



Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter

March 2024



Workshop Weekend with Ian Porthouse

During the middle of February, the Band welcomed back Ian Porthouse to the Island. Ian is one of the world's best brass band conductors, and is currently the Musical Director of Tredegar Town Band who compete in the Championship Section in the UK.



Over the weekend, Ian and his wife Leanne spent time with the members of the Band's training band Ballafesson Brass, provided some individual tuition to Band members, and led a number of practices for the senior Band. The weekend finished with a fantastic Workshop Concert at St Columba's Church. Music from the programme included Sons Of The Brave, Ar Lan Y Mor, Blaydon Races and Saint-Saens Variations.

The Band would like to thank everyone who came along to the workshop concert. Special thanks to those that helped to arrange the weekend, and the members of the Church for providing refreshments following the concert.



Lastly of course, the Band would like to say a big thank you to both Ian and Leanne for providing the musical inspiration during the weekend, and we look forward to bringing them back soon to the Island.



Fundraising Concert

To start of what will definitely be a busy 2024, the Band once again held a Fundraising Concert at this time of year, this year on Monday 29th January at St Columba's Church in Port Erin. As 2024 is the 75th anniversary of the Band changing its name from Surby Silver Band to Rushen Silver Band, the concert this time around was for Band funds with all we have taking place later on in the year.

Musical Director, John Kinley, commenced the programme with "The Magnificent Seven", before moving onto a selection of music from "Mack and Mabel".



Principal Cornet, Ashley Cole, then took over to conduct a number of pieces which included two movements from "Windows of the World", and three items from the Salvation Army book, "Victors Acclaimed", "In Perfect Peace", and "Swing Hosanna". The baton then passed back to MD John Kinley who completed the programme with "Washington Grays", and "The Old Rugged Cross".

It is pleasing to say that over £285 was raised on the night for Band funds, and the Band were very appreciative for the generosity of the audience.

Band Annual General Meeting 2024

The Band held their Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom on Thursday 15th February. The Band Officials and Committee have all been re-elected to serve another year, the only change being the appointment of a new Band President. The Band would like to thank Graeme Easton for his four years of service as Band President, and are pleased to say that Alan Crebbin has agreed to accept the post which will include 2024 being our 75th year as Rushen Silver Band.

Friends Spring Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 9th March from 10.00am to 11.30am at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin. Please come along; we hope you can join us.



Band Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony 2024

The Band's Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony will take place this year on Saturday 23rd 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 £32.50, and can be obtained by contacting Chris Weldon on telephone (07624) 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

Vegetable Soup with crusty bread(V)
Fanned Melon with prosciutto, berries & peach
mozzarella (GF)
Smoked Salmon Pate with warm bread (GFA)

Roast Topside of Manx Beef, Glazed Ham,
Turkey Crown with accompaniments /
Lentil Beetroot Spinach & Butternut Wellington (V)

Lemon Meringue Pie / Sticky Toffee Pudding /
Double Chocolate Mousse

Parish of Rushen Concert

The Band have been invited back to participate in the Parish of Rushen Concert Season for 2024.

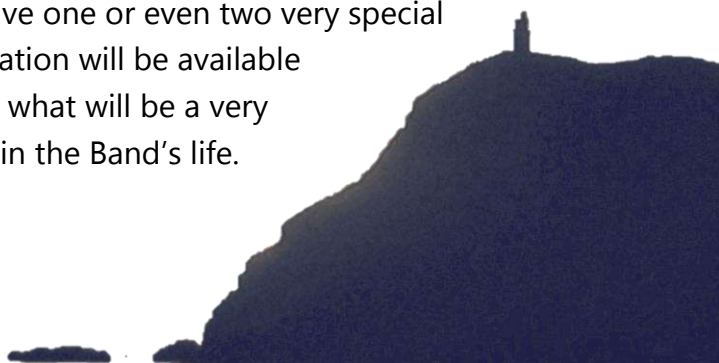
Our first concert of the season is at St Catherine's Church in Port Erin, and will take place on the evening of Thursday 14th March. Admission to the concert is free, with refreshments afterwards in the Church Hall. A collection will also be taken at the end of the concert to be split between the Church and the Band.



A poster for the Parish of Rushen Concert. It features a blue border with a repeating pattern. At the top is a logo of a treble clef with musical notes. The text reads: "PARISH OF RUSHEN CONCERT", "At St. Catherine's Church, Port Erin", "By RUSHEN SILVER BAND", "On THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2024", "AT 7.45PM", and "ADMISSION FREE - RETIRING COLLECTION".

Advance Notice

To celebrate 75 years of Rushen Silver Band, there will be a 75th Anniversary Concert taking place on the evening of Saturday 19th October at the Royal Hall, Villa Marina, Douglas. Manx Concert Band will be our guests and we're planning to have one or even two very special soloists during the evening as well. Ticket information will be available shortly, but please look to keep this date free for what will be a very special concert to celebrate this important point in the Band's life.

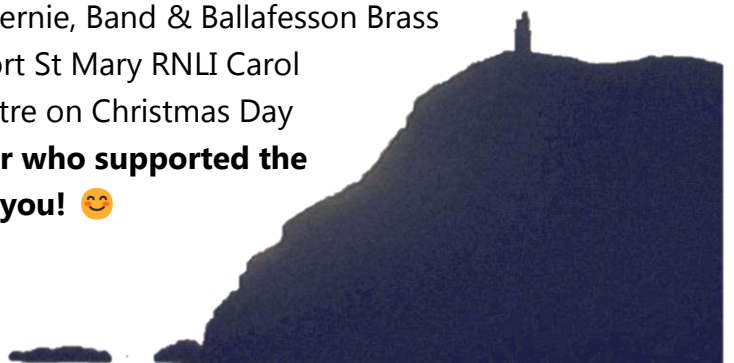


Wave goodbye to a busy 2023! Looking forward to more in 2024!

Although we're now into the third month of 2024, in taking a look back to last year, the image below brings together some of our engagements during that twelve month period. Hopefully this gives a snapshot of how diverse the Band's year is as a community band here on the Isle of Man:



For anyone that's interested, the events are Port Erin Beach Stage TT Week, Port Erin Brass Festival, 150th Anniversary IOM Railway, the wedding of Band members Ashley & Naomi Cole, Groudle Glen Railway, Laxey Brass Festival, Concert with Alan Fernie, Band & Ballafession Brass Christmas Concerts, Carolling, the Carol Train, Port St Mary RNLI Carol Service, and playing at Southlands Resource Centre on Christmas Day morning. **Thank you to everyone involved in or who supported the Band during 2023! We couldn't do it without you! 😊**



Dates for your diary...



Saturday 9 th March	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Thursday 14 th March	Parish of Rushen Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.45pm
Friday 22 nd March	Ballafesson Brass Concert (at Colby Methodist Church)	7.30pm
Saturday 23 rd March	Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony (at Bradda Glen Restaurant)	7 for 7.30pm
Sunday 28 th April	Manx Music Festival Brass Band classes (at Villa Marina, Douglas)	Evening
Sunday 5 th May	Great Laxey Brass Band Festival (around Laxey Village)	Afternoon
Monday 3 rd June	Bandstand Concert (on Port Erin beach)	6.00pm
Saturday 15 th June	Brass Band Festival (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	Afternoon
Saturday 29 th June	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at Methodist Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Saturday 13 th July	Joint Concert with Ballafesson Brass (Venue TBC)	TBC
Saturday 3 rd August	150 years of Douglas to PE railway line (at Port Erin Railway Station)	10.30am
Sunday 25 th August	Bandstand Concert (on Port Erin beach)	3.00pm
Saturday 14 th September	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Thursday 19 st September	Parish of Rushen Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.45pm
Saturday 19 th October	75th Anniversary Concert (at Royal Hall, 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

For more information about Rushen Silver Band or suggestions for the Sounds from the South newsletter, please contact the Band Secretary:

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