

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 274

March 2025

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Band Room News

Jo Priestley

The band welcomes Jo to the band on euphonium. Jo initially agreed to help us out for NEMBBA and the area, and we are delighted that she has decided to stay with us.

Graham Cardwell

A big thank you to Graham for helping us out at NEMBBA on flugel whilst Catherine was away on holiday.

Kate Nelson

Congratulations to Kate (already the holder of our Most Improved Novice and Band Supporter Of The Year awards), who at NEMBBA smashed the band record for the shortest interval between joining our novice group to playing for the senior band at contest

Band's A.G.M.

The band's A.G.M. is next month (date to be announced soon). Please be thinking of whom you would like to be representing you on the committee next year (the incumbents are listed at the back of this newsletter), or whether you would like to be on the committee yourself!

Please note that all members of the senior and training bands, including juniors, are entitled to attend the A.G.M., to vote and to become a member of the committee.

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 Rob (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 for all your hard work so far as we prepare for the area contest this weekend. Overall, I thought we played fairly well at NEMBBA given it was then three weeks to the area, and whilst the result was a little disappointing, we knew we were not yet ready to deliver our best performance. Thank you to Graham for helping us out on flugel, to Andrew for covering bass trombone for us, and to Jo on euphonium, whom we are now delighted to welcome to the band as a full member.

We made considerable progress in the following week after NEMBBA, which is reflected in the remarks from the area preview organised by Newstead Brass, and we have continued to improve over the last two weeks. Our biggest problem now is that, whilst when we focus on the parts and remember all we have discussed in rehearsal we can play really well, too often we need several goes to eradicate the careless errors beforehand. At the area, we only get one go, and so we need to learn to really focus on playing our parts from the start of each rehearsal. Finally, a big thank you to everyone who played for the training band at NEMBBA. We put out a band of over forty players, all of whom play regularly for us, and really impressed our adjudicator. Thank you to Mareika for her kind remarks afterwards and well done especially to Henry for winning the best instrumentalist award and to Dan for another standout performance on kit.

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

Results: Training Band Section

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

Best Instrumentalist: Henry Siviter (Long Eaton Silver Prize Training Band)

Adjudicator's Comments

Mareika Gray

1. (Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious) Confident stuff. All very neat + tidy. Odd tuning moment – esp. on the chord/note.
2. (Chitty Chitty Bang Bang) You have a great perc. player. Really drives the band. Good spirited playing.
3. (Pirate of the Caribbean) Good! Maybe a little more difference between non-accented + accented notes.
4. (Sunshine Of Your Smile) What a confident player you are! You have a natural desire/ability to stay in time. Maybe next time a little more dynamic contrast.
5. (Minnie The Moocher) Great piece and well played! I think the band more than capable to make more of accents/dynamics. Again fab kit playing!
6. (12th Street Rag) Fab playing, good basses. Again more difference between accented and non-accented notes.
7. (Instant Concert) Good choice! Haven't heard it for years. Thank you. The band is so capable! You could get so much more from the music. Accents, dynamic contrast, controlling < from the band, not just the perc. Well done to the whole perc. team for this one!

Well done. I'm your newest fan. Great spirit + drive. Well done to your fabulous M.D.

Results: Third Section

1. Rode Hall Silver Band (Ken Mackintosh)
2. Whitwell Brass (Rob Deakin)
3. Dronfield Band (Jack Capstaff)
6. Long Eaton Silver Prize Band (Sharon Stansfield)

Adjudicator's Comments

Mark Wilkinson

Confident to open – tuning generally secure. Watch speeds of triplets as passed around the band.

13 Good articulated playing, not always secure in pitch and speeds of semi-quavers (tend to push). Can add < to the – to help the fanfare figures. Good solo contributions. Musical flow is maintained. **85** Good troms but can take more volume for the f. Builds to a strong close.

2 You take the risks dynamically and the flow is maintained. Can take a little more shape within phrases. **25** Full sounds and good balancing. Nice solo contributions + secure close.

3 Can take more 'punch' to open as well as volume. The playing is articulated but we loose a little tempo through the melodic sections. **80** Becomes a little scrappy, don't lengthen the notes too much. The drive returns with good balancing. Builds to a string close.

Overall lots to admire. Good basses (*or basics*) and individual contributions. Can take more transparency in dynamic contrasts and overdoing any detail.

Keep up the good work.

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Notes from the Summit Centre, Kirkby-in-Ashfield (Area Preview Evening by Newstead Brass)

Adjudicator's Comments

Colum O'Shea

I. Sustain crescendo bar 2. A little more rit. for style. Nice link to 13. 13 less floor tom more timp please. Style of articulation needs more uniformity. 32 takes time to settle. Nice horns. Good bass drive at 52. 69 Watch dynamic layers. Lovely temple block. 85 good trom style. Nice close.

II. Good opening. Bases no cresc. on demisemiquavers please. 9 More dynamic shape please. 21 accomp cresc in 22 not effective. Careful to keep dynamic at f sustained. 37 mf vs. pp not clearly defined. 45 to the close a little uncertain. Nice solo cornet throughout the movement.

III. Tempo takes time to settle. fp could be more effective. Maybe leave cresc. later? 23 bases hold f before subito mf. 39 articulation must be more obvious in accents. Troms cleaner at 52 please. Nice to 80. Sound quality at 80 is lost slightly. Crotchet triplets drag at 110. Molto Rallentando notes could get longer with rall?

Overall find the dynamic layers + contrasts of articulation and style in this piece. You do so much of this already by really go for it. Well done troms. Nice teamwork. Well shaped M.D. Thank you.

Five Years Ago

Long Service Awards



Congratulations to Debbie Redpath and Tony Perry who both received long service awards for 25 years of service to the Brass Band movement. The awards were presented at the NEMBBA contest last weekend.

Ten Years Ago

HQ2 Works & Official Opening

The toilets, electrics, new ceiling and skylights are now done and the windows are being replaced this month. We will be holding a painting party one weekend after the area.

The official opening of HQ2 is arranged for Saturday 21st March at 6 p.m. The joint senior and training bands will be giving a short concert in the big room, and the novices will be playing a couple of pieces in their room.

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Fifteen Years Ago

Deborah Redpath



Debbie has kindly donated this picture of her and her brother from her earlier playing days (1987, before she retired from playing and then met Sharon, had a baritone thrust back into her hands, and was told to attend rehearsals Mondays and Wednesdays)

Twenty Years Ago

Notes from the Midland Regional Championships

Result: Third Section

1)	Phoenix West Midlands	D. Bishop-Rowe	187pts
2)	Arrow Valley	A. Culshaw	185 pts
3)	Daventry Brass	P. Northey	184 pts
4)	Long Eaton Silver Prize	S. Stansfield, L.V.C.M. (Hons)	183 pts

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 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
Friday	25 th April	7:30 p.m.	St. George's Day Proms Concert Soldiers & Sailors, 421 Tamworth Road, Long Eaton	NG10 3JS
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 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 cannot make them so we can arrange dep players.

2025

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	8 th March	7:00 a.m.	Area Contest, Bedworth Civic Hall (bus leaving from outside the bandroom)	CV12 8NF
Friday	25 th April	7:30 p.m.	St. George's Day Proms Concert Soldiers & Sailors, 421 Tamworth Road, Long Eaton	NG10 3JS
Saturday	26 th April	7:30 p.m.	Longcliffe Golf Club, Snells Nook Lane, Nanpantan, Loughborough	LE11 3YA
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	
Saturday	27 th September	7:30 p.m.	St. Chad's Church, Wilne Rd, Church Wilne	DE72 3QH
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
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

Band Supporters

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

Helen Lane	Donation of instruments, mouthpieces and mutes.
James Mayell	Hosting the band's website for free
Peter Dawson	Our landlord, for our rent-free rehearsal facilities

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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/lespth> (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	Ted Bradley Colin Millns	Sylvia Purnell Professor Pete Thomas
Musical Director (*)	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)	
Assistant Musical Director	James Dennis	
Chairman (*)	Rob Guest	
Vice-Chairman (*)	Ian Peberday	
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)	
Junior Rep (*)	Daniel Nicolson	
Committee Members (*)	Andrew Beaumont Robert Burrows James Dennis	Kim Larwood Sarah Measures
Newsletter Editor	James Mayell	
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 Officer
Librarian
Stage Manager
Beginners Group Teachers

Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)
James Dennis
Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)
Robert Stansfield & Elaine Nicolson
Cheryl Allen
Daniel Rigley
Tracey Cooper, James Dennis, Robert Stansfield & Stuart Measures

