

RATBY CO-OPERATIVE BRASS BAND

AUTUMN 2011 Newsletter



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Maureen Callis, Lyn Harris, Devon Harris

MID BAND GET A HAT-TRICK!

"We went; we got wet; we scored a hat-trick!" Ratby Mid Band travelled from the rolling fields of Leicestershire to the deepest darkest Yorkshire Dales for their first appearance at the oldest brass band competition in England; the famous Hardraw Scar Brass Band contest on Sunday 11th September 2011 - and came back with the stunning amount of three trophies!

Under the guidance of conductor Geoff Newman, the band achieved 2nd place in their Section, for which they were presented with a cup. They won the 1st Prize in the 'Best March piece' section, for which a cup was presented; and 1st Prize in the 'Most Entertaining concert programme' section- for which a shield was awarded. Both concert and results were much appreciated by the audience, with some giving a standing ovation!

The contest is held outdoors in the most picturesque setting of all contests, at the base of the Hardraw Scar waterfall and is unique for both venue and organisation – for it's hosted by the Green Dragon public house; sponsored by Theakstone's Brewery; and organised by the Yorkshire and Humberside Brass Band Association.

For some of the teenage members of the band this was their first ever contest – and for the whole of the band, this was their first experience of the Hardraw Scar competition; and WHAT an experience (in Xtreme Banding!)? The 'stage' is the remnants of the original bandstand built decades ago (and looks a little like a sheep-pen); the wind was 'lively', and the rain made the music a little damp, but the environmental issues did not 'dampen' either the enthusiasm nor the enjoyment of the weekend and event itself as they travelled up on the Saturday, stayed in the picturesque village of Kettlewell overnight and attended the contest on the Sunday; playing both in the contest AND the Mass Brass Band mini-concert at the end of the day before travelling back to Ratby on Sunday evening. The prizes were celebrated at the regular practise on the Monday rehearsal with champagne and cakes

200 Club Winners

June	£50	No. 151	Stephan Clarke
July	£50	No. 043	Mr & Mrs Sturdy
Aug.	£50	No. 162	J. Smith
Sept	£50	No. 125	Alison Pounder

Anyone wishing to join this exclusive club (there are numbers still available) please contact Malcolm Pounder on 01162386749

Followers in various places!

The band's news, diary dates and press releases are now entered onto the website of thisisleicestershire.co.uk as well as on *facebook*, in various local magazines, newsletters, and even radio! If YOU know of somewhere that you think we should send the details of this unique organisation, PLEASE contact the Press Officer, Fran Skinner. Call or text direct on 0771 2201050, or email midnight_euph@hotmail.com Quarterly Newsletters come out in pdf format and hard copy

YOUTH TO THE FORE

Ratby Co-operative Band is unique in taking so many players from first notes through to Championship Section and even professional standard. This year we see the return of a YOUTH QUARTET competing in the Leicestershire Brass Band Association (L.B.B.A) in October after a period of absence. They will also feature in the Mid Autumn Concert of the Mid Band on October 29th. We cannot stress highly enough that we are, to our knowledge, (and with the agreement of *4bars Rest*. One of the **BIGGEST Brass Band organisations in the world** with 140(ish) players of various standards): and we are immensely proud of our young players. We wish them the best of luck in the contest and look forward to following and reporting their progress.



CONCERT TICKETS can be booked, and paid for - in advance, if required: they may also be reserved for collection at the concerts if you speak with *Malcolm Pounder* on 0116 2386749 (email malcolmpounder@hotmail.com .

Band email contacts are on www.ratbyband.com/contacts



WOT'S ON, WHEN & WHERE?

Latest listings www.ratbyband.com/events

DATE	VENUE, CONCERT/CONTEST/EVENT	START TIME	Which Ratby Band
Oct 14th	Chris Holmes Memorial Concert in aid of Myton Hospice (Ratby & other bands). Coventry Methodist Hall. CV1 2HA. Tickets on door. £7.00	19.30	Various bands
28th	Stage & Screen Concert. Braunstone Civic Centre. £7.00 at door	19.30	Senior
29th	Mid Autumn Concert. Featuring the winning pieces from Harddraw Scar. Groby College Lounge. LE6 0GE	19.30	Mid Band
30th	Hog Roast and quiz night. Band room. Fancy dress comp for children Tickets from Steve Plant/Becky Moss.	18.00	All
Nov 13th	Remembrance Day Parade. Ratby	10.30	Senior
13th	Blaby Remembrance Day service	10.30	Mid Band
20th	Leicester Town Hall Lights Switch On.	Tbc	Tbc
27th	L.B.B.A. CONTEST. Burleigh Community College. Loughborough	All day	Various
29th	Carol Concert. Ratby Parish Church	19.00	Youth
Dec 2nd	John Brunt Concert	7.30pm	Senior Band
3rd	Christmas Celebration Concert. St Mary's De Castro, Leicester	Tbc	Mid Band
3rd	Anstey Christmas Gala	14.00	Junior
11th	Christmas Spectacular. Bosworth College, Desford	19.00	ALL BANDS
15th	Carols at ASDA Fosse park	17.30	Training
16th	Festive Concert. Braunstone Civic Centre	19.30	Mid Band
17th	Carols at ASDA Fosse Park	13.00	Mid Band
18th	St Stephen's 'Carols by Candlelight'	18.00	Junior Band
20th	Carols at ASDA Fosse park	17.30	Training
20th	Groby Tree	19.00	Senior (Group)
21st	Ratby Tree	18.30	Senior (Group)
2012	2012	2012	2012
Feb 12th	New Year Concert. Ratby Parish Church	19.30	Senior
March 30th	Youth Section Birthday Concert. Braunstone Civic Centre	19.00	Training
April 20th	MUSIKFEST!! Groby College. Groby, Leicestershire	Tbc	ALL BANDS
21st	MUSIKFEST!! Groby College. Groby, Leicestershire	Tbc	ALL BANDS
June 1st	Whit Friday March Contest. Saddleworth.		Mid Band
23rd	Ratby Church Fete	tbc	Junior Band
August	MID BAND 15th Birthday Celebrations		

SENIOR BAND

placed **HIGHEST MIDLAND BAND** at National Finals Contest

The *Force of Destiny* wasn't quite with our Senior Band at the National Finals Contest at Cheltenham. Adjudicators Malcolm Browning and John Berryman considered them to be amongst the 'classy performances of considerable merit': and reports from other band players outside our organisation praised the band's performance (it's always nice to get praise from our peers!)

Coming both **Highest placed** Midland band in the section and 6th overall (out of 18 bands) there is still much to cheer about as destiny rules that the band competes in the L.B.B.A. Contest in November.

NEW PRINCIPAL TROMBONIST

The Mid Band welcome well-known and respected trombonist **Andy Ellis** into their ranks. He is also tasked to help arrange the band's appearance in the 2012 *Whit Friday March contest*



LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The following Awards were presented at the Summer Prom' Concert

Steve Plant, for 50 years with Ratby Band. **Becky Moss** for 25 years at Ratby Band, whilst **Jo Coulton** received hers for 25 years in brass banding.