



# Encore!

Official Newsletter of the Croydon Citizens' Bands Inc – Celebrating 40 years in 2002

## MAROONDAH COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES RECEIVES COUNCIL SUPPORT

**T**he Croydon Citizens' Bands has received \$3,000 from the Maroondah City Council to organise and host the Maroondah Community Concert Series to celebrate the organisation's 40th birthday.

The series will consist of six concerts throughout the year featuring many of Maroondah's musical organisations, including the Croydon Citizens' Bands, Ringwood Band, Maroondah Symphony Orchestra, Maroondah Singers and many of the most talented artists and ensembles from Maroondah's secondary schools.

Venues for the concerts will include local theatres such as the Karralyka, and performing arts centres at local secondary schools. It is hoped that the final concert will be held at Maroondah's premier performance venue, the George Wood Performing Arts Centre at Yarra Valley Anglican

### ENCORE IS BACK!

After an extended absence, **ENCORE** has returned!

The Croydon Citizens' Bands produced four editions of **encore** during 1998 and 1999, but without a regular editor, it became too difficult to maintain.

Members of the Wind Symphony Committee, led by Fiona Billimoria have volunteered to produce **ENCORE** again and will attempt to put out at least four editions of **ENCORE** this year.

School.

This final concert is to be the Croydon Citizens' Bands 40th Anniversary Concert and will celebrate our humble beginnings and our growth into the strong community music organisation we have today.

This fantastic project will be managed by a team of volunteers led by the Croydon Citizens' Bands Main Committee and in particular President Ian Douglas and Treasurer David Billimoria, assisted by the Band committees.

Planning for the event has already started and dates for the concerts are expected to be announced at the beginning of February 2002.

Volunteers to assist with the management of the event are urgently required and anyone interested should contact Ian Douglas on 9729 1508 or David Billimoria on 0407 569 803.

The aim of **ENCORE** is to inform our members, friends and supporters of our activities and report on events and happenings within the bands. That way, everyone will know what is being done throughout the organisation.

If you have an article to contribute or want to make a suggestion, please forward your ideas to Fiona Billimoria. We are also looking for advertising, so if there is something you want to tell everyone about, let us know!

Official Newsletter of the  
Croydon Citizens' Bands Inc  
PO BOX 196  
Croydon 3136

Summer 2001-02

### Special Points of interest:

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- ☺ Presidential Prelude
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The Croydon Citizens' Bands are proudly supported by the City of Maroondah



# BAH HUMBUG! 'TIS THE SEASON ONCE AGAIN!

The Croydon Citizens' Bands undertook a variety of performances during the 2001 Christmas season, most notably at the Mooroolbark and Maroondah Carols by Candlelight.

As in previous years, the Variety/Brass Band performed at the Mooroolbark Carols on the 21st of December and in Croydon Main Street on the 15th of December. This is a wonderful way to bring music directly to our community, and it was pleasing to have positive feedback from passing shoppers. In addition, members of the Wind Symphony were on hand to sell raffle tickets and advertise the Maroondah Carols. Over 100 tickets were sold.

Five members of the Brass Band also assisted the local Salvation Army band in a number of Christmas

performances. What a busy couple of weeks! The Mooroolbark Carols were run under a new format, with a new compere from Eastern FM.

For the fifth consecutive year, the Christmas Hamper Raffle was run, raising around \$750 for Croydon Citizens' Bands. Special thanks to David Billimoria for being the main organiser of this fundraiser. It's great to see so many members of all bands assisting with fundraising, both by donating items for the hampers and selling tickets. Every little bit helps! Let's hope that this year we can improve on our targets.

The Wind Symphony performed at the Maroondah Carols by Candlelight on the 15th of December with the Ringwood Brass Band. This was the first year that the Croydon and Ringwood Carols

have been combined into one event. In spite of freezing conditions there was a large crowd and it was a fun night. As always, a highlight of the night was Santa arriving on his fire truck. Proceeds from the night were shared between the Ringwood Band and Croydon Citizens Bands.

A break-up dinner for the Bands was held at Daisey's Bistro on the 19th of December. Thank you to all who came — I think it was the best attended band event all year! If anyone has any ideas for a venue for this year's break-up, please let me know. I am very eager to promote social functions within the organisation, especially across all bands.

**Fiona Billimoria**

## WIND SYMPHONY TO GET NEW UNIFORMS IN 2002!

During 2001, the Wind Symphony Committee has been looking into developing a new image for the band through the purchase of new uniforms.

Many types of uniforms were considered including blazers, shirts, waistcoats and windcheaters, but in the end, the committee favoured the purchase of double sided waistcoats. The issue of colour was one which

took a long time to debate, but in the end the committee chose to align the colours of the waistcoat with the corporate colours of our major sponsor, the City of Maroondah. As a result, the colour scheme being considered is a waistcoat which is a dark green on one side and a dark gold colour on the other.

Each waistcoat will feature the band logo on it, and the Maroondah City Council is being approached to

determine if the council would be willing to have their logo on the waistcoat as well. Before the final purchase, a sample will be shown to the band for consideration.

The waistcoats are estimated to cost about \$50 each and band members will be required to purchase their own waistcoat which will be theirs to keep. More details about the availability of the waistcoats will be released soon.

## BUNNINGS WAREHOUSE MAKES DONATION TO BANDS!

During the last part of 2001, Bunnings Warehouse in Croydon became a welcome supporter of the Croydon Citizens' Bands.

In November, Bunnings donated two large metal storage containers to the bands for the purpose of storing the band's music stand lights.

The lights represent a significant investment for the bands and the need to store them safely and securely was considered to be an important issue by the main

committee.

As they can now be easily transported in their metal cases, the music stand lights are being made available for hire to local schools, theatre groups, church groups and commercial organisations to assist them with their productions. This will assist in bringing in much needed funding to our organisation. The aim is to hire out the lights at least ten times in 2002.

As an offshoot, Bunnings also requested the Croydon Wind

Symphony to perform at their store in December to play Christmas music. As a result, the bands earned a \$100 gift voucher which we used as the third prize in the Christmas Hamper Raffle which was conducted as part of the Maroondah Carols by Candlelight.

Thank you Bunnings!



# PRESIDENTIAL PRELUDE

Welcome to the New Year with the Croydon Citizens' Bands. Thank you to Fiona and David Billimoria for their hand in producing this newsletter. Communication is very important in any organisation, for it increases every member's understanding and knowledge of the aims, ideals and activities within the group, and we have had various newsletters over the years to assist us in this regard. Sometimes the editors have left us for change in work or circumstances, or have found it difficult to sustain the necessary writing of articles because no one else had time to help. I have always been disappointed on these occasions when newsletter publications have ceased, because I recognise how useful and important

they have been.

We had a satisfactory year in 2001. We were certainly very busy and that goes for all four bands, for even the Junior band performed in public. The Brass band went to its first contest in ten years, and while they didn't win the grade, they gave a very creditable performance. While not everyone wants to contest, the discipline and attention to performance values is of overall benefit. The Wind Symphony has tried a lot of new approaches to getting into the public arena. All have been enjoyable, even if they haven't all put money into the coffers. All bands have slowly increased their numbers, but all bands have plenty of chairs for more members, so don't be backward in inviting players to join us if they don't

have any other affiliation.

What's ahead in 2002? Most importantly it's our 40th birthday, and to mark the occasion we have been successful in obtaining support funding from Maroondah City Council to help us to mount a six concert series throughout the year. These concerts will provide an opportunity for us to perform with other musical organisations from within the City of Maroondah. Organising them is going to be a lot of work, and any help that members can give will be valuable and very much appreciated.

I wish you and your families a happy, busy and rewarding New Year in 2002.

**Ian S. Douglas**

**President — Croydon Citizens' Bands**

## WIND SYMPHONY TO UNDERTAKE BAND CAMP!

At the encouragement of Musical Director, Andrew Mathers, the Wind Symphony is to undertake a band camp at the Castlemaine Gaol over the Australia Day weekend in January 2002.

This is the first time in many years that the band has undertaken a camp of this nature and it is being keenly anticipated by band members and the band committee.

The band camp will run over three days, beginning on Friday evening and

concluding on Sunday afternoon. There will be plenty of time throughout the camp for full rehearsals, sectionals and ensemble practice in preparation for the busy year ahead. However, organisers have been careful to allow for some free time too, so that band members can explore the Castlemaine Gaol and the surrounding towns and wineries.

The camp costs just \$120 for shared rooms or \$138 for double rooms and includes two nights accommodation and

all meals (except Friday Night).

Members who wish to attend need to indicate their attendance and pay before January 21 to the Treasurer, David Billimoria (ph. 0407 569 803).

Even if you haven't been to band for a little while, you are still welcome. Simply contact David and reserve your place ASAP.

We'll provide a full report of band camp happenings in the next edition of ENCORE!

## CONTEST NEWS

The Croydon Brass Band attended its first contest in ten years in September 2001 when it competed at the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod in D Grade. While the band didn't win on the day, it certainly acquitted itself well and was complimented by the President of the Victorian Bands' League for making the return to the contest scene. With a bit of luck, the band will be back to contest again in 2002.

In other news, it now seems that the Wind Symphony will forego the Australian National Band Championships to be held at Easter in Geelong in favour of competing at the 2002 State Concert Band Championships. This will give the band more time to concentrate on other priorities in 2002, like the Maroondah Community Concert Series and concerts with local schools.

## JUNIOR BAND GROWING

The Croydon Junior Band played in two performances towards the end of 2001, confirming its place as an active ensemble within the Croydon Citizens' Bands.

The Junior band undertook its debut performance at the Croydon Library where it earned \$100 for its efforts. Following this, the band played a concert at Keystone Hall for parents and friends of the band, which was also attended by Croydon Citizens' Bands President, Ian Douglas.

There can be no doubt that the band is going to grow from strength to strength in 2002!

# WHAT IS IT THAT WE DO?

Many of our members probably don't know it, but at the start of 2000, the main committee did a lot of work to identify the aims of the Croydon Citizens' Bands in order to guide our activities. After much discussion the main committee adopted the following aims for our organisation:

1. Provide an enjoyable musical, organisational and social environment in which members of the community may participate.
2. Develop ensembles to accommodate musicians of all standards.
3. Provide our members with the opportunity to reach their highest potential in all aspects of music.
4. Engage in regular public performance.
5. Develop a positive relationship with government, business, the media and other musical organisations to enhance the status of music in the community.

As we enter our fortieth year as a community music organisation, our aims remain a key focus for our organisation.

The Maroondah Community Concert series will provide us with a means to contribute to several of our aims, especially in terms of public performance and working with other

organisations in the community.

The continuing development of all our ensembles, including the junior band does lots to ensure that we meet our aim to develop ensembles to accommodate all types of musicians and provide an opportunity for them to reach their potential.

And the varied social activities we undertake each year including the trivia night, band dinners and visits to the pub after rehearsal do wonders in helping our organisation to provide an enjoyable musical, organisation and social environment in which everyone can participate.

Our fortieth birthday celebrations provide us with an opportunity to make sure that we continue to meet our aims and continue to be the vibrant community music organisation that we have become over our lifetime.

It's going to be great fun for everyone!



The Croydon Citizens' Bands Inc



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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 40th Annual General Meeting of the Croydon Citizens' Bands Inc will be held on:

**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2002**

**at 8.00 pm**

at Keystone Hall, Civic Square  
Croydon, 3136

All members, friends and supporters of the Croydon Citizens' Bands Inc are invited to attend to receive the annual report of the organisation. Committee members will be elected and any persons wishing to nominate for a position should speak to President, Ian Douglas.

## Maroondah Community Concert Series

Featuring:

**The Croydon Citizens' Bands**  
**The Ringwood Band**  
**The Maroondah Symphony Orchestra**  
**The Maroondah Singers**  
**and many more...**

**In a fantastic six concert series in Maroondah's premier venues throughout 2002!**

**For more information or to pre-book tickets call 0407 569 803**

Available for hire

## Croylites

The Croylite music stand lighting system is an easy-to-use lighting system designed especially for use by productions where lighting for musicians is limited.

Croylite music stand lights can be attached to almost any music stand and provide a warm natural light which is ideal for both on stage and pit musicians in all types of musical or theatre productions, indoors or outdoors.

The Croylite music stand lighting system is available for hire to schools, community and church groups and commercial organisations at extremely affordable rates. For more information, contact Ian Douglas on 9729 1508 or David Billimoria on 0407 569 803