

The Official Newsletter of the Woolston Brass Band Est. 1891. Patron: Dame Adrienne Stewart DNZM QSM LLD (Hon)







# Around the Bandstand

Congratulations to **Todd Turner** and **Caroline Blackmore** on their recent marriage on 20 January 2018, the ceremony and reception was held at Rossendale Vineyard in Tai Tapu on a very hot summer's day.

Caroline Turner, Tania MacKay and Sylvia Vail decidiated a weekend in Wellington 13-15 April to rehearse and perform with the newly formed group 'Bras and Brass', an all female brass band brought together to raise funds and awareness for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation. Under the baton of Music Director Dave Bremner the group produced a great debut performance on Sunday 15 Apri at Te Whaea: National Dance & Drama Centre. Good work ladies!

Farewell to trombonist **Dan Wallis**, a long serving member of Woolston Concert Brass. We wish wish him well in his next adventure overseas.

Welcome to new players of Woolston Brass Tony Garing (Bass Trombone) Tom Oldham (Tenor Horn)

**Drew Wood** (Bb Bass and recipient of Woolston Brass Scholarship. Drew will perform with Woolston Brass throughout the year in their concert series and perform with Woolston Concert Brass for National Contest).

# Moving on with Merton

A note from **Merton Tapp** about his era with Woolston Brass since 1969, retiring from A-Grade playing and joining Woolston Concert Brass;

"I joined Skellerup Woolston in 1969, and played soprano cornet for 2 years; in Dunedin under Bill Stewart and then under Merv Waters in 1971, the well-known "Spectrum" contest in Wanganui.

In 1972, I swapped to horn for a couple of years and then back to cornet for three years, playing 2nd cornet at the British Open in 1975 and repiano in 1976 where we won in Christchurch, before swapping on to Solo Horn again, where I stayed until 1996, before playing 1st baritone for a year, for Dave Gallaher's first contest as conductor, (which we won, in New Plymouth).

I left the band for three years, in 1998, and as a result, missed the great trip to Britain with Dave Gallaher and the team, to the British Open, before being encouraged to come back, by a few of my many good friends in the organisation, and played lower horn parts until I finally left, at the end of 2017; a total of 48 really busy years with a three-year break somewhere in the middle.

I played under six conductors; Bill Stewart, Merv Waters, Ken Smith, Dave Gallaher, Graham Hickman, and Tyme. All quite different, with different musical tastes and aspirations, but all nevertheless, very talented in their own ways, and Woolston has been indeed very lucky to have had this succession of great conductors at the helm, for such a long time. May it continue. I have been lucky enough also to have been in six National Bands; 1st Horn in 1978 and Solo Horn in 1980,1985,1989,1990 and 1995, with Merv Waters, Rodney Sutton, Ken Smith, and last but not least, our great friend Kevin Jarrett. These tours were also very enjoyable, playing great music, meeting bandspeople from elsewhere in NZ and also meeting band fraternity overseas.

Years ago, it dawned on me that contesting is only a game. The winner quite often comes from one of the best 3 or 4 performances, but it is the whim of one person only, the judge, who decides the eventual winner, and this could be quite different, with a different, yet equally qualified judge, doing the same job, on the same day. As long as you can come off the stage, having played how your best rehearsal went, then you have done well. That's why you should not wear contest results on your sleeve. Having said all that, I wish you all very well in Blenheim, and that includes Concert Brass and Nick Johnson, for whom I am playing.

May I suggest to you older players who maybe thinking of burying the mouthpiece soon, give Nick and Concert Brass a few years of your time before you do, you will be appreciated, and you will enjoy the experience.

I have really enjoyed my time in Woolston, having made hundreds of friends, and have enjoyed nearly all of the music we have played over the years. Given the chance, and a time machine, I would probably do it all over again!"

### Woolston Brass Merchandise

Show your true colours Woolstonians!

Caps \$20 and Drink Bottles \$10. Contact caroline@woolstonbrass.org if you would like to purchase.





#### \*\*Euphonium and Trombone Vacancy\*\*

Woolston Brass is seeking a Principal Euphonium player and a Principal Trombone player. Band rehearsals are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings in Woolston (Christchurch, New Zealand).

For further information and/or to express interest, please email info@woolstonbrass.org or contact Caroline +6421533466

# Enjoy our music anytime and support the band

Our CD recordings: *The Woolstonian*, 1991 Centennial, British Open Concert Tour 2000, Music from Past to Present 1891-1991, Millennium, ANZAC, Sacred and Rhythm 'n' Brass are available for purchase as physical CDs or mp3 downloads at iTunes, Amazon. com and CD Baby.

We also have the following CDs available; Woolston Echoes, Christmas in Christchurch (featuring the CSO, Woolston Brass, the Christchurch City Choir and the ChristChurch Cathedral Choir), Hope and Wire – Eastern (featuring Woolston Brass), Homeland (Euphonium soloist Matt van Emmerik), Kiwi Dragon (Euphonium soloist Byron Newton), Christmas at the Cathedral, So Far So Good.

If you would like a hard-copy CD (\$20), please email caroline@woolstonbrass.org to arrange payment options and postage.

New CDs available for purchase

- 2016 The Woolstonian
- Aurora
- Christmas at the Cathedral
- So Far So Good



WOOLSTON JUNIOR BAND

# Obituraries

#### Ken Smith

It was with great sadness to hear that past Woolston conductor Ken Smith had passed away aged 88 on Tuesday 13 February.

The elder son of legendary conductor K.G.L. Smith, Ken Smith was born in Westport, New Zealand. He was a youthful prodigy and became a virtuoso cornet player, winning the New Zealand cornet championship three years in succession in 1948-49-50.

He left New Zealand for the United Kingdom and Fairey Aviation Works Band in 1950, returning in 1954 after establishing a formidable reputation. Ken conducted St Kilda Brass for a period and later moved to Australia and a senior academic post at the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music. He toured New Zealand, the USA and Canada as a trumpet soloist throughout the 1970s working with leading symphony orchestras including the NZSO. Ken was appointed Musical Director of the 1985 National Band that toured the U.K. and Europe. He has served as an adjudicator in both New Zealand and Australia.

Ken Smith became Woolston's Musical Director in late 1989 following his retirement from the NSW Conservatorium of Music. He soon established an innovative regime with a personal focus on serious music. Ken did not enjoy the emphasis on competition that had always been a Woolston hallmark (the band has not missed a national contest since 1965), and some felt that under his baton, the band's sound changed from the broad, boisterous tones of the Estall/Waters era to a lighter, more delicate style. Ken's many arrangements from the classical repertoire became standard fare in the band's concert and competition programmes.

The band's centenary took place during Ken's tenure in 1991. This milestone was marked by a special concert in the Christchurch Town Hall. Under Ken's baton, a tour of Sydney, Singapore and Hong Kong were also undertaken to commemorate the occasion.

Under Ken Smith, Woolston regained the New Zealand championship in 1993, and did so again in 1994. Ken retired and moved back to Australia after he took the band to Sydney to compete at the 1996 Australian Band Championships. He was later appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to brass bands.

#### **Riki McDonnell**

We were saddened to hear of Riki McDonnell's passing on 17 March 2018. A euphonium virtuoso with a fondness for travel, Riki played as a supporting musician and soloist with countless bands internationally, and Woolston Brass was no exception. Most notable was Riki's participation in our British Open bid in 2000. Already known to us as a fabulous player, we discovered that Riki was also an absolutely top bloke on that particular expedition. Our thoughts are with Riki's family and loved ones.

#### **Ronald Young**

We were sad to hear that Ronald Young passed away aged 98 on 16 April 2018, Woolston Brass Life Member Merton Tapp spoke at the funeral on behalf of the band.

Originally from Southland, Ron played in the Invercargill Garrison Band which was the "other" band in Invercargill in those days. He was married to Patricia (Pat) and had three children Graham, Barbara and Kenneth (Ken). He owned a music store for many years on the corner of Straven Road and Riccarton Road after working at Beggs for years. Ron was a fine slow melody player and former member of the band on lower cornet for many years through the 70s and early 80s. His favourite cornet players were Trevor Bremner and Dave Christensen. He was the deputy conductor of the Woolston Auxilary Band in the halcyon days of Shirley Dougall, when they were a winning band at the National Championships, this band later become the Woolston Club Band.

Both Ron and Pat were two of the most kind and gracious people one would ever meet. Pat died 14 years ago, and was sadly missed by Ron ever since that time. Ron lived down the end of Wilsons Road, hence the kids went to Cashmere High School, which as we know, produces musically talented students by the truckload including his own son Ken Young, who also has a long and close association with Woolston Brass and is now resident conductor of the NZSO and has conducted the National Youth Band.

# Upcoming Events

**Saturday 30 June** - Virtuoso Brass Solo Competition Woolston Brass and Academy (featuring soloists competing at the NZ Championships), The Chamber Room at The Piano, from 9am

**Sunday 1 July** - Seriously Brass Concert (Woolston Brass & Woolston Concert Brass), 3pm-5pm, Celebration Events Centre

**Sunday 8 July** - KidsFest Academy Concert, 2pm-3pm, The Piano. Followed by an opportunity to try a brass instrument in the foyer.

11-15 July - New Zealand Brass Band Championships, Blenheim

Saturday 11 August - Slow Melody Competition, Orange Studio

Sunday 28 October - Woolston Concert Brass Concert, 3pm, The Piano

**Sunday 11 November** - Woolston Brass Armistice Day Commemorative Peace Concert (in conjunction with Music Canterbury), Air Force Museum

Sunday 25 November - Learners Group Recital, Orange Studio

**Sunday 9 December** - Woolston Family Christmas Concert, 3pm, Christchurch Boys' High School Auditorium

Please do not hesitate to contact Caroline Turner caroline@woolstonbrass.org if you have any questions.



**City Sounds** featuring Woolston Brass – Sunday 4 March, 12pm-1.30pm, Central Lawn (followed by a try-an-instrument demonstration)













**City Sounds** featuring The Academy – Sunday 25 March, 12pm-1.30pm, Central Lawn (followed by a try-an-instrument demonstration)

# Patron Partners

We are very grateful for the generous support of our 2016/2017 Patron Partners as listed below. Their support is instrumental to the band's sustainability and success.

We will feature our new 2018/2019 Patron Partners in the next Woolstonian issue. If you are interested in sponsoring a seat as part of the 2018/2019 Patron Partnership Programme, please contact Caroline Turner caroline@woolstonbrass.org or phone 021 533 466.

Music Director 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 Flugel Horn Principal Tenor Horn First Tenor Horn Second Tenor Horn 1 Second Tenor Horn 2 Principal Baritone Second Baritone Principal Trombone Second Trombone **Bass** Trombone Principal Euphonium Second Euphonium Principal E flat Bass Second E flat Bass 1 Second E flat Bass 2 Principal B flat Bass Second B flat Bass Principal Percussion Percussion 1 Percussion 2 Percussion 3

Available (\$5,000 per year) Dame Adrienne Stewart Derek and Lynn Anderson Henshaw Developments Trust Sara Daly Gilbert and Patricia Glausiuss The Whistlers Syndicate Annette Foster Black Design and Manufacturing Ltd / Deval Ltd Available (\$2,000 per year) The Elizabeth Ball Charitable Trust J Ballantvne & Co Available (\$3,000 per vear) **Quality Property Management** David and Hilary Stock Available (\$2,000 per year) Christchurch Casino Leighton and Carmel Brown Barrie and Valerie Hoy J Ballantyne & Co Tony Lewis and Abigail Lowther Michael and Lesley Petterson Available (\$3.000) Leighton & Carmel Brown Mahar Charitable Trust Archibald Motors The Laboratory Lincoln Available (\$3.000) The Christmas Hut The Elizabeth Ball Charitable Trust Robin and Ralph Redpath Available (\$2,000) Available (\$2,000)

## Committee Officers and Members

Patron – Dame Adrienne Stewart Vice Patrons - Derek Anderson, Graeme Coomer, Tony Lewis President – Gary Pinker (gary@woolstonbrass.org) Vice President - Vince Pheloung Chairman - Brent Hoy Vice Chairman - Todd Turner Band Sergeant – Brent Hoy Treasurer – Sam Pinder (treasurer@woolstonbrass.org) Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Custodian - Todd Turner Secretary - Colleen Hov Assistant Secretary - Stephen Leader Librarian - Wayne Shears Custodian - Matthew Toomata Member - Mark van der Klei Member - Raynor Martin Marketing and Sponsorship Manager - Caroline Turner (caroline@woolstonbrass.org or 021 5334 66)

We wish to thank Vince Pheloung for his long and outstanding contribution to the Woolston Brass Committee as Chairman and a Committee Member.

### Support Woolston Brass Academy with The Entertainment Book

Support Woolston Brass and you'll be rewarded! We are raising funds for our Woolston Brass Academy and you can help. Order the NEW 2018 | 2019 Entertainment Book or Entertainment Digital Membership and you will receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and you will also be supporting our fundraising. Pick up an order form or order online https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/ orderbooks/9t46037



# How else can you Play a Part?

- Join Woolston Brass Friends and our emailing/mailing list
- · Help spread the word about our events and initiatives
- "Like" the Woolston Brass Facebook page
- Purchase our recorded music (hard copy CDs or online)
- Purchase our merchandise
- Sponsor a Concert(s)
- Sponsor a Music Scholarship(s)
- Donate to Woolston Brass
- Donate to Woolston Brass Academy
- Donate to Woolston Brass Foundation
- Donate your time and expertise

# **Project Sponsors**

We wish to thank the following organisations for their recent support; Christchurch Earthquake Recovery Trust – towards Woolston Brass uniforms

## **Key Contacts**

Woolston Brass Music Director – Tyme Marsters (tyme@woolstonbrass.org)

Woolston Brass Academy Director – Tyme Marsters Woolston Brass Academy Coordinator – Vickie Ward (vickie@woolstonbrass.org)

Woolston Concert Brass Music Director – Nick Johnson Woolston Junior Band Music Director – Jill Pears Woolston Learners' Tutor – Tyme Marsters Marketing and Sponsorship Manager – Caroline Turner (caroline@woolstonbrass.org or 021 533 466)

## Facebook

"Like" the Woolston Brass Facebook page and be kept up to date with the band's upcoming events and recent activities.



Canterbury Provincial Brass Band Association Inc. (CPBBA) has a new Facebook page: www.facebook.com/

**CPBBA/** "Like" their page and you'll be kept up to date with upcoming Canterbury banding activities. Please note, people are not able to post directly - it is a moderated page, but it is viewable by everyone and should be easier to find. The page is a platform for all affiliated bands to be able to promote their activities along with CPBBA activies.

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

