

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 282

**November 2025
25th Anniversary Edition**

The Silver Prize: November 2025

Band Room News

Nikki Fretwell

The band sends its best wishes to Nikki, as she convalesces following her recent sojourn in hospital.

100 Players?

The band welcomes Dan Whitt on percussion and tenor horn, who was briefly the 100th player in our organisation. Sadly, we have since lost Hannah, Esther, Isla, and Robbie from the training band as Hannah is now busy working on Monday evenings.

However, we have since welcomed Sarah D. back to the band, 16 years after her family moved away from Long Eaton, and Charlotte H. to our beginners' groups. We are nearly back to 100 players again!

Kim

Our former "lyrical solo tenor horn" (contest remarks July 2010) player, Kim is taking a break from playing for the time being, but she remains on our band committee and will still help us out if we are short of horn players.

Buffet

There will be a small buffet for the band after the Remembrance Parade in the Sportsman Function Room.

Red Cross

Our charity concert with the Major Oak Chorus raised £1,610 for the Red Cross.

Vento

Solo Software Ltd have released an app version for Apple phones of Vento, the system we use for recording your availability for band jobs. The Android version of the app should be available soon.

Christmas Band Jobs

Our Christmas band jobs are coming in fast; please update Vento so we know who is available for each of the jobs. Many of our Christmas Lights jobs are early evening and some of you will be still working, but please check with other players in your section to ensure that we have some players on each part. Please note that we have three band jobs on Saturday 29th November (Sawley 3 p.m., Sandiacre 4 p.m. and Draycott 6 p.m.) and we will need to put out two bands simultaneously: please update Vento to indicate which band jobs you can do (remembering that you cannot be in Sawley and Sandiacre at the same time!).

Ockbrook Big Band Christmas Dance



The Ockbrook Big Band are holding a Christmas dance at the Soldiers and Sailors on Saturday 20th December from 8 p.m. Our band provides the entire trumpet section: Sharon, Dave (our former Flugel player), Roy, and Elaine.

Please see Rob for tickets (£5 each) if you are interested in coming for a fun band night out (Sharon will be telling a new set of "family-friendly" jokes and the dancing is optional – maybe ☺).

And after our Christmas concerts at the Duchess theatre, Roy, in the guise of Ted Webster, will be playing lead trumpet for Cranberry Flick on the Monday and Tuesday. Tickets are available from the theatre website.

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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 Heather 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 this month, during which we have had three important concerts, in addition to all the extra rehearsals James has called for the NEMBBA contest.

I have been pleased with the standard of our playing at all our concerts and have had great feedback from our all audiences (we have already been booked for another concert for the Red Cross next year). Thank you to Alex and Beardy Stu (at Longcliffe Golf Club), Calvin and Ian (Red Cross concert) and Jon, Calvin, Catherine, Steve and Beardy Stu (British Legion concert) for help us out, covering for players on holiday or who were ill.

Thank you also to Kate, who has been busy at all three concerts taking photographs for our Facebook page, and who ensured we had a standing ovation for every concert piece we played this month (she never sat down)!

This month we have the Ilkeston British Legion Poppy Appeal Concert followed by the Winding Wheel at Chesterfield and the Remembrance Parade in Long Eaton.

We then have a short break to focus on the NEMBBA contest, after which we start our Christmas season! As always, we do have a busy schedule ahead of us for the remainder of the year: most of the carolling jobs are joint engagements between two bands, so we can take it turns as to which we do, particularly as the timings are sometime difficult for those of you still at work or live some distance away. Please consult amongst your sections and try to ensure that some of you from each section are at each job (particularly on November 29th), and then complete Vento ASAP so we know who is available, and so I know if I need to find any deps.

Five Years Ago

Notes from the Musical Director



Sadly, we had to suspend the sextet rehearsals in the bandroom last month due to the worsening situation with the pandemic. Rehearsals outdoors (other than for those of you in Nottinghamshire) were still permitted under the groups of six of rule until the national lockdown: hopefully none of you were so keen that you got your music wet else the wrath of Debbie will be upon you! Of course, even this now has to stop until December. Please keep practicing during these difficult times. Hopefully, we will be able to play Christmas carols outside in small groups, if not I would like to see as many of you as possible playing solos outside your homes. We will try to get carols books to those of you who need them.

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Ten Years Ago

Walking for the Wounded

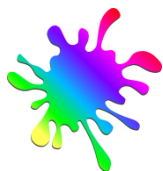
Thank you for those who turned out at 8:30 in the morning to play for the Walking for Wounded in Draycott, where over £4,000 was raised in an hour for the charity. We receive thanks from a number of those on the walk and their supporters: we even recruited two more for our beginner group.

Kevin Holdgate

Thank you to Kevin to conducting the band at Sawley church hall whilst Sharon was playing lead trumpet in White Christmas.

Our expanded trombone section will be playing 76 trombones at a fund-raising concert by Newhall Band for his breast cancer charity on 7th November in Aston-on-Trent church.

*Thank
You*



Band Room Painting

Thank you to all those to help clean and repaint the band room: it is looking a lot better without all that green paint!

Fifteen Years Ago

Arthur Marshall

The band is saddened to learn of the recent death of our former euphonium and conductor Arthur Marshall. Arthur was associated with band for 42 years until his departure in 1975. Of our current members, Ted Bradley and Peter Dawson both played with the band under his direction for many years, whilst Carl and Sharon both learnt to play during the last years of his tenure.

Twenty Years Ago

Steve Wright

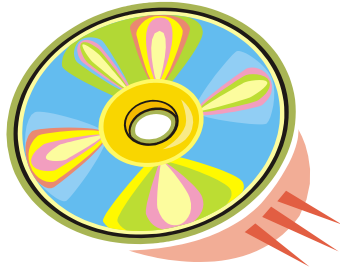
The band is most grateful to our bass trombonist Steve Wright for his generous donation of an Imperial euphonium to the training band. It has been immediately snapped up by young Amy, who was making do on a baritone, since we had run out of euphoniums to give her.



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Provisional CD Programme

The provisional programme for the CD is:



The Long Eaton
The Caliph Of Baghdad
The Shepherds Song
That's A Plenty
Pokarekare Ana into Reverend Archie Beaton
The Acrobat
You Raise Me Up
Miller Magic
I'll Walk With God
Star Lake
Something Stupid
Singing In The Rain
The Holy Well
Erin Shore
An American Trilogy

Twenty Five Years Ago

The Silver Prize

The Unofficial Journal Of The Long Eaton Silver Prize Band

Our newsletter is 25 years old this month.

Newsletter No. 1

November 2000

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160 Years of Brass Banding in Long Eaton

Brass banding came relatively late to the then still small village of Long Eaton when Samuel Claye founded a brass band in his Manor House Works in November 1865, procuring instruments from William Campton & Co of Beorbage (now Burbage), Leicestershire, and appointing W. Watkins as the conductor. W. Atkins was a prominent local conductor who had worked with the Royal Sherwood Foresters Militia Band and Stapleford bands. The Manor House Works wheel and carriage works were situated in the triangle formed by Main Street, Huss's Lane and the Erewash Valley line, extending over what is now the industrial estate and the Tappers Harker.

This was not Samuel Claye's first association with brass bands. In 1858 he had hired a brass band (unknown, but possibly Ilkeston or Breaston, both of whom had bands at that time) to lead a procession of "Sunday School scholars" around Long Eaton before they had tea with him at his Manor House.

The Manor House Works Band was active in 1866 and 1867, playing at the Long Eaton Floral & Horticultural Society Show, the Long Eaton Industrial Exhibition, a supper held by Samuel Claye for 70 of his employees, and parading for the Sawley Old Men's Sick Club and at Whitsun for the Moira Lodge of Independent Oddfellows, Castle Donington. The band members practiced assiduously, attracting the complaint from a Samuel Perkins in December 1866 that since the band was formed "the peace-loving inhabitants have been annoyed by the everlasting playing of various kinds of musical instruments – which the enthusiastic bandsmen are continually practising on".

After August 1867, there are no further definitive references to the Manor House Works Band in the newspapers. A "band from Long Eaton" played at the Whitsuntide celebrations in Castle Donington in 1868 after which there is a gap until a Long Eaton band again played in 1871.

The earliest newspaper reference to the temperance movement in Long Eaton is in 1858 when a lecture was delivered by Mr R Horne of the Derby Temperance Society. By 1859, it was reported that the Long Eaton temperance society was "in so flourishing a condition that they can already contemplate the erection of a temperance hall" and their Drum & Fife Band participated in the Derby Temperance Gala of that year. In 1860, a temperance Christmas tea-meeting was held in the Manor House waggon works shed, with Samuel Claye chairing the meeting. However, in 1862, it was the Nottingham Sax Tuba Band which played at the Long Eaton temperance gala: Long Eaton did not yet have a brass band.

The first references to the Long Eaton Temperance Band are in June 1870 when the band led a procession from the Church of St. Laurence following a choral festival and in August 1870 when they participated in a Band of Hope and Temperance demonstration in Heanor. Given Samuel Claye's support of the temperance movement, it is possible that the Manor House Works Band may have transferred to the temperance society, but there is a two-year gap (1868-1870) in newspaper references to brass bands in Long Eaton, and so the Temperance Band may have equally been a new venture. The Long Eaton Temperance Band (later Temperance Prize Band) became the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band in 1906.

The Long Eaton Rifle Volunteers (20th Derbyshire) Militia were formed on 31st July 1871, and their band played at their first annual prize meeting in November 1872. The Volunteer Band appears to have survived the amalgamation of the Militia into the 1st Corps of the Derbyshire Rifle Volunteers in 1880 and there are some newspaper references to the Long Eaton Volunteers Band even into the 1890s: maybe the band continued independently of the Militia after the 1880 reorganisation? The Long Eaton Town Band was founded in c. 1884 and disbanded around 1920/21, and the Mount Tabor Band was founded in 1906 (and disbanded for the second world war in 1939 and did not reform afterwards). The Long Eaton Salvation Army Band was founded in c. 1887 and is still active today.

This month we celebrate 160 years of brass banding in Long Eaton (from the founding of the Manor Works Band in November 1865), to which our band has now contributed over 155 years.

Please email the editor if you have any further information.

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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	9 th November	9:30 a.m..	Remembrance Sunday Parade (with the Senior Band) Meet Beaconsfield Street Car Park, Long Eaton	NG10 1AY
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
Thursday	27 th November	5:30 p.m.	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
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	3:00 p.m.	Sawley Christmas Lights (small band, with the Senior Band) Memorial Hall, Draycott Road, Sawley	NG10 3FR
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
Saturday	13 th December	11:00 a.m.	Carol Singing with the Long Eaton United Churches Fellowship Choir (with the Senior Band)	NG10 1LJ
Monday	15 th December	6:30 p.m.	Scouts & Guides Carol Service All Saints Church, Sawley	NG10 3AT

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
Sunday	22 nd February	Morning	NEMBBA Entertainment Contest (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ

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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.

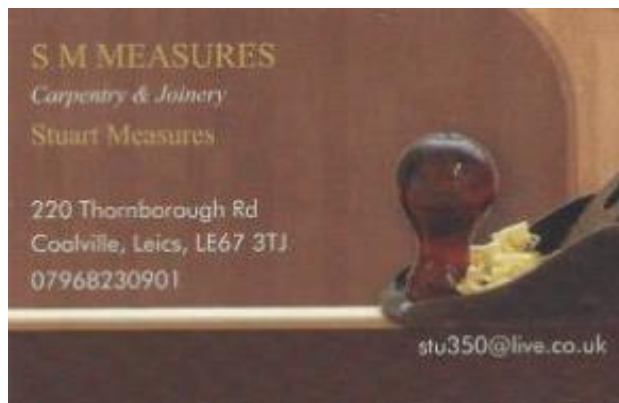
2025

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	1 st November	7:30 p.m.	Royal British Legion Concert Green Spire Church, Wharncliffe Road, Ilkeston	DE7 5GF
Thursday	6 th November	7:30 p.m.	Festival of Remembrance Winding Wheel Theatre, 13 Holywell St., Chesterfield	S41 7SA
Sunday	9 th November	9:30 a.m..	Remembrance Sunday Parade (with the Training Band) Meet Beaconsfield Street Car Park, Long Eaton	NG10 1AY
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
Thursday	27 th November	5:30 p.m.	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
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	3:00 p.m.	Sawley Christmas Lights (small band, with the Training Band) Memorial Hall, Draycott Road, Sawley	NG10 3FR
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
Saturday	13 th December	11:00 a.m.	Carol Singing with the Long Eaton United Churches Fellowship Choir (with the Training Band)	NG10 1LJ
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
Saturday	21 st February	Morning	NEMBBA Area Test-piece Contest The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Saturday	7 th March	Morning	Area Contest Bedworth Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth	CV12 8NF
Sunday	22 nd March	7:30 p.m.	Joint Concert with Sing West Hallam Morley Hayes Hotel, Main Road, Morely	DE6 6QA
Friday	29 th May	11:00 a.m.	White Friday marches (provisional) Bus from bandroom	
Saturday	26 th September	7:00 p.m.	Charity Concert for the Red Cross Mapperley Social Club, Plains Road, Nottingham	NG3 5RH



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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 & Social Media	Kate Burrows	
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	
Auditors	Carl Ramplin, F.C.C.A.	Ian Peberday

(*) indicates a committee member

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Training Band Officers

Musical Director	Sharon Stansfield F.V.C.M. (Hons)
Assistant Musical Director	James Dennis
Events Organiser / Secretary	Nicola Fretwell
Equipment Officers	Robert Stansfield & Elaine Nicolson
Librarian	Cheryl Allen
Stage Manager	Daniel Rigley
Beginners Group Teachers	Lisa Balsom, Stuart Measures, Elaine Nicolson & Robert Stansfield

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
Brian Draper	A donation of some of his music arrangements
Hucknall & Linby MC Band	A donation of music to our senior and training bands
Jo & Julie	For the donation of the Fred & Mavis Aram Memorial Shield