



City of Burnie Brass Band Inc.

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21st September 2024

133rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SECRETARY REPORT

The 2023/2024 year has been an exciting and positive time of growth for the City of Burnie Brass Band. We have settled well into life at the Burnie Salvation Army and, with thanks to their generous support, encouragement and partnership, we have seen the Band continue to thrive.

As we have seen each year since the 2021/2022 financial year, we have continued to see significant growth in our membership and the musicianship of our players. This was once again evident during the Burnie Eisteddfod, with the Band entering and winning the *13 & Under Band or Orchestra Sections* for the second year in a row, in addition to the *Open Band or Orchestra*, *Open Chamber Music*, and *Stage Band sections*. We again 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.

Our *Brass Starters* program for absolute beginners has made a strong start, and the addition of many individual and small group tuition sessions has seen our players make rapid progress this year. Thank you to all those who have been involved with these sessions and especially to Natasha Faasee for her continuation of the Bold as Brass Medal Program, having taken this role on from Del Polden earlier in 2024. Thank you to Del for her work in establishing this program that has become integral to the progress and development of our young players. It is wonderful to hear so many of our young players thinking ahead, striving for their next badge/medal and making comments like “when we get to Development Band...” or “when I’m in Senior Band...”.

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 for the Tasmanian State Band Championships next week and look ahead for the Spring/Summer playout season.

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. I would also like to L.C. Webb, Leeanne Sturzaker and Glenda Sherriff for their dedicated support to our young players on Tuesday nights. “Break time” is quite the production, and these ladies ensure that it always runs smoothly. They also play an incredibly important pastoral care role for our young players who very much treasure the time spent playing games, completing craft projects, and engaging in general conversations. To see the impact these ladies are having with many of our players is very special indeed. Finally, I would like to thank our dedicated parents who have provided support with many organisational task for the band – organising music folders, fundraising initiatives, set up/pack up at playouts, co-ordinating children at playouts just to name a few examples.

Yours Sincerely,

Rebecca Wells
SECRETARY