

Ashbury Public School Band P&C Sub – Committee AGM

Chairperson's Report

March 2011

In 2010, the Band Program was significantly larger than in 2009 (96 students compared to 81). During the year this dropped to 91 students as 2 students withdrew from Intermediate Band and three from Training Band. The end result was 41 students in Training Band, 40 in Intermediate Band, 42 in Concert Band and 21 in Jazz Band.

At the AGM in 2010, a number of new parents joined the Band Committee. Main positional changes were as follows;

- I was elected to Chairperson as Jill Mitchell retired from this position
- Nola Bartolo replaced Kate O'Sullivan as Assistant Chair
- Izumi Ibayashi replaced Kevin Cousins as Treasurer
- Louise Brooks became Assistant Secretary
- Denise Yousif filled the position of Parent Liason, a role that was not filled the previous year but proved to be invaluable this year.
- Grace Kaye filled the Teacher Liaison Role.

In March, we had our last Band Camp at Naamaroo – in 2011 and 2012 this will take place at Stanwell Tops. As in previous years, this was a very positive experience for the students. It was noted that at the next camp we should have more tutors in attendance to enable more sectional tutorials and allow tutors to sit in on Band rehearsals.

During the year the Band committee purchased a new keyboard, approximately 25 BERPS (buzz resistant equipment pieces) and a tuba. These purchases were as a result of fundraising in this and previous years.

This year we had a number of performances where our children excelled such as;

- Wonderful Jazz Band performances at Bunnings in March, Ashfield Mall in August and the Concordia Club.
- Sydney Eisteddfod (June) – an outstanding result for both the Jazz and Concert Bands. The Jazz Band won the Primary School Jazz Band section for the third year in a row, whilst the Concert Band won the finals of the Premium Band Section at The Kings School.
- Yamaha Festival (June) – the Intermediate Band was awarded Gold in D grade and the Concert Band received Silver in A Grade.
- All 4 bands performed strongly at NSW School Band Festival in August, with the Training, Concert and Jazz Bands receiving Gold and the Intermediate Band Silver.
- Concert Band gave fantastic performances at both the Primary Chorals and Primary Proms
- Yeo Park Gala Day (August) – Training Band gave a fantastic performance on Election Day.

Unfortunately the new hall was not completed until late in the year. As a result the annual Ashbury Showcase night did not take place this year.

A number of fundraising activities took place this year including a very successful Bunnings BBQ in November, Athletics Carnival BBQ and Election Day Cake Stall. Our thanks go to all parents and committee members who gave their time to make these activities such a success.

We had a very busy term four with the highlight in November being Musicale which was a resounding success. In addition to the wonderful performance from all the Bands, we had an inspirational performance from State Schools Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SSSWO). A fantastic year was celebrated at the end of year Band Party in December where students were presented with badges and a certificate listing their achievements this year. Finally, we had a combined performance by the Intermediate and Concert Bands at the annual Christmas Carols at St Mathews Church in Ashbury.

As this is my first and last year as Chairperson, I would like to thank the hard working and enthusiastic members of this Committee, the committed staff at Ashbury Public School, and our fantastic Band Conductor for all your support and participation. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this Committee and am sure it will continue to prosper in future years.

Sharon Sykes
Band Chairperson