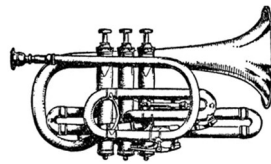




Stourport-on-Severn

Brass Band



Buddies bulletin Spring 2020

www.stourportband.co.uk

What happened to January and February!?

Hello to all of our fabulous Band Buddies! We apologise for being rather delayed in wishing you all a Happy New Year! But better late than never. Not sure where the last couple of months have gone but they have certainly flown by for Stourport-on-Severn Brass Band.

Christmas

We had another busy but successful Christmas season, the highlights being our own Christmas Concert at Stourport Sports Club which we always really enjoy – thanks to everyone who come along to support the band and join in the fun! We were very lucky to have been joined by Charlie Green who shared his wonderful singing

voice with us all. It was a privilege for the band to accompany Charlie and we look forward to working with him again in the future. Also, a very well done to our trophy winners this year! Katy Willets our 2nd Baritone player took the 'most improved player' award and very well deserved too! Dave Taylor had the 'player of the year' award - well done Dave!, again very well deserved. The band are super proud and lucky to have these people in our team 😊.

Another great night was our joint Christmas concert with Stourport Choral and Lickhill Primary School Choir. It was a lovely festive evening with a great atmosphere as we were all preparing to wind down for the Christmas holidays. Well done to all involved and thank you to the Choir for

inviting us again, it's a highlight on our Christmas calendar!



Sainsbury's in Kidderminster was a brilliant place to play at Christmas, the staff were so welcoming to the band, even bringing us some hot drinks at half time! The customers were also so lovely and appreciative of the music we played them as they shopped, and were extremely generous with their donations into our buckets.

This all goes to help run the band through the next 12 months. As you all know, the band is a self-funded organisation. We all pay subs

each year to help with the band's running costs and it's at Christmas time and at our own concerts where we work hard to try and raise funds for the year, as our subs alone would far from cover what we need. It also allows us to give back to charity whenever we are able to, which we have successfully done at the majority of our concerts in the last few years and we are very proud of this.



Busy preparing!

One of the reasons for radio silence so far this year is due to us all being very busy organising and preparing for competing at the 2020 Regional Brass Band Contest coming up on Saturday 7th March in Kenilworth.

This is an annual contest where we are placed in the brass band grading tables just like in football!

This year the band are working very hard and hope to achieve a strong result in

the Midlands 3rd section. If we come in the top 2 we may even get a place at the Nationals, you never know with contesting! There are 2 adjudicators sat behind curtains listening to the same piece of music about 16 times and they then have to put us all in order from that! Not an easy task!

This year we are lucky to have a great piece of music based on the ship 'Endurance' by Andrew Baker. It is one that really portrays obstacles that the ship has to 'Endure' through icebergs etc...., leaving the audience with a sense of survival and bright skies in the finale. If you can, please come and support us on the day! The 3rd section event takes place on Saturday 7th March at Kenilworth School, Leyes Lane, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2DA, the contest starts at 11am and we will play sometime between 11am-2pm.



To help the band in its preparations for the Regionals, we have again been very lucky to be able to spend a day with the fabulous

Bob Childs, who gave us lots of inspiration in how to get lots of emotion into the music to bring the notes on the page more to life and hopefully help us stand out. It's great for both the band and Oli to learn from someone with so much Brass Banding experience at the very top level. It was also fab to get some tips on how we can all improve our individual playing in various areas – first rule of band camp is – practise! But learning about the best ways to practise was very informative! I think we all went home and got our Arban books out!

We want to thank Bob for sharing his expertise with us and for giving us another day to remember 😊



Thanks also go to Langley band who allowed us to use their brilliant band room for the workshop 😊

New Concert Alert!!!!

The band are very pleased to announce that we have a new concert coming up on Saturday April 25th.

We are very excited to be sharing the stage at St Mary's Church in Kidderminster with the wonderful Kidderminster Male Voice Choir for the first time!

The poster is attached to this Buddies Bulletin. Please put the date in your diaries, it would be a joy to fill the church! We really hope lots of our band buddies can come and support us at this new event, it will be a lovely evening in a beautiful setting.

You can get tickets for this event from ticket source, from the 2nd March when it goes 'live'. It is free, but it will help to give us an idea of numbers for the concert. Don't worry if you can't though as you can get tickets on the door too.

Here is the link for ticket source – it should go straight to the event and you can print the tickets off or show on your phone on entry.

www.ticketsource.co.uk/kidderminster-male-choir-cio

Our 2020 concert programme

Saturday 7th March Regionals Contest, Kenilworth

Saturday 25th April Joint Concert with Kidderminster Male Voice Choir, St Mary's Church in Kidderminster 7.30pm

Saturday 4th July Pershore Midsummer Brass – times TBC

Sunday 5th July Priory Park Bandstand, Malvern 2.30pm

Saturday 18th July Romsley Last Night of the Proms evening on the green 7.30pm

Sunday 19th July Himley Hall Bandstand 2.30pm

Saturday 10th October Joint concert with Cradley Male Voice Choir, Stourport Civic 7.30pm

Saturday 31st October Wychavon Festival of Brass – times TBC

Sunday 8th November Claines Remembrance Parade

Saturday 19th December A Stourport Christmas, Stourport Civic 6pm