

History of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod from 1931 to 2010

**Bob Dodman, Life Member City of Toowoomba Eisteddfod
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The History of the Eisteddfod Movement

The Eisteddfod tradition began in Wales and stretches back across at least 900 years of recorded Eisteddfodau. One literal translation of eisteddfod is “be seated” and refers to an old tradition established in competitions amongst bards when the winner received a “chair” at the Kings table. A great deal of tradition surrounds these meetings of the bards and it is well documented in a book by Cath Filmer-Davies entitled “Eisteddfod: A Welsh Tradition in Australia” (Seren Press Brisbane, 2001). The First Welsh National Eisteddfod was held in 1881.

The information in italics below is a direct quotation from her book and is gratefully acknowledged.

An Eisteddfod can be described as a *“series of competitions generally related to the performing arts. Its aim is to encourage the development of performers, young and old, to give them a platform for performance that they might never otherwise have had, and to afford to competitors the experience and personal growth available from the opportunities they have to gain access to impartial and expert adjudications from people who possess the highest qualifications in the field”*. It provides *“the opportunity to hear other interpretations of set works, a platform for performance and the opportunity to have an audience and a great chance of enhancing a fledgling musical, dancing or dramatic career”*.

There is also much information in her book about the development of Eisteddfodau in Australia.

The first Eisteddfod in Australia was held in Ballarat in 1855 and was related to an influx of Welsh miners searching for gold. Unfortunately it failed to flourish and the last of its kind was held in 1869. It was subsequently revitalised by a merger with Royal South Street Debating Competitions during the 1890s. It should be noted that the Royal South Street Competitions were the forerunner of the Sun Aria competitions with one winner being Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

The first Eisteddfod in Queensland was held in Gympie in March 1885. Others followed in Charters Towers in 1888, and later the North Queensland Eisteddfod began in 1921.

The beginnings of the major Eisteddfod movement in southern Queensland came with the establishment of coal mining around Ipswich in the 1860s. Many Welsh coal miners settled in the area and the Welsh Union Church (now the United Welsh Church) was built in 1886 with support from a rich Welsh coal miner, Lewis Thomas. An Eisteddfod was held in this Church on New Year’s Day 1887. A local choir was formed to contest this Eisteddfod and is still operating as the Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir.

In due course the Queensland Eisteddfod Council was formed in 1908 and under its auspices the Queensland Eisteddfod is held over the Easter weekend with a circuit involving a number of cities including Brisbane, Ipswich, Gympie, Maryborough, Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Toowoomba (and occasionally other places). Although the name suggests that the Queensland Eisteddfod covers all of Queensland in fact it is just south-east Queensland. A separate North Queensland Eisteddfod was begun in 1921 and continues in various northern cities over the Easter weekend.

The first Queensland Eisteddfod in Toowoomba was held in 1908. It is worth noting that in 1911 (may have been 1917 according to Chronicle citations in Trove) the Queensland Eisteddfod was held in a large marquee in Warwick and the final night attracted 3000 people.

Establishment of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod

The first Eisteddfod in 1931

Some information about the early history of the Eisteddfod movement in Toowoomba is provided by extracts from The Toowoomba Chronicle and Darling Downs Gazette dated April, 1931.

“For the first time since 1924, Toowoomba is to have a big Eisteddfod. Children's Eisteddfodau have been organised very successfully during the past few years, but this time there are competitions for the adults as well as the children. The Eisteddfod is being organised under the auspices of the Women's Auxiliary branch of the RSSILA (Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia) and the proceeds will be devoted to the relief of distress among unemployed returned men and their families. A special sub-committee of musical people has been working for some months and the number of entries received from the different competitions has far exceeded expectations. Competitors are coming from all parts, some from Roma and Brisbane and other centres.”

This first Eisteddfod (April 1931) was held in the Memorial Hall on the corner of Herries and Ruthven Streets. The Chairman of the Organising Committee was Mr JJ Miller, joint Secretaries were Miss Lily Lee and Mr J Seeley and Treasurer was Mrs PC Adams.

Further Chronicle reporting stated, “The large audiences at all Sections of the Eisteddfod constitute a convincing proof of the interest taken in the revival of musical festivals in Toowoomba. Time was when the Downs City was famous for its musical festivals and was recognized as one of the strongholds of music in the Commonwealth and it has been a source of regret to those interested in the encouragement of good music in the community that our city has to a great extent lost its standing in this respect. Judging by the enormous amount of interest shown in this venture, it should not be difficult to regain some of our lost status and it is satisfactory to know that the promoters of the Eisteddfod intend to make it a yearly event.” A Spelling Bee was held as part of the first Eisteddfod and they also held a Winner's Concert!

Unfortunately there is no copy of the Program for the first Eisteddfod held in 1931 but copies of all subsequent Programs are held in the Archives. Some are showing signs of severe deterioration and the 1932 Program has been scanned and burnt to CD.

We do know that Miss Madge Chamberlin sang in that first Eisteddfod and her mother, Edna Chamberlin was an Accompanist. The Chamberlin name has been closely linked with the Toowoomba Eisteddfod since its inception.

History of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod in each Generation

1931 to 1940

During this period the Eisteddfod was held under the auspices of the RSSILA (The Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia – Toowoomba Sub-Branch).

Although no Program is available for the first Eisteddfod held in 1931, much information has been found in excerpts from the Toowoomba Chronicle and Gazette during April. There were 4 Sessions in the RSL Memorial Hall and there were Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin and Recitation competitions as well as a Spelling Bee. Some Sections involved Preliminaries. A Winner's Concert was held on the final Saturday evening.

From 1931 to 1934 the Eisteddfod was held in April, then in May in 1935 and from 1936 to 1940 in October. Venues used were the Soldiers’ Memorial Hall, the Town Hall, St Luke’s Hall and the Trocadero Hall at 520 Ruthven Street (this location later became Palings Music Store as shown in advertisements in many Programs).

In the early years there were Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin and Elocution (Speech and Drama) Sections. The Spelling Bee was held again in 1932. An interesting Section held in 1934 was a “Temperance Recitation”. Piano competition was very popular and Preliminaries were held for both the Under 10 (17 competitors) and 10-13 years (24 competitors) age groups, with the Finals the following day. A further comment on Preliminaries can be found in information included in the decade 2001 to 2010.

A Winners’ Concert was held from 1931 to 1935.

The number of Sessions, Sections and competitors increased slowly from 4 Sessions in 1931 (number of Sections not known) to 4 Sessions and 47 Sections in 1932 and by 1940 there were 18 Sessions and 109 Sections. It is clear from the early Programs that Piano, Choral, Vocal and Speech competitions were popular right from the start. Soon Instrumental Sections were introduced with competitions for violin and then surprisingly a mouth organ solo appeared in 1936 (6th Eisteddfod).

Another point of interest is that in the 1937 Program a starting time was stated for every Section. Even more amazing was that in the evening Session on Saturday 30th October the starting time for the last Section (the Choral Contest) is shown as 11.00 pm. (Perhaps complaints about late nights were not as common as they are nowadays).

It can also be reported that the first Instrumental ensemble Section was held in 1938 (8th) and again it is interesting to note that the Section was for “Mouth Organ Band”. In 1939 Dance Sections (both solos and groups) were introduced and one year later further Instrumental Sections were added, with competitions for brass instruments and another ensemble Section – this time for *Dance Bands*. What a contrast to the changes that began in 1983 following the expansion of instrumental teaching in schools so that now there are competitions for virtually every known instrument, with 84 solo Instrumental Sections, 29 duet, trio or quartet Sections and 31 Sections for Instrumental ensembles. “From small beginnings come.....”

A very interesting Section held in 1940 was “Radio Solo” where competitors were required to sing into a microphone at the 4GR Studios. There were 19 competitors listed in the Program including Mr AE Burstow.

Advertisements were included in all Programs and featured such well known stores as Pigott’s Emporium and TS Burstow’s Furniture Store.

***The table included in each decade provides details of Eisteddfod content for that decade.
An archived Program is available for every year except 1931.***

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1931	1	April 17, 18 4 Sessions, number of Sections not known	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin, Recitation, Spelling Bee	Soldiers Memorial Hall, Trocadero Hall
1932	2	April 8, 9 4 Sessions, 47 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin, Speech, Spelling Bee	Soldiers Memorial Hall
1933	3	April 28, 29 5 Sessions, 47 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin, Speech, Spelling Bee	Soldiers Memorial Hall

1934	4	April 26, 27, 28 7 Sessions, 57 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Violin, Speech, Temperance Recitation	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1935	5	May 16, 17, 18 7 Sessions, 58 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1936	6	October 22, 23, 24 6 Sessions, 55 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Mouth organ solo	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1937	7	October 28, 29, 30 19 Sessions, 66 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Mouth organ solo. The Program lists 9 Sessions, but with concurrent Sessions and 3 adjudicators there were actually 19 Sessions. Each Section has a starting time in the Program	Soldiers Memorial Hall, St Luke's Hall, Trocadero Hall
1938	8	October 26, 27, 28 14 Sessions, 68 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Mouth organ solo, Mouth organ band	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1939	9	October 24, 25, 26 17 Sessions, 94 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Mouth organ solo, Mouth organ band, Dance solos and groups (2 Sessions, 20 Sections)	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1940	10	October 14-19 18 Sessions, 109 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Brass, Dance band, Dance solos and groups	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall

1941 to 1950

During this period there were 4 years (1942 to 1945) when the Eisteddfod was not held because of World War II and also in 1949 it was replaced by the 58th Queensland Eisteddfod. The Eisteddfod continued to be held under the auspices of the RSSILA (The Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia – Toowoomba Sub-Branch).

There was not a great deal of change in the format of the Eisteddfod, with the main venues being the Town Hall and the Soldiers Memorial Hall. Occasionally the St Stephen's Church Hall and St Luke's Church Hall were used.

Choral and Vocal competition continued to dominate the Eisteddfod, although in 1950 there was a very big emphasis on Dance with 11 Sessions and 88 Sections being included. Instrumental Sections declined to some extent and in some years there was either no brass competition or just one Section. The number of string Sections also decreased over these years. A Literary Section was added in 1946.

Some names that may be familiar to those who can remember include Alf Burstow, Reg Hills, Charles Rogers, Les Enchelmaier, John Kessler, Thomas Slatyer and Mansel Jones. In 1947 Gloria Eiser sang in the Under 10 Girls solo. She went on to have a distinguished career over many years. In 1946 a Chief Choral contest was held and one of the set pieces was *How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings* by Brahms and this is still often included in the Queensland Eisteddfod Chief Choral contest. It should also be noted that there was often some difficulty with the spelling of Lieder (misspelt as Leider).

Short biographies for adjudicators were first introduced in 1950 but were discontinued the next year. Advertising was removed in 1946, 1947 and 1948 but re-introduced in 1950.

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1941	11	October 13-18 22 Sessions, 102 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Brass, Dance solos and groups	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1942		NOT HELD		
1943		NOT HELD		
1944		NOT HELD		
1945		NOT HELD		
1946	12	October 7-12 21 Sessions, 97 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Brass, Dance solos and groups, Literary (1 Section) Emphasis on Choral and Vocal	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1947	13	October 13-18 28 Sessions, 128 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin, Dance solos and groups, Literary (1) Emphasis on Choral and Vocal	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall, St Luke's Hall
1948	14	October 11-16 25 Sessions, 131 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (7), Brass (1), Dance solos and groups, Literary (1) Emphasis on Choral and Vocal	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1949		Queensland Eisteddfod		
1950	15	October 9-14 21 Sessions, 112 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (3), Brass (1), Dance solos and groups (88), Literary (1) Emphasis on Choral and Vocal, also big Dance competition.	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall

1951 to 1960

Some significant changes occurred during this period. Most importantly the 19th Eisteddfod in 1954 was the last held under the auspices of the Toowoomba Sub-Branch of the RSSILA (Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia). Until that time, the purpose of running the Eisteddfod had been to raise funds for the relief of distress among unemployed returned men and their families and so it may have been decided that the time had come to raise these funds in another way. The Programs do not provide any information on this matter.

Preliminaries were held in some Speech Sections in 1954, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960, but not in other disciplines despite competitor numbers often being more than 25.

Another major change occurred in 1958 when the Dance part of the Eisteddfod no longer took place under the umbrella of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod. Dance was first introduced in 1939 and grew to be a very large part of the Eisteddfod. In 1939 there were 2 Dance Sessions with 20 Sections but by 1951 there were 15 Sessions and 91 Sections. As all competitors were numbered in the Program it is possible to see that the number of competitors (i.e. entries, not total performers) was just under 700 in 1951. From this peak the number of Sessions and Sections slowly declined until in 1957 there were just 4 Dance Sessions and only 42 Sections. Again there is no information in the Programs as to why Dance was discontinued the following year

From 1958 to 1960, the Eisteddfod was reduced to competition in Music and Art of Speech (previously Elocution, then Speech and then Speech and Drama in 1979). The number of competition days was shortened to just 3 and the number of Sessions to about 18. The number of competitor entries also declined to between 700 and 800.

A Final Concert was first held in 1951 and continued to be held after each Eisteddfod during this period.

There was limited advertising with just an occasional advertisement of the back page of a few Programs.

Printers included McDonald & Rosbrook, Job Stone Pty Ltd, Downs Printing Coy

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1951	16	June 18-23 26 Sessions, 151 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (4), Brass (1), Dance solos and groups (91), Many Dance Sections (419 competitors). Winners' Concert re-introduced	Town Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall, St Stephen's Hall, Philharmonic Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall
1952	17	October 1-11 31 Sessions, 154 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (4), Dance solos and groups (87 Sections, 695 competitors), Literary (1)	City Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1953	18	October 3-12 24 Sessions, 178 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (6), Dance solos and groups (98 Sections, 316 competitors), Literary (1) 1 ad on back page	City Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1954	19	September 9-17 24 Sessions, 146 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (5), Dance solos and groups (115 Sections, 592 competitors), Literary (1) 1 ad on back page. Last Eisteddfod under the auspices of the RSSAILA	City Hall, Soldiers Memorial Hall
1955		Queensland Eisteddfod		
1956			No explanation as to why no Eisteddfod was held this year. Perhaps due to it no longer being under the auspices of the RSSAILA	
1957	20	October 3-12 21 Sessions, 78 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (5), Dance solos and groups (42 Sections, 152 competitors), Literary (1) 1 ad on back page	City Hall
1958	21	October 2-4 17 Sessions, 87 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (3), Literary (1) NO DANCE	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall
1959	22	October 1-3 18 Sessions, 86 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (5), Literary (1)	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall
1960	23	October 6-8 18 Sessions, 88 Sections	Choral, Vocal, Piano, Speech, Violin (3), Literary (1)	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall

1961 to 1970

The Queensland Eisteddfod was held in 1961 and 1968.

From 1962 to 1970 the Eisteddfod remained much the same as in previous years. The competitions were held during late September and early October and venues included the City Hall, Neil Street Methodist Hall, St Stephens Memorial Hall, Philharmonic Hall and Choral Hall.

Each year there were between 18 and 30 Sessions with the number of Sessions gradually increasing each year. The music Sections included Vocal, Choral and Piano. In some years, other Instrumental Sections were included and these were gradually increased to include violin, recorder, other instrument Sections and small Instrumental ensembles. Up to 10 Speech and Drama Sessions were held during these years. There were also one or two Literary Sections. No Dance Sessions were held. No advertising was included in any Program. With the increase in the number and range of competitions (especially Instrumental Sections) there was also a gradual increase in the number of competitors.

Prominent among the Office Bearers were David Rees, Reg Hills, Les Enchelmaier and Charles Rogers.

It is not known how entries were recorded or how the Program was compiled but it is assumed that it was done by hand and typewriter.

The Printers of Schedules and Programs were not named during these years.

**In the remainder of the Tables, the number of Sections is shown in the Content Column.
Note that the set out is different from previous years.**

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1961			Queensland Eisteddfod	
1962	24	October 3-6 18 Sessions, 10 Music, 9 Speech	56 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 6 Violin) 32 Speech, 1 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1963	25	October 1-5 21 Sessions, 13 Music, 8 Speech	53 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 6 Violin, 2 Recorder), 32 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall
1964	26	Sept 28-October 3 26 Sessions, 16 Music, 10 Speech	60 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 5 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 1 group, 1 Any other instrument, 1 Small Instrumental group) 35 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall
1965	27	October 4-9 25 Sessions, 18 Music, 7 Speech	69 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 5 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 1 group, 1 Any other instrument, 1 Small Instrumental group) 35 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1966	28	Sept 26-October 1 25 Sessions, 18 Music, 9 Speech	68 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 5 Violin, 2 Recorder solos) 32 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Philharmonic Hall

1967	29	October 2-7 25 Sessions, 17 Music, 8 Speech	69 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 6 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 1 group, 1 Any other instrument) 32 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1968	Queensland Eisteddfod			
1969	30	Sept 29-October 4 22 Sessions, 16 Music, 6 Speech	70 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 6 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 1 group, 1 Any other instrument) 32 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1970	31	October 5-10 26 Sessions, 18 Music, 8 Speech	72 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 7 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 1 group, 1 Small Instrumental group, 1 Any other instrument) 36 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, Choral Hall

1971 to 1980

The Queensland Eisteddfod was held in 1974.

There was an increased range of Piano Sections over these years.

Because of the increase in the number of Sections the Program size also increased. There were 32 pages in 1972, 36 pages in 1973, 1976 & 1977, 44 pages in 1978, 51 pages in 1979, but just 42 pages in 1980. Also 3 Organ solos were added.

In 1978 an Instrumental Adjudicator (Peter Rorke USQ) was introduced for the first time. He adjudicated 3 Sessions and 26 Sections including small Instrumental groups, any other instrument solos, woodwind solos, brass solos, violin solos, woodwind duets, brass duets, string ensembles, violin duets, and larger Instrumental ensembles. He was also the adjudicator for Instrumental Sections in 1979 and 1980.

Page Sponsors

With the re-introduction of advertising in Eisteddfod Programs in 1979, two types of advertisement were offered. These were as a Page Sponsor (see 1987 Program) or a larger advertisement. There were different charges for each. In time the Page Sponsorships were phased out and advertisements in various forms (including graphics) were offered with different charges depending on the size of the advertisement. (see Tables for this decade and also 1981 to 1990).

Printers included Downs Printing Co Pty Ltd.

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1971	32	October 3-9 28 Sessions, 19 Music, 9 Speech	78 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 5 Violin, 1 Recorder solo and 2 groups, 1 Small Instrumental group, 1 Any other instrument) 31 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, St Luke's Church,
1972	33	July 30-August 5 28 Sessions, 19 Music, 9 Speech	82 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 3 Organ, 5 Violin, 1 Recorder solo and 2 groups, 1 Small Instrumental group, 1 Any other instrument) 33 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, St Luke's Church
1973	34	July 20-August 4 34 Sessions, 23 Music, 12 Speech	83 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 3 Organ, 5 Violin, 1 Recorder solo and 2 groups, 1 Small Instrumental group, 1 Any other instrument) 33 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, St Stephen's Hall, St Luke's Church
1974	Queensland Eisteddfod			
1975	35	July 25-August 2 33 Sessions, 23 Music, 10 Speech	85 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 2 Organ, 7 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 2 groups, 1 Small Instrumental group, 2 Orff Schulwerk, 1 Any other instrument) 32 Speech, 2 Literary. No ads	City Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, Harristown High School, St Luke's Church
1976	36	July 16-24 35 Sessions, 25 Music, 10 Speech	85 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 2 Organ, 7 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 2 groups, 1 Small Instrumental group, 2 Orff Schulwerk, 1 Any other instrument) 28 Speech, 4 Literary. Winner's Final No ads	City Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, Neil St Methodist Hall, Harristown High School, St Luke's Hall
1977	37	July 15-23 34 Sessions, 24 Music, 10 Speech	94 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 2 Organ, 8 Violin, 2 Recorder solos and 2 groups, 3 Small Instrumental groups, 2 Orff Schulwerk, 1 Any other instrument, 39 Speech, 5 Literary. Winner's Final No ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, St Patrick's Hall

1978	38	July 14-22 40 Sessions, 28 Music (includes 3 Instrumental Sessions with Peter Rorke and 2 Instrumental Sessions with Warren Thomson), 12 Speech	116 Music Sections (Choral, Vocal, Piano, 4 Organ, 2 Recorder solos and 2 groups). Includes 26 Instrumental Sections: 6 Violin, 5 Woodwind, 5 Brass, 2 Any other instrument, 5 Instrumental ensembles, 1 String ensemble, 2 Orff Schulwerk. 32 Speech and Drama (S&D*), 5 Literary. Winner's Final No ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, St Patrick's Hall, St Stephen's Hall
1979	39	July 13-21 34 Sessions, 23 Music (includes 4 Instrumental Sessions with Peter Rorke and 2 Instrumental Sessions with Alan Jenkins), 11 S&D	Similar to 1978 124 Music Sections (including 28 Instrumental), 38 S&D, 6 Literary. Final Session: No information on content. 12 ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Wesley Uniting Church Hall, St Paul's Lutheran Hall
1980	40	July 18-26 35 Sessions (just 4 Instrumental Sessions), 10 S&D	160 Music Sections, 37 S&D. 6 Literary. Final Session: Presentation of some Awards 14 Ads.	City Hall, St Luke's Church, Redeemer Lutheran Hall, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, St Stephen's Hall

*S&D is abbreviation for Speech and Drama

1981 to 1990

The Queensland Eisteddfod was held in 1981.

In 1982 Donald Britton adjudicated all Instrumental Sections other than string Sections; other adjudicators were Michael Leighton-Jones (Choral & Vocal); Daphne Muller (Juvenile Piano); Stephen Savage (Senior Piano and 3 Violin Sections).

Beginning in 1983, there were changes in the number of adjudicators to allow for the appointment of specialist adjudicators for each Instrumental discipline. This was the first time there was a different adjudicator for each Instrumental discipline (string, brass and woodwind). In subsequent years there were six or seven music adjudicators.

Printers included Downs Printing Co Pty Ltd, Toowoomba Instant Print

Year	Eist No.	Dates	Content	Venue
1981	Queensland Eisteddfod			
1982	41	July 30-August 7 33 Sessions, 23 Music, 10 S&D	117 Music Sections (39 Instrumental), 32 S&D. No Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 9 Ads.	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Choral Hall
1983	42	July-August 6 44 Sessions, 31 Music, 11 S&D	116 Music Sections (45 Instrumental), 38 S&D. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 6 Literary. 12 Ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Choral Hall
1984	43	July 26-August 4 49 Sessions, 35 Music, 14 S&D	130 Music Sections (47 Instrumental), 38 S&D, 6 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 10 Ads (a few with logos)	City Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Choral Hall, TGS Hall
1985	44	August 8-17 61 Sessions, 45 Music, 16 S&D	146 Music Sections (61 Instrumental), 37 S&D, 6 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 10 Ads (as 1984)	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Choral Hall
1986	45	July 29-August 9 66 Sessions, 51 Music, 16 S&D	146 Music Sections (65 Instrumental), 42 S&D, 6 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 7 Ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Choral Hall, St Paul's Lutheran Hall
1987	46	July 27-August 8 72 Sessions, 51 Music, 21 S&D	160 Music Sections (72 Instrumental), 55 S&D, 6 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 33 Page Sponsors (some with logos), 7 Ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Laguna, Choral Hall, St Paul's Lutheran Hall
1988	47	August 1-13 74 Sessions, 52 Music, 22 S&D	163 Music Sections (58 Instrumental), 58 S&D, 1 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening *17 Page Sponsors (some with logos), 7 Ads	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Wesley Uniting Church Hall, Choral Hall, St Paul's Lutheran Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall
1989	48	July 24-August 5 79 Sessions, 55 Music, 24 S&D	172 Music Sections (61 Instrumental), 66 S&D. 6 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 27 Page Sponsors	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Luke's Hall, St Patrick's Hall, Wesley Uniting Church Hall, Choral Hall, Laguna

1990	49	July 29-August 11 93 Sessions, 65 Music, 28 S&D	182 Music Sections (95 Instrumental), 79 S&D. 8 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 20 Page Sponsors	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Luke's Hall, St Patrick's Hall, Choral Hall, St Paul's Lutheran Hall
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1991 to 2000

The Queensland Eisteddfod was held in 1991

In 1992 a Golden Jubilee Eisteddfod was held celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the inception of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod.

Between 1990 and 1992 there was a major re-organisation of the structure of the Eisteddfod. The competition was divided into 20 Music Divisions (183 Sections), 16 Speech and Drama Divisions (84 Sections) and 1 Literary Division (8 Sections). No indication of why this was done can be found.

The Jubilee Program featured a Gold Cover and was set out chronologically (day by day) from Sunday 26 July to Saturday 8 August. It also included an Index.

In 1995 the Eisteddfod was divided into 2 parts May and August for the first time.

Programs printed by Harrison Printing 1992, 1993, 1994 (still located at 435 Ruthven Street and now Cracker Print), and Panorama Printing 1995 to 2000.

1991	Queensland Eisteddfod			
1992	50	July 26-August 8 37 Divisions*** 65 Music Sessions, 28 S&D	183 Music Sections (85 Instrumental), 82 S&D. 6 Literary. 20 Page Sponsors Awards Presentations and Concert Evening	City Hall, St Luke's Church, St Patrick's Hall, Choral Hall, Glennie School Hall, Laguna
1993	51	July 26-August 7 59 Music Sessions, 28 S&D	164 Music Sections (89 Instrumental), 82 S&D. 7 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 19 Page Sponsors	City Hall, St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, Glennie School Hall, Fairholme Hall
1994	52	May 16-28 60 Music Sessions, 28 S&D	167 Music Sections (74 Instrumental), 66 S&D. 8 Literary. Awards Presentations and Concert Evening 21 Page Sponsors	City Hall, St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, Manning Theatre Glennie School, St Patrick's Hall

From 1995 the Eisteddfod was divided into two parts, the first in May always involved Choral and Vocal and the second in July/August always involved Instrumental. The Composition of the Speech and Drama competitions in each part varied.				
1995 also saw the first use of the database developed by Jeff Martens.				
1995 May	53	May 17-24 62 Music Sessions, 25 S&D	89 Music Sections, 76 S&D. 7 Literary. Gala Concert 17 Page Sponsors	St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, Manning Theatre Glennie School, Fairholme College, Laguna
1995 July	53	July 27-31 28 Instrumental Sessions	75 Instrumental Sections. Gala Concert No Page Sponsors	Choral Hall, Manning Theatre Glennie, Fairholme College
1996 May	54	May 22-29 58 Music Sessions, 35 S&D	86 Music Sections, 75 S&D. 8 Literary. Gala Concert 13 Page Sponsors	St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, Manning Theatre Glennie School, Fairholme College
1996 August	54	August 1-6 32 Instrumental Sessions	74 Instrumental Sections. No Page Sponsors	Choral Hall, Manning Theatre Glennie School, Fairholme College
1997 May	55	May 14-21 34 Music Sessions	85 Music Sections. 8 Literary. 19 Page Sponsors	St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, Laguna, Fairholme College
1997 August	55	July 30-August 6 9 Instrumental Sessions, 14 S&D	77 Instrumental Sections. 59 S&D Gala Concert 20 Page Sponsors	City Hall, Choral Hall, Laguna, Fairholme College
1998 May	56	May 13-20 13 Music Sessions, 16 Juvenile S&D	91 Music Sections, 30 Juvenile S&D, 8 Literary. 14 Page Sponsors	Empire Theatre, Wesley Church Theatre, City Hall, Choral Hall, Redeemer Lutheran Hall
1998 August	56	July 29-August 5 32 Instrumental Sessions, 14 Secondary & Open S&D	87 Instrumental Sections. 59 Secondary S&D Sections. 14 Page Sponsors	Empire Theatre, Wesley Church Theatre, Choral Hall, Laguna
1999	Queensland Eisteddfod			
2000 May	57	May 17-24 26 Music Sessions, 9 Juvenile S&D	87 Music Sections, 24 Juvenile S&D, 4 Literary. 8 Page Sponsors	Empire Theatre and Studio, St Luke's Church, Choral Hall, St James Parish Centre
2000 August	57	July 27-August 2 26 Instrumental Sessions, 8 Secondary & Open S&D	82 Instrumental Sections. 32 Secondary and Open S&D 17 Page Sponsors	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Church of Christ

2001 to 2010

The Schedules and Programs in 2003 were the last in the B5 Format. In 2004 they were produced in an A4 format allowing scope for a better layout and the inclusion of advertisements with good graphics.

It is common to include Preliminaries in many Eisteddfodau and this was the practice in Toowoomba over many years. From 1931 to 1935, Preliminaries were held in some Sections but there were none in 1936, although a Final is listed for "Humorous Recitation" without any mention of which Sections were involved. Finals were held for some Sections in 1937 despite there being only 5 competitors in the Section "Boys under 8 years Recitation". There were also Finals in some other Sections.

It is of interest to note that in Section 16 "Champion Solo", Mr David Rees, Mr Charles Rogers and Mr Jack Rogers were amongst the entrants.

Preliminaries were then discontinued for a few years but were re-introduced in some Speech Sections in 1952 and then continued in most disciplines almost every year until 1980.

From 1982 until 2001 Preliminaries were not held for any Sections, resulting in very large numbers of competitors appearing in some Sections. For example, in 1983 there were 61 competitors in the Scripture Reading for Girls and Boys under 16 years of age and in 1988 there were 64 competitors in the Piano Solo for entrants aged 11 years.

During these years, there was considerable debate about this situation with one argument being that it was extremely difficult for an adjudicator to select three winners from such a large number of performances. This debate continued until 2003 when the decision was made to make the situation easier for adjudicators by dividing Sections with large number of competitors into 2, 3 or 4 parts depending on the number of entrants. This decision was strongly supported by many members of the Management Committee but strongly opposed by others. There were strong arguments against dividing a Section and thus having more than one winner of that Section. There was also debate about what number of competitors justified the division into parts. So with 26 to 28 competitors the division into two was usually made. This of course resulted in each part perhaps having 13 competitors and if there were a couple of withdrawals a part may end up with just 11 or 12 competitors. This led to further argument that such a small Section could mean that this was unfair to those competitors where there 23 or 24 entrants.

In 2005, after much debate it was decided to hold Preliminaries and a final so that there would be just the one winner. When the final was held on a different day to the Preliminaries, competitors, teachers and parents had to attend another Session. This was a very unpopular change and it was discontinued the next year. The same arguments as before continued until 2010.

In 2009 The TS Burstow Opera Gala was introduced and injected an amazing impact on the operatic aria competition and also on the Vocal competition in general.

The Opera Gala was the most significant event introduced in my 40 years of involvement with the Toowoomba Eisteddfod.

The vision and dedicated hard work by Eisteddfod President Paula Melville-Clark combined with the outstanding support and generosity of the Burstow family led to a spectacular occasion befitting the presentation of an operatic performance. I was very proud to be associated in some small way this event.

Competitors were required to compete in three Sections, the Operatic Aria, the Oratorio Solo and the Art Song in preliminaries held on Saturday morning and afternoon in the Empire Church Theatre. The six highest ranking competitors were chosen by adjudicator Peta Blyth from these Sections and then competed in the final that night.

The final of the Gala was staged in the Empire Theatre on Saturday 9 June. Robert Ketton was compere and there were two adjudicators Peta Blyth (an internationally renowned opera singer) and George Torbay (with a distinguished reputation as an outstanding choral conductor, musical director and judge). In the lavishly presented final each competitor was first interviewed and then sang two arias (in different languages) with a performance time limit of 10 minutes.

The winner of the TS Burstow Opera Gala received \$2000 and the runner-up \$500 with the Prize Money generously donated by TS Burstow Pty Ltd. It should be noted that the Burstow family has a very long history in the arts in Toowoomba with family members being involved in Choral, Vocal and other musical activities over many years.

Following the success of this Opera Gala in 2009 it was again staged in 2010 with similar success.

The interest generated saw the number of competitors in the operatic aria increase from 7 in 2008 to 17 in 2009 and 19 in 2010. There were similar increases in the number of competitors in the Oratorio and Art Song Sections. Competitors came from all over Queensland to be part of this Opera Gala. The Opera Gala was continued in 2011 but in a different format and then discontinued.

In 2009 and 2010 a Final Concert was re-introduced after an absence of some 11 years.

Programs were printed by Panorama Printing from 2001 to 2004; Busy Bee in 2005 and 2006, Greenridge Press May 2008, CopyLam August 2008, OfficeWorks 2009 and 2010.

2001 May	58	May 18-29 29 Music Sessions, 9 Primary S&D	89 Music Sections, 26 Primary S&D, 4 Literary. 8 Page Sponsors, 14 quarter to half page ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Glennie School Performing Arts Centre, St Luke's Church
2001 Aug.	58	July 25-August 2 28 Instrumental Sessions, 10 Secondary & Open S&D	81 Instrumental Sections, 34 Secondary and Open S&D. 9 Page Sponsors, 16 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Church of Christ, Toowoomba Preparatory School, Laguna
2002 May	59	May 17-27 28 Music Sessions, 11 Primary S&D	86 Music Sections, 28 Primary S&D, 8 Literary. 14 Page Sponsors, 15 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Glennie School Performance Room
2002 Aug.	59	July 22-August 2 33 Instrumental Sessions, 9 Secondary & Open S&D	101 Instrumental Sections, 34 Secondary and Open S&D. 14 Page Sponsors, 15 quarter to whole page Ads graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Church of Christ, Glennie School Performing Arts Centre
2003 May	60	May 16-27 35 Music Sessions, 11 Primary S&D	102 Music Sections, 32 Primary S&D 16 Page Sponsors, 29 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Glennie School Performing Arts Centre and Manning Theatre, St Thomas More's Hall
2003 Aug.	60	July 28-August 8 37 Instrumental Sessions, 9 Secondary & Open S&D	101 Instrumental Sections, 44 Secondary and Open S&D, 10 Literary 16 Page Sponsors, 29 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Harristown SHS Lecture Theatre, Concordia College Chapel, St Paul's Hall
The 2003 Programs were the last in B5 format, with all subsequent Programs being in A4 format.				

2004 May	61	May 14-27 34 Music Sessions, 23 S&D Solos (all ages)	103 Music Sections, 56 S&D Solos. 12 Page Sponsors, 27 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Glennie School Performing Arts Centre and Manning Theatre, St Thomas More's Hall
2004 Aug.	61	July 23- August 7 42 Instrumental Sessions, 10 S&D Groups (all ages)	144 Instrumental Sections. 22 Secondary and Open S&D groups. 10 Literary. 12 Page Sponsors, 27 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Harristown SHS Lecture Theatre, Downlands College Graham Centre, St Paul's Hall
2005 May	62	May 13-26 34 Music Sessions, 27 S&D Solos (all ages)	103 Music Sections, 56 S&D Solos. 12 Page Sponsors, 27 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Choral Hall, Concordia College Chapel, St Paul's Hall, Philharmonic Performance Complex
2005 Aug.	62	July 22-August 6 45 Instrumental Sessions, 5 S&D Groups (all ages)	161 Instrumental Sections. 15 Secondary and Open S&D groups. 17 Literary. 14 Page Sponsors, 23 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2006 May	63	May 11-24 41 Music Sessions, 9 S&D Groups (all ages)	102 Music Sections, 21 S&D Groups. 9 Page Sponsors, 32 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2006 Aug.	63	July 21-August 5 46 Instrumental Sessions, 26 S&D Solos (all ages)	158 Instrumental Sections. 62 S&D Solos (all ages). 12 Literary. 9 Page Sponsors, 32 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2007	Queensland Eisteddfod			
2008 May	64	May 7-25 42 Music Sessions, 13 Open S&D Solos, and Primary and Secondary Groups	119 Music Sections, 58 S&D Sections. 10 Page Sponsors, 29 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2008 Aug.	64	July 21-August 3 59 Instrumental Sessions, 15 Primary S&D Solos	173 Instrumental Sections. 34 Primary S&D Solos (all ages). 11 Literary 9 Page Sponsors, 34 quarter to whole page Ads with graphics	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2009 May	65	May 5-18 42 Music Sessions, 11 S&D Solos (under 8 years), and Primary and Secondary Groups	125 Music Sections, 36 S&D. TS Burstow Opera Gala. 24 Ads on separate pages in the centre of Program	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2009 Aug.	65	July 19-August 2 59 Instrumental Sessions, 13 Primary S&D Solos (9 or over), 1 Dance Session	205 Instrumental Sections, 1 Rock Band Section, 37 Primary S&D Solos, 2 Dance Groups, 7 Literary Gala Concert 24 Ads on separate pages in the centre of the Program	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio

2010 May	66	May 4-11 May 40 Music Sessions, 5 S&D Duos and Groups (all ages)	130 Music Sections, 15 S&D. TS Burstow Opera Gala. 22 Ads on separate pages in the centre of the Program	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio
2010 Aug.	66	July 23-August 8 54 Instrumental Sessions, 21 S&D Solos (all ages). 5 Dance Sessions	195 Instrumental Sections, 1 Rock Band Section, 65 S&D Solos, 33 Dance Sections. Gala Concert 24 Ads on separate pages in the centre of the Program	Empire Theatre, Empire Church Theatre, Empire Studio

The Planning of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod

The principal requirements for an Eisteddfod are a committee, venues, adjudicators and competitors. Of course the running involves cost so a source of income is also needed. These and other matters will now be dealt with in more detail.

Management Committee

In general the Committee has a President, Secretary and Treasurer and other members including a Patron. Committee members are usually members of the community who have an interest in the performing arts and will often be teachers and past competitors who have decided to act in the interests of the Eisteddfod and competitors.

Planning and Developing the Schedule

There is a vast amount of planning needed before an Eisteddfod is actually held. This planning is usually done by volunteers as Eisteddfodau are almost always not for profit. The starting point is to decide on the date(s) when it will be held. The Committee then needs to decide on the areas of competition. These can include Vocal, Choral, Piano, Instrumental, Speech and Drama, Dance and Literary. Usually an item of competition is called a Section but Item is also used. Within the areas of competition, age ranges may be established for individual Sections, such as Open, 18 or under, 12 or under and so on.

Compilation of the Schedule with Sections for Competition

A list of the Sections is then compiled and is usually divided into the appropriate competition areas. For example, there could be 10 Sections for Vocal Solos, 10 for Choral Sections, 10 for Piano Sections, 10 for Speech and Drama, 10 for Dance and so on. The list is most commonly called "The Schedule of Competitions" and can then be compiled into a format suitable for distribution.

The Schedule usually includes:

- The number (e.g. 20th) and dates of the Eisteddfod
- The disciplines involved
- Contact details for enquiries
- Closing dates for entries
- List of adjudicators
- Notes and Conditions for entrants
- Various forms needed by entrants
- Lists of Trophies, Prizes, Bursaries and Scholarships

Printed copies of the Toowoomba Eisteddfod Schedule have been sold to cover costs but from 2002 relevant documents have been also placed on an Eisteddfod web page, thereby reducing workloads and costs.

Some of these items are now discussed in more detail.

Adjudicators

In general, the Toowoomba Eisteddfod has sought adjudicators from outside the city so that it can be seen that there is no local bias in the judgement. Mostly adjudicators are from Queensland but on some occasions they may be from interstate depending on the funds available. Adjudicators are chosen who have relevant expertise in the discipline they are to judge, but in earlier years adjudicators were often called upon to judge a range of disciplines. This was more common in music areas where Vocal, Choral and some Instrumental competitions were judged by a single adjudicator. As the Eisteddfod grew it became possible to involve specialist adjudicators for each area of competition.

On some occasions local adjudicators have been called on to judge early Primary students in Vocal, Piano and Speech and Drama Sections.

Members of the Management Committee with knowledge of the abilities and reputations of likely adjudicators make recommendations and then enquiries are made about availability and the costs involved. In general an adjudicator receives payment for each Session adjudicated with the costs of travel and accommodation covered.

Venues

Over the years a vast number of venues have been used including the City Hall, Churches, Church Halls, School Halls and Musical Society Halls. It is desirable that a venue has areas suitable for the performance, the adjudicator and the audience. A room for the performers to assemble is important and a rehearsal area is useful but not essential for all disciplines. If possible, performers should be able to see and hear at least some of the other performances as this is useful for developing their own skills.

Unfortunately not all venues meet these requirements but the Management Committee has often had little choice because of costs and availability. Without going into detail a venue may be unsuitable because of issues including size, lack of a suitable rehearsal area, poor sound proofing, lack of heating or cooling, noise within the hall, poor piano and location. All of these problems have plagued the Toowoomba Eisteddfod over the years with locations perhaps being one major problem. If performances are scheduled at similar times at venues distant from each other, performers and accompanists often had difficulty trying to be in two places at once. This continued until 1998 when the Empire Theatre was renovated. It now provides four exceptional venues at the one location and all eminently suitable for both small and large performances and audiences. From 2006 The Empire Precinct became the sole venue for Eisteddfod competition.

Finances

An Eisteddfod is a very expensive festival to run involving costs of many kinds. Members of the Management Committee, comperes of Sessions, scribes, ushers and many other volunteers provide their support on a voluntary basis, but there are many other costs that must be funded. Adjudicators have already been mentioned and of course in almost all cases there is a rental cost for venues. Before the Empire Precinct became available, the hire of Church and School Halls was usually affordable and it was possible to keep admission costs for audience members at an acceptable level. Bearing in mind that families often attend many Sessions to watch a family member perform, the total cost for a family attending a complete Eisteddfod can be quite substantial so it was always the aim to make attendance costs reasonable. Unfortunately, despite grants from the Regional Council, the current costs of hiring the

Empire Theatre for a community event are greater than the Eisteddfod would prefer, necessitating much higher admission charges for audience members.

Other costs include those for printing Schedules and Programs although some of these costs can be recouped by sales. Recently, copyright costs have become substantial and must be covered by fund raising. Office equipment such as computers, mobile phones and photocopiers also feature each year.

In early years every musical Session was allocated an "Official" Accompanist. Although this accompanist was not always used by competitors, they did receive remuneration. In 2000 it was decided that the Eisteddfod could no longer continue with this practice and from then on competitors have been required to arrange their own accompanist.. A list of accompanists who are available for performances is included in Schedules and Programs.

Fund Raising

Over the years, many avenues have been used to raise the funds needed to run an Eisteddfod. Obviously these include entrance fees paid by each competitor. For many years a number of Honorary Vice-Presidents were appointed and it was the convention that they would make a voluntary financial contribution to the Eisteddfod. This practice was ended during 2009.

Admission charges for the public to enter venues have been always a major source of income but as the costs of venue hire increased these have become insufficient to cover all associated costs.

For a number of years Les Enchelmaier, Hazel Cay and many helpers operated the canteen at the City Hall and donated all profits to the Eisteddfod.

Donors

Of invaluable benefit to the Eisteddfod are the substantial donations made by businesses and private individuals. These are always acknowledged in the Program.

Advertising

Advertising has been an integral part of fund raising. The first Program (second Eisteddfod in 1932) had some very well known names on display (see attached photo) with Pigott and Co. Ltd. proudly shown on the front cover and T.S. Burstow (furnishers) on the back cover, with other advertisements on almost every page. These ads were quite similar to the current ads and featured both text and graphics. Advertising was discontinued in 1946 when the annual Eisteddfod was recommenced after World War II. A few ads (mainly from Palings) appeared again from 1950 to 1957. In 1979, a few organisations and individuals were shown as "Proud to be associated with the City of Toowoomba Eisteddfod" and it is assumed that some payment was made for this.

Most ads were again discontinued in 1986 with just an acknowledgement of some organisations for support. In 1987 the practice of Page Sponsors was initiated with mostly text and occasionally some small logos. This was continued until 2001 when ads with both text and graphics were introduced and these have now become a significant source of funds. When A4 Programs were introduced, advertisements became more sophisticated with high quality graphics being used.

Trophies and Prize Lists

There are numerous Trophies and Prizes awarded each year. In the early years, Trophies were often donated by Businesses and local Musical Societies. Some of the Trophies are perpetual and are held by the winner for 12 months and returned the following year with the winner's name engraved on the

Trophy. Perpetual Trophies may be in competition for many years or may have a competition life of 10 years. In many cases a replica Trophy is given to go with the perpetual Trophy for the winner to keep.

The winners of some Trophies are often based on the aggregate marks received for two or more Sections. Competition for these Trophies is very serious especially for those awarded for Primary and Secondary School Choirs, Orchestras and Bands. Other significant Trophies are for the champion vocalist (an aggregate of several Sections) and several Trophies for various age levels of piano competition. There are also similar Trophies for various age levels in Speech and Drama. There are also many Trophies donated to the Eisteddfod each year for specific Sections.

Many commemorative or memorial Trophies and Prizes have also been added over the years. These have been in honour of previous outstanding performers or supporters of the Eisteddfod and include Harold Swan, Elwyn Barber, Motee Rogers, Arthur Roberts, John Burstow, Peg Russell, Ellen McConville, John Penny and Mansel Jones.

In lieu of Trophies, Cash Prizes, Open Orders or Gold Medals have been awarded to the placegetters in some Sections. These have been shown in the Program

In 1987 a list of Aggregate Trophies and Prizes was added to the front of the Program.

Scholarships and Bursaries

In 1979, a Bursary valued at \$100 was donated by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Toowoomba and awarded to the girl showing sufficient talent to continue studies in Art of Speech.

A similar Bursary was awarded by John and Corellie Longwill in 1988 in Speech and Drama. Other notable Bursaries have included The Les Enchelmaier Memorial Bursaries valued at \$200 and awarded by the adjudicators in Vocal, Piano, Instrumental and Speech and were available for continued tertiary education.

Further Bursaries include the Mary Childe Memorial Bursary, Edna Enchelmaier Memorial Bursary, The Friends of McGregor Bursary, and The James Cronin Memorial Bursary.

In 2009, The James Melville-Clark Memorial Scholarship began with a value of \$850 for piano students in Years 1-7. Also commenced in that year was The Toowoomba Community Vocal Scholarship valued at up to \$2000 for vocalist aged 18-30 years.

After revision in 2010 the following Scholarships were offered:

- The 2010 James Cronin Memorial Piano Scholarship
- The 2010 James Melville-Clark Memorial Piano Scholarship
- The Clive Berghofer Brass Scholarship
- The Toowoomba Community Vocal Scholarship
- The Edna and Les Enchelmaier Tribute Scholarship (Piano)
- The 2010 John Penny Tribute Scholarship (Voice)
- The 2010 Arthur Schloss Tribute Scholarship (Speech and Drama)
- The 2010 Heather Schnitzerling Tribute Scholarship (Instrumental)

Other Awards

The Norman Miller Violin Award was introduced in 1996 and involved a written application and performance of two pieces with the awardee being selected by the Adjudicator. The Award was made possible by the Toowoomba City Council with the violinist chosen being able to learn and perform for

one year on a violin built by Mr Norman Miller. This Award was discontinued in 1998 and its administration adopted by the Toowoomba City Council.

The University of Southern Queensland Junior Academy Awards were introduced in 2003 and were for the most promising musical performance (ages 7-15 years) during the Eisteddfod.

The first mention of the Dr WD Rimmer Memorial Award was in 1996 and it was presented to the two most promising musicians under 16 years of age with a Trophy and Cash Prizes of \$25 and \$15. This became the Rimmer Award in 1994 with Cash Prizes increasing to \$60 and \$40 and in 1996 was renamed The Rimmer Family Award with Cash Prizes of \$100 and \$50 for the two most promising musicians under 15 years of age. This Award was still in competition in 2010.

Other Awards which have been introduced include the Mayor's Encouragement Award for Primary Choral, Piano or Instrumental competition, the Ring Trousdell Surveyors & Planners Encouragement Award and the Australian Heritage Funerals Encouragement Award for Speech and Drama

Volunteers

There is no doubt that without volunteers it would not be possible to hold an Eisteddfod. At each Session there is a Compere, a Scribe to assist the Adjudicator and at least one Doorkeeper. So with 3 Sessions each day that adds up to 9 volunteers. If there is more than one venue the number increases. If the Eisteddfod runs for 7 days the number of volunteers needed rises. In addition there are volunteers doing other jobs such as ensuring that Own Choice selections are at the correct venue, collecting report sheets and filing them, preparing tea breaks, entering results into the computer and numerous other essential tasks.

The Eisteddfod has been and will always be extremely grateful for the many, many hours that are so generously given by so many in support of the Eisteddfod and the arts in general.

The Eisteddfod cannot exist without volunteers.

Copyright

APRA (Australasian Performing Rights Association) and **AMCOS** (Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Association) are copyright management organisations which jointly represent over 100,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers in Australia and New Zealand. The two organisations work together to license public performances and administer performance, communication and reproduction rights on behalf of their members, who are creators of musical works, aiming to ensure fair payments to members and to defend their rights under the *Australian Copyright Act (1968)*. In 1997 the two societies formed an alliance and since then APRA has managed the day-to-day operations of the AMCOS business.

The copying and performance of material in an Eisteddfod are now governed by APRA AMCOS and all associated costs must be paid so that appropriate fees are passed on to the copyright owners.

Incorporation

The City of Toowoomba Eisteddfod became an incorporated body during 1998.

Web Page

The City of Toowoomba Eisteddfod established a web page in 2002. The page can now be found at toowoombaeisteddfod.org.au

Compilation of Entries

The next phase of the pre-preparation involves the compilation of entries into a document suitable for publishing. Before computers, this was a very time consuming task as all competitors had to be allocated to the correct Section and the names recorded (not always easy when the names were handwritten) on paper and then typed out.

With the arrival of computers and word processing Programs the task became a little easier. It is not certain when a computer was first used but it was likely about 1987 when Robyn Morris and Marcia Hooper were both on the Management Committee and involved in preparation of the Schedule and Program. Subsequently in 1989 when Jan Morrissey was Secretary she also became involved.

Entries from competitors could be added to files on the computer, then checked and corrected if necessary. Initially it is likely that the unformatted text file was passed on to the chosen Printer where it was formatted for Printing. Later, members of the Committee with the appropriate skills manipulated the text files before the material was handed on to the Printer, thereby reducing printing costs.

History of database development for compiling entries

In 1986, with the help of Ted Siebuhr from DDIAE, an attempt was made to develop a database for use by the Eisteddfod (see cutting from Chronicle Monday 24 March 1986). A database was developed but never used because of difficulties with late entries (personal communication, Ted Siebuhr). The assistance of Ted Siebuhr and DDIAE in the preparation of the Schedule and Program was acknowledged in the 1986 Program (p. 23).

In May 1994 after much discussion by the Management Committee about ways of reducing the workload involved in producing the Program, a survey was distributed to all venues where the Eisteddfod was held. Mr Jeff Martens (whose daughter was a competitor) responded to the survey. He then attended a meeting of the Committee and put forward a proposal to develop a database that would then enable entries to be added and finally produce a text file that could be easily manipulated into a document suitable to pass on to a printer. The proposal was accepted and in March 1995 a computer disc with a database Program was provided by Jeff for use for the next Eisteddfod.

The starting point in the development of the database was the addition of all information in the Schedule. This included details of Prizes and Trophies. Competitor entries were then added by selecting the appropriate Section from the database and typing the competitor name and date of birth. If the date of birth did not conform to the Section requirements a red flag appeared. Many improvements were made over subsequent years through consultation with members of the Management Committee. After all competitor information had been added and checked, other information detailing dates, times, venues and adjudicators was inserted into the file to be outputted.

Subsequently, computer programs were devised so that competitors could do their entries on-line. This was further improved when both entries and payment could be made on-line. These changes have made the work of volunteers much less onerous.

Program Setup

Before the Program can be finalised, the layout of the Sessions and Sections needs to be finalised. Members of the Committee meet and arrange the dates and times for each Session and Section. The availability of all venues needs to be confirmed and a final check made that the chosen dates are suitable for the adjudicators. Before computers, all this information was typed out from handwritten copy.

With the introduction of the database developed in 1995, and with subsequent improvements, a text file consisting of all the information needed for the final Program became possible. This file laid out in chronological order the following information for every Session:

Day and date, Time, Session Number, Name of the Adjudicator.

This was followed by the Section number and name, details of the Section, Time limit (if necessary), Prizes and Trophies and Donor, and finally a numbered list of all competitors.

The same information was provided for every Section in that Session.

The text file then proceeded to provide the same information for every Session.

With the aid of a word processing or desktop publishing package (such as Microsoft Word, PageMaker or InDesign) the Program information could then be laid out in a format suitable for printing.

Additional information could also be added along with any necessary information previously included in the Schedule:

- Office Bearers of the Eisteddfod Committee
- Members of the Management Committee
- Life Members
- Accompanists – originally Official Accompanists were included but later names and phone numbers of accompanists available were listed
- Prices of Admission to venues
- Details of the location of venues
- Information about Own Choice Selections
- Starting in 2001 some biographical information about adjudicators was included
- A list of Donations is usually included
- Index
- Advertisements

After designing and adding a cover the complete package could be provided to a printer or copying company for reproduction and assembly.

Programs produced by the Toowoomba Eisteddfod have always been sold to the public to help cover the costs of running the Eisteddfod.

President, Secretaries, Treasurers and Patrons

Year	No.	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Patron
1931	1	J J Miller	L Lee & J Seeley	P C Adams	Not known
1932	2	J J Miller	L Lee	P C Adams	Not named
1933	3	J Seeley	L Lee	P C Adams	Sir Littleton E Groom (MHR)
1934	4	J Seeley	L Lee	N G Hatton	Sir Littleton E Groom (MHR)
1935	5	J Seeley	A Moreton	N G Hatton	Sir Littleton E Groom (MHR)
1936	6	J Seeley	A Moreton	N G Hatton	Sir Littleton E Groom (MHR)
1937	7	J S Murphy	A Moreton	N G Hatton	A W Fadden MHR Ald J D Annand
1938	8	J S Murphy	I McConachie	N G Hatton	Ald A A Griffiths
1939	9	J S Murphy	I McConachie	J W R Kennedy	Ald A A Griffiths
1940	10	J S Murphy	I McConachie	J W R Kennedy	Ald A A Griffiths
1941	11	J S Murphy	I McConachie	J W R Kennedy	Ald A A Griffiths
1942	NOT HELD				
1943	NOT HELD				
1944	NOT HELD				
1945	NOT HELD				
1946	12	W D Rees	F R Hills	N E Merrin	Ald A A Griffiths
1947	13	W D Rees	F R Hills	N E Merrin	Ald A A Griffiths
1948	14	W D Rees	F R Hills	N E Merrin	Dr H G Jones
1949	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1950	15	A E Burstow	A H Hardy	N E Merrin	Dr H G Jones
1951	16	F R Hills	W D Rees L Enchelmaier	N E Merrin	Dr H G Jones
1952	17	F R Hills	W D Rees L Enchelmaier	N E Merrin	Not named
1953	18	F R Hills	W D Rees L Enchelmaier C F J Adams	N E Merrin	Not named
1954	19	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	N E Merrin	Not named
1955	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1956	NOT HELD				
1957	20	A H Hardy	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1958	21	A H Hardy	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1959	22	A H Hardy	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1960	23	A H Hardy	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1961	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1962	24	D Rees	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1963	25	D Rees	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1964	26	D Rees	F R Hills	F R Hills	Not named
1965	27	D Rees	F R Hills	F R Hills	Not named
1966	28	D Rees	F R Hills	F R Hills	Not named
1967	29	J H Cossart	F R Hills	F R Hills	Not named
1968	Queensland Eisteddfod				

1969	30	L Enchelmaier	F R Hills	F R Hills	Not named
Year	No.	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Patron
1970	31	E C Rogers	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1971	32	E C Rogers	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1972	33	E C Rogers	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1973	34	E C Rogers	F R Hills	L Enchelmaier	Sir Alan Fletcher (MP)
1974	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1975	35	E C Rogers	H Cay	H Thomae	Hon V Bird (MP)
1976	36	E C Rogers	H Cay	H Thomae	Hon V Bird (MP)
1977	37	E C Rogers	H Cay	H Thomae	Hon V Bird (MP)
1978	38	E C Rogers	H Cay	L Enchelmaier	Hon V Bird (MP)
1979	39	E C Rogers	H Cay	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1980	40	E C Rogers	H Cay	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1981	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1982	41	E C Rogers	H Cay	L Enchelmaier	Not named
1983	42	M Jones	John Penny	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1984	43	M Jones	John and Jennifer Penny	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1985	44	R V Morris	Jennifer Penny	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1986	45	R V Morris	D Webster	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1987	46	R V Morris	M Hooper	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1988	47	R V Morris	M Hooper	J Hughes	Ald Clive Berghofer
1989	48	H Earley	J Morrissey	R Morris	Ald Clive Berghofer
1990	49	H Earley	J Morrissey	L White	Ald Clive Berghofer
1991	Queensland Eisteddfod				
1992	50	L White	H Earley	H Cay	Ald Clive Berghofer
1993	51	J Penny	H Earley	M Turnbull	Ald Ross Miller
1994	52	J Kelly	H Earley	M Turnbull	Ald Ross Miller
1995	53	J Kelly	H Earley	M Turnbull	Cr Ross Miller
1996	54	J Kelly	M Turnbull	R Morris	Cr Ross Miller
1997	55	J Penny	M Turnbull	O Whitley	Cr Tony Bourke
1998	56	J Penny	M Turnbull	O Whitley	Cr Tony Bourke
1999	Queensland Eisteddfod				
2000	57	J Penny	R Dodman	O Whitley	Cr Tony Bourke
2001	58	D Vettiger	R Dodman	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2002	59	D Vettiger	R Dodman	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2003	60	D Vettiger	M Muller	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2004	61	D Vettiger	M Muller	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2005	62	D Vettiger	M Muller	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2006	63	D Vettiger	M Muller	O Whitley	Cr D Thorley
2007	Queensland Eisteddfod				
2008	64	P Melville-Clark	M Muller	O Whitley	Cr P Taylor
2009	65	P Melville-Clark	C James	O Whitley	Cr P Taylor
2010	66	P Melville-Clark	R Dodman	O Whitley	Cr P Taylor

**TOOWOOMBA
EISTEDDFOD**

TO BE HELD AT

**Soldiers' Memorial Hall
TOOWOOMBA**

**Friday and Saturday
April 8th & 9th, 1932**

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