

**City of Burnie Brass Band**  
**Annual General Meeting – 20 September 2022**

**Drum Major's Report**

The Band had limited opportunity to parade or participate in any marching activities in 2021. Significant effort was put into marching practice in the lead-up to the 2021 State Band Championships in Devonport, and it was great to see the interest from a number of new members during this time. However, due to inclement weather, the inspection and marching was cancelled on the day.

The Band usually participates in Christmas Parades at Somerset, Burnie and in more recent years at Smithton; however these activities were cancelled this year due to COVID, organisational constraints or bad weather.

Our attendance at the Burnie Athletic Club carnival has been a combined activity with the Burnie Highland Pipe Band in recent years, and our combined marching band has been a spectacle that has received great publicity and positive comment. Even with the difficulties associated with player availability due to work commitments on New Year's Eve, the Band was able to parade with adequate numbers and provide a sound performance.

ANZAC Day again saw the Band parade with good numbers and lead the parade to the cenotaph, then return to the Burnie RSL. Due to the limited availability of pipers, they requested joining us to march in the parade. Due to a lack of rehearsal, we decided against playing combined music but were able to alternate our playing during the parade. There were a couple of issues in regard to maintaining the rhythm for the procession, which I intend to address if this format is repeated in the future.

From positive feedback and comments, I know there are members of the Burnie Highland Pipe Band who are keen to pursue more opportunities to perform together, both static and on parade. We should be keen and receptive to work together in the future.

The ongoing rhetoric of inspection and marching as part of State Band Championships is currently on the TBL Agenda, and while I have not been involved in discussions, no doubt there will be more rigorous debate before the decision is resolved.

I thank the members of the Band for their support with marching practice when required, and while it is an activity not necessarily enjoyed by all, I appreciate that everyone maintains a positive attitude, particularly when we are introducing new members to drill and marching.

Our record demonstrates that we are able to perform very well when required, and it is still an activity that the general public enjoy and like to see their City of Burnie Brass Band in a parade.

Wayne Richards  
Drum Major