



The Farndon Bandsman

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Farndon & District Brass Band

Our New Band President

It is with greatest of pleasure that we can announce that the new President of Farndon & District Brass Band is Michael Trevor-Barnston M.B.E., who previously held the post of joint vice president with Joan Bellis.

A former High Sheriff of Cheshire Mr. Trevor-Barnston, of Crewe Hill Lane, Farndon, pictured below, was awarded his M.B.E. for his services to the community. As well as work for numerous local charities, he is also involved with several small businesses and his own estate's farming and forestry work.

The committee felt that due to his long association with the band he would be the ideal person to approach following the recent sudden death of the Duke of Westminster, Gerald Cavendish Grosvenor. We are pleased to report he was "absolutely delighted" to accept the position of President.



Junior Band looking Sharp



The new music stand banners for the Junior Band moved a step closer following the arrival of the sample following consultations with a national banner manufacturer. After several quotes the committee finally decided to work with Jon Handley from TOR Banners, one of the leading specialist manufacturer of high quality music stand banners in the UK, Europe and North America.

Jon considered the original design for the banner which was produced by Grace and made several observations regarding minor changes that would need to be considered because of manufacturing limitations. It was felt that the area of the design which was going to be embroidered in the finished banner, would need to be reduced slightly and the part representing the end of a brass instrument would need to be removed as the design could not continue to the edge of the banner. The two tone background and lettering colours were kept. The committee were given an alternative design but wanted a banner that was distinctive and unique to the Junior Band. The gold fringing completed the design which will be tailor made to fit the music stands that the Junior Band uses.

Twelve year old Grace from Clutton, pictured above with the first sample banner from TOR was delighted with the final design which was very close to her original drawing which used black and a bold red similar to the main band uniform colours.



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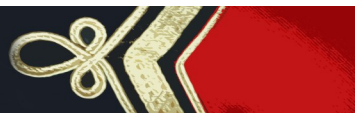


Roll Out the Barrel

For once the British weather decided to smile on one of our summer jobs, and the Beer Festival at Farndon Community Club attracted great support. The band played from 2 pm until 4-30pm and among the many attractions were local beers, a selection of stalls and demonstrations. This was the second year for the Farndon Beer Festival and Funday. The event was organised by Farndon Community Trust who have taken over the running of the old Farndon Sports & Social Club which is now known as Farndon Community Club and was aimed at both raising money for the long list of ongoing improvements required at the Club, and to raise awareness of the facility in the local community. As such, the event achieved both its aims - it was incredibly successful, drawing people from both Farndon and Holt who came out to enjoy the music, beer and the sunshine !

Pictured from above left to right, the band led by musical director Kelvin Redmile playing during the Beers Festival. Top right families enjoying one of the giant inflatables at the festival. Right, while mum Catherine played in the band, six year old daughter Alish Williams enjoyed an encounter with a common barn owl from the birds of prey display by Feathers and Scales from Wrexham. Bottom right a general view of the field showing the crowds that supported the event. Below an invitation to sample the range of drinks on offer. Below left Paul Hughes enjoys the bands' music while looking after Sophie the music loving Lurcher.





Diary Dates

As we all enjoy the last few weeks of warm weather and prepare for the long weeks towards Christmas and New Year, here are a few dates for your diary to help you follow the band's activities. These event dates are confirmed, but there are still a number of other events which are yet to be confirmed.

If you want to get the most up to date information on all future events and indeed everything to do with the band don't forget to look on our band website which can be found at <http://www.farndonband.org.uk>

On Saturday 22nd October the full band played at a concert at St Peter's Church Hall in Hargrave starting at 7.30pm.

Into November and our first event on Sunday 13th November is our annual Remembrance Day Parade & Church Service at St Chad's Church in Farndon. The band will assemble at Farndon Primary School, Churton Road. At 10.45am the band will march to St Chad's Church followed by the ceremony and church service.

Our Christmas programme starts on Friday 25th November at Bellis' Garden Centre in Holt. At 6.00pm the band will be playing for their Christmas launch when they welcome the reindeers, a very popular event with families so be sure to get there early.

In December the band will be involved in the St Chads Church Christmas Tree Festival for the second year running. This popular event runs for several days, but the band will feature on Saturday 3rd December for their church service and then the band and supporters move to the middle of the village for the Christmas Tree lights switch on. The event begins at 5-30pm.

On Saturday 10th December we return to Bellis' Garden Centre in Holt for our Carols and a Little Christmas Music event. If you would like to join us the event starts at 11.00am.

The Christmas events continue on Monday 12th December at Bowmere Hospital, Countess of Chester, Liverpool Road, Chester. If you would like to attend, their Carol Service starts at 7pm.

One of our biggest Christmas events which has been running for several years is our Christmas Brass Concert at Bellis' Garden Centre, Holt on Tuesday 13th December 6-30pm. Doors open at 6-00pm, tickets are on the door.

As we move closer to Christmas one of our last events in the month should be something special. On Friday 16th December there will be a German Style Market with carols and Christmas music at Farndon Community Club from 6-30pm to 8-30pm. Don't forget if you want the latest information, news, photographs and details of all events go to our band website which can be found at <http://www.farndonband.org.uk>



Rossett Fete

Farndon Band performed once again at the Rossett Village Fete at Darland School on Saturday 27th August. This very popular event was very well attended and had a huge number of stalls and attractions including a very well supported dog show. The band played two sets during the Fete and were well accommodated in a spacious marquee provided specially for the band by the organisers. Pictured below left, Freddie, a miniature Schnauzer, belongs to Kari one of our cornet players. Freddie clearly seemed to prefer the music being played to the excitement of the dog show!





Up to 88 Now

How many people would bet £1 on them being struck by lightning, or perhaps being eaten by a shark? Or maybe winning the lottery? Well depending on where you look, the odds on being struck by lightning is around one in three million. Shark attack is around one in four million. Winning the lottery in the region of one in fourteen million...yet millions queue up every day with their two pound coins, happy to take on odds of one in fourteen million! Now if you want much better odds I would suggest you look at our 100 club where one number gives you odds of just under one hundred to one for each prize. Of course a win won't help to retire in the sunshine, but the odds on a small win are so much better and the small profits raised go to help us to keep brass banding alive locally.

The first of the Summer draws took place in the rehearsal at the Churton Village Hall on the 28th July and was drawn by Anne Reay. Eighty six numbers from fifty five members were entered in this draw & the first prize of £86.00 was won by Jane Mason with number 61.



Roger Bellis scooped the second prize of £43.00 with number 57, and finally the third Prize of £17.20 went to number 3 which was held by Tony Pugh.

The second of the Summer draws was slightly delayed by holidays but eventually took place in the rehearsal on 8th September. In all eighty seven

numbers which were held by 55 members of the 'CLUB', were entered in this draw. Leader of the Junior section band Janet Barraclough scooped the first prize of £87.00 with her number 5. Vice president Joan Bellis collected £43.50 for her second place win with her number 30. Finally Brenda Leece and her number 19 took third place.

The September monthly draw, a roll up, took place on the 29th September rehearsal. Our highest number yet of 88 numbers from 56 members were entered in this draw and with number 53, Paul Rees took the incredible roll up first prize of £132.00. The second prize of £44.00 was won by Brenda Leece with number 55. Finally third prize went to Pat Van Beek and number 24 won £17.60.

The band's 100 Club is now in its seventeenth year and I am delighted to report that to date, with your support, has generated (more than) a creditable £28,000 to support the Band's activities. and I would like to express my thanks for your continuing support and commitment.

Roland Twydell the 100 Club draw organiser is pictured above left.

Anne's Mini Zoo



Anne with her 7ft Common Boa, Juliet.

Thirty six year old Anne Reay from Shotton has her very own home security system, in fact she has her very own mini reptile zoo! Despite initially being scared of snakes she bought her first Cornsnake called Sid from Buckley pet shop back in Sept 2012 after speaking to a taxi driver about his snakes.

Her collection now includes 15 very tame snakes of various types, a Tiger Salamander, 3 Chameleons, 5 Crested Geckos, 4 tiny Japanese Long-Tailed Grass Lizards, 9 Millipedes and a Sphynx cat called Lilly-May. She also used to breed hairless Guinea Pigs before getting into reptiles. Her mini zoo keeps her pretty busy but she still finds time to travel all the way to Churton by means of several buses and a lift from one of the members to play her Baritone Horn in the band every week plus jobs at weekends. The magnificent 7 foot Common Boa pictured left is called Juliet, and is about 6 years old.

Anne is pictured right in band with her Baritone Horn.

