



WA FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES CONCERT BAND
WELCOMES YOU TO OUR



100th Anniversary Concert

GOVERNMENT HOUSE BALLROOM

SATURDAY 21ST OF NOVEMBER 2020

CONCERT 2:30PM



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services Concert Band is pleased to welcome all of our guests this afternoon to celebrate this important milestone in the band's history. It is perhaps ironic we had to postpone this celebration because of the COVID-19 pandemic when the band was formed as the effects of the Spanish flu pandemic were still being felt.

Who would have expected amongst the group of returned servicemen from the First World War that the band would, one hundred years later, be continuing to serve the community we love as the Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services (WAFES) Concert Band? However the band you see in front of you is considerably different from the original band in instrumentation and with a more diverse membership reflective of the great changes that have occurred in our society.

As you can see from our displays, the band has evolved from its inception as the Band of 44th Battalion Association to be known as the Returned Soldiers League (RSL) Memorial Band, BP Brass Band, RSL Memorial Band (again) and TVW Channel 7 Brass before adding woodwind instruments to become the Channel 7 Concert Band, Perth Concert Band and WAFES Concert Band.

The band's first engagements included playing at the unveiling of the memorial for the 10th Light Horse Regiment in Kings Park by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frances Newdegate on Sunday 13 March 1920, performing in a fundraising concert for the Mount Lawley-North Perth RSL sub-branch in the Lyceum Theatre, now known as the Astor Theatre on Thursday 19 June 1920, and playing at several events during the visit of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales in early-July 1920.

The band's ongoing success is due in no small part to the dedicated voluntary service of its many members and its music directors. Sir Charles Court, the former Western Australian Premier is arguably one of the most noteworthy former members of the band who served with distinction as a National champion cornet player, committee member and music director in the band's early days.

Today's celebration would not be possible without the efforts of all involved in bringing the event to fruition, especially the working party led by Sam Knowles. Thank you all! The band is proud to continue its traditions in serving our community today as the Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services Concert Band, and is looking forward to further serving you in the years ahead.

Robert McCormack
President

OUR STORY 1920 - 2020



1920 - 1958

Formed in 1920 by the 44th Battalion Association with returned Australian Infantry Force soldiers, from any unit, the band was named the **44th Battalion Band**. After performing for a number of years the name was changed in 1923 to the **Returned Soldiers League (RSL) Memorial Band** - calling it a memorial band allowed sons and returned soldiers to play together.

1958 - 1973

After almost 40 years as the RSL band, due to a shortage of funds the band negotiated a sponsorship agreement with the BP Refinery (Kwinana) with the RSL's blessing. In 1958 a new music director was appointed and the band was renamed **BP Brass Band**.



1973 - 1990

Briefly after the BP sponsorship had ended in 1972 the band reverted to the name of **RSL Memorial Band** and the RSL provided the band a place to rehearse. In 1973 the band was approached by Channel 7 who were hoping to add a band to their line up. The band became known as the **TVW Channel 7 Brass Band**, later adding woodwinds to become the **TVW Channel 7 Concert Band**.

1990 - 2015

After 17 years with Channel 7 the sponsorship ended with Channel 7 citing hard times in the television industry. At this time the band branched out on its own as the **Perth Concert Band**.



2015 - NOW

In 2015 the band began a new association with the Department of Fire & Emergency Services becoming **Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services Concert Band** performing at Fire Fighter Graduations, Fire Fighter Memorial Day and many other events proudly representing the Department of Fire & Emergency Services.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

BIDGOOD Sons of the Brave

arr **ADES** Twentiana

MENDELSSOHN arr **SEARS** Hebrides Overture (Fingals Cave)

BADELT arr **WASSON** Symphonic Suite from Pirates of the Caribbean

KANDER arr **RICKETTS** Selections from Chicago

HESS Shelter Island from East Coast Pictures

INTERVAL

ALFORD On the Quarter Deck

SCRIABIN arr **REED** Nocturne

KONDO arr **HOSHIDE** Super Mario Bros

OFFENBACH Orpheus in the Underworld

MENKEN arr **OSTERLING** Be Our Guest

MENKEN arr **BOCOOK** Friend Like Me

TCHAIKOVSKY arr **WILLIAMS** 1812 Overture

ON STAGE

MUSIC DIRECTOR Peter Moore OAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES Richard Offen

PICCOLO

Kristin Gibbon

FLUTE

Michelle Bell

Ros Cleverley

Rainbow Tsang

Dafina Bokshi

Sam Knowles

Naomi Smith ^

OBOE

Leanne Pearce

Danielle Wroblewski ^

E♭ CLARINET

Tracy Goodwin

B♭ CLARINET

Glenda Husk

Megan Born

James Colvin ~

Hannan Dempsey

David Pham

Catriona Ferguson ^

Wayne Griffiths ~

Ivan Roy ^

BASS CLARINET

Anne Kuuse

Samantha Dawson

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Scott Devereux

Rod Bell

Bronwyn Innes

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Dee Moore

Stuart Campbell ^

BARI SAXOPHONE

Graham Minchin *

Rudy Serra

BASSOON

Jake Busby

TRUMPET

Andrew Eaglesham

David Cusworth ^

Robert McCormack

John Wynne

Mandy Bullows

Emily Dempsey-Lees ^

David Paine

FRENCH HORN

Ted Tait

Lucie Alexander ~

Jim Gunson ^

Catherine Gunson ~

EUPHONIUM

Gay Baker

Lloyd Baker

Graeme Catchpole

TROMBONE

Amy Roscoe

Bradley Jones

BASS TROMBONE

Wafi Zainal

TUBA

Philip Wingate

STRING BASS

Brandon Preap

PERCUSSION

Jorden Allen-Barr

Mel Costall

Kurt Lietch

Jen Winley ~

BASS DRUM

Peter Cobb ~

James Martin ~

ABOUT THE MUSIC

BIDGOOD *Sons of the Brave*

George S Mellor was the second music director for our band but arguably made one of the biggest contributions. George acted as conductor for a combined 21 years and remained a member until 1946 when he passed. This is Georges' favourite march, the band played this in the 1946 ANZAC Parade to honour him and today we do the same.

MENDELSSOHN arr. SEARS *Hebrides Overture*

Chris Sears was appointed as the music director of Perth Concert Band in 1997. Chris was awarded life membership for his contribution to the band and is still an active supporter of the band albeit from France. This arrangement of the Hebrides Overture is very special to the band as it was arranged by Chris especially for the band. It was requested by Chris and many band members that we play this special piece today to celebrate Chris's contribution to the band.

HESS *Shelter Island from East Coast Pictures*

Warwick Potter was appointed as the music director in 2006 to fill the big shoes left by Chris. Warwick brought a wealth of knowledge to the band and a range of different pieces. Warwick's favourite piece to play with the band was the East Coast Pictures set. Today we play his pick from the three movements, Shelter Island.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

ALFORD *On The Quarter Deck*

On The Quarter Deck is a classic navy march, which is why it has been selected for performance today by both our previous music director Kevan Thomas and our current assistant music director Ted Tait both ex-navy musicians. Kevan was appointed as music director of the RSL Band in 1973 after responding to an advertisement for a new bandmaster. Ted joined the band in 2015 when the band became the Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services Concert Band.

SCRIABIN arr REED *Nocturne*

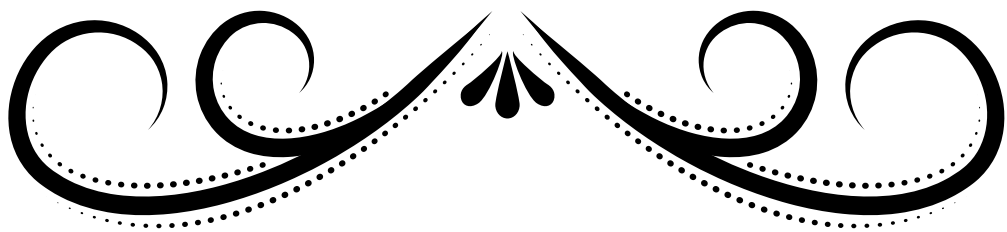
Mrs Joan Larner served as the bands Secretary for 10 years while her husband Ray Larner was the music director. For today's celebrations Joan has selected Nocturne arranged by Alfred Reed. Ray enjoyed all things Alfred Reed and the band was privileged enough to play this piece with Alfred Reed in 1988. Many current members look back at the time that Mr and Mrs Larner were involved with the band with fond memories. Joan is currently a life member and we are fortunate enough to have with us here today to celebrate.

OFFENBACH *Overture to Orpheus in the Underworld*

Wally Cooke was appointed as the music director when the band became BP Brass in 1959. Wally worked for the BP Oil Refinery in Kwinana and was instrumental in the band receiving sponsorship from BP. Wally Cooke's son, Roy recalls that Wally's favourite piece for the band to play was Orpheus of the Underworld and Wally would sing the opening bars from memory.

TCHAIKOVSKY arr WILLIAMS *1812 Overture*

The 1812 Overture is a blockbuster finale which is why it is the choice of our music director, Peter Moore, to close out our historic anniversary. Joining the band in 2011 as music director, Peter, has improved the band's musicality and has pushed the band out of their comfort zone to try new things.



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Government House 'Restart the Arts' Initiative

WA Symphonic Wind Ensemble

City of Perth Band

WA State Library

Ellenbrook Men's Shed

Army Museum of WA

DFES Education and Heritage Centre

All members past & present who have contributed to the memories
with photos and stories

Our wonderful volunteers who have made the event possible

For our lovely badges

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