

2010 New Zealand Brass Band Championships

The 2010 New Zealand Brass Band Championships were held in Dunedin in July, and hosted by the three local bands – St Kilda Brass, Kaikorai Metropolitan Brass, and Mosgiel Brass. Unfortunately, none of the local bands were able to gain places in their respective aggregate competitions, although the members of St Kilda were thoroughly pleased with their performance of Kevin Norbury's *Odyssey* in the Own Choice section. This was followed on the final day of the championships by a performance in the *Band of the Year* event. Although the band did not win this event, it put on a very entertaining programme, opening with Lionel Ritchie's *All Night Long* and featuring singing from Gladys Hope and tap dancing from Gina Miles and Melinda Joe, and ending with a bang with Paul Lovatt-Cooper's *Walking with Heroes*.



Several members and ex-members of St Kilda competed successfully in the solo and part events earlier in the contest, with the following results:

Rosie Evans – 1st Junior Flugel; **John McAdam** – 3rd Open Baritone; **Rene Spoor** – 3rd Open Bb Bass; **John Lewis** (representing Dalewood Auckland Brass) – 1st Championship Cornet; **Tim Walsh** (Pelorus Trust Wellington Brass, formerly St Kilda) – 2nd Open Tenor Trombone, 1st Open Ensemble A.

More nationals news

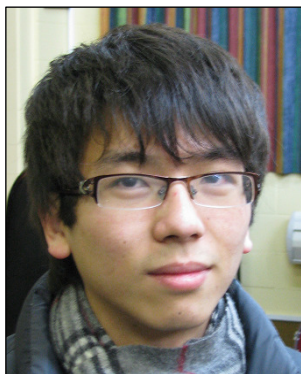
Marching cancelled

For the first time in 13 years, and apparently only the third time in history, the parade of bands at this year's national contest was cancelled. This was due to a morning of on-and-off rain, causing slippery roads and an unpredictable afternoon's weather.

Thank you

The band thanks all members and supporters who donated food and time during the national contest to cater for the needs of the many judges. Deserving of the most thanks are Kerry Evans, who was in charge of the arrangements, Patricia Gentle, Kimberley Johnston, Te Ao Rangihuna and especially Pane Bryant, who worked all through the solos, and looked after the C and D grade venue by herself. Over \$1,000 was raised for the band from this endeavour.

Welcome



The band would like to welcome Jimmy Tiong. Jimmy is a Dunedin local, in his third year studying medicine at the University of Otago. He joined our cornet section earlier in the year, and is among a few of our younger members who recently performed in their first national contest.

We'd also like to welcome the six newest members of our growing list of supporters: Karen and Peter Thomson, Garry and Sue Heaton, and Les and Margaret Cleveland. As well as wishing to become involved with the band and its future activities, these people have indicated that they would be willing to help with concerts, catering arrangements, and generally being there to support the band.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a supporter, contact Dot Brieseman at dottie.brieseman@clear.net.nz or on (03) 489 7575. Remember, now that St Kilda Brass (Incorporated) is a registered charity, you can claim tax credits from Inland Revenue for your donations.

Obituary – Bill Fraser

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Bill Fraser recently, after a long illness. Bill learned to play the cornet in the Kaikorai Band and then switched to St Kilda. He was chosen to play in the 1953 National Band of New Zealand, which toured England, and was successful in winning the Belle Vue Contest in Manchester. Bill came back to New Zealand and played for St Kilda, then business took him to Invercargill, and then Oamaru. Bill was prominent in Rotary and local politics in Oamaru and after his retirement he moved to Wanaka, then because of his health settled in Christchurch. Bill was always interested in brass bands and supported anything worthwhile for the brass band movement. Although never actively a member of the Woolston Band, some members of Woolston, joined by several of his friends from the 1953 National Band, played hymns at Bill's funeral. They appropriately played Cwym Rhonda, a favourite of the 1953 band, and Bill's favourite march, Invercargill, as the casket was carried out of the service.

National Secondary Schools' Brass Band 2010

Two of our front row cornet players, Rosie Evans and Kalie Eathorne-Gould, are pleased to have been selected again to play in the National Secondary Schools Brass Band. Kalie has been selected on second cornet, and Rosie on flugelhorn. They are two of only a handful of players selected from the south.

This year, the course will be held in Brightwater, near Nelson, in October. The band will be directed by Mick Dowrick (Nelson City Brass, Nelson Symphony Orchestra) and Nick Sharpe (director of the Nelson Brass Academy, Tasman Brass Ensemble).

Concerts will be performed at the Theatre Royal in Nelson. Repertoire performed will include music from Henry VIII, all the way to music from the soundtrack to the movie *The Incredibles*.

We wish Rosie and Kalie the best of luck and look forward to a report from them after the course.

Class Act – Kalie Eathorne-Gould

(From *The Otago Daily Times*, Wednesday 25 August)

The study of music and mutations are the building blocks of Kalie Eathorne-Gould's (17) world.

The Kavanagh College pupil is an accomplished musician, but she is also the school's top female maths and science pupil and hopes to create a career in genetics.

"There are people out there who suffer from disease caused by genetic mutations. It would be life-fulfilling to be able to help those people."

Her academic transcript puts her in good stead, with excellence endorsements in NCEA levels 1 and 2.

Kalie is a cornet player in the St Kilda Brass Band and the New Zealand Secondary Schools Brass Band, and plays trumpet in the Dunedin Youth Orchestra and Octagon City Big Band.

She has achieved Grade 7 in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music cornet and theory examinations, Grade 6 in violin, and Grade 7 (high distinction) in the Saint Cecilia School of Music singing exam.

She was awarded the school's senior Cultural Trophy last year for her performances with the school orchestra, show band, jazz band and Acapella Choir.

Kalie says a highlight of her musical career so far was being selected for the New Zealand Secondary Schools Brass Band last year.

"It was great being around like-minded people. It is the thing I am most proud of."

While music provides challenges for Kalie, it is also her favourite "spare time" activity.

Every teenage girl has a certain amount of angst and emotion, and music is an easy way for her to vent it.

"It's stress relief and it allows me to share how I'm feeling with other people."

Spending almost every night of the week at rehearsals or concerts provides Kalie's greatest challenge.

She says finding time to do school work and music is difficult, but manages to find balance by being well organised and "often working late at night".

Achievements: New Zealand Secondary Schools Brass Band (2009); NCEA levels 1 and 2 with excellence; Print Media prefect (2010), peer support (2010), cultural blues (2008-09); ABRSM Grade 7 cornet and theory, Grade 6 violin; Saint Cecilia School of Music Grade 7 singing with high distinction.

Role model: I admire people who are successful, but humble about it.

Hopes for the future: To study biology and chemistry at the University of Otago.

Review – Brass plus opera just the ticket

(From *The Otago Daily Times*,
Monday 23 August)

If you love opera and like brass bands, or just love brass bands and like opera, then you should have been in the Mayfair audience on Saturday night [21 August] when St Kilda Brass and three opera singers presented "A Night at the Opera".

The band was in great form, and never too loud for the venue, as musical director Steve Miles conducted and compered an excellent programme. Well defined dynamics and mellow tone set the standard, opening with *Grand March* from *Tannhauser* and operatic favourites followed thick and fast until the final riotous arrangement of Offenbach's *Can Can*. The success of this genre fusion is mainly due to discerning arrangements of original orchestral scores. Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances*, arranged by Howard Snell, proved ideal for brass, and *Flower Duet* from *Lakme* by Delibes received subtle soprano and mezzo tones from soprano cornet [Ralph Miller] and cornet [Katie Blair] soloists. A crossover for *In the Depths of the Temple* with baritone [John McAdam] and euphonium [Matthew Toomata] was equally successful. A solo euphonium [Davey Boyes] performance of *Nessun Dorma* accentuated the beauty of melody in this Pavarotti signature tune.

A highlight was another Snell arrangement – *Procession to the Minster* (Wagner), a powerful work with excellent part playing through legato passages and clear melodic enunciation.

Three of Isabel Cunningham's voice students, Christie Cook, Julien Van Mellaerts and Kawiti Waetford, contributed several opera arias – all strong voices and at no time swamped by brass.

Altogether a great evening's entertainment.

Elizabeth Bouman

We would like to thank former member Tim Walsh for flying down from Wellington to help us with the concert on solo trombone. Also thanks to Davey Boyes from Woolston Brass in Christchurch, who sat in the solo euphonium chair and even obliged when asked to perform a solo with the band.

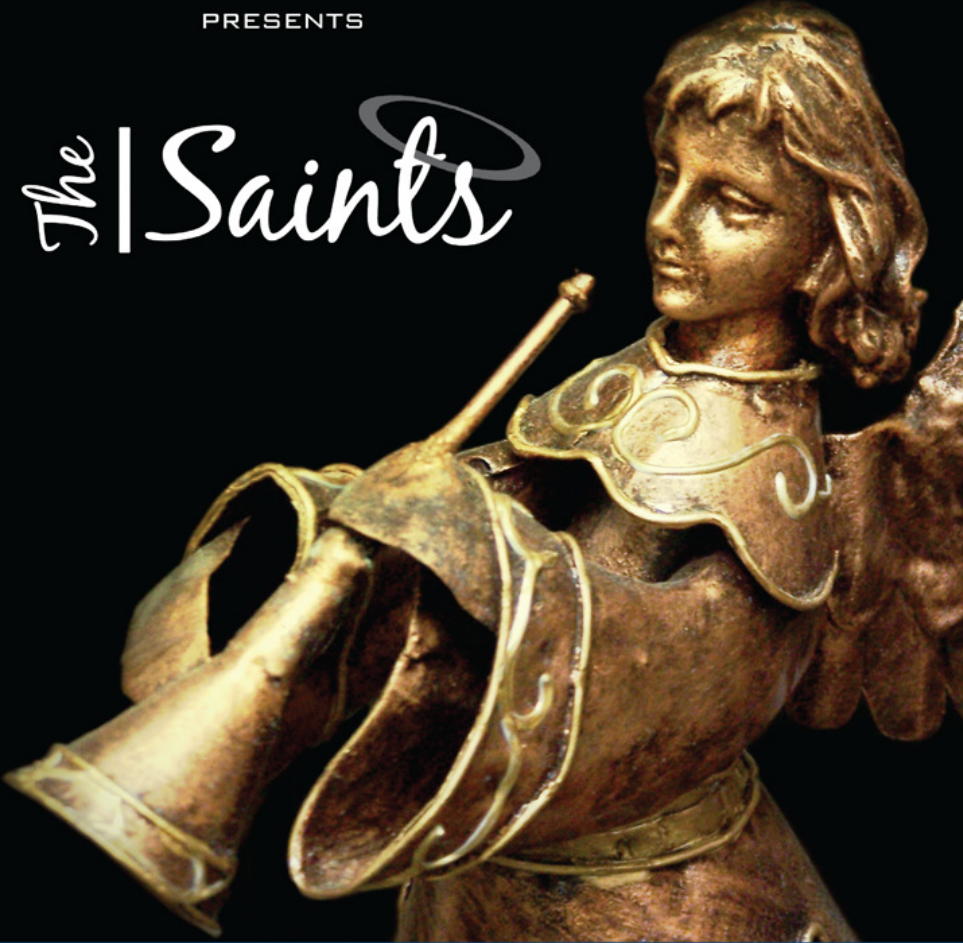
Preview – The Saints

Join us for an intimate evening of variety, featuring an eclectic mix of musical genres, from traditional brass band repertoire and orchestral transcriptions to jazz, film themes and popular music. *The Saints*, on Saturday 2 October at 7:30pm in Knox Church, will celebrate such old favourites as Leon Boellmann's *Suite Gothique*, as well as some modern ones from leading contemporary brass band composer Peter Graham. Music from the jazz world will include works by Cy Oliver and Chick Corea. The band will explore music from film and television, with the theme from the 2006 James Bond film *Casino Royale* and music from the *Doctor Who* series. Modern original works for brass band on the programme will be *Enter the Galaxies*, another exciting and energetic work by Paul Lovatt-Cooper, Derek Broadbent's *Alberta Suite* and Dan Price's *An American Tale* – a salute to traditional American tunes.

Don't miss *The Saints* – 7:30pm, Saturday 2 October, Knox Church

ST KILDA BRASS WITH
CONDUCTOR STEVE MILES
PRESENTS





The Saints



SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER - KNOX CHURCH 7.30PM

An eclectic mix of musical genres from the traditional Brass Band repertoire to Orchestral transcriptions, Organ music, Film music, Popular music & Big Band.

Ticket prices \$25 adults, \$20 concessions, children under 12 free
Tickets available from: Regent Theatre Box Office Ticket Direct
0800 4 TICKET or www.ticketdirect.co.nz (booking fee applies)



St Kilda helps save the Regent

St Kilda Brass was one of a list of 22 acts that provided entertainment at the *Star Regent Variety Concert* on Saturday 12 June. The band played at the end of the four-hour concert, to a full house in the Regent Theatre. With the help of the Rat Pack – Doug Kamo (MC for the evening), Kris Bate and Russell Dixon – the band was able to raise the energy of the audience for a thrilling conclusion. The concert helped raise the tens of thousands of dollars needed (on top of several million) to redevelop the Dunedin icon, and also gave the band a chance to test the venue just before it was used for the national contest.

Important – change of dates to *Rat Pack*

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the band has had to shift its final event for the year, *The Rat Pack Returns*, one week earlier than planned. The new dates for the two concerts are **Friday 12 and Saturday 13 November**. Those of you who enjoyed the sell-out *Swing with the Rat Pack* last year – and those who missed out – will love the combination of singing, humour, and big, brassy sound. Look out for more information in the near future, and don't miss out!