Secondary Music Newsletter  
March 11, 2016

Music Department Captains 2016  
Four captains have been chosen from an excellent group of students who applied. Congratulations go to Ryan Bovey, Peter Fay, Tess Waller and Emma Wong who have received their badges of office at the Leadership Assembly. These students will represent the department through compering various concerts and Music Recitals, assisting staff and students in the ensembles they are involved in and looking to help enhance our busy department.

![Image of captains](image1)

Ryan Bovey  Peter Fay  Tess Waller  Emma Wong

Foundation Day and Student Leadership Assembly  
The Big Band performed well as part of the combined Foundation Day and Student Leadership Assembly which was held in Week 4 in the Duggan Hall. The students performed very well and featured vocal singing by Ellie Belonogoff (Year 9).
Music Workshops

February and March 2016 has seen a Cyclone free season and I am very pleased to say that both weekends of music workshops took place this year.

Over the first weekend February 26 - 28 the following ensembles were at the workshop: Primary Concert Band; Concert Band; Symphonic Band; Primary Jazz Ensemble; Secondary Choir; Chamber Choir; Folk Groups; Middle School Strings, String Orchestra and the Senior String Ensemble.

The RGS Music Council sponsored four tutors to fly up from Brisbane – James Bun, Sean MacKenzie, Amanda Holley and past RGS Music Teacher Melissa Herron with one newly discovered string tutor in Rockhampton – Mrs Kirrilee Stewart.

A final Concert was held in the Theatre instead of the Spaceframe due to oppressive heat and humidity experienced over this weekend.

The Second weekend of workshops (March 4 – 6) were held at Ritamada with the Stage Band, Big Band and Small Jazz Ensemble workshopping hard. Once again the RGS Music Council sponsored two tutors and past students Moniqua Lowth (Trombone) and Scott Foley (Saxophone) to assist our students and teachers.

The weather could not have contrasted any more with heavy rain falling from Saturday night through to our premature end to the camp on Sunday afternoon. It definitely was great weather for ducks! I would like to personally thank the following people: Mrs Phuong Wong (transporting equipment); Dr Nick Wong (allowing his wife to drive the Nissan Navarra ©), Rhonda Hite, Elisa Williams, John Hamilton, Brienna Isokangas, Danielle Boto, Nicholas Cavallaro, Michelle Waller and Phillip Moulds for their hard work directing and supervising our students; Damien Boicos (supervising a beach activity at Ritamada); Rodney Johnson
(Ritamada looked beautiful); RGS Catering – Mrs Johanna Sutherland and our wonderful Maintenance men who transported most of the equipment to and from Ritamada.

**Australian Chamber Orchestra Workshops**

Over 20 string students from schools across the Central Queensland region attended the Australian Chamber Orchestra String Workshops at The Rockhampton Grammar School on 8 March. Providing an insight into the art of chamber music were Australian Chamber Orchestra string ensemble members Peter Clark (Violin), Jenny Khafagi (Violin), William Clark (Viola) and Paul Zabowarny (Cello). Paul Zabowarny said the workshop gave the students an opportunity to understand how they play as an ensemble without a conductor and how they follow each other when they perform. “This is also about how to communicate without using language,” Paul said. “Schools focus on technical skills and playing the instruments in this environment, which is rightly so. We’re just teaching them a different concept and it’s amazing how fast the students understand the new concepts. It’s always a very uplifting experience working with the students and the future of classical music is alive and well in these towns (regional Australia).”

Paul said at the workshop they aimed to treat the students as professionals. “We want them (the students) to feel connected with the music, connected with other musicians and have an experience as creating art/music as an ensemble,” Paul said.

Rockhampton Grammar School Year 8 student Sansuka De Silva said the workshop was extremely interesting. “I learnt a lot of new things including how to put more emotions into the songs I am playing,” Sansuka said.
Students received expert teacher in violin, viola, cello and double bass before finishing with a concert at the end of their workshop. These workshops are held across Australia.

SHEP Capricornia Secondary (March 11-13) and Middle School (March 18-20)

A number of students have been accepted into the SHEP (State Honours Ensemble Programme) Secondary and SHEP Middle School Programmes held in March.
Easter Service
The Senior Choir and String Ensemble will be performing at the Easter Service on Wednesday March 23-
Week 9.

The RGS Music Council
The RGS Music Council is a group of parents and teachers that support students in the cocurricular music
program at the Rockhampton Grammar School. The Music Council works in direct consultation with the
Music Department to provide assistance to ensure the continuation of the rich and rewarding cocurricular
music experience.

The 2016 Music Council Committee consists of Claire Smith (President), Phillippa Flockhart (Secretary),
Steve Merrick (Treasurer) and Suzanne Van de Vleure (Vice President).

During Term 1 the Music Council is funding a range of instruments/ equipment and Music Workshops to
benefit the various School Ensembles and Classroom Music Programme.

During March the Music Council is supporting a music workshop weekends to allow the bands and co-
curricular music groups at RGS to ‘kick start’ into their programs. This involved the Music Council funding
flights and fees for specialist tutors to attend each weekend workshop.

Next term the Music Council looks forward to hosting a music recital on Friday May 27. This will be a
fantastic opportunity to showcase some of the schools musical talent and socialise with the RGS music
community. The next meeting of the Music Council will be held in the Music Department, Level 3, Islay Lee
Learning Centre on Thursday May 5 at 7.30 pm. All interested parents are very welcome to attend.

2016 Music Department Activities
The following is a list of the upcoming events still to take place this year:

Term One

- Week 7 - Fri 11th – Sun 13th March – State Honours Ensemble Programme – Capricornia – NRSHS.
- Week 8 - Fri 18th – Sun 20th March – State Honours Ensemble Programme – Middle School Capricornia
  – NRSHS.
- Week 9 - 23rd March – 9:50 am - Formal Assembly Easter Service – (Secondary Choir to Perform with
  Strings accompanying).

Term Two

- Week 10 – 14th April - 7:30 pm – Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music Room 2 – Islay Lee
  Learning Centre.
- Week 10 – Fri 15th April – Year 12 Formal – Stage Band and Big Band extras to play at the Arrival
  from 5 – 6pm.
- Week 11 – Wed 20th and Thurs 21st April – 1:50 – 3:10 – Anzac Day Marching Practice – Combined
  Stage/ Concert Bands to play.
- Week 11 – Fri 22nd April – 9:30 am - Anzac Day School Service – (combined Symphonic and
  Concert Bands).
- Week 12 – Mon 25 April 8:30 am – 11:00 am – Anzac Day Community March - (combined
  Symphonic and Concert Bands).
- Week 12 – Thurs 28 April - Rockhampton Eisteddfod – Piano Sections commence.
- Week 13 – Thurs 5th May 7:30 pm – Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music room 2 – Islay
  Lee Learning Centre.
• Week 13 – 2nd – 5th May - Rockhampton Eisteddfod – Instrumental Sections.
• Week 13 – Fri 6th May – Mother’s Day Luncheon Concert – Theatre – 10 – 11am.
• Week 13 – Sat 7th May – RGS Race Day Callaghan Park – (Stage Band involved??) Clash with Generations in Jazz this Year.
• Week 13 - Friday 6th May – Sunday 8th May – Generations in Jazz Big Band Tour – Mount Gambier South Australia.
• Week 14 – Sun 8th May – Rockhampton Eisteddfod – Dance Sections commence.
• Week 15 – Sun 15th May – Rockhampton Eisteddfod – Speech & Drama Sections commence.
• Week 16 – Sun 22 May Rockhampton Eisteddfod – Vocal Sections commence.
• Week 16 – Fri 27 May 7:00 pm – Grammarians Music Council Recital #1 (drinks/ wine & cheese on top floor of Islay Lee Learning Centre followed by recital in Memorial Assembly Hall).
• Week 17 - Thurs 2nd June 7:30 pm - Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music room 2 – Islay Lee Learning Centre.
• Week 18 - Saturday 11th June 6:30 pm – 2017 Music Tour JAZZ & SHIRAZ EVENING Fundraiser at Rowing Club proposed.

Term Three

• Week 1 - Thurs 21 July 7:30 pm - Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music room 2 – Islay Lee Learning Centre.
• Week 2 – Thurs 4th Aug 7:30 pm – Grammarians Music Council Meeting –Music Room 2 – Islay Lee Learning Centre
• Week 3 Sat 6th August – Musical bumps in to Pilbeam Theatre.
• Week 4 – 8th – 11th August – Musical Rehearsals at Pilbeam after school – 10:00 pm.
• Week 4 – 12th – 14th August – Musical Performances at Pilbeam Theatre.
• Week 5 Friday 26th August 7:00 pm - Grammarians Music Council Recital #2 (drinks/ wine & cheese on top floor of Islay Lee Learning Centre followed by recital in Memorial Assembly Hall).
• Week 6 – Thurs 1st September 7:30 pm - Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music room 2 – Islay Lee Learning Centre.
• Week 7 – Fri 9th – 10th September – Primary Musical at Pilbeam Theatre.
• Spring Vacation - 28th Sept – Oct 1 – State Honours Ensemble Programme Qld in Brisbane.

Term Four

• Week 10 - Thurs 6th October 7:30 pm Grammarians Music Council Meeting – Music room 2 – Islay Lee Learning Centre.
• Week 11 - Saturday 15th October 6:30 pm – MUSIC FESTIVAL – Pilbeam Theatre.
• 23 October – Leadership Ceremony – (String Orchestra to perform).
• Week 12 - Fri 21 October – Sports Awards Evening – (Stage Band to perform).
• Week 13 - Sat 29th October – Cultural Awards Evening – Theatre.
• Week 16 – Sunday 13th November – Carols in the Frame – (Jazz bands/ Primary/ Secondary Choirs to perform).
• Week 16 – Tuesday 15th November – Year 5 & 6 Classroom Music Concert – Theatre.
• Week 17 - Wed 23rd November – Primary School Speech Night – (Primary Choirs, Primary Concert Band and Secondary String Orchestra to perform).
• Week 17 - Thurs 24th November – Middle and Senior School Speech Night – (Symphonic Band, Big Band, Small Jazz Ensemble and Secondary Choir to perform).