



Sounds from the South

Newsletter of Rushen Silver Band

March 2012



On Saturday 3rd December 2011, Rushen Silver Band held its own first ever Christmas Concert. 'A Celebration of Christmas' was held at the Living Hope Church in Port St Mary, and not only provided a rousing start to the Christmas festivities, but also a truly memorable occasion for all present.

Long-time associates of the Band, the Meadowside Choral Society, participated in the evening; not only performing their own programme of music, but in conjunction with the Band, they also provided some stirring singing to the carols, as well as a lively joint finisher that everyone in the hall was singing to. A significant amount of money was raised for Band funds, and it is hoped a similar event will be held later on this year to commence the 2012 Christmas festivities.

Rushen Silver Band Annual Dinner and Awards Evening 2012

An enjoyable evening was had by all on Saturday 28th January, when the Band's Annual Dinner and Awards Evening was held at the Falcon's Nest Hotel in Port Erin.

The Band would like to thank Gill & Chris Weldon and Toni & Jonathan King for helping to arrange the event.

The following awards were presented on the evening:

- Dave Smith Memorial Shield - Martin Norbury
- Preston Shield - Jim Crebbin
- Gilrea Corlett Trophy - Steven Caley
- Ernie Broadbent Trophy - Joe Callaghan
- Bandsman of the Year - Tom Sinden
- Long Service Award - 45 years - Joe Jones
- Honorary Life membership of Rushen Silver Band - Pat Crebbin



Meeting the newest member of Rushen Silver Band...

Emma Parsons has recently joined the main Band from Ballafesson Brass, and is our youngest member at age 12. Here's how she's found it so far...



What made you decide to learn a brass instrument?

EP: I decided to learn a brass instrument because I thought that it would be fun! (And it is!) Also I thought that violins are too screechy!

I was given the chance to learn brass in Year 4 at Scoill Phurt le Moirrey Primary School with Miss Cook and also had lessons on a Friday night with the Rushen Silver Band Tutors. By the end of Year 4 I had joined Ballafesson Brass, which I still like going to.

Who do you think you got your musical talents from?

EP: My Mum - end of! My Grandad, Alwyn Collister, plays the saxophone and flute but my Mum has always been very musical playing a few different instruments and conducting choirs. I am the first brass player in the family though (on the tenor horn and the trumpet) - closely followed by my younger sister Heather on cornet. Then there is my Dad - he got kicked out of the school choir aged eight!!!!

What are your favourite types of music?

EP: I like listening to most modern music and I quite like Flo Rider and One Direction. With the band, my favourite piece at the moment is Anglian Dances by Alan Fernie.

You have just started with the main band. How have you found it?

EP: So far playing in the main band has been ace! I really enjoy the music and it is really fun to be playing pieces that are more challenging. All the members of Rushen Silver Band are very friendly and are helping me out with the tricky bits. The only down side is my band jacket which is about ten sizes too big.

What do you enjoy most about playing?

EP: I like being part of a group that all together makes a good sound. However, I enjoy playing solos because it is a good experience. I am currently working on my Grade 5 pieces which I am taking in March and also practising my solo Guild pieces.

Practising and playing takes a lot of time. What other hobbies do you have time for?

EP: Well, I play in the Manx Youth Orchestra and the Castle Rushen High School Wind Band and Big Band. I was also in the band for The Wiz where I had to transpose all of the music.

I do tap and ballet twice a week and go to Guides. I play the piano as well and am working on my Grade 4 pieces. I also enjoy sport and am on the school netball team.

As I write this I am about to go on the Castle Rushen High School ski trip which I am really looking forward to as well. I can't really fit much more in!

Rushen Silver Band are spreading their wings...

The 11th annual Borders Entertainment Contest for brass bands will be visiting Selkirk on Saturday 3rd November. The Scottish Borders Brass Band Association (SBBBA) is organising the exciting event, and Rushen Silver Band has decided to venture across the water to enter the contest for the first time.



Rushen Silver Band will be joining bands from the Borders and other parts of Scotland. This is a fantastic opportunity for Rushen Silver Band to compete with 2nd, 3rd and 4th section bands from further afield than the usual Island brass community – meeting others from the brass band scene in the UK and learning more about performing in such a competition. It is also a great opportunity for the Band members to socialise together.

The plan is to hold a range of fundraising events before November to raise money to support the costs of taking the Band to the competition.



Fundraising Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band are holding a coffee morning on **Saturday 10th March** from **10am - 11.30am**, at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin.

The funds raised from the coffee morning will go towards the Band's planned trip to the Borders Entertainment Contest.

Spring Concert

The Band will be holding a Spring Concert on Sunday 22nd April at 8pm at Rushen Primary School. Admission for the event is free; however there will be a retiring collection towards the fundraising efforts for the Band's trip to the UK.

At the concert, the Band will be previewing their programme for the Manx Music Festival, along with a selection of the Band's soloists and ensembles performing their Guild pieces.



Dates for your Diary



Wednesday 7 th March	Peel Pensioners at the Philip Christian Centre, Peel	7.30pm
Saturday 10 th March	Friends of RSB Coffee Morning at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin	10.00am
Sunday 25 th March	Port Erin Commissioners Civic Service at St Columba's Church, Port Erin (Parade leaves the Commissioners' Office at 2.30pm)	3.00pm
Sunday 22 nd April	Spring Concert at Rushen Primary School	8.00pm
Sunday 29 th April	Manx Music Festival - Brass Band Classes at Villa Marina, Douglas	Afternoon
Thursday 17 th May	Andreas Benevolent Society at Andreas Village	7.30pm
Tuesday 12 th June	Summer Season Concert at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas	8.00pm
Sunday 17 th June	Ballafesson Brass at a Summer Garden Party at Ballahane House, St Mary's Road, Port Erin	2.15pm
Wednesday 20 th June	Port Erin Commissioners Summer Season Concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin	8.00pm
Tuesday 26 th June	Castletown & District Over 60s Club at Morton Hall, Castletown	8.00pm



Happy 80th Birthday, Mr President

Band President and Conductor Emeritus, Jim Crebbin, will be celebrating his 80th birthday on Wednesday 14th March.

Everyone at Rushen Silver Band would like to wish Jim many happy returns for his big day! ☺



For more information about Rushen Silver Band
or suggestions for the Sounds from the South newsletter,
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