



# Wilton and District Band

## Newsletter: Summer 2014



### Summer Engagements



It's been a really hot summer again, and we've been busy. We've played at Fovant and Nunton Fetes, Wilton Carnival, Bournemouth Bandstand (twice), and the Wessex Summer Fair at Wilton House, so far. We have the Wilton Rotary Club Car Boot sale (also at Wilton

House) and Quidhampton Fete to come. The Band has had some great comments on its playing, throughout, particularly at Bournemouth where there is often a knowledgeable and discerning audience! We also benefited from a considerable collection from both Bournemouth events – many thanks to our collectors Archie Barr, Jason Yarwood, Ken & Margaret Bell, Sue Stephens, Gina Bell and Dave & Lin Grover.



Our annual Proms Concert will be held at The Michael Herbert Memorial Hall on the evening of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September. Once again we will be featuring soprano Sarah Best, and there will be a 1<sup>st</sup> World War theme. A list of upcoming engagements and events can be found on our [website](#).

### Training Band



The Training Band has unfortunately been hit with a few departures, but is still progressing, with the playing standard continuing to grow. Three youngsters have developed sufficiently to play regularly with the Senior Band, with a few more knocking on the door! The Training Band rehearses at 1730hrs on a Sunday, for an hour, at Broad Chalke Village Hall – please feel free to pop along to help out. We are also always on the hunt for new players of any age and ability. If you know of family, neighbours, and/or friends who might be interested, please do encourage them to drop a note to the email address at the end of the Newsletter. Don't forget to mention that we provide instruments!

### CD Recording

This weekend (23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August) we will be locked away in a recording studio preparing a CD for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, next year. Contents are currently a closely-guarded secret and will remain so until the CD is ready to be published, as we are recording it behind closed doors at the well-guarded MOD Winterbourne Gunner site. However, what we can say is that we are currently rehearsing a new piece of music, written by Derek Broadbent, specially for our Golden Anniversary. The CD will be ready before Christmas and will be a super stocking-filler!



### Know Your Committee

Just a reminder of who's on the committee. Please feel free to contact any committee member regarding issues with the Band, engagements, membership etc...

**Chair** Archie Barr  
**Vice Chair** Andy Bell

**Secretary** Juliet Cook  
**Treasurer** Sue Stephens  
**Members** Jon Chalke, Dave Dyer, Alex James, Colin Mouland, Mel Murphy, Lu Yarwood

## Planning for our Golden Anniversary

50 years of banding is something to be proud of and we certainly intend to celebrate our Golden Anniversary, next year. We are planning an number of events, including a celebration concert and a short tour. If you are not already on the "Friends of Wilton & District" mailing list, please drop a note to the email address at the end of the Newsletter to be included in all updates as we approach this important milestone.

## Fund-Raising

Please remember to continue to collect your aluminium foil – the amount we are gathering is going up, but we can still do better. We also need to hear your ideas about new fund-raising: if you have any thoughts, please do contact a committee member. The 100 Club continues. Recent results are below. If you are able to persuade anyone to join, please contact Jon Chalk, as we would like to continue to grow the membership. A good target would be a 200 Club! And remember, the more people who join, the larger the prize fund!

April: 1<sup>st</sup> - Ron Usher; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kev Hillman; 3<sup>rd</sup> Dave Grover

May: 1<sup>st</sup> - Phyllis Emm; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Vicki Lobrano; 3<sup>rd</sup> - Robert Dyer & Andy Drake

June: 1<sup>st</sup> - Jack Chalk; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ken Bell; 3<sup>rd</sup> - Jane Dyer

Finally, we are developing a celebration programme to accompany the Band's 50<sup>th</sup> year. It will be supported by advertising. When out and about, please ask local businesses if they would be willing to purchase advertising space in the programme - it will be handed out at all our major events next year, and thus will reach a wide audience. Costs are: £40 for a ¼ page; £75 for a ½ page, and; £100 for a full page. If you have any queries, contact a member of the committee.

## Player Profiles

As a new addition to the Newsletter we will be featuring, each edition, a number of player profiles, providing information on personal banding history, likes and dislikes, and aspirations. In this edition we feature our oldest and youngest members, as well as one of our trainee Doctors:

### Dave Dyer

**When did you start playing?** Started playing at the age of 10.

**Other bands played/playing for?** Played with Woodfalls from 1952 to 1977 (*yes, that really says 1952!*); Wilton British Legion; Downton (as guest timpanist at National Finals); Mere Manor Brass (Conductor).

**Instruments played previously?** Always played the cornet.

**Position you currently play?** 3<sup>rd</sup> Cornet.

**Who were/are your banding inspirations?** Black Dyke Mills.

**Best banding moment to-date?** Too many to mention, but if I have to pick one it's playing on the Albert Hall stage in the 1967 National Final after winning the Championship Section at the area contest.

**Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date?** Arriving at Swanage Bandstand with no black shoes. (*And if you know Dave, and what a stickler he is for deportment, you'll know just how embarrassing that must have been!*)

**Favourite piece?** Resurgam, by Eric Ball

**Least favourite piece?** It must be Hootenany.

**Banding aspirations?** Have used up all of them!



## Sam Topp

**When did you start playing?** From about 6 or 7.

**Other bands played/playing for?** Wilton boy through and through. Whilst at university I also have the pleasure of playing with and assisting in conducting North London Brass.



**Instruments played previously?** Used to play the cornet, but saw the light and changed to Baritone about 6 years ago.

**Position you currently play?** 1st Baritone.

**Who were/are your banding inspirations?** It has to be the glorious tone of Katrina Marzella of Black Dyke.

**Best banding moment to-date?** Qualifying and playing at the National Finals for 2 years in a row. An absolutely tremendous experience to be cherished!

**Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date?** Being chased by an angry receptionist at Cheltenham Premier Inn with some clothes missing...

**Favourite piece?** REM-scapes by Thomas Doss.

**Least favourite piece?** Frolic for Trombones (off-beats are the work of the

devil/tenor horn!)

**Banding aspirations?** Keep working hard and seeing how high we can get!

## Alex Bell

**When did you start playing?** Aged 7

**Other bands played/playing for?** No other bands, Wilton is my first and only.

**Instruments played previously?** No other instruments but do like messing around on drums

**Position you currently play?** 2<sup>nd</sup> cornet

**Who were/are your banding inspirations?** My Dad inspired me to take up playing after hearing about his banding days in Towcester Studio Band. Seeing WDYB in the Old George Mall at Christmas 2006 gave me the perfect opportunity to start and a perfect opportunity for Dad to start again.

**Best banding moment to-date?** Results in Torquay 2012 and National Finals 2012 and 2013.

**Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date?** Dad packing the wrong sized jackets for the National finals and me having to swap with Natalie Tan, one of our Eb Bass players.

**Favourite piece?** Can't take my eyes off of you.

**Least favourite piece?** Barnard Castle or Galway Bay.

**Banding aspirations?** To be Principal Cornet before Uni.



## **Website**

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, don't forget to take a look at our website:

<http://www.wdyb.co.uk/>. It's a useful source of up-to-date and historical information. If you have any comments, suggestions or information relating to anything on the site, please contact the address below.

Queries, information, suggestions to: [andyb.wdb@gmail.com](mailto:andyb.wdb@gmail.com)



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