



The Farndon Bandsman

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Farndon & District Brass Band

Band Person of the Year....Goes West!



The Band Person of the Year award for 2017 goes to our new musical director Ariel West. Given the unusual situation where last year saw huge contributions by Kelvin Redmile and Ariel West both as musical directors and players, it was decided that this year they would both be included in the voting.

As always the voting for this popular award was brisk, with most of the votes being cast online, but a few also used the traditional paper option right at the end. The result was literally too close to call until the final few votes were counted, and the winning margin was as close, but when all the votes were counted Ariel was the winner and Kelvin was the runner up.

Christmas Brass Concert



This year the Junior Band again took part in the Christmas Brass concert at Bellis Brothers Ltd in Holt and demonstrated just how much they have improved this year under the direction of Janet Barraclough.

During the interval break Janet announced the winners of the special achievement awards, as well as the winner of the Junior Band Person of the Year. Beth McIntyre, (above left) and Bethan Cooper (second left) were both given a special achievement award for their contributions during the year. But the Band Person of the Year trophy and certificate went to Bethan Lloyd, (pictured far right). Pictured right, David Mellor was the euphonium soloist in Shine. He is a fantastic player who attends Farndon Primary, in year six.



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Our Village Remembers

One of the first jobs pencilled in each year in the band's diary is the Remembrance Sunday event in St.Chad's church Farndon. Starting each year with the march from the school to the church followed by the traditional ceremony in the church yard. As always there was a huge turnout for the event and church service that followed. Below, the band turning onto High Street marching up to the church. Far right, Sue Frencham playing The Last Post and the Rouse.



Below, an indication of just how cold the weather was on the march, when snow and ice built up on instruments!



Upton Horticultural Society Celebrates Christmas



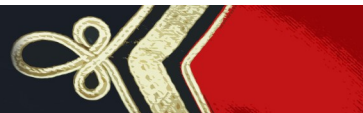
The busy Christmas period can often mean that small sections of the band can have a very busy diary indeed. One particular booking this year even required us to fit in a performance on rehearsal nights! This was indeed the case in late December for the job at Upton Village Hall for the Upton Horticultural Society when a small section of the band played Carols and a little Christmas music. The recently refurbished hall was packed for the event and the band was well received. It is an event that was requested last year but prior bookings prevented us from attending on that occasion, but careful planning and some well timed driving ensured that the tea break wasn't too late and the vital last rehearsal of the year was also possible!

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.



Tree-mendous Festival



The 2017 St.Chad's Christmas Tree Festival began on the 2nd December with a carol service followed by the switch on of the village tree lights.

Chris Marks, the Chairman of the Tree Festival Planning Committee wrote to express gratitude on behalf of the committee once again to Farndon Band for their support for this year's event. He wrote, "We have welcomed the band for the past three festivals, in cooperation with the Parish Council. This year the week long festival attracted over one thousand recorded attendances at the church, either as visitors viewing the trees or taking part in festival events in the church". Pictured above left the view of the packed church. Left, the band playing. Above, Ken and wife Claire with new baby Oscar. Congratulations from the band to the new parents! Below the trees on display during the service.



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>





Twinkle Twinkle Little Stars 100 Club Results



On 23rd November the Junior band, supported by several players from the main band and many mums and dads helping to move music stands, banners and pads from location to location, played in Chester for one of the CH1ChesterBID events. CH1ChesterBID covers a defined area of the city centre representing over 500 businesses to create an enticing overall visitor experience and ensure continued investment in the city centre. Their aim is to make Chester a retail, business and leisure destination of choice. They had a fantastic evening playing Christmas music at the Cross, before moving on to a position outside Debenhams and then finally in front of the Cathedral. The band played brilliantly, and a recording of their performance can be found on the Facebook site of CH1CHESTERBID. We were very proud to be involved in one of the series of events that are held on a Thursday night in the lead up to Christmas, and it is something they hope to be able to do again next year. During the evening they also managed to raise in the region of eighty pounds. Pictured above is the Junior Band outside the Cathedral in front of the CheSTAR. Below the band playing at the Cross.



In our first monthly draw of the 100 Club year, which was drawn in October, 77 numbers, held by 51 members of the 100 club, were entered in this draw. The first prize went to number 64, held by Sharon Pugh and won £77.00. The second prize of £38.50 went to Brian Payne with his number 5. The third prize of £15.40 went to number 79, held by a long term band supporter Paul Roberts.

Our November draw the second monthly draw of the year took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 30th November. Again 77 numbers, held by 51 members of the 100 club, were entered in the draw and the lucky winners were as follows. Catherine West scooped the first prize of £77.00 thanks to her number 75 being drawn out of the hat first. Amy Leather's number 86 was the next one drawn winning her the second prize of £38.50. In a clean sweep for the female players Sue Frencham's number 65 was last out winning her the third prize of £15.40.

December saw the third monthly draw of the 2017 / 2018 100 club year. The numbers were drawn by Anne Reay, and took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 21st December. In total 77 numbers, held by 51 members of the 100 club were entered in this draw. Taking the first prize of £77.00 thanks to her number 81 being drawn first was Michelle Cupit. Our secretary, Phil Mason was a very worthy second prize winner with his number 31 picking up £38.50. Our chairman Tony Pugh's number 3 was next out of the hat and picked up £15.40.

