

REDLAND CITY BANDS Inc

June/July 2014

## NEWSLETTER

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone,

I hope you have been looking forward to our latest newsletter as much as I – our editor really does a great job.

Inside you will find reports about our play outs and activities by bands so I would like to mention a great change that has been made by Redlands Council



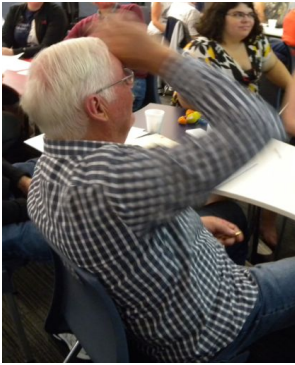
that directly effects us and we must give much of the credit to our Patron – Mayor Karen Williams.

The long standing policy of charging local community groups commercial rates to use the Redlands Performing Arts Centre (RPAC) has been overturned and we now have access to the venue as part of Councils community obligation. So..... immediately on hearing this we have booked it for our end of year concert, our Concert band will be playing there in mid July as a support act to the Lost Diggers Tribute, and we hope to be back there in December once again in support of a Christmas Choral performance.

We already have had meetings with RPAC staff about these. As in past years for our end of year concert we are trying to include all bands in the concert although they essentially appeal to different audiences and with the different venues available at RPAC, we might be able to achieve this (suggestions re the sort of event that Stage and Big would like to put on would be welcome).

Next year we have made a booking for RPAC for March to hold our “Tribute to the ANZACs” concert and I have had meetings with RPAC staff about that – a themed concert with a high profile guest singer is my aim, centred around music of the era performed by the Redland City Bands.

I'm excited about performing at RPAC – a great venue for players and fantastic facilities to enhance the experience for our audience. I can't deny, the Smith St Hall is logistically convenient but it is “tired”.



After a very productive workshop, our strategic plan, in draft form, will soon be presented to the Committee for comment. We have already taken some ideas out of the workshop – one of which is a suggestion box that is now on the table near the door. If you have any comments or suggestions please jot them down and pop them in the box (names not obligatory) and we commit to opening it ever committee meeting and recording what actions we take about each suggestion. (Hint: If you have a complaint, it always helps if a suggested solution is included).

"Cheers"

*George McDonald, President, RCB Organisation*

### CONCERT BAND REPORT

There have been two concerts since the last Band Newsletter. On June 15 the Concert Band presented an entertaining part of a two-band event in the Smith Street Assembly Hall. The other Band participating was the Buderim Concert Band, making its biennial trip to the Redlands. Both bands were in good form, but the audience was disappointingly small in number.



Buderim Band preparing

Each band presented an individual program and then the two bands combined to present four numbers to round off the program. The constant band sound was broken up with three vocal numbers from soprano, Kate Stuart, who as always, charmed the audience with two excerpts from opera and one from operetta, all favourites in the vocal repertoire. Kate is worth listening to, whatever she sings. All reports of the concert from the audience were positive, comments being made on the range of the music played and the quality of the playing.

Three days later, on June 18, the Concert Band and the Wind Ensemble combined to present a short half-hour program for the Primary Schools Band Camp students in the Chandler Auditorium. The seething mass of several hundred students, many with their parents, was treated to a program of popular, energetic pieces, which managed to sedate them somewhat after the meal they had just scoffed. This presentation is designed to encourage the students to continue with their music after they have left school, and this is what community bands have to offer.



It is three years since the Band last performed at this event. Its contribution has always been appreciated by the students and the organisers, and this year's contribution was no exception. The Chandler Auditorium is quite large, stretching upwards some distance. Each student has an excellent, uninterrupted view of the performers down below. The Band invariably enjoys the event and the conductors, Allen Clark and John Allen, make the most of their conducting and using the microphone.

The next event for the Concert Band is at the RPAC in Cleveland on July 19. Both the Concert Band and the Wind Ensemble will combine for this afternoon event. As part of the World War I Centenary commemorations there is to be the Australian War Memorial's exhibition of Thuillier photographs, entitled 'Remember Me: The Lost Diggers of Vignacourt'. The concert will involve screened historic war images from the stage, well as band and choral items, and will feature appropriate World War I flavoured music. Vignacourt is near Amiens on the battlefields in northern France.



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I look forward to continuing support from Concert Band members. And many thanks for your support so far this year. We have had to contend with the usual coughs and colds, studies and examinations, travel plans and falling numbers. Well done to all those who come along on Wednesday nights and play in our concerts. Your loyalty is appreciated. A few more members all round the Band, especially in the brass sections, would be very welcome.

John Allen, Conductor Concert Band & Musical Director, RCB

## Letter to Bayside Bulletin (submitted, but unprinted)

Every year, the Redland City Bands Organisation, accepts that an important event in its annual program is its participation in the ANZAC Day ceremony at the Redlands Cenotaph. After this year's performance, our Band Director was motivated to send the following letter for print in the Bayside Bulletin &/or the Redland Times.

I would like to draw attention to the article in the Bayside Bulletin (20/4/14) and the letter to the Editor by Julie Oakes of Cleveland (Redland Times, 2/5/14) describing the recent ANZAC Day commemorative events in Cleveland. Both the article and the letter, as they should have, referred to the excellent contributions made by the vocalist, Kate Stuart, the bugler, Lauren Folster, the piper, Tom Spiranic, and the Redlands Sporting Club Pipe Band.



However, neither the article nor the letter managed to mention the significant contribution to the event made by the Redland City Band. This Band, of 45 musicians, played splendid music for the veterans to march to in the parade, provided suitable music in the service to accompany the vocalist and assembled crowd in the hymns and national anthems, and supplied appropriate background music during the Wreath-Laying part of the Cenotaph service. This lack of mention is unfortunate, and, indeed suggests that the Band's contribution was of little importance.

The Redland City Band organisation consists of three concert bands, two stage bands and an older persons' band. They rehearse nearly every week of the year and present regular community concerts throughout the year.

One of the special events on the combined concert band's calendar is their participation in the Cleveland ANZAC Day parade and service, which they have done for many years now, the last fourteen years under my direction. It would be rewarding if the Bands' presence were acknowledged, remembered and reported in newspaper articles and letters along with other people and groups who have also made a valuable contribution.

John Allen, Musical Director, RCB



Shirley's saying:

*"In time is late,  
early is in time!!!!"*  
She ruled with  
baton and lollies  
(and a  
broomstick!) –

Willie Brand  
remembers 1998

I asked Allan Harcourt - RSL organiser of the ANZAC Day ceremonies in the Redlands - to prepare an article for our J/J 2014 Newsletter. He happily submitted the following:

ANZAC DAY 2014

Returned Services League

To the Returned and Services League of Australia, Anzac Day is the most important day in the calendar year.



To this end we of the Redlands RSL Sub-Branch commit ourselves to the preparations of Anzac Day well in advance, usually starting the week after Remembrance Day.

Many things need to be pulled together, from organizing street closures right through to organizing toilets. The Sub-Branch relies heavily on local organizations to reach as high a standard as possible for this prestigious event.

Over the last 10 years or so we have seen our Anzac Day Services grow from less than 1000 people to what was estimated as a crowd of 12,000 observers at our dawn service and 10,000 at our midday march and service. This as you can imagine puts a huge strain on our resources.

Requiring the enlistment of even more volunteers to help organize both the march and the service itself.

The Redlands RSL Sub-Branch is eternally grateful to the Redland City Bands for their input into the march and music for the duration of the service. Their attendance at these marches is not just to play music. The band keeps the beat and as such controls the tempo of the march, they look resplendent in their uniforms and are a huge hit with the crowds, providing a spectacle few see any more, a marching band. They make the march, there is nothing like a Brass band to stir the emotions.

At the Cenotaph the band plays in the background for the wreath laying and then again for the hymn playing which they take the time to practice and then fit in with the selected singer to perform in unison. This presents to the crowd a sense of professionalism that few voluntary organisations can produce.

Now listed as the third largest Anzac Day Service in Queensland after the Brisbane service and the Currumbin service the Redlands RSL Sub-Branch congratulate and applaud the Redland City Bands for their input into our Anzac Day services and look forward to further attendances, particularly over the coming 4 years as we commemorate the Centenary of Anzac Day and the First World War. Maybe in 2015 we will be able to hear the strains of World War one marching tunes.

Once again, thank you to the Redland City Bands, Allan Harcourt  
ANZAC Day Organiser, RSL

*'Failure after long perseverance is much grander  
than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure'.*

Taken from 'Middlemarch', a nineteenth century novel by George Eliot.

## INACCORD REPORT

Despite reductions in number of players on our playing roster caused by winter ills and chills, medical procedures and age related infirmity we have been able to fulfil all of our engagements. One concert at Nazareth House recently is worthy of mention. It was a special occasion, I think related to anniversary celebrations of the founder. The activity officers made a special effort to encourage residents to attend, and we had never before seen so many wheel chairs or wheeled walkers. One gent in a motorised wheel chair was active on the floor in most of the numbers we played, and a significant number of the others responded to invitations by the carers to get active.

Thanks to Tim Reed for filling in on a couple of occasions. He discovered that there is a lot more music out there than he had previously heard.

We have had one offer to have a look at our music with a view to sitting in with us, and we would like to hear from a couple of other musos who are retired or nearing retirement willing to devote half a day every week or so to entertaining our senior citizens.



Glen Vieritz

## STAGE BAND &amp; BIG BAND REPORT

The Stage Band has officially declared every Monday night a public holiday night. We had our best attendance ever on the most recent public holiday! The band is producing a fantastic sound and we are working on improving articulations to develop our sound into something even bigger and better!

We've had 2 play-outs in recent months, we've also had 2 cancellations which has been disappointing as they were the paying gigs! Our performance on 13 April at the Redlands Museum was well received and the crowd even called for an encore, which we happily provided.

The band received a certificate of appreciation, which we have proudly displayed on the band hall wall. We also played in a combined concert with a combined Concert Band Wind Ensemble (that's a lot of combinations) on 24 May at the Run for Redlands - 48 Hour Charity Festival. We played to a small crowd, mainly the other bands, but we had a enjoyed ourselves and love any excuse to play live.

Our next performances are the 25 July with a Combined Beginners and Stage Band Concert at





# REDLAND CITY BANDS (RCB) Inc

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the Band Hall and then 26 October St Gabrielle's Fete, Carindale.

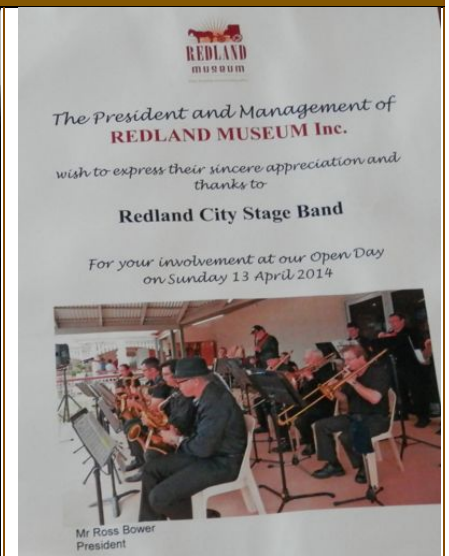
The Big Band is proud of their achievements at the first dance this year on 10 May. Word on the street is that it was their "best dance yet" with a profit of over \$1000! There were about 90 dancers and word on another street says that "many appear to be becoming regulars." From where I sat all night (in the front row playing sax) I don't think there was a song where there was not at least one couple on the floor. The Big Band are now working towards a performance at the jazz venue at Redfest on 6 September and the next dance on 9 August.

Both the Stage Band and Big Band are needing an influx of trombone players at the moment, so if you or anyone you know wants to come and have a go, you would be more than welcome! The Big Band is also looking for some trumpet players. The Stage Band and Big band wish to thank all members of the other bands who help us out from time to time when we are missing parts for a performance. I won't mention anyone because I'm afraid I'll forget someone, but you all know who you are and THANK-YOU from all of us!



Kym Hall

Just some of the awards presented to RC Bands in the Last term. Congratulations all.



## STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT

Lisa Nadone

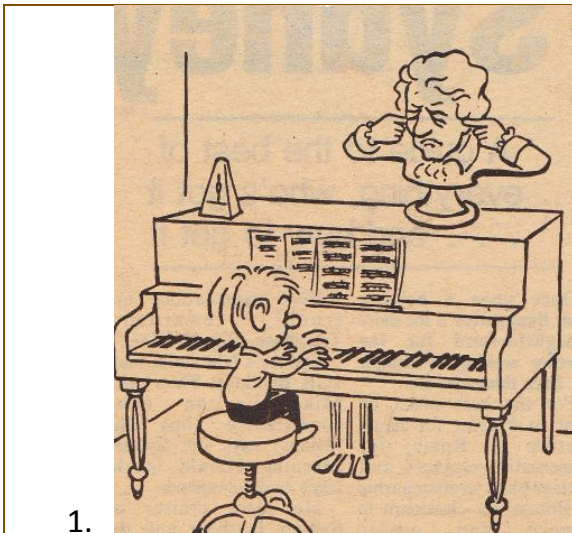
In Mid May, 22 committee members and Redland City Bands participants attended strategic planning afternoon at Cleveland District High School. The afternoon was designed as an interactive planning session to look at issues raised in the online stakeholder survey and to develop strategies to guide the Association over the next few years.



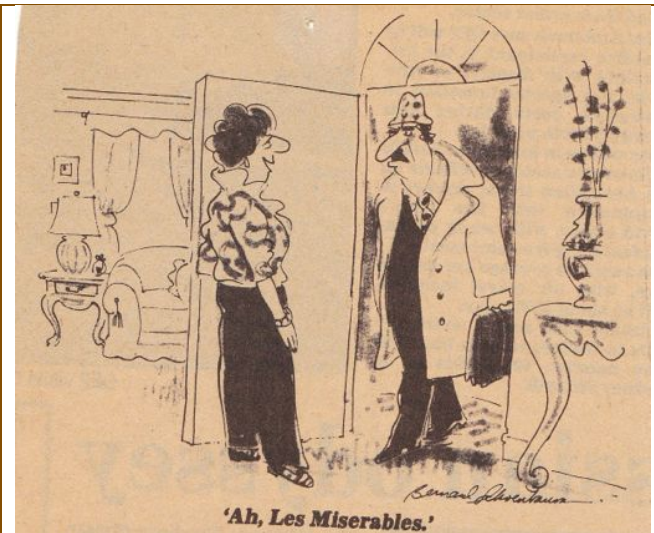
The value of any strategic planning exercise is in the communication that occurs during the consultation process, where participants have the opportunity to explore options and possibilities together. In this instance it was exciting to watch the level of enthusiasm and willingness to communicate within the room and for Martin and I, this was certainly a highlight of the afternoon.

The information gathered during the session is now being drafted into a document for consideration by the Committee. This document will go through several feedback and review cycles before it is finally adopted. The draft is scheduled for first review by or before 11 July and we hope to have the final feedback cycle completed by mid to end of August.

LISA Nadone – Managing Director, Grantsplus Consulting



1.



*‘Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do, rather than by the things you did do’.*

Attributed to novelist Mark Twain.





## PLAYER PROFILE

Alison Jones

### ... it all began with the Recorder

My musical education began where all good musical education begins...playing the recorder in primary school. However, unlike many of my peers I continued this on into high school and played tenor recorder in a small ensemble. There was no primary school music program in Scotland at that time, aside from classroom music and the recorder, and high school instrumental offerings were mainly orchestral and brass band varieties.

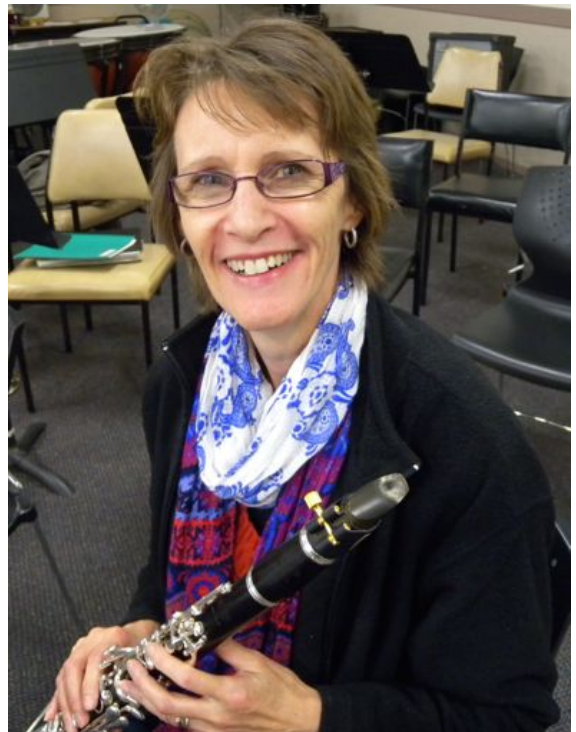
My father loved jazz clarinet, particularly Sid Phillips and Dixieland jazz, so the clarinet seemed the right choice for me. I was also greatly influenced by a visit to school by an army band. They played (amongst other things I'm sure), Schubert's Trout Quintet and Morning from Peer Gynt Suite, which happened to be the Nescafe Coffee advertising theme at the time. (I have just now googled that and found a rather beautiful version by a recorder ensemble!) Both LP recordings that I had to buy after that concert made the journey to Australia with me in 1982 along with my clarinet.

### ... me and my clarinet

I think I had to do some sweet-talking to get myself into the school music program as there was only a brass band at my first high school. When I transferred to Dumfries Academy I was the only clarinet player in the school orchestra.

I'm not a musician (by my definition this is someone who can count, sub-divide and stay in time regardless of the rhythm of the music and what the person next to them is playing), so most of the time I had no idea what I was doing or when I should be playing! Not sure too much has changed there! After leaving school my clarinet was with me wherever I lived. I had a short stint in the Kirkintilloch Variety Orchestra but aside from that the case gathered dust.

My association with Redland City Bands began on a dark stormy night in 1992. The power went out and we ended up playing by candlelight. I was also regaled by the story of a couple of new players the previous week having parked their cars in the wrong car park and having to move the wooden telegraph-pole-like sleepers in the dark to get their cars out. You can imagine that I was a little anxious for the rest of the rehearsal in case I too had parked in a now-locked car park. A few of the players from my first night are still playing in the band, but most have



moved on.

The organisation has gone through the normal peaks & troughs of a community organisation that relies on its membership to manage and fund (or fundraise for) its operation. Thankfully it has evolved and grown and remains relevant to the community. Conductors have come and gone - some good, some popular, some not so; we've played good music, boring music, easy music, challenging music. Personally, I like good conductors and good, easy music, but

**ultimately playing in a band is about embracing everything to enhance your musical abilities and to give something back to the internal and external communities.**

Although the external community may not always be as appreciative of our efforts as we would like, I am grateful for a band to play with and for the opportunities it provides to aspiring musicians, young and old.

Some facts you might not know about me:

- I was treasurer of the bands for two years
- I played Bari Sax in the Big Band for two or three years.
- My home instrument collection includes: a piano; trumpet; flute; tin whistle, chanter and a recently acquired alto sax. One day I will learn to play them!
- My Monday – Thursday job is Client Relationship Manager for a financial planning company in Fortitude Valley
- My Friday job is full-time Grandma to 8 month-old Noah, our first grandchild.
- I have qualifications in financial planning, TESOL (teaching English to speakers of other languages) and training & assessment.
- I have just started an Arts degree, majoring in Linguistics.
- I run 5 km every Saturday at Cleveland park run (along with John Day who has set a goal of beating me in 2014 – he is quite an inspiration, but I can't let him achieve his goal), and recently ran my first 10km in the Koala Fun Run.
- I don't have much time to practice (not telling John anything he doesn't already know) and no-one in my house, including the dog, likes the racket anyway!
- I am extremely grateful to my fellow band members who set up for concerts as church commitments and a need for some downtime usually prevent me from getting there early. (as Bob Hunter knows!)

Looking forward to the future

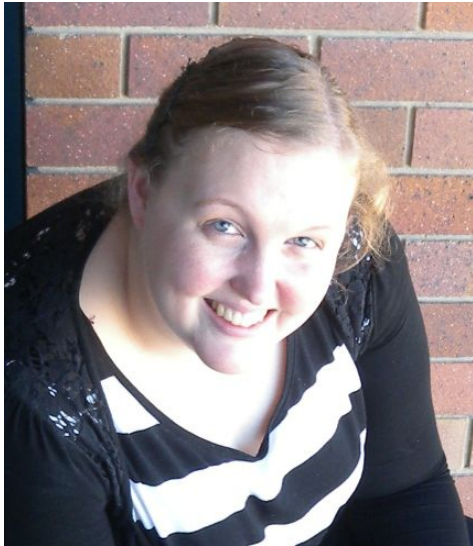
Alison





## "I want to continue doing this ..."

Louise McGill



When Ayla asked me to write something for the newsletter about me, I had no idea what to say. After some thought I decided I'd talk about something I am very passionate about, and that is conducting. My second year studying my Bachelor of Music was when I decided to enroll in a conducting subject. Not expecting much would develop from it, I ended up finishing with a High Distinction (7) and thinking "I want to continue doing this". One of the lecturers at Uni recommended a Conducting summer school run through the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association (ABODA). I attended this two week course in January 2010, trying to soak up as much knowledge as I could, enjoying it immensely.

## "...my love of conducting ..."

I reckon my love of conducting stems from my love of teaching. I love working through a piece of music from the ground up and expressing my own interpretation. I enjoy watching the ensemble learn and grow together, no matter the level. I've primarily worked with Concert Bands, however I've started doing a little orchestral conducting that I've also enjoyed. Last September I went down to Hobart to attend a Core Conductors program run by Symphony Services International, going for 5 days. The course is all big orchestral works and uses the Tasmania Symphony Orchestra, who is of course exceptional. You can tell that the group have been playing together for years as they play so precisely and together. Another thing I noticed was that even with the slightest gesture by the conductor, the orchestra responded instantly. Unfortunately I didn't get to conduct, there were only 6 places so it's very competitive. Once I got there though, I was pretty happy I didn't have to conduct the different pieces as they were very difficult (Brahms Symphony No. 3). I was just happy I got to listen to the orchestra, a free concert everyday, it was great! Oh, and I learnt a lot of conducting tips too.

## More Uni studies

At the beginning of this year I began part time study of my Masters of Music at UQ. Under the direction of Warwick Potter I was lucky enough to get to conduct the UQ Wind Ensemble, Queensland Youth Orchestra Wind Symphony and, briefly, the UQ Symphony Orchestra. I started to get worried because I was actually looking forward to going to lectures and rehearsals, what's wrong with me?! This has just proved to me that I want to take conducting as far as I can.

I would like to thank both John Allen and Allen Clark for providing opportunities for me to conduct with their ensembles, I appreciate it so much and love it. I've learnt so much whilst conducting the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. I also would like to thank all the members of both bands who have welcomed me every time I get up to conduct, I really appreciate it.





A few minutes before closing time, a bloke staggers into his local pub lugging two heavy sacks. With a sigh he dumps them on the floor and orders a beer. "You look exhausted" says the bartender. "I sure am," the bloke replies. "I've walked all the way from the station with those two big, heavy sacks."

"What's in them?" the bartender asks. "They're full of telephones," the bloke replies. "Why do you need telephones?" the bartender asks. The bloke drains his beer and says: "They're for my brother. He's a musician and he's decided to form a band. He gave me some money this morning and told me to get two sacks o' phones."



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

#### ELECTED COMMITTEE OFFICERS

<b>President:</b> George McDonald	0412 609 846
<b>Vice-President:</b> Tjaart van der Walt	
<b>Secretary:</b> Charis Burridge	3134 0362 or 0466 560 019
<b>Treasurer:</b> Joy Lovey	3824 2861 or 0400 529 451
<b>Property Officer:</b> Allan Guldbaek	
<b>Publicity Officer:</b> Luke Kinman	
<b>Library Officer:</b> Glen Vieritz	

#### CONDUCTORS

<b>Concert Band:</b> John Allen
<b>Wind Ensemble Band:</b> Allen Clark
<b>Beginner's Band:</b> Reece Jarman
<b>Big Band:</b> Kym Hall
<b>Stage Band:</b> Kym Hall
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>
<b>Concert Band Rep:</b> Zoe Arthy
<b>Wind Ensemble Rep:</b> Lisa Clark
<b>Inaccord Rep:</b> Glen Vieritz
<b>Big Band Rep:</b> Chris Smith
<b>Stage Band Rep:</b> Brad Ledger
<b>Beginner's Rep:</b> Cynthia McCluskey

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 J/J issue. Happy reading all.

AYLA