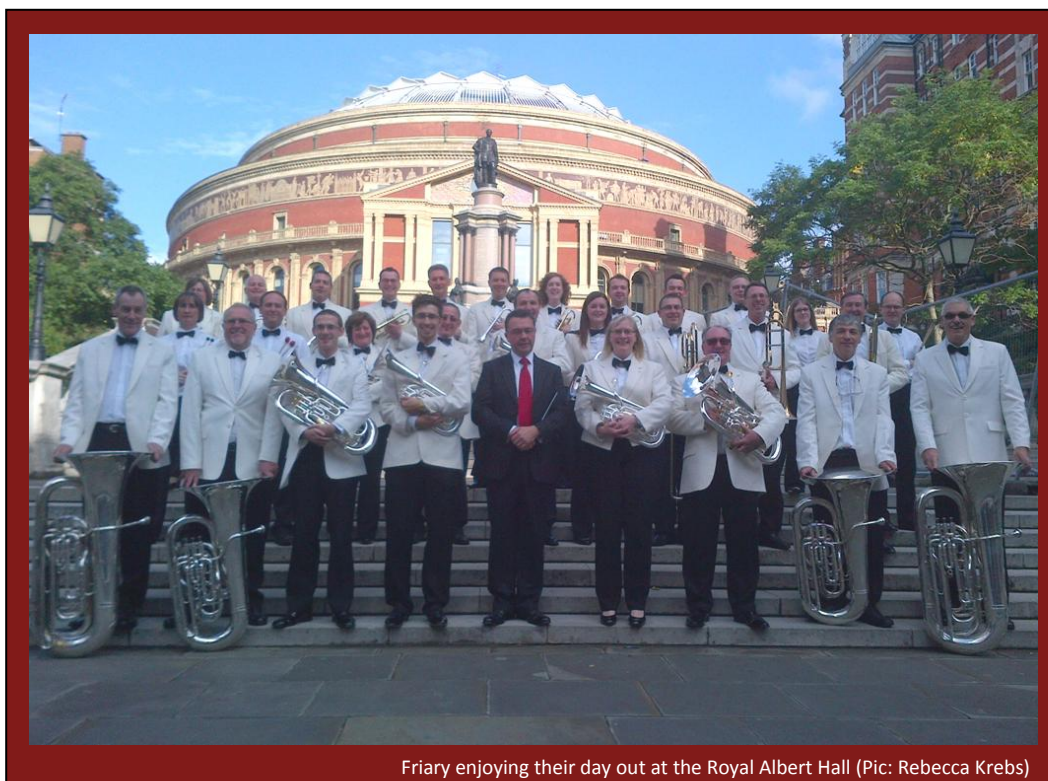




BUGLE

The Newsletter of the Friary Guildford Band

Friary Celebrates 30th Birthday



Friary enjoying their day out at the Royal Albert Hall (Pic: Rebecca Krebs)

This issue of the Friary 'Bugle' follows a historic period in the Band's history. With a first ever appearance at the National Finals last year, Friary celebrated reaching its 30th anniversary in style with a concert which featured acclaimed trombonist, Mark Nightingale. We look forward to the year ahead with the start of the busy contest season and some exciting projects on the horizon.

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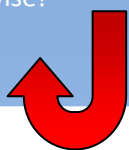
- **Bandroom news**
- **National Finals Review**
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New Arrivals



Friary are pleased to announce the arrival of two new players to the Band. Sue Cave joins on 1st horn from Tilbury to join her daughter, Lauren, in the Horn section and Kevin Cole fills the vacant B flat bass seat.

Sadly three players have also left the Band since the last issue. Val Larue leaves the first horn seat after a long spell with the Band and Tim Gregory has made the difficult decision to leave the band due to work commitments. Kevin Webb has relocated to Hertfordshire and so leaves Friary to join East London Brass. Sarah Persin on percussion also takes a break from the Band as she prepares to give birth to her second child. Friary would like to wish them all well in their future endeavours both banding and otherwise!



Friary's Newest Supporter



Rebecca Krebs, wife of 2nd horn Nick has recently given birth to a baby boy. Edward Leo Krebs was born on 23rd December weighing 6lb 15oz. We will hopefully meet him in the audience at our forthcoming contest at Yeovil! Becky's even made him his very own Friary hat for the occasion!



Trombonist's Trek for WaterAid



Having scaled the heights of Mount Kilimanjaro in 2010, Friary trombonist, Roland Knight will be attempting a similar feat when he treks through the foothills of the Himalayas in Nepal from 20 to 30 March this year. The adventure will include trekking through the world's highest mountains and will also include a visit to one of the WaterAid projects in the region.

If anyone would like to sponsor Roland to help motivate him to complete his challenge and meet his fundraising target, please visit www.my.wateraidfundraising.org.uk/rolandknight. Roland will be footing his own costs for the trip so every penny you give goes towards the vital work that WaterAid do.

Friary Couple Wed



Friary would like to congratulate two of their members, Lauren and Richard, who have recently tied the knot.

The ceremony which took place on 21 September 2013 at the Berystede Hotel in Ascot was attended by most of the Band. The Friary 10-piece ensemble, led by Nigel Simmons, with guest players Simon Tong and Hannah Mitchell, who replaced Lauren and Richard who usually play in the ensemble, provided the music before and during the wedding. Nigel turned his skilled arranging hand to a few requests from Lauren and Richard including 'Pachelbel's Canon', 'What a Wonderful World', 'L-O-V-E' and 'You're the First, the Last, My Everything'.



New Recording



Friary are hoping to record a new CD during 2014. As the last recording the Band made was back in 2005 and with the previous conductor, Keith Maxwell, it is a long overdue project. The main reason for the delay has been raising the funds to pay for the recording company and all other associated costs that go with recording a CD which total around £5000. If you would like to sponsor a track on our new CD giving you a chance to choose a piece and have your name credited on the CD, please contact our secretary, Lauren Straker who will be able to give you more details.

Ranking check

Currently, Friary is number

69 (down 7)

in the 4barsrest/British
Bandsman world rankings.

For a full list of the top 200
bands visit

www.4barsrest.com/rankings/

Remembrance Parade



Friary once again played a major part in Guildford's marking of Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day.

On a beautifully bright autumn Sunday morning, the Band led the civic procession down the High Street and through Tunsgate Arch up to the Castle Grounds. Principal Cornet Richard Straker sounded the Last Post and Reveille in Holy Trinity Church and again at the War Memorial where the Band played a selection of hymns to an appreciative audience during the laying of wreathes.

The following Monday, Lauren Straker performed the Last Post and Reveille from the Guildhall balcony to mark the 95th anniversary of the Armistice.



Festive Fundraising



Friary members went out fundraising during November and December and managed to raise a total of £1134.94, half of which will be donated to the Surrey Air Ambulance. Shoppers at Secretts Garden Centre in Milford, The Meadows Camberley and The Hogs Back Brewery Ash were all kept entertained by the groups of carollers and donated very generously.

Soprano Cycles the Full Distance to Help Beat Blood Cancer

Friary's Soprano Cornet, Simon Tong has recently completed a fundraising cycle ride in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma research. The 52 mile ride through London included many obstacles including hills, traffic lights and irate drivers! Simon, together with two of his work colleagues raised over £500 for the charity that makes a difference to the 30,000 people who get diagnosed with blood cancer every year. Simon would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and support. He is already planning his training for next year's event!



National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain



Pic: 4barsrest

Contest: National Finals
Location: Royal Albert Hall, London
Date: 12th October 2013
Section: Championship
Test Piece: Of Distant Memories
 (Set) (Music in an Olden Style)
 (Edward Gregson)
Adjudicator: Derek Broadbent, Alan Morrison,
 David Read MBE

Friary made their first appearance at the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain following their qualification at the Area contest in Stevenage. Having had an early morning rehearsal, news of the Band drawing 2nd meant Friary headed straight down to the Royal Albert Hall. Due to the early draw, the Band had the chance to get onto stage before the contest started to get a taste of the stage. Soon enough, it was time to take to the stage to a great reception from all the supporters who had made the trip to London to lend their support. Spurred on by the warm welcome, the Band pulled off a superb performance with all the soloists raising their game to the occasion. There was no doubt as Band members came offstage that there was no

more they could have done to push up the results table come the end of the contest. Many celebrated by heading down to the local Kensington Pubs for a well earned pint whilst others soaked up the atmosphere in the Albert Hall, enjoying some very musical performances from the other bands.

The popular winners were Cory from Wales after a scintillating performance off a number 13 draw with fellow Welsh contenders, Tredegar following on in 2nd place. The Yorkshire duo of Carlton Main Frickley and Brighouse & Rastrick completed the top four who automatically qualify for the Finals next year. Friary were placed 17th in the final results which was a little disappointing but not a bad return on a debut performance and happy to have beaten some bands above them in the rankings. The adjudicator's comments included "moments of brilliance" and "a confident performance" so there were plenty of positives to take away from the day.

30th Anniversary Celebrations



Friary Guildford Band celebrated its 30th anniversary in grand style with a concert at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford, with a guest appearance by internationally acclaimed jazz trombonist, Mark Nightingale.



The near capacity audience, including the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Diana Lockyer-Knibbs, were treated to a wide variety of music, ranging from Latin to spiritual, operatic to musicals, film to original brass pieces as well as some virtuoso jazz standards from Mark Nightingale, including the inevitable 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square.' Amongst the players was trombonist Roland Knight, a founder member of the Band.



The evening also saw the presentation of the Band's annual awards. The Most Improved Player Award went to Craig Rickards, who originally auditioned on baritone before moving to Eb bass. Principal cornet, Richard Straker, won the Player of the Year Award, whilst joint Bandspersons of the Year, voted by Band members, were Contest Secretary Alex Stevens and Band Secretary, Lauren Straker.



Musical Director, Chris King, was delighted with the evening: 'It's been a fantastic year for the Band, winning through to the National Finals at the Royal Albert Hall, and we are looking forward to the challenges of 2014 from a very sound base. The Awards were all thoroughly deserved, and to have a soloist of Mark Nightingale's calibre and reputation with us to celebrate this special occasion was the icing on the cake.' he concluded.



Photos from top to bottom: Mark Nightingale joins Friary Trombonists in a rendition of 'So Nice To Come Home To', most improved player Craig Rickards, player of the year Richard Straker, Bandspersons of the year Lauren Straker and Alex Stevens (joint), Soloist Mark Nightingale. Pics: Tim Straker

Dreams Can Come True!



Ian Stewart is currently the Principal Trombone at Friary Guildford. He started playing the Trombone at the age of 11 in 1966, and joined his first band two years later, West Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire. In 1968 Ian's Father, Colin, took him to the Royal Albert Hall for the National Brass Band Finals, where they saw the top Brass Bands in the country tackle Wagner's Prelude to Die Meistersinger. During the day Ian decided that he would love to play in the Albert Hall one day. In 1973 Ian embarked on a career in Army Music when he joined the Royal Green Jackets. This career lasted for 22 years and included a 3 year Military Bandmaster Course at Kneller Hall in Twickenham. It was during this course that Ian realised his ambition to play at the Albert Hall, which he did several times as part of the Kneller Hall Fanfare Team. On one notable occasion he played an Alpine Horn solo at the Albert Hall with the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, but even so he felt unfulfilled, because he still really wanted to play in the brass band finals. Between 1986 and retirement from the Army in 1995 Ian was a Regimental Bandmaster, and didn't play very much at all. However he was tempted back to the trombone with an offer to play for the Horsham Borough band at the 1st Section Areas

FRIARY DIARY

2nd February

All Day

Yeovil Entertainment Contest

The Octagon, Yeovil

15th February

All Day

scaba Solo, Quartet & Ensemble Contest

Burgess Hill

16th March

All Day

Area Contest

Stevenage

26th April

All Day

Spring Festival Contest

Winter Gardens, Blackpool

28th April

20:00

AGM

Chobham Club, Chobham

1st June

All Day

All England International Masters Contest

Lighthouse Theatre, Kettering

More details on all events on our website:

www.friaryguildfordband.co.uk

Or contact our secretary:

Lauren Straker 07974 804394
secretary@friaryguildfordband.co.uk

in 1995. Some 10 years later Ian joined Friary Guildford on 2nd Trombone, finally becoming a member of a Championship Section band for the first time, at the age of 50! He has been principal trombone for the last 5 years. 45 years after a small boy had a dream, Friary Guildford Band qualified for the Nationals at the Royal Albert Hall in 2013, and in October Ian did finally play at the National Finals.

Bugle Call!

Please submit any news you would like published in the Bugle to:
supporters@friaryguildfordband.co.uk.
All contributions are gratefully received!

