

## President's Report 2016-17

(Incorporating Band Sergeant's Report)

Thank you for the opportunity to present this, my third report as President of the City of Burnie Brass Band.

We have enjoyed another year marked with a wide variety of engagements and playouts. The participation of the band in the New Years Day carnival was a particular highlight. The commitment by the band to the seasonal concerts in St Georges church is helping to build an appreciative audience for our endeavours.

An obvious highlight for the year was the performance of the band at the National Championships at Easter in Launceston. Placing first in the own choice section was a fantastic achievement and testimony to the skill level of our members and due reward for the hard work put into preparing for the contest. The second placing achieved by Michael in the Euphonium solo is suitable recognition of the individual brilliance of one of our most outstanding players. I have spoken before about Michael standing alongside visiting professional musicians and certainly not being outshone and his individual achievement in this contest was outstanding. It is also worth noting the second placing by the quintet in the ensemble section ably led by Ian. A great accomplishment to Ian, Natasha, Nathan, Michael and Ken.

While talking about Michael, it is enjoyable to see his work with the kids and others in the development band assisted by members of the senior band. They are a small group of small kids, but they continue to improve and as they physically begin to grow they will benefit from the tuition they are receiving. Thanks to Michael and all those who help out in this area.

Discussions with UTAS and the council regarding the future home of the band remain a work somewhat in progress. The committee sought assurance from council during the year as to the nature of our proposed new home and have been promised something that is better or equal to what we currently enjoy. Plans have not been forthcoming to this stage but we believe that we have given sufficient information to UTAS for them to get on with the planning process and provide some clarity around our future

A big thank you to all on the committee for your efforts throughout the year. It has proven a bit tricky at times to get everyone's schedules to line up for meetings. Organizations such as ours don't just run themselves, and my gratitude particularly goes to Rebecca as secretary and Tanya coming in as treasurer this year with the work put into the administrative side of our band. The work in tidying up some bank accounts and getting the electronic payment system sorted has been a bit arduous but necessary and I believe will be beneficial to the band moving forward.

The playout calendar continues to fill out and no doubt it will be another busy year for members of the band enjoying our shared hobby.

Andrew Bentley