

The Farndon Bandsman

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Farndon & District Brass Band



One Small Step, for the Homeless

Members of Farndon and District Brass band can be found all over the country doing great work, and most recently Cat Williams and her family joined brother Rob to raise funds for a sponsored walk for a homeless charity in London.

Robert and Cat joined Farndon Band as juniors. Rob eventually rose to Principal Cornet with Farndon, and sister Cat also became Principal before she too left home for University.

Robert studied Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College London and went on to become a Physics Teacher. After several years teaching he was offered the position of Director of a charity working with the homeless, which was affiliated with his church.

As part of their fundraising the charity organise a 'Two Million Steps for Two Step' sponsored walk, and the whole family took part supported by many members of the band. The total amount raised came to over £25,000 which was more than they could have hoped for.

Left to right Freddie Williams, aged 11, Ailish Williams, aged 8, Rob Payne, Roddy Williams and Catherine Williams, and two year old Daniel Payne offered support from his pushchair.

Junior Band Fundraisers in Chester

In September last year the Marie Curie Charity asked if Farndon Band would be able to support their Great Daffodil Appeal collection on the 24th February 2018. They were looking for bands to come along and support the Marie Curie street collection by volunteering their services for an hour to help them raise funds for the Charity. From previous experience they realised that teaming their collection day with some entertainment, particularly musical, passers-by were much more likely to be generous!

Having agreed to support this worthwhile cause, the Committee concluded that that it was an ideal opportunity for the Junior Band to perform and showcase their skills. This they did, to great effect, on a cold but sunny Saturday morning, under the baton of Janet Barraclough.

Resplendent in their eye catching daffodil hats, due to their efforts the band helped raise a grand total of £101.54 for the Charity in just one hour. A great effort enthusiastically acclaimed by the Marie Curie Charity, which raised more than £1,200 on the day of the Chester street collection.

Well done to all involved, particularly parents and helpers without whose contributions - in particular getting all the band paraphernalia in and out of the City - made the success of the day possible.



Pictured above the junior band with Janet Barraclough with members from the full band playing at the Cross in Chester.

The juniors have a number of bookings this season and details can be found on our website:-

www.farndonband.org.uk

Right, young Elliot Humphreys wears his splendid daffodil hat with real style.



An independent family business trading since 1878. We offer a unique shopping experience and pride ourselves on our team of friendly staff. Located between Chester and Wrexham.

Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 6pm and Sunday 11am to 5pm.



Every One a winner

Our Band Dinner and Presentation evening was a great success and once again we took over the Orchard Room at Holt Lodge for the night.

The highlight of the presentations were the awarding of the 'Chairman's bottles' followed by the Band Person of the Year. Every member has the opportunity to vote for the person they feel have contributed a lot to the band while the Chairman's bottles are awarded by the chairman to recognise what he feels are worthy individual contributions during the year.



Also special thanks must go to Cat Williams who took over the planning and organisation of the Band Dinner and Presentation evening this year, and the event went very smoothly.

Above, L to R are Kelvin Redmile, Phil and Debs Mason, Ariel West the Band Person of the Year, Cat Williams and Amy Leather. Left, a general view of the Orchard Room at The Holt Lodge. Right, Trevor from Holt Lodge serves on the carvery and keeps the diners entertained.



100 Club Results

Congratulations to the winners in our January monthly draw which took place on the 15th February. Seventy six numbers from 50 members of the club were entered in this draw and the first Prize of £76.00 went to number 24 held by Pat Van Beek. Long term band supporter Joyce Kehlenbeck took the second Prize of £38.00 with her number 26 and finally the third prize went to number 40 and Paul Ivison who collected £15.20.

To the winners in the February draw, which was our fifth monthly draw of the club year, was drawn at Churton Village Hall on 22nd February. Again seventy six numbers, held by 50 members were entered in this draw and the first Prize went to number 6 and won £76.00 for band member Cat Williams. Sandie Evans scooped £38.00 for the second prize when her number 54 was drawn. Finally third prize of £15.20 went to Isobel Hughes

and her lucky number in this case was number 9.

Our March draw was a roll up month and Catherine West collected the first prize of £117.00 with number 8. The second Prize of £39.00 went to number 14 held by Kari Kerr. The third Prize of £15.60 went to number 5 held by band supporter Brian Payne. Thanks to all our winners for their continued support and good luck for the future draws.

The 100 Club has generated over £30,000 to support the Band's activities in nineteen years. These essential funds are required to simply help with the band running expenses and also help provide equipment and new uniforms for Junior and the Main Band, music for all Bands and the provision of new and repair of existing instruments. This in turn has helped us support many other charitable organisations and we would like to express our thanks for your continuing support and commitment.

For Your Diary

Here are some of our upcoming jobs for your diary.

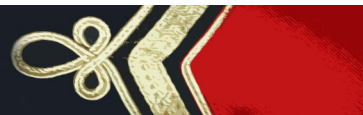
On Saturday 12th May come along to Bellis Brothers Garden Centre for their annual Picnic and Proms from 6pm until 9pm.

Sunday 20th May there is a joint play day with Buckley Juniors and support from Senior Players at Alyn Waters Country Park, Mold Road, Gwersyllt, LL11 4AG running from 10.30am to 4.00pm approx.

Thursday 24th May, The Farndon Band will be holding their AGM at Churton Village Hall starting at 7.45pm.

Saturday 9th June again at Churton Village Hall there will be an unveiling ceremony of the new war memorial next to the entrance to the car park. Assemble at 10.15am for 10.30am.

Saturday 9th June there will be a Picnic & Proms event at Tarporley Baptist Church 4.00 until 7.00pm



BandSafe Toolkit



Farndon & District Brass Band has the enviable reputation for being known as the 'Friendly Band' and we want to keep it that way. Therefore the Band has always taken the welfare of all its members very seriously, and created the current Child Protection Policy document back in June 2005. This original policy document was based on the policies and procedures agreed by the BFBB, the British Federation of Brass Bands. The BFBB initially did a great deal of work to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in brass playing at all levels would be protected from harm. Their Child Protection Policy guided bands through the action required to ensure that everyone who participates in brass banding does so in an enjoyable

and safe environment. The second document recommended by the BFBB outlined the need to encourage the establishment of principles and high duty of care within bands, called the 'Code of Conduct', and was aimed at teachers, tutors, trainers and instructors of brass playing.

In line with all the suggested steps in the document, the Band formed a small sub-committee which included John Reeves, Susan Frencham and Tony Pugh to ensure that we were working in line with these newly introduced national guidelines. It was agreed that John Reeves should chair these meetings and indeed John still holds the post of Welfare Officer for the Band. Working over a period of several months with the new BFBB guidelines as a template, changes were made to ensure that our documents were appropriate for our Band's needs and were written in the clearest possible terms.



The final draft of the Band's Child Protection Policy & Codes of Conduct booklet was agreed by the committee and was made available to all members, and a paper copy displayed in the band room.

The policy booklet has now been in place for twelve years and with more than fifty members involved in the

Band, it is inevitable that while a few issues may arise from time to time, when the welfare sub-committee has been asked for help, we know that our intervention has helped to make the Band a better and friendlier organisation for everyone to enjoy.

However in a recent committee meeting it was revealed that a new policy document is now available from Brass Bands England at their National Brass Band Conference last December. Called BandSafe it has taken into account more recent changes to certain aspects of child protection, and is available as a free online toolkit.

Brass Bands England developed the toolkit through contact with the NSPCC, but again felt that it was vital that it was written in a way that was relevant for Bands. It is in four Sections; Recruiting new players and allocating roles, Safeguarding members of the band, Avoiding accidents, delivering safe activities and events and finally Supporting young people and vulnerable adults within your band. While it is fair to say that the current booklet policy has served the band well, and remains valid, the Welfare Sub Committee will examine the Brass Bands England's toolkit and their approach to the issues, over the next several months to see if any improvements can be incorporated into our policies and procedures.

Don't Forget Our Website!



That's the best place to find all the latest information on future band jobs.
<http://www.farndonband.org.uk>

Calling all readers!

Remember this is your newsletter.



Please send us any letters, comments, pictures or ideas for articles to our chairman at tony.pugh@outlook.com.





Pleased to Meet You...Rhys Lloyd



The interview with Rhys for this article took place at Llangollen railway station and started with a breakfast with a difference, Mugs of tea with bacon and eggs, all cooked on the fire on the footplate on his shovel. He did an excellent job, and there is always something special about bacon baps in the fresh air.

Rhys started working on heritage railways with his Dad and Grandad at Bridgnorth on the Severn Valley Railway, and ended up being one of the founder members of the Junior Club. When the travelling got too much he went down to Llangollen in about 1990, and he has been involved there ever since.

It became a family affair with his mum working in the mess van feeding the work force and the rest of the family all grafting to help rebuild the railway towards Corwen. His mother ended up being the first station mistress at Glyndyfrdwy and dad was a guard.

When he was old enough Rhys started on the footplate as a cleaner and progressed through to passed cleaner, to fireman, trainee driver and then driver qualifying in 2006. He now drives both steam and diesel engines.

Rhys first started to play at the age of seven whilst at Froncysyllte primary school. When he moved to St Mary's in Ruabon he moved onto the tenor horn, then Baritone. At secondary school he then played the Euphonium.

At the Maelor School Rhys played in the Clwyd County Wind Band and Wrexham Area Wind Band, as well as the School Band. It was at this time he got asked to play in the Wrexham Area Brass Band which was his introduction to the brass band world. Whilst playing in this band, he played twice in the final for 'The Music Festival For Youth' in Royal festival hall and won twice in a row!

When Rhys left school he managed to obtain an Apprenticeship with Vauxhall Motors at Ellesmere Port where he trained as a Press Tool fitter and Machinist. He worked there for eleven years but then got the position as a trainee train driver on the main line, and has worked there ever since based at Chester, where he now works as an instructor driver. He operates a number of routes, from Holyhead to Manchester and down to Birmingham with various types of passenger train. Not content with all of that, he also has a passion for motorcycling, and currently rides a Triumph Sprint ST. He has done various advanced courses and rides several thousands miles a year. Rhys was also one of the founding members of the voluntary Blood Bikes group in Wrexham and qualified as a rider a few years ago. He take it in turns to cover any out of hours movements of blood, samples, babies breast milk and anything else that can fit on a bike that needs to be moved for no charge to the NHS.



Top left, Rhys on duty at Llangollen Station just before departure. Above, nothing like a breakfast cooked on your shovel, and below Rhys as we know him, on the back row.

