

Dates for your diary

Day / Date	Event	Time
SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER	CAROLS AT MARKS & SPENCER FOSSE PARK	11 - 3 PM
SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER	SHEARSBY CHURCH CAROL SERVICE	6 PM
<u>THURSDAY 16TH DECEMBER</u>	<u>WIGSTON BAND'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH SOUTH WIGSTON</u>	<u>7.30 PM</u>
SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER	CAROLS AT MARKS & SPENCER FOSSE PARK	11 - 3 PM
SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER	BLABY BAPTIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS CONCERT	-
TUESDAY 21ST DECEMBER	SAINSBURYS FOSSE PARK CAROLS	6- 9 PM
FRIDAY 24TH DECEMBER	ST JOHNS COURT BLABY CAROLS	FROM 4.30 PM

Details are correct at time of going to press.

THE WIGSTON ENTERPRISE BAND



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The Last Word...

Ghastly banding moment no. 1, oh the perils of transposing, on sight while marching, with a local band in Malta. Poor Dave was concentrating so hard on his music that he marched off on his own, still playing (and transposing presumably), while the main band procession continued along the more conventional route! Nice one Dave!

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Bum Notes

The newsletter of
The Wigston Band

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THE WIGSTON BAND

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Comings and goings

Over the last few months there has been some significant commotion within the band with members leaving for new challenges and players joining to see what Wigston has to offer.

Since the last 'Bum Notes' we have been very fortunate to welcome a number of fresh faces who are certainly adding a great deal to the band. On the back row, we welcome new blood in the form of Gary Perrin. He is brand new to brass bands and I am sure he will enjoy all of the challenges that will get thrown at him over the coming weeks. Also, we warmly welcome Richard and Jamie who have joined us on bass and trombone respectively. Finally, Tim Rupp, a key member of the Enterprise Band, has decided to come up to the dizzying heights of the Senior band! He has joined us on Bb bass and certainly seems to be enjoying the challenges we are giving him.

With regards to our loses, there are two people who I think deserve a special thanks for all of their hard work whilst in the band. After 5 years with us, we have recently had to wish our soprano player, Jack Maxwell, all the best as he left for

Imperial College, London, studying physics. We will all miss the splendid performances he put in on stage! But, we know that he is not gone for good and he will certainly be back to help out when he can.

Also, we certainly should not forget to mention, after 25 years of hard work and good times, Ian Hayto, who has decided to leave the band for new challenges. Ian worked tirelessly both on stage and behind the scenes, also having a massive hand in Bum Notes towards the end of his career with us. He will be missed by all of his friends and supporters at Wigston, but we wish Ian all the best for the future.

So, that is all of the comings and goings of the Wigston Band since the last edition of Bum Notes. Due to the turbulence we have been experiencing, Bum Notes has also been affected, but has been left in the (hopefully) safe hands of Julie and Abi. We hope you, our loyal readers and supporters will enjoy our efforts!



Band of Gold?

Love is in the air

It's no secret that romance is on the programme this winter at Wigston Band. Not one but two engagements this Autumn, is this a record? All our congratulations go out to Emma and Kevin and Leigh-Anne and her fiancé Dean. May they enjoy long, happy married lives. Emma and Kevin of course join a number of couples in the band: Alison and Pete Harding, Paul and Karen Edwards and Phil and Emma Hales. Interestingly two of those couples play the same instruments. Dating websites look no further. Compatibility is clearly all in the mouthpiece! With, Pete and Alison being the exception to prove the rule.

Family ties

Well it's one way for married couples in the band to see each other! Even some non-playing partners have given in to the lure of the brass. Christine Williams is indispensable to the Enterprise Band while Ann Spray probably dedicates as many hours to the senior band as her husband. Children play their part too, and not always as you'd expect. Abigail may have come along with Alison and Pete but it was Jack who got me playing and Leigh-Anne and Cat inspired their dad Steve to take up the baritone.

All in all it's safe to say that even today family ties still count for a lot, at least at Wigston Band, which is nice.

Such a small banding world!

We all know that brass bands are very strange entities, with people coming and going, old friends meeting up after a number of years, marriages, divorce and siblings. But, this tale is slightly weirder than any other 'brass band' related story I have ever heard.

A number of years ago our principle cornet player, Alison Harding, was a secondary school music teacher in Wolverhampton. She loved her job and really enjoyed working with the teenagers who lived in the area. Many years later, she moved to Yorkshire and then to Leicester and joining numerous bands before Wigston Band, remembering her time teaching with fondness.

Also, a number of years ago, our Eb bass

player, Mike Wildman was enjoying learning music and developing his musical skill at secondary school. He joined the Wigston Band earlier on this year and has been really enjoying the challenge that it has been giving him.

However, unbeknown to both members, Alison was a music teacher at Mike's school when he was studying there. Although Alison didn't ever teach Mike, he did remember the newly qualified teacher who had just gained her first teaching job at the school. What are the chances that two people from the same part of the world and same school could end up in a small, friendly band in Leicestershire? This world is certainly a very small one and the brass-banding circle is certainly very strange!

News from the Enterprise Band

This has been a year of many changes for the Enterprise Band. The biggest change is that Richard, our conductor and founder member, has left due to the commitments of his new job.



The band faces its first contest therefore, the LBBA unregistered section, under the baton of Jamie Payne and will go to Butlins in January where they will be conducted by Julie. We are enjoying the challenge so far and are impressed with the work the players are putting in.

We have welcomed several new members this year and the band is richer by two new cornet players, Alex and Mark, a new baritone player, Philippa, a new trombone player, Michael, and at least one new

percussionist, Jamie. They join a group of players who have been together for 3 years now and who have grown in confidence and skill in that time.

The beginner band has progressed too. Its three original members, Keighley, Luke and Alec, being promoted to the Enterprise Band. Tim, Julie and Abigail Harding held a brass workshop at Parkland Primary School and out of that we got two new players, Chloe and Megan Power, who are now learning the basics of brass playing with Jamie and Julie.

We have a regular programme of concerts and carolling sessions ably organised by Christine Williams and we are working on publicity materials to make the band as well-known as possible. Our aims for next year are to build on our contesting experience, to do more workshops in schools and to add to our concert repertoire. In the meantime we look forward to our Christmas dinner which will be well-earned, looking at the carolling engagement list!

Notes from the Editors



This is the first Bum Notes from your new Editors, Julie and Abi. We hope you will bear with us as we find our feet over the first few issues! We have changed the format as you will have already noticed and we intend to add a few new items too. The Last Word... this time therefore goes to Dave Spray in the first of a regular series of 'ghastly band moments'. In our first issue one message is already clear. Wigston Band is more than just a band, it's a lifestyle choice and we want Bum Notes to reflect all aspects of that. We have already asked the players for their news and views and I would like to take the opportunity to open this up to all our readers. If you have any articles, photos or ideas for future issues we would love to hear from you! Get in touch with us on either of the band email addresses. Just prior to Contest and Carolling season, therefore, let's toast the band and all it brings to us!