



Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter

May 2022



Manx Music, Speech and Dance Festival – April 2022

After the events of the past couple of years where the Festival had to be cancelled due to the Covid pandemic, the Band members were only too pleased to spend time practising music for the 2022 festival.

The Festival started on the Saturday morning with a number of the Band taking part in the solo classes. Lucas Roome from Ballafesson Brass got things started in the Promenade Suite and received a mark of 82 (Merit) for his performance (Class up to year 6), whilst his brother Cameron, also from Ballafesson Brass, earned a mark of 84 (Commended) in Class years 9 and 10. Senior Band players Lucy Norbury and James Kinley then participated in the solo class for years 11 to 13, and both received a mark of 86 (Commended) for their efforts. Finally Ashley Cole received a mark of 88 (Distinction) in the solo class for adult players. A great effort from all five players and good to see members from RSB taking part on the solo classes showing the quality of players we have.

On the Sunday night of the Festival, six of the Island's brass bands took to the stage. RSB played extremely well, and were pleased to receive 2nd place with a score of 88 (Distinction) for the march (Belmont) and 2nd place with a score of 87 (Distinction) for the hymn (Love Divine). The concert



programme consisted of Birdland, All in the April Evening, Napoli (solo by Principal Euphonium player Martin Norbury), When I'm Sixty Four, and From Newlyn to Niarbyl. The Band were delighted to receive a score of 91 (Outstanding) and second overall in the Entertainment Class.

Many thanks to our compere for the night, Mike Kewley, who ably guided the Band's programme. Thank you to all those who contributed to the Band's and solo players entry in the Guild this year. Most of all though, the biggest thank you goes to our Musical Director John Kinley for all his hard work and patience.

Friends Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 25th June from 10am to 11.30am at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin. Please come along and help the 'Friends' support the Band - we hope you can join us.



Prash Laxaa Festival 2022

On Sunday 1st May, the Band were again delighted to be invited to take part in this year's Great Laxey Brass Band Festival or Prash Laxaa, around a number of locations in the village of Laxey.

After a wet morning, the weather started to brighten up as soon as the first bands started playing at 1pm. Rushen Silver Band played a 25 minute set at three venues - the Laxey Pavilion, the Miner's Statue and finally at the Mines Tavern. With a varied programme of 'Birdland', 'Georgia on My Mind', 'Belmont', 'Going Home' and 'From Newlyn to Niarbyl', the audience at each venue seemed thoroughly entertained.

The Festival saw six bands playing at the three venues and changing every half hour. The audiences at each venue were able to appreciate the quality of the brass bands on



the Island, and enjoyed the sunshine! The afternoon culminated with all the bands assembling into one massed band with the various conductors sharing the baton.

To finish the day of, Rushen Silver Band were delighted to take home the trophy for the most outstanding band on the day – this is now on show in the bandroom.

Thanks to our Musical Director, John Kinley, for keeping us all in check on the day, and to Band Chairman Chris Weldon for organising all the logistics on the day. A special thanks also to Daniel Crompton for providing his minibus to enable a number of the Band to enjoy the social side of banding after the event had finished.

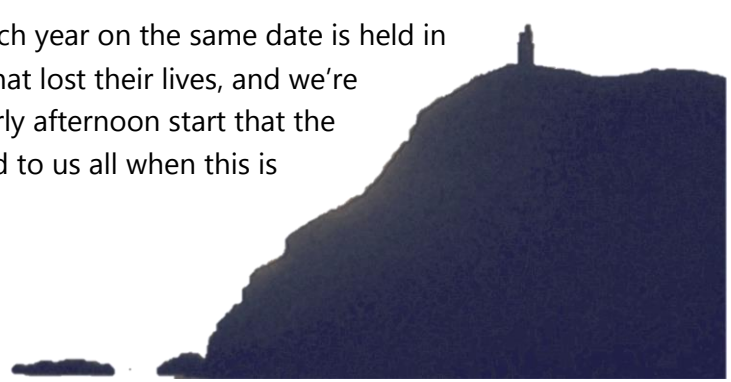
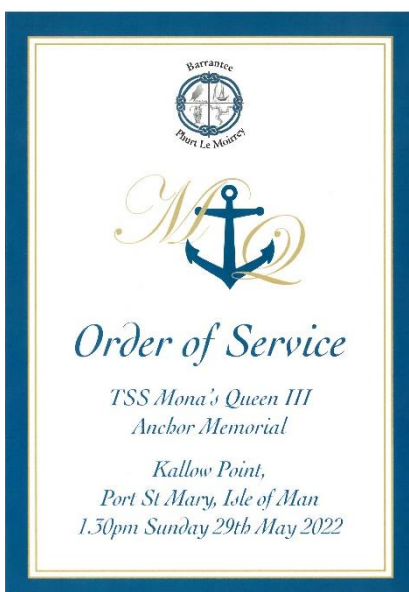


Mona's Queen II Memorial Service

The Mona's Queen Memorial Service will this year take place on Sunday 29th May at 1.30pm at Kallow Point, Port St Mary.

The Mona's Queen was one of the first vessels to make a successful round trip during the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940, but just two days later on the 29th May, the ship struck a magnetic sea mine outside Dunkirk harbour early in the morning, and sank in two minutes with the loss of twenty four of the crew.

The service held each year on the same date is held in memory of those that lost their lives, and we're hoping with the early afternoon start that the weather will be kind to us all when this is taking place.



Celebration Concert for Jim Crebbin

On Sunday 22nd May, the Band will be performing a concert at Rushen Primary School at 3pm to celebrate the life of Jim Crebbin, who sadly passed away in 2021 in his 90th year.



Jim was a serving member of the band for 76 years, and in that time, was also conductor of the band for 50 years. Jim was also both a Life Member and a Trustee for many years, and was at one point Chairman too, but was extremely honoured to be given the title of Conductor Emeritus in the 2000s and the British Empire Medal in 2015 for his services to music as well as the local community.

The music for the concert has been chosen by members of Jim's family, and will reflect the music the band have played since becoming Rushen Silver Band in 1949, and will hopefully include pieces for the audience on the day to enjoy.

Admission to the concert will be free, with any donations being given going to Band funds. There will also be refreshments available after the concert for everyone to enjoy and take time to reminisce Jim's life as part of the band family.

Remembering Richard Evans

The Band are very sad to report that our Musical Advisor for the past twenty years, and brass band luminary, Richard Evans, sadly passed away in April aged 87.



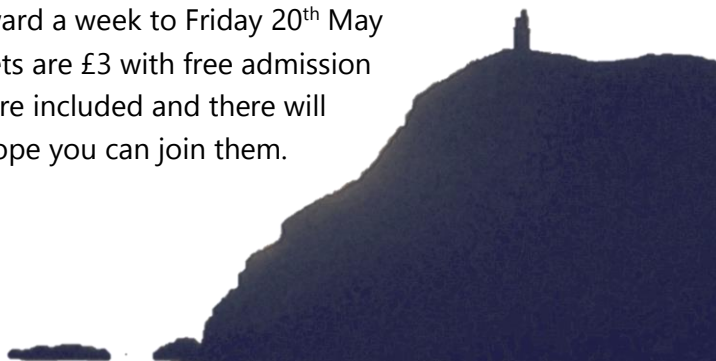
Mr Evans was a good friend to the Band since his first visit in 2002, and a mentor to all the players of RSB and Ballafesson Brass each time he was on the Island. He was always very entertaining on his visits to the Island, as I'm sure every audience will confirm, but he was also always serious about performing and playing the music at all times.

There are too many memories to list here, but we have no doubt Mr Evans will live on through the music of all the players and bands he inspired. May he rest in peace. Oie Vie.



Ballafesson Brass concert

Following on from a successful concert at Ballafesson Chapel in April, the Band's training band, Ballafesson Brass, have a second concert of the year at Castletown Methodist Church. Due to the pre TT Races taking place on the Southern 100 circuit, the date has been moved forward a week to Friday 20th May again starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £3 with free admission for children. Tea and biscuits are included and there will be a raffle on the night too. Hope you can join them.

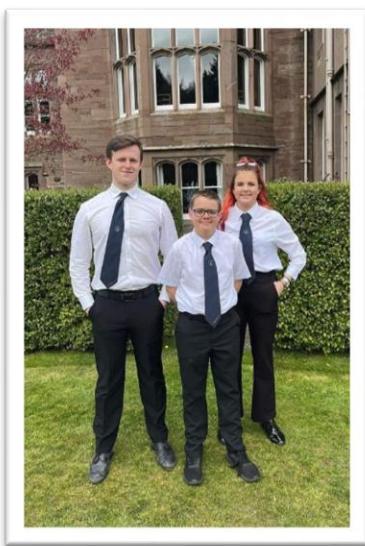


Dates for your diary...



Friday 20 th May	Ballafesson Brass Concert (at Castletown Methodist Church)	7.30pm
Sunday 22 nd May	Celebration Concert for Jim Crebbin (at Rushen Primary School)	3.00pm
Sunday 29 th May	Mona's Queen Memorial Service (at Kallow Point, Port St Mary)	1.30pm
Saturday 18 th June	Castletown Metropolitan Silver Band 125th Anniversary Celebration Event (in Castletown Square)	From 1.00pm
Saturday 25 th June	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Sunday 26 th June	Ballakilpheric Chapel Open Air Service (in the field opposite Ballakilpheric Chapel or inside Chapel – weather depending)	3.00pm
Saturday 9 th July	Concert with Alan Fernie (featuring both RSB & Ballafesson Brass) (at Rushen Primary School)	4.00pm
Sunday 31 st July	Afternoon Concert (at Bandstand, Port Erin Beach)	3.00pm
Saturday 20 th August	Afternoon Concert (at Bandstand, Port Erin Beach)	3.00pm
Saturday 17 th September	Music from the Stage & Screen (at Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin)	7.30pm
Thursday 22 nd September	Parish of Rushen Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.45pm

All events are subject to change. Details of other planned events for the Band and Ballafesson Brass can be found on the Band website: www.rushensilverband.org.im/engagements



James, Lucy and Alex have been in Scotland during April to take part in the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland's Easter Course. The fantastic end of course concert can be seen in full by clicking the YouTube link: [NYBBS Easter 2022 - Final Concert - YouTube](#)

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: enquiries@rushensilverband.org.im

Find us on FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/rushensilverband/

