



BUGLE

The Newsletter of the Friary Guildford Band

Marching towards success



Whit Friday Marches: Friary march down the street in Broadoak (Pic. Giraffe Racing)

As the contest season takes a back seat after the Masters and Whit Friday Marches, concerts come to the fore with Friary kicking off their Gala Concert series with great success in July. The Band have also been lucky enough to play their part in the Olympics, playing at the Torch Relay and even some players taking part in the opening and closing ceremonies. The 10-piece ensemble has also found time to do a recording so it seems that there is no such thing as a summer holiday in banding!

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Friary Percussionists take Olympic centre stage

If you watched the Olympic opening ceremony on 27th July, you may have spotted two of Friary's percussion team taking part in the epic performance. Adam Bond was part of the dance group during the history of British music section and Emma Stoffer was one of the drummers creating the thumping audio backdrop to the ceremony. Adam said "it was an incredible experience performing to such a large audience and the atmosphere was electric!" Hopefully Adam and Emma will bring along some of their 4 billion audience to the next Friary concert!

Friary trombonist, Roland Knight, will be a Games Maker during the Paralympics. "I can't wait to be part of what will be the biggest Paralympic Games ever" said Roland.



Nigel makes a point during the recording

10-Piece record demo tracks

Friary's 10-piece ensemble have recently completed a recording of their most popular repertoire. Returning to their previous rehearsal venue in Woking, conductor, Nigel Simmons and the players spent a day laying down 13 tracks including 'Te Deum', 'Yesterday' and 'Pink Panther'. There have been many requests for sample tracks from people interested in booking the ensemble, so they can get a feel for what they can do. If you are interested in receiving a sample of the tracks, please contact secretary, Lauren Cave (secretary@friaryguildfordband.co.uk)

New arrival!

Congratulations to Friary members Simon (cornet) and Sarah (percussion) Persin on the birth of their baby girl, Nia, who was born on 5th August weighing 6lb 15oz.



Past Success

If you like statistics, then visit Brassbandresults.co.uk, search for Friary and you will find out all you need to know about how Friary have fared in contests over the years. There are even records of the previous incarnation of Friary – Friary Brewery, which go back as far as the 1930's when they were coming third, just behind Black Dyke at the National Finals at the Albert Hall!

Friary Cornet gets Grimethorpe call

Principal cornet, Richard Straker, has recently had the opportunity to play with Grimethorpe Colliery Band as part of their concert tour of the UK. Richard was asked to play in two concerts at the Shanklin Theatre on the Isle of Wight, deputising for one of their regular solo cornet players. "It was an amazing experience to play in such a fantastic band" said Richard. "I particularly enjoyed playing the pieces from the Brassed Off part of their programme" he added.

Christmas Shopping?

Are you someone who likes to start their Christmas shopping nice and early? Maybe you've started already! Just a quick reminder that you can help the Band when shopping online at Amazon by navigating there through the Band's website and purchasing your goods thereafter. Just go to the Band's homepage www.friaryguildfordband.co.uk and click on the Amazon link to enter their website. A percentage of whatever you buy will then be credited to Friary's account without any cost to you whatsoever.

Also, if anybody would like to use their phone to donate, the Just Texting scheme run by Vodafone is perfect! Just text 'FGBB01' together with the total you wish to donate (e.g 'FGBB01 10' would donate £10') to **70070**. It couldn't be easier!

Hello, Goodbye

Friary are pleased to welcome back Hannah Mitchell and Alistair Richards back into the Band after a break of just under four years. They both strengthen the cornet section and bring it back to a full complement of players following the departure of Catriona McNeil. Catriona has had to take the decision to leave the Band due to her work relocating to Oxford. Friary would like to thank Catriona for her short time with the Band and wish her well finding a more local band to play with near her new home.

Also, 2nd Baritone Ben Dowsett has taken the decision to step down from his position due work and family commitments. Ben has played in the band for a number of years and has also been looking after the Band's website since the departure of Matt Tallamy. Friary would like to wish Ben well in all his future activities.

Ranking check

Currently, Friary is number

69 (up 2)

in the 4barsrest/British Bandsman world rankings.

For a full list of the top 200 bands visit

www.4barsrest.com/rankings/

All England Masters International

Contest: Masters
Location: Lighthouse Theatre, Kettering
Date: 27th May 2012
Test Piece (Set): Comedy Overture (J. Ireland)
Adjudicators: David Read, Malcolm Brownbill, Stephen Roberts
Position: 12/20



Venue: The Lighthouse Theatre, Kettering

Friary made the return trip to Kettering after a solid debut in this contest last year. The test piece 'Comedy Overture' by John Ireland was one of stark contrast to the previous year's selection 'Gemini'; much less technical and more emphasis on the basics of brass playing – tuning, ensemble and style. As the contest came just two weeks after the Spring Festival in Blackpool, there was a short amount of rehearsal time to work the piece up to scratch but the Band responded and MD Chris was able to rehearse the piece up to a high standard ready for the performance. Friary performed well providing a musical account which attracted comments from the adjudicators "An engaging and musical performance" and "There are moments of beauty in your playing". Unfortunately there were just a few too many slips for it to reach any higher than 12th but this improved on last year's placing of 13th (in a smaller field of bands) and also ensured an invite back next year. Thanks goes to Adrian Parker (bass), Martin Beaumont (baritone) and Simon Tong (soprano) for their help at this contest.

Whit Friday Marches



Onlookers watch Friary at Audenshaw (Pic. Giraffe Racing)

Results:

Audenshaw	11 th /41
Droylsden	24 th /37
Broad oak	9 th /43
Hurst	12 th /43
Upper Mossley	7 th /38
Stalybridge Labour Club	12 th /37
Stalybridge Celtic	10 th /47
Heyrod	4 th /39
Dukinfield	11 th /51
Overall	12th/78

Friary headed up to the famous Whit Friday contest on the 1st June to compete amongst the best bands in the country playing their chosen march 'Knight Templar'. Last year, the Band gathered a good set of results, eventually ending up ranked 15th out of 76 bands who competed in 6 contests or more in the Tameside region. This year, MD Chris King was able to conduct the Band for the first time at this contest (Ian Stewart has ably directed the band at the last two trips) and Friary upped their game, improving on most of their results from last year. Nine venues were contested in better than expected weather and this enabled the Band to scrap their three worst results, eventually reaching 11th in the final standings (a total of each band's top 6 results). The best result came at Heyrod where Friary secured 4th place and were awarded a prize of £150. This is the best ever recorded result Friary have achieved at the Whit Friday Marches. Thanks goes to Rhys Cave, Sue Cave, Simon Emberley (all cornet), David Howell, Joanna Cambray-Young (horn), Tom Griffiths (soprano), Steve Boothe (euphonium), Jane Stewart (baritone) Alan Cooper, Tom Steers (both bass) and Helen Hooker (photos) for their help at this contest.

Summer Gala Concert



Friary take to the stage
Pic: Giraffe Racing

Friary have reintroduced their self promoted concerts into their concert programme and the first of these took place on 7th July. In a new exciting venue in Woking, the United Reform Church provided a great backdrop to the evening's entertainment put on by Friary in front of an appreciative audience. The Band opened with the classic 'Blenheim Flourishes' followed with the fanfare 'Ein Feste Berg'. The cornets were arranged in three groups for this piece, either side of the Band and at the back of the hall, creating a fantastic antiphonal effect for everybody sitting in between. Three dances from Leonard Bernstein's 'West Side Story' were served up next with the technical challenges of the tricky piece overcome well around the Band. The pace was then slowed with the mellow tones of 'Letter from Home' before the audience was wowed by Chris Straker playing a flawless rendition of 'Rule, Britannia!'. Friary's 10 piece ensemble was then given the limelight as flugel soloist Lauren Cave, was sympathetically accompanied playing the Lennon and McCartney classic 'Yesterday', skilfully arranged by Roger Harvey (Phillip Jones



Friary's trophy cabinet on display
Pic: Giraffe Racing

Ensemble), showing off Lauren's beautiful sound. The rest of the Band rejoined the stage for the final two items of the first half – Chris King's arrangement of Eric Whitaker's 'Lux Arumque' and excerpts from Stravinsky's 'Firebird'. During the penultimate piece, projected images were shown on a screen adjacent to the Band with the lights dimmed to give an extra dimension to the performance which contrasted fantastically to the fireworks in the Stravinsky finale to the first half.

The second half was conceived to show Friary's lighter side, starting off with the dramatic 'Malagueña' followed by another classic 'Sweet Georgia Brown'. The enthusiastic trombone section were then let loose, featuring in the Cole Porter number 'So Nice to Come Home To', followed by a delightful flugel trio 'You are the Sunshine of my Life' featuring Lauren Cave, Kevin Barker and Tim West.



Friary's Trombone section
Pic: Giraffe Racing

Another Chris King arrangement of Jealousy was well received by the audience before Richard Straker featured in Goff Richards' timeless 'Shepherd's Song' and the finale 'Procession to Covenant'. Again, this was accompanied by projected images, this time from the Royal Wedding of William and Kate which worked perfectly against William Himes's composition, slowly building to a rousing conclusion. The audience request for an encore was accepted with a quick gallop through the finale of the William Tell overture which finished off the concert in style. Friary would like to thank Kevin Webb and Lauren Cave along with everybody who volunteered their help towards this concert both in the background and helping on the night. The audience were fantastic too so don't forget we'll be back for our Christmas concert in the same venue on **8th December**. We'd love to see you there!

Friary's Olympic Moment



Ian Stewart takes the baton
Pic: Giroffe Racing

With the country gripped by Olympic fever, Friary Guildford Band had their own moments of history when they played for Guildford's Olympic Torch celebrations last month.

The Band entertained the huge crowds who had turned out to watch the Olympic flame arrive in Guildford's Stoke Park before it was whisked away by helicopter to the next stage of its epic journey around the UK.



For many, it was the first time they had seen the flame. But for Friary's Secretary, Lauren Cave, who works for

Olympic partner EDF Energy, it was a familiar sight. For the previous few months, Lauren had been co-ordinating EDF's Olympic torchbearers from both home and abroad around the country.

"The flame was certainly a memorable sight, and – no pun intended – it really fired up everyone with enthusiasm for the Olympics. And although it was very much part of my life since May, it was something special to see it on the Band's doorstep. We felt proud and privileged to be part of the occasion," she added.

Pic: Lauren at the top of the London Eye

FRIARY DIARY

- **1st September** **Guides' Prom Concert**
19:00 Herons Wey, Tilford
- **9th September** **Music in the Meadows**
15:00-17:00 Gostrey Meadows, Farnham
- **30th September** **SCABA Autumn Contest**
All day The Hawth, Crawley
- **13th October** **Alton Inner Wheel**
19:00 Alton College
- **20th October** **QIPCO Champions Day**
All Day 10 Piece, Ascot Racecourse
- **3rd November** **Cranleigh Bonfire Parade**
18:30 Cranleigh
- **11th November** **Remembrance Sunday**
11:00 Guildford High Street
- **17th November** **Cranleigh Lantern Parade**
Evening Cranleigh High Street
- **18th November** **Carolling**
Lunchtime Secretts Garden Centre, Milford
- **24th November** **Joint Concert**
19:00 10 Piece with Vivaldi Singers, Farnham
- **2nd December** **British Heart Foundation Concert**
14:00 Park Barn Day Centre, Guildford
- **8th December** **Friary Christmas Concert**
19:30 United Reformed Church, Woking
- **16th December** **Radio Lion Carol Service**
15:30 Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford
- **22nd December** **Christmas Concert**
15:00 The Chobham Club, Chobham

Bugle Call!

Please submit any news you would like published in the Bugle to:

supporters@friaryguildfordband.co.uk

All contributions are gratefully received!

