

Brass Tracks

What an eventful Summer! The weather has held out (mostly) for our outdoor concerts: the band has travelled considerable miles to play for various District events: our young players have all passed their exams: we have created the new post of **Deputy Conductor**, and our very first in the post is **LEE ROGERS** our flugel player, AND we're taking bookings for 2017!!

LEEDS DISTRICT CONCERT was well received, as ever: not surprising, given the excellent Afternoon Tea that was laid on! This year saw the debut of one of our youngest players, **Lauren Brunt**, who at 15 years old not only played her very first solo with us having joined the band this summer - but 'Buster Strikes Back' was her very first 'stand up' solo! Lauren has been presented with a silver treble clef pendant and chain as a memento of the

SHORT NOTE !!

Your eyes are NOT deceiving you!

Our Musical Director, Rob Boulter IS taller now than when you saw him last because he has had BOTH knees replaced within 6 months.

We're glad to have him back in the middle and wish him a full and speedy recovery

Canterbury District Members and guests welcomed the band in September and were very enthusiastic about our concert. They warmed to our guest conductor (Rob was recovering from his operation); there was animated participation in *Lord Of The Dance* and others and their reception to the soloists **Jo Read** and **Fran Skinner** was generous and ardent. Alongside the Charity donation the District gave a contribution to the band towards instrument repairs.

WELCOME

To new players,

- Julie Brunt** (Baritone Horn),
- Ann Cairns** (Baritone Horn),
- Lauren Brunt** (Cornet).
- Karine Fodden** (Trombone),
- Em Fodden Rushton** (Tenor Horn)

We're sorry to see other players leave, but fully understand the extra pressure imposed by work: we wish you all the best and thank you for your efforts whilst a member.

The band rehearses Wednesday and Sunday evenings in Markfield, Leics (virtually at Junct 22 of the M1) Players are welcome to come for a blow. Contact us for times and directions.

RAIN DID NOT STOP PLAY!!

Slightly 'Iffy' weather didn't dampen the spirits of the band or audience at our concert at Western Park in August. Our intrepid supporters simply parked their cars around the bandstand in sunburst order and opened their windows to enjoy our playing and their picnics when the drizzle came or braved the weather in their waterproofs. Thankfully all was dry when we played the music from Disney's 'Frozen' allowing the younger generation to dance and the older ones to sing along to the very popular songs. As the band packed up after the concert we were again asked to appear next year!!

SHORT NOTE !!

Our trip to **Barbados** is scheduled for **July 2016**. Merely 6 months away from this publication date. Supporters (and deputy players) are welcome to participate and all enquiries should be directed through either Rob Boulter 07808 823227 or Jan Fox.

Book the band for YOUR event.. contact the Band manager on 07706 230157 or email oddfellowsbrass-manager@live.com

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DIARY DIARY DIARY

SeptemberSaturday 5th: CanterburySaturday 26th: Leamington Spa Town hall**October**Saturday 17th: Durham District Concert Bowburn Community Centre**November:**22nd: COMPETING in First Section. Leicester Brass Band Association Contest, Loughborough, Leics**December**Thur 3rd: Stoke Golding, Leics. Village LightsSat 5th: Sainsbury, Fosse Park, Leics. CarollingSun 6th: Staunton Harold, Derbys. 'Lights of Love' ServiceFri 11th: Sainsbury Fosse Park, carolling 11-6 (end time TBC)Sat 12th: Carol concert with play school. Loughborough Leics (TBC)Sun 13th: Harvest Church Carol Service. Braunston Civic Centre, LeicsSun 20th: Sainsbury Fosse Park Leics, Carolling 11-4Sun 20th: Smeeton Westerby Church, Leics. Carol Service 6.30pm**2016****January**Sun 24th: Recording our new CD at the bandroom**February**Sun 28th: COMPETING in First Section, Oxford Contest**March:**Sat 12th: COMPETING in First Section Midlands Regional Contest.**May:**Sun 29th: FREE Concert. 3pm Eastbourne AMC**July:**Sun 3rd: *Brass On The Grass*. Smeeton Westerby, Leics. (TBC)*Tour to Barbados***August**Aug 7th: Leeds District**September**Sept 10th: Derby District (TBC)Sept 18th: Reading District (Newbury Show)**December**Sun 4th: Staunton Harold, Derbys. 'Lights of Love' Service (TBC)3rd or 10th: Derwent District (TBC)Sun 11th: Harvest Church Carol Service. Braunston, Leics (TBC)Sun 18th: Smeeton Westerby Church, Leics. Carol Service 6.30pm (TBC)*Our calendar can be found on our website oddfellowsbrass.co.uk and on the Oddfellows Society's website www.oddfellows.co.uk***Copies of our CDs**

'Pastime with Good Company' and 'Perfectly Polished' can be obtained either point of sale at a concert priced £8 or by post £8 plus £1 p&p. Cheques made payable to *Oddfellows Brass Band*. Contact: *Oddfellows Brass C/O Melrose House, 55, Melrose Rd, Thringstone, Leics. LE67 8NG*

The band was recently given an upright piano on permanent 'loan'. This means we can help prepare players for solo contests and encourage new people to tinkle the ivories and learn the skill of accompaniment. Thank you to Ann for your generosity.

Friends of Oddfellows Brass

are waiting to welcome you. If you are interested in helping, perhaps by dropping a copy of the newsletter or band brochure to your local council, church, or charity then please contact the Band Manager. Full details by email from **oddfellowsbrass-manager@live.com**

Vacancies We currently have vacancies for a Soprano cornet: Basses of both flavours; Tuned percussion (if you understand a keyboard layout you'll be fine with this. Assistance can be given if needed); and Solo Tenor Horn. Contact the Band Master in confidence, Chris Banks on 07740 357394 or Musical Director Rob Boulter 07808 823227

Do YOU have photographs of the band in concert or on tour? Do you have videos or recordings? Would you be willing to share them with us? If so, please contact us: 07706 230157 or email Press Officer on oddfellowsbrass-press@hotmail.com The band is 35 in 2016 and we'd like to fill any gaps in our archive and perhaps create a display for any proposed 'anniversary' celebrations. Thank You

SHORT NOTE!!

If you think that the British Culture of brass banding should be recognised and its teaching of musical skills to young people highlighted why not write to the BBC and Classic FM and ask for more brass bands on the radio/TV channels? If you don't ask you don't get!!

DON'T MISS OUT!!

The newsletter is produced in two formats. Printed and in email form. To receive your copy call 07706 230157, or email oddfellowsbrass-press@hotmail.com