



Just a Note Issue 1

ANDOVER TOWN BAND

A Flying Start

The chances are that if you are reading this article you may have already contributed to the successful re-launch of the Andover Town Band, after many decades of lying dormant. The tremendous amount of support shown by many people has been overwhelming, and it was very gratifying to see 49 musicians and supporters turnout for the very first rehearsal evening. This included some 38 players, from the very youngest beginner through to the more mature and experienced players. Indeed at one point the band manager had to go in search of more chairs to cater for the numbers. The fantastic turnout was proof that one of the main driving forces behind the reformation - 'banding for all' was a well-received concept.

It is believed the original Andover Town Band formed some time in the 19th century, although an exact date cannot yet be established. The band was certainly in existence in 1893, playing for the celebrations of the Royal Wedding of George V and Queen Mary. The picture to the right shows the band in the 1930s, with rather splendid military style uniforms and peaked caps. A couple of decades later the band also played in the town for the VJ celebrations in 1945. If you have any further knowledge of the history of ATB please do get in contact with the band, who would be delighted to hear from you.



The reformed ATB held its first rehearsal at the Mitutoyo offices in Andover on Tues 2nd Nov 2010. Musical Director Steve Large put the band through its paces with a variety of challenging music. Last month at the Pride of Andover Awards Steve was a worthy winner of the Contribution to the Arts category, for 25 years service to brass bands, so the future is of ATB is in very good musical hands! The band aims to provide an opportunity for all musicians to reach their potential, irrespective of their standard.

A Most Generous Sponsor - Mitutoyo

The successful re-launch of ATB would not have been possible without the fantastic support shown by Mitutoyo, who have offered rooms at their Andover offices at West Portway for rehearsals, and a sponsorship deal that enables the band to establish itself far quicker than it had ever imagined was possible. Mitutoyo established its UK business in 1980 and has grown from strength to strength; helping to ensure Mitutoyo is at the top of the metrology industry worldwide.

Help raise funds for ATB for free

Please visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/andovertb to find out how you can donate up to 15% of your online purchases to Andover Town Band!! You can now support your chosen cause for free when shopping online with over 2000 popular retailers, including Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, HMV, Vodafone, DELL, The Body Shop, PLAY.com, Interflora, Comet and many more. Raise funds for your chosen cause when you search the Web with easysearch - the best results from Yahoo!, Bing and Ask.com in one simple search <http://andovertb.easysearch.org.uk>



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ATB Remembers

On 14th Nov 2010 ATB was delighted to be invited to play at the Remembrance Service at the St Peters Church, Over Wallop for its very first public performance. A packed church was entertained before the service started, with the band providing accompaniment for the hymns during the Service. The magnificent acoustics of the church lent itself to the mellow sounds of a brass band, and numerous people from the congregation complimented the band on the warmth of sound and high standard of musicianship. 9-year-old ATB member James Wallace was official photographer for the day!



Get Festive for a Fiver

Join ATB and get in the Festive mood, at John Hanson School at 7pm on the 18th Dec 2010. All tickets are just £5, so bring your family and friends along to enjoy your favourite Christmas tunes. Tickets are available at Waterstones in Andover or by phoning 01264 324 056. The Testway Youth Football League has very kindly sponsored this concert.

Keep your eyes peeled, and listen out for the sounds of ATB in the run up to Christmas – the diary is filling up and we will be performing at various events in and around Andover.

Friends of the Band

The running of a brass band is a very expensive activity and at ATB all playing members pay subscriptions to help with the running costs. On top of this the band raises money in a variety of ways. The band has been very fortunate to receive many donations from individuals who wanted to support the band. Subsequently ATB are pleased to announce the Friends of Andover Town Band Scheme. Friends will receive regular communications, including this newsletter, discounted tickets, advance notice of events and so on. If you are interested please contact friends@andovertownband.co.uk

Plea for Instruments

ATB has reformed without owning any instruments. The band would be very interested to hear from anybody who may have an instrument that would be willing to donate to allow a beginner to start his or her musical journey with ATB.

Let us entertain you

If you have a requirement for a brass band at an event in 2011 ATB would welcome enquiries. Be it a summer fete, a wedding or a formal concert would be more than happy to discuss your requirements with you. Please contact info@andovertownband.co.uk