



Invercargill Garrison Band Inc

NEWSLETTER December 2009



the Auxiliary Band paid tribute to Alex Lithgow who wrote the well known Invercargill March and the Auxiliary Band played in the Santa Parade.

2009 National Contest, Napier

The Ascot Park Hotel Brass attended the National Brass Band contest held in Napier during April. We were quietly confident that the band would score well. Unfortunately it didn't quite pan out that way but some individual younger members excelled:

- Andrew Yorkstone, (Junior Trombone) 1st
Junior Champion of Champions
- Connor Ellison (Junior Euphonium) – 1st
- Benjamin Cuff, Megan Gooding, Connor Ellison, Daniel Redmond (Junior Ensemble) – 1st
- Megan Gooding, Nina Gooding (Junior Duet) – 3rd



We were fortunate to have David Gallagher (Christchurch) as conductor and the services of Paula Russell (MPV Australia) as lead cornet, Stuart Bent, trombone (Australia), Kevin Joughlan, (Australia) Bill Vail on horn (Christchurch), Victoria Orchard, cornet (Roxburgh). Thanks to these people for joining, supporting and involving themselves in the band environment - great people to have as part of our band. We would also like to acknowledge the many hours of travelling by a number of players, in particular Daniel Dance, David Hughes, Victoria Orchard and Ross Yorkstone for rehearsals for the Nationals.

The Auxiliary Band was represented at the Nationals by Hannah Clarke in the Under 15 section.

2009 National Brass Band

This year we were well represented in the National Brass Band with Steve Gooding and Kevin Dell playing 2nd cornet and Kevin Dell and Graham Dick appointed as co-managers.

The 2009 National Brass Band of New Zealand attended the World Music Brass Band Championships in Kerkrade Holland on 11/12 July. The band also travelled to Peer in Belgium for a combined concert with the Peer Wind band and took part in a Gala Concert with the Cory Band of Wales. Further information can be found at <http://www.brassnz.co.nz/index.htm>

National Youth Brass Band 2009

The Ascot Park Hotel Brass has also been well represented in the Youth Band. The baritone section is all Ascot Park with Benjamin Cuff filling the lead baritone position and Connor Ellison as second baritone. Ross Yorkstone played solo cornet and Andrew Yorkstone was 2nd trombone player. Rounding out the group was Jacob McQuarrie in the percussion section. The band is for young people under the age of 23. As three of these young people were under 18 this shows the calibre of the tuition provided in Invercargill.

The band had a hectic schedule this year; they celebrated the 50 years anniversary and travelled internationally – the first time since 2003.

The band recorded a CD in June and gave a concert in Wellington. On July 16th the Band began a tour of New Zealand with Riki McDonnell as guest soloist, before representing New Zealand at the Japan International Youth Musicale in Shizuoka City. The band also performed in Osaka with a professional band, Breeze Brass Band, and returned home on the 29th of July. Reports of the trip can be read on <http://www.brassnz.co.nz/index.htm>

The 2010 National Youth Band has just been announced. We wish to congratulate Katie Taylor, Connor Ellison and Andrew Yorkstone on their success.

ILT Scholarships

We are very fortunate that the ILT awarded scholarships to members who represented Southland internationally - Steve Gooding, Jacob McQuarrie, Benjamin Cuff, Ross Yorkstone, Connor Ellison, and Andrew Yorkstone. Each received \$2,500. These scholarships were much appreciated.

National Secondary Schools Brass Band 2009

Another highlight for some of our players was being accepted into the ninth Annual NSSBB Course held at Burnham Military Camp. Positions were hotly contested by our members and in previous years we have been well represented in this band. The successful players were Katie Taylor, Megan Gooding, Nina Gooding, Bridget Snodgrass, Andrew Yorkstone, Nathan Blomfield (Senior Band), Naomi Coatsworth and Samuel Cuff (Aux Band). After rehearsing, the band took part in two concerts in the Christchurch Town Hall playing as part of an Army Band Schools Concert. These concerts meant that almost ten thousand children enjoyed the shows. For more see <http://www.brassnz.co.nz/index.htm>

Life Members

At the recent AGM we honoured some of our members by presenting them with Life Membership. They are Bob Pope, Warren Crighton, Stephen Gooding, John McKinlay and Kathleen Herman.

Funding

Instruments

Instruments are a big cost for the band. Please look after your instrument by cleaning it regularly and handling it carefully. Information about how to look after instruments is on the band room wall.

Over the last two years we have been concentrating on getting funds to replace instruments and this project is nearing completion. We are fortunate that a number of organisations have funded us this year. We would like to particularly acknowledge the support of the ILT Foundation, the Invercargill Licensing Trust, The Community Trust of Southland and Creative Communities. In total we have received about \$170,000.00 in funding.

Without these organisations' support we would not be able to replace instruments to ensure the A Grade Band continues to stay competitive at an A Grade level. Not only have senior band players gained new instruments but their "old" instruments have been passed down to our junior players - doubling the benefit!

Sheet Music

We have ordered music to increase the library at the band rooms with help from Creative Communities and the Lion Foundation.

Events

A **Farewell Dinner** for David Hughes was organised as a fitting tribute to 50 years of playing for us. We wish you a long and healthy retirement and it's good to see that the Roxburgh Band will benefit from your move.





Alex Lithgow Concert - this was held at First Church on 12 July. International Military Music Society member, Gavin Marriott, chose this day to commemorate The Invercargill March as it is the anniversary of Lithgow's death. The Auxiliary Band played a part in the commemorations with some support from Senior Band members. This was marked nationally by being included as a national news item.

Alex Lithgow Memorial Concert and March On 6 November both bands commemorated the Invercargill March by marching through the streets before entertaining the community with a concert in the Civic Theatre. This was the closest weekend to the 4 November which we considered important because it was on that date, in 1909, that the Invercargill March was first played. A plaque to Alex Lithgow can be found on the front of the Band Rooms.

Coming up...

Christmas Concerts

- An Auxiliary Band concert will be held on 6 December beginning at 2.00pm. The venue is the Salvation Army Citadel at 2:00pm and entry is \$2.00 or \$5 for a family.
- The Senior Band will once again support the Carols in the Park on 17 December (22nd if wet).
- Carolling by the Auxiliary Band begins on December 1st and continues on 2nd, 8th, 9th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 18th, and 22nd and finishes by playing at the Farmers Market on the 23rd December.

Next Year

Provincials: DATES: 27th & 28th March, 2010 Venue: Oamaru
Nationals: DATES: 7th - 11th July, 2010 Venue: Dunedin

Farewells

During the year we said goodbye to David Hughes and at the end of this year we will also farewell from the Senior Band Benjamin Cuff and Daniel Redmond who are heading off to Canterbury University and Ross Yorkstone who has taken up a position with the Woolston Band. From the Aux Band we also farewell Joseph Williams who is off to Christchurch and Rebekah Robertson and Jason Lang who will be attending Otago University. We wish them all the best and hope to meet up with them at future banding events.

Thank you

A big thank you to all those industrious volunteers who keep the Band rooms clean. It is really appreciated by the committee and all the players.

Thank you to all volunteers and supporters of both bands. Your input is much valued.

Seasons Greetings to all band members and their families

From members of the Management Committee-

Grant Yorkstone (Chairman), Ruth Cuff (Secretary), Trish Gooding (Treasurer), John Bath (Immediate Past Chairman), Gill Ellison, Aaron Herman, Trevor Lewis (Auxiliary Band President) and John McKinlay (Musical Director)