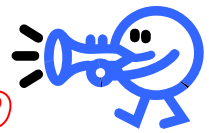


# BRASS WANGANUI HIGHNOTES

## NATIONAL CONTEST APRIL 2009



Tuesday 21 April 2009

### National B Grade Champions 2009!

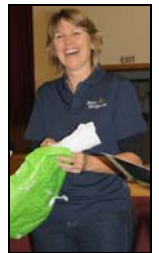
What a week for the Band! Success in every aspect; from music, to attitude, to deportment, this is a truly wonderful result. It reflects the commitment, dedication and leadership provided by Musical Director Bruce Jellyman, Maestro Kevin Jarrett, Past President Tony Cowan and Current President Paul McCormick, with the backing of everyone else. It was a true team effort. As many of you will realise, the Band has been through some terribly difficult times in the recent past but thanks to those loyal supporters who stuck with us through the dark days, we have now re-established ourselves as an organisation to be proud of.

With so many details to share, a little timeline might help. Months of rehearsals led to our pre-contest concert in the Wanganui Intermediate Hall. With a tremendous performance, we knew we were on the verge of something special and we set off for Napier with confidence. Lyndon Weise, our soprano player from Brisbane, joined us, along with Hamish Dean, who had flown in from London

### Wednesday:



Following a day of successes in the solo and party events, in the evening we rehearsed in Hastings. This hall became home and proved ideal for our purposes with a lively acoustic. Mind you, some of our direction finding in getting there proved that we were better at music than map reading. Jay Neal and Barry Williams arrived only just in time, having done a very interesting scenic tour of some of the outer apple orchards of Hastings.



Carrina Hunt turned a certain age- one that we won't even mention because it is our little secret. However, if you should guess it was somewhere between 39 and 41, you would be pretty close to the mark. Here she is applauding our efforts at singing "Happy Birthday". Very moving, it was too and artistically led by Paul McCormick. Carrina also loved the t-shirt present we gave her, intending to wear it all the time. Naturally, for someone of that certain age, she took the celebrations in a very restrained and quiet fashion. She was a model for us all!

### Thursday:



More solos, more solos and yet more solos. Oh yes, we did also rehearse but our intrepid photographer was too busy to take photos that day. The solo competition highlight was Hamish Dean winning the Open Trombone. With this victory he maintained a very proud Wanganui tradition in solo playing of most years having a least one player in the Champion of Champions event.

Hamish grew up in Wanganui and is now Principal Trombone of the RAF Central Band in London. This follows on from going to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo with Wanganui City Brass in 1993. He then gained a Bachelor of Music with Honours from Victoria before being in the National Bands of 1995 and 2003.

Just in for the contest, Hamish returns to London in a few days time. We'll look forward to his return sometime in the future.

### Friday:

Following a very early rehearsal, we then practiced a much loved traditional brass band skill of, "Hurry up and wait," before going on to perform our Hymn and the Test Piece. Here are a few photos of players mentally preparing themselves.



Thinking about what needs to be done are Anthony Kerr, Kylie Lawson, Reece Goodier, Jess Power and Hamish Jellyman.



Lyndon Weise  
(from Brisbane)  
Soprano



Jay Neal.  
(This is the 6<sup>th</sup> time Jay has now been in a winning B grade band!)  
First Baritone,



Gavin Herdman  
Eb Bass



Chris Smith.  
(A hard night last night, Chris?)  
Trombone



Logan Smith  
Eb Bass



Rebecca Maas  
Eb Bass



Gordon Holmes  
Eb Bass



Tracey Hammond  
Cornet



Chris Skudder  
Trombone



Kyle Lawson  
Cornet



Anthony Kerr  
Tenor Horn



Willie Meremere  
Bass Trombone



Matthew Taylor  
(Trombone), Hamish  
Jellyman (Euphonium),  
Carrina Hunt (Tenor  
Horn)



Bruce Jellyman,  
(Trying to connect to  
the music gods!)

Out of the theatre, grab a quick bite to eat, throw on the uniform, snatch up the instrument and we were ready for a marching warm-up in the motel car park. Who said contest would be easy??



A little extra practice never did anybody any harm. We warmed up in the motel car park under the sharp eyes of Tony Cowan and Jay Neal who can be seen plotting something together in the foreground. Trombones to the fore! They almost look as if they know what they are doing.



Stacey Randles  
(Great photo for her 21<sup>st</sup>, I thought!  
Remember that, Mum and Dad.)



Tanya Lynne and Anthony Kerr  
These guys are on to it!!!



Anthony Kerr is putting his best foot forward. We wanted to raise the cute factor by getting him to tow a buzzy bumble bee on a string but we couldn't find one in time. The sharp eyed amongst you will notice Music Judge, Jeff Mulraney (a life member of our band, by the way) marking his points sheet.

Following the street march, a rest and then yet another band rehearsal in Hastings.

We had a call from marching guru, Tony Cowan. Get back to the motel. Quick!! Those who know Tony recall he has a stunning turn of phrase when it comes to getting confused bands folks to march. He has not lost that ability. You won the bloody thing!!!!



Ripper!! You little beauty!!

### Saturday:



Today, it would be all go. The cornets were still trying to get things right. (They are only cornets, after all. Bloody prima donnas!).



Bruce. Head space time. (Still worrying about the damned cornets, I'll bet!)



Reece and Tracey helped to calm each others' nerves.



Meanwhile, the horns (the real workers in the band) had a very serious section practice. You can tell we were worried as hell about our parts!



Nailed it!!! Even the cornets look pleased with themselves. Well, what work did they actually do, we ask?



Prize Time!!! David Maas with Bruce. Don't drop that cup, for heaven's sake!



Yes, it's true! I am very pleased with myself!!!! Despite the bloody cornets!

**Share the glory time:**



Paul McCormick



Matthew Taylor and Jess Power



Anthony Kerr



Keiran Smith



Logan Smith and Kathy Hansen



Lyndon Weise and Bruce Jellyman



Kay Smith



Bruce and Hamish Dean



**Brass Wanganui  
B Grade Champions 2009**

**For the record, our solo and party events results at Napier 2009**

<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Fourth</b>
Jay Neal. 65+ age group Masters	Jay Neal Masters	David Maas Championship Cornet	Kyle Lawson Junior Cornet
Hamish Dean Open Trombone	Gavin Herdman Open Eb Bass	Tanya Lynne Junior horn/Baritone	Hamish Jellyman Open Eupho
	Keiran Smith Junior Cornet		Stacey Randles Junior Eupho
	Mathew Taylor Junior Trombone		Anthony Kerr Junior Horn/ Baritone
	Junior Quartet Kyle Lawson, Rhys Goodier, Mathew Taylor, Stacey Randles		
	Open Ensemble David Maas, Ben Thompson, Corrina Hunt, Jay Neal, Hamish Jellyman, Chris Scudder, Rebecca Maas.		
<b>Band Results</b>	<b>Band Results</b>		
B Grade Hymn "I Know Thou Art Mine" 96 points	Own choice "Shine As the Light" 146 points		
Test piece "Spectrum" 145.5 points			
Street March "Castell Coch"			
B Grade aggregate Championship			

Thanks to all those who helped in so many different ways.

Cheers till next time

Barry