



Sounds from the South

Newsletter of Rushen Silver Band

September 2012



Keeping Pace at the Music Marathon...



The 'Music Marathon' took place on Sunday 22nd July at St Columba's Church in Port Erin. The Band undertook 4 hours of playing to raise funds for the trip to the Borders Entertainment Contest in November.

The afternoon was very entertaining; with the audience choosing the music played, joining in the percussion section, and even picking up the baton to conduct the Band.

James Kinley & Lucy Norbury are pictured taking up the baton and showing their parents how it should be done!

Thanks to the members of the 'Friends' who helped provide refreshments on the day, to St Columba's for their help with arrangements, to Jo Kinley, Claire Norbury and Gill Weldon for arranging the event, and to everyone who came along to give their support and help raise over £800.



Brass the Baton

On Wednesday 20th June, the Band took part in the 'Brass the Baton' Relay to mark the London 2012 Olympic Games. The Band used the red baton to direct the performance of the specially commissioned piece 'Going the Distance' at their concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin.



The baton was transported from Liverpool courtesy of the IOM Steam Packet Company, and then on from Douglas via one of the IOM Railway's steam trains to Port Erin. The morning after the concert, the baton was flown back to the UK by Manx2.com.

Thanks to all of the above for their assistance with the event.





Rushen Silver Band **Gala Concert**

with guest conductor
Richard Evans,
and soloist
Kirsty Abbotts
(Bb Cornet)

**Saturday
13th October
7.30pm**

at Castle Rushen
High School

**Tickets £6
(£4 under 18s)**

For ticket info,
contact Band Secretary on 493193 or
secretary@rushensilverband.org.im

**Funded by the
Alistair Drinkwater Memorial Fund**

Introducing Our Guest Soloist – Kirsty Abbotts

On Saturday 13th October, we not only welcome Richard Evans to conduct the Band for our Gala Concert, we would also like to introduce our guest soloist, Kirsty Abbotts.

Kirsty Abbotts is one of the best cornet players around at present, and is the Principal Cornet for Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band from West Yorkshire.

She started playing cornet with Shipston Town Junior Band, yet by the age of 15 Kirsty had risen to be the Principal Cornet of the main band! She also had the distinction of being a member of the coveted *National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain*.

Kirsty studied music at Huddersfield under the well-known cornet player and former Principal of the Black Dyke Band, Phillip McCann. It was whilst studying at Huddersfield that Kirsty joined the Sellers College Band on the front row of the cornet section. In 1992, the Band changed its name to Sellers Engineering whilst Kirsty made a move onto Flugel Horn.

After a successful 2 years on Flugel, she moved back to Cornet and not surprisingly, was soon appointed Principal. This was a particularly successful period for Kirsty – at the Spennymoor Entertainments Contest in 2000, she was awarded the Best Principal Cornet Prize and in the same year gained 3rd prize in the British Open Solo Championships.

After a period of nearly 13 years, Kirsty left Sellers to join Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band and she continues to be successful – she was awarded the British Open Cornet Champion in 2003 and regained the Best Principal Cornet Prize at Spennymoor in both 2003 *and* 2004. More recently, Kirsty has won the Best Soloist at the English Nationals in 2009, Best Instrumentalist at the Yorkshire Areas in 2010, and Best Soloist at Brass in Concert in 2011.

We look forward to Kirsty joining Rushen Silver Band as guest soloist for our Gala Concert on **Saturday 13th October**.



Time for a brew...?

The 'Friends of the Band' are holding a coffee morning on **Saturday 22nd September** at St Catherine's Church Hall in Port Erin.

Please join us from 10am for a cuppa and a chat, browse the usual stalls, and have a bit of fun on the raffle.

Ballafesson Brass Alan Fernie Workshop Weekend

Ballafesson Brass (RSB training band) welcomed Alan Fernie as a guest conductor for a workshop training weekend during July. Alan has written and arranged many pieces for junior bands, many of which are played already by Ballafesson Brass.

The workshop culminated in a concert on Saturday afternoon at Ballafesson Chapel. Alan was on excellent form over the weekend, and said he had been pleased at the level of improvement shown by the players even over the short period of time he had with them.



Dates for your Diary



Saturday 22 nd September	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin	10.00am
Tuesday 25 th September	Summer Season Concert at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas	8.00pm
Saturday 13 th October	Gala Concert with Richard Evans & soloist Kirsty Abbotts at Castle Rushen High School	7.30pm
Saturday 20 th October	Band Quiz Night at Rowany Golf Club, Port Erin	7.30pm
Sunday 11 th November	Remembrance Day Parade from the British Legion, Port Erin	10.00am
Wednesday 7 th November	Friends of RSB Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom	7.45pm
Wednesday 21 st November	RSB Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom	7.45pm
Saturday 1 st December	RSB Christmas Concert at Rushen Junior School	7.30pm

Christmas already?!?

The school summer break is only just behind us and it seems we're heading into the autumn. The countdown to Christmas is beginning and already the diary for December is fully booked for the Band!

Don't forget to pop the date into your diary for the Band's Christmas concert on **Saturday 1st December** at Rushen Junior School. Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of November.



For more information about Rushen Silver Band
or suggestions for the Sounds from the South newsletter,
please contact the Band Secretary – Peter Faragher, 28 Pairk Beg, Port Erin, IM9 6NQ.
Tel: 493193. Email: secretary@rushensilverband.org.im