



The Farndon Bandsman

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Farndon & District Brass Band

Band Person of the Year



Amy Leather completed a fairly eventful 2018 by picking up the Band Person of the Year following a vote by the members of the band. Last year she was the subject of a highly entertaining 'Pleased to Meet You' article in the newsletter. At the AGM meeting she officially took over as secretary from the previous officer, Phil Mason, she also collected a much sought after 'Chairman's Bottle' at the annual band dinner at the Holt Lodge in recognition of her efforts (and email jokes) that year. She also found time to contribute a picture from her family holiday for the summer newsletter. And if all that wasn't enough, she produced an addition to the family in the shape of baby Joss Edward Wilson Leather. Well done Amy!



The Junior Band was as always busy again over the festive period and played several events at Bellis Brothers. Above the juniors supported by several from the senior band are pictured playing for the visitors and supporters for the Carols and a Little Christmas Music event. At the Christmas Brass concert, also at Bellis Brothers, the winner of the Junior Band Person of the Year was announced at the interval.

This year Daniel Williams was the winner, and is pictured right with his drum kit. Eleven year old Daniel attends Wirral Grammar School for Boys, has been playing drums for approximately 5 years and joined our juniors about a year ago, having previously played for Cheshire Schools Band.

Mila McCann who plays first cornet, collected the achievement award and is a valued and committed member of the band. Keep it up both of you this year.

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The winter months are traditionally a very busy period for the band, and one of the highlights is the Remembrance event in the village. Remembrance Sunday at St.Chad's Church in Farndon is of course a regular booking, but we had an additional event at St.Chad's as well as a one off evening event in Tushingham.

To mark the final year of the World War One centenary, The Royal British Legion invited the public to take part in a movement to say thank you to the First World War generation who served, sacrificed, rebuilt and changed the nation. In support of the Thank You movement they were offering for donation a variety of silhouettes to symbolise the communities that took part in WW1, and who helped to shape the nation as we know it today. The silhouettes were displayed across the country by businesses, local authorities and individuals as a reminder of the sacrifices made during the First World War.

Speaking about the weekend of events held at St.Chad's, the Rev. David Scurr told this newsletter, that the Lest We Forget concert was a huge success thanks to everyone who contributed to it.

Silent Silhouettes

Farndon & District Brass Band, Cheshire Pals and Farndon School Choir all played a wonderful part of the evening. St.Chad's did it to raise awareness of our armed forces and to highlight the tremendous sacrifices that were made. It also highlighted the mood of the country through the war years of 1914-18 in the village. The silhouettes also brought another dimension to the event which was followed by the Remembrance Sunday Service which raised about £500 for the British Legion.

That evening at Yew Tree Farm in Tushingham, there was a special event 'Battle's Over' that the band supported.

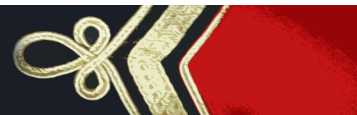
Local artist, Sara Wood, was asked

by the local parish council to design and create 18 poppies, one for each of the fallen in their community. These were presented by 18 pupils from Tushingham school during the service at the farm. The event was supported by a piper, a bugler as well as a small ensemble from our Band.

The service was a great success and attracted over 200 people. The highlight of the event, the lighting of the beacon itself, took place at 7pm.

Top left, one of the silhouettes in the churchyard at St.Chad's. Below, the band playing at the Lest We Forget concert in Farndon. Bottom picture is the ensemble playing at Yew Tree Farm in Tushingham.





Above. Farndon Junior Brass Band offering at this year's tree festival. Below and right the band playing in St.Chad's church and later at the tree in the middle of the village.



Tree-mendous Tree Festival

Once again this year the band was delighted to be able to support the St. Chad's Christmas Tree Festival, which has now become a regular festive feature of the Farndon calendar.

The festival again had wonderful support and this year attracted over eleven hundred people to the church to view the trees and take part in a variety of festival activities. Overall, the festival raised £3000 for the church, along side further contributions from generous anonymous donors and a corporate donation from M&S bank, amounting in total to a further £2000, making £5000 in all. The festival organiser Chris Marks said that the committee were extremely grateful to everyone for this tremendous level of support once again.

This year was the fourth Annual Christmas Tree Festival which began on Friday November 30th, displaying over thirty trees, sponsored by local businesses, organisations and local families. The band were involved on the Saturday evening and supported the singing of carols in church to celebrate the lighting of the church's own Christmas tree, before moving with the supporters to the centre of the village to lead more carol singing as the village tree was illuminated by the Parish Council. Over one hundred people turned out to support the event.

Our Junior section took part in the Festival and sponsored and decorated a Farndon Junior Band Tree which looked wonderful but sadly finished third, just outside the prizes. Better luck next year team!



100 Club

Winners in the Oct draw which was the first monthly roll up draw of the 2018 – 2019 100 Club term took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 25th October. In all 73 numbers held by 50 members of the 100 Club were entered in this draw and the first prize of £73.00 went to long time band supporter

Chas Rayment for his number 83. Michelle Cupit collected the second prize of £36.50 for her lucky number 81. The third Prize went to number 84 held by Dave Atkinson for £18.25 from Spain.

November was the second monthly draw of the 100 Club term drawn on this occasion by David Mellor, which took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 29th November. Again 73 numbers held by 50 members of the club and

£73.00 first prize went to number 81, and Michelle Cupit. Second Prize was number 3 held by our chairman Tony Pugh who collected £36.50. Finally the third prize of £14.60 went to Bill Jones and his number 67.

In the November draw the first prize went to Tony Pugh who won £73.00 The second prize of £36.50 went to 82 held by Kevin Conyers. Sue Frencham collected the third prize £14.60 with number 7.





Santa Flies into Bellis Bros



The communities of Holt and Farndon have always celebrated the festive period with several events, and probably the biggest excitement can usually be found when Santa with his friends and reindeers fly into Bellis Brothers. As always Farndon Band is there to welcome Santa, and to play for all the visitors and supporters while the children get their chance to meet Santa. Below, Farndon Community Trust celebrated with their own Christmas Market.



Calling all readers!



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

Newsletter Appeal

Hello, and can I just take this opportunity to wish all of our band members, supporters and readers a very happy new year for 2019.

I also wanted to draw your attention to the little advert on the left that says...Don't forget this is your newsletter! and it can only be really successful and also reflect everything that is happening in the senior band and the junior band with your help! Please, get in touch with me if you have any ideas for stories, pictures you have taken or comments. You can contact me at - tony.pugh@outlook.com.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing your contributions this year.

