



SUNDAY 16 AUGUST, 2026

WENKART THEATRE KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL

START TIME		EVENTS	ADJUDICATOR
1	9:30am	Wilbur Sampson, Robert McAnally	Megan Lipworth
2	11:40am	Wilbur Sampson, Robert McAnally	Bec Morris
3	1:50pm	Joe Cook	Bec Morris



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ROBERT H. McANALLY

Robert H. McAnally was undoubtedly the most prolific Australian composer/arranger of music for bands, particularly brass bands. His early musical career began with the Salvation Army, and he later became conductor of the New South Wales Tramways Band. He was one of the founders of the now defunct New South Wales Bandmasters' Association based in Sydney. He wrote many difficult marches, including *Implacable*, *Indomitable*, *The Spitfire*, arranged *Waltzing Matilda* as a march and composed a programmatic march for the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932 entitled *Triumph of Industry*. On a visit to London he

was honoured to see the Massed Guards Band march down The Mall playing his march *The Spitfire*, which was inspired by the Spitfire pilots of the Second World War.

When the ABC established its National Military Band in 1934 it was McAnally who auditioned the players from all over Australia and brought the band together for the arrival of Colonel H.E. Adkins – director of the famous Kneller Hall Military School of Music in England. McAnally spent most of his life in Sydney and died in Albury. Cliff Goodchild OAM



WILBUR SAMPSON

Wilbur Sampson was a well known Sydney musician whose career began with the Salvation Army. He was a tuba player in the ABC Military Band and was a well known arranger and orchestrator.

He started composing film music in 1949 and received much help from American film composer, David Butolf. Films for which Wilbur Sampson wrote include: *Smiley Gets a Gun*, *King of the Coral Sea* and *Dust in the Sun*. We wrote all the music for the *Walkabout* television series which was screened in Britain and other countries. He also composed a song, *Christmas Candles*, which was a big hit in America after being recorded by the Andrews Sisters.

Wilbur Sampson tragically died at age 44 of cancer, leaving his wife, Phyllis and 11 children. Later, record earnings from royalties, mainly from overseas, were a windfall to his deserving family.

An indication of the esteem in which Sampson was held was the large crowd which attended the benefit concert given in the Cinesound Studios at Bondi Junction.

Photo supplied by Wilbur Sampson's daughter, Marie Hambleton, who currently resides in Qld. In her covering letter Marie wrote, '*Dad was a particularly humble man who would be thrilled that he should be remembered in this way.*'

The SBF is proud to keep alive the memory of another great Australian musician.



JOE COOK

Joe Cook commenced his music making in 1961, learning the euphonium in St Marys, New South Wales and then studying trombone at the Canberra School of Music. He has performed and recorded with a range of musical groups including the Tasmanian, West Australian and Melbourne Symphony Orchestras, Hawthorn City Brass (Australian Champions), and has won many Australian Solo Championships on euphonium and trombone, including the 2001 and 2003 Ern Keller Australasian Solo title and the 2003 Australian Solo Champion of Champions title.

In 2000 Joe retired from the Australian Army Band Corps as a Captain after 23 years service (which included the last six years as Music Director of the Australian Army Band Tasmania) and has settled permanently in Tasmania.

He presently freelances as a performer, instrumental teacher, music composer/arranger and his recent original works include the contest march, *Keighley Moor* (used by the YBS Band as a signature tune), the concert march, *Taskforce* and many arrangements for band including the flugelhorn solo, *Body and Soul*, recorded by the Grimethorpe Colliery (UK Coal) Band and well-known titles such as the movie theme, *The Man from Snowy River*.



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TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

These insert pages detail the ensembles which will be performing this weekend only. For a full list of all ensembles playing at this year's Festival please look towards the back of the main program which can be picked up in the foyer or downloaded from our website.

Wilbur Sampson & Joe Cook *events*

ADJUDICATOR - MEGAN LIPWORTH	9:30am	RESULT
Wilbur Sampson Primary School Concert Band Event		
Beaumont Road Public School Junior Band - Sarah Taylor		
Hornsby North Public School Junior Band - Ben Perche		
Thornleigh West Public School Training Band - Andrew Hamblin		
Turramurra North Public School Junior Band - Kevin Smith		
Robert McAnally Primary School Concert Band Event		
Turramurra North Public School Performance Band - Rob Di Marzo		
Beaumont Road Public School Intermediate Band - Luis Madrid		
Hornsby North Public School Intermediate Band - Ben Perche		
Thornleigh West Public School Junior Band - Andrew Hamblin		

Wilbur Sampson & Robert McAnally *events*

ADJUDICATOR - BEC MORRIS	11:40am	RESULT
Wilbur Sampson Primary School Concert Band Event		
Warrawee Public School Training Band - Tim Ferrier		
Oakhill Drive Public School Junior Band Band - Jessica Ling		
Robert McAnally Primary School Concert Band Event		
Epping West Public School Intermediate Band - Christine Pringle		
Riverview Regis Concert Band - James Walder		
Barker College Junior School Concert Band - Brendan Collins		
Epping Public School Concert Band - Ellie Blenman		
Pennant Hills Public School Intermediate Concert Band - Rose Foster		
Samuel Gilbert Public School Concert Band - Heather Skinner		

Joe Cook *event*

ADJUDICATOR - BEC MORRIS	1:50pm	RESULT
Joe Cook Primary School Concert Band Event		
Barker College Junior School Wind Orchestra - Graham Hunt		
Epping Public School Symphonic Winds - Sadaharu Muramatsu		
Pennant Hills Public School Senior Concert Band - Dave Odams		
Samuel Gilbert Public School Performance Band - Heather Skinner		
Abbotsleigh Junior School Concert Band - Susannah Pinter		
Gordon West Public School Senior Concert Band - Damian Butler		



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