



Just a Note Issue 16

Andover Town Band

Since you heard from us last, the band's been busy music-making locally, regionally, and internationally!

Pride of Andover...

On the 2nd November 2015, the reformed Andover Town Band celebrated its fifth birthday! Our short history has included many special achievements including two tours, playing at the Lord Mayors Parade, and various contesting successes. However it was attending as finalists at the Pride of Andover Awards, on the anniversary of our formation, which remains our proudest moment so far. Without the support of players, volunteers, followers, and especially the local community, we would not have had such a fabulous start to a legacy of local brass banding and it was an honour to be recognised for everyone's hard work.



Wessex Contest wins...



In November, the Town Band headed down to the Bournemouth Life Centre to participate in the annual Wessex Winter Contest. The band delivered a highly commendable performance of Edward Gregson's *The Plantagenet's*, a technically challenging piece which portrays the times of the Plantagenet Dynasty- complete with middle age fanfares and lyrical solos from the Solo Horn and Principal Cornet. Consequently, the band were

delighted to be awarded with three awards: Best Cornet player of all sections (Adrian Wallace), Best trombone section (Scott Stewart, Alex Elmslie and Lesley Wallace), and 2nd Section Champions!

Similarly, the young members of the Youth Band were equally successful in the Wessex Youth Band Contest at Downton School on 30th January. The youth band entered both the Training band and the Youth ensemble, delivering enjoyable performances of a variety of different pieces from all moods and genres. The hard work in the preceding rehearsals certainly paid off with Marine Captain Hairsine awarding us with best Youth Ensemble and Training Band, best bass section, best instrumentalist (Adam Large- Cornet), and best soloist (Jenna Wallace- Tenor Horn). Well done to all the youngsters who took part!



Christmas 2015:

Christmas, as ever, was certainly a busy period for the band. Regular carolling in various supermarkets and parts of the town not only raised funds for Andover Town Band and other local charities, but helped spread Christmas cheer to the local community. Particularly enjoyable was our annual Christmas concert at St Michael's church; the band played a collection of traditional carol arrangements followed by more contemporary numbers (as well as an appearance from Father Christmas!). Equally enjoyable was playing at a moving carol service at the Andover Baptist Church, providing a moment of reflection on the true meaning of Christmas. The season was





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rounded off with an informal concert in the Chantry Centre which saw the return of many ex-members and provided entertainment to all those last minute shoppers.

The Mermaid of Zennor

This year's Second Section Regional Championship test piece was titled the Mermaid of Zennor, based on a Cornish legend- an unknown young lady attends a church just off Zennor cove and falls in love with Matthew Trewella, the villagers discover that this young lady is a mermaid and chase her to the sea where she and Trewella swim away, never to be seen again. Prior to the contest, Andover Town Band held a concert dedicated to music inspired by the people and mythology of Cornwall. Repertoire included the Floral Dance, Padstow lifeboat march, West Country fantasy, and the Mermaid of Zennor. The concert was greatly



received by a full-house who provided a great reception to our premier performance of the regional test piece. Two weeks later the band headed down to Torquay for the regional championships, providing a rendition the band were happy with. Unfortunately, the band were pipped at the post for a top six result- but 7th out of 17 bands isn't bad going!

Steve Large, conductor, said: *"I would like to say a massive thank you to all the players who put on such a great performance at Torquay. I received so many nice comments about the bands performance from people I had never met before. It is an honour to work with such a nice group of musicians. Thanks for all your hard work and commitment to both Andover Town Band, and music making in our community."*

Announcements:

Recruitment-

ATB offers each member the opportunity to learn, develop and reach their full potential via an exceptional education programme, brilliant tutors and experienced players. Learning an instrument and playing in an ensemble is both challenging and rewarding; not only developing musicianship but confidence, teamwork, perseverance and much more. So, if you want to or know anyone that might be interested in joining, email info@andovertownband.co.uk or visit our website at www.andovertownband.co.uk for more information.



Easy fundraising-

When online shopping, easy fundraising allows you to raise donations for Andover Town Band FOR FREE! Find us on <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/andovertb> and help raise funds when shopping with most leading retailers.

Social media-

For regular updates and pictures, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter (@2010_atb), or follow us on Instagram (@andovertownband).



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When in Rome- go and listen to a Brass Band?

The band recently had the immense honour of representing Andover, performing at various Italian landmarks around the city of the Rome. The next section acts as a diary to the bands incredible journey...

- **Day 1-**The band played in the morning service at the Salvation Army Corps where our hosts, Pedro and Rosa, are officers. The meeting was certainly multicultural with a choir from the Philippines, Rome African choir, visiting officers from Sweden, and Andover Town Band. The band was fortunate in witnessing a new soldier make his commitment and the band provided music throughout the service which lasted well over two hours. Afterwards, we all shared a very



Italian lunch of Pizza and ice-cream with the corps, whilst lapping up the sun of course. Later that day we provided an afternoon concert in the local piazza, attracting an audience of around 100. Pedro was very pleased as he had never seen so many people around the square (at least during the day!).

- **Day 2-**Most of the band headed to the Vatican City for a 6 hour tour of the Vatican museum, Sistine Chapel and St Peters basilica. Although interesting, a rest for tired feet was certainly needed and an evening relaxing in the hotel was appreciated.
- **Day 3-** In the morning, the band headed to a local school where they delivered a concert to 200 schoolchildren on their last day of term. The band then headed for more pizza at a local pizzeria (ranked as the best in Rome) for a light lunch... That evening, the band performed at the Piazza di Spagna at the bottom of the Spanish Steps. The band were glad to start playing after lugging all the gear down several flights of steps, and what felt like miles, from the van. The concert was appreciated by an enthusiastic audience.



- **Day 4-** The colosseum was our latest venue and only slightly more impressive than the Andover Time Ring. The constant flow of people provided an engaged audience, congratulations to the man who successfully proposed to his girlfriend during Jurassic Park. Free time provided many with an opportunity to explore the colosseum before a concert at Campo de' Fiori that evening. An evening meal in the local restaurant opposite the square then led to a late night stroll around Rome at night.
- **Day 5-** Another free day allowed the band to explore many of Rome's most iconic sights- the Pantheon, the Trevi fountain, the Forum, and various religious relics! Meanwhile, some headed to the lost harbour of Ostia and spent the afternoon at a nearby beach.





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- **Day 6-** The band held a concert at Terrazza del Pincio which overlooked the entire city. Amazingly, David Thompson (Managing Director of Mitutoyo, our sponsor), made a surprise visit to hear us play! That evening, the band provided a closing concert at the hotel with many solos, items, and words of thanks.



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The tour was enjoyed by all. Special thanks must go to all those who organised the trip, especially Major Pedro and Rosa. Also, best of luck to Graham and Carol Capper who are returning from Rome on their tandem.

Chilbolton Concert: For the next opportunity to hear the Andover Town Band in concert, be sure to book your tickets for our concert at Chilbolton Village Hall on the 9th July. Tickets are £10 each and available from Chilbolton Village Stores or on 01264 860618. Music will include a collection of British classics in celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday.

CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT



ANDOVER TOWN BAND

Featuring music to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday

Saturday 9th July 2016
Doors open: 6.30pm

Chilbolton Village Hall, Eastman's Field, SO20 6AT

Ticket Price: £10.00 each

Refreshments and Cash Bar available

Tickets obtainable from the Chilbolton Village Stores

Or Beryl: 01264 860618

Join us for an evening of entertainment

Registered Charity No. 301781

ATB Diary...

Event:	Where:	Date:	Time:
Time Ring	Andover Town Centre	18 th June	10:30-12:30
Concert	Chilbolton Village Hall	9 th July	19:00
The Lights Concert	The Lights, Andover	15 th October	19:00
Remembrance Service	St Peters Church, Over Wallop	13 th November	10:10
Concert	Holy Trinity Church, Reading	19 th November	19:00
Wessex Contest	Life Centre Bournemouth	26 th November	All day
Christmas Concert	St Michael's church	17 th December	19:00
Time Ring	Andover Town Centre	18 th December	10:30-12:30
Candlelight Carol Service	Andover Baptist Church	18 th December	TBC
Chantry Centre	Andover Town Centre	24 th December	13:00-15:00