RYDE EISTEDDFOD...GOLD!

On Monday 6 August, the band were transported to Ryde Civic Centre for their first ever official eisteddfod. In the lead up, they were sounding great but the organizational nightmare and knowledge that Sam would be on Trial exams and Keegan would be skiing were a concern.

To their credit, Iain and the boys decided to put their best shot in and we are all proud to say...

WE WON OUR SECTION!!!

Feedback from the organisers of the Eisteddfod was fantastic even before the boys went on. They were repeatedly complimented on their behavior and maturity in waiting patiently and quietly for their performance opportunity.

When it came to the performance itself, the boys played dynamically and well, providing a performance which overshadowed their competitors' and which the judges genuinely enjoyed. They complimented the rhythm section and the baritone saxophone performance as well as the trumpet soloist. Their notes reported a great ending from the whole band and a total of 82 points. In feedback being given, our boys were held up as an example to the other bands.

This is a testimony to the dedication of the boys and Iain this year. The band is strong and more together than they have ever been.

Congratulations to you all, we are so proud!
At our Stage Band Information Night Iain and I talked about an energetic and exciting year. We had in mind a concert with Swing City and competition in eisteddfods. So far the 2012 gig list includes:

- ABHS Formal Assemblies
- Warrawee Bowling Club 1 April
- MAD night performance set 14 June
- Yamaha Music Festival Competition 16 June
- Bruce Collins Retirement Dinner 18 July
- Ryde Eisteddfod 6 August
- Upcoming gigs...

Upcoming gigs...

Hornsby Mall 13 August
Jazz Festival Charity Concert with Swing City 18 August
ABHS Community Day 9 September
Brooklyn Spring Fair 23 September
Presentation Night 17 December

Our First Massive Achievement for the Year

This was our first ever competition. Who knew, how we would go and how well prepared we would be? Iain and the boys attended a Uniting Church in Willoughby to perform in the event with participants from a range of schools. They had a time limit of 13 minutes in which to perform 4 pieces. The judges gave them fantastic feedback on their performance...so good in fact that it sounded like we had achieved gold in our first competition. In the end the Stage Band turned on what was recognized as a SILVER MEDAL performance on the very first occasion when we competed!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!

Who’s in the Band in 2012

Sam Gibbons Tenor Sax  
Mick Knochs Baritone Sax  
Harry Gibbons Alto Sax  
Noah Szeto Alto Sax  
Joshua Chapman Alto Sax  
Thomas Vanderlaan Trumpet  
Cooper Fitzgerald Trumpet  
James Sheridan Tuba  
David Mays Trombone  
Alec Drummond Trombone  
Andrew Morrison Piano  
Kane Whittaker Bass Guitar  
Harrison Tuynman Guitar  
Joel Winch Drums  
Keegan Waters Drums
Warrawee Bowling Club Performance

Sunday April 1

The band were invited by a fantastic trombone player, Mark Barnsley, to perform at his first Quartet Gig for 2012. These are a series of monthly gigs where he performs at the Warrawee Bowling Club on Sunday afternoons and invites local school bands to perform before and after his sets.

This was a great opportunity for the boys to play in a wider community musical event as well as to hear performances from both Mark and other high school bands.

With the wonderful transport and supporting role provided by Mr Gibbons, Iain and the boys performed a dynamic 3.30 set to an enthusiastic local jazz audience.

Thanks as always to Iain for his support of the band and Mr Gibbons for his help with transport organization and photography on a day when I was interstate.

Stage Band Information Night 21 March 2012

Thankyou to the small but dedicated and very enthusiastic group of our parents who attended the Stage Band Info Night on Wednesday 21 March.

Iain is to congratulated on his catering, particularly the amazing cupcake selection cooked by his own hand!

Bruce Collins Retirement Dinner 18 July

Asquith Golf Club

Deputy Principal Bruce Collins had been planning a very quiet and unobtrusive retirement and as the event became imminent he realized his achievements and things he felt were personally important.

One of these was his connection to the Stage Band. As a vocalist himself, and father of boys, Mr Collins supported the importance of the Stage Band and Music for boys education. He began the staging of the Charity Concert with Swing City and worked closely with Iain Howick, Mike Williamson and Cathe-
Back Page Photo Gallery
From the Warrawee Bowling Club gig April 1

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Excellence in opportunities for boys.