



## HIGH NOTES

In 1994 Tom Raymond earned the distinction of winning the Dr W. D. Rimmer Memorial Award for the most promising performer under 18 years of age. This was wonderful recognition not only for Tom but also for the school at a time when the bands were of such dimension and repute that they had dedicated photo pages in the school magazines and took a trip to Sydney to see 'Phantom of the Opera'. Mrs Helen Cronin was also acknowledged that year, her final year with the school, for her leading role in the Instrumental Music Support Group.

Tom and Leigh Raymond represented P.S.H.S. at the MOST (Musically Outstanding Students) Camp in Brisbane in 1995 and in the following year the Instrumental group was the only ensemble invited to perform at the Toowoomba Heritage Choral Festival. Many past and present students came together in 1996 to perform in a magnificent concert to farewell Mrs Heather Schnitzerling.

In 1997 the Orchestra and Concert Bands were photographed in a musical uniform and all 49 of them looked terrific. Tom Raymond and Emma Baker represented at MOST and the Instrumental Music Parents' Support Group (IMPSG) celebrated ten years of fundraising with the announcement of the most generous \$1000 annual sponsorship by Cooks Soft Drinks.

The IMPSG was honoured with an Australia Day Cultural Award in 1999 and Carol Baker's role in this group as Convenor was acknowledged by Senior Music Teacher, Michael Ward.

The new century heralded the inauguration of the school Music Captains at PSHS. Briana Sterling had this role and this honour was accorded each year until last year when a new House system was introduced. The annual recital of 2000 attracted over 200 people and former student Peta Van Bekkum was one of guest artists on the night. The Concert Band morphed into a Marching Band for each ANZAC Day commemoration and in 2001 the Pittsworth Shire Council kindly donated marching percussion equipment. The school band had travelled a long way from those rice shakers of yore.

Music Extension became part of the school curriculum and Robyn Silcock played with the Qld Youth Orchestra. Students also attended a workshop with world class musicians used to performing with Tom Jones and Pink Floyd – not just another brick in the wall.

The Music trilogy concludes next week.