

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the
Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 269
March 2024

Band Room News

Fred and Mave Aram

Our vice-president and life member, Fred, and his wife Mave are now both back home after spells in hospital. The band wishes them both all the best.

Vacancies

The training band continues to welcome all players, but especially trombone and bass players, if you have any friends who would like to join us. We offer a free loan of an instrument and music, and for those who have not played before, free tuition in our beginners' groups.

PayPal and Card Reader

The band has set up a PayPal account for those of you who wish to contribute voluntary subscriptions and to the tea club. Payments can be sent to robert@lespb.org.uk (the PayPal account is directly linked to our band account). If you do make voluntary subscriptions in this way, please let Rob know so that we include you on our scratch cards. Rob also has a card reader for those of you who may wish to contribute this way (or pay for CDs). Cash is also still acceptable: it is commission free!

Scratch Cards

The band runs a scratch card (£1 a go) every Monday (for the training band and beginners' group) and Wednesday (for the senior band). Please see Richard (Mondays) or Ian (Wednesdays) after rehearsal. Whilst this is entirely voluntary; please consider having a go, if not every week, then perhaps once every month. We do have standing order forms available in the band room if you would rather contribute that way, or you could set up a standing order online if you wish (or pay by credit card or PayPal). Please remember to let Rob know, so that you are still entered on the scratch card every week! And if you do not want to "gamble", please just donate!

Notes from the Post Mill Centre, South Normanton (North East Midlands Brass Band Association Contest)

Results: Training Band Section

1. Ratby Crescendo Band (Becky Plant)

2. Long Eaton Silver Prize Training Band (Sharon Stansfield)

Best Instrumentalist: Daniel Wrigley (Kit, Long Eaton)

Adjudicator's Comments

David W. Ashworth

1939 Good start! Confident playing - make sure that the tune is prominent at all times. **F** – try a little more sostenuto style. Well done percussion through out!

Such Love Great start Henry! – sound v. confident – well done at the close too. V. well done all round.

Any Dream Good tempo! – just a little hesitant to start. Settles down v. comfortably. Excellent kit drummer noted (again!)

Livin on a Prayer Sounds like you're enjoying this – kit player drives forward really well. Good marcato sections particularly.

Lets Twist Good driving tempo – well presented too.

Very well done Sharon + All.

Results: Third Section

1. Dronfield Genquip Band (David Holling)

2. Newark Town Band (Gary Wyatt)

3. Long Eaton Silver Prize Band (Sharon Stansfield)

Best Euphonium: Emma McCormick (Long Eaton)

Adjudicator's Comments

Alan Morrison

Well spaced to begin if a little too detached in style for fanfare style. A loose lead into 26. Rhythms don't always fit together precisely and the dynamic tone seemed somewhat subdued. Cascades have varying degrees of success and tuning does suffer at times in inner parts. The accel works well though but the ending was loose.

107 is rather tentative and tonally insecure with resulting tuning concerns. **124** could sustain more and have more space. Cornet does well if not quite expressive. Secure cornet if not quite tuned in chord to close.

164 Drives well but not always precise in ensemble. Percussion a little wayward around **169**. The tempo has energy and dynamics find some contrast. Good flugel but the fff could be bigger and more sustained. **243** is very tentative and flugel is insecure here. **255** is triumphant but more control needed between f + ff. A good close though.

A good attempt at finding the character of the music but the softer sections did expose some fundamental frailties in tuning balance and control.

A positive account nevertheless.

Notes from Corby Business Academy (Midlands Regional Championships)

Results: Third Section

1. Thrapston Town (Nathan Waterman)
2. Wellington (Telford) (Ian Johnson)
3. Towcester Studio (Neil Brownless)

9. Long Eaton Silver Prize Training Band (Sharon Stansfield)

Adjudicator's Comments

Chris Wormald

Good opening, clean tidy and understated. It is marked "triumphant" however. Cornet not great at **14**, disappearing, but we like the 'ff' differentiation at **22**. Good Basses here, good percussion and nice soprano. All moves well. Full band tutti good, good M.D. The carillons fail to work well from **68/69** onwards. All of this is very aggressive. Good accel. at **93**. Good close into **106**.

Very weak ensemble at **107**, total lack of confidence here. Lots of players are wobbling in their sound and errors are creeping in on many entries. **119/120** untidy in soprano and cornets. **124** is an uneasy listen, the solo cornet is nervous/flat but it is the accompaniment which is detracting.

Beautiful euph at **134**, the best we have heard so far! Really quality playing under pressure – bravo! Flugel very nervous at **142**, really nervous. Again solo cornet very flat and under pitch at **158**. The band come alive at **164** and it sounds that this section has been rehearsed the most. Much better, much more confident and yes it's more tutti and louder, including everyone. There are moments of untidy ensemble and scrappy playing but bravo Timpani, good contributions from you. Some excellent Bass playing in this band, on a few occasions you have contributed superbly today. Flugel sound terrified at **249**, please enjoy! Overall this performance had good moments, weak moments and littered with nerves to say the least today.

Andrea Price

A controlled opening with a secure sense of style. Cornets could be far more dramatic at **14** – forte is still loud. **25** doesn't entirely come off, but things do settle well into **26**.

26 could do with a little more momentum; good basses + sop with helpful percussion. This movement is rhythmically strong and the fundamentals are pretty much in place – use the finer details of dynamics and articulation.

69 onwards becomes rather fragile – some uncomfortable moments in the carillon and we lose the flow through the slower music. It does make for an effective accel into the reprise.

107 has a sense of atmosphere, although tuning is problematic and it is all a bit static. Sustain is so important in this music. More inconsistencies/errors in this section – a few nerves, understandably.

124 has some very pleasant playing; good bass foundation. Lovely Euph. Overall this needs more shaping and flow as a movement. Bravo sop. **150** is starting to find something here – good playing, balance, tuning and a sense of direction. Well-handled at **161** – not perfect by any means but these chords are hard!

Spirited start to **164** – not all is quite in agreement with pulse + some rhythmic inaccuracy – also some great effects + fine playing around the stands. Perc. v. effective + lower band really putting a shift in. **207** is very fragile + **213** nearly gets too broad.

Concentration lapses are increasing now – scrappy moments. **233** good efforts if not entirely balanced. Well done at **243** – tuning not perfect but clearly working hard. Flug – feed it! Ignore the pp for a solo and perform. Builds effectively to a confident ending.

Thank you.

Notes from the Musical Director



I would like to thank everyone for all their effort for the NEMBBA and area contests. The training band played very well at NEMBBA, and it was a close contest with the winners Ratby Crescendo, to whom we offer our congratulations in winning in their first ever contest. Congratulations to Dan on winning the best instrumentalist prize!

I know all of us in the senior band were disappointed with our performance at NEMBBA: we had an off day, and it is a long time since this has happened.

Congratulations to Emma on winning the best euphonium prize and to Rob and Heather for winning the section for the fifth

time running, albeit this time when helping another band!

For the last two weeks we all worked hard to turn it around, and despite some of the remarks, we did play well at the area, if not well enough to be in the prizes. I particularly disagree with the unnecessarily repetitive and lecturing comments about nervous playing by our soloists; none of our soloists sounded nervous to me and I am proud of them all. As hinted by Andrea in her remarks, maybe our soloists' pianissimos were just too quiet for that acoustic.

We now have a couple of months to prepare for our spring and summer concert season which starts in May, and I have already chosen lots of new music for both our bands to rehearse! The senior band also welcomes back those players who had to stand down temporarily whilst we prepared for the area contest: thank you again for your understanding.

Finally, our AGM is next month and all members of the beginner's group, training band as well as the senior band will be invited to attend. If you would like to help with the running of the band, please add yourself to the nomination lists when they go up; I am sure you will find some-one to propose and second you!

Ten Years Ago

March 2014

Party Time

Parties in the coming months include Andy (15th March), Rob (5th April) and Emmaaaaaarrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrggggggggggggghhhhhh's 21st on 12th April. All parties are in the club's function room, and all members of all our bands are invited.

Brassed Off

A number of the band members are performing in the matinee and Tuesday evening performances of Brass Off in Nottingham this week (we have rehearsals every other evening).

Sharon has been directing the band in the rehearsals, although of course one of the actors does this in the actual performances.


Training Band Diary

Sharon will be issuing engagement schedules with the actual start times once they have been confirmed. New additions are marked in green. Changes to the schedule are marked in red.

You should receive emails from Vento for these events, please respond to them with your availability to keep everything up to date, and let Sharon know if you can't make them so we can arrange dep players.

2024

Date	Start	Event	Postcode
Saturday 15th June	1:00pm	Draycott Open Gardens Draycott Table Tennis Centre (Outside) New Street, Draycott	DE72 3LZ
Saturday 22nd June	9:30am	Speech, Sign and Song Club Concert Toton Methodist Church Hall Stapleford Lane, Toton	NG9 6GA
Thursday 28th Nov	5:30pm	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (With the Senior Band) Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Friday 29th Nov	6:00pm	Draycott Christmas Bazaar St Mary's Church Hall Draycott	DE72 3PS



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Band Diary

Lisa will be issuing engagement schedules with the actual start times once they have been confirmed. New additions are marked in green. Changes to the schedule are marked in red. You should receive emails from Vento for these events, please respond to them with your availability to keep everything up to date, and let Lisa or Sharon know if you can't make them so we can arrange dep players.

2024

Date	Start	Event	Postcode
Sunday 9th June	2:00pm	West Park Concert West Park, Long Eaton	NG10 4AA
Sunday 11th Aug	2:00pm	West Park Concert West Park, Long Eaton	NG10 4AA
Saturday 19th Oct	7:00pm	Red Cross Charity Concert Mapperley Social Club Plains Road, Mapperley	NG3 5RH
Sunday 3rd Nov	10:00am	NEMBBA November Contest The Whitworth Station Road, Darley Dale	DE4 2EQ
Thursday 7th Nov	7:30pm	Festival of Remembrance Winding Wheel Theatre 13 Holywell Street,, Chesterfield	S41 7SA
Saturday 16th Nov	7:30pm	Church of St Michael and All Angels 43 Church Street, Bramcote	NG9 3HD
Thursday 28th Nov	5:30pm	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (With the Training Band) - Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Saturday 7th Dec	7:30pm	St Laurence's Church Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Thursday 12th Dec	11:00am	Chaddesden Historical Group Christmas Event Jubilee Club, Chaddesden Derby	DE21 6LJ
Sunday 15th Dec	2:30pm	Christmas in Brass (Matinee) Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF
Sunday 15th Dec	7:30pm	Christmas in Brass (Evening) Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF

2025

Date	Start	Event	Postcode
Sunday 21st Dec	2:30pm	Christmas in Brass (Matinee) Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF
Sunday 21st Dec	7:30pm	Christmas in Brass (Evening) Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF

Band Supporters

The band is also most grateful to the following individuals, organisations and businesses for their recent support of the band:

Mr. & Mrs Blackburn	£2,257 from open garden days, talks to various societies and other events, £510 from a collection made at their golden wedding celebrations, and £700 from a collection made at John's 80th birthday party
Val Custance	£250 for new music
Rotary Club of Long Eaton	£300 towards general expenditure
Erewash Borough Council	£200 towards creating a warm space for our bands to rehearse in
Abellio East Midlands	£699 towards a new printer
Mrs L. M. Adkin	£265.50 towards general expenditure
Derbyshire County Council	A further £250 warm spaces grant
Vicki Hing	£150 towards our National Finals fund
Brian Turner	Donation of two trombones
Keith Ottowell	Donation of a soprano cornet
Raymond & Carole Blackwell	£50 for the Finals Fund
Councillor Athwal Councillor Major Councillor Hickton	Donations of £1000 each, to a total of £3000 towards the National Finals fund

Personnel

Contacts

Sharon Stansfield	07887 907 516	sharon@lespb.org.uk
Lisa Balsom	01332 677 863	lisa@lespb.org.uk
Deborah Redpath	0115 919 5990	j.redpath2@ntlworld.com
Robert Stansfield	07722 118 127	robert@lespb.org.uk

Website & Social Media

Our website address is <https://lespb.org.uk>

Our Facebook pages are:

<https://facebook.com/lespb> (Senior Band)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/270405743010461/> (Training Band)

Our X (Twitter) account is @LESPB1906

NEMBBA Website: <http://www.nembba.org.uk/>

NEMBBA: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nembba>

NEMBBA Youth Band: <https://www.facebook.com/NEMBBAYB>

Training Band Officers

Musical Director	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)	
Assistant Musical Directors	James Dennis	
Events Organiser / Secretary	Ian Peberday	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)
Equipment Officer	Robert Stansfield	
Librarians	Deborah Redpath	Cheryl Allen
Beginners Group Teachers	James Dennis	Keith Ottowell
	Tracey Cooper	Robert Stansfield
	Stuart Measures	

Band Officers and Committee

President	Councillor Kevin Miller	
Vice-Presidents	Fay Blackburn	Roland Hosker
	John Blackburn	Carl Ramplin F.C.C.A.
	Val Custance	Fred Aram
	Richard Walker PG Cert, DMS, CITP, MBSC, MAPM	
Honorary Life Members	Ted Bradley	Colin Millns
	Professor Pete Thomas	Fred Aram
	Sylvia Purnell	
Musical Director (*)	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)	
Assistant Musical Director	James Dennis	Ian McCormick
Chairman (*)	Rob Guest	
Vice-Chairman (*)	Emma Ramplin	
Secretary (*)	Lisa Balsom	
Contest Secretary	Lisa Balsom	
Training Band Secretary	Ian Peberday	
Junior Rep	Daniel Nicholson	
Treasurer (*)	Robert Stansfield	
Equipment Officer	Robert Stansfield	
Assistant Equipment Officers (*)	-	
Librarian (*)	Deborah Redpath	
Assistant Librarians	Cheryl Allen	Amy Redpath
Band Sergeants	James Dennis	Emma Ramplin
Publicity Officers	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)	Fay Blackburn
Committee Members (*)	Robert Burrows	Kim Larwood
	James Dennis	Elaine Nicholson
	Sarah Measures	Ian Peberday
	Andrew Beaumont	
Newsletter Editor	James Mayell	
Webmaster	James Mayell	
Auditors	Ian Peberday	Carl Ramplin

(*) Indicates a committee member