

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 277

June 2025

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Band Room News

Rob & Kate's Wedding



The band congratulates Rob & Kate on their recent wedding, the reception of which was enlivened by the inimitable Sarah.

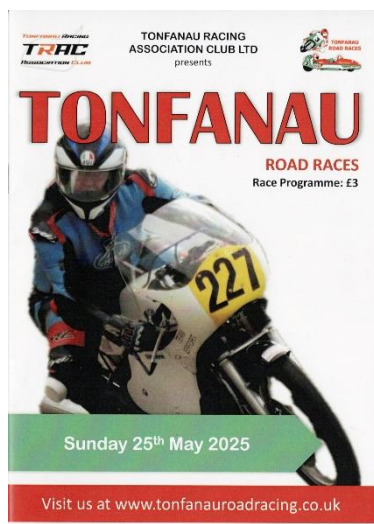
Thank you

The band is most grateful to John Irwin (of the Long Eaton branch of the Royal British Legion) for his donation of £200 to band funds.

Carnival

Nicola is organising a group of us to decorate our float for the carnival this year. All volunteers are welcome. The carnival theme is board games, and our theme is going to be Monopoly. Please will all training band members ensure that you have updated Vento to record whether you are able to attend (we need to ensure we have sufficient seats on the lorry unless you want to walk!).

Tonfanau Racing



Our racing team's latest excursion to Tonfanau was highly successful, with Sarah winning all her six races (three of them by over half a minute) and a boxful of trophies, whilst Ben and Beardy Stu shared the wins in another class. Sarah was also awarded the accolade of the meeting's pin-up girl on the programme. In the 125-250cc Single Cylinder class, Sarah is now leading the championship from Ben and is tied for the lead in the 251-500cc Classic class, whilst Ben is leading the up to 250cc Classic class.

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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



Thank you to Elaine, Andrew, Rob & Rob who went to Round Hill primary school with me to give a brass demonstration, which was very well received. Hopefully, we may get some more in our beginners' classes, if not now, but when some of them start to have lessons at school.

The band played well at our concert for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day concert outside the town hall, despite the cold and windy weather which deterred many of our audience. Thank you to Elaine for covering rep for us, Keith, who made a welcome return to us on cornet and to Ben and Catherine for helping us out. A special mention too to Kate for her impersonation of a lamppost after sunset when it was getting too dark to see the music!

This month our senior band looks forward to our concerts at St. Laurence and West Park, whilst our training band (and especially the decorating committee led by Nicola) are eagerly anticipating playing on a float in the carnival, followed by Sawley Fun Day a week later. After this we have a break from the concerts until September, which gives us time to think about our November contests with NEMBBA.

At the end of June, I am going on holiday until the end of August. Thank you to James who will be taking the training and senior band rehearsals and to Elaine who is organising the tutors for beginners' groups.

Five Years Ago

Notes from the Musical Director

Hello everyone, hope you are all still staying safe and well. Whilst lockdown is now easing, we still have no idea when we will be able to start rehearsals again; so please keep trying to practice every week to keep your chops in. I am still available via zoom, messenger or skype for anyone (senior band, training band or beginners) who wants a free lesson.

Well done to all of you (James, Sarah & Stu, Sylvia & Clive, Fred, Rachel Frampton, Chris Sweeney, Rick, Isobel & Leo, Pete Roebuck, Chris Kelly, Faye Lacey, Caiden & Josh, Adele, Hazel Johnson, Rob S, Pete T, ex-member Natalie, Carl, Lance Corporal Melissa and anyone else I may have missed :) who played the Last Post and Reveille on VE day or played wartime songs on VE day. I doubt that any other band had more players! Even more of you have played for the NHS appreciation at 8 p.m. on Thursdays. I am very proud of you all.

I was asked to play for the British Legion at the War Memorial at 11 a.m. and then for my street at the scheduled 3 p.m. along with Natalie and Rob (and again a few days earlier for Central News).

Thank you to Yeti for continuing to organise the weekly Zoom meeting and to Faye for starting a weekly Zoom meeting for the training band. Please email if you have not received an invitation and I will make sure that you get the link for the next meeting. Please continue to send your news items to Yeti, our editor.

Hope to see you all soon xx

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Ten Years Ago



Sarah Measures

The band sends its best wishes for a full recovery to Sarah who was not totally unscathed from her super-women impression whilst trying to fly faster than her motorbike. However, being on crutches has not prevented her from racing again.

Long Eaton Silver Prize Band Social Club

The club's premises sold for £165,000 and the club's outstanding debts (including that to the band) have been paid. The FCA process to legally dissolve the club will start this month.

Our former band room is now an office for an I.T. company.



Fifteen Years Ago

Centenary Shield

Congratulations to Deborah Redpath, this year's winner of the Centenary Shield as the Bandsman of the Year, as voted for by the band

Tracey Cooper

Congratulations also to Tracey (cornet), this year's winner of the ProActif Shield for being the senior band's most improved player of the year.



Ben Allen

Congratulations to Ben (tenor horn), this year's winner of the Progress Shield for being the training band's most improved player of the year.

The Progress Shield was donated by the Long Eaton branch of the Cooperative Party in memory of three former members.

Twenty Years Ago

Lisa Balsom



The editor is delighted to publish these world exclusive pictures (courtesy of Samantha Photography Unlimited) of Lisa with her Mayor's Award.



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

After our stunning concert in the club, during which Sharon was being assessed for her F.V.C.M., Sharon is now a Fellow of the Victoria College of Music with Honours.



Sharon – Our International Superstar



As a band, we have long admired the compering of our musical director, whose reputation has now gone international. Whilst conducting Sherwood Brass in Cyprus, Sharon was so well appreciated by her perceptive audiences that she was asked if she would go back for a week this month as a comedian!

Unfortunately, it clashed with one of our contests, so she had to decline.

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 Robert to add you.

2025

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	21 st June	10:00 a.m.	Meet in the rugby field behind the swimming pool where the lorries will be. Park across the road from Tesco Express in event field	
Saturday	28 th June	1:00 p.m.	Sawley Park, Draycott Road, Sawley	NG103FR
Sunday	16 th November	Morning	NEMBBA Entertainment Contest (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Sunday	6 th December	10:00 a.m.	St. Mary's Christmas Coffee Morning St Mary's Church Hall, Victoria Road, Draycott	DE72 3PS

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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	7 th June	7:30 p.m.	St. Laurence's Church, Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Sunday	8 th June	2:00 p.m.	West Park, Long Eaton (Enter west park from the end of Lime Grove)	NG10 4LD
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 (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
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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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	Roland Hosker 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 Heather Hoy Sarah Measures Ian Peberday	James Dennis Kim Larwood Kate Burrows Amy Redpath
Newsletter Editors	James Mayell	Robert Stansfield
Webmaster	James Mayell	
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

