



## Just a Note Issue 4

# ANDOVER TOWN BAND

Welcome to the 4th Andover Town Band Newsletter, as we look forward to a very busy Christmas season and in particular a very special Charity Concert (details below). November 2011 marks the first birthday of the reformed ATB, and the completion of a year which has surpassed all expectations. Our chairperson, Jayne Walukiewicz has written a letter to mark this occasion, which is included below. The very latest news is that on Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2011 ATB won their first trophy at the Wessex Contest in Weymouth, winning the 4<sup>th</sup> section! We hope to see many of you on our festival travels, but we would like to wish all associated with ATB, and all supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here's to an even more successful 2012!

### **Christmas Charity Concert**

Andover Town Band is proud to announce a very special Christmas Concert, to be held at John Hanson School on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7pm. The concert is being presented on behalf of 6 very worthy charities that have in some way supported the band during this past year: The Rotary Club, Andover Foodbank, Andover VIPs, The Countess of Brecknock Hospice, Age UK and the British Heart Foundation. The good news is that for tickets sold via each charity, ATB will donate 2/3rds of those ticket sales to that charity. Tickets priced at just £6 are also available at the door (subject to availability), or in advance by phoning 01264 324056.

The evening promises to be a real celebration of Christmas, with traditional carols, some more modern Christmas classics, the occasional festive surprise and much more. Prospects, the banding stars of the future, the energetic Youth band and the popular Community band will all be performing for your pleasure.



### **Letter from the ATB Chairperson**

Dear All,

It has been a year since the launch of Andover Town Band and I felt it was time to let you know in brief what has been happening. It is good to take stock and I hope you take the opportunity to reflect on this letter and let the committee members know if there is anything else you would like to know or indeed see an even better way forward.

As a charity, our aim is to give each member the opportunity to aspire to play, learn and progress themselves and the band. In doing so, the organisation encourage players to take their music into the community such as supporting other charities and visiting the young and the elderly, giving others the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the joy of music.

As a group we continue to achieve as shown by this selection of performances during the year:  
Charity Concerts - Bridge Street Concert, Elim Church, Stockbridge Church  
Rothsay Grange – music into the community  
Transform(Testway Housing) – providing entertainment as a fundraiser for the organisation  
Middle Wallop Remembrance Service – supporting a religious event  
Regional Contest – Contest Band, 2011

This work is set to continue into the festive period and beyond:



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Christmas Charity Concert – supporting 6 charities chosen by local people who have been instrumental in our success. (BHF, Rotary Club, Countess of Brecknock, Andover Food Bank, Age UK and VIP)

Action for Children Charity Concert – 17th March, 2012

Wessex Contest – Youth Band, 2012

Band Tour – August 2012

It has been felt that in setting out to achieve our aim, the organisation has blossomed through the funds raised and we currently have a good number of ATB owned instruments allowing over 20 beginners/intermediates to play. Every week our members provide lessons and support for players and each week, there are new enquires about the group.

If you have any ideas or can offer support as to how to continue with this success, please let us know. It is your band and here to stay and share with the local community.

Regards, Jayne Walukiewicz (Andover Town Band Chairperson)

### **Revamped ATB Website**

The ATB IT team have been busy of late, led by John Gibbs, who is giving the ATB website a fantastic new look and feel, with new and updated content for you all to enjoy. Thanks must go to Paul Smith who developed the initial website, which has served as a great foundation for the latest work. The revamped website is currently under construction, with the intention of putting it live on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2011. There will be a fantastic new photo gallery, sound clips of ATB, news, events and much more. Please have a look at [www.andovertownband.co.uk](http://www.andovertownband.co.uk) in the New Year.

### **First Silverware for ATB!**

The annual Wessex Association Winter Contest was held at the Weymouth Pavillions on Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2011. 20 bands, ranging from 4<sup>th</sup> section to Championship section graded bands played their own choice test piece, with ATB playing Salford Sinfonietta - a very stern challenge indeed!



ATB put in a good solid performance, with many in the audience commenting on what they thought was a very musical performance. When the results were announced, ATB were placed 9<sup>th</sup> out of 20, making them 4<sup>th</sup> Section Wessex Champions. The bonus was that ATB had also beaten many other higher graded bands in the process. This was especially pleasing as it was only the bands second ever competition!

### **What else has been happening**



The band has been very busy over the summer months including a fantastic concert at the Elim Church in July, once again playing to a capacity audience. In September, on a fine sunny day ATB travelled out to Longparish for a very enjoyable afternoon at the Fete. Later that month ATB tried in vain to play at the Farmers Market, but a prolonged downpour curtailed the performance! Stockbridge was the next stop on the bands travels, playing a concert in the fine acoustics of St Peters church in October. Finally a small group played at the Remembrance Service at Over Wallop, returning to church where ATB played their very first notes exactly 12 months ago.



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### **Easyfundraising**

As the first year closes at ATB, we can report that a staggering £421 has been raised through Easyfundraising. Over 2000 popular retailers can be found, including Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, HMV, Vodafone, DELL, The Body Shop, PLAY.com, Interflora, Comet and many more. Thank you to everybody who has helped ATB raise this money, and please continue to use the link <http://andovertb.easysearch.org.uk>

### **Events**

ATB has a very busy run in to Christmas, and the diary is already filling for next year! This list is always being updated, so please see the website [www.andovertownband.co.uk](http://www.andovertownband.co.uk) for the very latest events and details.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Carolling	Asda, Andover	10 Dec 2011	10:30-15:00
Christmas Concert	John Hanson School, Andover	17 Dec 2011	19:00
Farmers Market	Time Ring, Andover	18 Dec 2011	10:00-12:00
Carol Concert	Weyhill Village Hall	18 Dec 2011	Early evening
Carolling	Sainsburys, Andover	21 Dec 2011	Late afternoon/ early evening
Carolling	Tesco, Andover	23 Dec 2011	16:00-20:00
Carolling	Time Ring, Andover	24 Dec 2011	13:00-15:00
Youth Band Entertainment Contest	Trafalgar School, Downton	28 Jan 2012	All day
West of England Regional Championships	Torquay Riviera Centre	10/11 March 2012	All day
Action for Children Concert	Bridge Street Methodist Church	17 March 2012	19:00
Band Tour	Italy	24 Aug – 1 Sept 2012	All week!