



BUGLE

The Newsletter of the Friary Guildford Band

A Day at the Races



Friary ten piece ensemble perform on the bandstand at Ascot racecourse (picture: SCABA Media)

As the summer concert season ends, Friary begin contesting again and travel as far afield as Middlesbrough and Folkestone, whilst also performing at one of the UK's premier sporting locations, Ascot racecourse. In other news, Friary begin the search for a new bandroom as their current rehearsal facility at Greenfield School in Woking will not be available for hire at the end of the current school term.

In this issue:

- Latest contest results
- Concert reviews
- Bandroom news
- Ranking update

Help us find a new home!

Friary have received the bad news that they will no longer be able to rehearse at their current facility in Greenfield School, Woking as they won't be renewing the rental agreement after the Christmas term. Just 18 months after moving out of their previous accommodation in Guildford due to a 300% increase in rent, the Band are again on the lookout for a new home. Anyone who may know of anywhere suitable with a hall 15m x 15m with additional storage, please contact our secretary Lauren Cave.

Ins & Outs...

Soprano player Jon Hammond has taken the decision to step down from the Band. Jon, who is the principal trumpet of the Welsh Guards, has a busy work schedule which has meant he has recently not been able to commit to the Band as much as he'd like. Friary would like to thank Jon for his huge contribution towards the Band's recent successes. Auditions are currently being held to fill the soprano seat.

Meanwhile, the percussion vacancy left by the departure of Matt Tallamy has now been filled twice over by Adam Bond and Emma Stoffer. Adam, who has just started studying at the Academy of Contemporary Music in Guildford, joins from Helston Band and is a very accomplished kit player. Emma makes a return to the Band after completing her studies. Both competed at the recent Middlesbrough and Folkestone contests.



It's good to TEXT!

As advertised in the last 'Bugle', Friary are now part of the Vodafone sponsored 'Just Text Giving' scheme. However, the number to text was omitted. If you would like to give to your favourite brass band charity, all you have to do is text FGBB01 to 70070 and the amount you would like to donate (either £1,2,3,4,5,10) e.g FGBB01 £10 would contribute £10 which goes in full to the Band. There is no network charge for the text message.

Awards Evening

Band members will take some welcome time out from their busy rehearsal schedule for a social evening at the Grantley Arms in Wonerh on 3rd December. As well as eating, drinking and trying their hand at skittles, a new set of awards will be presented. Best player and most improved player will be chosen by M.D Chris King and there will be an award for best Bandsman which will be decided by a members vote. Find out the award winners in the next issue!

Ranking check

Currently, Friary is number

57 (up 3)

in the 4barsrest/British Bandsman world rankings.

For a full list of the top 200 bands visit

www.4barsrest.com/rankings/

Wainstone's Cup

Venue: Middlesbrough town hall



Middlesbrough was the next stop on Friary's contest tour around the country to take part in the recently formed Wainstone's Cup, organised by the Dr. Martin Trust. Dr Ian Martin was an eminent consultant psychiatrist in Darlington, County Durham, who, in his will, bequeathed a substantial amount of money to enable an annual brass band competition to take place which was named after Dr Martin's home - "Wainstones". The inaugural competition took place last year.

This year, a strong field of 10 bands took part in including 3 who qualified for the National Finals at the Albert Hall. The

competition format is slightly different to traditional contests in that instead of a playing a single test piece or entertainment programme, each band is required to play a march, a solo and a test piece. Friary chose to play the march 'Mephistopheles', 'A Troika, Tidy!' from Karl Jenkins' Euphonium Concerto and Wilfred Heaton's 'Contest Music'. The Band performed very well, in particular Chris Straker who wowed the audience with some superb playing in his solo.

Contest:	Wainstones Cup
Location:	Town Hall, Middlesbrough
Date:	11 th September 2011
Programme:	
March	Mephistopheles (S. Douglas)
Solo	A Troika, Tidy! (K. Jenkins)
Test	Contest Music (W. Heaton)
Adjudicator:	Kevin Wadsworth
Position:	3/10

Adjudicator Kevin Wadsworth, commented 'Superb show' and 'Great ensemble'. He awarded a total of 191/200 across the three pieces which gave the Band an overall placing of 3rd and a prize pot of £1000. Chris was just pipped to the soloist prize by the principal cornet of winning band Reg Vardy, Tina Mortimer.

Thanks go to Kevin Barker and John Ward for their help at this contest.

Contests coming up



As normal, there is a full schedule of competitions in Friary's calendar and they have recently found out what pieces are in store for them in the set test piece competitions. At the Area contest in March, the band will be performing the notoriously technical piece 'Devil & the Deep Blue Sea' by Derek Bourgeois. Shortly after, at the Spring Festival in Blackpool, the Band will be tackling Martin Ellerby's take on Elgar's Enigma Variations in 'Elgar Variations'. This was selected as the set test piece for the English Nationals this year so will surely present a stern challenge!

Folkestone

Contest:	SCABA Autumn
Location:	Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
Date:	8 th October '11
Test piece (Own choice)	Rococo Variations (E. Gregson)
Adjudicator:	Kevin Wadsworth
Position:	1/3



Motley Crew:

The bass section pick up their award from Kevin Wadsworth (picture: SCABA Media)

The long running SCABA autumn contest has been held at Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone for the last 27 years. Sadly, this would be the last at the venue as SCABA seek another location due to various factors affecting the Leas venue. Next year, the contest will move to the current location of the SCABA entertainment competition, The Hawth in Crawley.

Friary were looking to win back the title after missing out last year. MD Chris King, selected a challenging test piece to play in order to stretch the Band and show their intent on winning back the trophy. 'Rococo Variations' by Edward Gregson was used as the British Open test piece just 3 years ago and provided a demanding test, particularly as rehearsals only started after the Wainstone's Cup. Adjudicator, Kevin Wadsworth, who placed the Band 3rd

in Middlesbrough clearly enjoyed Friary's performance again and awarded them first place with Euphonium Chris Straker winning best Euphonium. Friary also won the best Bass section trophy and Chris King won the best Conductor award. The Band were thrilled to win back the huge trophy to put back in the cabinet!

Thanks go to Rhys Cave and Kevin Barker for their help at this contest.



Alex receives the trophy! (picture: SCABA Media)

A Day of Champions

S Players from Friary Guildford Brass Band entertained Ascot racegoers, including Her Majesty The Queen, at the inaugural QIPCO British Champions Day on the 15th October. Invited by corporate event organisers, Mode for..., the ten piece ensemble took to Ascot's bandstand and performed a wide



Friary pose with retired racehorse Monsignor (picture: SCABA Media)

C selection of music specially arranged by bass player Nigel Simmons who conducted the group.

O Band secretary, Lauren Cave, explained: "It was a huge thrill and an honour for us to play at such a prestigious event, particularly as The Queen was in attendance." Principal cornet player, Richard Straker added: "The British Champions Day was the most valuable raceday ever run in the UK with £3 million on offer and the race named in Her Majesty's honour, 'The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes', was the highest value mile race ever run in the country at £1m. We didn't win that one, but I'd like to think we were the winners in the musical stakes!"

Chobham Festival

Friary were delighted to be invited back to perform at the Chobham festival this year. Music of stage and screen was the theme of the concert against the impressive backdrop of the St. Lawrence Church and the Band were made to feel very welcome by the warm audience reception. The programme featured solos from Principal cornet, Richard Straker (Nessun Dorma), Chris Straker playing the Euphonium solo 'A Troika, Tidy!' that he performed at the recent Wainstone's Cup contest and Nigel Stevens playing Evergreen. The programme also featured '76 Trombones' which was arranged by M.D Chris King, who was on his usual good form, entertaining the audience with his compering throughout the concert. At the end of the evening, Friary signed off with the Queen classic 'Don't Stop Me Now' which received a rapturous reaction from the audience. Hopefully we will see you back there next year!



FRIARY DIARY

Come and see us carolling!

As Christmas draws closer, we will be out carolling at various locations during the festive period. Full details are on the calendar opposite so if you are in the area and want a break from your Christmas shopping, come and hear us play your favourite Christmas classics! We will be collecting for Surrey Air Ambulance again this year.



Next Issue...

Friary have recently played at the Gillette 4 Nations Rugby event held at Wembley Stadium on 5th November. Full write up and pictures will follow in the next issue of the 'Bugle' but in the meantime, search 'Friary Guildford Band' on YouTube to see clips of the Band performing to their biggest audience yet!

We wish our supporters a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2012!

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| 11th November
11:00 | Remembrance Service
Guildhall, Guildford |
| 13th November
11:00 | Remembrance Parade
Guildford High Street |
| 19th November
17:00-18:30 | Lantern Parade
Cranleigh |
| 20th November
11:00-14:00 | Taste of Christmas
Secretts Garden Centre, Milford |
| 24th November
18:00-21:00 | Carolling
Redfields Garden Centre, Church Crookham |
| 26th November
11:30-14:30 | Visit Santa
Redfields Garden Centre, Church Crookham |
| 27th November
All Day | Leicester Contest
Garendon High School, Leicester |
| 3rd December
12:00-15:00 | Carolling
Redfields Garden Centre, Church Crookham |
| 4th December
14:00-16:00 | British Heart Foundation Concert
Park Barn Day Centre, Guildford |
| 10th December
11:00-15:00 | Christmas Fun Day
Secretts Garden Centre, Milford |
| 11th December
11:00-15:00 | Radio Lion Carol Service
Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford |
| 14th December
18:00-21:00 | Carolling
Meadows Shopping Centre, Camberley |
| 24th December
11:00-15:00 | Carolling
Hogs Back Brewery, Guildford |

More details on all events on our website:

www.friaryguildfordband.co.uk

Or contact our secretary:

Lauren Cave 07974 804394

secretary@friaryguildfordband.co.uk

Bugle Call!

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

supporters@friaryguildfordband.co.uk

All contributions are gratefully received!

