

16 December, 1946, contin.

"Mr. McDonald has been associated with the different Bands in Thames for 45 years." (Since c. 1901). Mr. Rhodes spoke at length. In appreciation, it was decided Mr. McDonald be made the Band's first Life Member and receive a medal.

Resignations were received from Messrs. A.E. Sutcliffe and D. Walker, the latter leaving the area, with eoniums and expressions of regret.

Thornton's Bay Aquatic Assn. asked the Band to play at their annual Regatta for New Year's Day at Thornton's Bay. The Band was quite willing and would ask the Assn. if they were taking up a collection, "and if not would it be in order if the Band did so?"

"Mr. Cosgrove showed the Band samples of hats he had been able to procure in Auckland." Decided the lighter hats at 18/3 each be got, to order 30.

"Samples of Braid were also shown by Mr. Cosgrove, and it was decided the one chosen be dyed gold." It was decided that Mr. Cosgrove see the Misses Donnelly re the quantity of braid that would be required for each uniform and the Secretary was to order the Braid from George Court's.

Buttons were left in abeyance till a later date. "The Secretary, however, was to write to anyone she thought fit about them."

"Mr. Rhodes spoke of the Contest and the need for urgency in the decision as to whether or not the Band would be taking part. After some discussion the members decided to leave the matter stand until the first practice after Christmas."

"It was decided that the Band play out on Christmas Eve."

Winner Crosbie was presented with the E. Brownlee medal.

Thanks to Messrs. G. Edwards and Werner for making stands for the Band, appreciation by all.

Committee meetings again 2nd Tuesdays.

Delegates to United Services : G. Cosgrove and K. Brownlee.

Thanks to Ladies' Committee. "The Band hoped to be able to give the Social Committee more support in the coming year.

Band music to be sorted on Thursday night.

"Mr. Walker suggested that the Band hold a picnic early in 1947. All members were very much in favour and it was decided that the matter be given early attention in the New Year."

Annual subscription raised to senior 2/6, scholars 1/-.

"Mr. Walker suggested that the Paeroa and Waihi Bands be invited to Thames for the day. The Bands to play together. If Thames Band paid their expenses they might consider coming. It was decided to leave the matter in abeyance till the New Year."

Commencing practice January 13, 1947 New Year.

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1947 began well for Thames in general. My own diary notes mention the contrast with 1943, when there were empty shops and workshops, while now they were not only no longer empty, but accompanied by new ones springing up. Thames was on the move. The Band began the year preoccupied with matters like Regatta and Carnivals and Band Contests and the coming of Uniforms, ~~in~~ rather than finance and existenc