

EISTEDDFOD BRINGS OUT TOP TALENT

SATRIA DYER-DARMAWAN

THE eight day Centralian Eisteddfod kicked off on Sunday, and has seen an increase of competitors entering this years event.

Music, speech and drama, talent and dance, are just some of the 150 competitions categories that Central Australians youths and adults have participated in during the past week.

On Sunday, the Centralian Eisteddfod saw an unprecedented amount of competitors enter the piano sections this year, with Susie Purcell, music teacher at Transpose Music Studio, entering 61 of her students in the years event.

"All up there used to be 15 piano performances" Ms Purcell said. "This year, there was about 70 entries on Sunday all up on the piano, far surpassing the previous amount of competitors in the piano section in previous years. We encourage them to play as much as they can and practice. I just said choose your songs that you really love the sound of, so there's less pressure when performing. The highlight for me was that everybody enjoyed themselves."



Elsa Chenhall playing piano at the Centralian Eisteddfod.

Picture: SUPPLIED

Victim asks for a lighter sentence

JAMAL BEN HADDOU

A LOCAL crime victim who was threatened with a knife said he hoped the offender would be given a "lighter" jail sentence, the Supreme Court has heard.

Tristan Campbell, aged 21, drunkenly tried to steal from two people at knife-point on the top of Anzac Hill including from a person that he knew.

Campbell spent six months in custody since the incident and was given a suspended sentence this week on various conditions including participating in alcohol rehabilitation.

The victim who knew Campbell said he is a "shy guy" and not violent when sober.

In December last year, Campbell became intoxicated after drinking at Ilparpa Camp and his family asked a friend to take him into town.

The pair decided to go to the top of Anzac Hill where Campbell approached a group

"I hope the offender could be given a lighter sentence."

VICTIM

of three people including a man that knew him from work. Campbell approached a younger man who was sitting on a bench, pointed a knife at him and threatened him.

"If you don't give me some money, I'll stab you," he said.

He then turned to the other man that he knew and held the knife against his neck.

Campbell's friend told him to stop but he replied "f*** off".

The man started shaking in fear and offered to buy him cigarettes with his credit card which Campbell agreed to.

On their way down from

the hill, Campbell asked the man if he really thought that he would stab him.

Meanwhile, police were told about the incident and arrested Campbell shortly after.

In a victim impact statement, the man known to Campbell said it was out of character for him.

"I hope the offender could be given a lighter sentence. He apologised to me a couple of times ..." he said.

Campbell pleaded guilty to two counts of assault with intent to steal while armed.

Acting Justice Dean Mildren accepted Campbell was remorseful but said his actions caused "considerable fear".

"It seems to me that your prospects of rehabilitation are good, if you can learn to control your binge drinking," Justice Mildren said.

Campbell was free to walk from court after his two year and three month prison sentence was suspended.



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