



The Farndon Bandsman

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Farndon & District Brass Band

A Band of Gold



It wasn't so much a brass band as a band of gold recently when the Band were invited to be a part of the wedding celebrations for two of its long serving playing members, Ken Burningham and Claire Turner after what has been described as a considerable period of courtship! Ken and Claire were married at Llangollen Railway in Abbey Road, Llangollen and their reception was at held at Llyndir Hall Hotel, Rossett, where the Band played for the happy couple and their guests, despite everything being delayed by a fallen tree on the line! They both met when they were involved with the Junior Training Band at Farndon, also when they both progressed to the Ensemble. Ken also played in the Wrexham County Youth Brass Band during this period. Claire continued for several years until college and work commitments intervened. Ken however continued to play with the main Band, though his work commitments have often made it difficult for him to attend regularly. As well as playing he helps with the online marketing of the band. The committee and members of Farndon & District Brass Band would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their continued support of the Band and wish them all the very best for their future together.

Happy Birthday Your Majesty



Our Brass Ensemble is getting quite busy these days and is much in demand for garden parties. On the 12th of June, the 'official' birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, groups of 8 players including our Ensemble, travelled to Heswall on the Wirral to the outstandingly beautiful grounds at the home of Nicholas Wainwright, the chairman of 'Boodles' the jewellers. Sitting in our mini marquee, (pictured above) sporting patriotic headgear are Ken Burningham left, and Phil Mason, Hon secretary of the Band. The Ensemble delighted more than 150 guests to a very wide repertoire of music spanning the centuries. The champagne flowed freely, but we are reliably informed that the musicians were much too busy to enjoy a sip! However, they did enjoy the finger sandwiches, with no crusts, and some tasty mini cakes. What a wonderful buffet! The Ensemble rounded off the afternoon with some traditional patriotic songs including Jerusalem, Land of Hope and Glory and the National Anthem and our musical director Kelvin Redmile, being in excellent voice, led the singing in a rousing climax to conclude the day. If you want to book our Ensemble for one of your events please contact Phil Mason directly, details can be found on our website at <http://www.farndonband.org.uk/>



Rain Didn't Stop Play..

Farndon & District Brass Band and its followers are made of stern stuff and it takes more than rain to affect an event, as we saw at Bellis Brothers Picnic & Proms in aid of Nightingale House Hospice. In fact it never stopped raining heavily all night, but the audience came very well prepared with brollies, small tents & picnics. Both the Band and members of the Hawarden Singers performed quite brilliantly considering the conditions. Luke McDonald an Area Fundraiser for the Nightingale House Hospice wanted to thank Bellis Bros Farm Shop and Garden Centre for raising an amazing £854-60p during the event and said that the money would help them to continue to provide palliative care within the local community.



Above and right audience members came totally prepared to brave the elements and enjoy the entertainment.





Rushbearing Time

Every July the villagers at Farndon parade to St Chad's Church for their Rushbearing Celebrations. Before churches had paved floors, rushes were strewn to keep the earth floors sweet and it was common to make a special occasion from their annual renewal. Few such customs survive and the ones which do are mainly in North-West of England. At St.Chad's church Farndon the celebration in the vicarage garden is preceded by a procession involving the local school-children, the Rushbearing Queen and of course the Farndon and District Brass Band, from the Village Hall to the main road before returning to the Vicarage garden. This year's event took place on Saturday 9th July at 2pm and was as always well attended. Sadly for the first time the parade had to be restricted to the church yard because the organisers were unable to arrange support from the local police to control the traffic on the main road. This of course had implications for the health and safety of all those taking part in the parade. Rather than lead the parade this year, the Band played at



The entrance of the vicarage garden to welcome the parade which was led by Rev. David Scurr and supporters, as they arrived.

Luckily the rain earlier in the day stopped before the event got under way, and once again the celebrations were well supported and the various stalls did good business all afternoon. Pictured left Rev. David Scurr leading the parade through the church yard. Above right from top, a general view of the vicarage garden showing the

crowds and stalls. Below this is the rushbearing queen's group from left to right, rushbearer Finlay Russell, queen's maid Emily Russell, outgoing queen Isabel Barnes, incoming rushbearing Queen Charlotte Dunn, queen's maid Ava Morris and rushbearer James Barnes. Above the Farndon & District Brass Band led by musical director Kelvin Redmile playing at the start of the event at the entrance to the vicarage garden to welcome the parade and supporters.





New Junior Banner Design Winner Announced

It was with great regret that we had to announce in the Spring issue of our newsletter that a well-respected and long standing member of The Farndon Band, Doug Swire, (pictured below) had sadly passed away at the age of 85. Doug had made a substantial



commitment to the Band for over 40 years initially as a player, but was also responsible for training the junior band. It was the family's wish that the collection of £530, which was made at the Pentrebychan Crematorium should

go to the funds of the Junior Section of the Farndon Band. Janet Barraclough and the committee decided that the money should be used to purchase a set of banners for the music stands as up to now the junior band didn't have their own, and it would also act as a tribute to the memory of Doug. It was decided that the junior members should have an input into the design of their banners, and so a competition was launched to

find out what the junior players wanted. The winning design would be chosen and made up by a specialist company. Grace Crowe was the winner of the competition. Again the company we went to was Ram Leisure based up in Wrexham who do a great deal of our clothing and banners, and we hope to show the finished banners off at Christmas Brass at Bellis Bros, Holt later in the year. Well done to Grace Crowe on her design.

Junior Band Wordsearch Competition Corner No1

s	g	a	t	d	r	a	w	r	o	f	t
p	v	i	a	m	t	o	h	w	o	n	
a	t	t	a	c	h	m	e	n	t	s	e
s	s	b	m	d	a	e	r	n	u	s	i
c	e	e	t	r	a	s	h	z	o	g	p
f	a	n	n	t	r	i	m	p	g	h	i
o	x	r	d	d	b	e	m	k	t	h	c
l	o	s	b	a	e	o	a	c	d	e	e
d	b	a	b	o	c	r	e	d	t	o	r
e	n	m	c	m	n	j	h	e	q	o	l
r	i	a	i	m	b	c	l	u	n	h	i
s	t	p	p	u	n	e	o	o	r	a	a
w	r	s	s	k	d	o	d	p	t	y	m
l	i	a	m	k	n	u	j	c	y	r	g

It's always fun to find new messages in your inbox, unless of course you have received a bunch of junk mail or spam. See how quickly you can find words in this puzzle which contains just 20 words. Remember the answers can appear in any direction! One winner will be drawn from all the correct entries received at a future junior band rehearsal. Have a go and good luck.

The words you are looking for are:-

1. **attachment** 2. **carbon copy**
3. **compose** 4. **delete** 5. **folders**
6. **forward** 7. **gmail** 8. **hotmail**
9. **inbox** 10. **junk mail** 11. **read**
12. **recipient** 13. **send** 14. **sender**
15. **spam** 16. **subject** 17. **tags**
18. **trash** 19. **unread** 20. **yahoo.**



Lower Huxley Hall

Lower Huxley Hall, the magnificent 15th century, Grade 11 listed moated manor house located near Chester, was the wonderful setting for a recent fundraising event for our Ensemble.

The impressive house, which is set in a 4-acre garden, is approached by a bridge over the moat dates from the late medieval era. Mr & Mrs Whitbread, the current owners of the Hall, allow charity fund-raisers to use the premises for events. The job on the 20th May, was set up by the Rev. Christopher Deakin, (on the far right in picture) one of our Eb players in the main band and Ensemble, to play ambient music for a fund raising event for Hargrave Happy Days.

