

# Tadley Concert Brass newsletter

Celebrating 30 years



Volume 1, Issue 1

Autumn 2009

## Welcome

*This is the first of a series of band newsletters intended to keep friends, families, members and supporters informed about the band and provide advanced notice of events and activities that we have planned.*

*In this first issue you can read about some of the band's highlights, such as our contest success, our promotion to the third section and our summer concert as well as information about up-coming and planned activities, such as this year's Christmas concert, the next contest and work on our band room.*

*We've also included sections on more general news that may be of interest to those that follow the band and who, maybe, know some of the players.*

*For those new to the band you'll find a brief potted history of Tadley Concert Brass. You may not realise quite how long we've been providing a musical release for people in the Tadley area.*

*Don't forget you can also keep up with band news on our website; [www.tadleyconcertbrass.co.uk](http://www.tadleyconcertbrass.co.uk) maintained by Steven Brooks, one of our bass players.*

By Ted Shann

## A year of music

The band has had an eventful year in musical terms.



In March 2008 we competed in our section (4<sup>th</sup>) of the regional annual Brass Band Championships in Stevenage. Like all the other bands in our section around the country we played a piece of music called "Four Cities Symphony" by Rodney Newton. We obviously did a good job because we were placed second in our section of 23 bands.

As a result we were invited to compete in Harrogate at the National Championships of Great Britain with winning bands from all over the Country in September of that year. With Cold Ash Band we represented the London & Southern Counties. Competing in Harrogate was a fantastic experience for the whole band and the camaraderie we shared made it an enjoyable weekend for everyone.

The other consequence of our result in 2008 was we had amassed sufficient points to be promoted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> section for 2009. This meant we had to "up our game", as our conductor Paul Chapman reminded us.

Read on to see how we did....

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*"Competing in Harrogate was a fantastic experience for the whole band and the camaraderie we shared made it an enjoyable weekend for everyone."*

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So now we were competing with bands that had either been promoted, like us, from the 4<sup>th</sup> Section or had been demoted from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Section and were keen to get back there. We played a piece of music written by Andrew Baker called "The Once and Future King" and did we practice it.....

All of our effort paid off however as we achieved 7<sup>th</sup> place in the field of 15 competing bands. In fact, if we had scored a couple more points we could have seen ourselves promoted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Section. I've seen the 2<sup>nd</sup> Section piece and it is very challenging [ed]. I don't think we were quite ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Section but we had proved we could hold our own in the 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## Summer Concert

At the beginning of the year Elizabeth Chapman shared her idea of a band summer concert similar to the concerts in the park so popular these days. We had no idea how we were going to do it but set to the task. As a result In July 2009 we staged exactly that.....



Thanks to all those involved that original vision became a reality on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009. We had a covered stage, lighting, PA system, guest singer, and, most importantly, an enthusiastic audience.

Music was themed around stage and screen and included memorable tunes from The Great Escape, Jurassic Park, Pirates of the Caribbean and Backdraft (a band favourite). We were also very lucky to secure the services of James Paterson to sing with us.

James sung "With One Look", "Love Changes Everything", "Gabriel's Oboe" and "Anthem from Chess" with the band. He also entertained the audience during the interval with more songs from the shows and the big screen. The band would certainly like to issue a big thank you to James.



James Patterson

## Musical chairs

During the year we have had a few changes in the band. We wave goodbye and give our best wishes to Ken Saunders and Tony Peagam, who both retired this year. At the same time we welcome some new players that have joined us and hope they enjoy playing as much as the rest of the band. Welcome;

David Warboys - Cornet

Catherine Warboys - Cornet

Jack Warboys – Cornet

John Bartlett - Bass

Ian Holmes - Cornet

Angie Holmes – Bass

Noel Sanders – Bass trombone

Let's also acknowledge the new players from the training band and those that have changed instruments to fill gaps as they arise.

Joshua Hope - Cornet

Will Maidment - Cornet

Rebekah Lambden – taking on Baritone

Finally it is worth mentioning the important role of all those that have played in the band for many years and provide the foundation that has kept the band going at events and practices year after year. Not least of these is Paul Chapman, our conductor and musical director.

## A Grand year

An unusual aspect of this year and, I suppose an indication of our 30 year heritage, is the number of grandparents that we now have in the band. I am not sure if they want to be named but we now have the grand ;- ) total of ten.

## UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

### SILCHESTER CHURCH CONCERT

SILCHESTER - 7.30PM ON 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009

A opportunity to play in this lovely venue. Not to be missed. Silchester Parish Church, tickets £6 (to include light refreshments). Proceeds to organ restoration

### MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL

THATCHAM - 10AM ON 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009

Held in the main street of Thatcham, this is an eclectic mix of styles and groups. Come and support your local band.

### VOICES FOR HOSPICES, CONCERT

PAMBER HEATH - 7.30PM ON 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009

The same day as our Thatcham event but a more conventional concert. We are joined this time by the Hurst Singers at Pamber Heath Memorial Hall in aid of a very good cause.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

TADLEY TBA – TIME TBA ON 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2009

More intimate than your usual concert, come and join us to enjoy the music and celebrate the season.

## Next Year's Contest

In addition to these planned events we will be looking forward to next year's regional leg of the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain in Stevenage on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March 2010. As soon as the test piece is announced no doubt we will start practicing.



For further information on upcoming events please look at our web site;

[www.tadleyconcertbrass.co.uk](http://www.tadleyconcertbrass.co.uk)

Or drop Paul Chapman an email at paul.chapman4@btinternet.com or give him a call on 0118 981 6117.

## Training the band

It is worth noting that many of our new players and existing players started in the training band. Frank Jose has been instrumental ;- ) in keeping this going over the years. Many in the band have and do support its operation providing help and guidance for the new players. We recently moved the training band from Saturday morning to Wednesday evening to accommodate those that have other commitments on a Saturday.

If you know someone interested in learning to play a brass instrument then send them along to our bandroom at 7pm on Wednesday evening during term time. It does matter how much or little playing you have done or your age. We can start from scratch.



## Our Bandroom

While we are on the subject of the bandroom, we had a stint in the summer of tidying up and clearing the area, which was very successful. We are now planning to re-focus our attention on the inside and complete some of those outstanding jobs. Watch this space for news on what is needed and when.

## Where we came from

The band was established in 1975 as the "Youth" affiliate of Tadley Band. As such, we were known as Tadley Youth Band. We rehearsed at Tadley Methodist Hall.

The Band, in its current form as Tadley Concert Brass, was established in 1979 and practices on Monday evenings at 8pm under the direction of our MD, Mr Paul Chapman, in our purpose built Band Room, next to Tadley Rugby Club.



## Our picture album

### The Summer Concert

