



THE TRUMPETER

www.totnesband.co.uk

March 2001

TOTNES BAND

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Concerts

We would like to thank all those who braved the weather to attend our last concert, in December. I think it was probably one of the wettest evenings of the winter.

For those of you who didn't make it we are planning our next concert, which will be in the Civic Hall, Totnes at 8pm on Sunday 25th March. We will be featuring 2 new soloists, and also playing our test piece for the West of England area qualifying competition, to be held the following week in the English Riviera Centre, Torquay.

Players

We are very pleased to welcome several new players to the band. This is very encouraging as this ensures that the future of the band is looking good.

Work by one of the founder members of the band was recognized recently at the bands Christmas Dinner. The Mayor of Totnes, Councillor Pruw Boswell, presented David Cleave with a crystal paperweight, inlaid with the Town crest, for services to the town. This is a great honour as these are only given on very rare occasions. David was also presented with a carriage clock and tankard from the band in recognition for the 30 years service with the band, and 50 years playing the cornet.

David first started playing at the age of 15 encouraged by his then neighbour George Tutte. George later went to the midlands and played tenor horn for Morris Motors and also founded the Yarnton Band near Oxford.

David had lessons with retired bass trombone player George Chapple, formerly from Besses O' the Barn band, at the princely sum of 2/6d an hour.

As David then lived in Torquay he joined Newton Town Band and stayed with them even after moving to Harberton, near Totnes. It was during this time, from 1954, which he met up with Pam, who also was in the Newton Abbot Band and played baritone, and, after a courtship centred around the band's activities, they married in 1957.

By the time of their move to Harberton in 1964 they had four sons who were soon taught to play brass instruments. Fed up with the journey to Newton Abbot he was determined to start a brass band in Totnes, the previous band being disbanded many years before. The search began for suitable premises and band members in the area who would be interested in forming a band in Totnes. There were also several youngsters keen to learn a brass instrument who were quickly enrolled into a learners class.

In Jan 1971 a meeting was held to formally set up the Totnes Town Band and a committee was appointed.

From such humble beginnings the Totnes Band has gone from strength to strength and is now in the First Section nationally and has members from all parts of South Devon. Some of the original youngsters have gone on to take up music professionally, as well as playing with bands such as Hanwell, Carlton Main Frickley, Stanshawe and Thornbury. One has written a special piece of music for the band, which will be performed soon. Of the Cleave family two sons, Philip and Martin, are still members of the band along with their dad, and Philip has 2 children in the training band, besides being secretary for the band for some time. Pam still takes an active part in the band as treasurer.

Ernie Mann another founder member has decided after 30 years with Totnes Band to retire from playing. More info on Ernie in the next "Trumpeter".

Skittles Night

The band are holding a social night on Friday 9th March at 8pm, in Hookhills social club, Paignton. If anyone is interested in a game of skittles then please get in touch with Phil, or any member of the band. There is no charge for this, the only request is for a plate of food to make up a buffet.

Boat Trip

The date of this years Musical Cruise down the River Dart has been fixed for Sunday July 22nd. For those of you who came last year you will know that we went on the Baltic Star. This is a superb boat with an ideal atmosphere, whether wet or dry as 80% of the boat is covered.

As numbers are limited please be sure to order your tickets in plenty of time. These will be available at the next concert.

Contact

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Friends of the Band

As a valued friend of the band we have included a voucher for use at the next concert on March 25th. Details are on the other page.

Totnes band in Concert

Friends of the band voucher

Admit 2 for the price of one.



Band Diary

March

Mon. 5th
Fri. 9th
Sat. 24th
Sun. 25th
Sat. 31st

AGM. 7.30pm
Skittles night. Hookhills club. 8pm
Andy's wedding. 3pm
Concert. Civic Hall, Totnes. 8pm
Area Contest. Torquay.

June

Sat. 2nd
Sat. 9th
Sat. 16th
Sun. 17th

Broadhempston Fete. 2 - 5pm
Newton Abbot Bandstand. 2pm #
Bugle. #
Ivybridge Vintage rally. 2 - 4pm #

July

Sun. 1st
Sun. 8th
Sat. 14th

Sun. 15th
Sun. 22nd

Galmpton Gooseberry Fair.
Puddavine. 3pm
Joint concert. Allegro Singers. St John's Church. Totnes 8pm
Kingsbridge Bandstand. 3pm
Boat trip. 10am
Dartmouth Town week concert.
Bandstand. 2.30pm
Malsters Inn. 1.30 - 3.30pm. Concert.

Sun. 29th

August

Sun. 12th
Thu. 16th
Sat. 18th

Newton Abbot Bandstand. 2.30pm
Dawlish Carnival. 7pm
Bovey Flower Show. #
Totnes carnival. 6pm