



Graham Hickman Stepping Down

At the conclusion of our rehearsal on Wednesday the 17th of March, Graham Hickman announced his intention to relinquish his post as our Director of Music after the national contest in July.

In a heart-felt speech, (you could hear a pin drop) Graham stated that he “loved conducting Woolston” and that while he considered the experience to be the pinnacle of his music career, it was time to move on. Growing family responsibilities, insurance/earthquake issues and intensifying work commitments were cited as contributing factors in him making this decision.

We are grateful, at least, that Graham is not to be lost to us entirely. He has indicated that he sees a role for himself in our cornet team. He will certainly be a welcome addition there!

In time, Graham Hickman’s outstanding achievements with our band will be fully documented, and his contribution properly recognised, but while the National Contest remains on the horizon as his final challenge, it’s perhaps best that we wait until the last chapter is written before closing the book.

Editorial

The last three months have been quite eventful, though not all of the “events” were those planned on our calendar!

A fire broke out in the attic of our Dampier Street premises on the 5th March after days of torrential rain – a good thing maybe?

A bandroom neighbour called the fire brigade after hearing “popping” noises. By the time the brigade arrived things were really “smokin’”, so the firefighters broke the door down and made a hole in the roof to get at the source. An electrical short circuit had set alight a row of birds’ nests in the ceiling cavity.

The roof and the door have since been repaired, and thanks to some fast action from our resident electrician (Principal Euphonium Davey Boyes), the disruption to our rehearsal routine has been minimal. The other users of the hall – the 50’s-Up band, Woolston Concert Brass and our Learners’ groups were only displaced for one rehearsal.

Speaking of displacement, or more to the point, replacement, **Phil Johnston** has been filling-in for MD **Graham Hickman** since the beginning of year. Phil has taken the band for both the *Adam Page Concert* (see review on page 2) and the *Flaxwood Festival* while Graham has been attending a NZ Army course in Wellington. We are very fortunate to have had someone of Phil’s calibre step up. He did a fantastic job and we can only hope he enjoyed the gig as much as the band did.

We’re now looking forward to Graham Hickman’s return to the podium and a relatively *uneventful* run through to the *National Championships* in Invercargill **9th -13th of July** – via our **ANZAC Remembered Concert on Friday 25th April**, the *NZ Music Month Concert* on **Saturday 17th May** and *Seriously Brass* on **Sunday 6th July**.

Didn’t catch those dates? Don’t worry, we’ll remind you again nearer to the scheduled event.

... and this is my picture!



We went to the Woolston Brass Band room and there was a really big flood. Mum made us walk through the water. The Woolston Brass Band room caught on fire - Sam Hickman

Space, Time and a New Pair of Shoes ~ reviewed by Meri Gibson

Wow! Wow! Wow! is all I can say to describe the concert with Adam Page at Middleton Grange Performing Arts Centre. What an absolutely amazing show!

Staged at 7.30 on Valentine's Day (Friday 14th February), when a number of other events were running in Christchurch, the timing of this concert was less than ideal and turnout was a little disappointing, but those who did turn out were certainly in for a great ride.

Under Phil Johnston's direction, Woolston Brass got things away to a fiery start with a blistering rendition of Weber's *Ruler of the Spirits* (arr: Peter Graham), before the unbelievably talented Adam Page took to the stage.

A consummate showman, Adam Page explained about looping – the art of building a song, live on stage, line by line. He started by recording a beat-box rhythm then layered a series of musical snippets on top. He recorded segments of the band and kept building the layers. The crowd was totally into the music and Adam's enthusiastic and expert delivery on the sax was awesome. Hailing from Adelaide and now living in Wellington NZ, Adam has been performing his multi-instrumental

looping show around the world since 2006.

Primarily a saxophone player, Adam also loops instruments as diverse as bass, keyboard, percussion, vocals, tuvan throat singing, beat box, guitar, ukulele, flute, clarinet, kalimba and didgeridoo.

The crowd clapped and cheered as each layer came together and at the end of the first number, Adam's own composition *Space, Time and New Pair of Shoes*. There was raucous, loud applause, quite a contrast to the sedate response seen at some concerts.

Next up, a complete contrast - Carlos Gardel's *Tango* (arr: Peter Graham) performed effortlessly by cornet virtuoso Kyle Lawson. Just delightful! Then in a more serious vein, *Re formation*, Adam page's tribute to those effected by the Canterbury earthquake. This thought-provoking piece brought the first half of the concert to a sombre close.

After the interval the band came back with all guns blazing and Paul Lovatt-Cooper's march *In Castle Green*. Then Adam Page returned to the stage with some more of his improvised magic. He even managed to coax some licks

from the band members - despite their initial reluctance. Kevin Hickman's *Improvvised solo on a scale of C Major* was as breathtaking as it was surprising, to audience and performer alike!

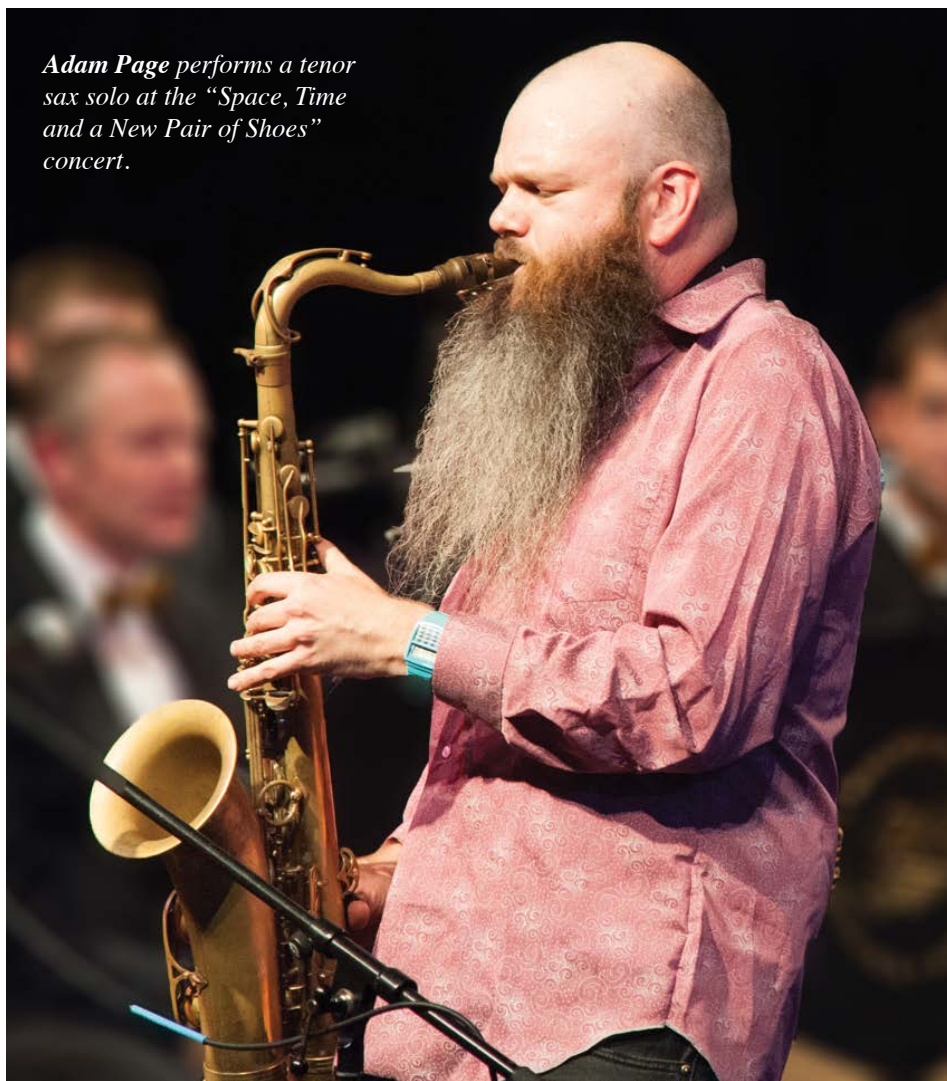
The band's Principal Euphonium Davey Boyes then took centre stage with Peter Graham's arrangement of Verdi's *Fantasy on Sempre Libera*. Davey sounded in his element and seemed to take this technically demanding piece in his stride. Bravo!

The concert ended with another rousing number from the band and the pen of Paul Lovatt-Cooper. *Fire in the Blood* brought the metaphorical curtain down on a memorable, unique and fun concert.



Photos courtesy Antoinette Baker of Ken Baker Photography

Adam Page performs a tenor sax solo at the "Space, Time and a New Pair of Shoes" concert.



New Uniform

We are currently embarking on a major drive to update and standardise the uniforms of the entire Woolston Brass Family.

This will include a new look and feel to the current uniforms. The project has been initiated by the executive committee of the band.

The goal is to consolidate the family atmosphere already present and to further foster the image and feel of a single unified organisation. Caroline Blackmore is heading a sub-committee and she is looking forward to the challenge of meeting the needs of all the groups that make up the Woolston family.

The coordinated look across the different bands will be challenging, but it is a task Caroline and the other members of the Uniform Committee are certainly looking forward to.

While the time frame is still in development, we will be working towards having everything in place by our 125 Anniversary celebrations in 2016.

Phil Johnston sharing a joke with Adam Page



Shining Examples ~ by Meri Gibson

Woolston Brass is incredibly lucky to have so much young talent coming through its ranks. At the NZ National Brass Band Championships in New Plymouth last year three of Woolston's young players took out solo titles. Many bands are often at the mercy of an aging player pool, but that is certainly not the case with Woolston. They have made it their mission to nurture younger players through their academy, junior band and Concert Brass into the senior band, thereby ensuring the on-going future of this one-hundred-and-twenty-three year old band which is so much part of Canterbury's history.

16 year old **Jordan Seaton** won the *Junior Bass* and also the *Junior Champion of Champions* title, while Kyle Lawson won the *Championship Cornet* and Hamish Upton the *Open Percussion*. These young people show the changing face of brass bands. They bring with them an energy and enthusiasm that enlivens the whole brass band scene.



Georgia Hoy, Miles Bennett and Jordan Seaton

Georgia Hoy's National Youth Band Report

On Saturday the 1st of February, 36 brass players under the age of 23 gathered in Waikanae for the start of the 2014 National Youth Brass Band camp. In the band this year were **Miles Bennett** - solo cornet, **Jordan Seaton** – principle E flat bass and myself – 2nd baritone. This year's band was taken by Peter Adams who also is the conductor of Dunedin band, St Kilda. This year's guest soloist was baritone player Kristy Rowe from Brisbane.

We had five full days of rehearsals and sectionals. In between practise there was plenty to keep us entertained at the camp with tennis courts, table tennis tables, basketball hoops, volley ball nets, a pool, wicked waterslide and a short walk to a river. The pool was well used with nice weather nearly all week. One rehearsal was unexpectedly interrupted so that a group of instructors from the camp could take us on a team building course.

This year's main work was A grade test 'Isaiah 40'. Our first concert was an hour bus trip away in Palmerston North. At each of our concerts a highlight was all 13 of the cornet players playing 'Hora Staccato' from memory. Our second concert at Wanganui High School where we played a shortened version of the

concert programme to all the arts students. The next concert for the day was at the Wanganui Baptist Centre. This concert was even better than the night before and ended with a full standing ovation from the audience. Several ex-national bandsmen were there and having people like Kevin Jarrett and Ian Levien in the audience made us determined to play our very best.

The final concert was in Wellington and was professionally recorded. Although the audience was a bit smaller than we would have liked we still put on a good final concert. Wellington Brass then provided us with a formal sit down dinner in their band room. This was followed by an awards ceremony where five awards were presented, plus one special award for the best Australian, which was awarded to Kristy.

Most Improved Player:
Cody Tauranga

Best Audition: **Dale Vail**

Most Outstanding Player:
Mitchell Spence

Best Bands Person: **Jeremy Richardson**

Best Section: **Second and Third Cornets**

Celebrations followed the awards ceremony.

Doris Bremner

A number of our members attended the funeral of Mrs Doris Bremner on Monday, February 10th.

Doris died on the 2nd of February 2014 aged 97. She was the much loved wife of the late Keith Bremner who, along with his sons Trevor, Graeme, Neil and Ron (deceased), played in our band with distinction for many years.

Doris was held in high regard by the banding community as those who spoke at the funeral attested. Dave Johnston (Blenheim) and Ian Levien QSM both paid tribute to Doris, recalling her warmth, generosity and hospitality, and also her involvement with the NZ Army Band who, fittingly, provided the music at the service.

Accompanied, as ever, by his wife Betty, Trevor Bremner played a cornet solo, *Candle of the Lord*, in tribute to his mother.

Many of Doris' 25 grandchildren and 46 great grandchildren attended the service as did the most recent addition to the family, her great-great-grandson.

Brilliant Brass ~ Woolston Special

We all know brass band luminary **David Bremner** as the NZSO's Principal Trombone and as the conductor of New Zealand's 2013 Champion Band, **Wellington Brass**. But Dave is perhaps less well known as the host of Radio NZ National's *Brilliant Brass* (concert programme), Sunday morning show featuring brass music in general, but quite often brass bands in particular!

While in town recently for his Nanna's funeral (see above), Dave took the opportunity to interview some of Woolston's "Old Guard" namely Merton Tapp, Dave Johnstone and Richard Hogarth as part of his preparations for an hour-long special he is planning that will feature Woolston Brass with a particular focus on its history. The programme will be broadcast at 10am on 23rd March. Don't worry if you miss it, the entire series is available here: www.radionz.co.nz/concert/programmes/brilliant-brass

Flaxwood Festival

The annual fund-raising Flaxwood Festival was held at the private country residence of Carolyn Schuitman (widow of the event's co-founder, Hans Schuitman) on the 2nd of March, a gloriously sunny Sunday afternoon.

Woolston Brass has been both a performer and a beneficiary of the Flaxwood Festival since its inception.

Along with ourselves, this year's festival boasted a great line up: Peter Caulton's "Ring of Fire" Johnny Cash Tribute, Johnny Campbell and the Detours, Peter Nelson and the Castaways, Anthony Easterbrook-Carter, Tamara Williams and Outpost 42 - NZ's troupe of the 501st Star Wars Legion (Vader's First)



Relaxing back-stage



Emma Caunter, Merton Tapp and Anthony Bracegirdle



Mark VanderKlei and Denis Broadbent



The stage is set...

Around the Bandstand

Keeping it in the family... We have a proud tradition of nurturing and supporting youthful talent through our ranks. This is not unique to us of course, but we do have an unusually high incidence of family involvement! We often hear about sporting dynasties, but here we have a number of music dynasties in the making.

Father and son **Nigel and Jordan Seaton** have teamed up in our bass section. Nigel's wife (and Jordan's mum) **Cyrenne** plays the Eb bass in Woolston Concert Brass.

'The Hickmans, of course, have built a strong family tradition within Woolston Brass. Conductor **Graham Hickman** and his brother **Kevin** (cornet), Kevin's wife **Sarah** (flugel horn) and Graham's wife **Catherine** (cornet), who is currently on leave from the band after the birth of the couple's daughter Sophia. What will Sophia Hickman be playing? Will she be picking up the baton or blowing on a cornet?

Another father son duo is **Denis and Christopher Broadbent**. Both Denis and Chris play the cornet. Chris (20) is pursuing a career in aviation and has had to curtail his band involvement. Denis is currently on leave as he has work commitments that take him away from Christchurch regularly.

Brothers **Ross and Andrew Yorkstone** face off across the band with Ross in the cornet row and Andrew holding the Principal Trombone chair.

'The Hoys are another strong banding family. The late **Des Hoy's** name remains synonymous with all things Woolston and we are delighted to welcome his son, **Brent**, back to the fold after losing him to Wanganui for a few years. Brent has moved back to Christchurch with his partner **Corrina Lee Dennison** whom we have also welcomed as a playing member. According to Brent the move south went well, he and Corrina bought their house in Bishopdale "sight unseen", putting all their faith in baritone-banker **Vince Pheloung** and Real Estate agent **Sharon Smith**.

Says Brent, "*It was a bit stressful for a couple of weeks. We bought the house on the internet and the first time we set foot inside was when we took possession!*"

Corrina, who has found work with the Corrections Department in Sydenham, is already well-known in banding circles as a tenor horn player. She tells us she

is enjoying playing in the band and that there is never a dull moment sitting next to Mert!

It's questionable whether Second Baritone player **Georgia Hoy**, Brent's daughter, is enjoying coming under the critical gaze of her dad during rehearsals, but if things get too stressful for her she can always seek the support of her Grandmother, **Colleen Hoy**, who as the band's Secretary is almost always 'out the back'. Colleen celebrated her 70th birthday recently and a surprise party was held in Brent and Corinna's new back yard to mark the occasion. (pictured at right)

While we're *keeping it in the family*, we should note that we also have a couple of couples in the form of partners Todd Turner and Caroline Blackmore, and Anthony Bracegirdle and Emma Caunter!



Santa Parade at Lincoln

On Saturday the 14th of December, Woolston Junior Brass Band played in the Lincoln Santa Parade.

I felt excited because I had just joined the Band one month before and this was my first time ever in a Santa Parade. We had practised on Tuesday nights for it. It was my first trumpet concert and we were in uniform. The Band included cornets, trumpets, trombones and a tuba. We sat on hay bales on a trailer while a tractor towed us along. We played three songs called "Jingle Jazz", "Away in a Manger" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer". When we started playing, the donkey that was behind us, panicked and Mary fell off but thankfully Mary had a helmet on. After that Mary had to walk!

The Parade was held in Lincoln and we went down the main street playing our carols. My favourite things in the Santa Parade was seeing Santa and getting lollies from the clowns. There was also a pipe band and a laboratory on wheels with two scientists. The scientists were holding glasses with different coloured liquids that were smoking because of the dry ice in them.

A special thanks to Jill who worked hard to make sure Woolston Junior Brass Band play the best we could play. ~ *Jean-Luc Pitcaithly*



Emma Caunter's March Crossword

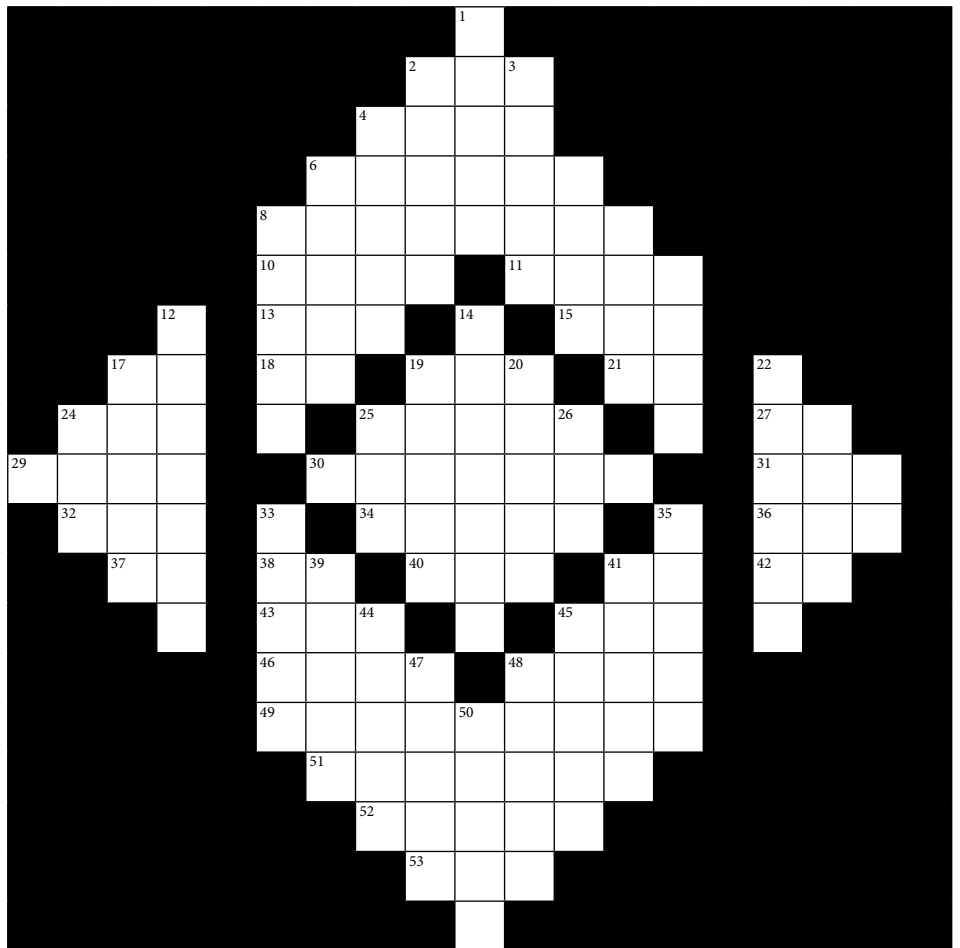
Clues Across:

- 2 Tramp up without politician technique (3)
- 4 Orc takes first part of ruptured blood clot (5)
- 6 Twisted hemp cod might have bitten (7)
- 8 The best moron has changed (9)
- 10 Italian capital returns Spanish love (4)
- 11 Sean is confused, not mad (4)
- 13 Change the spa to kill Cleopatra (3)
- 15 Steve's daughter is centrally alive (3)
- 17 Disney's South American tale gone in a skywards direction (2)
- 18 Actively being the 3rd person if Spanish return (2)
- 19 By way of an article after six (3)
- 21 A Medical Emergency I find accusative (2)
- 22 Endless metal conjunction (2)
- 24 He wants to be the very best, but is likely to be burnt (3)
- 25 Left the start of Emma's mathematical principle (5)
- 27 Acidity detection head is a doctorate (3)
- 29 Regret after dinner it wasn't false (4)
- 30 A Franklin spelled it out in deference (7)
- 31 Behave violently, or it might be confused
- 32 It's only human in a better realm (3)
- 34 French being the start of the Waterfall: _____ Donnes (5)

- 36 A Near Thing for a small insect (3)
- 37 Initially the present era, it is now a school class (2)
- 38 Alternating current will shortly cool you down (2)
- 40 In conjunction with reverse engineering the genetic code (3)
- 41 Therefore it could be your partner (2)
- 42 Number shortened to negative (2)
- 43 The way back along the angle a plane points (3)
- 45 Sheltered side returns to long fish (3)
- 46 A great 100 take pie (4)
- 48 Pulled gem to side of cliff (4)
- 49 Hum up with one eye on small tuba (9)
- 51 The bird devoured a leaf in three parts (7)
- 52 Sis mixes six hundred music storage devices (5)
- 53 A collection without duplicates placed (3)

Clues Down:

- 1 Alcohol in Chuck Berry's little bit of bread (5)
- 2 The smell I am, or adding up (5)
- 3 Spot takes nothing as a traditional theme (5)
- 4 Politician ends Cho's bite (5)
- 5 Back lane to right about the kidney (5)
- 6 Badly written scores without endings head towards being angry (5)



- 7 Mined up in jeans (5)
- 8 Art in back to back position for transport on rails (5)
- 9 Five in spotted prime (5)
- 12 Sparky music in round objects (7)
- 14 A large drum, but in a pm it is too backwards (7)
- 16 Head room uses a spoon with high pitch (7)
- 17 You add the spur to take over (5)
- 19 She eats five for the goddess of home
- 20 A final saying before the start of day to make things better (5)
- 23 Money on African Savannah (5)
- 24 Heads right in an emergency of 2nd person's existence (3)
- 25 Fish up the sheltered side (3)
- 26 The pretence of being part of the play (3)
- 28 End of sentence used to indicate staccato (3)
- 33 He gets the money when sailor agrees in sports' class (5)
- 35 Back in the same logs a clay figure is animated (5)
- 39 AC up to put head-like structure (5)
- 41 Use, for example, a mixture that will change smoothly (5)
- 44 Cleaned the bow I pedalled (5)
- 45 In bred it so he changes it (5)
- 47 Rich went South for comet playing pilot (5)
- 48 Open activities contain stage (5)
- 50 Stone at the beginning (5)

Answers to Issue 57 Crossword

Across:

5 Cherry; 8 Silent Night; 9 Trust; 13 Zarathustra; 15 Turkey; 16 Pie; 17 Outdoors; 18 Drinking; 20 Thus; 22 Cost; 24 Chorus; 26 Thor; 28 Be; 30 Ice; 32 Faint; 33 Pair; 35 Ant; 36 Ibis; 37 Verse; 38 Tres; 41 Doe; 42 Perch; 44 Mistletoe; 45 Tesla; 47 Steady; 48 Sleigh Bells

Down:

1 Bloated; 2 Stockings; 3 Dizzy; 4 Thorough; 6 Hath; 7 Rust; 8 Snoopy's Christmas; 10 Rudolph; 11 Us; 12 Try; 14 Tides; 17 Onto; 19 Rare; 21 United; 22 Crackers; 23 Santa Claus; 25 Obvious; 26 Tense; 27 Of; 29 Tree; 31 Caroling; 34 Eat; 39 Rate; Steel; 43 Sled; 46 Eye;

Parking

We have had a number of strident emails from a Dampier Street neighbour complaining about band room visitors parking over his driveway.

Our regular playing members have been well briefed on this matter, but we would remind *all* other visitors to park legally, ie at least one metre from any vehicle entrance/driveway.

We are located in a residential area and it is important to us that our neighbours are treated respectfully.

Award for Graeme Bremner

Warrant Officer Class 1 **Graeme Alexander Bremner**, of Rolleston has been awarded the DSD (Distinguished Service Decoration) for his services to the New Zealand Defence Force and to the brass band movement in the New Year's Honours. The award was announced with the publication of the New Year's honours list.

Graeme is currently the Drum Major of Woolston Brass and Principal Euphonium of Woolston Concert Brass. We are immensely proud of Graeme and we extend to him our heartiest congratulations.

Diary Dates

Friday 25th April, 2pm

ANZAC Remembered
Air Force Museum of NZ \$20

Saturday 17th May

NZ Music Month Concert

Sunday 6th July

Seriously Brass

8th -13th of July

BBANZ National
Championships - Invercargill

WOOLSTON BRASS presents

ANZAC Remembered 2014



Friday 25th April 2pm
at the Air Force Museum of New Zealand
Tickets \$20. Pre-booking recommended
at www.dashtickets.co.nz or from the shop
at the Air Force Museum.
A transaction fee will apply.

WOOLSTON BRASS
AIR FORCE MUSEUM of New Zealand

Acknowledgements:

We are grateful to these individuals and organizations for their continued support:

Seat Patrons

Principal Cornet
Solo Cornet 1
Solo Cornet 2
Solo Cornet 3
Solo Cornet 4
Soprano Cornet
Repiano Cornet
Second Cornet 1
Second Cornet 2
Third Cornet 1
Third Cornet 2
Solo Trombone
Second Trombone
Bass Trombone
Principal Euphonium
Second Euphonium
First Baritone
Second Baritone
Flugel Horn
Solo Tenor Horn
First Tenor Horn
Tenor Horn 2
Tenor Horn 3
Principal E flat Bass
Second E flat Bass
Principal B flat Bass
Second B flat Bass
Percussion 1
Percussion 2
Percussion 3

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John and Helen Thomson
Ernest and Catherine Henshaw
Asko Design and Peter and Jean Hyam
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First Sovereign Trust, Christchurch City Council, The Trusts Charitable Foundation, The Canterbury Community Trust, New Zealand Community Trust, Air Rescue Trust, The Southern Trust, Mainland Foundation

Download Your Support!

Tracks from our *Millennium*, *ANZAC*, *Sacred*, and *Rhythm 'n' Brass* CD's are available from leading music distributors, *CD Baby*, *Amazon.com* and *iTunes*. You can download single tracks for about 90 cents, or albums for \$10! The money comes straight back to the band, so this is a great way to show your support. Efficient, fun, and you get to collect lots of great music!

Contacts: Chairman – Mark Vander Klei: mark@woolstonbrass.org M.D. – Graham Hickman graham@woolstonbrass.org



Woolston Brass, 37 Dampier Street, Woolston, Christchurch, New Zealand.
Telephone (03) 389 6340 (Band Room). Established in 1891. Music Director: Graham Hickman.
P.O. Box 8187, Riccarton, Christchurch. Website: www.woolstonbrass.org

