

The Silver Prize

The Journal of the Long Eaton Silver Prize Band



Newsletter No. 291

August 2026

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Band Room News

John Blackburn

The band sends its condolences to our vice-president Fay Blackburn and her family following the death of her husband and our vice-president, and former president, John Blackburn.

Cadbury's Trust

The band is most grateful to a Cadbury's trust which has donated £3,000 to the band.

Sawley W.I.

The band is most grateful to Sawley W.I. which has donated around £400 to the band following a talk (with musical interludes) on the history of the band by Sharon and Elaine.

Grandfather of the Band

Our eminent repiano and soprano player, Roy, has had to relinquish his position as the grandfather of the band to Dave Wright (Bb Bass) who is of a slightly more venerable age.

Tonfanau Brass Band

The ultimate meeting of the Tonfanau Road Races, at which Sarah and Ben have both previously won championships, will be on Sunday 30th August, after which the circuit is closing. The organisers have asked if we can provide a small band to mark the occasion. For further information, please talk to Sharon or Sarah and please indicate your availability on Vento.

Summer Rehearsals

Both our bands (and the beginners' classes) will continue over the summer (apart from the August bank holiday). Please remember to let us know on Vento when you are away on holiday (or on the WhatsApp group for the beginners' classes), and we may have a week off if too many people are away.

Duchess Theatre Christmas Concerts

Our two Christmas concerts at the Duchess theatre are almost sold out. As the time of writing, there are only one ticket available for each of the matinee and evening performances.

Vento

Please respond with your availability for all the band jobs on Vento, so we know whether we need to find deps, or in the case of the training band, how many chairs are needed.

Solo Software Ltd have released an app version for Apple and Android phones of Vento, the system we use for recording your availability for band jobs. Please download the app and sign up to Vento if you have not already done so (it's 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 Heather after rehearsals. 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.

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Notes from the Musical Director



Our beloved musical director is on holiday, before returning for a heart procedure on the 10th August. We all wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back in the bandroom in September.

Thank you to James, who will be taking rehearsals for both our bands for most of this month and to the team of volunteers who will be helping Lisa with the beginners' classes.

Five Years Ago

Derbyshire Beacon of Hope

The band are honoured to have been awarded the Derbyshire Beacon of Hope award for the community playing by our members during the pandemic.

Sharon Stansfield

This year Sharon completes 50 years in banding, 30 years of which have been with Long Eaton (9 as a player and 21 as the M.D.).

Ten Years Ago



Rebecca Weller

Congratulations to Rebecca, who obtained a distinction in her grade 5 tenor horn examination.

Erewash Film Society

The band is profoundly grateful to 19 members of the Erewash Film Society who donated some of or their entire share of the residual assets of the club, totalling £5,566.90, to the band.



Other Band Supporters

The band is also grateful to our other supporters (outside of the Erewash Film Society) who together donated a further £3,469.21 of their share of the residual assets of the club to the band.

Fifteen Years Ago



John & Fay Blackburn

The band is also grateful to our vice-president, John Blackburn, and Faye who have donated a further £111; this time from opening their garden as part of the Sawley Garden Trail. Thank you also to those band members who provided entertainment.

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Twenty Five Years Ago

The Frank Winfield Archives

Frank Winfield was for many years the band's principal trombone. His niece, Mrs Beverley Gunn, presented the band with his memorabilia in January 1994.

An interesting, unfortunately undated, programme in the collection describes a programme that band played, probably in the 1930s.

1. March	"Rough Rider"	J.A. Greenwood
2. Fantasia	"Carnival of Flowers"	F. Le. Duc
3. Duet	"Excelsior"	Balfe
J. HOLDEN (Trombone), A. MARSHALL (Euphonium)		
4. Air Varie	"Simeon"	arr. Rimmer
INTERVAL		
5. Selection	"Patience"	Sullivan
6. Waltz	"Autumn Flowers"	Greenwood
7. In a Monastery Garden		Ketelby
8. Hymn	"Deep Harmony"	Handel Parker
THE KING		

The following is taken from the reverse of the programme:

Do You Know?

THAT the band have won in contests: 27 first and 10 second prizes (All under Mr. Evetts' direction)

THAT several members of the Band are Gold Medallists

THAT it costs £500 to fit out such a Band as Long Eaton

THAT last year it cost

£ 40 for Travelling

£ 6 for Meals during Engagements

£ 5 for Music

£ 2 10s for Correspondence

Besides Tuition, Printing, Uniform, Instrument Overhauls, Etc.

THAT the Bandsmen pay 6d per week and take nothing out except time lost at work for Engagements

THAT we rely to a large extent on Public Support

THAT your help will be greatly appreciated either at this Concert or by a subscription

THAT the Secretary or Assistant Secretary will be pleased to receive subscriptions and will issue a neat badge to anyone sending a minimum of 6d.

Assistant Secretary: W. Adcock,
"Glengorm," Cedar Avenue
Long Eaton

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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 notifications from the Vento app 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.

2026

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	22 nd August	11:30 a.m.	Macmillan Coffee Morning Methodist Church Hall, 2 Derwent Street, Draycott	DE72 3NF
Saturday	19 th September	11:00 a.m.	Sandiacre Friendship Hub Sandiacre Methodist Church, 7 Bennet Street, Sandiacre	NG10 5RB
Sunday	27 th September	All Day	NEMBBA Entertainment Contest (provisional) The Whitworth, Darley Dale, Derbyshire	DE4 2EQ
Sunday	8 th November	9:30 a.m..	Remembrance Sunday Parade (with the Senior Band), Meet Beaconsfield Street Car Park, Long Eaton	NG10 1AY
Sunday	15 th November	10:00 a.m.	NEMBBA Training Band Entertainment Contest (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton	DE55 2EJ
Friday	20 th November	6:00 p.m.	Ockbrook Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Royal Oak, 55 Green Lane, Ockbrook Derby	DE72 3SE
Thursday	26 th November	5:30 p.m.	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Friday	27 th November	6:00 p.m.	Borrowash Christmas Lights (with the Senior Band) Coop, Victoria Avenue, Borrowash	DE72 3HE
Saturday	28 th November	3:00 p.m.	Sandiacre Christmas Lights Opposite White Lion, Derby Road, Sandiacre	NG10 5HW
Saturday	5 th December	10:00 a.m.	St. Mary's Church Christmas Coffee Morning St. Mary's Church Hall, Victoria Road, Draycott	DE72 3PS
Saturday	12 th December	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Carol Concert, Chilwell Memorial Hall, 129 High Road, Chilwell	NG9 4AT

2027

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Sunday	28 th February	10:00 a.m.	NEMBBA Training Band 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 notifications from the Vento app 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.

2026

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Sunday	9 th August	12 noon	Ilkeston Heritage & Classic Vehicle Show, Market Place, Ilkeston,	DE7 5QA
Saturday	26 th September	7:00 p.m.	Charity Concert for the Red Cross Mapperley Social Club, Plains Road, Nottingham	NG3 5RH
Sunday	27 th September	All Day	NEMBBA Entertainment Contest (provisional) The Whitworth, Darley Dale, Derbyshire	DE4 2EQ
Saturday	17 th October	7:30 p.m.	Proms Concert, Longcliffe Golf Club, Snells Nook Lane, Nanpantan, Loughborough	LE11 3YA
Saturday	24 th October	7:30 p.m.	Royal British Legion Concert St. Laurence's Church, Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Saturday	31 st October	7:30 p.m.	Royal British Legion Concert Green Spire Church, Wharnccliffe Road, Ilkeston	DE7 5GF
Thursday	5 th November	7:20 p.m.	Festival of Remembrance Winding Wheel Theatre, 13 Holywell Street, Chesterfield	S41 7SA
Sunday	8 th November	9:30 a.m..	Remembrance Sunday Parade (with the Training Band), Meet Beaconsfield Street Car Park, Long Eaton	NG10 1AY
Sunday	15 th November	10:00 a.m.	NEMBBA Own-Choice Test-piece Contest (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton	DE55 2EJ
Friday	20 th November	6:00 p.m.	Ockbrook Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Royal Oak, 55 Green Lane, Ockbrook Derby	DE72 3SE
Thursday	26 th November	5:30 p.m.	Long Eaton Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Friday	27 th November	6:00 p.m.	Borrowash Christmas Lights (with the Training Band) Coop, Victoria Avenue, Borrowash	DE72 3HE
Saturday	5 th December	4:00 p.m.	St. Laurence Church Christmas Concert St. Laurence's Church, Market Place, Long Eaton	NG10 1LJ
Thursday	10 th December	9:30 p.m.	41 Club Annual Dinner, Donington Manor Hotel, 1 High Street, Castle Donington	DE74 2PP
Friday	11 th December	8:30 p.m.	Longcliffe Golf Club, Snells Nook Lane, Nanpantan, Loughborough	LE11 3YA

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	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Sunday	20 th December	2:30 p.m.	Christmas in Brass (Matinee) Duchess Theatre, West Gate, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF
Sunday	20 th December	7:30 p.m.	Christmas in Brass (Evening) Duchess Theatre, West Gate, Long Eaton	NG10 1EF

2027

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday	27 th February	10:00 a.m.	NEMBBA Area Test Piece Contest (provisional) The Post Mill Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire	DE55 2EJ
Saturday/ Sunday	20/21 st March	TBC	Area Contest Bedworth Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth or United Church, Bulkington Road, Bedworth	CV12 8NF

2028

	Date	Start	Event	Post Code
Saturday/ Sunday/ Sunday	4 th /5 th /12 th March	TBC	Area Contest Bedworth Civic Hall, High Street, Bedworth	CV12 8NF

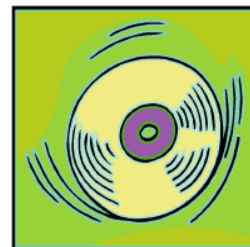
Twenty Years Ago

CD Sales Go Laminated

We have sold 204 CDs so far and have gone laminated (that's one up on plastic)!

However, we still have 757 to sell (and we can order more if we need to) so please keep pestering your friends (and strangers!) to buy some: only £8 each, or only £6 to members.

Christmas is coming soon and if any member of your family doesn't have one of our CDs by December 25th, it means that you don't love them!



Notes from Celebration Brass

(North East Midlands Brass Bands Entertainment Contest)

Result

1)	Strata Brass	D. Hirst	176 pts
2)	Shirland Welfare Training Band	G. O'Connor	175 pts
3)	Long Eaton Silver Prize	S. Stansfield, F.V.C.M. (Hons)	173 pts

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Personnel

Contacts

Sharon Stansfield	07887 907516	sharon@lespb.org.uk
Lisa Balsom	01332 677863	lisa@lespb.org.uk
Nicola Fretwell		nikki.fretwell@gmail.com
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 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	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
Safeguarding Champion (*)	Amy Redpath	
Band Sergeants	James Dennis	Sarah Measures
Publicity & Social Media	Kate Burrows	
Training Band Rep (*)	Nicola Fretwell	
Committee Members (*)	Andrew Beaumont James Dennis Ian Peberday	Heather Hoy Sarah Measures Karen Pitts
Newsletter Editors	Robert Stansfield	
Webmaster	James Mayell	Robert Stansfield
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
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
Roy Varney	A donation of a Strad. flugel.
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
The Family of Keith Rigby	A donation of a cornet to the training band
The Family of Ted Bradley	A donation of £550 to band funds from the collection at Ted's funeral
Dave Breakwell	A donation of a cornet
Steff Shakesheff	A donation of two trombones, two trumpets and a cornet.
A Cadbury's Trust	A donation of £3,000
Sawley W.I.	A donation of £400

