

Birthday bash for band

MANNINGHAM Concert Band is counting down to its Gala Day on Saturday, August 26, which will this year carry even greater significance.

The day will also mark the band's 30th anniversary. "We are very excited," band secretary and clarinettist Claire Stanner said.

"The gala concert is always exciting, but it will be particularly important being our 30th birthday."

The gala, to be held at Doncaster Secondary College Theatre, promises to show how far the band has come since forming in 1976.

"Some community members decided kids should not only be playing music in school but

continue to enjoy the hobby after school," musical director Andrew Van Gemert said.

"The concert band was created and straight away there was interest from teenagers to people in their 50s. Nowadays the ages range from 15 to 80."

The event will feature the Manningham Children's Choir and Baulkham Hills High School (Sydney) Concert Band, while the Doncaster and Templestowe Historical Society will exhibit aspects of Manningham's heritage in the foyer.

"We will be performing Australian music that has either been written by Australian composers or is about Australia," Stanner said.

The gala begins at 7.30pm.

DATE: 16/8/06



Andrew Van Gemert and Shaun Jones get ready to celebrate Manningham Concert Band's 30th birthday.

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