



Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter

February 2023

Fundraising Concert

To start off what looks like being a very busy 2023, the Band held a Fundraising Concert for a local charity, Rushen Endowment Fund, on Monday 6th February. Principal Cornet, Ashley Cole, conducted the first half of the programme which included the march "Standard of St George", "The Sprit Within", "Northern Lights" and finished with sound track highlights from the Disney film 'Brave'.



To commence the second half, Musical Director John Kinley conducted the Band through "Fanfare for a New Age", which was followed by a number of pieces including "Lullabye (Goodnight My Angel)" by Billy Joel, Queen hit "Crazy Little Thing Called Love", "Bare Necessities" bass solo performed by E♭ Bass player Tom Sinden, and finished the concert with the powerful piece "Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral" from Lohengrin.

It is pleasing to say that £500 was raised on the night for Rushen Endowment Fund, and both the Band and the Fund are very appreciative for the generosity of the audience on the night. The Band have now moved on to working toward their musical programme for this year's Manx Music Festival ('The Guild') taking place at the end of April.

Annual General
Meeting
15/02/23
@ the
Bandroom

Band Annual General Meeting 2023

The Band will be holding their Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom on Wednesday 15th February commencing at 7.45pm.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend to hear about the Band's activities over the past year, their plans for this year and next, and the appointment of the officials of the Band.



Band Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony 2023

The Band's Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony will take place this year on Saturday 11th March, with a 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Once again we are delighted that the Bradda Glen Restaurant will host the evening.

Tickets for the event are priced at £30.00, and can be obtained by contacting Chris Weldon on telephone 471166 or by email chrisandgill@manx.net. Please also let Chris know your menu choices when booking your tickets.

We hope you can join us to celebrate the achievements of the Band over the past year.

Menu

Tomato & Red Pepper Soup /
Hot Smoked Salmon /
Chicken Liver Pate

Roast Topside of Manx Beef,
Glazed Ham, Roast Breast of
Turkey with accompaniments /
Butternut, Wild Mushroom and
Courgette Tian (V)

Double Chocolate Cheesecake /
Lemon Posse /
Cheese Crackers & Fresh Fruit)

Parish of Rushen Concert

The Band have been invited back to participate in the Parish of Rushen Concert Season for 2023. Our first concert at St Catherine's Church in Port Erin will take place on the evening of Thursday 23rd March. Admission to the concert is free, with refreshments afterwards in the Church Hall. A collection will also be taken at the end of the concert to be split between the Church and the Band.

Friends Spring Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th March from 10.00am to 11.30am at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin. Please come along, we hope you can join us.

Wave goodbye to 2022, say hello to 2023!

But before we close last year's book, let's look back at a busy festive period. After all that happened in December 2021 with COVID-19 and inclement weather, the Band were pleased that everything went to plan during the 2022 festive period.

Starting the festivities on the Friday night was an informal Christmas Concert from Ballafesson Brass at the Erin Arts Centre with a fun programme which was well received by a good size audience – Matthew Callister conducted Ballafesson Brass wearing an impressive Christmas suit and other Band members sported their festive jumpers.

On the Saturday, the Senior Band performed two Christmas Concerts in one day, both to a sell-out crowd! We were particularly pleased that the Island's Lieutenant Governor and Lady Lorimer joined us for the afternoon concert. Thanks are also extended to Paul Costain who, along with performing his own pieces, joined the Band for renditions of "Lonely This Christmas", as well as "Mistletoe and Wine".

Following this great start, the Band then moved on to events for Port St Mary Commissioners, Port Erin Traders, Ballafesson Chapel, Port St Mary RNLI, Ballasalla School, PSM WI, Port Erin Commissioners, St Columba's



Church, and Southlands Resource Centre. Around these events, the Band also played carols around areas of Port Erin and Port St Mary totalling six sessions.

After talking about it for a number of years, we were finally able to sort out a Carol Train. With 175 people and about 25 of the Band on board, we used the train to stop at Port St Mary, Colby, Castletown and Port Erin Stations to hold an informal carol singing event at each. The event was a great success, and it is hoped something similar and maybe even better can take place in December 2023. Thanks go to IOM Railways, the Railway Supporters, the Whistle Stop Cafe, and of course all those who joined us on the train and joined in the carol singing along the way.

The members of the Band would again like to thank everyone who generously made a donation over the festive period, and to those supporters who kindly gave their time to help collect money whilst the Band played carols. Of course, and to finish, a special thank you should be extended to the families of the Band members for their support and patience during this very busy time.

The image below/above brings together some of our engagements showing the life of a community band in 2022 – a concert, march, workshop, community event, brass festival, and a stage on the beach:



Dates for your diary...



Wednesday 15 th February	Annual General Meeting (at the Bandroom)	7.45pm
Saturday 11 th March	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at the St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Saturday 11 th March	Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony (at Bradda Glen Restaurant)	7 for 7.30pm
Thursday 23 rd March	Parish of Rushen Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.45pm
Sunday 30 th April	Great Laxey Brass Band Festival (around Laxey Village)	Afternoon
Saturday 17 th June	Brass Band Festival (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	Afternoon
Saturday 1 st July	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at Methodist Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Saturday 1 st July	150 years of Steam Celebration (at Port Erin Railway Station)	Afternoon
Saturday 15 th July	Joint Concert with Alan Fernie (Venue TBC)	Afternoon
Sunday 13 th August	Cliff Top Concert (at Groudle Glen)	2.00pm

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



Thanks to Phil Woodford for the fab cartoon 😊

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

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