

*FRIENDS OF*

# *Thurrock Spectrum Brass*

# NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first newsletter produced for supporters of the new Thurrock Brass Band. Its purpose is to keep those not directly involved with the band on a regular basis kept up to date with the latest news and gossip of the band development. Any one wishing to contribute to the newsletter can send information directly to Rose for inclusion. We hope to send you an updated newsletter on a regular basis and appreciate your continued support.

## **Bands first engagement a success**

On Saturday 18th July the band made its debut appearance at a fete at the new Scout Community Hall on the Bonners estate in Orsett. Despite it being a windy day which was not ideal for keeping music stands upright the band played bravely on.

The band displayed its wide range of skills including its vocalists and its team of dancers. (pictured right are members performing their dance routine to Y.M.C.A) Nancy Spence and her team set up the stall, which proved its



usual success. The band played at this engagement on a no fee basis but was offered the hall free of charge for three months in lieu of the fee. This will be a great start for the band as hall hire is a costly business to a group just starting out. We thank the organisers for offering us this opportunity. This engagement was shortly followed by another visit to St Ann's OAP complex to play at the retirement party of the warden. Some of you may have seen the photograph in the Evening Echo in which Luke, one of our young Trombonists also posed with

the retiring warden. Another engagement, which was booked at the very last minute, was for St Lukes Hospice Fete held at Markhams Chase Community centre in Basildon. It was such a shame that the band was unable to play due to torrential rain just under an hour before we were due to play. We did try and huddle in a small tent, the size of a broom cupboard, but after the percussion and Basses had reserved their seats, there was no room for anyone else! That was the same day that many areas of Grays were flooded. The band is going to now play at the second attempt of this event on 12<sup>th</sup> September, lets hope the weather improves for the sake of all the charities that are involved. The Band has managed to achieve a large number of publicity spots in the areas three main local papers. Thanks to Claire Stroud, we seem to have a mention almost every week somewhere in one of these publications. We hope to soon have a formal band photograph taken which will not only be useful for Claire to get another story published, but become the official founder members photograph for posterity. In a few years time there will probably be a few embarrassing haircuts to look back on!!

## Instrument Update

Thanks to the generous loan from Rosemary and John Mann we have managed to make a number of instrument purchases which will get us over our initial major instrument shortage. Christmas Carolling will have to be a case of all hands on deck so that we can start to pay back the loan. A few other members have been lent instruments on a short-term basis, which we need to address as soon as adequate funds are established.



## Fund raising ideas



Any one out there have any ideas for fundraising? We currently have Webb Ivory catalogues in circulation. Why not start getting ready for Christmas and order from the comfort of your own armchair. Please contact Rose if you would like one. Recently, Jeff and Nancy met with the Mayor of Thurrock to discuss fund raising ideas in conjunction with the Mayors year of office. The Band will be playing at the Mayors Charity evening at the Civic Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> November. The Mayor and his wife have kindly made a personal gesture in supporting the band by paying for the bands hall hire for the spring period. Which we extend

our grateful thanks. Do you know of company or individual who might be interested in supporting our cause? Any contributions no matter how small would be very gratefully received. Nancy Spence is on the bandwagon (pardon the pun) asking for donations from local companies. We also require items suitable for our stall, which sets up at many of our engagements. Sort out those unwanted Christmas gifts that have been tucked away somewhere. They will not be unwanted by us! Any one who can offer any information or assistance should contact Nancy. (Contact numbers listed on the last page of this newsletter).

## Join the 49 Club

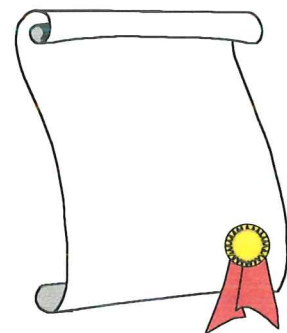
If you enjoy a little flutter with the National Lottery, why not join in our 49 club. Each week a list of numbers from one to forty nine are sold for a pound a number. On the Saturday National lottery draw, the number selected as the bonus ball is the winner. The prize is half of the total number of participants for that week. If the number was not purchased we then have our very own roll over draw. It is a fun way of raising a little money for the band. If you fancy taking part contact Jeff Cave or Rosemary Mann.

Winners for all current draws taken place are as follows: -

11/7/1998	No winner	Rollover
18/7/1998	Vic Peck	£31.00
22/7/1998	Vic Peck	£25.00
25/7/1998	Jeff Cave	£17.00
1/8/1998	Ted Tredwell	£13.00

## Exam Successes

A number of band members took practical and theoretical examinations during the summer. Some results have already been received all with first class results. As those who entered through Thurrock Music School will not receive their results until their return in the new term, we will let you know in the next newsletter the full list.



## Band Membership

You may not be aware that you don't have to play an instrument to become a band member. You too can become a member of the band for the price of a small weekly subscription. Once the band has established a constitution, which John Mann is currently writing, qualifying paying members can then vote who they wish to stand on the committee. There is also the satisfaction of being part of a new flourishing organisation offering a service to the community.

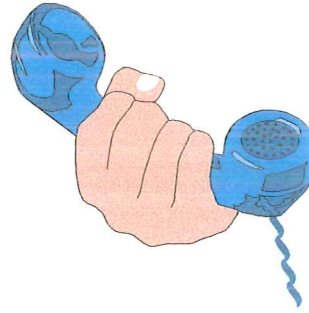


### Forthcoming engagements/events

The bands diary has a number of bookings already confirmed. Some are for organisations that have hired the band under its previous auspices. We have five possible bookings for 1999 already. Here are the main ones you may be interested in, perhaps to come along and listen.

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> September | St Lukes Hospice   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> September | Quartet booked for a Wedding   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October   | Horndon Church 8pm   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> November  | Thameside Theatre Foyer 6.30pm   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> November  | Mayors Charity Civic Hall, details to follow.                                |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> November  | London and Home Counties Solo Contest at St Cleres School, Stanford Le Hope. |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December   | St Ann's Close OAP complex 8pm. Time to be confirmed.                        |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December  | Thurrock Masonic Hall. Boars Head. 8.30pm                                    |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December  | Homesteads Church, Stanford. Time to be confirmed.                           |

Full Christmas carolling schedule yet to be finalised



## Contact Names and Numbers

Rosemary and John Mann	01375 891653
Jeff and Sue Cave	01375 480155
Nancy Spence	01375 408237
Claire and Michael Stroud	01375 851497
Greg and Jane Evans	01375 480152