



# City of Burnie Brass Band Inc.

PO BOX 288, Burnie, 7320  
burniebrass@gmail.com  
0437259332

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12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **132<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SECRETARY REPORT**

The 2022/2023 year has been another dynamic year for the City of Burnie Brass Band. Despite some significant challenges, on balance, it is a year that we can all be very proud of, and a year in which we have much to be thankful for.

As we saw in the 2021/2022 financial year, we have continued to see significant growth in our membership and the musicianship of our players. This was evident during the Burnie Eisteddfod, with the Band entering in both the *18 & Under* and *13 & Under Band or Orchestra Sections*, in addition to the *Open Band or Orchestra*, *Open Chamber Music*, and *Stage Band sections*. We also had several of our players compete in both the *Brass Solo* and *Teacher/Student Duets* and we thank Del Polden for her hard-work in preparing so many young players for this experience.

As the Band continues to grow, we are excited to be introducing a fourth group to our program with *Brass Starters* in 2024 for absolute beginners. As part of this, we will be running both a youth and adult session. Already we have players locked in for these groups which is wonderful.

Throughout the year, the City of Burnie Brass Band have continued to maintain strong partnerships with both the Salvation Army and the Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden and we thank both of these organisations for their support.

As outlined in the Presidents report, the Band has maintained a very full calendar of programs and our calendar moving into the next financial year is already incredibly busy as we prepare to perform with the Melbourne Staff Band and compete in the Tasmanian State Band Championships at the end of October. We have also begun planning for a series of summer performances. Next week, we are fortunate to have the Victorian State Youth Brass Band joining us for some combined workshops and performances.

In closing, I would like to thank the committee for their exceptional behind the scenes work that helps to ensure we are able to keep making such positive gains. A special thanks goes particularly to those, both on and off the committee, who have been heavily involved in meetings to navigate negotiations with the Burnie City Council. While the outcomes thus far may not have been those we anticipated, we are exceptionally grateful for the warm and supportive way in which the Burnie Salvation Army have welcomed us into their home and set us at ease. There really are no words to convey just how much they have done for us, and continue to do for us, and how grateful we are for their care. More than simply function, they have provided us with the opportunity to be able to grow and expand our offerings in order to support even more people within the community. As a Band, at every level and very much including all of our parents and supporters, we have grown closer and stronger together through the challenges we have faced. The future is certainly very bright and filled with possibility.

We look forward to more exciting adventures in the months ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

Rebecca Wells  
SECRETARY