

## Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter October 2021



Many people will be aware, but the Band are very sad to report that our Conductor Emeritus, Band Trustee, Band Life Member and long time playing member Jim Crebbin BEM sadly passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> August, aged 89.



Jim had recently celebrated an amazing 75 years of being a member of Rushen Silver Band. He joined the Surby Silver Band in 1944 (this later changed its name to Rushen Silver Band), after first picking up a cornet aged 12.

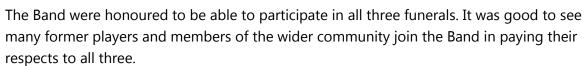
Jim was a key member of the Band, not only as a player, but also teacher and conductor from 1966 to 2010. Jim was awarded the BEM in 2015 for his services to Manx music and the community. It was down in no small part to Jim's commitment, time and enthusiasm for the Band that it was able to survive through good times and bad to become the community asset that it is today.

Jim's passing followed on from long time playing member of the Band Joe Jones passing away in July at the age of 97, and we have also recently lost long time playing member and Trustee Ted Clague later on in August.

Joe Jones played cornet in the Band from the 1960s, and continued to play into his nineties. He was also a Band Trustee. Ted Claque played euphonium for the Band;



and as a committee member served as Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Life Member and Trustee. Both Ted and Joe also played a significant part in the building of the Band room.



May they all rest in peace. Oie Vie.



With tickets being at a premium in previous years for the Band Christmas Concert, it has been decided to hold the same concert twice this year! The Band will be performing at **3.00pm** and

**7.30pm** on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November** at the Erin Arts Centre in Port Erin. Tickets will be priced at £10 and £2 for under 18s, and will be available, to start with, at the Gala Concert at King Williams College on the  $9^{th}$  October.





## **Last Night of the Proms Concert**

After a year off, the Band were again delighted to have been invited back to participate in this year's 'Last Night of the Proms' concert that took place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September. The Concert at the Erin Arts Centre included items from guest soloist Jane Mayne.



The concert included many of the items you would hear at the actual Last Night of the Proms concert in the Royal Albert Hall in London, including Jane singing the lead in Rule Britannia, but also some of the Band's own choice of music to compliment them. Band soloists at the concert were James Kinley on trombone who played "Stardust", Bobby Corkish on tenor horn playing "Demelza", and for the first time a duet by a father and daughter in the Band, Martin & Lucy Norbury, playing "Time To Say Goodbye" on euphonium and flugel horn respectively.



An enthusiastic audience on the night appreciated the programme the Band provided, and the Band are hoping to be invited back again next year.



## Gala Concert - Saturday 9th October, 7.30pm

The Band are delighted to welcome back our Musical Advisor, Richard Evans, to conduct at a Gala Concert on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. In addition to Mr Evans, we are also pleased to be welcoming Ian Porthouse to support Mr Evans over the weekend.

Ian Porthouse was born into a family of musicians. He started to play a brass instrument aged 5, and by the time he turned 16, became the leader of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain. It was Richard Evans who invited Ian to join the Leyland Vehicles Band in 1984 and within six months he became the new principal cornet at the age of 17. Ian went on to play with both Desford Colliery Band and Black Dyke Mills Band gaining numerous honours during his time with both. Ian took up the baton with Tredegar Town Band in 2008 and is the only conductor ever to lead a band to victory at the Grand Shield and British Open in the same year with Tredegar's memorable double in 2010.

Richard Evans is one of the most colourful and flamboyant characters on the British Brass Band scene today. With a unique ability to instil pride and passion into every player, he is ultimately the driving force behind each band he conducts. We are extremely pleased that Richard has been our Musical Advisor now for many years, and he remains one of the most charismatic and dynamic conductors within Britain today.

The concert is at the Kings Theatre at King William's College, Castletown, at 7.30pm. Admission will be on the door (Adults £10/£2 for under 18s). All the money raised will be going to Band funds to support similar visits in the future.

## Concerts over the summer months

Since the release of the last newsletter, the Band have played at a number of events over the summer months...

We were pleased to be invited to once again perform at the Villa Marina Arcade in Douglas, and two concerts in June and August were well attended with a good audience at both.



Sunny weather on the day also enabled a good congregation to be present at the Open Air Service at Ballakilpheric Chapel in the middle of June, and similar weather was experienced when the Band performed an afternoon concert at the end of June on the band stand on Port Erin Beach.

Moving into July, and the Band were pleased to take part in the first Brass Band Festival in Port Erin staged by the Rotary Club of Rushen and Western Mann. On a glorious afternoon, the Band performed their set at three locations around the village, at the Railway Station, on the band stand on Port Erin beach, and outside St Catherine's Church. To finish the event of, all five bands taking part combined to make one massed band for a short set with the conductors taking a turn each to lead the merry throng. It is hoped that this event will again take place in 2022 so look out nearer the time for posters giving details.







Dates for your diary...

Gala Concert

7.30pm

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October

(at King William's College)

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November

**Band Christmas Concert** (at Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin)

3.00pm & 7.30pm

Details of the Christmas engagements to follow....watch this space!

All events are subject to change. Details of other planned events for the Band and Ballafesson Brass, or further information can be found on the Band website: <a href="https://www.rushensilverband.org.im/engagements">www.rushensilverband.org.im/engagements</a>

For more information about Rushen Silver Band or suggestions for the Sounds from the South newsletter, please contact the Band Secretary: Peter Faragher, 16 Close Cam, Port Erin, IM9 6NB. Tel: 493193. Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@rushensilverband.org.im">enquiries@rushensilverband.org.im</a>

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