



THE TRUMPETER

April 1999

TOTNES BAND

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GOOD RESULT AT CONTEST!

The band recently attended the Area Qualifying contest at Poole.

The day went like clockwork starting at 7am when we left the church in Totnes.

The band had a short rehearsal at a church hall in Poole, everything was sounding good. Clive was very confident that the band would do well.

There were 19 bands entered and all were in attendance. We were drawn to play in the second half of the section as there were so many bands. Phil went to make the draw and picked number 19 out of the bag. Just what Clive hoped for, a late draw. Though playing last is not everyone's choice. Because of this the hall was nearly full as everyone started to pile in for the results (they really came in to hear us!).

The band rose to the occasion and played very well. When the judge (Dennis Wilby) came on stage the comments he made gave us hope as we had tried to play it in a musical way.

This is where things started to get exciting, the 6th, 5th & 4th places were read out, then it came to 3rd. Now the programme stated that the first 3 bands placed would qualify for an invitation to the finals in Nottingham later on in the year. They then gave 3rd prize to us, along with details of hotels in Nottingham. We all went mad, we had qualified for the finals, the first time for about 20 years. Loads of friends and fellow players from other bands congratulated us on

our success.

After 1 or 2 lemonades in the bar everyone loaded up the coach and we left for home. There was quite a bit of fun had by all at the rear of the coach including a beer shampoo and set for Clive.

Several days later Phil had a phone call from Mr Wilton (Hon. Secretary for the West of England Brass Band Assoc.) to inform us that there had been a misprint in the programme and as the contest rules state "19 or less bands attend and the first 2 placed bands qualify" he had to inform us that we would not qualify for an invitation to the finals.

Well as you can imagine everyone was gobsmacked.

After a couple of days to come down from the ceiling we have written a letter to the Contesting Council via Mr Wilton to appeal against this and have asked them to stand by the printed programme and invite us to go to Nottingham. They have a meeting on the 24th April and will let us know.

CHARITY CONCERTS

The band have 2 important concerts coming up.

The first is on Thu 22nd April and is in aid of "*South Devon Visually Impaired Assoc.*". This is to be held in the Central Church, Torquay and starts at 7.45pm. The programme is suitable for all tastes.

The 2nd is on Tue 27th April and is in aid of "*Macmillan cancer relief*". This will be in the Avenue church, Newton Abbot. at 7.45pm. Tickets for both are available from the band secretary Phil on 01803 863625, or there might be some still available on the night.

LOTTERY APPLICATION

The Lottery application has now been submitted to the Arts Council for approval.

The Lottery fund raising will still continue this year.

BAND ON THE WEB

For those of you who have access to the internet the band now has some web pages.

These can be found at:
www.argonet.co.uk/users/philc/totnes.htm

This is what the main page looks like.



Enlarge photo of Band.

You are visitor number [look and look](#) to our site! Since 20th April 98.

Last Updated on Tuesday 6th April 1999.

The band was formed in 1971 by a small group of experienced players who taught others the various instruments needed to form a small band. It soon became very successful both in attracting players and in the contest field. The band soon went from 4th to 2nd section.

The band now rehearses in the St John's church hall, Bridgetown, Totnes, on Tue and Thu evenings at 7.45pm.

For the past six years the band has been fortunate to have as their Musical Director, Clive Sproston L.R.A.M. He trained in the Royal Marine Band service and has recently completed his service as Warrant Officer.

The band is very much a family-orientated organisation with three generations of one family playing at the same time, one father and son, and three husband and wife teams. The players come from all walks of life including teachers, farmers, insurance salesmen, a shop manager, postman, college and university students, and some who are retired. Ages span from seven years to well past retiring age.

The band is a self financing organisation and has purchased all its own instruments and equipment over the years through engagements, collections, a Supporters club and small grant aid from the local council.

The band is currently in the process of making an application to the Arts Council for a grant to purchase a new set of instruments, from Lottery funds. As a part of this the band has to raise 10% of the money applied for.

The band launched this appeal at their last concert in the Civic Hall, Totnes. (1998)

Our Solo Horn player John Spooner and his brother are going to do a sponsored parachute jump in February to raise funds.

The band is available for engagements throughout the year. You can contact the band secretary by post, telephone or E-Mail. Similarly, if you are interested in playing why not get in touch or come to one of our rehearsals and meet us. Everyone is welcome and if you can't play - our training band will help you learn.

"Newsflash",.....

The band have just gained 3rd prize at the West of England Regional Qualifying contest at Poole. We left the contest in the knowledge that we had qualified to go to the finals in Nottingham, but this may not be the case, as there was a printing error in the programme.

Watch this space.....

Chairman: [Marilyn Ryan](#) (01364 72127)

Secretary: [Phil Cleave](#) (01803 863625)

Treasurer: [Pam Cleave](#) (01803 866180)

● [Band Diary](#) Last Updated on Tuesday 30th March 1999.

● [Band Secretary](#)

● [Band Personnel](#)

● [Band Scrap Book](#) [NEW](#)

● [Please fill out our Guest book](#) [NEW](#)

USEFUL LINKS

[Brass Band Resources on the WWW](#)

[Totnes Web](#), the ultimate on-line resource for the Totnes Area.

[Penzance Silver Band](#)



Harrogate Band



[List of other bands on the net](#)

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Forthcoming Events

April

Thu 22nd
Sun 25th
Tue 27th

Concert. Central Church Torquay
St Georges Day Parade. 2pm
Concert. Avenue Church. Newton Abbot 7.45pm

May

Sat 15th
Sun 16th
Sat 22nd
Sun 23rd

Nortel day. Woodlands. 1.30pm - 5pm
Weston-Super-Mare Contest
Dartmouth Golf club. 7pm - 9pm
Mayoral Parade Dartmouth 2pm

June

Sat 5th
Thu 24th
Sat 26th

Broadhempston Fete. 2 - 5pm
Floral Dance. South Brent. 7pm
Church Fete. St Mary's Totnes 2pm - 4pm

July

Sun 25th
Sat 31st

Kingsbridge. 3pm
Marldon Apple Pie Fair. 1pm

August

Sun 1st
Tue 17th
Thu 19th
Sat 21st
Mon 30th

Boat Trip.
Floral Dance. Totnes. 7pm
Dawlish Carnival. 7pm
Totnes Carnival. 6pm
Staverton Fare. 1pm

September

Sat 18th
Sun 19th

Finals. Nottingham!!
Finals. Nottingham!!

October

Sat 30th

Annual Championships E.R.C. Torquay

Contact's

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