



Sounds from the South

Newsletter of Rushen Silver Band

June 2014



'An Island Journey'

Premiere of new work by composer Alan Fernie to celebrate the Island's Year of Culture

On Sunday 13th July at 3pm at Rushen Primary School, the Band will be performing a concert which will include the premiere of a new piece of work commissioned especially for the Island's Year of Culture 2014



The new piece of work, 'An Island Journey', has been written by renowned composer/arranger Alan Fernie. Alan will actually be conducting the piece in public at this concert for the first time, which will also involve the Band's training band, Ballafesson Brass.

Tickets are available from the Band Secretary on tel. no. 493193 or via secretary@rushensilverband.org.im and are priced at £6 (£3 for under 18).

Rushen Silver Band & Ballafesson Brass
'An Island Journey'
Premiere of new work by composer & guest conductor, Alan Fernie

Sunday 13th July
3.00pm

at Rushen Primary School

Supported by: Tickets £6 (£3 under 18)
Available from Peter Faragher (Secretary) on 493193

Rushen Silver Band in concert at the Salvation Army Citadel
Lord St, Douglas

Saturday 28th June 2014 7.30pm

Tickets £3 (under 18 free)

For more information or tickets please contact 627742

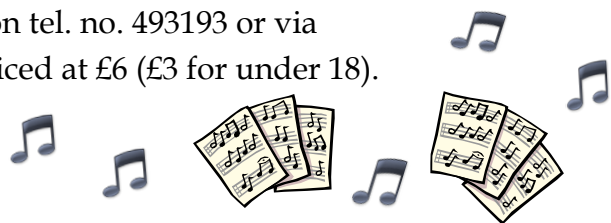
Proceeds to support the work of the **Salvation Army Isle of Man** (Registered Charity No.267)

Rushen Silver Band at the Citadel

Following on from a very successful concert last year, the Band will again be playing at the Salvation Army Citadel in Douglas on the evening of Sunday 28th June.

The Band will be playing a variety of music, with a number of Salvation Army favourites included in the programme.

All money raised from the concert will support the work of the Salvation Army on the Isle of Man.





Catching up with the Boss!

Thomas Sinden, Chairman of Rushen Silver Band, tells us more about his love of music and how to survive a Band committee meeting...

What brought you into the world of music and brass bands in particular?

TS: I went to Arbory Primary School, which had a very strong emphasis on music when I was there. I remember being in year 6 and everyone in the class being made to be in the school choir (regardless of their ability!) as there wouldn't have been enough singers otherwise! My sister Gill had joined the Band before me, so it just seemed natural that I should go along and give it a try as well.

Who do you believe you got your musical talents from?

TS: I suppose I got my musical talents (such as they are!) from my mother, who was always keen on performing music. My dad isn't really musical, but to give him his due, he does have a subscription to NME (that isn't a joke!).

What do you enjoy the most from playing as part of the Band?

TS: Performing concerts and receiving the feedback from the audiences we play for is the most enjoyable part. As our extremely wise Musical Advisor Richard Evans has said, "you never lose a concert."

What's your favourite memory from being associated with the Band?

TS: There have been quite a few. Musically, playing alongside Leyland Band in front of 400+ people at the Gaiety Theatre has to be the highlight. I do also recall when I was first playing with the Band, my mother used to comper the concerts sometimes. She was always trying to provide links between things, and one concert at The Royal Hotel, I can recall her advertising the Friends stall and mentioning that they didn't sell bangles. Mum then went on to say "Speaking of Bangles, the Band are going to finish the first half of their concert with the Bangles' hit Eternal Flame." I can still here the collective groan from everyone in the room!

The best memory, though, has to be having so many of our friends from the Band in attendance at our wedding last year. It was extra special to have a group from the Band to provide the music for the ceremony. We donated the music we bought for the ceremony to the Band, so every time we play 'The Young Amadeus' at our summer concerts it brings back special memories.

As current Chairman of the Band Committee, what sort of things have you been involved with in the background?

TS: There are loads of jobs that go on behind the scenes in the Band, that many may not be aware of. This is the tenth year that I have been editing the Band website, which is just one of the jobs that needs doing, but would only really be noticed if it wasn't being done. People like Helen Cole, Treasurer, and Mark Faragher who handles the music library, don't get anywhere near enough credit for the jobs they do to keep the Band running.

I see the role of Chairman as making sure all the plans are in place for future concerts and events, and keeping tabs on all the little things that need to be done. Arrangements for weekends with guest players or visiting bands don't sort themselves sadly. Planning out the Band calendar is becoming an increasingly difficult business; as we are asked to play at a lot of events. We do

always try and fit things in, but we also have to take account of the schedule for Band members, and try to have a practice between each concert so that our regular supporters don't hear the same pieces at every engagement.

There is also an element of 'keeping the peace' to the Chairman job. There are a lot of people in the Band now (over 60 members including Ballafesson Brass and the learners), so there are a lot of different opinions to take account of. At the end of the day, everyone is in the Band because they enjoy making music, and that has always got to be at the heart of what we do.

Just to finish, how's married life going for you and Martha?

TS: Fine thanks! We've been married over a year now and the time has flown by. Although people may not believe it, we are yet to have an argument (although we do agree to disagree from time to time!). Martha's now on the Band committee as well, and we think it's the first time a husband and wife have been on the committee together. We'll let you know how it goes!



Rushen Silver Sparkles at the Manx Music Festival 2014

(Taken from piece written for '4barsrest' by Juan Wright)

The recent brass band weekend of the Manx Music Festival proved to be very successful for the Band. Not only did they have a number of successes in the brass solo and ensemble classes, they also scored a staggering 97 marks and claimed the Sir Laurence & Lady New Trophy for their performance of John Kinley's own arrangement of the popular hymn tune Eventide.



Overall Rushen were runners up to the mighty Manx Concert Brass. The Band's Musical Director, John Kinley, was praised for his assertive and clear direction of the Band throughout their programme of music. Rushen gave a rhythmic and well controlled performance of their march, which earned them 93 marks and the second prize.

Earlier in the weekend, there were notable successes for a number of the Band's members. These included a second prize for talented cornetist Owen Williams in the Years 7-8 brass solo class, and runner up in Under 16 brass solo class for Eb tenor horn player Emma Parsons.

Following on from the solo classes, there were several ensemble and quartet class successes. Under the guidance of Jonathan King, the Ballafesson Brass septet performed a couple of items in their class, including an arrangement by Jonathan himself, to gain a creditable 4th place. Last but by no means least a quartet of Rushen players under the name of the CRHS Brass Quartet gave a winning performance of Ernesto Lecuona's Malaguena. The quartet consisted of Owen Williams, Emma & Heather Parsons & Toby Crossley.

The Band is indebted to Jill Collings for her dedication in accompanying soloists during the weekend. Thanks must also go to Jonathan King for his encouraging support for the Ballafesson brass ensemble he so ably prepared, and to Juan Wright for directing the CRHS Brass Quartet. The Band wish to express their gratitude to Michal Kewley for so ably compering their programme once again; and finally, also like to place on record their grateful thanks to musical director John Kinley for all his tireless work in preparing the Band in the lead up to the Guild.

Dates for your Diary



Saturday 28 th June	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Mary's Church Hall, Port St Mary)	10.00am
Saturday 28 th June	Fundraising Concert for the Salvation Army (at Salvation Army Citadel, Lord St, Douglas)	7.30pm
Thursday 3 rd July	Flower Festival Concert (at St Columba's Church, Port Erin)	8.00pm
Sunday 13 th July	Premiere of commissioned work by Alan Fernie for Island of Culture Celebration (at Rushen Primary School, Port Erin)	3.00pm
Tuesday 22 nd July	IOM Arts Council Summer Season Concert at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas	8.00pm
Thursday 24 th July	Ballafesson Brass in Concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin	7.45pm
Sunday 3 rd August	Port St Mary Lifeboat Day at PSM Lifeboat House & Pier	2.00pm
Sunday 17 th August	Villa-Gaiety Summer Season Concert at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas	3.00pm
Wednesday 3 rd September	Port Erin Commissioners Summer Season Concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin	8.00pm
Thursday 11 th September	Parish of Rushen Summer Season Concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin	7.45pm
Saturday 13 th September	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning at St Catherine's Church, Hall, Port Erin	10.00am
Sunday 21 st September	Last Night of the Proms Concert at Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin	7.30pm
Wednesday 24 th September	Band Concert at Ballafesson Chapel	8.00pm
Tuesday 30 th September	Villa-Gaiety Summer Season Concert at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas	8.00pm



Thank you to Phil Woodford for another great cartoon ☺



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