



## **UNLEY CONCERT BAND**

### **ANZAC TOUR BULLETIN #1 4 March 2008**

#### **1. Introduction**

Your Committee and I are very excited to introduce our proposed tour for 2008. This will be the Unley Concert Band's first major tour to an overseas destination, and will also incorporate a visit to Sydney to contest the Australian National Band Championships.

The European portion of our tour will involve various commemoration events in Paris, Belgium, and the Somme. This tour presents a range of opportunities including fellowship, shopping, and sightseeing, but also the more reflective and spiritual experiences related to the outcomes of war, sacrifice, and remembrance.

This is the first *Tour Bulletin*. Future bulletins will update all members on the various aspects of the tour as we approach departure.

#### **2. Itinerary**

Please find enclosed a *draft* itinerary for this tour. The itinerary is subject to change and refinement as we continue our preparations. A final itinerary will be issued in April, 2009.

You will notice the following details:

- The tour will depart on Good Friday, 2009
- Contest day will be Easter Saturday. It is not envisaged that we will participate in the Parade of Bands.
- The Band will give a performance and spend the day at the Royal Easter Show on Easter Sunday
- Easter Monday is a free day in Sydney
- We will have one full rehearsal day before our departure for Europe

- The European portion of our tour consists of three parts: Belgium (including Bruges and Brussels), Paris, and the Somme.
- There will be opportunities for both individual and group exploration, including a number of group tourist and sightseeing activities in addition to free time for individual interests.
- ANZAC Day will be spent on the Somme, working with the Australian Embassy (Paris) and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- We will return to Adelaide following the completion of the commemorative activities.

### **3. Accommodation and Meals**

All accommodation will be clean and safe hostel style situations. Members will be required to share rooms. This itinerary includes all breakfasts and evening meals as specified. Members will be required to make their own arrangements for lunch each day. Lunches are not included in the tour price.

### **4. Partners**

Unley Concert Band always encourages partners to accompany us on tour and to share the various experiences we offer our members. A *limited number* of places will be available for non-playing partners and supporters, and these participants will be subject to the same tour conditions and deadlines as for playing members.

### **5. Tour Variations**

It may be possible to assist members with individual tour arrangements, particularly for changes in travel arrangements for return to Adelaide at the end of the itinerary. Please write to me with details.

### **6. Passports**

All tour participants must make arrangements for passports and visas (if required). You must have at least *six months* validity remaining on your passport from the day of departure of this tour.

### **7. Instruments**

All members must make appropriate arrangements for insurance cover for personal instruments. It is also expected that you will take your best instrument on this tour – no cheap 'stunt' instruments, please.

### **8. Tour Cost and Payment Schedule**

The cost of this tour is quoted at \$5780.00. This includes all items listed on the tour conditions – note especially the government taxes and airport charges and travel

insurance. This is a very good price for a tour of this scope. Please note that this price is subject to change. However, our tour operator advises that the price is unlikely to be higher.

All members are asked to make a special effort to meet the payment deadlines listed on the tour conditions. This is necessary for our tour operators to make arrangements and payments on our behalf, and also to minimise the work of your committee in chasing up late contributions.

Please contact me directly *in advance of the deadlines* if you have any issues relating to payments.

### **9. Tour commitment**

Please complete the enclosed Nomination form and bring it – along with your cheque for \$250.00 – to any rehearsal before the end of March. This is necessary to secure your place on this tour.

### **10. Conclusion**

I hope that the membership will be excited by this tour itinerary. This represents a rare and special opportunity for our Band to share a most wonderful experience with each other, while we contribute our music to some very significant events. I look forward to leading the Unley Concert Band on its next major project.

Dr Kevin Cameron  
Music Director  
4 March 2008