

February
2014

Bandwagon

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Stonnington City Brass Inc News

From the Editor

Coming events...

- ◆ Saturday 22 March - Sounds of Stonnington Rotary Fair at Central Park
- ◆ Thursday 27 March - Citizenship ceremony
- ◆ Saturday 29 March - Knox relay for Life (TBC)
- ◆ Friday 18 to Monday 21 April - Easter
- ◆ Friday 25 April - Melbourne ANZAC Day March
- ◆ Thursday 8 May - Citizenship ceremony
- ◆ May - Stonnington Jazz Festival concert - Date yet to be determined

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Hello to all and welcome to our first Newsletter for 2014!

My apologies that there was no December issue. Sometimes life just gets in the way, but we are back into the swing of things now and all ready for 2014 with everyone looking forward to another year of music and friendship.

As usual, our December was quite busy, with the Band's annual Presentation night, Carols at the Noel Miller Centre in Glen Iris, Carols by Candlelight at both Como Park and Central Park and a great afternoon of carols at Prahran Market. Despite December being a busy time for everyone, with family get-togethers, work breakups, sporting team events, school events, etc., it was great to have fantastic attendance at these performances, and I thank all those who were able to take part in one or more of them.

It seems everyone had a well-earned and pleasant break from band before rehearsals resumed again, as usual on the Tuesday before Australia Day. This gives us a chance to get rid of the cobwebs and prepare for the annual Australia Day Citizenship ceremony at the Malvern Town Hall.

VALE

Verna Feore

Wife of Gordon, Life Member of the Band and long-time friend and supporter, Verna passed away peacefully on 30 January 2014.

A lovely lady who will be sadly missed.

Our sympathy to Gordon and family.

STONNINGTON CITY BRASS

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PATRON

Ms Kelly O'Dwyer MP

PRESIDENT Mr Greg Marks

SECRETARY Mrs Elaine Hillier

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PRESENTATION NIGHT

This annual event was held at the Function Room at Zagame's in Caulfield, and was attended by 80 members, family and friends. We were pleased to be joined by the new Mayor, Cr. Adrian Stubbs and his wife Carol, who accepted our invitation from the many that the Mayor receives at this time of the year.

Other special guests were Cr Claude Ullin, Aaron Ebert and his partner representing Melbourne Brass and Woodwind, and Ms Faye Sheppeck.

We received apologies from Patron Kelly O'Dwyer MP, Cr Matthew Koce, Dwayne and Peter Pannell, Chris and John Byrden, and for the second year running our night clashed with that of the Council staff breakup, meaning apologies also from Kayleen Berry, Marilyn Hofmann and Sue Purcell.

The evening was one of good fun, friends and food, intermingled with the official award presentations for the year.

Luca Manfield, Madeline Tran and Hector Niven were awarded certificates for their Training Band efforts during their year, and their promotion to the senior band.

The Alan Ball shield for Junior encouragement was won by **Madeline Tran**, with **Luca Manfield** winning the George Case award for an outstanding junior member.

The inaugural Kel Horsburgh Encouragement Award went to **Adrian de Bruyn**.

Ben Parker was the very deserving winner of both the Most Versatile Award, and the Merit Award.

A new award this year was kindly established by our Patron Kelly O'Dwyer MP, after last year asking me why there was not a Patron's Award. Kelly was very keen for this award to recognise an outstanding contribution to the band, not necessarily just over the preceding year, but on a more long-term basis.

Russ White was the surprised and thrilled recipient of the inaugural Patron's Award.

Finally the Band Member of the Year awards were once again decided on with input from members, making them even more special in my opinion.

Congratulations to :

Ken Emery, 3rd place

Ben Bailey, 2nd place

**Matthew Linden,
1st place**



Although they were thanked on the night, we very much appreciate the support of our award sponsors who enable us to recognise the work of our members during the year. Thanks again to Patron Ms Kelly O'Dwyer MP, Mr Brian Ebert (Melbourne Brass and Woodwind), Mr Paul Thompson, Mrs Chris and Mr John Byrden, Ms Kayleen Berry, Mrs Sue Purcell and Ms Faye Sheppeck.

Stonnington City Brass Inc. is most grateful to the

Thanks also to Ken Emery for arranging the financial aspects of the night, Phil Williams, Seb Gavrilovics, Tanya Micallef and Matt Linden for setting up and packing up, and of course to Phil for his creative activities to keep us all involved and having fun! What will he come up with next year?

A great night had by all!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

A small group of us started off the Christmas season playing Carols at the Noel Miller Centre in Glen Iris (Mecwacare) on 10 December.

The residents enjoyed the sing-along with many requests for *Away in a Manger* from one enthusiastic lady. It was great to have a surprise visitor in Owen Stevens, who was down from Canberra for a holiday. With David and Jennifer also playing, and David's wife Margaret, Owen's wife Judelyn and baby James along to listen, it was a real Stevens family affair! Joining them were Adrian de Bruyn, Ken Emery, Kevin and Elaine Hillier, Matt Linden and Danny McKerlie. (Oops—think I've forgotten someone...) Thanks to all who could take part.

Next up were the big Council events at Como and Central Parks. The weather was great both nights, which meant good crowds too. These Carols were also the first public performance with the senior band for our three junior members, Madeline, Luca and Hector, each of whom was able to attend one of the Carols performances. In total we had over 30 performers each night.

Phil Williams once again organised a get-together after the Central Park Carols, and many members helped with the unloading and then stayed for a chat and some Christmas cheer before breaking up for the holidays. Thanks Phil!



Finally, thanks to the group of members who gave up their time on the Saturday before Christmas to entertain shoppers at Prahran market for 2 hours. It was a great afternoon, with a variety of music ranging from traditional to more jazzy arrangements, and we even ended up with a small group of children who came up and gathered together to become our choir!

These events certainly all got us into the Christmas spirit! Thanks everyone.

AND NOW TO 2014.....

In preparation for the return to rehearsals, a hard-working team of Ken Emery, Russ White, Kevin and Elaine Hillier spent the Monday beforehand at the band room vacuuming, washing floors,



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cleaning the bathrooms and generally tidying up in readiness.

Kevin also took the time to pull out lots of charts from the library for us to try out for future performances. Thanks for your help!

Our first rehearsal back for the year saw 30 members attending. There was a great atmosphere as people were happy to catch up with their friends. It was particularly great to see Mary Harris and Malcolm Hillier back with us. Mary has been away with work, and Malcolm is recovering from cancer treatment.

I had also had a phone call from Niels Glimsholt who has been living in Denmark for a few months to see whether he wanted to move back there with his son and family. According to Niels he will be here for at least 2 years, and is looking to buy a unit. Great news for us!

The Annual Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony was well attended with 31 members making themselves available, despite the fact that it was the middle day of a long weekend.

It originally looked like we would be quite short of cornets, but it all worked out partly due to Eugene Wheelahan who, despite being absent from rehearsal until April with another commitment, offered to come and play. Thanks heaps, Eugene, and all others who could take part. It is always a very happy event, and everyone looks forward to the pies and lemon tarts at the end!

CONGRATULATIONS

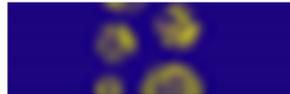
Our sincere congratulations go to North Ward Councillor John Chandler who was awarded an OAM in the recent Australia Day Honours.

The award was for services to local government and the City of Stonnington. John was first elected to the City of Stonnington in 1996, and since that time, he

has served as Mayor in 1996/97, 2006/07 and 2012/13.

We must also acknowledge Associate Professor Bruce Waxman, father of Amelia Bicknell, who was also awarded an OAM for service to medicine as an administrator, educator and clinician.

A great achievement for both men.



THANKS

Our President Greg Marks has recently spent a significant amount of time preparing the Band's Strategic Plan for 2014-2019. The finished document will be forwarded to Council and supports our next Grant application. Thanks for your efforts with this Greg.

Member News:

Congratulations to Ben Bailey and his new wife Louise, who were married on 28 November. We wish you happiness always.

Belated birthday wishes to 3 members who miss out on the regular (and not always tuneful!) rendition of Happy Birthday, as theirs falls in our summer break. We hope Ashley Bicknell, Jenny Hall and Isabel Thomas-Dobson all enjoyed their special day!

Gordon Feore spent a bit of time in hospital over the break, having had a pace-maker put in on New Year's Eve. He is conscientiously doing his physio and is recovering well.

Bandwagon Newsletter:

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Contributions always welcome. See Elaine.