

*FRIENDS OF*

**Thurrock Spectrum Brass**

**NEWSLETTER**

Edition No 4

Welcome to yet another edition of our newsletter. It has been a while since the previous edition and a great deal has happened during this time. We hope this will bring you fully up to date with the latest news.

## **First Full Band competition**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> March 1999, the band competed at Stevenage in the fourth section at the National area-qualifying contest. This was to be the bands first ever appearance at a full band competition. Many of the band members had never participated at such an event before, so the occasion was to be a valuable learning experience. The band played well for the occasion, but with thirty three competing bands in the same section, the band would have been more than happy to have been placed in the first twenty. Much to the amazement and thrill of the players and supporters, the band achieved equal 7<sup>th</sup>. It is hoped that the band can next year sustain or improve upon this position. As the newest participating band on the day of the competition, the result showed to many that the band has the potential for a bright future ahead.

## **More Successes at L.H.C.B.B.A. Contest**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1999 members of the band competed at The Reg Bravington Memorial Solo, Duet, Quartet and Ensemble Contest at Blenheim Primary School, Leigh on Sea. This annual competition is

organised by the London and Home Counties Brass Band Association. The Band once again put on a good show of performances and were rewarded with a number of prizes as follows:-

**Under 12's**

1<sup>st</sup> Lauren Cave          Cornet  
Highest unplaced competitor under 11  
Victoria Hammond on cornet

**Under 14's**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lauren Cave          Cornet  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah Scowen        Cornet

**Under 16's**

3<sup>rd</sup> Paul Radford        Trombone

**Open Duet**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Cave and Michael Stroud  
Flugel and Tenor Horn

**Open Slow Melody Division 1**

1<sup>st</sup> Sue Cave              Flugel Horn  
Best Bass Award from Division 1 and 2  
John Mann

**Air Varie Over 19**

1<sup>st</sup> Sue Cave              Flugel Horn

**Ensemble**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

The band is busy preparing for the next competition to be held at Bedford on 12<sup>th</sup> September. This is a new competition that the London and Home Counties Brass Band Association are staging in memory of the late Brian Hicks. It is aimed more at encouraging Quartet and Ensemble Entries, with only junior and senior age groups for the Solo Sections. In recent years, all the contests have been held in this area of Essex. It is hoped that the venue at Bedford will encourage entries from bands based nearer that locality. The Band are planning a coach to take them to this contest, which it is hoped will be another success for the band. Rehearsals have been difficult to plan due to the summer holidays. Hopefully, with careful organising and rehearsals at various players' homes, the quartets and ensembles will be polished enough for the day.



## First Birthday Party

On 4<sup>th</sup> July, the Band celebrated its first birthday. With the superb support of Jackie Firman, the owner of the Foxhounds Public House at Orsett, a barbecue and concert was held outside in the grounds. Jackie co-ordinated the event with her annual family night for her regulars with all proceeds from the event going to the band. It was an excellent evening, culminating in the presentation of a birthday cake. The band would like to thank Jackie again for her kind support.



Thank You Jackie



## Havering Entertainment Festival

On the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1999, the following day, the band was off again. This time taking part in a Brass Band entertainment day at Raphael Park, Romford. It was to be an occasion where the band needed to perform well during its forty minute performance. As unlike the usual band engagements, a high proportion of the audience were Brass Band enthusiasts and likely to be more critical than the general public. As usual, the band displayed a good performance, putting other more experienced bands perhaps to shame by their deportment, organisation and number of players appearing on the stage. Four of the band players also assisted Southend Band make up their shortage of players. A busy weekend but all very enjoyable.



# Fundraising



June and July have been very busy months for the band, with at least one engagement being held every weekend. At times, the weather was extremely hot and uncomfortable making playing at times exhausting. Thanks must go to players, parents and families for their support and patience during this period. Also, to the regular helpers on the stall, without whom, the band income would be greatly reduced. Every effort is being made to work towards the lottery grant match-funding requirement. Other items such as uniforms and stand banners cannot be funded by the lottery, so the band must save for this cost as well. Although the band funds appear very comfortable at present, it must be borne in mind that there are some very costly targets to be met in the near future. Nancy Spence, the fund raising officer, is working hard on the lottery grant and trying to seek out other sources of funding. As one can imagine it is a never-ending task. Anyone with ideas for fund raising or donations please speak with Nancy or anyone else on the committee. Items for the stall also gratefully received, particularly Tombola prizes.

## Bands own Solo Contest

In the last newsletter, it was announced that the band was to host their own solo contest at The Grays School in April. Due to difficulties obtaining an adjudicator for the occasion, the Committee was forced to postpone the event. Plans are now underway to hold the event at Grays School on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1999. The band will also be having an official photograph taking by a professional photographer. The start time will be at 12.30pm. Should anyone wish to donate a trophy for the occasion, which is hoped to be an annual event, please contact a committee member. Please come and support the players taking part.

## Thurrock Arts Council



In July, the band was accepted as a member of the Thurrock Arts Council. As a community Brass Band, Thurrock Spectrum Brass will continue to promote music for all in the Thurrock area.

# Exam Successes

There have been two examination sessions since the last newsletter, with yet again a number of band members continuing to meet new goals. Here is a list of the latest passes.

## Theory

Lauren Cave	Grade 3	Distinction
Lauren Cave	Grade 4	
Sarah Scowen	Grade 4	



## Practical

Victoria Hammond	Grade 1	Cornet	Merit
Charlotte Acreman	Grade 1	Trumpet	Pass
Joseph Wilson	Grade 1	Cornet	Merit
Victoria Hammond	Grade 2	Cornet	Distinction
Andrew Hornsby	Grade 3	Cornet	Merit
Kevin Woodard	Grade 5	Baritone	Pass
Julia Woodard	Grade 5	Tenor Horn	Pass
Lauren Cave	Grade 5	Cornet	Distinction
Susan Evans	Grade 5	Cornet	Pass
Paul Radford	Grade 6	Trombone	Distinction
Jonathan Tarbard	Grade 6	Tenor Horn	Distinction
Nicole Watts	Grade 7	Baritone	Distinction
Nicole Watts	Grade 8	Baritone	Pass

# Learners Classes

The recently commenced learner's classes have got off to a good start. Rosemary has a number of pupils now taking lessons on a Monday night at The Grays School. Any one interested in learning an instrument should contact Rosemary for further information. Or do you know of anyone who could donate or lend an instrument to the band? Instruments would be most gratefully received.

# 49 Club

In our previous editions, you may recall reading about the bands '49 club'. For those new readers, this is a weekly venture to enable fundraising, and 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 can total £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 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 anyone, 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 are as follows:-

27 <sup>th</sup> February	Jeff Cave	£12.00	47
6 <sup>th</sup> March	John Mann	£13.00	45
13 <sup>th</sup> March	John Hammond	£11.50	22
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Julia Woodard	£13.50	2
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	No Draw		
10 <sup>th</sup> April	No Draw		
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Ted Tredwell	£12.00	6
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Bartholomew	£12.50	45
1 <sup>st</sup> May	No Winner – Rollover	£12.50	
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Andrew Hornsby	£24.50	7
15 <sup>th</sup> May	No Winner – Rollover	£12.50	
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	John Hammond	£25.00	45
29 <sup>th</sup> May	No Winner – Rollover	£12.50	
5 <sup>th</sup> June	No Draw		
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Jeff Cave	£25.00	47
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Daniel Brackley	£10.50	38
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Ted Tredwell	£11.00	43

# Thurrock Young Musician of the Year



On Sunday 21st March, the Thurrock Young Musician of the Year competition was held at Grays Convent School. This is the second year this competition has taken place and is organised by the Mardyke Rotary Club. Last years overall winner was Nicole Watts, who plays Baritone in the Band. A number of band members competed against other young musician's aged from 11 to 18 years of age from the Thurrock area. Three band members were successful in winning their respective sections. Sarah Scowen won the Junior Brass, Paul Radford won the Senior Brass and Jonathan Tarbard won the Senior Piano section. All the winners from the various categories then compete for the overall title of Thurrock Young Musician of the Year. The band was very proud to see that Sarah Scowen was awarded the title for her Cornet performances. Well done to all those who took part. Congratulations to Sarah and good luck for the Essex Young Musician of the Year Finals taking place in the autumn.

## New Band President

The new Mayor of Thurrock for 1999-2000 is now Councillor Carl Morris. We are pleased to announce that Councillor Morris has accepted the invitation to become the Band President for the duration of his role as Mayor of Thurrock.

## Forthcoming engagements/events

The band is already taking bookings for next year. Here is a list of the engagements until the end of the year.

11 <sup>th</sup> September	St Lukes Hospice Fete
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Bedford Contest – coach spaces available. Please see a committee member if interested
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Jurgens Family day. 2pm

26 <sup>th</sup> September	AGM North Stifford Village Hall 3pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Orsett Hospital. International Year of the Older Person
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Foxhound Pub Charity Night
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Basildon Library. To be confirmed
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Band Solo Contest 12.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Grays School Firework display
14 <sup>th</sup> November	South Ockendon Remembrance Service
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Cyril Suckling Memorial Solo Contest, St Clere's School, Stanford Le Hope
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Tilbury Christmas Lights, Civic Square
8 <sup>th</sup> December	North Stifford W.I.
18 <sup>th</sup> December	St Anne's Close OAP Complex
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Homesteads Carol Concert
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Pegasus Church 2.15pm

## Contact Names and Numbers

Rosemary and John Mann	01375 891653
Jeff and Sue Cave E-mail <a href="mailto:jacave@globalnet.co.uk">jacave@globalnet.co.uk</a>	01375 480155
Greg and Jane Evans	01375 480152
Maureen Woodard E-mail <a href="mailto:woodard.horndon@virgin.net">woodard.horndon@virgin.net</a>	01375 641801
Nancy Spence	01375 408237
Nicole Watts	TBA On the move
Claire Stroud	01375 851497

