



Cornwall Youth Brass Band

Band Brest an Yowynkneth Kernow

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2015 – 60th Anniversary Year

NEW CHAIRMAN

Following the resignation of long serving Chairman Leonard Adams, the Trustees of the Band are pleased to welcome Brian Minear as the new Chairman of the Cornwall Youth Brass Band. Brian joined the Band as a young cornet player not long after its formation and took part in the first Residential Course of the Band in 1959, attending nine Courses in all. Since then he has maintained an active connection with the Band, for many years helping the young musicians of the Band as a Tutor, and taking the role of Senior Tutor from 2008 to 2011.

In addition to existing Vice Chairman, James Gore, the Trustees have appointed a second Vice Chairman, Matthew Julian. As a young Trustee, Matthew is tasked with the particular role of maintaining a close liaison, on behalf of the Trustees, with the musicians of the Band.

FROM LES NEISH

'I would just like to say a huge thank you to everybody involved with the Cornwall Youth Brass Band. Words really can't express how grateful I am for the opportunity to conduct the band and we really did put on a great show! I had a "smashing" time and it was great to see the band has gone from strength to strength since I was last with you in 2008. Thanks to all the tutors for preparing the band so well and the helpers and catering staff who work tirelessly throughout the course. I must also pass on a personal thanks to Alan Pope who was a great help in preparing the programme and also looking after me on the course. He is without question a fantastic asset to the Youth Band and a real driving force for Youth Banding in Cornwall. It was

lovely to spend time with you and thanks again for allowing me to work with the band on the Christmas Course. Finally and by no means least I must say a huge thank you to all of the players of the band. The most amazing thing for me was not the incredible talent in the band but the wonderful spirit and friendship that all of the members have. It is truly a family and I feel very honoured to have been part of it on this course. I sincerely hope it isn't 6 years until I'm back with you all again!!

Les

FROM 4BARSREST

Taylor made Bestowal celebrates Royal Trophy

A brand new tenor horn concerto with a royal connection has been given a thrilling world premiere in Cornwall recently by Lowenna Taylor.

The 100th anniversary of the presentation of the only brass band trophy to have the official seal of royal patronage has been commemorated by the recent premiere of a tenor horn concerto in Cornwall. 'Bestowal of a Century' was commissioned by Lowenna Taylor, and was funded through her Harry Mortimer Trust award which she was presented with at the 2013 British Open Championship following the completion of her studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music in Cardiff. Written by her friend and fellow Cornish expat Christopher Bond the 15 minute work received its world premiere at the Cornwall Youth Band end of course concert in Newquay at Christmas.

The 'Bestowal' refers to the presentation of the Royal Trophy by the then Prince of Wales (who also happens to be the Duke of Cornwall) to the famous West of England Bandsman's Festival in Bugle in 1913. Over the years it has been won by some of the greatest names in brass banding, including Black Dyke and Munn & Feltons – although more recently it has become a wonderful open festival that includes sections for local bands as well as visitors from all over the banding globe.

"Having grown up taking part in the contest, I wanted to give something back and celebrate my Cornish heritage," Lowenna told 4BR. "The trophy is unique,

so to celebrate its 100th anniversary with the concerto seemed the best way I could do it.” Lowenna also knew the right person to compose the concerto for her – and Chris was delighted to write the demanding work to showcase his great friend’s talents.

He told 4BR: “Lowenna is a wonderful player and she gave me free rein! Having played together in the Cornwall Youth Band, I knew just what would work, so there are little motifs and themes of the contest and of Cornish music, but most of all it is a work that showcases a fabulous player.” The performance of the concerto also coincided with the news that the famous trophy will once again receive direct royal support, as the current Prince of Wales has agreed to become the Festival’s patron once more. “That made the premiere even more special,” Lowenna added. “My mum helped to get the ball rolling on regaining the royal support for the contest, so to be able to give the performance of the concerto knowing that was a great thrill.” Chris and Lowenna now hope that the work will be taken up by other leading tenor horn players, with the possibility of it being recorded in the near future.

With thanks to © 4barsrest. www.4barsrest.com

THE CHAIRMAN OF CORNWALL COUNCIL

After attended the Christmas Concert and wrote the following on his Council Blog:

“ Jean and I were very fortunate in having an invitation to attend the Cornwall Youth Brass Band Gala Concert held in St Michael’s Church Newquay. In a word it was fabulous. The enthusiasm, dedication and commitment of the young people shone through. The standard was amazing and its little wonder that here in Cornwall we have the best brass bands in the World. I do not say this lightly why else do others keep poaching our best conductors and composers? Fortunately for us they jump at every opportunity to return to Cornwall hence in Newquay we were enthralled by having the ‘Best of Cornwall’ coached and conducted by the best from Cornwall.

I understand that this year is the 60th anniversary of C.Y.B.B. and they are organising concerts later in the year. Having now had the opportunity to see them my fear is that it will be really difficult to get a seat! These young people epitomise the best of all that Cornwall has to offer. They clearly demonstrate just how great the majority of our young people are and we must do all we can to support them.”

John Wood

A CD OF THE CHRISTMAS GALA CONCERT is available from PM Sound, 01872 263300. The Annual CYBB Band photograph can be ordered from the Secretary, as well as a photograph of the Bass Section with Les Neish.

EASTER OPEN DAY AND AUDITIONS.

There is an open Invitation to anyone interested to come and see the Band in action at our Open and Audition Day & Rehearsal on Saturday 4th April 2015, between 2pm and 4pm. This will take place as part of our Easter Course at Truro High School for Girls, Falmouth Road, Truro TR1 2HU.

- See the band rehearse with Philip Harper, Conductor of the Cory Band, graded No.1 in the World.
- Meet the Tutors and Trustees
- See what the School is like – and where they would eat and sleep on a Course

We will also be holding Auditions for new musicians during the afternoon, for those wishing to join for our next season in September. We have another exciting season lined up and hope that you will encourage many of your friends to join you in the Band, you know how good it is, so why not tell them. There is nothing like personal recommendation, so over to you. More information about the Band, joining details and Auditions on our Web Site for them, www.cybb.co.uk

EASTER 60th ANNIVERSARY REUNION, REHEARSAL and EXHIBITION

We are inviting all previous members of the Band to a Reunion Evening at 7pm on Saturday 4th April at Truro High School for Girls.

There will also be an Exhibition of items from our Archives, including photographs, letters, and programmes. A Buffet will be served during the evening and friends and present musicians will also be welcome.

Any previous member is also invited to bring their Instrument and sit in with the Band from 6pm as they rehearse with Philip Harper.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Easter 2015 Course is the 60th Anniversary Course of the Band, and will run from Friday 3rd April to Monday 6th April. The Gala Concert on Monday 6th April at 7pm will include the World Premiere of a new piece by Philip Harper, The Mermaid of Zennor, commissioned by us to mark the Anniversary, aided by the generous legacy received from Dennis Arbon MBE. Phillip, who, as well as a noted composer, is Musical Director of the Cory Band, will be joining us as Guest Conductor, his fourth visit to the Band. At Christmas 2015 we will welcome back Michael Fowles, Musical Director of the Foden's Band, as Guest Conductor and their Principal Trombone, John Barber as Guest Soloist. The Course will be on the usual dates, Saturday 27th to Tuesday 30th December. Gala Concert Tuesday 30th December 7pm. At Easter 2016 we will be joined by the young Welsh Composer and Conductor Tom Davoren.

CYBB CATERING SITUATION VACANT

After 16 years as our Caterer and cooking for our Courses, Jim Gore will be stepping down from that position after the Easter 2016 Course. The Trustees would welcome interest from any suitably experienced person to take over this honorary role. It involves four full days at Christmas and Easter cooking breakfast, lunch and supper for up to 90 hungry young musicians and helpers, with Menu planning and food purchasing prior to the Courses. The Caterer is backed by a willing team of helpers and will need to have professional catering experience cooking for these numbers, with the relevant Health & Hygiene and DBS (ex CRB) Certificates. Please contact the CYBB Secretary in the first instance for further details.

CORNWALL CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY

The CYBB is a Member of the Cornwall Children's University, a national project which celebrates the involvement of young people between the ages of 5 and 14 in out of School learning activities. There are Bronze, Silver and Gold Certificates to be achieved and hours spent at CYBB Rehearsals and Courses soon count towards these Certificates. Two of our Musicians, Sarah Wilton and Harrison Farbrace, have already received Bronze Awards. The hours are recorded in a Passport available from Phillip. Full details of the scheme are available on their Web Site at, www.cornwall.gov.uk/cornwallcu.

TWITTER

Our successful Twitter Account continues to build up an impressive list of followers, over 800 at the moment, including many well known names in the brass band world. The address is @Thecybb. Please follow it and make use of it as much as you can.

FRIENDS OF THE CORNWALL YOUTH BRASS BAND

We are always pleased to welcome new Friends of the Band, even though everyone connected to the Band is a Volunteer, we still need to ensure a regular income to continue our work for your benefit. Please ask Relatives or anyone you know to consider helping us in this way. Our formal details about the Scheme are below.

Why not become a Friend of the Cornwall Youth Brass Band, which is a self-funding charity? 100% of every £1 you donate will help our young musicians. All our trustees and local tutors give their time to the band entirely without charge.

It is an expensive business running two four-day residential courses for the band, directed by eminent conductors, one at Christmas and one at Easter, to say nothing of the cost of music, percussion instruments and other essentials. We are, therefore, always grateful for donations to help us provide the best possible and most stimulating musical experiences we can for our young musicians.

Ways in which you can be a Friend

- Set up a standing order
- Make a one-off donation
- Make a gift aid declaration, if you are a UK taxpayer, and enable us to claim 25p from the government for every £1 you donate at no cost to you.

As a Friend, you will be entitled to receive our email Winter and Summer Newsletters to keep you up to date with news about the band and its activities. Your donation will be acknowledged in our Concert Programmes. Full details of how to make a donation can be found on the CYBB Web Site, www.cybb.co.uk

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CYBB is on our Web Site, www.cybb.co.uk Twitter, @Thecybb.

CONTACTS

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Please pass this Newsletter on to anyone else you feel may be interested