

*FRIENDS OF*

# *Thurrock Spectrum Brass*

# NEWSLETTER

Welcome to yet another edition of our newsletter. A great deal has happened in the few weeks since our last production. We hope this will bring you fully up to date with the latest news.

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## Thank you, Red House Music

The band was recently approached by Bob Rouse, owner of Red House Music to play Happy Birthday as a surprise for his wife Janice's birthday celebrations. Bob popped into the bands practice just a week before to hear the band for the first time and discuss arrangements. Bob was so impressed he asked the band to perform an hour's concert. He also donated £500 to the band, which is most gratefully received as at the present stage in the band's development it has many expenses on the horizon. So the plot began. With precision timing



a plan was hatched to enable the band to arrive whilst Janice was out. Unfortunately, it nearly backfired as they were running late and the band started to arrive before she had left. Many of the band players were forced to drive around the block for a few minutes while others were simply customers loading and unloading vehicles. In the

end the plan worked well, with Janice returning home and receiving a full band rendition of Happy Birthday; the music of which had only been purchased that week and rehearsed the night before. The concert then proceeded to entertain Janice and Bob's guests prior to their departure for their evening out. The band was made most welcome that evening by Bob's family friends and staff. We hope to see them again in the near future, and once again thank them for their donation.

## Other donations

The Mobil Centenary Trust donated £400 to the band. This was put towards the purchase of a Tenor Horn for Adam Pitt and a Euphonium for Mercedes Foy.

Here are pictured Adam and Mercedes with their new instruments.



Cargills donated £100 to the band. This was used to purchase a smart set of music stands for engagements. We now desperately need banners to finish the overall effect. Initial enquiries for commercially made banners are proving costly, hopefully if the Christmas carolling period is successful we can seriously consider investigating this further in the New Year.

£

Land Security Services are the latest company to make a donation. We have just received from them a cheque for £100.

£

We have had many smaller donations from individual supporters of the band, too numerous to mention. We would like to thank each of you for such generosity. One of our earliest donators was Nancy's fruit and veg man! He gave us £10 and asked if in our newsletter we could also mention that he also does fencing as his other sideline. Any one interested ring E & R Nicholls Fencing on 01375 843871. Perhaps this could be a new direction for our newsletter. We could start selling advertising space to raise money for band funds? I wonder if it will catch on?

£



## Mayors Charity Concert

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September the band will jointly be staging a performance with The Centre Stage Theatre School. The proceeds from the performance will be in aid of the Mayors charity fund. The performance will be a varied mixture of music and dance which will display the talents of many of Thurrocks youngsters. Plus a few golden oldies too!! The band would like to take the opportunity of thanking Mr Arthur Bradwell, owner of Smiths Garden Centre, Chadwell Road, Grays for the loan of some excellent Christmas decorations. These will be displayed around the bands area of the stage. Of course, these are but a small example of the superb range available from Smiths Garden Centre.

## First Annual General Meeting

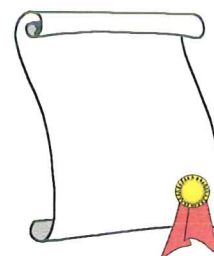
The first meeting was held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. The purpose of which was to ratify the band's constitution, which was prepared by John Mann; the production of which, John is to be commended and thanked for. Following the agreement to accept the constitution, proceedings then took place to vote in the first committee. Since the bands conception in July, the organisation has been managed by a steering group. The elected committee is as follows:-

Chairman	Jeff Cave
Secretary	Rosemary Mann
Asst/Minute Secretary	Maureen Woodard
Contest Secretary	John Mann
Treasurer	Jane Evans
Property Officer	Greg Evans
Librarian	Sue Cave
Public Relations/Press Officer	Claire Stroud
Social and Fund Raising Secretary	Nancy Spence
Lottery Officer	Nancy Spence
Committee member	John Masters
Junior Committee member	Nicole Watts
	Kevin Woodard (reserve)

The Mayor of Thurrock Councillor Arthur Bennett has since agreed to become our President during his year in office.

## Exam Successes

In our last edition we mentioned that a number of members took examinations during the summer term. We are now pleased to announce the following results.



### Guildhall School of Music

Siobhan Connor	Grade 1 Trumpet	Distinction
Darren Mercer	Grade 1 Trumpet	Distinction
Andrew Hornsby	Grade 2 Cornet	Distinction
Sarah Kirby	Grade 5 Baritone	Merit
Sarah Scowen	Grade 6 Cornet	Merit

### Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

Kevin Woodard	Grade 4 Baritone	Merit
Jonathon Tarbard	Grade 5 Tenor Horn	Merit
Lauren Payne	Grade 3 Cornet	Pass
Kirsty Pitt	Grade 5 Theory	Pass
Nicole Watts	Grade 5 Theory	Pass
Lauren Cave	Grade 2 Theory	Distinction
Lauren Payne	Grade 2 Theory	Pass

Congratulations to you all. Keep up the hard work. Good luck to those with exams coming up.

## 49 Club

In the last edition you may recall reading about the bands '49 club'. For those new readers, this is a weekly venture to enable fundraising, which is based upon the bonus ball drawn at the Saturday night national lottery draw. The object is that individuals can buy a number between 1 and 49 for a pound each. The weekly prize jackpot will be half of the number of entries for that week. The mathematicians amongst you will have calculated that our weekly top prize totals £24.50p. Rollover weeks are added on accordingly. The odds of picking a winning number out of 49 are far better than matching three numbers just to get a tenner from the real lottery. We normally manage to sell around half to two thirds of the numbers, this means that some weeks we have no winner, resulting in a rollover. As we have numbers remaining on a regular basis, we would like to offer to supporters not present at band practice on a Friday night, the opportunity to buy in advance a number or numbers of their choice. If this idea appeals to any one please contact Jeff Cave or any of the contact names on the list who will pass your interest on to Jeff. Go on give it a try!!!

### It could be you!

The list of 49 club winners since the last newsletter is as follows:-

5 <sup>th</sup>	September	no winner	
12 <sup>th</sup>	September	Greg Evans	£29
19 <sup>th</sup>	September	no winner	
26 <sup>th</sup>	September	no winner	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	October	no winner	
10 <sup>th</sup>	October	no winner	
17 <sup>th</sup>	October	John Mann	£88.50p
24 <sup>th</sup>	October	no winner	
31 <sup>st</sup>	October	no winner	
7 <sup>th</sup>	November	no winner	
14 <sup>th</sup>	November	Pam Kirby	£60.50p
21 <sup>st</sup>	November	Steve Hollick	£15.00p



## First Competition

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November Thurrock Spectrum Brass will be making its debut appearance on the competition circuit. The London and Home Counties Brass Band Association will be staging a Solo, Duet, Quartet and Ensemble competition at St Cleres School, Stanford Le Hope. A number of players are busy rehearsing and we hope to set the standard for the day. Over recent weeks quartet and ensemble groups have been rehearsing in the front rooms of homes around Thurrock. It is certainly a challenge to squeeze eight adults and music stands, seven instruments and room for Rose to wave her baton, particularly as John Mann's Bass takes up as much room as he does. Thankfully every ones neighbours have been very patient and perhaps we may have added some more supporters to Brass Bands in the process (or not!!!) Should any one like to have a listen and support us and the other participants you will certainly be made welcome and have an enjoyable day.

**Good luck every one**

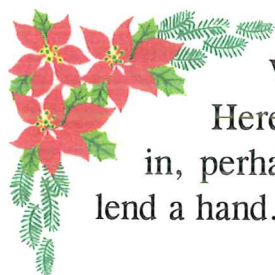


## Wedding Bells

The band ventured out into a new direction on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The quartet, consisting of, Sue Cave, Ian Spence Claire and Michael Stroud and of course conducted by Rose were booked to play at the wedding of a friend of Nancy Spence. The group performed music during the service and whilst photographs were taking at the Lakeside Moat House. For many guests to experience the sound of brass instruments playing in a church at such an occasion is quite a moving experience and a refreshing change from the more traditional organist. The group received many compliments and as a result the Moat House have shown an interest in perhaps booking the quartet at certain functions. Attached at the back of the newsletter, is an advertisement sheet, which Claire has prepared and is to be included in the Moat House Wedding promotion pack that they produce. Obviously with work and personal commitments by members of the quartet this line of work will be limited to a small number of events each year.



## Forthcoming engagements/events



The band diary has a number of bookings already confirmed. We have five possible bookings for 1999 already. Here are the main ones you may be interested in, perhaps to come along and listen or even lend a hand.



27<sup>th</sup> November      Mayors Charity Civic Hall, 6.30pm Tickets priced £5 and £3 for concessions. All proceeds to the Mayors charity. Joint production with Centre Stage School of Dancing. Should be an excellent event. Tickets available from box office or from Mrs Woodard Assistant Secretary.

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.  
Advanced group only

10<sup>th</sup> December      Carolling Tescos Lakeside -  
evening. 6pm to 9pm

11<sup>th</sup> December      Thurrock Masonic Hall.      Boars Head.      8.30pm

11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> December      Weekend of carols at Safeways

14<sup>th</sup> December      Carolling Tescos Lakeside 6pm to 9pm

15<sup>th</sup> December      Stanley Lazell Hall, Dell Rd. Over 60's carols. 2.15pm to 3pm.

17<sup>th</sup> December      Carolling Tescos Lakeside 6pm to 9pm

19<sup>th</sup> December      St Thomas Hall. Half hour Cabaret 9.00pm

20<sup>th</sup> December      Homesteads Church, Stanford Le Hope. Advanced group.  
Time to be confirmed.



Full Christmas carolling schedule yet to be finalised. This will be every other spare weekday evening from 15<sup>th</sup> December to Christmas evening.



Usually between 7pm to 9pm. Any one able to collect with us will be more than welcome. Street Carolling requires lots of collectors to cover as many streets as fast as possible. Other wise the players get cold. (And you do not collect as much money) Its great exercise, come and get trim before Christmas!! Just contact one of the committee members.

## 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
Maureen Woodard	01375 641801
Nicole Watts	01375 378619



We hope you enjoy being updated on the Band's progress. Our next newsletter will be in early 1999 so we would therefore like to take this opportunity to wish all our supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.





# SPECTRUM BRASS QUARTET WEDDING SERVICE

Want something out of the ordinary?

Try an award winning brass quartet.

Celebrate your wedding reception in style with the Spectrum Brass Quartet expertly playing a selection of light concert pieces and classical music. The Quartet will ensure guests are entertained, especially during the long photo session and reception queue, with a tasteful concert programme of your choice.

The Quartet is unobtrusive so guests can relax with a drink and talk with friends, or choose to sit and listen to the high standard of playing - whatever takes their fancy. You can be sure that in years to come, the Brass Quartet will be one of the treasured memories of that most important day.



Let the Quartet entertain the happy couple and their guests as they pose for photos.

Why not have the Quartet at the Wedding Ceremony too? Announce the arrival of the bride in style and splendor. The classic Trumpet Voluntary and the Wedding March's triumphant fanfare is our speciality. The warm, full tones produced by our cornet, tenor horn and euphonium players ensure the hymns are played with grace and dignity. The congregation will appreciate our recital during the signing of the registers.

The Conductor will tailor your requirements to create a wedding service unique and personal to you.

## History

The Quartet started three years ago when four musicians and a conductor wished to improve their skills by entering competitions. The quartet first competed at Godalming in 1996 becoming the champions of that Southern Counties Quartet Contest. In 1999 they will be defending their title as London & Home Counties Quartet Champions, making them the most successful brass quartet in Essex.



Spectrum Brass Quartet at the Lakeside Moat House (Sep. '98)

- ❖ SCBBA Champions '96, LHCBBBA Champions '98.
- ❖ Friendly with a professional approach
- ❖ Full Wedding Service available (except Saturday mornings)
- ❖ Anniversaries, Birthdays, Business Celebrations etc.

## Spectrum Brass Quartet

Discuss your requirements with Conductor Mrs. Rosemary Mann LGSM on **01375 891653**