



THE TRUMPETER

www.totnesband.co.uk

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TOTNES BAND

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Concerts

The next concert will be on the Sat. 24th November. It will be in the Methodist Church, Totnes, at 7.30pm. Tickets on the door.

We are also joining Jo Laurence in a concert in St Mary's, Totnes on the 15th December, at 7.30pm. The band are looking forward to working with Jo.

Jo Laurence studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and has sung nationally, including the Theatre Royal singing Carmen.

Jo was recently acclaimed in the "Stage and Television Today" magazine, "Jo's rich voice and earthy interpretation were totally compelling".

News

Sadly the Musical Director Terry Treherne has decided to hang up his baton, after taking the band for just over 12 months.

The band would like to thank Terry for the dedication shown during his time with the band. We wish him all the best for the future.

The band will be advertising for applicants for the post of Musical Director, so if anyone is interested in taking on the band please contact the secretary.

We would like to welcome several new members to the band, who have joined recently. We hope they enjoy playing with the band.

30th Anniversary Celebrations

The Band recently hosted a highly successful weekend in celebration of its 30th anniversary. Saturday 6th October saw over one hundred players, past players and their families gather at the Pavilion in Totnes to renew friendships and share memories. Guests from 6 months old to 91 enjoyed a buffet meal and the excellent music provided a Jazz quintet, made up of some our friends from the Marines which drew people of all ages onto the dance floor.

Many of the Band's founder members were there, several, of course, still playing with us. But whilst publicity had focused on making sure local people knew all about the event several players had travelled

some distance to take part in the celebrations. Julie Broom and her young family, for instance, joined us from Morayshire, Scotland, Nick Lear from Birmingham.

Players who couldn't make it on the day also responded to the invitation to let everyone know what they were doing now and a range of photographs and press cuttings reminded everyone not only about all the achievements and the laughs we had shared but also how much better most of us looked when we were younger and still boasted a full head of hair.

It has to be said that not everyone was looking their best when we assembled again in the Seven Stars on Sunday morning. Not unfortunately to continue the party but this time to concentrate on music. The second part of the celebrations was to be a special anniversary concert held at the Ariel Centre on Sunday afternoon and the Sunday morning was the first opportunity for all the guest conductors to gather together and run through the programme as a whole.

We could hear the rain even above the noise of rehearsal but even so we were delighted with the response locally to the concert. The audience travelled with the Band on a journey through its musical history, expertly guided by Philip Hunt from BBC Radio "Sounds of Brass". The concert opened with a "Flourish for an Occasion" written for the event by the Band's Musical Director Terry Treherne and then revived musical memories for four of the Band's past conductors; Keith Peters, Viv Willcock, Clive Sproston and Peter Curtis. The fifth conductor of the day was Paul Norley who moved the audience not only by his music dedicated to the Band which graphically evoked local places and events but also by his heartfelt acknowledgement of the role the Band and Band Members had played in supporting his musical career. Having just listened to the CD that captures the concert you just have to mention too the applause that greeted Clive's xylophone solo - On the Track.

Our thanks again to everyone who helped make this a memorable weekend. It leaves us hopefully well on track for the next 30 years!

Contests

Somebody said "Lets go to Prestatyn". I'm not sure who, but it seemed like a good idea at the time.

We seemed to be up against it right from the start. Despite numerous phone calls we were unable to fill all of the positions in the band but, with a few adjustments, we managed to cover most parts.

We also decided not to hire a coach this year, partly because of the massive cost and partly because several people wanted to stay on and listen to the Championship section bands, some just couldn't get off

work early on the Friday.

Several of us who were able to leave early on the Friday, left around 11am.

We thought we would take it easy and arrive on camp at around 6pm. It's about 280 miles from Totnes. How wrong we were!

We got half way to Bristol only to join a nice queue of traffic. Little did we know that it would take an hour and a half before it cleared. It was all caused by 1 lane being closed. So that was four hours just to get to the other side of Bristol.

Everything seemed to go fairly well then until we got to about 20 miles from Prestatyn. More traffic. This time there had been a bad car crash near Prestatyn itself, which blocked the whole road. We were diverted away and had to find our way back to Prestatyn from another direction. We eventually arrived at about 9.15pm. Just over 10 hours.

In contrast, a couple of players left after work and took about 5 hours. I think as it turned out they left at the best time.

The majority of the band stayed on camp, and after a night of being woken by happy campers (straight out of the night club) and late arrivals met at 10am to go for a rehearsal in Flint. The band were in remarkably high spirits considering the previous day (and night).

We were even told by Terry that we were sounding like a Salvation Army band while warming up with hymns. (Not sure which Army band though).

We went through the test piece, Purcell Variations. Not too bad we thought, so after a few instructions we went back to the camp.

The band had drawn to play 17th out of 22 bands. We all rose to the occasion and produced what we thought was a creditable performance.

Unfortunately the judges didn't agree and placed us last. Well you could have knocked us down with a feather. I know

it wasn't perfect, but we didn't expect that.

Despite the journey up and the result several of us went to the club that night and had good time. Lemonades all round.

Luckily the journey home was straight forward, getting home at a reasonable time on Sunday night.

Wasn't that a good weekend we thought!

We would like to thank all everyone for their support over the last year. We wish you all a Merry Xmas and a successful New year.

Band Diary

November

Sat. 24 Concert. Totnes Methodist Church. 7.30pm

December

Sat. 1 Trago.
Sun. 2 Civic Service/parade. 11am. St Marys.
Sat. 8 Trago/Safeways Paignton.
Sun. 9 Trago/Carol Service. St Marys. 5.45pm
Wed. 12 Fermoy's
Thu. 13 Safeways. Paignton.
Sat. 15 Trago ?/Concert. St Marys. 7.30pm.
Sun. 16 Trago
Mon. 17 Widecombe. 8.30pm
Tue. 18 Late night shopping. Totnes.
Wed. 19 Fermoy's/Punch and Pies. Totnes Hospital. 8.30pm.
Thu. 20 Safeways. Paignton/Hookhills Social Club.
Fri. 21 Safeways. Totnes
Sat. 22 Safeways/Main st. Totnes
Sun. 23 Safeways. Totnes
Mon. 24 Newton Abbot Post Office Club.

Pictures from the Anniversary Concert

