brisbane. While in

Lismore he also conducted the South Lismore Primary School Band for nine years. He taught many brass students in Lismore, who were actively involved in AMEB and HSC examinations, eisteddfods and concerts. A number of these students have continued with their love of music by becoming music teachers and players in state orchestras and bands.

While living in Lismore, John prepared and presented over 500 weekly programs of brass band music on Lismore radio station 2NCR-FM for ten years, 1979-1989.

His success with bands and brass students earned him the title of Lismore Citizen of the Year in 1992 and won him the honour of carrying the Olympic Torch on its way to Sydney for the Olympic Games in 2000.

John relocated to Brisbane early in 2001 after his retirement from the University, and was appointed conductor of the Redland Shire (now City) Concert Band in January of that year. This Band has had consistent eisteddfod success under his leadership, winning its section in the Redlands Eisteddfod every year since 2001, and performs regular concert programs in the Redlands region. The 8 years he has spent with this Band he considers the most pleasurable and rewarding of all his band years. ***He looks forward to many more such years.***

John has adjudicated concert and brass bands at national and state level, as well as band, choral and instrumental sections of the Lismore and Grafton Eisteddfods. He has also written articles on band matters and has over 50 compositions and arrangements to his credit. As well as the degrees in music,

he holds BA and Med degrees, the DipEd and ALCM diplomas.

John's contribution to community band music and students, over such a long period of time, was recognised with the award of the Order of Australia Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in 2008.

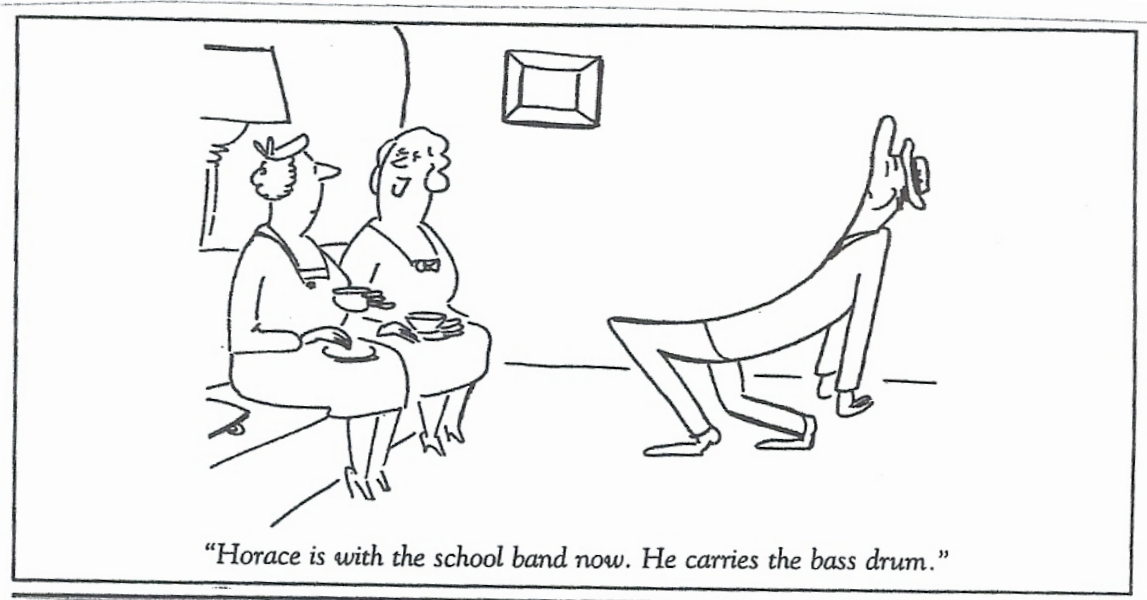
His interests include first and foremost his family, numerous styles of music other than band music, especially Spanish music (he has a sizeable collection of tapes, LP records and CDs to prove this), reading, languages, the Collingwood Football Club and cricket.

He boasts that he has appeared (briefly) on stage as a ballet dancer (in Swan Lake), a can-can dancer (to the Can

Can) and a marching "girl" (to the march 'St Kilda'). He also attended the same school, but not at the same time, as the legendary Errol Flynn (Hobart High School) and was operated on in Vancouver by the same doctor who attended Flynn on his death-bed! He also taught a student in Canada who managed, after he left school, to get himself on the FBI's Most Wanted list ('armed and extremely dangerous', he was described as).

John is married to Jillian, who teaches at Trinity College, Beenleigh, and who has supported him totally throughout their time together. They have 2 adult children and 2 small, chirpy grand-daughters.

Just for fun ...



Marching band drummer in the making?

25th Anniversary Dinner

Tickets are on sale for our Anniversary Dinner. We will be meeting at the Redlands Sporting Club at 7 pm. Tickets are \$30.00 per adult and \$15.00 per child under 15 and can be obtained from Don and Kerry White or Wendy. If you can't find one of us, please give us a call on 3245 5492 or 3207 4965. We need to confirm numbers soon, so don't delay!

And don't forget your 25th Anniversary Commemorative key ring – **just \$6.50 each**. Great for gifts, keepsakes, these will be collectors' items one day ...

A band member reflects

Redland City Bands Inc. What image does that conjure in your mind?

I think of a large diverse group of musicians rehearsing and performing in six different bands but all members of the one organisation. I believe that we should all begin to see ourselves as brothers and sisters all engaged in the one aim; to develop our musical ability, to help others to do the same and to bring music to our community. In no set order we have a Beginner Band, a Big Band playing jazz type music, a Wind Ensemble playing concert band music, a Swing Band playing jazz type music, a small ensemble of seniors entertaining seniors with a varied program of music, and a Concert Band playing, of course, concert band music.

Is it too much to expect that whichever band we play with and wherever our music tastes lie, we can show respect for the performance of other bands? Lack of courtesy and respect was certainly shown at the recent all-bands concert in May. Even allowing for the fact that some people had other pressing engagements to attend, the manner in which members came in time for their performance and then did not stay to hear anyone else was almost insulting. Many courteous respectful members came early in case help was needed to set up, listened to the first band, played in their show and then stayed to the end to hear a fine performance by our Concert Band. It was a long concert but all bands deserve a go, and all bands deserve the courteous attention and support of all band members.

Friends of the Bands

If you are already a Friend of the Bands, thank you and welcome! If you know anyone who would like to be a friend of the bands, we would love to hear from them. For the princely sum of \$5.00 per annum, you can support us and, in return we will play our hearts out for you!

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Place	Time	Band
4 July	Birthday	Prins Willem	10:30 am	Inaccord
6 July		Carina Sen Cits	10 – 11:30 am	Inaccord
11 July	Macleay Is SS fete	Macleay Is (Lions Club Big Tent)	10 am – 2 pm	Swing Band
13 July	Pioneer Day Club		10:30 am	Inaccord
16 July	Anniv Dinner Dance	Mt Gravatt Ret Village	TBA	Inaccord
18 July	Xmas in July	Aveo	6:30 – 9 pm	Inaccord
19 July	Park concert	Capalaba	noon	Beginner Band
20 July		Redlands Hosp Res Care	10:30 am	Inaccord
23 July		The Pines	10 am	Inaccord
25 Jul	RCB Anniversary Dinner	Wellington Point	7pm	All members
29 July		Salvin Park High Care	10:30 am	Inaccord
4 Aug	Redlands Eisteddfod	Sheldon College	TBA	Concert Band & Wind Ensemble
16 Aug	Park concert	Capalaba	Noon	TBA
30 Aug	Seniors Week	Thornlands	1:30 pm	Concert Band
5 or 6 Sep	Redfest	Cleveland Showgrounds	TBA	Swing & Big Bands
13 Sept	Buderim Concert	Buderim	TBA	Concert Band

20 Sep	Park concert	Capalaba	Noon	TBA
17 or 18 Oct	Lakeside Festival	Vic Point	TBA	Wind Ensemble & Big Band
18 Oct	St Gabriel's Fete	Carindale	TBA	Swing Band
22 Nov	Concert	Thornlands	1:00pm	All Bands

**** Inaccord dates for July only as they are so busy all their dates don't fit ☺**

Any news?

Is there a special birthday, special event (weddings perhaps???) or information you would like passed along? Please tell us and we will include it in our next issue! Happy snaps always welcomed.

You can email

news@redlandcitybands.org.au or you can email your information straight to Wendy:

wen_mor@hotmail.com

or you can call Wendy on 3207 4965