



Volume 3 Issue 1

May 2006

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ENSEMBLE A REALITY

The long awaited introduction of ensemble adjudication at pipe band contests in Australia has almost arrived. Ontario's Robert Worrall attended the recent Australian Championships in Melbourne where a number of bands were exposed to his comments regarding their ensemble performances under contest conditions.

No points were allocated as this was an exercise designed to raise band awareness of the demands which will become mandatory at the next National Championship to be held in 2008.

Branch Forums

The various forums varied - at some branches attendance was mainly from adjudication panels, to having an attendance from a high proportion of band personnel. It is felt that all were to gain valuable knowledge from this speaker who has very extensive experience in relation to the subject of ensemble.

Accreditation

In the meantime much work will need to be done ensuring that adjudicators are able to gain the necessary qualifications in theory and practice

to gain the necessary accreditation for National and Branch panels.

Accreditation will involve an examination process based on a published syllabus - models are being looked at.

There may well be some among us who possess qualifications recognised by the Association - claims for recognition will be considered.

The Contest Scene

It is reasonable to expect that trial ensemble adjudication will soon become a reality at contests throughout Australia. Trials will not only be for bands - they will be for adjudicators as well.

The NSW Branch are taking steps to introduce ensemble at contests to increase awareness by both bands and adjudicators prior to the mandatory introduction in 2008

Training & Resources

The Queensland Branch has been preparing an "Ensemble Adjudicator's Handbook" - this publication will soon be available to all interested parties.

Bob featured in forums in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney - logistics prevented visits to branches in Tasmania and Western Australia - the professional produc-

tion on DVD of the Adelaide forum has made that presentation to those Branches. Individual bands and would be adjudicators will find access to it a valuable educational tool.

This DVD features -

- ♦ Excellent presentation by Bob Worrall;
- ♦ Excellent sound with no interference from audience;
- ♦ Very clear image;
- ♦ Playing time approx 2 hrs. - can be viewed as five separate "chapters";
- ♦ Text graphics are superimposed [no need for overhead projector].

Notes are included to present the text of the graphics - making the parcel ideal for use with and within bands. Copies of "Ensemble Adjudication with Bob Worrall" on DVD are available through the Association at a cost of \$25.00, postage paid.

* * * * *

DVD
AVAILABLE
NOW

ENSEMBLE ADJUDICATION
with
BOB WORRALL



See Page 6
inside



PIPE BANDS AUSTRALIA LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

Details Page 7

2006 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The National Championships were conducted at Ringwood on 5th March 2006. As the normal venue was unavailable it was necessary to utilize the grounds of the Maroondah Secondary College. A total of 29 bands competed in Grades 1 - 4, a further five competed in juvenile.

Placings are as follows -

Grade 1

1st Australia Highlanders;
2nd Q'land Highlanders;
3rd City of Blacktown #1.

Grade 2

1st St Mary's NSW;
2nd Clayton RSL;
3rd Canberra Burns Club.

Grade 3

1st Univ. of Ballarat;
2nd Warrnambool;
3rd City of Blacktown #2.

Grade 4

1st Haileybury College;
2nd City of Melbourne #2;
3rd Frankston RSL.

Juvenile

1st Haileybury College;
2nd City of Blacktown;
3rd Scots College NSW.



Alex McCormick World Champion 1947
Life Member RSPBA 2005
Chieftain APBA 2005

The event was well attended despite the very hot conditions and the scarcity of shade for competitors and spectators alike.

Unfortunately Chieftain Alex McCormick was unable to attend as he had to have some "running repairs" done to his pacemaker - we certainly hope that all is well now.

The RNZPBA President - Ian Blakeley was in attendance and it was possible to have the "South Pacific Pipe Band Championship" agreement renewed being signed by the Presidents of both National Associations



MUSIC THEORY WEBSITE

An important element of playing bagpipes and drums is the ability to read and understand music and its theoretical construction.

This foreign language is often a challenge at best and total confusion at worst. Yet without it the player relies on others to just get by. While some play by ear or a variety of other methods to learn a piece of music they are unable to progress on their own.

A website has been found to aide players in the understanding of this com-

plex part of your chosen hobby.

www.musictheory.net



This site is a great resource for those keen to learn about music theory. The drop down box called "Lessons" is the beginning of music theory lessons.

The first 6 categories titled:-

- Staff Clefs and Ledger Lines
- Note Duration
- Measures and Time Signatures
- Rest Durations
- Dots and Ties
- Simple and Compound Metre

Are the ones most beneficial and applicable in helping pipers and drummers understand the complexities of music theory.

Really, beyond this point, it branches out into a more detailed and through explanation of "Western Music"

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

[Thanks to Viv Riley - W A Branch - for this contribution.

Editor]



NEWS IN BRIEF

Bankstown #1 now Grade 3

The National Grading Committee has accepted the recommendation of the NSW Branch Grading Committee that the Bankstown RS&L CC Pipes & Drums be allocated to Grade 3 for competition to take effect from 8th May 2006.

It is understood that the band intends to compete at the World's later this year - we wish them every success with this venture.

Branch Regulation Updated

All Branch Secretaries will have received an updated version of the **"Branch Constitution Regulation - 1999 - 2006"**.

All should now be aware that this is the version to work from.

5 Bands to attend the WORLD'S

The Association is aware that there will be at least five Australina bands competing at the World's.

As well as **Bankstown RS&L CC Pipes & Drums**, the NSW Branch is being well represented by **City of Blacktown Grades 1, 3 & 4**, who are travelling to Glasgow..

Western Australia Branch will have the **City of Cockburn** competing.

The Association wishes you all every success in your venture

Warrnambool Workshop

This event seems to be growing in popularity from year to year and the benefit to all attending pipers and drummers is immeasurable.

The Association President [Greg Gordon] attended once again and was able to make many aware that the release of **"Ensemble with Bob Worrall"** on DVD is imminent - See page 6 to order.



National Registrar Expressions of Interest

APBA Council plans to centralise the operation of the Membership and Registration database and the associated collection of subscriptions. Consequently, expression of interest is being sought from members willing to be appointed as Registrar for APBA.

In the position of National registrar, the occupant would need to have:

- Clear understanding of the rules of the Association, particularly those related to Membership and Registration;
- Proficiency in operating a Microsoft Access Database;
- Sufficient time to cope with the demands of the position [this would be most pertinent during the registration renewal period]; and
- Skills and reliability to manage the collection and banking of subscriptions.

If the person also had skills in the construction of Microsoft Access Databases, consideration would be given to appointment as assistant to the database developer.

Expressions of interest, supported by evidence of the prospective appointee's abilities related to the above attributes, should be submitted by **30th June 2006** to:

APBA Inc Secretary
Brian Edmonds
PO Box 1061
Oxley QLD 4075

Queensland Branch Championships

The Maryborough Caledonian Society is celebrating its 80th anniversary and will be hosting the Branch Championship for the first time.

The event will be held over the weekend 17th and 18th June with solo events on Saturday and bands on the Sunday.

Wanting to include Ensemble?

Should promoters wish to have ensemble included at contests before its mandatory introduction at the National Championships in 2008 - they must ensure that -

- An accredited ensemble adjudicator is engaged, and
- All bands entered for the contest have signified their agreement to ensemble forming part of the aggregate score, and
- Prior advice is given to the Association, and
- The requirements of the current **Australian Pipe Band Contest Regulation** (to be read in conjunction with **"Proposed Changes to the Contest Regulation"** - attached to minutes of 2005 Adelaide Conference) are followed.

Note:

At present there are no accredited ensemble adjudicators at either National or Branch level. Arrangements are in progress for the necessary training and accreditation of personnel from the National panel, and this will have subsequent effect on Branch panels.





Royal New Zealand Pipe Band Championships Dunedin 2007

Newsletter No 1

March 2006

When

*The 2007 National Pipe Band Championships will be held on
Friday 9th March and Saturday 10th March 2007*

Where

Dunedin - Edinburgh of the South

The Committee have chosen the University Oval, Logan Park Drive in the North of Dunedin. This is the same ground that was used very successfully in 1999.

Accommodation

All accommodation is to be done through the Contest Committee. Enclosed is a Preliminary Information return form. As this is an extremely busy time in Dunedin it would be in your band's interests to return this form as soon as possible so that we can make the necessary arrangements for you.

Notice

IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE ANY REPLY FROM YOUR BAND THEN YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION.

Contact Secretary

Maureen Hurrell

34 Beaconsfield Road, Portobello, Dunedin

Phone: 03-478-0676

Mobile: 027-220-6478

Email: hurrellm@extra.co.nz

New Zealand Pipe Band Championships - Dunedin

Friday 9th and Saturday 10th March 2007

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION RETURN

**TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL BANDS INTENDING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
2007 NEW ZEALAND PIPEBAND CHAMPIONSHIPS AT DUNEDIN**

Name of Band: Grade

Secretary's Name:

Address:

.....

Phone: Home:..... Work:Email:.....

TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION PREFERRED *(please tick)*

Hotel Licensed

Motel Unlicensed

Camping Ground Meals Service

Other *(please specify)*.....

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BANDSPERSONS AND SUPPORTERS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATION

Single Bed: Male Female

Double Bed: Total People

Will you require a Band Host? YES / NO

PLEASE RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE BEFORE 1ST JUNE 2006 TO

Maureen Hurrell

2007 Contest Committee

34 Beaconsfield Road

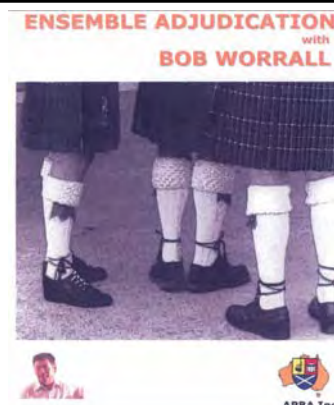
Portobello

DVD Order Form

DVD: "Ensemble Adjudication with Bob Worrall"

Price: \$25.00 AUD (including post within Australia).

Please supply ____ copy/copies to:



Name

Postal Address

Postal Address

City/Suburb

State

Postcode

Telephone/Email

Method of Payment:

Cheque

☐

Cash

☐

Money Order

☐

Amount of payment enclosed: AUD \$ _____

Please remit Order and Payment to:

APBA Inc Secretary
Brian Edmonds
PO Box 1061
Oxley QLD 4075

For overseas orders, please contact secretary@pipebands.asn.au for quotation.

Australian Pipe Band
Association Inc

P.O. Box 1061
OXLEY 4075
Queensland.

Phone; +617 3375 3443
Fax: +617 3375 3443
Email: secretary@pipebands.asn.au



We're on the web
www.pipebands.asn.au

2006 Dates & Musical Requirements for Major Championships in Scotland

Scottish Championships 20th May - Dumbarton

Novice Juvenile Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Grade 4 Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Juvenile - MSR; **Grade 3** - Medley
Grade 2 - MSR (submit 2); **Grade 1** - Medley (submit 2)

British Championships 24th June - Pitlochry

Novice Juvenile Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Grade 4 Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Juvenile - Medley; **Grade 3** - MSR
Grade 2 - Medley (submit 2); **Grade 1** - MSR (submit 2)

European Championships 29th July - Greenock

Novice Juvenile Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Grade 4 Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Juvenile - Medley; **Grade 3** - MSR
Grade 2 - Medley **Grade 1** - MSR (submit 2)

World Championships 12th August - Glasgow

Novice Juvenile Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Grade 4 Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Juvenile - Medley; **Grade 3** - MSR
Grade 2 - Medley ; **Grade 1** - MSR and Medley (submit 2)

Cowal Championships 26th August - Dunoon

Novice Juvenile Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Grade 4 Final - Selection in Quick March Rhythm
Juvenile - MSR; **Grade 3** - Medley
Grade 2 - MSR (submit 2); **Grade 1** - Medley (submit 2)



Monument - Glasgow Green

Source RSPBA "Pipe Band" April 2006

LOGO COMPETITION—WIN \$200.00 + memento

At the Adelaide conference the Council agreed to adopt the trading name "**PIPE BANDS AUSTRALIA**". An interim logo was adopted [included in the masthead of this publication] but it was agreed that members and other interested parties might wish to submit their ideas of a design for the logo.

Accordingly the APBA Council invites interested parties to submit a graphic design for a logo using the title "**PIPE BANDS AUSTRALIA**" as its centrepiece. A prize of \$200.00 is offered together with a memento for the design chosen for use by the Association. Please see website www.pipebands.asn.au for full details.

All entries should be submitted by 30th June 2006 and will become the property of the Association.

PLEASE SUBMIT ENTRIES TO -

The Secretary

APBA Inc

P.O. Box 1061

OXLEY Q 4075



A view of Edinburgh Castle