



# Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter

November 2023

## Band Christmas Concerts

The Band will be holding their greatly anticipated Christmas Concerts at the Erin Arts Centre, and, as in the previous couple of years, there will be identical concerts being held on the same day. The start time for the concerts on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December will be 3pm and 7.30pm. As ever, the Band have a great concert planned to put everybody in the Christmas spirit!

The concerts will again be the Band's first events of the 2023 festive season, with a further 10 engagements plus carolling all planned on the lead up to Christmas Day 2023.

Tickets for the concert were still available at the time of going to press, and please either call-in to the Erin Arts Centre or use their website to book your tickets:

[www.erinartscentre.com/event/rushen-silver-band-christmas-show/](http://www.erinartscentre.com/event/rushen-silver-band-christmas-show/)

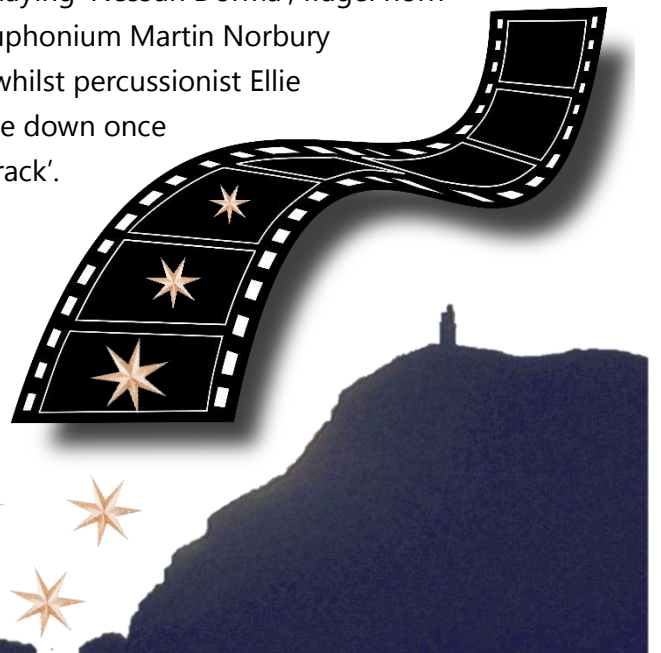
**Rushen Silver Band**  
with guest soloist  
**Debbie Gooding**  
**Christmas Concert**  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
3.00pm & 7.30pm  
Tickets £12 (under 18 £3)  
For tickets, please contact Erin Arts Centre on 835858 or [info@erinartscentre.com](mailto:info@erinartscentre.com)  
Manx Registered Charity 274 [www.rushensilverband.org.im](http://www.rushensilverband.org.im)

## Stage and Screen Concert

As a contrast to the regular Last Night of the Proms Concert, the Band this year provided a Stage and Screen Concert at the Erin Arts Centre in October. The varied programme included pieces from all areas such as 'A Little Disney', 'Bring Me Sunshine', 'The Magnificent Seven', 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and 'Conquest of Paradise'. Principal Cornet, Ashley Cole, went all opera playing 'Nessun Dorma', flugel horn player Jo Kinley played 'A Little Star Went Out', principal euphonium Martin Norbury performed 'Gabriel's Oboe' whilst percussionist Ellie Matthews brought the house down once again with 'On The Track'.



Thanks to the Erin Arts Centre for hosting the concert, and especially to Musical Director John Kinley and the Band for all the hard work to make the concert an enjoyable evening for one and all.



## A Busy Summer for the Band!

Since the release of the last newsletter in May, the Band have been playing at numerous events over the summer months.



We were pleased to be invited to participate in the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the IOM Steam Railway that took place in July. The Band provided music at Port Erin Railway Station for the arrival of the first train of the day. Amongst the passengers was the Lieutenant Governor and he was particularly pleased that the Band played his regimental march, the first time he had heard it whilst living on the Island.

The Band again took part in the Port Erin Brass Festival in June, and Ballafession Brass were also invited to start the proceedings for what was a fantastic day of brass music to be heard in the

village from seven bands on the day. The event finished with players from all the bands combining together to form one massed band with each band conductor taking a turn at the front. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Rushen and Western Mann for their invitation and the day as a whole.



In addition to these events, the Band provided music at the annual Mona's Queen Memorial Service that took place at Kallow Point in Port St Mary at the end of May.



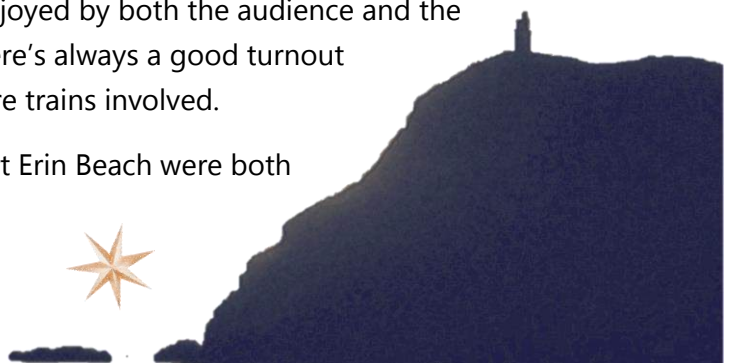
On top of that, and as a first, the band provided an early evening concert at the bandstand on Port Erin beach on the Monday of TT Week which went down really well with all of the audience and something we would hope to do again. After a couple of years break due to our busy calendar, the Band were pleased to return to the Villa Marina Arcade in Douglas to provide a summer season concert to an appreciative audience. We hope we can do likewise again in 2024.

We were pleased that notable composer/arranger and friend of the Band Alan Fernie was able to join us for a successful weekend culminating with a joint concert between the senior Band and the training Band. Alan's wife Brenda was also able to enjoy the Island this time. They spent their week with us both banding and venturing all over the Island whilst here.



The Band were also invited back to be part of the Groudle Glen Cliff Top Concert in the middle of August when the weather stayed dry and sunny and the event was enjoyed by both the audience and the Band. There's always a good turnout when there are trains involved.

Unfortunately the two other planned concerts on Port Erin Beach were both called off due to the weather.

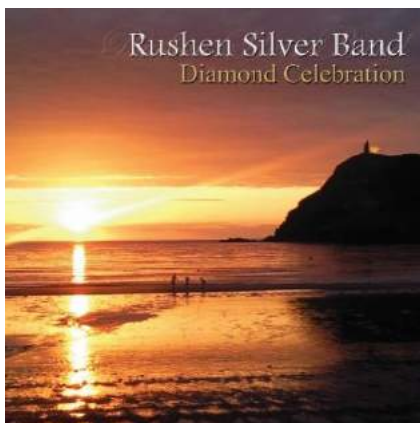
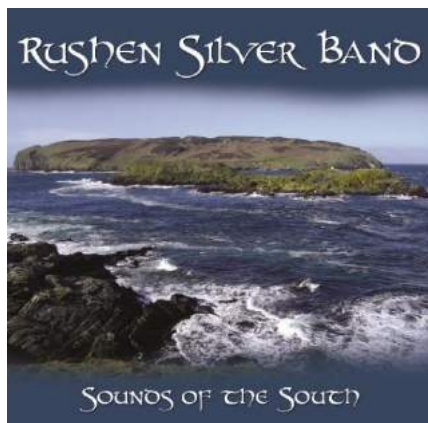




## Band CDs

The Band's three CDs are all still available if anybody would like one, they are especially easy to wrap as Christmas presents too!!

Diamond Celebration (released in 2009), Sounds of the South (released in 2013), and our Christmas CD (released in 2019) are all still available, either via the Band, or from outlets around the Island including the Manx Museum in Douglas, the House of Manannan in Peel, and the Bridge Bookshop in Port Erin and Ramsey. Priced at £10 each or £15 for two, they are an excellent and worthy addition to any music collection.



To purchase directly from the Band, please contact the Secretary (contact details at end of newsletter).

## Friends Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band will be holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 11.30am at St Catherine's Church Hall in Port Erin. Please come along and help the 'Friends' support the Band. There will also be an ensemble from the Band to provide carol music during the event to get everyone in the festive spirit.



## Christmas Greetings

Thank you to Phil Woodford  
for our Christmas cartoon 😊



\*\*\*\*\* **BREAKING NEWS** \*\*\*\*\*

Carol Train tickets will go on sale very shortly. The event will be taking place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, the train leaving Port Erin Railway Station at 12.30pm. Tickets can be obtained from Graeme Easton on telephone number 435056 from 16<sup>th</sup> November. Be quick though, these went like hot cakes last year!!

## Dates for your 2024 diary...



Just to provide all our supporters with a few details of what is already planned for 2024, here are a few events and dates for your 2024 diary:

Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Charity Concert</b> (at St Columba's Church, Port Erin)	8.00pm
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Workshop Concert with Ian Porthouse</b> (Venue TBC)	Afternoon
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Parish of Rushen Concert</b> (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.45pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>Ballafesson Brass Concert</b> (at Colby Methodist Church)	7.30pm
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Manx Music Festival</b> (at Villa Marina, Douglas)	Evening
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Joint Concert with Ballafesson Brass</b> (Venue TBC)	Afternoon
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert</b> with Guests Manx Concert Brass (at Villa Marina, Douglas)	Evening

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](http://www.rushensilverband.org.im/engagements)



### Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Bell

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 was a special day for our solo horn player Robert Bell when he and Kyra Morphet married at Bradda Glen. The Band would like to wish Mr and Mrs Bell, and Loki the dog too of course, every happiness for the future.

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](mailto:enquiries@rushensilverband.org.im)

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