



**Federation of Australasian Brass
Bands (FABB)
2009 Australasian Open
23-25 October 2009**

Tentative Schedule

Friday 23 October

ABC Forum for composers and conductors with Professor Peter Graham and Professor David King. This will be held in the Anzac room from 10.00 am - 12.30 noon and then again from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Lunch, tea and coffee will be provided within the \$ 200.00 workshop fee.

More information and booking can be found on the FABB website:
http://www.fabb.com.au/ABC_Booking.html

Bands arrive at Coolangatta

- 7.30 – 9.30pm – **Opening Function for all bands and players in the Stars Function Room and Bar, overlooking the Tweed River.**

Entry is \$ 5.00 to hear Peter Graham speak about the test piece. Finger Food will be provided and drinks will be on sale. The *draw* for the order of performance of the bands for both events will take place at 9pm.

Bands are asked to RSVP approximate numbers attending the Opening Function by **Friday 9 October.**

Saturday 24 October

- **Commencing approx. 1.00pm - The Australasian Open.** Bands perform a 2 minute warm-up (optional, not adjudicated) followed by the set Test piece. Closed Adjudication.

Sunday 25 October

- **Commencing approx. 12 noon – The Australasian Entertainment Open.**

Bands produce a **themed** 30 minute program including at least one brass soloist. Adjudication is open. The winner of the solo prize will get an auto entry to the Keller International Soloist of the Year event. Whilst slow melodies are welcome, to be considered for the Keller placing, the organizers of the Keller event require soloists at FABB to play a non-slow melody. FABB will sponsor the winner down to the Keller by way of airfare and accommodation.

- Approx. 8pm – Announcement and Presentation Ceremony to the 2009 Australasian Open Champions, including the presentation of trophies and \$ 10,000 cash prize money.
- Following the presentation ceremony, the Stars Bar will remain open.

More detailed scheduling will be provided in the next update.

Accommodation

The Outrigger Twin Town Resort, attached to the Twin Towns Services Club where the Australasian Open is being held, has accommodation available and discounted accommodation rates for any bands who wish to stay at the resort. Please contact ***Erica Selinger*** (Group Accommodation Coordinator) as early as possible via email twintowns.conf@outrigger.com.au or phone 07 5506 6281 to ensure availability of preferred accommodation. The resort is already quite heavily booked.

There are other accommodation options in the area including:

<http://www.lasvegasmotorinn.com.au/index.htm>

<http://www.southtweedmotorinn.com.au/index.html>

and others.

Air Travel

Bands are strongly urged to secure air travel to and from Coolangatta (depending on your City of departure/return) or Brisbane as soon as possible.

Player Registration

In order for the task of processing the hundreds of individual registrations, and producing the identification cards to proceed smoothly and efficiently, players intending to attend and perform at the Australasian Open are *strongly urged* to register on-line as soon as possible. The cost is \$15 for 12 months if players register *before 30 August 2009*. *After this date player registrations will cost \$25.*

For bands who are choosing to pay the \$15 membership fee for each player, individuals are still required to register on-line. Their registrations will be approved and activated once payment has been received.

Could band administrators please direct players to the following link to register as members of the Federation of Australasian Brass Bands -<http://www.fabb.com.au/registration.html>

The ID cards for each player (with photo and unique barcode) will be distributed to the band administrators, or their representative, at the opening function.

Each player will be required to present themselves at the registration desk with their cards once in the warm-up area on the day of competition.

Submission of Entertainment Program

Bands are strongly urged to submit their concert programs to FABB administration as soon as possible.

Bands are asked to submit their *Theme to FABB organizers before 30 July, 2009*, at Twin Towns Club request, to assist in the production of suitable promotional material.

The deadline for *detailed programs is 30 August, 2009*. Details must include the title of each item, the composer and arranger (if applicable).

No one item of music will be repeated over the course of the days entertainment. Bands may play their chosen items subject to a 'first in' basis. For example, if band B submits an item of music to play that has already been chosen by band A, who has submitted their program to FABB *before* band B, band B will be asked to choose another piece.

The entertainment program has the following requirements:

- Duration - maximum duration 35 minutes. (Walk on walk off included)
- Solo - include a *solo* by a *brass member* of the band
- Theme – program on a theme
- Compere – optional at bands discretion

Further specifications e.g. lighting/microphone/AV requirements, in the form of a production running sheet will be required by **Friday 9 October, 2009**.

Bands are welcome to use their own stand banners should they wish.

Test Music

The Test Music, *The Torchbearer – Symphonic Variations and Metamorphosis on a Theme by Eric Ball*, is a joint commission between FABB and Kapitool Promotions UK. The composer is Professor Peter Graham. It is planned for the work to be available by the end of July.

Details on purchasing scores and parts will follow as soon as possible.

Percussion

Because of the limitations placed upon FABB by the Venue Management, timing will be extremely ‘tight’ between bands performances.

Bands are asked to use the percussion equipment as supplied by FABB. The supplied percussion equipment will be as prescribed by the score of the Test Piece.

A detailed list of the percussion equipment that will be supplied, and the proposed stage placement, will be distributed to bands as soon as we have seen what is required by the test piece.

If necessary, bands will be allowed to set up the supplied percussion equipment immediately prior to their performance according to their own needs.

Any additional equipment not on the supplied list that bands need for their entertainment program will be the responsibility of individual bands.

It is proposed that the percussion will be set up early enough to allow ample time for percussion players to familiarize themselves with the gear. More details of this timing will follow.

Twin Towns Specifications (including Stage Plan)

Twin Towns Stage Plan and Specification Sheets attached. Please take particular note of the Stage Area as on-stage space is limited. Please do not assume that the grand piano will be available from the list.

Rehearsal Areas

The Twin Towns Club and Resort are extremely busy centres at this time of year. As such, the functions rooms that may have been suitable as rehearsal areas, are already booked for other functions.

However, FABB has secured The Anzac Room available from 4pm until 11pm on Friday for bands arriving early. If you would like to make use of this facility please contact Peter Younghusband admin@fabb.com.au – timings will be allocated on a first in basis.

Further, there may be small windows of opportunity for bands to use certain other areas and the Twin Towns Club and Resort – particularly in the mornings.

For enquiries regarding the availability of function rooms to be used as rehearsal space, other than the Anzac Room on the Friday, they will need to contact either Chrissie Thomas c.thomas@twintowns.com.au or Megan Varker m.varker@twintowns.com.au or phone 07 5536 2277.

There will be *no* opportunity for bands to rehearse in the showroom for either of the events – test nor entertainment program.

Bands are strongly urged to be aware of this limitation and to organize adequate rehearsal prior to arriving at Twin Towns. Of course, bands may independently choose to source rehearsal areas outside of the Twin Towns complex.

Possible alternative rehearsal venues nearby include:

<http://www.cooltweedgolf.com.au/>

<http://www.scu.edu.au/about/index.php> - Tweed Heads Campus

Generally, <http://www.tweedcoolangatta.com.au/>

The Bands

- Brisbane Brass
- Brisbane Excelsior
- Footscray Yarraville City Band
- K&N Spring Gully Brass
- Kew Band Melbourne
- Marlborough and Districts Brass - New Zealand
- MPV Brass
- St. Mary's
- Warringah Concert Brass
- Gunnedah Shire Band

The Adjudicators

Australasian Open

- Professor Peter Graham
- Professor David King

Australasian Entertainment Open

- Professor David King
- Stephen Bastable

Promotional Material

Band Administrators are asked to provide a high resolution photo and a brief biography (emailed electronically please to admin@fabb.com.au) of the band for promotional purposes.

Could we please have this by Friday 9 October (preferably sooner if possible) to allow enough time for design and printing.

Ticketing

Both Saturday and Sunday events will be ticketed through the Twin Towns Box Office <http://www.twintowns.com.au> and will be available in due course.

Space permitting, players will be given free entry on presentation of their 2009 FABB ID card.