
BRASS 'Rubbings'

Brackley Band Supporters Club Newsletter

Winter 2011

Carol Singing on the Piazza

This years outdoor *Carol Singing on the Piazza* will be held on Sunday 18th December at 7pm. Led by conductor John *Budgie* Bennett for the evening, the senior and junior bands will combine to provide one of the most special evenings of the calendar.

Christmas Concert

Continuing the festive mood, the senior and junior bands once more combine to provide their annual Christmas Concert at St Peter's Church at 7.30pm on Monday 19th. Admission is £6 for Adults with Concessions for OAP's. Children are admitted free.

New Years Eve Disco

As usual the Club will be holding its annual disco on New Years Eve. Members and guests welcome.

Junior band concert

The Junior band will be holding a Spring Concert in March 2012. Full details to be included in the Spring Edition of *BRASS 'Rubbings'*.

*The Band Club Wish You
All A Very Merry
Christmas and a Happy
New Year*

100th Champion Band of Great Britain

Brighouse and Rastrick band successfully defended their National title to become the 100th Champion Band of Great Britain at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 15th October by performing Paul Lovatt-Coopers *Breath of Souls* to the satisfaction of adjudicators David Read, Luc Vertommem and Rob Wiffin (local rivals Black Dyke had failed to qualify for the Finals for the first time in over a decade).

2011 National Finals

- 1Brighouse and Rastrick
- 2Fairey (Geneva)
- 3Cory
- 4Beaumaris
- 5Tredegar
- 6Carlton Main Frickley

If you always do

There is a saying that goes "If you always do what you've always done you will always get what you always got". This has been attributed to Henry Ford, Albert Einstein and others as well as being cited as originating from Russia. So, to get something new and fresh in the New Year, perhaps it is time for us to try something different? Therefore, if you have any ideas on how we can utilise and expand on what we have and what we do, have a quiet word with us.

Waitrose scheme to help Juniors

The Junior band are one of the nominees for the Waitrose Green Token Scheme in December. Under the scheme, shoppers use green tokens obtained from each shopping trip to nominate one of three chosen beneficiaries. Cash donations are then made by Waitrose based on the number and proportion of tokens received. For December Brackley Junior band, Brackley Male Voice Choir and Brackley Chamber Club are the nominees so why not pop in to do your daily or weekly shopping running up to the New Year, make your nominations and help Waitrose support your local organisations or causes.

Katharine House

A Charity Fundraising Dinner at the Town Hall organised by Caryl Billingham on the 11th November raised £1024 for Katharine House. Players led by John *Budgie* Bennett provided some after dinner *entertainment* utilising the small group repertoire that is continually being developed. Due to the popularity of our contribution we have been invited to perform at a dinner to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Brackley and Pavillon-sous-Bois twinning agreement next May.

Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo

The senior band performed at the Buckingham Christmas Parade on Saturday 10th December. Reflecting the parade theme of Disney the band performed a newly arranged assortment of Disney tunes including *Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo*, *Bare Necessities*, *Heigh-Ho* and *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf*.

**Christmas
Bingo**

**Thurs 22nd December
From 7pm
All welcome**

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

*Brackley
And District
J-Band*

John Durrant
(Musical Director)

"with Sue Bennett and Brackley Junior Band"
7.30pm Monday 19th December
at St Peter's Church, Brackley
Adults £6 Concessions £4 Children Free

Leicestershire

The senior band performed in the First Section of the Leicestershire Open Contest on Sunday 27th November at Loughborough. Led by new Musical Director John Durrant, the band played G Baileys *Diadem of Gold* as their own choice testpiece and produced a very commendable performance. However, competition was fierce (with some bands travelling down from Yorkshire) and Brackley had to settle for 12th place out of 16.

First Section

- 1.....Ratby Co-operative
- 2.....Jackfield (Elcock Reisen)
- 3.....Enderby
- 4.....Kippax

National test

Swiss composer Bertrand Morens *Mountain Views*, a modern composition, has been chosen as the test piece for the National Brass Band Championship Area Contest next March. The senior band require a mid table result or better to retain their First Section status.

Contest Debutants

Two members of the senior band experienced brass band contesting for the first time at the Leicestershire Open Contest - Peter Yates on Solo Cornet and Lucy Garrett on 2nd. As an ex-Championship Section testpiece, *Diadem of Gold* is not an easy introduction to brass band contesting so the band are delighted that they acquitted themselves well and even managed to enjoy the experience.

Contest Swapshop

Although inter-band rivalry can be fierce at times, two Brackley band members assisted an opposition band at the recent Leicestershire Open Contest. After performing with Brackley, Keith Whittingham and Steve Anker swapped uniforms to assist local rivals Kidlington Concert in both the First and Open Sections.

200 Club Draw

The 200 Club Draw for December will be held on Christmas Eve.

WHAT'S ON

BRACKLEY: Courtyard *Sat 17th Dec. Carols* junior band.

BANBURY: Sainsburys. *Sun 18th Dec 10am to 4pm. Carols* in small groups.

BRACKLEY: Outside Town Hall *Sun 18th Dec at 7pm. Carol service* with senior and junior bands.

BRACKLEY: St Peter's Church *Mon 19th Dec at 7.30pm. Christmas Concert* with senior and junior bands. £6/£4 Concessions/Children Free

BRACKLEY: Band Club. *Thurs 22nd Dec 7pm. Christmas bingo*

BRACKLEY: Band Club. *Fri 23rd Dec 8pm. Oompah Carols?*

BRACKLEY: Band Club. *Sat 31st Dec. New Years Eve Disco*

BEDWORTH: Civic Hall *Sat 10th Mar 2012. Midlands Area Contest* senior band. Supporters welcome.

Online Information

To find out more about what is going on in the brass band world, have a look at www.4barsrest.com for news, reviews and articles, www.themouthpiece.com for the thoughts of the bandsmen and women or www.brackleyband.org.uk for up to date news of your own bands and club.

Our History: Part 2

As pupils left Brackley Secondary School there was no opportunity to pursue brass banding within the town. The former town bands had long gone and, due to the refusal of the education authorities to allow their equipment to be used elsewhere, no real means of starting even the most modest group or ensemble.

By 1973 many of the school leavers had already gained considerable experience through membership in the Northamptonshire County Youth band and made significant personal commitment through the purchase of their own instruments.

An early attempt to form a youth band in conjunction with members of the County band from other areas gained insufficient support and even met some resistance.

In December 1973 a new brass band competition was being organised at Aylesbury by the newly formed Buckinghamshire Brass Band Association. Providing an achievable objective, it was decided to make a concerted effort to attend. The youth band, bolstered by the presence of Derek Chapman and Garry Keen, competed in two sections, Youth and Second and found favour with the adjudicators

to gain two trophies and £25 in prize money. *Note: Two of the bands beaten by Brackley that day would go on to become close rivals in the years to come, City of Oxford Youth and Kennington.*

Inspired by this success the band began to rehearse regularly in halls and churches throughout the town and attended their first National Brass Band Championships in March of 1974 at Watford.

Influential individuals from that era include Pat Carthew (Musical Director), Rob Sammons, Doug Bennett, Derek and Jill Chapman, David McCombie, Brian and Mary Stevens and Don and Betty Stevens (Committee).

See Our History: Part 3 in the Spring edition of BRASS 'Rubbings'.

MANAGEMENT

Brackley and District Band
Founded 1973

Brackley Band Supporters Club
Opened Dec 1979

Brackley Junior Band
Founded 1980

Club Manager: Floss Tustain
Club Committee: Helen Tarratt (Ch), Rebecca Teal (Sec), Des Stimpson (Tr), Floss Tustain, David Piper, Steve Hack
Senior Band: Rhys Owen (Ch), Liz Slack (Sec), Floss Tustain (Contest), Matt Cotton (Tr), Nellie Church (BM), Tim Cornelius
Junior Band: Sue Bennett
Music Librarian: David Piper

BRASS 'Rubbings' is published by
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