

Wollongong & Northern LEADER

Vol 10, No 50 December 13, 2007 Circulating in Wollongong CBD and the Northern Suburbs from Fairy Meadow to Helensburgh • www.northernleader.com.au

news



- Bulli High School Jazz Band members Jaimee Favelle, Katherina Liss, Laryssa Southerton, Paddy Kelly, Keelan Brown, Matt Tarrant, Milo Kelly and Marcus Tamp will be taught by a living legend of jazz education today.

Bulli jazz on top of the world

ONE of the world's top jazz educators is visiting Wollongong this week to pass on some musical know-how to budding jazz musicians at Bulli High School.

The world renowned Dr Gene Aitken will be in Wollongong at the invitation of the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music.

Dr Aitken has more than 40 years of experience in the world of jazz and earlier this year visited Iraq, where he led jazz ensembles to help

unite different religions.

In May this year he conducted China's top military band and gave them master classes.

This is his first visit to Australia.

The Director of Jazz Studies at the Wollongong Conservatorium Eric Dunan has been working with the Bulli High School Jazz Band for the past five years.

He said Dr Aitken will be able to pass on some great wisdom to the group.

"He'll be addressing jazz techniques and also improvisation techniques and also how to play together as an ensemble - similar stuff to what I do - but he brings 40 years of experience to the table and has worked with jazz ensembles all over the world, and has more experience than what I can possibly have," he said.

Mr Dunan said he is very excited about the potential of the Bulli High School Jazz Band.