



Sounds from the South

Newsletter of Rushen Silver Band

October 2013



A Celebration of the Music of Goff Richards

Rushen Silver Band performed a Celebration Concert at Castle Rushen High School, Castletown on Saturday 7th September. Conducted by Richard Evans, marking 10 years since his appointment as the Band's Musical Advisor, the programme celebrated the music of Goff Richards and the Band was delighted to welcome Goff's widow, Mrs Sue Richards, to the Island as guest of honour for the concert.

Following three days' of rehearsals with Mr Evans, the programme included American Trilogy, Demelza (tenor horn soloist: Bobby Corkish), A Disney Fantasy, Doyen, Hymns Of Praise, I'll Walk With God, The Jaguar, Little Red Bird (euphonium soloist: Martin Norbury), Marching Through Georgia, Saddleworth Festival Overture, Stage Centre and Strike Up The Band.

Speaking during the concert Alan Crebbin, Band Chairman said: "The whole brass band world was deeply saddened by Goff's highly premature passing in 2011, but we are hugely fortunate to have the legacy of Goff's wonderful music to remember him by.



"The Band was delighted when, through the contact of our Musical Director John Kinley, we were able to invite Richard to be our Musical Advisor and his regular visits over the last 10 years have been a huge encouragement to the Band and to the training band - Ballafesson Brass - who Richard has also found time to work with during his visits."

Alan thanked the Alistair Drinkwater Memorial Fund for helping to make the Celebration Concert possible and the Co-operative Society for providing sponsorship towards the concert.

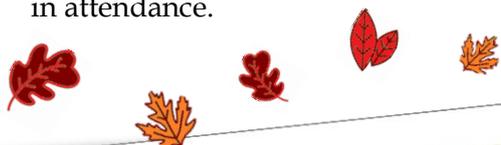
The Band were very touched that Mrs Richards addressed the audience and suggested the proceeds of the concert (£750) go back in to the Alistair Drinkwater Memorial Fund, before very kindly presenting the Band with a voucher to buy music.



Crossroads Event at Crogga Castle - August 2013

The Band played at Crogga Castle on the afternoon of Saturday 10th August 2013 at an event in aid of Crossroads for Carers.

The event was well supported and the band's playing was complimented by many of the guests in attendance.



National Youth Brass Band of Scotland - Summer Course 2013

Band members Ashley Cole and Emma Parsons have recently returned from attending the summer course of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland (NYBBS). Ashley and Emma both played in the reserve band during the course and acquitted themselves very well. They would like to thank the Friends of the Band who were kind enough to pay the course fees for the event.



RSB Annual Bowls Afternoon

The Band held the annual bowls afternoon on Sunday 1st September at Breagle Glen in Port Erin. There was once again a good turnout for this popular event, and a fun afternoon was had by all thanks in no small part to the wonderful hospitality shown by the members of Port Erin Bowling club. The winning team this year was Becky Corkish, Helen Broadbent and Ian Bell.



Simple way to raise funds for the Band

easyfundraising
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Do you shop online? Then by shopping via the easyfundraising website you could be helping the Band raise extra money. It

doesn't cost you anything extra, but by going shopping through the easyfundraising website, you can shop online with retailers such as Amazon, John Lewis, eBay, and get a percentage of the cost of your purchase given to the Band. For more information, please contact the Band Secretary on 493193 or secretary@rushensilverband.org.im

Continuing our catch up with Mr President...

Known to many as 'Didds', we continue our talk with John Crebbin about his memories of the Band...

What are your proudest memories of the Band?

JC: There have been numerous moments... Being elected President was such an honour. The building of our own Bandroom – we have a lot of people to thank for all their efforts, especially Ted Clague who was Chairman at the time. When Tom Radcliffe offered us the plot to build on, Ted insisted that we should have a go and build our own Bandroom as we had all the available trades within our members to allow us to succeed. Cyril Watterson did all the brickwork, Joe Jones the plumbing, Tony York, Ernie and myself the joinery, Bob Fenton, roof tiling, not to mention numerous others. Everybody got stuck in, and with help from Keith McArd & Ian Qualtrough with equipment and materials at cost, which saved so much money. How lucky the Band is to have such an asset, the envy of many a top class band who have visited the island!



Tell us more about your interest in Manx poetry?

JC: There used to be a drama group in the South who performed Manx dialect plays locally; my Uncle was one of the cast. He had a lot of Kathleen Faragher's poems, when he passed away my cousin gave them to me. Unfortunately I feel that in another 20-30 years time, all this will be forgotten, as a lot of the words are not used anymore, so I am doing my bit to try and keep this bit of our Manx culture going.

What other memories of the Band should we treasure?

JC: Over the years, there have been quite a few funny incidents... One occasion in the 70s we were marching to Bradda Glen for the Port Erin Regatta, up past the Hydro (Ocean Castle Hotel) and the Belle Vue (The Royal). Guests in the 70's wore evening dress, and these people were laughing and clapping and pointing at us. Ernie Broadbent said to Leslie Cooil (who was the conductor at the time) in his unmistakably high pitched voice "Stop the Band Leslie!" Leslie stopped the Band and they all came to a rather undisciplined halt. Ernie broke rank and walked over to those watching and said "Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm so pleased to see you all enjoying yourselves. However, you must remember that there have to be silly b*ggers like us in the world for you clever b*ggers to laugh at!" He re-joined the Band formation and in an even higher pitched squeal he said "Right Leslie, off we go!"

In days gone by when not many people had cars, the Band used to hire a coach to take us to engagements. On one occasion, a pit stop was called for on the way home. The men went one way the ladies the other, but I'm afraid poor Bette Crebbin sat on a ginny nettle, and of course all of the men offered her a dock leaf!

On a final note, you just have to look at the list of past and present members which hangs on the Bandroom wall, to appreciate the history the Band has. One person stands out as having given his whole life to the Band, and that's brother Jim. For almost 70 years he's been everything, Conductor, Organiser, Chairman, President, and I honestly believe that if it wasn't for Jim we wouldn't be the Band we are today. Jim still plays an active role, although now he has joined Joe and I in "The last of the summer wine" corner. The band is a credit to everyone, and I'm sure that all the past and present players and conductors are as proud of the Band as I am, long may it continue!

Dates for your Diary



Saturday 12 th October	March & Open Day to commemorate 30th anniversary of opening of the Bandroom starting at the Old Bandroom, Surby	2.00pm
Thursday 17 th October	Fundraising Concert at St Thomas' Church, Douglas	7.45pm
Wednesday 6 th November	Friends of RSB Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom	7.45pm
Sunday 10 th November	Remembrance Sunday Parade starting at the British Legion, Port Erin	10.15am
Sunday 17 th November	RSB Annual General Meeting at the Bandroom	7.45pm
Saturday 30 th November	RSB Christmas Concert at Rushen Primary School	7.30pm

Launching the new CD

The band successfully launched their new CD at a concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin on 10th July. We were particularly pleased that Keith Farrington (Music House Productions) & Charles Crossley (Trustee of the Gough Ritchie Charitable Trust) could be present.



The Gough Ritchie Charitable Trust donated a significant amount of money to the Band towards the cost of recording and the production of the first batch of CDs.



Thinking ahead to Christmas!

The Band will be holding their Christmas Concert on Saturday 30th November 2013 at Rushen Primary School, at 7.30pm.

Our good friends the Meadowside Choral Society will be joining us again for an evening of Christmas festivities.

Please put the date in your diary, and look out for posters nearer the time. Tickets are likely to be on sale early November.



For more information about Rushen Silver Band
or suggestions for the Sounds from the South newsletter,
please contact the Band Secretary – Peter Faragher, Kinvara, 16 Close Cam, Port Erin, IM9 6NB.
Tel: 493193. Email: secretary@rushensilverband.org.im