



A Message from the President...

Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year to everyone.

This year has been very active and successful for the Southern Area Concert Band.

We have played several concerts during the year including:

- Summer Sounds in the Park at the William Fry Reserve,
- Our May and October Concerts at the Kingston Town Hall,
- The Melbourne Zoo with Mordialloc Secondary College,
- Most recently the extremely successful Bayside Carols in Dendy Park where an estimated 18,000 people enjoyed a balmy summers evening of our Band directed by Darryn Wright and the excellent choir directed by Robert Dryden. So good was this that we had requests to play again the magnificent Halleluiah Chorus.

It is a great privilege to belong to a group such as the Southern Area Concert band as each member has had to study their instrument and perfect their musicality over many years. This means real commitment. It is very exciting to play music with such diversity of talented and interesting people.

During the year we entered the National Bands competition and whilst we did not place against some pretty good competition, in my view we came out winners. The work both Darryn and Jeremy de Korte put into sectional rehearsals was rewarded with great bonding within the Band.

The State Championships were however another experience altogether. We hired a bus and on a very wet day and evening we ventured to the venue in Ballarat where we competed and won our division. Dinner after and the journey home made for a really great day of music, achievement and fun.

During the year a senior member of the Band retired. Barry Jones and his Wife Berice have been stalwarts of the Band for many years; Barry having been Treasurer and Berice serving afternoon tea with her group Trefoil at our concerts.

You know that some people are always there and can be relied upon to find solutions to problems before they arise. That's Barry and Berice. Thanks to them both.

To all of our Band members old and new, the Southern Area Concert Band belongs to all of us, we must treasure it, nurture it and keep it vibrant as it is a very special place for us to be.

Well done everyone.

Peter Northwood, President

To Contact us:

southernarea@bigpond.com

Darryn Wright:
0401 988 141
(Music Director)

Peter Northwood:
0413 087 990
(President)

Jeremy de Korte:
0419 599 639
(Secretary/SATB)

Postal Address:

PO Box 1071
MOORABBIN Vic. 3189

Check us out on the Web:

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sacb>

SATB Rehearse:
Monday Nights
6pm – 7pm

SACB Rehearse:
Monday Nights
7.30pm -9.30pm

AT

N G Wishart Centre
964 Nepean Hwy
Moorabbin

(Opposite Spotlight)

The MD's corner...

Fantastic news straight out of my email in box – it has now been confirmed that Southern Area Concert Band will be staging a performance in May 2008 with *The Choir of Hard Knocks!* Further details will be released as final arrangements are made early in 2008, but please put the weekend of May 17 and 18 in your diary.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank a couple of people in the band for their assistance over the past few months in relation to publicity and marketing of the band's activities. As most people would be now very well aware, Sandra Fordyce-Voorham took leave from the band from about mid way through the year to complete some further university study. Up to that point in time Sandra had been solely responsible for the publicity and marketing of the band – a task which she performed in a professional and very effective manner. Unfortunately, this left us a little behind the eight ball with the publicity and marketing of our October concert. One of the fantastic attributes of our band is that members will always come to the party when required, and Sandra's role was taken over by three volunteers who very efficiently ensured that all of the necessary tasks were completed. My personal thanks is extended to Rosemary Benkemoun, Lauren Crutchfield and Fiona M^cKinnon for taking on these tasks voluntarily.

On behalf of the band, I would also like to extend my thanks and appreciation to Fiona M^cKinnon for taking on the role of band librarian after Shana Parson's departure. As people will be aware, Fiona is not a member of the band, but a personal friend of both Andrew and myself, and aunty to Victoria and Catherine from the training band. It has already proved quite beneficial for the band's librarian to not be a playing member.

You will notice elsewhere in the newsletter that rehearsals recommence early next year. This is to allow us to have sufficient rehearsal time for the *SACB by the Bay* performance from 3:00PM on February 17th at the Parkdale foreshore.

I look forward to sharing an exciting and event-filled 2008 with you all,

Darryn



Dates to Remember:

1st Rehearsal
2008 – SACB

Monday, 21st of
January,
7.30pm

1st Rehearsal
2008 – SATB

Monday, 28th of
January, 6pm

"SACB by the
Bay"

Sunday, 17th of
February, 3pm
Parkdale
Foreshore

"May Concert"

Sunday, 18th of
May, 2pm
Kingston City
Hall

"October
Concert"

Sunday 12th of
October, 2pm
Kingston City
Hall

What the Training Band has been up to...



I would just like to start off and say that this has been one of the best years the SATB has had so far in it's short history. While I haven't been too concerned about the small numbers since most instruments have been covered, now that the band has grown in numbers the sound has increased as well. All this has been good to see (and hear). It has been fantastic to work with such a dedicated group of musicians throughout the year and I am sure they have taken pride in their achievements.

The SATB did three performances this year. The first was at the May Concert where we did our own bracket then joined with the SACB to form the Southern Area Combined Bands. Two weeks after this we did another concert, this time with the Stonnington City Brass Training Band. I would like to thank Greg Marks, the director of the Stonnington Training Band for his assistance with the concert and also letting the SATB use the Stonnington band rooms for a quick rehearsal prior to rehearsing with the brass band. There was a bit of a juggling act with the timing of rehearsals but everything worked out in the end and this concert will now be an annual event. I am sure that the SATB and Stonnington gained much from working with each other and under different conductors. Our third concert was presented at our rehearsal venue where we gave a quick hour-long performance punctuated with small ensembles.

This year as mentioned with have gained many new members, but we are sad to see some go. A couple of members have been promoted to the main concert band, which has been good to see. I am sure that they will enjoy themselves playing with the SACB. One of our 'original' members, Sandra Fordyce-Voorham will be leaving us for a year living in the Netherlands. Sandra has been a huge help to SATB over the years and we wish her all the best.

As usual there are many people to thank because there is no way I could have run this by myself. Firstly, the tutors of the band who are there every week helping out with different instruments. Our admin and library persons who help out the band, Shana Parsons and Fiona M^cKinnon. And finally all the parents and friends, and indeed the musicians who come along every week and play. We couldn't have a band without you.

To each and all I hope you have a Merry Christmas and I hope to see you in the new year.

Jeremy de Korte.

A Bit of Recruitment...

The SACB and the SATB are always looking for more musicians to join their ranks. If you know of anyone who plays a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument they are always welcome to come along to a rehearsal to check out the bands.

For further information either contact (Pres.) Peter Northwood: 0413 087 990 or (Music Director – SACB) Darryn Wright: 0401 988 141 or (Music Director – SATB) Jeremy de Korte: 0419 599 639.

Also, you can find us on the web at: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sacb>

From the (acting) Editor...

Firstly, a 'Hi' from me as this is my first time writing as an editor of NewsBeat. Our regular editor, Shana has taken leave from the band until about April next year when she hopes to be back with us – and I hope to hand back the reins to NewsBeat as well. Thanks Shana for all the hard work you have been doing.

It has been a busy year of banding has it not? All of the three main ensembles have been hard at work with rehearsals and performances, and a fair bit of socialising as well! We have welcomed many new members in the SACB and the SATB and have been sad to see some go. As Peter and Darryn have attested to in their articles we have done much, and have lots to look forward to including now a concert with the "Choir of Hard Knocks"! One highlight this year, as Peter has mentioned, was playing at the Royal Melbourne Zoo with Mordialloc Secondary College. It is great to partner other bands and music groups and we hope such partnerships continue.

Anyway, to all our valued members, friends, supporters and families on behalf of all at the SACB I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope to see you all back safe and sound next year for another good year of banding.

Jeremy de Korte (Acting Editor)