



# Southern Area Concert Band

# NewsBeat

NewsBeat. Vol. 4. No: 1. January – March 2008. (Acting) Editor: Jeremy de Korte



### Important Dates:

21<sup>st</sup> April 7pm  
SACB AGM

18<sup>th</sup> May  
3pm & 7.30pm  
SACB with the  
Choir of Hard  
Knocks

23<sup>rd</sup> August  
(afternoon)  
VBL  
Competition  
Ballarat.

4<sup>th</sup> October  
Monash  
Philharmonic  
Festival

12<sup>th</sup> October  
October  
Concert



## + the SACB!

Organisation is now well underway for our two May performances with *The Choir of Hard Knocks*. These will both be at the Kingston City Hall on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, with the first performance at 3:00PM and the second at 7:30PM. Although not aware of it, the band has already started rehearsing for these performances, which promise to be a major highlight for the band for 2008. Tickets will go on sale through the Kingston Arts Centre (phone 9556 4440) from April 1<sup>st</sup>, and will be priced at \$28 for adults, \$15 for concession card holders and children under 10 will be admitted free. Please put this date into your diary also, and book your tickets early, as early indications are that the shows will both be close to capacity crowds.

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

Darryn

### Rehearsal Details:

**Southern Area Concert Band:**  
Monday nights from 7.30pm – 9.30pm

**Southern Area Training Band:**  
Monday nights from 6pm – 7pm

**Rehearsal Venue:**  
NG Wishart Senior Citizens Club  
964 Nepean Highway Moorabbin  
(Opposite Spotlight)

### On the Web:

**Band Email:** [southernarea@bigpond.com](mailto:southernarea@bigpond.com)

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

### Contact Details:

**President:** *Peter Northwood*  
Mob: 0413 087 990

**Music Director:** *Darryn Wright*  
Mob: 0401 988 141

**Secretary/SATB:** *Jeremy de Korte*  
Mob: 0419 599 639

### Postal Address:

PO Box 1071  
MOORABBIN Vic. 3189

### ***The Southern Area Training Band***

The Southern Area Training Band is already off to a great start this year. Already a significant investment has been made in new music with the aim of performing it at our next concert in June. We have also gained a new French Horn player in the band. Nadia Russo and we hope she continues to enjoy herself. It never ceases to amaze me just how good the band sounds with the instruments that are playing and although some sections are dominating a bit in numbers, everyone makes a huge contribution. I would love to see more musicians in the band so if you know of anyone who might like to play in the SATB tell them to get in contact with me.

The musicians of the SATB have also been playing a bit of 'musical chairs' amongst themselves, while knowing that I am generally agreeable to their ideas. Jessica Smith started with the band last year playing Clarinet, then moved to Tenor Sax. After finding that there were too many Saxophones she then moved to Flute where she is now staying. As well as this Helen Rushby was given the opportunity of moving up to the SACB full time on French Horn but has since stayed with the SATB on percussion, as well as playing Horn in the SACB. It has been really good to see musicians in the band work on being as versatile as they can, as it will only enhance their musicality in the future.

The SATB will be performing for the first time this year in combination with the Stonnington City Brass Training Band, of which we did a successful concert with last year. This year our combined concert will be on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2pm at a venue TBA. This concert promises to be really good so stay tuned!

As always it is an honour to lead the SATB and already this year is shaping up to be as successful as last year.

Jeremy de Korte (Music Director – SATB)

### ***Bands Around Town:***

**Manningham Concert Band**  
"Autumn Favourites"  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> of April  
at 2.30pm  
*The Pines Learning & Activity Centre*  
520 Blackburn Road  
Doncaster East

**Monash Concert Band**  
"Showcase Spectacular"  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> of June  
*Alexander Theatre*  
Monash University

**Stonnington City Brass Band** with the  
Welsh Male Choir  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of June  
*Malvern Town Hall*

### ***Did you Know?***

In the 1850's it was a time for many experimental music instruments. One of these was the 'Octobass', an instrument set an octave below a standard Double Bass. It was so big two people had to play it - one bowing and one activating notes with levers. Only Berlioz saw possibilities with the 'Octobass' and it never saw regular production.

### ***News from Around the Bands...***

The SACB performed at a Citizenship Ceremony for the City of Kingston on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March of which the mayor called it one of the "best citizenship ceremonies ever!". Congratulations to the band for a fine performance.

The SACB has had five new members join so far this year. Jessica Smith – Clarinet, Helen Rushby – French Horn, Eve Macleod – Flute, Simon MacLean – Bassoon and a special welcome to Fiona McKinnon who, as a new Honorary Member will be undertaking the very important roles of Librarian and Publicity & Publications officer on committee. The SATB has also had one member join this year, Nadia Russo - French Horn.

Three of our members have taken leave of absence this year. Shana Parsons to Shepparton, Bryan Barass to pursue another project and Sandra Fordyce-Voorham to the Netherlands for the whole of 2008 (see the next page for an article on life in the Netherlands from Sandra). We wish them well in their endeavours and hope to see them back with the SACB soon.

*(This section continued next page)*



### ***News from Around the Bands (Continued)***

Four members completed AMEB exams late last year. Helen Rusby received a 'B+' for 5<sup>th</sup> grade French Horn, Fiona Mindum received an 'A' for 4<sup>th</sup> grade Trombone, Liam Marsh received an 'A' for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Flute and Simon Thomas received an 'A' for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Clarinet. These are all fantastic achievements. Well Done!

As well as this, last year Jeremy de Korte completed a Master of Education (Arts Administration) degree. Jeremy worked long & hard on this degree and promises to use his new found knowledge for good instead of evil. Once of these days he will apologise to the SATB for using them as 'lab rats' as he wrote his final project on the development of the band.

### ***Band Members Abroad – Musical Greetings from Amsterdam...***

This year, band member Sandra Fordyce-Voorham has taken a year's sabbatical to the Netherlands with her family. She was kind enough to send through this article.

Hello to you all – it has been great to keep in contact with you via the email and through Newsbeat – the SACB certainly has some great gigs coming up with lots of variety to provide for the musical interest and enjoyment of both players and audience.

As you might know, I am in Amsterdam with my family for our collective experience of living, going to school and working as a Dutch family for the year. We are living in a village close by to Schiphol Airport and in bike riding distance to Amsterdam central. Our nearest point of interest is the Concertgebouw – today (Sunday March 2) my parents-in-law are attending a performance of Bach's St Matthew's Passion in the lead up to the Easter season. Nearby to the Concertgebouw, and also on the Musuemplein, is the Music Conservatorium of Amsterdam and the fabulous Broekmans and Van Poppel shop ([www.broekmans.com](http://www.broekmans.com)) – print music, books and classical CDs can be purchased here. I have bought several items of print music here in the past – Schumann's *Romances* and a couple of days ago, Mozart's *Adagio for Clarinet and 3 Basset Horns*.

\*In the process of packing up our Melbourne house, I rediscovered a musical treat of my own – my schoolgirl diaries –whereupon I discovered that Nancy was my clarinet teacher more than thirty years ago whilst I was a student at the Mac Robertson Girls' High School. It was an absolute revelation to us both and a shared delight for me to read aloud to Nancy my school girl interpretations of my lessons, especially my joy in sharing little trios with Nancy on flute and a fellow musical student, Helen Champion on bassoon (and as Nancy recalls, who went on to become an accomplished bassoonist). It now comes as no surprise to me that my musical drive has always been embedded in shared music making – now with my wonderful colleagues in the SACB - which contrasts with my husband Jan-Willem (who remains resistant to my urges for him to join me at SACB, preferring to play his tenor sax as a soloist for his own enjoyment)

All this came as Nancy and I sat together enjoying a lip smacking lunch of salmon fillet with dill on a Greek salad and a chilled glass of sauvignon blanc at Doyle's, overlooking the boats at Mordialloc Creek, on one of the last glorious early summer days before our departure to The Netherlands.

In the meantime, I wish all the playing members and the regular Newsbeat readers and patrons of the Southern Area Concert Band all the very best.

Sandra Fordyce-Voorham (Clarinetist and some time bassoonist) March 2, 2008

**From Alex Burke (SACB Vice-President) Get Your Entertainment Book**

Dear Members and Friends of Southern Area Concert Band,

I've just picked up 20 new Entertainment Books fresh from the 2008 launch and have just been browsing this year's offerings.

One of the best new offers is from Coles: You can save \$5 or more off your grocery bill every time you shop at Coles by purchasing Coles Gift Cards on-line. Cards start at \$100 and you save \$5 (purchase for \$95). There's no limit, so the more you buy/spend, the more you save. If you spend a lot on groceries you'd pay for your book in grocery savings alone quite quickly.

*If you would like to order an entertainment book feel free to contact the SACB. Don't hesitate, stocks run out fast!*

***A Bit of Musical Humour...***

*A company chairman was given a ticket for a performance of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. Since he was unable to go, he passed the invitation to the company's Quality Assurance Manager.*

*The next morning, the chairman asked him how he enjoyed it and, instead of a few plausible observations, he was handed a memorandum:*

- 1. For a considerable period, the oboe players had nothing to do. Their number should be reduced, and their work spread over the whole orchestra, thus avoiding peaks of inactivity.*
- 2. All twelve violins were playing identical notes. This seems unnecessary duplicative, and the staff of this section should be drastically cut. If a large volume of sound is really required, this could be obtained through the use of an amplifier.*
- 3. Much effort was involved in playing the demi-semiquavers. This seems an excessive refinement, and it is recommended that all notes should be rounded up to the nearest semiquaver. If this were done, it would be possible to use trainees instead of craftsmen.*
- 4. No useful purpose is served by repeating with horns the passage that has already been handled by the strings. If all such redundant passages were eliminated, the concert could be reduced from two hours to twenty minutes.*

*In light of the above, one can only conclude that had Schubert given proper attention to these matters, he probably would have had the time to finish his symphony.*

**||The Final Note...||**

I hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of NewsBeat. Stay tuned for the next edition, which will be published at the end of June. In the meantime we hope to see you at one of the SACB's many engagements.