



Highlights & Achievements

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The 2012/2013 year has been jam packed with Whedony fun, and we've been very busy! It's been an amazing 12 months with our biggest achievements being growing our membership and fundraising for charity.

Here's just a few of the things that we have been up to...

Meeting Browncoats

Over the past twelve months, NMB Membership has grown to over 90 members, and we've met hundreds more Browncoats through social media and at conventions across the country. We've now got members from all over the country and overseas!

Conventions

We had a very busy twelve months on the convention circuit, attending seven events across the country. Our Melbourne events were by far the most successful, but we also ventured to Sydney and Adelaide, and twice to Perth. Our Booth Crew had a great time and lots of people stopped by to check out our wares and chat.

Whedonverse Cast Downunder

Australia was very lucky to host a number of Whedonverse cast members this year at conventions

across the country. These include Sean Maher (*Firefly/Much Ado*), Adam Baldwin (*Firefly/Angel*), Alan Tudyk (*Firefly/Dollhouse*), Fran Kranz (*Dollhouse/Much Ado*), Julie Benz (*Buffy/Angel*), and J. August Richards (*Angel/Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*). Many of these cast members kindly autographed items for use in our charity fundraisers and they were thrilled to meet so many of their Australian fans. Sean Maher and Adam Baldwin even took time out of their schedules to stop by our Browncoat Charity Booth! We were also fortunate to be able to interview Sean Maher, Fran Kranz and Julie Benz.

Social Events

With so much going on, we've only had a few opportunities to organize social events outside of conventions and fundraising events. We held our Annual General Meeting on 27 October 2012 and celebrated the end of the year with our Browncoat Christmas Picnic. We even managed to squeeze in a few social nights at The Boatbuilders Yard on the Yarra.

Much Ado About Nothing

The release of Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing* was a

highlight of the year. Sharmill Films, who are the Australian distributors and huge Joss Whedon fans, kindly donated a number of free tickets and posters. These were given away through special NMB Members draws and via contests on Facebook and Twitter.

Charity Fundraising

A big part of why we do what we do is to raise money for charity. As Jayne put it "We're just happy to be doin' good works".

Each year we raise money for Equality Now through our Can't Stop the Serenity events, including screenings, trivia nights and online auctions.

We also donate proceeds from our Browncoat Charity Booth at conventions. In 2012, we supported Amaze (Autism Victoria) and in 2013, we supported Fitted for Work and Fare Share.

Thank you!

On behalf of the NMB Committee, we'd like to thank all our members and supporters for helping make this such a wonderful and successful year!

Jen Cummings, President



Sean Maher and Adam Baldwin at the New Melbourne Browncoats Charity Booth

Membership

Members:

92 (at 30 June 2012)

Membership Cost

Initial Year: \$15

(incl. Dog tag base set)

Annual: \$10

(incl. annual dog tag)

The first year of our membership program has been quite successful, most notably because the funds raised covered our annual public liability insurance bill.

One of our goals when we decided to offer membership was that the funds raised would assist us in lowering our running costs, so that more of what we raise in other ways can go to our recipient charities.

Another of our goals when discussing the implementation of a membership scheme was to create a tangible

connection between members of the local Browncoat community. This has been achieved in several ways, including members recognising each other at conventions by their dogtags.

The dogtags have been well received, with several happy members posting pictures of their tags on social media.

It has been nice to put names to faces when meeting our members at conventions and NMB events.

Our members are predominantly Victorian, with

a mixture of metropolitan and country members. We also have members from NSW, SA and WA, and our latest member is from Ireland.

The total number of members for 2013 was 92.

Leanne Girdwood, Secretary



NMB Member Dog Tags

Our Amazing Volunteers

The New Melbourne Browncoats are an entirely volunteer run organization, and without our volunteers we would be nothing.

Our volunteers work tirelessly, with much of the work being done behind the scenes.

The driving force behind the New Melbourne Browncoats is our Committee. Committee members have worked extremely hard over the

2012/2013 year and have given countless hours of their free time. Our thanks go to each of them for their commitment, dedication and tireless energy.

In addition to the Committee, we are thankful to have the support of many wonderful individuals who volunteer their time and ideas to help make Can't Stop the Serenity and the Browncoat Booth a success.

Thank you!

Committee in 2012/2013:

- ◆ Jen Cummings
- ◆ Leanne Girdwood
- ◆ Michael Girdwood
- ◆ Chris MacLennan
- ◆ Michael Mihalic
- ◆ Julia Svaganovic

Crew in 2012/2013:

- ◆ Clare Birchall
- ◆ Alex Corr
- ◆ Claire Egan
- ◆ Liz
- ◆ Daniel
- ◆ Liam Merrick

Online Community Building

A huge amount of our interaction with our members and the wider Browncoat community is done online, and we've been making a big effort this year to connect with our online community.

Our website is the mainstay of our communications, and we've been working on streamlining it

and adding new features.

Facebook is also a huge part of our online community plan, and we're happy to have reached over 500 Likes.

Twitter keeps us busy, especially during events such as CSTS and conventions, and with 900 followers we must be doing something right!

We also have a YouTube channel where we've featured exclusive interviews with Sean Maher and Fran Kranz plus highlights from CSTS.

And don't forget our Flickr group, where you can add your photos from events!

Michael Girdwood, Webmaster

NMB Outfitters: The Browncoat Charity Booth



CONVENTIONS ATTENDED:

Oz Comic Con (Melb) 30 Jun-1 Jul 2012
 Oz Comic-Con (Perth) 9-10 Mar 2013
 Oz Comic-Con (Adelaide) 16-17 Mar 2013
 Supanova (Melb) 12-13 Apr 2013
 Continuum (Melb) 7-10 June 2013
 Supanova (Sydney) 21-23 June 2013
 Supanova (Perth) 28-30 June 2013

After a very busy 2011/2012 convention season, we kicked off the 2012/2013 season with the very first Oz Comic-Con Melbourne. It was a massive weekend and we met hundreds of Browncoats from across Australia. The highlight of the event was when Sean Maher stopped by for a chat—he was so nice!

Our first convention for 2013 was in Perth, where we had the pleasure of meeting the wonderful Perth Browncoats. Then it was off to Adelaide and another fun filled (though exhausting) weekend. Back to back interstate conventions equals very tired (and slightly loopy) volunteers, but it's been a great opportunity to meet Browncoats and spread the Whedonverse love. A month later and it was time for Supanova Melbourne, a staple of the local convention scene. Adam Baldwin was a special guest, and took the time to stop by to wish us well.

After a bit of a break, it was crunch time on the convention calendar with 3 events almost back to back. Local sci-fi/fantasy convention Continuum was our first stop where we were also on a panel on Fandom for a Cause. Then it was up to Sydney for Supanova with special guest Alan Tudyk. And finally Supanova Perth where we shared with the Perth Browncoats to help promote their CSTS event (proceeds from this event went to Equality Now).

Popular items for sale were our range of Whedonverse t-shirts, figurines, books and DVDs.

Proceeds from sales at our Browncoat Booth go to charity. In 2012, we raised money for Amaze (Autism Victoria) and in 2013 we have been fundraising for two charities, FareShare and Fitted for Work.

Ten Cummings, Booth Sub-Committee Chair

Can't Stop the Serenity & Equality Now

Can't Stop the Serenity 2012 was a raging success! Held at the Village Roadshow Theatre at the State Library of Victoria on Saturday 25 August, the event raised \$7,511.61 for charity Equality Now (\$6,943.33 of which was donated in the financial year 2012/2013). In global terms, Melbourne's total raised was the second highest overall, and the largest donation solely to Equality Now for 2012. It was also Melbourne's most successful event since Can't Stop the Serenity events began in 2006.

The event featured a screening of *Serenity* and *Dr Horrible's Sing-along Blog*, as well as an exclusive video interview with Sean Maher and a wonderful video highlighting the importance of Equality Now and featuring many Whedonverse cast and crew. Whedonverse costumes were plentiful, the raffle and auctions were a hit, and our effort to beat the record for CSTS attendees singing "Hero of Canton" was heaps of fun! And MC Ben Mackenzie was a hit!

We are very grateful to every one who helped us in the planning of our events and on the day. Goods, services and time were generously donated and provided, thanks to our sponsors and our volunteers. Without their help, we could not hold the events we do or donate as much as we do. Thank you to the State Library, particularly Annette Brown, for her assistance in helping us secure a discount on the venue hire and ensuring smooth running of the event. Thank you also to Loop Bar and The Celtic Club who kindly shared their spaces for our lead-in events, a screening of *The Guild* and our Battle of the Geeks Trivia Night. We are thankful for all those who donated items for our raffles and auctions, including the Can't Stop the Serenity Global Sponsors and our own local sponsors.

And of course, none of this would be possible without the dedication of our wonderful volunteers. The CSTS Sub-Committee, headed up in 2012 by Julia Svaganovic, worked tirelessly behind the scenes to plan and make sure everything goes well on the day. Thank you!! Last, but certainly not least, thank you to all the shiny Browncoats who attend our events, who share our vision and who keep us all flying.

Michael Girdwood, CSTS Sub-Committee Chair



**Thank you to Melbourne's
 Browncoats for helping us raise
 \$7,511.61 (US \$7,241.20) for
 Equality Now in 2012**



Treasurer's Report

It has been a good year for the New Melbourne Browncoats with a strengthening of our position over the year through the conventions that we were able to get to hitting every state at least once.

This helped us double our revenue for the year, however it also lead to higher expenses to cover the cost of booth stock. Despite the extra expenses we still where able to have a positive year from a cashflow and profit point of view.

As members, your fees were able to cover one of our biggest expenses for the year which is insurance. The cost of insurance usually lowers the amount of funds we can donate to charity, so knowing that we can now cover this cost out of other revenue is a good sign.

Last financial year we were able to donate \$6,943.33 to Equality Now and \$6,000.00 to Amaze (Autism Victoria) and are on track to do similar donations this year.

Overall I would like to thank our members for their support over the year in showing up to our Can't Stop the Serenity events and spending lots of money as well as coming to see us at our Browncoat Charity Booth when we do conventions. We wouldn't be able to do this without your support.

Michael Mihalic, Treasurer

Financial Statements

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As of 30 June 2013

Assets	2012/2013
Current	
Inventories	7,038
Trade and other receivables	1,060
Other assets	1,200
Cash and cash equivalents	4,413
Current assets	13,711
Non-current	
Trade and other receivables	-
Property, plant and equipment	4,784
Intangible assets	2,335
Other financial assets	-
Non-current assets	7,119
Total assets	20,830
Liabilities	
Current	
Provisions	-
Trade and other payables	-
Other liabilities	650
Borrowings	-
Current liabilities	650
Non-current	
Provisions	-
Non-current liabilities	-
Total liabilities	650
Net assets	20,180
Equity	20,180

Donations to Charity:

▪ AMAZE:

\$6,000.00

▪ Equality Now:

\$6,943.33*

* Total raised from CSTS 2012 for Equality Now was \$7,511.61.

Balance of \$568.28 will be donated in FY2013/14 (see Consolidated Statement of Financial Position: Liabilities)

Financial Statements

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	2012/2013
Revenue	40,579
Other income	735
Changes in inventories	-
Costs of material	(5,514)
Employee benefits expense	-
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-
Loss of sale on property, plant and equipment	-
Forgiveness of loan	-
Fundraising expenses	(5,534)
Donations to charitable insitutions	(12,943)
Other expenses	(8,348)
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	8,975
Tax expense	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8,975
Other comprehensive income:	
Revaluation of land	-
Available-for-sale financial assets	-
Net changes in fair value of AFS financial assets, net of tax	-
Other comprehensive income for the period, net of tax	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period	8,975

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	2012/2013
Operating Services	
Receipts from:	
- Donations and appeals	-
- Charity Fundraising events	10,911
- Bequests & Grants	-
- Member contributions	990
- Sale of goods	28,576
- Dividend & Interest income	6
- Other income	831
Payment to members and suppliers	(23,103)
Payment to charitable insitutions	(12,943)
Net cash provided by operating activities	5,268
Investing activities	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(2,437)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	-
Purchase of AFS investments	-
Proceeds from disposals of AFS investments	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(2,437)
Financing activities	
Proceeds from bank loans	-
Repayment of bank loans	-
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	-
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	3,168
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	1,584
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	4,413

Our Supporters...

Thanks to our amazing supporters, New Melbourne Browncoats have formed a wonderful community of Joss Whedon fans across Victoria and Australia and raised thousands of dollars for charity. As a non-profit, we rely on the kindness of strangers to help us meet our goals of providing a social scene for Browncoats and raising much needed funds for charity. The generous folks below have supported us in a vast number of ways, including donating collectibles (which we use to raise money for charity through auctions, raffles and community building), providing gratis or discounted goods and services, and donating equipment and supplies.

Platinum Supporters

**Jen
Cummings**

**DARK
HORSE
COMICS**

**Leanne Girdwood
&
Michael Girdwood**

**OZ COMIC
CON**

**Craig
Irvine**

Qm^x

**State Library
of Victoria**

**MUCH
ADD
ABOUT
NOTHING**

**supanova
pop culture expo**

Gold Supporters

**The Celtic Club
Melbourne**
*established in 1887
still going strong*

**Emma
Wyatt**

**FIRST CONTACT
CONVENTIONS**

**Liam
Merrick**

**NINJA
MONKEY**

**Penguin Books
Australia**

**Diana Sparke
&
Brendan Waite**

**Julia
Svaganovic**

**VILLAGE
ROADSHOW**

Silver Supporters

dwca
Doctor Who Club of Australia

**JASON PALMER
STUDIOS**

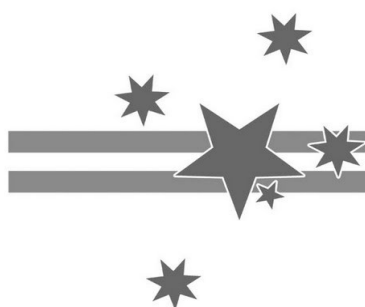
LOOP

**MAD ZOMBIE
COLLECTABLES**

STEWART

Bronze Supporters

Scott Allie ■ Bruce Loves You ■ Seamus Dever & Juliana Dever ■ Ali Graham ■ Georges Jeanty
Bek Jones ■ John King ■ Leish Hobson ■ Jeffrey Lewis ■ Sandeep Parikh ■ Sending a Wave



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COMMITTEE (as at 30 June 2013)

President:	Jen Cummings	pres@newmelbournebrowncoats.com
Vice-President:	Michael Girdwood	vpres@newmelbournebrowncoats.com
Secretary:	Leanne Girdwood	sec@newmelbournebrowncoats.com
Treasurer:	Michael Mihalic	treas@newmelbournebrowncoats.com
General:	Chris MacLennan	gencom2@newmelbournebrowncoats.com

PAST COMMITTEE MEMBERS

General:	Julia Svaganovic	(to 9 September 2012)
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Outfitters Booth:	outfitters@newmelbournebrowncoats.com
Webmaster:	webmaster@newmelbournebrowncoats.com

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<http://facebook.com/newmelbournebrowncoats>



<http://twitter.com/melbbrowncoats>



<http://plus.google.com/111629813660404015538>



<http://www.flickr.com/groups/melbournebrowncoats>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/newmelbbrowncoats>



Singing "Hero of Canton" at Can't Stop the Serenity 2012 to beat the Browncoat World Record