



Sounds from the South

Rushen Silver Band Newsletter

June 2026

Manx Music Festival 2026

The Band were very proud to have a wide range of players taking part in the Manx Music Festival at the Villa Marina in Douglas at the end of April. The Festival, or "The Guild" as it known locally, saw not only the Senior Band take part, but also a good number of Band soloists and ensembles. This included strong performances from:

- Addien & Alice taking 1st & 2nd place in the Brass Solo up to Year 6 Class;
- Aelan who earned 2nd place in the Brass Solo Years 7 & 8 Class;
- Excellent performances from Holly and Tom in the Brass Solo Years 9 & 10 Class;
- One of our ensembles achieving 1st place in the Brass Ensemble up to Year 10 Class;
- Matthew achieved 1st place in the Brass Solo Years 11-13 Class;
- Our 2nd ensemble was in the Open Class and put in a brilliant performance on the day.
- Martha, Ashley & Connor from the Senior Band, participating in the Adult Solo Class, with all putting on very creditable performances.

There were lots of positive comments from the adjudicator about the standard and quality of brass bands on the Island, but sadly this year was not our year for the Senior Band. Congratulations go to Onchan Silver Band for their clean sweep of the trophies this year.

In addition, we were extremally pleased that Aelan was awarded the Jim Crebbin Memorial Trophy for the most promising player in the brass solo classes at the Festival. Jim was the Band's Musical Director for nearly 50 years, and he was tremendously passionate about encouraging and developing young talent – it is such a special moment seeing this award being presented to one of our own members.

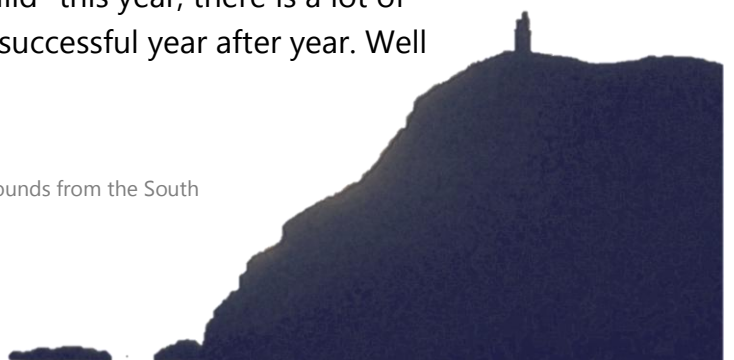
A big thank you to all involved in RSB @ "The Guild" this year, there is a lot of work that goes into making this possible and so successful year after year. Well done to all involved.



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: enquiries@rushensilverband.org.im



Remembering friends of the Band

The members of the Band were sorry to hear of the passing of long time supporter and stalwart of the Friends of Rushen Silver Band, Pat Weldon.

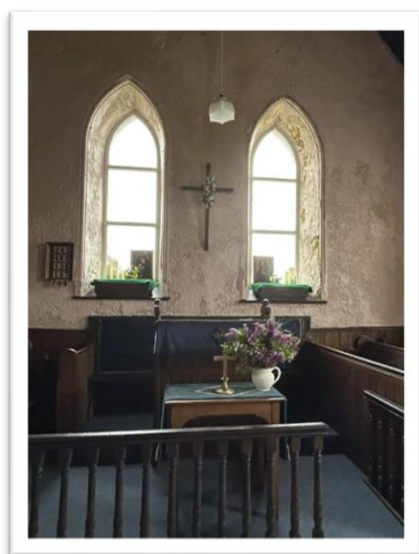
Pat was a familiar face at Band events, particularly Coffee Mornings, where she would always welcome people with warm words and a smile. Although never having been a playing member, Pat's dedication and commitment towards fundraising for the Band contributed enormously in enabling us to grow and develop as an organisation.



We were also sad to hear of the passing of long time band supporter, Keith McArd. Keith was a well known and respected builder, and was highly influential in the preparations for and the building of our current Bandroom in Ballafesson. Keith held the position of Band Trustee for many years and provided sound guidance and support to those responsible for the running of the Band.

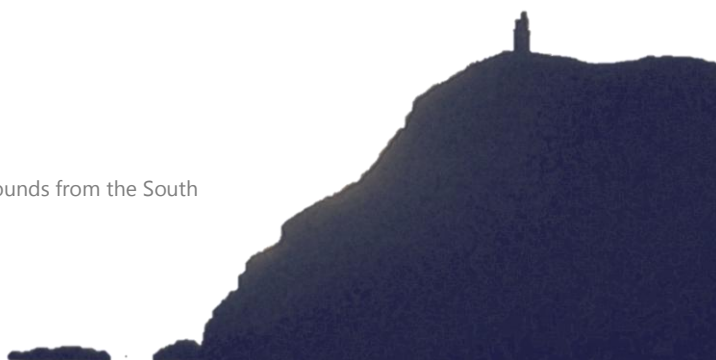
In 2018, Keith kindly donated a trophy to the Band, which is now awarded annually by the Band's Musical Director to the player who has shown the most dedication, commitment or playing ability at both concerts and practices during the year.

We are indebted to both Pat and Keith for their years of service and support, and both will be greatly missed. The Band were privileged to be able to provide a music ensemble to play at both funerals.



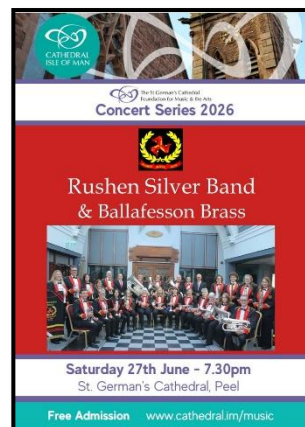
Ballakilpheric Chapel Anniversary Service

The Band have been invited to provide music and accompany the hymns at Ballakilpheric Chapel's Anniversary Service on the afternoon of Sunday 26th July. The Service will commence at 3pm with refreshments served afterwards. All being well, the weather will be nice enough for the Service to be held outdoors in the field opposite the Chapel.



Joint Concert with Ballafesson Brass

After last year's successful joint concert, both bands have been invited back this year to stage another joint concert at Peel Cathedral. This year's concert as part of the Cathedral's "Summer Season of Concerts" will be on Saturday 27th June commencing at 7.30pm. For both bands, this is a chance to collaborate together, with the concert culminating with both bands, numbering over 50 players in total, playing a range of pieces together for what should be a fantastic evening of entertainment for all (free admission).



Arts Council Summer Season Concert

The Band will be providing a musical programme at the Villa Marina Arcade in Douglas on the evening of Tuesday 14th July as part of the Arts Council's "Summer Season of Music". The concert will start at 7.30pm. Whilst the Band have got another busy calendar of events over the summer months, we always enjoy playing in the Arcade, and hope to see many of our Douglas-based supporters there. Please note that admission is free to this season of concerts.

Beach Bandstand Concert

Although our planned bandstand concert for Port Erin TT Race Day in June was cancelled due to the poor weather that evening, we have for this year arranged for a further concert this time in July. All being well, the Band are hoping the weather prevails this time and we can provide an outdoor concert at 3pm on Saturday 18th July. We hope you can join us on the beach.



Fundraising event with

Castletown Metropolitan Silver Band

Over the past six years, the Rotary Club of Rushen & Western Mann have put on numerous Brass Band Festivals taking place in Port Erin and Castletown. With the Laxey and Ramsey band festivals already in the diary for 2026, it was agreed that for this year, Rushen Silver Band and our colleagues in Castletown Metropolitan Silver Band would hold a Southern Bands Festival to raise funds in support of local and international charities.



The event taking place on Saturday 13th June is planned as follows:
2pm CMSB followed by the Perree Bane Dancers,
3pm RSB followed by another interlude by the Perree Band Dancers,
4pm both bands combined for a massed band finish to the event.

The event is being staged in Castletown Square this year with free admission for all to the whole event. We hope you can join us and support this organisation and the worthy charities they are supporting.

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Dates for your diary...



Saturday 13 th June	Fundraising event for Rotary Rushen & Western Mann (at Castletown Square)	2.00pm
Saturday 27 th June	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Saturday 27 th June	Joint concert with Ballafesson Brass (at Peel Cathedral)	7.30pm
Thursday 9 th July	Ballafesson Brass Parish of Rushen Season Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.30pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Arts in the Arcade Summer Concert (at Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas)	7.30pm
Saturday 18 th July	Port Erin Bandstand Concert (on Port Erin beach)	3.00pm
Sunday 26 th July	Anniversary Church Service (at Ballakilpheric Chapel)	3.00pm
Sunday 30 th August	Port Erin Bandstand Concert (on Port Erin beach)	3.00pm
Saturday 12 th September	Friends of the Band Coffee Morning (at St Catherine's Church Hall, Port Erin)	10.00am
Thursday 17 th September	Parish of Rushen Concert (at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin)	7.30pm
Friday 23 rd October	Ballafesson Brass Concert for Colby RBL (at Colby Football Club)	Time TBC

All events are subject to change. Details of other planned events for the Band and Ballafesson Brass can be found on the Band website: www.rushensilverband.org.im/engagements



Friends of the Band Coffee Morning

The Friends of Rushen Silver Band will be holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 27th June from 10.00am to 11.30am at St Catherine's Church Hall in Port Erin. Please come along, we hope you can join us.



Find us on FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/rushensilverband/

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