



Newmount Brass presents **The Music Stand**

The Voice of Newmount Brass – Edition 9, Summer 2014

Hello and welcome!

The band successfully completed the first two summer outdoor engagements under our new M.D. Tim Robinson. The first on 15th June at Normanton on Soar where we had the pleasure of providing entertainment for the Soar Boating Club Commodore who this year happens to be our Solo Cornet player Jane Askam.

Tim was pleased with the band's performance which saw us scene shifting at the interval to play under cover when the weather turned against us. We were ably assisted by our good friend Dan on principal cornet and Russ of Ilkeston Brass on Eb bass.

On 28th June the band played on a chilly grey Saturday at Littleover 'Picnic in the Park'. Not so many stalls or visitors this year but the band played well despite being short of Solo Cornets and Basses. It was our second engagement under Tim's baton and the band is settling down nicely. It is also good to see Alan there giving us his usual invaluable guidance and support.



Thanks to you all for your co-operation in helping Tim and his team to sort out the music. Having been band librarian in the dim and distant past for the Derby Railway Works band I know that it can be long and arduous work at times but well worth the effort. Well done to all.

Next, I received this amazing report and I can only say that, having followed a similar vocal path in my youth I am green with envy. Congratulations young man!



E-mail from Ed Robinson (Euphonium, Trombone and Baritone vocalist supremo)

"I've had a great first year studying Singing at The Royal Northern College of Music. The last 9 months have been busy but so rewarding musically. I've been able to attend masterclasses lead by the singers Dame Felicity Lott, John Tomlinson, Olaf Bar and John Shirley Quirk as well as musicians such as Lang Lang and Alison Balsom. I've felt a real improvement in my singing through being tutored each week under the ex-Covent Garden Baritone, Quentin Hayes. I've performed as part of the college Gospel Choir and have sung Michael Tippett's 'A Child of Our Time' at Bridgewater hall as part of RNCM Symphony Chorus. Outside of college I have successfully auditioned and progressed into the

main choir of the 'National Youth Choirs of Great Britain', with whom I performed at Leeds town hall over easter. The experience was brilliant and the concert was played on BBC radio 3, which was a real buzz! I'm really looking forward to playing with Newmount over summer and catching up with the band!"

Family Spotlight — The Salmons by Rachel (Principal Euphonium)



Derby County, dimples in our noses and brass bands - sounds like a strange list doesn't it? But these are things that have always been traditions in my family, and (with the possible exception of the dimples!) are things that I am very passionate about. Brass bands became a tradition in the Salmon family in the early twentieth century when my Grandad, Ben, and my great-Uncle Harry both played for Cordon Street Mission Band. My Grandad was a trombone player all of his life, in addition to being secretary for over fifty years, and Harry was principal cornet and eventually band master. This tradition passed onto my Dad and his brother Harry, who both began playing at the age of seven. For my Dad, playing in brass bands was not simply a hobby, and at the age of twenty he joined the RAF as a musician and after training he was stationed at RAF Cranwell. He stayed in the RAF for nine years, during which time he played the trombone and euphonium (favouring the trombone as it was easier to polish!). He was also bandmaster of the Bomber Command Staff Band at RAF Binbrook, and still looks back on his time fondly and with pride. In turn, my brothers and I had no choice but to play in brass bands and we were encouraged to play from a very early age. Due to work commitments on my brothers' parts, I am the only Salmon child left playing, and I am currently principal euphonium at Newmount Brass. Brass bands have been an important part of my life since I was six years old, when I was handed a cornet and told to practice so I could join the training band. I have made many great friends through the banding world, and as a family we can count players who have previously played at Black Dyke and Grimethorpe as friends. As a result of my involvement in brass bands I also completed my undergraduate dissertation and brass bands, and was able to compare the bands of 1880

to Newmount in 2014! Brass bands are an unusual hobby for someone aged 21 in many ways, but they are a Salmon tradition that I will continue to participate in for some time to come.

Patrons

All of our friends who are past or present PATRONS have been contacted and invited to renew their membership from 31st July. We really do value their support and friendship and they are an important part of our banding family.

Fund Raising

The new Fund Raising sub-committee have had their first meeting and things are already happening. As you know, we need to raise funds for uniforms and instruments. Our starter was the excellent list of suggestions provided by Vicky '2nd Cornet' Hammond who is proving to be a good motivator. Already we are seeing some results. A grant from the council is in the pipeline, we have a sweepstake running on the World Cup, and an offer from our friends at Swarkestone Nurseries to let us take a small ensemble to play carols and collect for funds on each of the four Sundays before Xmas. Tim and I am keen to find some way of taking full advantage of this but need as much support for it as you can give. Committee members are Vicky Hammond (Leader) Cath Robinson, Rachel Salmon, Greg Lunn, and yours truly. If we are to be successful, this Committee needs the positive support and assistance from you all. We shall all benefit.

Charity Status

We are looking to register as a charity in order to cover our fund collecting and get some benefit from the status. More on this in our next edition.

You've got to laugh!

When I was a young man (Oh yes I was!), I played for the Derby Railway Works Band (an ancestor of today's Derwent Brass). We had obtained an outdoor engagement at a park in Wolverhampton. We arrived to find a large expanse of grass a bit like Chester Green, no Bandstand or cover, no chairs, no officials and no audience. The only person around was a little old chap with a Brummie accent who turned out to be the Park keeper. 'Yow kin set up where yow loikes, 'ow meny cheers dow yow wont?'. We told him how many chairs we needed and he duly fetched a load of old rickety seats for us. We set up the seating and took out our instruments making a pile of the cases a bit away from the band so that it didn't look untidy. Up came the little old man and said ' Yow dunt want ter leave them there, way ad a Pianner player ere last wake, ay were sittin' playin' and these yowths cum along and picked up his pianner and threw it into the canal!' Needless to say we never played there again.

And finally, a recent issue of the 'British Bandsman' carried this advertisement.



Not sure whether I can trust this one. I assume that Lorraine means a **Lyre** to hold music when marching!

Keith Blood (Solo Horn)

Upcoming Engagements

Sunday 7th September Brinsley Headstocks (D.H. Lawrence Festival)
Sunday 14th September Colliers Wood (D.H. Lawrence Festival)
Sunday 23rd November Craft Fair, Swarkestone Nurseries
Friday 5th December Our Lady of Lourdes Christmas Concert
Monday 15th December Melbourne URC Christmas Concert
Saturday 20th December Newmount Methodist Christmas Concert

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