

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 279

August 2025

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Band Room News

Summer Holidays

Both band's rehearsals will continue as usual during the summer holidays.

Thank you to Elaine for coordinating the beginners' groups teachers: our beginners' groups also continue during the summer holidays. Please remember to let us know when you are not coming (we do expect that you all will be away on holiday for some of the six weeks), so our teachers can also have a night off if there is no-one to teach.

Facebook

Please follow our Facebook pages

<https://www.facebook.com/lespb> (senior band) and

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lesptb> (training band))

for profiles of our senior and training band players, written by our new social media manager, Kate.

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 Kate (Mondays) or Kim (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 by PayPal to robert@lespb.org.uk). Some band members also pay for their after-band drinks by standing order. 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!

The money we raise goes towards paying for the service charge and electricity bills for our rehearsal room.

Notes from the Musical Director



Sharon is on holiday; however she has been keeping up to date with everything and will be back before you know it! Thank you to Kate for all her work on our social media presence.

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Five Years Ago

Notes from the Musical Director



Hello everyone; I hope you are all remaining safe and are still practicing :). Please continue to check your emails; I will continue to forward free music as it becomes available.

Sadly, the advice permitting us to gather in groups of up to six was amended to exclude brass (and wind) instrument playing, so, whilst we can continue to meet up again, we are no longer able to practice together. At least some of us managed a few rehearsals :).

Preliminary research does suggest that the additional risk from playing brass and wind instruments is insignificant and also professional players are being allowed to rehearse and perform: we must hope that the risk is fully assessed soon, and that the results will be favourable for us to resume playing at least outside again.

Ten Years Ago

Lizzie Bullard

Thank you to Lizzie Bullard (mother of Holly in the beginners' group) who has donated thirteen instruments to the band.



Fifteen Years Ago



Ben Allen

Congratulations to Ben Allen (training band) who has passed his grade 2 tenor horn examination with merit.

Andy Townsend

Our musical director met up with Andy on her recent travels. Sadly, he still thinks that the commute from the Southeast to band rehearsals may be a bit much.



Twenty Years Ago

Invitation Solos, Duets & Quartets Competition Results

Open Slow Melody

1. Sharon Stansfield, F.V.C.M. (Hons)
2. Melissa Ramplin
3. Diane Bonser (Matlock Training Band)

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Band Supporters

The band is most grateful to the following for their recent support of the band:

Peter Dawson	Our landlord, for our rent-free rehearsal facilities
John Irwin	A donation of £200 to band funds
Helen Lane	Donation of instruments, mouthpieces, and mutes
James Mayell	Hosting the band's website for free
Alison Slater	For the donation of the brass band music library of her late father, John Slater

Training Band Diary

Nicola will be issuing engagement schedules with the actual start times once we have confirmed them. 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 Nicola or Sharon know if you cannot make them so we can arrange dep players. If you are not on Vento, please ask Nicola to add you.

2025

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Sunday	16 th November	Morning	NEMBBA Entertainment Contest The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Friday	21 st November	6:00 p.m.	Ockbrook Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Royal Oak, 55 Green Lane, Ockbrook Derby	DE72 3SE
Friday	28 th November	6:00 p.m.	Borrowash Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Coop, Victoria Avenue, Borrowash	DE72 3HE
Saturday	29 th November	4:00 p.m.	Sandiacre Christmas Carols Opposite White Lion Pub, Derby Road, Sandiacre	NG10 5HW
Saturday	29 th November	6:00 p.m.	Draycott Christmas Carols (with the Senior Band) Outside Victoria Pub, Victoria Road, Draycott	DE72 3NA
Sunday	6 th December	10:00 a.m.	St. Mary's Christmas Coffee Morning St Mary's Church Hall, Victoria Road, Draycott	DE72 3PS

2026

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	17 th January	11:00 a.m.	Sandiacre Friendship Hub Sandiacre Methodist Church, 7 Bennet Street, Sandiacre	NG10 5RB

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Band Diary

Lisa will be issuing engagement schedules with the actual start times once we have confirmed them. 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 cannot make them so we can arrange dep players.

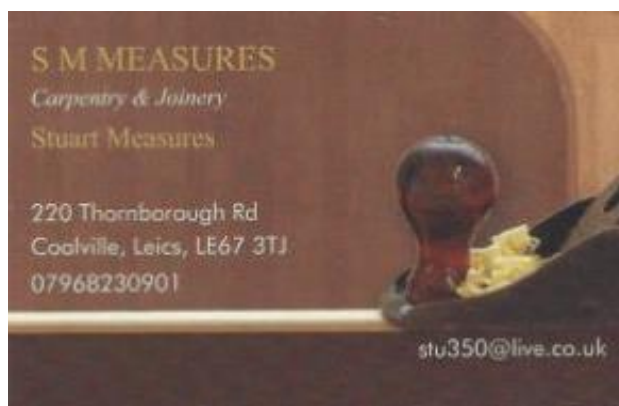
2025

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	27 th September	7:30 p.m.	St. Chad's Church, Wilne Rd, Church Wilne	DE72 3QH
Friday	10 th October	8:00 p.m.	Longcliffe Golf Club, Snells Nook Lane, Nanpantan, Loughborough	LE11 3YA
Saturday	18 th October	7:00 p.m.	Charity Concert for the Red Cross Mapperley Social Club, Plains Road, Nottingham	NG3 5RH
Saturday	25 th October	7:30 p.m.	Royal British Legion Concert St. Laurence's Church, Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Thursday	6 th November	7:30 p.m.	Festival of Remembrance Winding Wheel Theatre, 13 Holywell St., Chesterfield	S41 7SA
Sunday	16 th November	All Day	NEMBBA Own-Choice Test Piece Contest The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Friday	21 st November	6:00 p.m.	Ockbrook Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Royal Oak, 55 Green Lane, Ockbrook Derby	DE72 3SE
Friday	28 th November	6:00 p.m.	Borrowash Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Coop, Victoria Avenue, Borrowash	DE72 3HE
Saturday	29 th November	6:00 p.m.	Draycott Christmas Carols (with the Training Band) Outside Victoria Pub, Victoria Road, Draycott	DE72 3NA
Saturday	6 th December	7:30 p.m.	St. Laurence Church Christmas Concert St. Laurence's Church, Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Thursday	11 th December	9:30 p.m.	41 Club Annual Dinner, Donington Manor Hotel, 1 High Street, Castle Donington (small band)	DE74 2PP
Friday	12 th December	8:30 p.m.	Longcliffe Golf Club, Snells Nook Lane, Nanpantan, Loughborough	LE11 3YA
Sunday	21 st December	2:30 p.m.	Christmas in Brass (Matinee) Duchess Theatre, West Gate, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF
Sunday	21 st December	7:30 p.m.	Christmas in Brass (Evening) Duchess Theatre, West Gate, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF

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2026

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Sunday	21 st February	Morning	NEMBBA Area Test-piece Contest The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Saturday	7 th March	All Day	Area Contest Bedworth Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth	CV12 8NF
Friday	29 th May	11:00 a.m.	White Friday marches (provisional) Bus from bandroom	



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Personnel

Contacts

Sharon Stansfield	07887 907516	sharon@lespb.org.uk
Lisa Balsom	01332 677863	lisa@lespb.org.uk
Deborah Redpath	0115 9195990	j.redpath2@ntlworld.com
Robert Stansfield	07722 118127	robert@lespb.org.uk

Website & Social Media

Our Website: <https://www.lespb.org.uk>.

Our Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/lespb> (senior band)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lesptb> (training band)

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

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

Midlands Area Website: <https://mabbc.org>

Midlands Area Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/midlandsareabbc>

Band Officers and Committee

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

(*) indicates a committee member

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Training Band Officers

Musical Director

Assistant Musical Director

Events Organiser / Secretary

Equipment Officers

Librarian

Stage Manager

Beginners Group Teachers

Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)

James Dennis

Nicola Fretwell

Robert Stansfield & Elaine Nicolson

Cheryl Allen

Daniel Rigley

Lisa Balsom, Stuart Measures, Elaine Nicolson &
Robert Stansfield