

Newmount Brass presents **The Music Stand**

The Voice of Newmount Brass – Edition 11. Winter 2014/15

Hello and welcome!

Well what a year we have had in 2014: a change of MD, retirement of Alan (to Assistant MD) and Mick Sharp; some very successful funding activities; good performances from the band; two weddings; a welcome and deserved increase in funds; a whole host of new patrons (we now have 51 of you!); and our younger players achieving outstanding University results.

We have also welcomed four new and valuable members into the band: Claire on Solo Cornet; Mark on Percussion; Liam on Bass Trombone; and our newest member is young Ben on Baritone who has been tutored by Tim and sat in for his first full rehearsal in the New Year.

So, overall, a very successful year! Thank you all for being a part of it.



Message from your M.D.

As I mentioned in the last edition, Christmas is definitely the most exciting season for any brass band. Ours was certainly no exception, with four full band concerts (Swarkestone, Mickleover, Melbourne and Littleover) and five small ensemble dates (again at Swarkestone, Morrison's and Normanton on Soar).

This was undoubtedly a really successful Christmas season for the band. I was particularly pleased with our performance at Littleover, where a couple of the more adventurous Christmas pieces sounded at their very best.

2015 is a very special year for Newmount Brass, having now been formed for a whole decade. I'd like to invite you to our special 10th Anniversary Celebration Concert at Newmount Methodist Church on Saturday 16th May. Alongside a varied programme of band items (including new pieces Adiemus, the theme from Thunderbirds and the popular march Colonel Bogey), there will also be some solo spots from various guests - I won't spoil the surprise! Tickets will be on sale very soon - of course we will keep you all updated, but remember to keep checking our website and Facebook page also.

Thanks again to all Newmount musicians, patrons and supporters. We hope to see you again this year.

Tim

A look back at our recent engagements

23rd November - Swarkestone Craft Fair. This was a smart and professional turnout. Playing was very good. We picked up new patrons from a enthusiastic crowd. We were paid £150 donation from Garden Centre and collected £97 in the buckets.

5th December - Patrons' Christmas Concert, Our Lady of Lourdes. A full house this year - slightly short of players we welcomed two helpers (deps) on Trombone (Tim's boss, Simon) and Eb Bass (Alex, who travelled all the way from Manchester that evening!). The varied programme included two Christmas

readings. We sold a number of programmes and Quiz sheets. Our thanks to Patrons, Marie Neville and Joe Keily, for their invaluable help.

7th, 16th, 18th and 21st December - Carols and Collection. For these ensemble busking jobs, we revisited Swarkestone Garden Centre and Morrisons Superstore, Derby. We raised just over £500 with the band being congratulated on its good balance and tone. Thanks also go to our 'bucket shakers' Marion, Olivia and Linda.



15th December - Christmas Concert, Melbourne URC saw another very good performance well received by a small audience. It was good to have cornet player Jenny Hammond back with us.

20th December - Christmas Concert, Newmount Methodist. Reported by the church organiser, Ruth, this was the most successful Christmas Concert at our home base to date. Super performances from band and RR Ladies Choir entertained a full house with a well balanced programme. Well done to everyone involved.

Finally a 'last minute' booking saw a scratch group led by Tim busking at Tesco Burton and raising £150.

The Newmount Brass Prize Pictorial Quiz 2014

Did you enjoy the quiz? A big thank you must go to Phil Robinson for creating this for the band, and to Cath for printing, copying, stapling and organising! It has proved to be a really useful boost to band funds, but more than anything, great fun. Congrats to the winner - you know who you are!

Annual Birthday Dinner

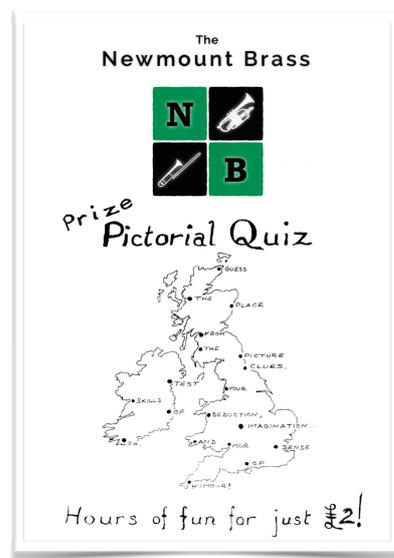
The plan for this year's members' dinner is that it will be a self-catered event on 11th March in the Band room. Vicki, Cath R and Rachel are in charge and working very hard to make it a success.

To March or not to march?

Some bands are happy to march, others are not, and so parades are of no interest to them. No problem with that. However, one of the most popular events in the Brass Band world is the Whit Friday Marches competition when bands from all over the world come to join the huge contingent of British bands.

The competition is to visit as many villages between 4.30 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. or even beyond midnight in some cases. There are two separate groups of venues, the Saddleworth area and the Thameside area, both to the North East of Manchester. Band coaches fly around the roads and lanes in an attempt to compete at as many venues as possible where they march down the street to an arena, and then perform a march of their choice standing in front of an adjudicator's box. Any band can take part.

As a spectator you can sit or stand and listen to one band after another. Taking into consideration the number of bands and venues it boasts of being the biggest free entertainment event in Britain.



Last year I was honoured to be invited to join the Foden's Band on their coach as they flew from village to village, competing at every one of the venues on the Thameside circuit. Eleven performances of the march The President and they won one every single one - a record which has never been achieved before. Their playing was simply awesome.

Did you know?

If you straightened them out, the approximate tubing length of a cornet is 4.5ft, a Tenor Horn 7ft, a Euphonium 10 ft, a Trombone 8ft, an Eb Bass 13 ft and a BBb Bass 18ft!

Laughter is good for you!

Here are some great truths about life that little children have learned.

- No matter how hard you try you can't baptise cats.
- You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. The second person is always caught.
- You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- When Mum is mad at Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- The best place to be when you're sad is on Granddad's knee.

Keith Blood (Solo Horn)



Upcoming Engagements

Sunday 22nd March, 18:00 Band Sunday at Melbourne URC
Saturday 16th May, 19:30 10th Anniversary Concert, Newmount Methodist
Sunday 28th June, 14:30 Outdoor concert at Draycott
Saturday 4th July, 14:00 Attenborough Village Fete
Sunday 22nd Nov, 13:00 Craft Fair at Swarkestone Nursery
Friday 11th Dec, 19:30 Patrons' Concert, Our Lady of Lourdes
Monday 14th Dec, 19:30 Christmas Concert, Melbourne URC
Saturday 19th Dec, 19:30 Christmas Concert, Newmount Methodist

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