



Newmount Brass presents The Music Stand

The Voice of Newmount Brass – Edition 15. Summer 2018

Hello and welcome!

Greetings once again from all at Newmount Brass! This Summer Newsletter will update you with all that's been happening within the band over the past few months and will hopefully whet your appetite for what's to come!

I'm sure you haven't turned your minds toward Christmas yet, so you can read all about our exciting Summer and Autumn events first, then pop the December ones in your diary to brighten up the Winter when (or if!) it comes along!

Thank you for your continuing support for our friendly band. We don't take it for granted, but really appreciate it - and you!

(Phil, Chairman - and fledgling trombone player!)

News from the Band Room

Here we are in glorious sunshine, already half way through the year and about to start our busy time with concerts at Newmount Brass! We are excited to perform some new pieces for you, our audience, and hope you really enjoy them!

We had a usual break in January after a very busy and successful Christmas period. Highlights included playing at Swarkestone Craft Fair, and concerts at Our Lady of Lourdes (Mickleover) and Newmount Methodist Church. We also had a busy time playing carols at Tesco in Burton and Mickleover (and various other small events) as a small ensemble of players, which was great fun!

Our first concert of the year was organised by Henry, our Eb Bass player. He has links with Pelynt Male Voice Choir, from Cornwall, and we performed a joint concert with them at the end of April at Broadway Baptist Church, Derby. It was a lovely evening and we had a very full church.



Following that we had a return visit to Crich Tramway Museum in May for their 'Beer and Bands' event. Another well supported event with sunshine laid on!

Our Annual Awards Evening and meal took place at the bandroom with a fish'n'chip supper and lots of laughter! The awards this year were as follows: Dave (flugel player) was awarded the David Scott Savage Memorial Cup, Lisa (soprano cornet) received the Bandsman of the Year, Laura (solo cornet) was awarded the Bob Harris Memorial Shield, Ruth (3rd cornet) received the Alan Salmon award for most improved player, and Christine received the attendance award (again!).

A special mention must be given to Mick (trombone) who was awarded the MD Medal - he gave a great speech that amused us all, saying that he had waited a long time for the accolade! He has been seen wearing the medal at rehearsals!

We have had a few new players join us this year. We welcome Stan on cornet and Clive on Eb Bass. It's also great to have Claire with us again on cornet, after the arrival of her baby last year! Phil (Chairman) has also finally joined us on Trombone!

I wanted to mention that Paul our librarian and cornet player has stepped down from playing regularly with us to free up more time for the family, but I know he and his wife, Andrea, will be happy to help us when they can. Paul was a founder member of the band and we thank him for all his help and contribution to Newmount Brass.

Finally, I would like to tell you that Sarah and Jeremy's baby daughter Anabelle arrived at the end of May. We send the new family our congratulations and good wishes!

(Cath, Tenor Horn)

Engagements

We were pleased to perform at Crich Tramway Village again this summer, taking part in their Edwardian Weekend event. Playing at Crich is always enjoyable and well-received by all.

Next weekend we are taking part in the Matlock Bands in the Park event, performing at Hall Leys Park on Sunday 22nd July, 2pm-4pm. We last performed at this event in 2016 and are delighted to have secured the engagement again this year.

After Matlock, our next performance will take place on Friday 28th September at Our Lady of Lourdes, Mickleover. In a slight change to recent tradition, this concert will be our Patrons' Concert, taking the place of our usual date in December. We do hope you can join us in September, as we look forward to performing some new pieces for you.

(Tim, MD)

Playing at Derby Hospitals

Members of the band have played at the Derby hospitals a couple of times over the last year. During the summer break, we were asked by the hospital library to take part in their dementia activities programme. Liz works in the library and as they knew she played in a brass band, they wondered if a small group would come along and play some well known tunes to patients on the wards at the Royal, as part of the 'reminiscence therapy'. Tim, Cath, Keith, Liz, Liam and Ed went along and enjoyed playing outside several of the ward bays. We were generally well-received and some of the old people joined in to sing, although one old lady described 'The Rose' as thoroughly depressing! I'd have to disagree - it's a lovely tune.



We were asked to go again to play carols at Christmas time down at the London Road Community Hospital. We had a really lovely time. We were playing during visiting hours so visitors were joining in with singing carols. Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves and one gentleman followed us wherever we went. We really felt like Christmas had begun!

Overall we felt we had made a valuable contribution and brought some happy memories back to people. Dementia will affect so many of us or our loved ones so it was good to be able to share our music with people who are living with this condition. Hopefully we'll be able to take part again this year.

(Liz, Euphonium)

Rehearsal Room Rondo - A Poem by Liam (Trombone) (to be read in your best Derbyshire accent!)

Wednesday night arrives it's that time of the week,
Into the rehearsal room - of stale cabbage it doth wreak.
Excitement bubbles as we set up the stands,
There's something quite glorious about playing brass band.
People enter from all places afar,
There's always that 'fun' moment of parking your car.
'How do's' a plenty and 'ey ups' about the room,
All settling down to start with a hymn tune.
New musics' given out, chairs shifting place,
Then the shock and horror that covers your face-
When you look at the music there out in front,
'Solo' is written in the boldest of font.
You begin to sweat and start practicing away,
Wishing someone was there with you to help you play.
People warming up playing scales and arpeggios
'Oh you wish you knew just how this solo goes'-
Pretend you've not seen it that'll do,
Or as your about to play go to the loo..
The seats around you are starting to get full,
A rehearsal night and Newmount is rarely dull.
Valves being oiled, spit emptied on the floor,

Feet tapping away not even in 4.
Mick wearing his band medal with 'Grace'
Sounds from his trombone sliding all over the place .
Alan wise cracking making a joke,
Dan playing from memory 'Share My Yoke'.
Tubas giving it some with Clive and Russ,
Henry next to them practicing carols for Christmas.
Ruth on cornet smiling away,
Always keen to give anything a play.
For Liz and Rach 'Harry Potter' is not their thing,
Keith on horn can make any solo sing.
Dave on flugel giving that extra jazzy feel.
All working as cogs together in one giant wheel.
There's one person there; Tim that's keeping us turning,
Waving his hands every week, from him we are learning.
We try to follow.. but not actually sure what he does?!
breathe in now ready for our lips to buzz..
first note of the night its got to sound good,...
Splat?! fluff! Missed it ...I knew i would.
'Urgh what's that horrible sound that's coming out?!'
Ahh the fun we have each week rehearsing at Newmount.

Upcoming Engagements

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th July, 14.00

Sunday 22nd July, 14.00

Friday 28th September, 19.30

Saturday 8th Dec, 19.30

Saturday 15th Dec, 19.30

Edwardian Weekend at Crich Tramway Village

Bands in the Park, Hall Leys Park (Matlock)

Patrons' Concert, Our Lady of Lourdes (Mickleover)

Christmas Concert, Winhill Methodist Church, Burton

Newmount Methodist Church Christmas Concert

