

September 2011

Welcome to the September 2011 edition of 'Bendigo Brass', the City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band Newsletter.

The band has been quite busy since the last update, with competitions, workshops, working bees, dinners, uniforms updates, as well as regular rehearsals making up a busy couple of months.

We were very fortunate to be visited by internationally renowned trombonist and conductor Brett Baker. Brett would be best known as the principal trombonist of the Black Dyke Band, one of the worlds best and most famous brass bands, from Yorkshire, England. Brett took the band for a workshop and rehearsal prior to the Ballarat competitions, giving us lots of tips and things to work on both specifically with our competition pieces and to generally improve the bands sound. This was truly an invaluable experience, which was greatly appreciated by the band! Some photos from the workshop are included at the end of the newsletter.

The next weekend, the band competed in the open C grade state band championship (South Street) in Ballarat. The band performed very admirably, received some great positive feedback from the adjudicator, and came second overall out of 5 bands in the section. The band was very happy with this result! I'll let Cally review this in more detail.

The 'C' grade results were as follows (Hymn, Own Choice, March, Major Work)

1st Place,
Sunshine Community Band
48 + 49 + 47 + 98 = 242

2nd Place,
City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band
45 + 46 + 47 + 96 = 234

3rd Place, Marist Brothers Band
49 + 45 + 46 + 93 = 233

City of Darebin Brass - Northern:
46 + 42 + 49 + 94 = 231

City of Frankston:
46 + 44 + 43 + 95 = 228

On the Wednesday after the competitions, the band held a special dinner at the Boundary Hotel, to recognise the efforts of Andrew Trewartha and Colin Wellard as previous musical directors of City of Bendigo Brass Band and Greater Bendigo Brass respectively. Colin and Andrew were presented with fantastic caricatures drawn and kindly donated by Bill Beasley. A great night was had by all. Check out the caricatures at the end of the newsletter!

At the Ballarat competitions, the band debuted our new uniform. It still needs a little refinement, with embodied pockets and additional green jackets, but still looked pretty smart with new ties, name badges, and dry cleaned jackets! Well done to the uniform committee for organising this!

Also uniform related, the committee has recently appointed Peter Darlow as Band Uniform and Presentation Officer. This is somewhat of an informal position, determining the extent of uniform for particular events, and generally focusing on the band's presentation in public. Congratulations to Peter on taking on this role!

The committee has also recently appointed Andrew Trewartha assistant musical director of the senior band, and Jarrod Handley assistant musical director of Bendigo Youth Brass. Congratulations to

Andrew and Jarrod on the appointment of these positions!!

On 27th of August a working bee was held at the bandroom, to move equipment, install additional trophy cabinets, and generally tidy up the place. Attendance was fantastic, and a great amount of work was achieved. Thanks to everyone involved!

The band has recently welcomed a few new members, including Chris Lees and Chloe Fitton on Trombone, and Fred Trewartha on Solo Cornet. Chris recently moved back to Bendigo with his young family, after studying music and working for Allans in Melbourne. He is now working for Billy Hydes music based in Bendigo, so it's great to have Chris along! Chloe is now on Bass Trombone in the senior band having been a member of Bendigo Youth Brass for some time. Go Trombones!! Fred also fairly recently moved back to Bendigo and is back in the band after a (much extended) stint in Melbourne and with the Hawthorn Band. Welcome back Fred! Just when we thought we had enough Trewarthas! ☺

Cheers!

Brendan



Installing trophy cabinets. Perfect fit! (Photo Bruce McWilliam)

MUSICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

The last month has certainly been a busy one for the City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band. The most prominent event in the last couple of months was the South Street Competitions in Ballarat. The band performed very well! I was pleased that we kept the level of performance on par with our level at rehearsal. Starting with the hymn was difficult and I think this affected our confidence in the beginning. I was particularly impressed with the Major Work. Many of the tricky elements that we had worked on came through great on the day and even got a comment or two from the adjudicator. Of course as you all know we were rewarded for our work with a 2nd place overall!

Also a fantastic opportunity was the workshop with Brett Baker. I personally found it fantastic to stand back and watch the band, and the way he demanded (in such a nice way) that you all play at your best. There are certainly many concepts that we can all use as we move forward as a band.

Our next playout is the Inter-band Competition in Castlemaine. For this performance we are warming up with Around the World in 80 Days and then performing Penny Lane, New York New York, Africa, In a Chinese Temple Garden and Moscow. The piece to concentrate on in this list will be New York New York with many tricky rhythms and ensemble challenges.

Thank-you for all of your hard work over the last couple of months!

Cally Bartlett,
Musical Director.



BENDIGO YOUTH BRASS NEWS

Contact: Hannah Trewartha 0414 475 227

Hi Everyone, BYB is coming along nicely at the moment. We are seeing new members coming along which is ALWAYS very exciting. We are trying to work out at the moment if we have enough people to go to nationals next year as what an amazing experience it would be for them all. I am trying to line up a gig at the famers market in town before bands in the park in December so that we have a shorter term goal. The interbands competition is only a maybe for us at the moment so we will just have to keep getting as many things ready as possible at the moment.

Congratulations to Jarrod Handley who has been made the BYB assistant conductor and has already taken a few areas of rehearsal and is very keen to get as much experience as he can. We have also just put out our own newsletter and is on the board if anyone wishes to have read through it or to take a copy for yourself. We also now have new flyers which we are distributing amongst the schools in town which will hopefully encourage new comers.

Hannah Trewartha
BYB conductor

LOOKING SMART

Prior to the Ballarat Competitions, Peter Darlow (as Uniform and Presentation Officer) made a brief speech on the importance of band uniform and looking smart when in the public eye. The sentiment of this message is relayed below:

Looking Smart

There are a couple of good reasons to take a little trouble to look smart in uniform.

Firstly, just as we don't want to diminish to sound of our whole band with poor playing we don't want to lessen the appearance of the band by looking sloppy and slack. If we come looking untidy we make the band look scruffy. This then spoils the effect that our fellow players have worked hard to create and shows disregard for them.

Secondly we play publically to entertain and give pleasure to our audience.

If we create a poor first impression by our appearance we start our performance by telling people we are second rate. We then have to work harder to show everyone just how good we really are. At some gigs the audience may not hear enough of us to gain the correct impression.

If however we appear looking excellent we have to do some pretty poor playing to give people the idea we aren't first class, and this wouldn't happen.

I say that you and the other members of the band deserve the best and wearing all your correct uniform in a smart manner is one way to help achieve this.

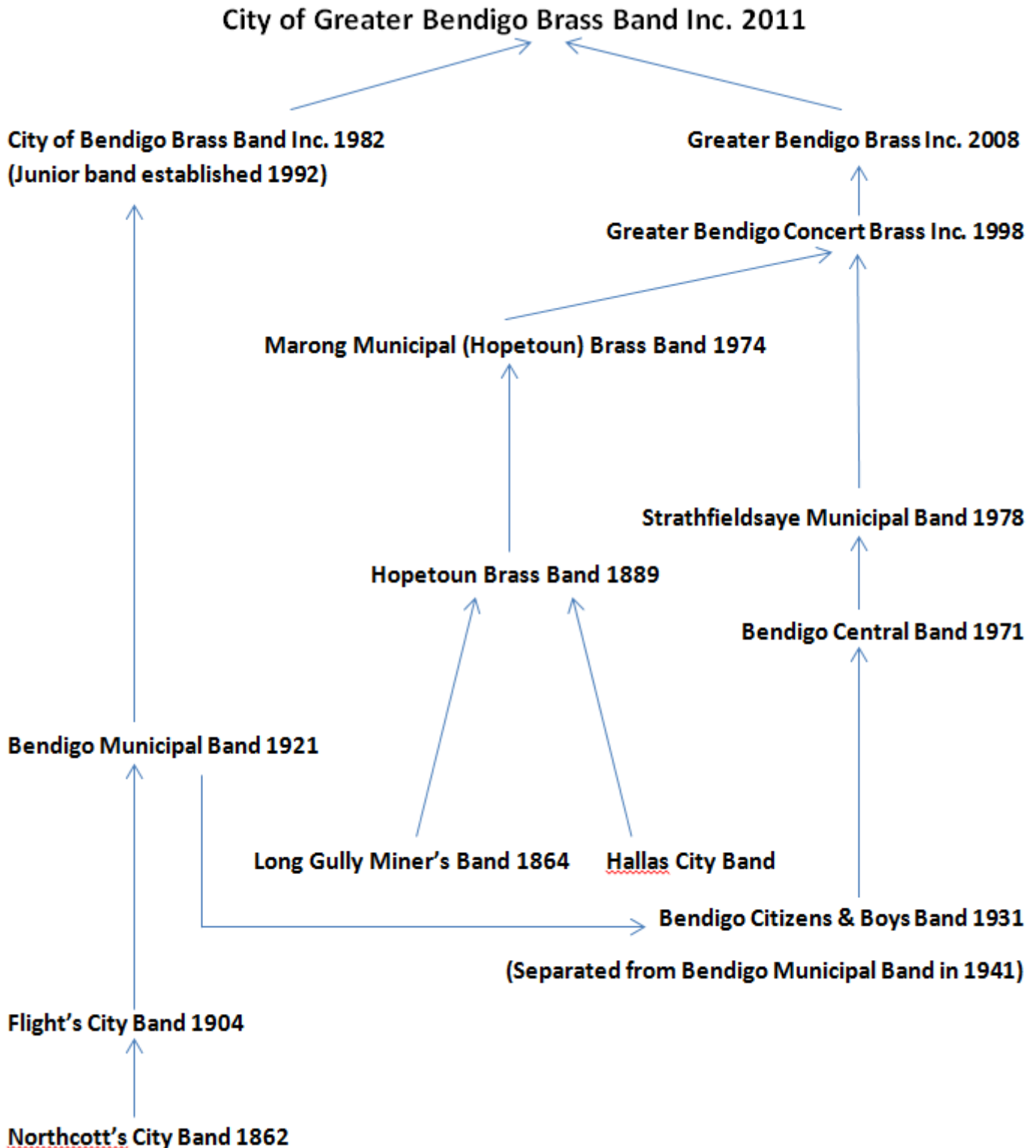
Peter Darlow.

DIARY DATES

- **Sun Oct 9th** - Bendigo Bands Group Inter-group contest. Phee Broadway Theatre Castlemaine. Mechanics Lane, next to library and Town Hall. Time TBA.
- **Sun Oct 30th** - Playout at Bendigo Bank Fun Run (Rosalind Park), and possible additional playout at Bendigo Town Hall. Times TBA.
- **Sun Dec 4th** - Brass in the Park, and Maiden Gully Christmas carols.
- **Sun Dec 18th** - Neale St. Christmas Concert, and Bendigo Carols by Candlelight.
- **Thurs Jan 26th 2011** - Australia day playouts.

BAND FAMILY TREE

As part of research and preparations for our 150th anniversary in 2012, Graeme Trewartha has put together the following 'family tree' for City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR CARICATURES BY BILL BEASLEY

These were framed and presented to Colin and Andrew at a recent band dinner. Thanks to Bill for his fantastic work with these, and Hannah for organising the framing. Photo taken at the dinner (courtesy Trevor Trewartha).



RECENT BAND PHOTOS

Brett Baker Workshop, Wednesday 9th August 2011. Photos courtesy Cally Bartlett.



Ballarat Comps, runners up! (Photo Courtesy Trewarthas)

PROPERTY STOCKTAKE

David Hague (Property Officer) is currently undertaking a stocktake of band equipment. To help, could you please complete relevant information on the following form and return to David, or send an email with the relevant information to David at mr-clean@bigpond.com. There will be some extra copies of this form at rehearsal.

Name.....

Instrument.....

Band or own instrument (circle) Band / Own.

Manufacturer / Model (band owned instruments).....

Serial No.....

Any faults?.....

Mouthpiece.....

Case..... yes / no

Music Lyre..... yes / no

Mute/s.....

Strap (marching)..... yes / no.

Uniform

Green Jacket yes / no Jacket Number (marked on inside brand label)

Tie (new green gold and red long tie)..... yes / no Tie Number (marked on inside brand label)

Akubra Hat yes/no.

Any other band equipment in possession:

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