



Southern Area Concert Band

NewsBeat

Issue: March 2013

Important Dates:

**Sunday,
May 26, 2pm**
SACB's annual May
concert.
Kilbreda College,
Mentone

12 – 14 July
Band Camp
Healsville

**Sunday,
August 4, 2pm**
Annual Massed
Bands' Concert
featuring SACB,
Chelsea Concert
Band, MoJO and
Moorabbin Brass
Band.
Kingston City Hall

17 – 18 August
State Band
Championships
Ballarat

2013 has started with such a flurry of activity, that our first newsletter is in March! We do trust that everyone had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

From the President...

Welcome to the first edition of "Newsbeat" for 2013! After a bumper year of musical performance in 2012 one of our ensembles, the Concert Band, has already appeared once this year, at the Victorian Gnome Festival at the invitation of the Mordialloc Rotary Club. The SACB's four ensembles (Concert Band, Training Band, Events Band and the Southern Stars Stage Band) have been busy performing all over the southern suburbs of Melbourne and in the city in the last twelve months. This year will be just as busy with our regular events like the May and October concerts, Kingston Massed Bands and Bayside Carols complimented by a Band Camp in July to prepare for the State Band Championships in August.

Each ensemble performed more than half a dozen times, which is surely a record for the organisation which not so long ago struggled briefly to get a couple of dozen players to form a single ensemble to perform an occasional concert. While the success of the organisation is attributable in no small way to every member, special thanks are owed to the conducting team – Jenny Corcoran, Evgeny Chebykin, Fiona McKellar and in particular our erstwhile and indefatigable Music Director Darryn Wright – who have led the four ensembles tirelessly from the shores of the tiny Lambert Island in Mordialloc to the grandeur of the concert stage in the adjudication room of the Sebel Hotel during the National Band Championships last Easter. The Committee has continued to handle the issues around membership, administration, marketing, fundraising and events planning with skill and efficiency with office bearers often exchanging emails late at night - or in the early hours of the morning!

The Southern Area Concert Band is now in it's 42nd year and has fostered the talents of scores of musicians and provided entertainment, education and just plain fun for thousands of people during the last four decades. Indisputably the greatest single contributor to the Band's growth and the rise in it's fortunes over that time was Craig Seymour, the Musical Director from 1975 to 2005. It was thus with great sadness that we received the news last August that Craig had passed away after a long period of ill health. A large group of people from the Southern Area family past and present attended a memorial service in Mordialloc which featured an ensemble of players including both current and previous members, as well as students of Craig who shared their memories of his gift for teaching and valuable insights as a mentor. He will be very sorely missed, and forever remembered as a stalwart of the Southern Area Concert Band

Lyle Gurrin
President

Welcome to our Newest Members:

Annette Lakeland, Jessica Spiccia, Debra Thorley and David Scarborough.



For all your instrumental needs, please visit our friends at
Brass and Woodwind - 572 North Rd, Ormond.

www.brasswoodwind.com.au

In Reflection - A 30 year summary from our longest serving member:

By Geoff Field

I was doing some back-of-the-envelope thinking this morning, relating to the time represented by 30 years in the Band.

If we allow for an average of 1 rehearsal a week (including holidays and extra rehearsals for special occasions) over 30 years, that's about 1,500 rehearsals.

On average, the Band has done very approximately one performance per month. Over 30 years, that's about 300 performances.

Each rehearsal and performance involves about half an hour of setting up and half an hour of loading. In total, that's about 1,800 hours of moving gear around. For those of us who have done project management, that's about 1 man-year (Full-Time Equivalent = FTE).

Music playing time comes to about 2 man-years (FTE).

Travelling time to and from rehearsals and concerts also comes to around half an hour each way on average. That's about a man-year (FTE) of travelling over 30 years. Of that time, there's probably close to 600 hours of hauling equipment in/behind my vehicle. So, that's about 4 man-years of work overall. At the national average adult total earnings per week of \$1330.20 (<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6302.0>), 4 man-years of full-time work comes to a bit over quarter of a million dollars.

You'd think I would have learnt by now, wouldn't you?

On the other hand, 30 years in the band has meant to me:

- Meeting a whole lot of people I would never have met otherwise,
- Visits to numerous places I would probably not have seen otherwise,
- Numerous friendships,
- Opportunities to perform in front of all sorts of people, including the buzz of performing in front of enormous crowds (carols, in particular),
- Experiencing a wide range of music,
- An increase in my confidence in front of people,
- A regular and reliable break from my day-to-day routine,
- A small amount of regular exercise, and
- (Most importantly) Meeting the woman who became my wife and the mother of my children.

If I hadn't spent all that time with the Band, I probably would have wasted it in front of a television or playing computer games. It was an investment, not an expense.



1. SACB at Rotary Gnome Festival, January 26



May Concert to feature outstanding vocalist

In news just at hand, Southern Area Concert Band is pleased to be able to announce that we will be joined by Raphael Wong for our May 2013 concert.

Raphael studied his Bachelor of Music at Melbourne University and has an extensive vocal career including engagements with Opera Victoria and Oxagen.

We look forward to presenting another exciting performance which will include, amongst many other things, a selection of Mozart, Shostakovich, Holst and Tichelli, as well as a few surprises.

Details of all our upcoming performances (and past ones) are on our website www.sacb.com.au. There are pictures and even a few sound clips also for you to enjoy from past concerts.

Rehearsal Details:

Southern Area Concert Band:

Monday nights from 7.15pm – 9.30pm

Southern Area Training Band

Monday nights from 5.45pm – 7pm

Rehearsal Venue:

NG Wishart Senior Citizens Club
964 Nepean Highway & cnr Exley Dve
Moorabbin (Opposite Spotlight)
Melways Ref: 77 D6

On the Web:

Band Email: info@sacb.com.au

Website: www.sacb.com.au

Contact Details:

President:

Lyle Gurrin – president@sacb.com.au

Music Director:

Darryn Wright – md@sacb.com.au

Mob: 0401 988 141

Training Band:

Evgeny Chebykin - trainingband@sacb.com.au

Postal Address:

PO Box 1071

MOORABBIN Vic. 3189

SACB is always seeking new members for all sections of the band. *If you or anyone you know are interested in joining one of our bands please contact Darryn on the number above or if you prefer, just come along to one of our rehearsals and have a play.*