



St Kilda Municipal Band 1914

For all the Saints

A centennial history of the St Kilda Band
1901 - 2001

By Merle van de Klundert



St Kilda Brass Band 2001

W. W. Pennycuick

Joined St Kilda March 1906
Eupho Champion of Scotland
Eupho Champion of New Zealand
1924 & 1926
Died suddenly 19 June 1927



FOREWORD

By Les Green and Alan Brieseman

It is a great privilege to be asked to write the foreword for the Centennial publication.

The St Kilda Band has been home as a playing member to both Les Green and to Alan Brieseman for half of the period covered.

We wish to acknowledge the contribution of all persons connected with the band as players, conductors or administrators who have been part of creating the rich history of the past 100 years.

This publication recalls the memorable musical occasions and the contesting successes of the band over that time. These achievements are both substantial and impressive.

The band has contributed greatly to the musical life of the city and has provided outstanding conductors, virtuoso players and skilled administrators throughout. There have been golden years and lean years but always the special spirit of 'The Saints' has been continuous.

Our Centennial is a time for past members (old and young) and present members (old and young) to gather together, reminisce and celebrate.

The band is completing the first 100 years in great heart having competed successfully in both Australia and New Zealand. With the present talented musical direction together with an important mix of experience and youthful enthusiasm, the band is ready to face the musical challenges of the future.

NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY — TRUST —

For all the Saints

A centennial history of the St Kilda Band 1901 - 2001

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The earliest record of a brass band is of the Besses o'th'Barn band which was a small village which is now swallowed up in the greater Manchester area.

It began as a small string band in about the 1790's. This band is still in existence today. There are other more famous names which had their beginnings in the early 19th century including such famous names as the Black Dyke Mills Band. The Besses o'th'Barn converted to all brass in 1853. Contesting began in Britain in 1853 at Belle Vue, Manchester.

In the beginning and for at least a 100 years brass banding was essentially a way for the men of the mills, pits, colliery's and



The Mornington Brass Band - 1901

villages to make music. Now the brass band movement has shaken off its cloth cap image.

Dunedin at the turn of the century was prosperous. The wealth of the gold rush era made for many well established business interests and it is true to say that Dunedin was the centre of investment and wealth.

There is a saying that Auckland was built on the gold of Dunedin. This is probably true.

One can imagine the citizens of Dunedin going for a stroll in the newly established botanical gardens and listening to the music of a brass band. Most suburbs of Dunedin had a band and schools also played a part with fife and drum bands and bugle bands.

The St Kilda Band has had a long and successful hundred years. It was formed at the beginning as the Mornington Brass Band, founded in 1901 by Mr E. Smith. Its first success was winning the B Grade championship at Gore in 1904. In February the Mornington Band tied for first place in the A Grade own selection competition with Wanganui Garrison and the Kaikorai Bands. It is interesting to note that these bands are still flourishing to the present day. The Mornington band had only been formed four years previously and this was its first appearance in an A grade contest. The following year Mornington won the A Grade contest at New Plymouth.

In 1912 the St Kilda Borough Council offered to give the band municipal status. The band was then renamed the St Kilda Municipal Band. Mr Smith remained the conductor and the band members remained unaltered. The St Kilda band went from strength to strength winning first place in the A Grade championship. The band also won competitions at the Auckland Exhibition in 1914. During the Great War the band withdrew from competing because many of the members were serving on active service.

After the war the band re-formed under the baton of Mr J. Patterson and competing in contests was recommenced. In 1923 Mr James Dixon of Charles Begg and Co. became the bandmaster.



James Dixon

During the Great War he had conducted the Band of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade in France. While he was the Conductor of the St Kilda Band the band attained significant successes. One of the most memorable being that of 1926, at the Dunedin and South Seas Exhibition contest. The judge was Mr E.J. Ricketts of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Band who were also visiting. St Kilda won eight competitions.

The most impressive performance in New Zealand Brass Band history was at

the Wanganui Contest of 1929 when the band won the Test Selections and was first in music and drill points in the Quickstep. At the contest held in Timaru in 1935 the band once more gained distinction by once more winning first place in the Test Selections and the Quickstep. The band was the top in the contest winning all but the Hymn Test. St Kilda was the Champion of Champions winning 4 trophies and the prize money of £215 and was accorded a Civic welcome at the Dunedin Railway Station when they returned as the premier Band of New Zealand.

It is interesting to reflect on the minutes during the early years of the band. Membership seemed to be steady. One person who stands out as a very faithful bandsman was Mr W. Pennycuik the euphonium player and secretary of the band who died in 1927. A wreath was sent from Miss Reid Florist at the cost of two guineas. The band along with the Kaikorai Band played at the funeral and a letter of condolence sent to his widow.

At this time the depression also hit the band and a minute noted that six pounds was given to a member who was unemployed.

In 1932 the minute book of January tells of sudden deaths in the band members in a comparatively short space of time. Three members answered the summons

'To join the innumerable caravan, that moves to that mysterious realm, where each shall take his chamber in the silent hall of death. What lies beyond we cannot say. We only know that it is not here. Poorer we are by death's inexorable call, yet memory enriched by association will often bring fragrant light of other days around which we will remember them.'

The members all stood in silence for 2 minutes after this was read. This was read aloud in memory of deceased members until the 1940's as a fitting tribute.

In June of 1935 the conductor of the band Mr James Dixon resigned because of other commitments. Mr Ernie Webb of Wanganui replaced him. The band only had a limited success at the New Plymouth contest and in December of 1937 Les Francis took over the conductorship from Claude Miller. He had been acting conductor along with James Dixon after Mr Webb resigned. At the Nelson contest the band enjoyed some success but did not compete at Palmerston North in 1938. A youthful St Kilda band competed in 1939 at Christchurch where the band were once more victorious winning first place in the own choice selection, third in the championship and first in the quickstep once more under Drum-major Donaldson. At the centennial exhibition contest in Wellington the band once more became one of the premier bands in the country. This was the last national contest until 1946, because of World War 2.

The band continued to function and played on many occasions to raise funds for the war effort. The band where possible never turned down requests to play at concert's, community sings and at the botanical gardens and donated all the collections to the patriotic funds. They also sent parcels to members serving with the forces overseas.

In 1940 the band elected its first Patron. He was Hon. Fred Jones Member of Parliament for St Kilda.

Mr J.J. Marlow in August of the same year was elected as the President of the Band. It is interesting to read J.J. Marlow's addresses at the AGM's at this time. They were fervently eloquent, very patriotic and strong on rhetoric. At this time members of the junior band were encouraged to fill the places of bandsmen who were on active service.

In 1944 the rotunda at St Kilda beach had to be demolished because of damage done by strong winds. The band continued to play its usual summer concerts but out in the open air. 1945 brought about the end of the war. In May V.E. Day and in August V.J. Day the band played with the massed bands in the victory parades. The Drum-Major Mr W.H. Donaldson retired after twenty three years and Mr J. McKnight was appointed.

At the AGM of 1946 Mr J.J. Marlow spoke eloquently of the restoration of peace and prayed that there be no further re-occurrence of war that had plunged the whole world into adversity.

At the National Contest, deemed the victory contest held in Christchurch in 1946, the St Kilda band won the quickstep but lost the championship.

In 1947 the conductor Mr Les Francis resigned as conductor and Mr K.G.L. Smith of Westport was appointed as conductor. A junior band was formed with a basis of 16 boys. At the AGM of that year it was decided the new uniforms with greatcoats should be provided for the band, as there were not enough uniforms for all the members and greatcoats were essential if the band was to play during inclement weather.

At the Dunedin Centennial Contest in 1948 the band regained its place as the champion band of New Zealand. This was a great achievement for the conductor of only nine months Mr K.G.L. Smith.

It was the first A Grade band he had conducted. The Mayor of Dunedin launched a public appeal in September to purchase new instruments for the band. The Burns Highland Pipe Band also had plans to launch a similar appeal. By combining with the pipe band a profitable campaign enabled the band to go to Auckland.

J.J. Marlow once more illustrated that he was able to lead an extremely efficient committee that had the drive to raise enough funding to go to the contest as well as paying off the balance of the monies owing on the new instruments. The band was again triumphant in winning the championship. Again they attained the ultimate glory of winning the 100 guineas gold cup. Ken Smith junior also won the cornet championship for the second year in succession.

It is interesting to note that at this contest seven players were still in the junior class.

There was a movement afoot to send the band to play at the Edinburgh festival but the heavy cost of £20,000 put this beyond the reach of the band. To travel overseas to compete became a very real prospect and so it was decided if £4000 could be raised the band would try its luck at the Australian Contest to be held in Ballarat in October of 1949. To fund this event each band member was required to find one hundred pounds. A house to house collection in St Kilda raised the £350 which gave the committee the confidence to collect money by a door to door canvass in the whole of the Dunedin City. A band member also played in an Italian Opera Company thus raising a further £100. J.J. Marlow as always a good lobbyist to get the government of the day to provide £1,000 if the band could raise three thousand pounds by its own efforts. The city council also gave permission for a street-day appeal. J.J. Marlow once more was responsible for this by appealing to the Appeal Committee.

The band energetically played at special fund raising concerts. The Australian quickstep was more intricate and elaborate than the New Zealand quickstep. This was a gruelling time for band members, as they had to keep up their normal band practises and play at functions to raise funds for the trip. Prior to the band leaving for Australia there was a debt of £450. The band played at the botanical gardens the Sunday before leaving and also gave a last presentation of the quickstep. In spite of the last minute endeavours the band was still £250 short of the required amount. A Miss Jimsie Fraser gave the secretary at the final concert a cheque for the full amount enabling the band to leave for Ballarat

debt free. Today the only way to bridge the ditch would be to fly but the band travelled by rail and ferry to arrive in Auckland where they flew in a chartered plane to Sydney and then on to Ballarat via Melbourne. The contest schedule was strenuous but once more the St Kilda Band was victorious winning the Test Selection and the Own Choice and coming second in the Quickstep, Special Quickstep and the Street March. In the solo contest Ken Smith won the Bb Cornet Championship, Ian Bassett the Soprano Cornet and in the Duet Ken Smith and G.R. Mowat won this also. Other members were also placed. Because of his excellent performance Ken Smith was invited to join the Fairey Aviation Works band in England as their principal Cornet.

Flying home from Australia the plane ran into an electrical storm and was hit by a bolt of lightening. It was a very scary trip and much needed slumber was not on except for J.J. Marlow who

slept throughout this severe storm. Returning home to Dunedin to be met by a jubilant welcome by the whole city must have been a climax for the band after all the many hours of practice and fundraising. The prize money as well as a further grant of £1000 by the New Zealand government enabled the band to pay back the £250 given by Miss Jimsie Fraser and still have £2750 in the bank.

In 1950 the band was placed second in the Christchurch Contest. In April the band said goodbye to Ken Smith who left to take up his appointment



with Fairey Aviation Works Band. He played to a full house in the town hall before his departure for England. The president of the band J.J. Marlow presented Ken with a new cornet inscribed 'presented to K.G. Smith, from the members of the St Kilda Municipal Band' A cheque was also given. At the AGM in 1950 a gift of a fireside chair was presented to Mr Joe Lees recognising his 25 years in the band.

Fund raising became essential. A grand carnival was staged and also a house-to-house canvas of St Kilda. This year the band came second overall in the championship.

New uniforms were necessary and a special fund was started, including a fund raising fair. The band appeared for the first time at the National Contest held in Dunedin in the new uniforms which were to last for over twenty years. The band was second in this contest. This was the final contest conducted by K.G.L. Smith.

For many years the band had its rooms at No.4 Carroll Street. In 1935 it moved to Rattray Street for four years before once more being allocated rooms at 4 Carroll Street. Until 1947 the band remained there and after a series of moves it finally managed to build its own band room at its present address.

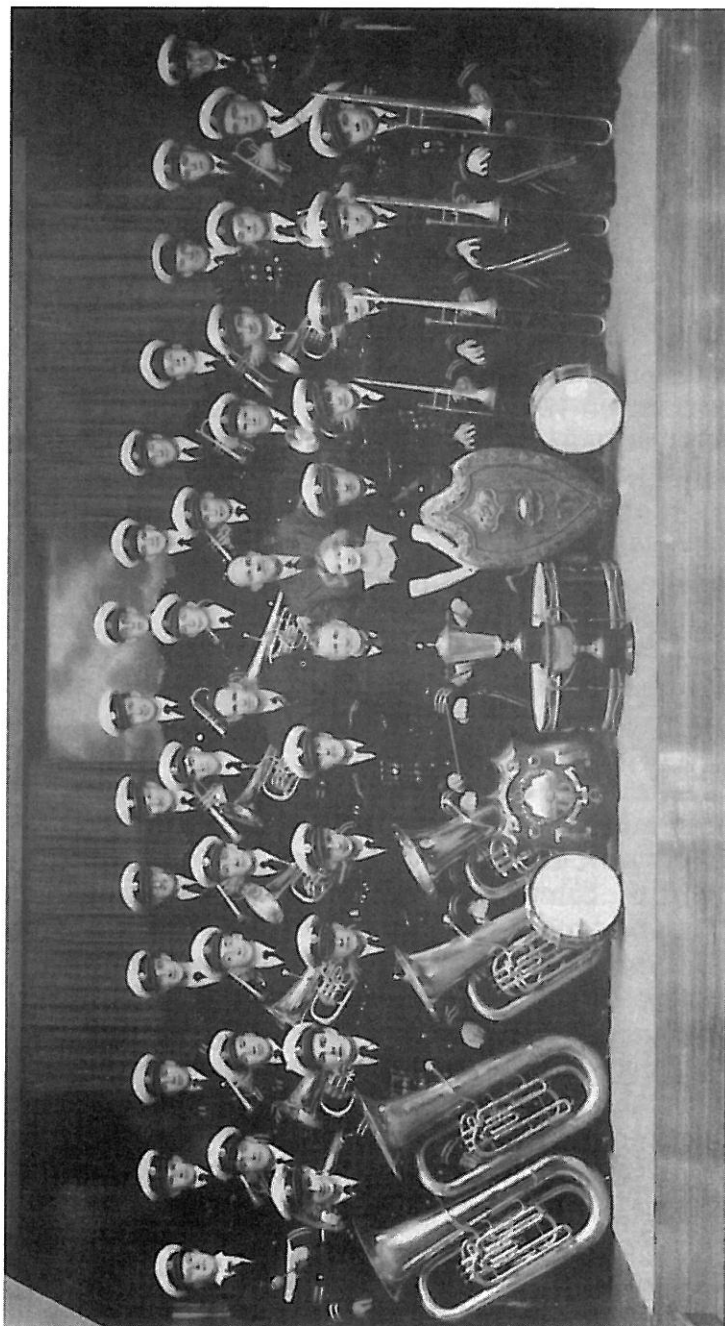
In 1953 the National Band of New Zealand was formed and six members of the band were selected to go. St Kilda had the largest number of players selected for the tour. The successful conductorship of K.G.L. Smith ended which was felt sorely by the band as he had led the band to a spectacular number of wins in national and provincial championships. For a short time Mr R.S. Waterson conducted the band then Mr J.R. Paul became the conductor.

The band did not attend the Christchurch contest in 1954 because of the financial position of the band. In June of that year Ken Smith was welcomed back at a concert in the Town Hall. He accepted the position of musical director. 1955 was a momentous year for the band as once more they became the champion band of New Zealand. Ken Smith also receiving the Fred Mortimer medal as the champion A grade conductor. In July of that year Mr J.J. Marlow resigned as president of the band and became the joint

patron of the band with the Hon. Fred Jones MP. J.J. as he was affectionately known was a stalwart president of the band. He was renowned for his fund raising and it was because of his sterling effort that the funds were raised for the Australian trip. He seldom missed a meeting in the 15 years that he was president.

In the Invercargill contest of 1956 the band although they played well were not among the placing's. In October Ken Smith resigned as musical director and Alan Brieseman became the conductor until a permanent one could be appointed.

Elgar Clayton was to become the musical director of the St Kilda band in March 1957. He was to take up this position in January of 1958. A win in the provincial contest held in Alexandra by the junior band was an honour that was a just reward for the conductor Ian Bassett and the drum major A.L. Parry as it was just 18 months since the band was formed. The band won the national contest held at Dunedin in 1958 with an amazing 7-point margin. Fund raising was once more to the fore with a monster fair that raised enough funds for the band to attend the Wellington contest of 1959. The band was not successful. However the growing interest in players in the junior band made it large enough to be split into 2 groups. 1960 saw the band winning the hymn test, which they had not won for a long time. In Balclutha of the same year the Otago Southland Brass Band Association (OSBBA) introduced another dimension to the programme requiring the competing bands to play a half hour entertainment. The band became the first winner of the Marlow Memorial Trophy, which is still a part of the regional competitions. The band was not placed in the 1961 contest held in Auckland. Ian Bassett resigned as conductor of the junior band which was a sad loss. Mr Neil Peacock agreed to accept the conductorship in his place. This year the band celebrated its diamond jubilee. There were a number of functions to commemorate 60 years of service and honour that reflected not only on the band but also St Kilda and the greater Dunedin area. The band once more won the championship at the 1962 contest held in Auckland. Neil Peacock resigned as the conductor of the junior band. Les Parry, the drum major, relinquished his position as chairman of the band and his post as



drum major after 10 years of untiring service. Russell Walters took up the position as conductor of the junior band.

The National Band uniforms were bought for the band at a cost of £275. Once more the band were arrayed in second-hand uniforms. Perhaps their signature tune should have been 'second-hand rose'. It was encouraging to find yet again the band was placed first at the Wellington contest, thus retaining their title for a second year in a row. Fund raising was once more on the agenda with plans to hold a fireworks display and cutting firewood for sale. Efforts to build a band room on a section in Murray Street, which was owned by the NZ Railways, were unsuccessful.

For financial reasons the band did not accept an invitation to contest at Ballarat in 1964. The band was placed third in the Christchurch contest. Also in August of 1964 Mr Elgar Clayton resigned as Musical Director. He had been an excellent musical director and the band had done exceedingly well under his baton. Once more Alan Brieseman accepted the position as temporary conductor of the band. In September Ken Smith was reappointed musical director. Russell Waters resigned from conducting the junior band. Finally the long awaited fireworks display was held in November.

Nothing of great momentum happened in 1965, as the band did not compete in Auckland owing to a lack of funds to send the band to the contest. In that year a camp for young players from the region was held at Pleasant Valley.

The Dunedin contest of 1966 saw the band once more winning the A-grade contest with Ken Smith the conductor. The president Mr Frank Hitchens resigned as he was moving to Christchurch. The band was able to buy a new set of instruments, which was necessary, as the band had been playing with the old set since 1948.

The band was not able to build the band room on the Murray Street site and was able to negotiate the termination of the lease. It would be many years until the dream of owning its own band room came to fruition. Also in 1967 Ken Smith resigned to accept a teaching situation in Australia. In his place Allen Francis became



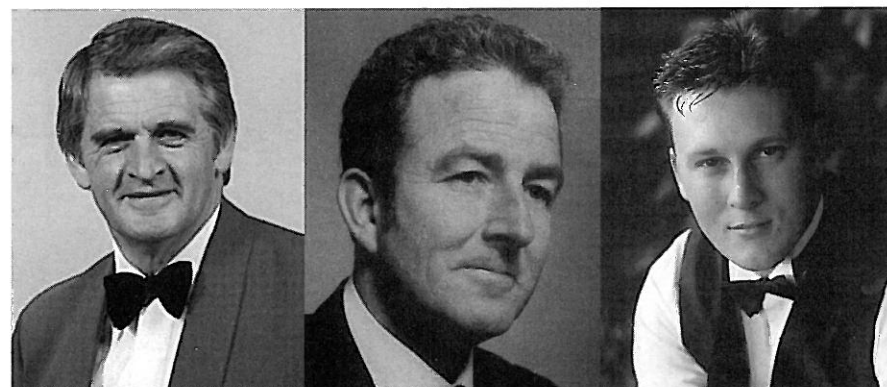
musical director, the band appeared on television for the first time and gained second place at the Wellington contest.

In 1968 the band played at a pre-contest concert in the St Kilda Town hall with the Dunedin City Silver Band. Once more the band became the champion band but did not win the test piece.

The National contest held in Rotorua during March 1969 saw the band placed third even though they won the own choice selection. Alan Brieseman won the champion of champions, which was a notable first for a bandsman playing in the St Kilda Band. This year brought the resignation of the conductor Allen Francis. Ken Aitken Jones became the conductor of both senior and junior bands. The president Bob Waterson retired. At the Dunedin contest of 1970 the band become once more the contest winners. The composer of the test selection 'Captain Cook Circumnavigator' was never to hear his composition played as he died before the contest.

At the AGM of that year Mrs Jean Kirk-Burnnand was made a life

THE CHAMPIONS



Alan Brieseman
1969

John Edgecombe
1979

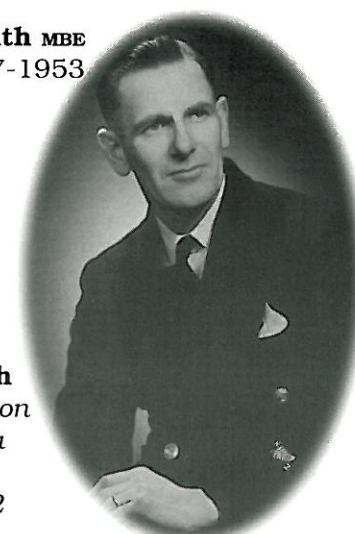
John Lewis
2001
New Zealand &
Australia

The three members of the St Kilda brass Band who have each won the CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS Title

St Kilda Brass Band 1968



Mr K. G. L. Smith MBE
Conductor: 1947-1953



Mr Edward (Ned) Smith
First Conductor Mornington
Band and then St Kilda
Municipal Band
1901-1914: 1919-1922



Mr P. V. Adams
B.Mus(Hons), M.Mus., FTCL,
LRSM
Conductor: 1999-



Trust Bank Otago St Kilda Band
Champion Band of New Zealand, 1992

St Kilda Brass Band Honours Board



WestpacTrust

ST. KILDA BRASS

HONOURS BOARD

CHAMPIONSHIPS

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

CONDUCTORS

NAT. BAND MEMBERS

PRESIDENTS

1904	GORE	T. WILLIAMS	1910
1908	NEW PLYMOUTH	W. NELSON	1912
1912	DUNEDIN	T. RODGERS	1921
1921	NELSON	L.R. SIMPSON	1921
1926	DUNEDIN	W. SMITH	1923-24-28-29-30-32
1929	WANGANUI	G. LOWRY	1930-33-34-35
1935	TIMARU	W. WALLACE	1930-35
1940	WELLINGTON	G. CHRISTIE	1933
1948	DUNEDIN	J. LEES	1933
1949	AUCKLAND	A. WINSLADE	1933-35-46
1949	BALLARAT	C. URWIN	1936
1955	AUCKLAND	D. S. CHRISTENSEN	1938-39-40
1958	DUNEDIN	R. FRANCIS	1938-39
1962	DUNEDIN	R. RUDHALL	1940-46-47
1963	WELLINGTON	R. S. WATERSTON	1946-47
1966	DUNEDIN	N. A. THORN	1947-48-49
1968	CHRISTCHURCH	M. HAZELWOOD	1948-49
1970	DUNEDIN	K. G. SMITH	1948-49-50
1992	AUCKLAND	N. G. DIXON	1954
		J. F. MOWAT	1954
		J. HARPER	1955
		I. BASSETT	1956
		A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1956-57-59-66
		A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1967-68-69
		A. R. GIBB	1958-59-60-61
		A. R. GIBB	1962-63-66-70
		B. WAUGH	1963
		T. MADIGAN	1965-67
		N. PEACOCK	1966-69
		K. DELL	1969
		W. HENDERSON	1970
		R. COX	1980-82
		J. EDGECOMBE	1978-79-84
		H. M. ALDRED	1992
		G. J. BARNEY	1992
		T. J. KEMPTON	1992-93
		E. J. MOORE	1993

E. J. MOORE	1994
N. J. R. SEATON	1996
J. W. LEWIS	2000
C. J. McADAM	2000
J. LEWIS	2001
G. BARNEY	2001
J. McADAM	2001
J. LEWIS <i>(see above)</i>	2001
G. BARNEY <i>(Aust)</i>	2001
J. LEWIS <i>(Aust)</i>	2001

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS	
• A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1969
• J. EDGECOMBE	1979
J. LEWIS	2001
J. LEWIS <i>(Aust)</i>	2001

E. SMITH	1901-14
G. E. PATTERSON	1914-15
A. O. KAYE	1915
G. E. PATTERSON	1915-18
G. B. LAIDLAW	1918-19
E. SMITH	1919-22
J. PATTERSON	1922-23
J. DIXON	1923-35
A. W. E. WEBB	1935-36
C. C. E. MILLER	1936
J. DIXON	1936
W. L. FRANCIS	1936-42
R. S. WATERSTON	1942-43
W. L. FRANCIS	1943-47
K. G. L. SMITH <i>oss</i>	1947-53
J. R. PAUL	1953-54
K. G. SMITH	1954-56
A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1956-57
E. CLAYTON	1957-64
K. G. SMITH	1964-67
L. A. FRANCIS	1967-69
K. AIKEN-JONES	1969-72
N. PEACOCK	1973-74
J. EDGECOMBE	1975-79
G. MORRISON	1980
N. A. THORN	1980-82
N. THORN <i>JNR</i>	1982-84
J. EDGECOMBE	1984-89
P. V. ADAMS	1990-95
E. MOORE	1996-98
P. V. ADAMS	1999

N. G. DIXON	1953
W. J. FRASER	1953
C. R. MOWAT	1953
J. R. PAUL	1953
K. G. L. SMITH	1953
T. J. S. SMITH	1953
D. H. SMITH	1962
J. HARPER	1962-65-74
R. COX	1962-80
C. CLAYTON	1962
F. M. FORBES	1962
A. R. GIBB	1962-74
A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1962-65-67-70-74
L. A. GREEN	1965-76-80-89
A. F. BRIESEMAN <i>oss</i>	1976-78-85-89-90
J. R. PEACOCK	1970-76-78
R. N. PEACOCK	1970-76-78
C. E. PHELOUNG	1978-80-89-90-92-95
T. J. MADIGAN	1970
A. R. KNOPP	1974
L. J. GRANT	1967-70-74
W. HENDERSON	1967-70
K. DELL	1967-70
R. B. DICK	1965
J. EDGECOMBE	1965
G. VALENTINE	1965-89-90-92
P. J. MCHENRY	1990-95
F. E. KERR	1990
M. N. HOLDAWAY	1990
O. J. BARNEY	1992
E. J. MOORE	1995
R. J. PHIBBS	1995
D. T. van de KLUNDERT	1995

W. WILLS	1901-11
H. R. LAW	1911-24
C. TODD	1924-25
F. H. LAMPEN	1925-27
E. H. LOUCH	1927-34
J. L. GARDNER	1934-37
G. J. ERRINGTON	1937-38
A. H. NEWALL	1938-40
J. J. MARLOW <i>oss</i>	1940-55
D. J. SIMPSON	1955-56
A. L. FLEURY	1956-58
H. L. GIBSON	1958-59
F. L. HITCHENS	1959-65
D. MacDOUGALL	1966-67
A. C. McPHERSON	1968-72
G. W. T. CHRISTIE	1973-81
J. EDGECOMBE	1981-82
G. W. T. CHRISTIE	1982-89
A. L. FLEURY	1989-91
A. F. BRIESEMAN	1991-93
L. A. GREEN	1994-98
G. W. T. CHRISTIE	1999

AUXILIARY BAND	
1962	DUNEDIN
1964	CHRISTCHURCH



St Kilda Municipal Band (Inc.) Dunedin
Winners New Zealand and Australian Championships, 1949



O.S.B. St Kilda Junior Band
Winners of Concert Programme and Hymn Section, Provincial Contest,

member of the band in recognition of her services as accompanist to the band over many years. She was the first woman to be so honoured.

Because of problems with funding the band was not able to travel to the Wanganui contest. Although they were able to win at both the Canterbury and Otago Southland Brass Band Association (OSBBA) competitions. Sadly at the 1972 contest the band suffered a humiliating defeat by not being placed in any section. The same year the conductor Ken Aitken Jones resigned. The appointment of Neil Peacock as conductor in 1973 was very close to the date set for the national contest in Wellington. They decided not to go. The band did enjoy playing for the Otago University Capping Concert and met with huge applause from the audience. This was a momentous year for the band because for the first time in its history applications from women were received but declined, although the following year the first woman to play in the band was Kay Schwaab. Since then women who have joined the ranks of the band have been valued as players and members. It was decided to form a Bavarian Band to raise funds. In smart new concert uniforms the band played in the Dunedin contest of 1974 and Neil Peacock returned to the ranks of playing in the band. An important subcommittee was set up to look into finding a sponsor for the band. In 1975 John Edgecombe accepted the position of musical director of the band. A noteworthy event in the history of the band was the acceptance of the offer made by the Otago Savings Bank to be the sponsor of the band. This meant that for the first time since 1912 the band would have a change in its name. Henceforth its name would be the Otago Savings Bank St Kilda Band. It would also accept funding from the bank. This came about at the AGM where A. Brieseman and J. Harper became life members. In October of the same year the band won the OSBBA Festival of Music held in Milton regaining the Marlow Shield and the Besson Shield awarded to the band attaining the most points in the solos and party contests.

The 75th Jubilee of the band was celebrated in October of that year with suitable festivities. In the years after the jubilee the band concentrated on fund raising for new uniforms and for

St Kilda Brass Band 1986



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St Kilda Brass Band 1988



19

general funds. Reading the minutes of this era it appears there was a general malaise in the band. At the AGM of 1979 members were told that four tenders had been received and these were opened and the highest and lowest tenders were revealed. Also at this meeting Alan Brieseman was congratulated on being awarded the O.B.E. Brother Glen the conductor of the Junior Band was assured of ongoing support by members of the senior band. In 1980 there was some thought of the band going to Australia to compete in the Australian Band Championships The name of the Junior Band was changed to the Otago Savings Bank St Kilda Auxiliary Band on the recommendation of Brother Glen. In 1980 Norman Thorn Jr accepted the position as musical director of the band until May of 1982. The band competed successfully at the provincial contest gaining first place. In Wellington of 1981 the band gained fifth place in the championships and sixth place in the quickstep. In 1981 the band was able to hold the AGM in its own new band rooms at Ravelston Street. It was hoped that the band would achieve good results in the 1982 national contest held in Dunedin. Mr Les Green was elected as a life member of the band. In the Dunedin Contest the band was not placed but several members were placed in solo events. Two members of the band were selected for the National Youth band; Steven Godfrey and Graeme Crombie. The Auxiliary band had competed well in several contests winning the junior band hymn and the concert programme at Mosgiel. In 1983 the honours board in the band rooms was updated. The AGM of 1984 mentioned the success of selling fish as a way of raising funds. Also in this year four members were successful in becoming members of the National Youth Band of New Zealand. They were Graeme Crombie, Gary Valentine, Peter Barwick and Elgar Clayton. In 1985 the band won the provincial contest held at Alexandra for the first time in four years. The band secured its position as an A grade band in Wanganui being better placed than it had been for a number of years. The Bavarian Band was still the major source of funding The band was renamed the Trusteebank Otago St Kilda Band. At the provincial contest of 1986 the band came second and eighth overall at the National contest held in Dunedin. Six members were chosen for the National Youth Band of New Zealand, they

were: G. Dick, A Green, O. Boswell, D. van de Klundert, Miss T. Downard and Miss R. Phibbs.

A successful tour of Australia was the highlight of 1987 and a good result was also attained at the national contest held in Auckland. In 1988 John Edgecombe was reappointed musical director for the 1987/88 year. The band's failure to win any national titles for a great number of years was a matter of grave concern and it was hoped that a junior band could be reformed. It was noted in the AGM of 1989 that Mrs Jean Kirk-Burnand had passed away. That the Australian trip in 1988 was a success both in the musical sense as well as socially. In 1990 John Edgecombe resigned as musical director from the band. It was also reiterated that the band would not be in such a good financial situation without the sale of the fish. During the year of 1991 19 band members were selected to play in an Otago Southland band conducted by Ken Smith. It was pleasing to record that the band won the OSBBA contest and were well placed in the national contest. The band at this time also played at twenty engagements throughout the province including a concert tour of Central Otago. The band was in great spirits when they left Dunedin to play in

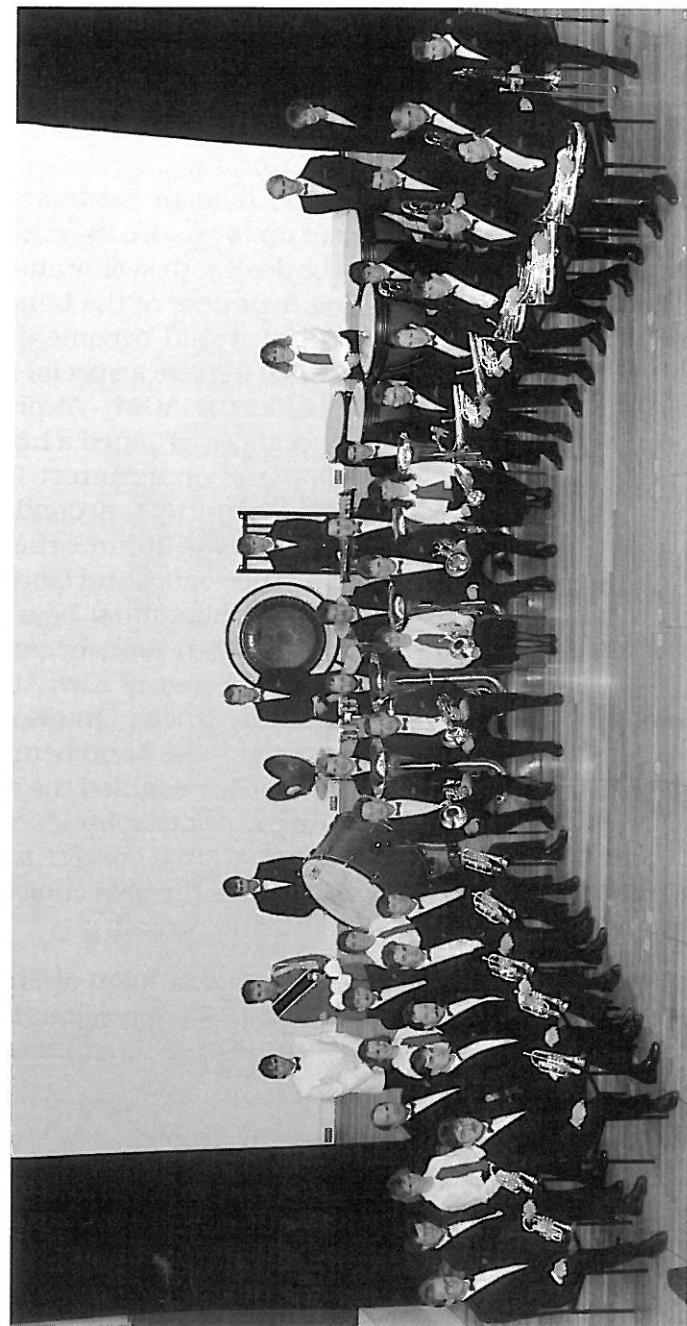
the National contest in Auckland 1992. They played under the baton of Peter Adams who inspired great confidence and also because he had a background in music he could interpret the scores with sensitivity and understanding which the band responded to. Great was the elation when once more 'The Saints' were proclaimed the Champion Band of New Zealand. The band came back to a well earned civic reception preceded by a street march.



The following year the band performed well enough to gain a second overall placing at the Wanganui contest. Funding as always was a persistent problem. Mr Alan Brieseman in his annual report stated that the inability of the band to obtain ongoing funding from the Dunedin City Council was a problem. It was unfortunate that the council did not see the necessity to give a permanent grant to the band which benefited the city. It was also acknowledged how valuable the sponsorship of Trust Bank Otago was in continuing to give the band financial support. At the 93rd AGM it was moved that Peter McHenry become a life member of the band. The members who were selected to play in the 1995 National Band of New Zealand were congratulated. They were Peter McHenry, Errol Moore, Ted Pheloung, David van de Klundert and Rebecca Phibbs. The AGM of 1995 reports that Mrs Dot Brieseman was selected as the NZBBA's Administrator of the Year, a title richly deserved for work in the brass band movement. Ted Pheloung was nominated as a life member of the band. In 1996 the band continued to play at local events including a concert with Suzanne Prentice. The band did not contest at the national contest but several played in solo and party events. Errol Moore was appointed Musical Director. This was a busy year for the band as it went on an extremely successful tour of Queensland, Australia. The collapse of Kiwi Air made the travel arrangements very difficult both going and coming. The name of the band was once more changed to become the 'WestpacTrust St Kilda Brass' in 1997. The band was placed second at the National contest.

Once more at the AGM of 1998 the question of finance was raised. Alan Brieseman commented that in spite of requests for funding from the Dunedin City Council there had been no response. In reply Dr Clive Matthewson said the Otago Community Trust would seriously consider updating the grant. The year of 1999 brought about the reforming of a junior band under the guidance of John Lewis. Mr Errol Moore resigned as musical director and Mr Peter Adams agreed to direct the band both at the provincial and national contests. Unfortunately during this year Westpac Trust indicated it would no longer be able to sponsor the band which meant the band lost a major source of its funding. The band was not placed at the Auckland national contest but gave a

St Kilda Brass Band 1992



creditable performance. In the year 2000 the band once more replaced its uniforms. With the 99th AGM of the now renamed St Kilda Brass thoughts were turning towards the centennial of the band in the year 2001. There had been great interest in the reunion with past members from near and far expressing a desire to return for the celebrations to be held in September 2001. A working committee has been set up to ensure that the day to day administration of the band can be dealt with swiftly and effectively. A chairperson from the playing members of the band was to be elected and the office of president would become independent dealing with matters which deemed to have a special nature. The band chairman would be elected at the AGM. At present in its centennial year the band has once more attained a high standard of performance. At the Australian national contest The St Kilda Band was placed second in the hymn test, second in the test piece and first in drill points. John Lewis became the Australian Champion of Champions playing the cornet and Gordon Barney was first in the double B flat bass. There must be a jinx on the band when they embark on an Australian journey. As recalled in 1996 there was difficulty with the collapse of Kiwi Air. This year trouble struck once more. This time it was Qantas N.Z. who went into receivership with once more the band being stranded. Fortunately the band's insurance policy enabled the matter to be sorted out though not without some quick telephone conversations and hard talking. This year at the national contest in Wanganui the band was awarded second place in the own choice and in the aggregate points the band was second overall.

John Lewis became the New Zealand Champion of Champions in both New Zealand and Australia which is a marvellous feat. Gordon Barney also achieved a first in the double B flat bass solo in the same contests.

Over the years the St Kilda Band has been fortunate to have people with great executive talents. The two longest serving playing members of the band Alan Brieseman and Les Green were on the committee of the New Zealand Brass Band Association. Alan as a committee member and also as the President and Les as the financial adviser for a number of years. It is fitting to also recall

St Kilda Brass Band Breakdown in Australia





people, who have served the band well, giving time and effort into ensuring the smooth functioning of the band. The late Ian Still was an excellent secretary who played the cornet in the band. He also served on the Otago and Southland Brass Band Association. Tom Davie was also a secretary of the band. A warm-hearted man and completely one eyed about the St Kilda band. Dot Brieseman is known throughout the length and breadth of New Zealand and also abroad for her unstinting commitment to not only the St Kilda band but to the band movement generally. She collated the points at many national and local contests, which is no easy task. The Brieseman house has always been a second home to many people connected with the brass band movement and often it has been Dot who has been the one to listen to problems and send people on their way in a more cheerful frame of mind. At contests she is always the one with needle and cotton to provide a quick fix to a uniform in need of a hasty repair job. As well she has been secretary to the band and as previously mentioned, was the first person to receive the New Zealand Brass Band Association's Administrator of the Year award.

Over the years there have been many amusing incidents. Alan and Les could reminisce for hours about the humorous things they remember. The 'affair of the saveloy' rates a special mention. At one AGM Ian Still the secretary became rather long-winded in giving his report. In the kitchen the saveloys were at the point of losing their skins. It was too much for Jack Patterson who pulled a hot sav. out of the pot and aimed it at Ian Still at the very moment he sat down, and the hot saveloy flew past him to decorate the front of J.J. Marlow's white shirt. The saveloys were not the only red things in the kitchen that night. One Anzac day the band was assembling to form up to march down to the Cenotaph in the Queen's Garden's for the dawn service when suddenly a car sped down the road scattering the band and then turned round and repeated the performance. K.G.L. Smith was a brilliant conductor but was also a martinet when it came to people being absent from band practice. In fact there was no excuse allowable short of being on your deathbed. On one occasion Ken stormed out of the last practice before either the test or the own choice. Something had upset him and was left to Lionel Gillions to

persuade him to return to the practice by informing him if he did not do so he would not conduct the band that night. There are many stories to be told and no doubt they will be recalled at the centennial celebrations.

In reading the records of the St Kilda Band there are many aspects to the band which stand out. First and foremost it is an A grade band which has a proud history of competing over the years often becoming the Champion Band. Second is the wonderful service which the band has given to Dunedin City and also to the province of Otago. The band from its earliest years has played at concerts for worthy causes, led processions and played at church parades regardless of denomination,

The band has played at carnivals, race meetings and at Carisbrook for rugby tests, and so the list goes on. From the beginning the band has always had a constant struggle to raise the necessary funds to enable it to compete. Some years there were often not enough funds to allow the band to travel to contests. It has to be remembered that band members have for the main had full time employment, have families, attend practice and play at events, and yet always they give of their time raising money to allow them to continue to function. The band also provides a \$1,000 Student Scholarship to a first year Otago University student. That student also becomes a playing member of the band.

What of the next hundred years? The future looks bright. Bands are becoming more professional with more of the younger players studying music at university. More creative music is being written for brass bands. The movement that had its beginning way back in the eighteenth century will continue to flourish but it is essential the bands get proper sponsorship. As for 'The Saints', the beginning of a new century is a challenge that the members will respond to. Being a band member is more than winning contests or taking part in a parade, it is being part of a team that builds a strong sense of comradeship and the enjoyment of making music. The band can be proud of its past but will look to the future with gratitude at what has been accomplished in the last one hundred years.

This book is dedicated to all members of the 'The Saints' past, present and future.

The St Kilda Brass Band Centennial Organising Committee



Ted Pheloung, Les Green, Neil Hodgkin, Janine Pheloung, Bill Christie
Mel Jack, (Secretary), Alan Brieseman (Chairman), Dot Brieseman

**NEW ZEALAND
COMMUNITY
— TRUST —**

I wish to acknowledge the following for the assistance given to me in writing this history.

The Hocken Library, Mr Kevin Marlow for lending me the book about his grandfather "J.J.'s" Dunedin.


Also Alan and Dot Brieseman and Les Green who were always willing to assist.

COMPETITION PLACINGS

	WHERE HELD	CONDUCTOR	DRUM MAJOR	RESULTS		
				Hymn	Championship	Marching
1905	Temuka	E.Smith		Did not march		
1905	was the Band's first contest and they competed in the B Grade, from then on they were A Grade					
1906	Hawera		Did not compete			
1907	Christchurch	E.Smith		4th	D.N.C.	
1908	New Plymouth	E.Smith		1st	No comp.	
1909	Hastings		Did not compete			
1910	Dunedin	E.Smith	D.Smith	3rd		3rd
1911	Palmerston N		Did not Compete			
1912	Christchurch	E.Smith	D.Smith	3rd		3rd
1912	Dunedin	E.Smith	D.Smith	1st		3rd
1913	Invercargill		Did not compete			
1914	Auckland	E.Smith	D.Smith	5th		10th
1915	World War I					
1916	World War I					
1917	World War I					
1918	World War I					
1919	World War I					
1920	Dunedin	E.Smith	T.Gilchrist	4th		7th
1921	Nelson	E.Smith	T.Gilchrist	2nd=		8th
1922	Wellington		Did not compete			
1923	Dunedin	J.Patterson	W.H.Donaldson		6th	5th
1924	Christchurch	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	5th	2nd	4th
1925	Auckland	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	4th	5th	5th
1926	Dunedin	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson		3rd	2nd
1927	Wellington	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	2nd=	4th	1st
1928	Christchurch	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	1st	5th	4th
1929	Wanganui	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	3rd	1st	1st
1930	Dunedin	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	3rd	4th	1st
1931	No Contest	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson			
1932	Wellington	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	2nd	4th	1st
1933	Dunedin	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	3rd	4th	2nd
1934	Wellington	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	9th	4th	1st
1935	Timaru	James Dixon	W.H.Donaldson	5th	1st	1st
1936	New Plymouth	A.E.Webb	W.H.Donaldson	4th	3rd	2nd
1937	Nelson	W.L.Francis	W.H.Donaldson	3rd	4th	4th
1938			Did not compete			
1939	Christchurch	W.L.Francis	W.H.Donaldson	5th	3rd	1st
1940	Wellington	W.L.Francis	W.H.Donaldson	6th	1st	1st
1941	No Contest World War II					
1942	No Contest World War II					
1943	No Contest World War II					
1944	No Contest World War II					
1945	No Contest World War II					
1946	Christchurch	W.L.Francis	J.McKnight	2nd	2nd=	1st
1947	Wanganui	W.L.Francis	J.McKnight	2nd	2nd=	1st
1948	Dunedin	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight	4th	1st=	1st
1949	Auckland	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight	2nd	1st	1st

1949 Ballarat Aust.	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight		1st	2nd
1950 Christchurch	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight	3rd	2nd	7th
1951 Wellington	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight	5th	2nd	5th
1952 Dunedin	K.G.L.Smith	J.McKnight	5th	2nd	3rd
1953 Wanganui		Did not compete			
1954 Christchurch		Did not Compete			
1955 Auckland	K.G.Smith Jr.	Les Parry	5th	1st	2nd
1956 Invercargill	K.G.Smith Jr.	Les Parry	3rd	5th	2nd
1957 Napier	Alan Brieseman	Les Parry	5th	2nd	2nd
1958 Dunedin	Elgar Clayton	Les Parry	3rd	1st	4th
1959 Wellington	Elgar Clayton	Les Parry	9th	5th	4th
1960 Christchurch	Elgar Clayton	Les Parry	2nd	3rd	4th=
1961 Auckland	Elgar Clayton	Les Parry	5th	4th	5th
1962 Dunedin	Elgar Clayton	Les Parry	2nd=	1st	2nd
1963 Wellington	Elgar Clayton	Snow" Timms	3rd	1st	2nd
1964 Christchurch	Elgar Clayton	Snow" Timms	2nd=	2nd=	3rd=
1965 Auckland		Did Not compete			
1966 Dunedin	Ken Smith Jr.	Eric Dncan	2nd	1st	4th
1967 Wellington	Allan Francis	Eric Dncan	1st	4th	3rd
1968 Christchurch	Allan Francis	David Smith	1st	5th	4th
1969 Rotorua	Allan Francis	David Smith	2nd=	3rd	2nd
1970 Dunedin	Ken Aiken-Jones	David Smith	4th	1st	6th
1971 Wanganui		Did not Compete			
1972 Christchurch	K. Aiken-Jones	Jock McQuarie	5th	7th	8th
1973 Wellington		Did not compete			
1974 Dunedin	Neil Peacock	G.Middlemass	6th	6th=	8th
1975 Auckland		Did not Compete			
1976 Christchurch	John Edgecombe	Jock McQuarie	7th	6th=	8th
1977 Wellington	John Edgecombe	Jock McQuarie	4th	5th	5th
1978 Dunedin	John Edgecombe	Jock McQuarie	8th	10th	7th
1979 Hamilton		Did not compete			
1980 Christchurch	Gil. Morrison	Allan Knight	9th	10th=	4th
1981 Wellinton	Norman Thorn	Allan Knight	9th	6th=	7th
1982 Dunedin	Norman Thorn	Allan Knight	7th	8th	6th
1983 Auckland	Norman Thorn Jr	Allan Knight	7th=	5th	8th
1984 Nelson	Norman Thorn Jr	Allan Knight	9th	11th	8th
1985 Wanganui	John Edgecombe	Keith manning	6th	7th	8th
1986 Dunedin	John Edgecombe	Russell Dick	4th	9th	cancelled
1987 Auckland	John Edgecombe	Russell Dick	2nd	7th	5th
1988 Christchurch	John Edgecombe	Russell Dick	9th	6th	7th
1989 Wellington	John edgecombe	Ted Pheloung	6th	7th=	8th
1990 Dunedin	Peter Adams	Ted Pheloung	4th=	8th	6th
1991 Christchurch	Peter Adams	Ted Pheloung	5th	6th	7th
1992 Auckland	Peter Adams	Graeme Crombie	9th	1st	4th
1993 Wanganui	Peter Adams	Ted Pheloung	5th	2nd=	6th
Street March					
1994 Invercargill	Peter Adams	Ted Pheloung	4th	5th	5th
1995 Rotorua	Peter Adams	Ted Pheloung	4th	10th	8th
1996 Christ church		Did not compete			
1997 New Plymouth	Errol Moore	Peter McHenry	4th	5th=	cancelled
1998 Dunedin	Errol Moore	Ted Pheloung	4th	6th	5th
1999 Auckland	Peter Adams	Peter McHenry	6th	10th	4th
2000 Christchurch	Peter Adams	Peter McHenry	6th	4th	4th
2001 Brisbane	Peter Adams	Peter McHenry	2nd	4th	3rd
2001 Wanganui	Peter Adams	Peter McHenry	4th	2nd	5th=





WestpacTrust | ST. KILDA BRASS

LIFE MEMBERS

ROBT. JACKSON J. CONGALTON H. DICKINSON W. YEOMAN W. L. PATERSON G. E. PATTERSON A. H. NELSON W. M. SMITH T. WILLIAMS T. F. McLEAN R. COUGHLAN JAS. DIXON G. J. CHRISTIE A. G. HOMER W. J. MAY T. D. ROGERS C. OBEN	W. WALLACE W. H. DONALDSON T. D. STALKER R. W. MILLER J. LEES J. D. HUNTER R. S. WATERSTON I. E. STILL J. J. MARLOW, O.B.E. G. R. MOWAT I. BASSETT A. L. PARRY T. DAVIE MRS. J. KIRK - BURNAND M.B.E. A. BRIESEMANN O.B.E. J. HARPER L.A. GREEN	B. RENFREE P.J. McHENRY C.E. PHELOUNG
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Mr Les Green (on left) and Mr Alan Brieseman

Longest serving playing members of the band.



ST. KILDA MUNICIPAL BAND

WINNERS

New Zealand Championship and Quickstep Competition. Timaru Contest, February, 1935



I. BASSETT W. BERRYMAN R. COLVIN W. DONALDSON V. ALDRIDGE G. J. CHRISTIE
T. McLEAN C. N. UNWIN D. H. SCOTT WM. SMITH I. C. BOOTH A. D. MANSON A. R. BOLTON W. L. PATTERSON
J. D. HUNTER D. DAKERS A. WINGSLADE H. S. LATTIMER R. MILLER R. COUGHLAN C. OBEN J. L. GARDINER
T. WILLIAMS A. G. HOMER T. J. HOWE JAS. DIXON C. MILLER A. HARROD T. D. ROGERS

J. LEES Presented to W. WALLACE

JAS. DIXON Esq. conductor

By Members of the Band as a token of Respect and Esteem.