



Just a Note Issue 7

ANDOVER TOWN BAND

Andover Town Band have only just shaken off the jet lag of the last few months, having blazed the trail between Italy, Luxembourg, Cheltenham, Wherwell and finally back home to Andover! The band embarked on their first European tour in August, and what a stunning experience it was for all concerned. Just a week after their return to the U.K. the band dashed across to Wherwell to perform in their Last Night of the Proms, which was truly memorable evening. The band then had just 3 weeks to prepare for its first appearance at the National Championships of Great Britain held at Cheltenham in September, with the hard work rewarded with a superb result. In October it was back to Wherwell, in the magnificent setting of the Church for the Autumn Concert, culminating in a standing ovation from the appreciative audience. Finally the band appeared at the Time Ring in Andover to entertain the crowds at the Farmers Market. Phew – what a journey!

The band will be busy in the lead up to Christmas, playing at many events across the locality, with the main event being the Annual Christmas concert (please see below for details). We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and look forward to seeing you all in the lead up to Christmas.

Next Concert: Fanfare and Voices with Andover Town Band & the Spotlight Singers

7pm Sat 15th Dec 2012

St. Michaels Church, Colebrook Way, Andover, SP10 3BB
Tickets £6 at the door, or in advance Tel 01264 324056, or in person at Waterstones Booksellers Ltd (Chantry Centre).
Proceeds to be shared between church funds and the band.

Andover Town Band is pleased to invite you to a Celebration of Festive Music, set in the fine acoustics of St Michaels Church, Andover. The concert will also feature the superb Spotlight singers, an Andover based community choir led by Sarah Morgan. The programme will include traditional seasonal favourites and a sprinkling of contemporary Christmas tunes. Throughout the evening you will also be able to sing-a-long to a selection of the most popular carols. Come and join us for a fabulous evening of Christmas Joy for the whole family, young and old.



Open Evening Success

On Thurs 19th July ATB opened its doors to potential new recruits, following a series of workshops held in local primary schools. The guests were shown the various aspects of a typical Thursday evening, including individual lessons, the beginners groups Prospects, the Youth Band, and finally the Community Band. At the end of the evening, the band was delighted to welcome on board 6 new members, who are already showing tremendous progress.

Test Valley **Arts**
Foundation

ATB awarded £1000

The Test Valley Arts Foundation is an independent grant giving charity established in 1991 by the late Michael Colvin MP with a vision of supporting, creating and improving artistic opportunities for the local communities. ATB were delighted to learn that the TVAF had awarded the band a cheque for £1000 to support their work in the community to help purchase musical instruments and the commissioning of new work.

Sponsored by: **Mitutoyo**

Hampshire
County Council

www.andovertownband.co.uk
Registered Charity No. 1141183



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ATB tutors go back to school!

The ATB tutor team recently spent a whole day back in the classroom, eagerly learning from Ian Lowes a professional horn player who has played with many of the UK's leading orchestras, and is also an examiner with the ABRSM. The focus of the day was to better understand the mechanics of playing a brass instrument, so that a range of tips, tricks and techniques could be used by the tutors during the ATB lessons. ATB have a fine team of tutors and conductors who are now even better prepared to develop the stars of the future.

Postcards from Italy & Luxembourg, August 2012



ATB after a spiritually uplifting Salvation Army Service at Torre Pellice, and before 40 pizzas are ordered!



ATB storm the Fort Fenestrelle - the second biggest man made fortification in the world! What a fantastic backdrop for a concert.



Locals enjoy a Concert in the Park at Bobbio Pellice, where almost 50% of the village turn out to enjoy the entertainment. The tranquillity of the Alpine valley was certainly interrupted for the afternoon!



By Royal Appointment – ATB playing outside the Royal Palace in Turin. Special permission for the band to play in a prestigious location was granted, along with armed police to control the crowds!



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ATB playing at the theatre in Torre Pellice, in a sellout charity concert to raise money for victims of May's Italian earthquake. The concert raised over £600 for the Earthquake Appeal.

After the concert at the bandstand in Vianden, Luxembourg, and before the famed ghost walk later that night. The next day it was back to Andover to prepare for the test piece for the National Finals!



ATB Prize winners at the National Finals of Great Britain

On Sat 2nd Sept 2012 ATB set out on another small step of their banding journey, competing in the National Finals for the very first time, representing the West of England in the 4th Section. The band and its merry band of supporters were delighted with a podium finish, claiming 3rd prize, a nice shiny cup and a cheque for £500 to keep our treasurer happy! Over 135 bands competed in the regional qualifiers, so ATB are competing at the very top level of this section! Remarkably over 50% of the band on stage was aged 18 or under, which is a fine reflection on the organisation. As from Jan. 2012 the band have been promoted into the 3rd section for the next contesting adventure!

EasyFundRaising

ATB continues to raise about £100 a quarter through Easyfundraising. If you do not already buy goods from the internet through Easyfundraising, please consider doing so, and help raise even more money for ATB, at no cost to yourself. 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 www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/andovertb

Please stay in touch

ATB hosts a fantastic website, with the content being continually updated – please visit us at www.andovertownband.co.uk ATB also has a very good presence on Facebook (search for Andover Town Band), with up to date comment on the bands activities, and now also updated with videos of recent performances. Why not 'Like' us on Facebook to make sure you never miss news regarding the band.



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ATB Diary

ATB has a really busy period ahead, as you can see, with the key dates listed below.

Event	Where	Date	Time
Christmas Fayre	Appleshaw School, Appleshaw	24 Nov 2012	12:00–15:00 tbc
Wessex Contest	Weymouth Pavilions	01 Dec 2012	All day
Carol Service	Weyhill Church	09 Dec 2012	17:00
Christmas Concert	St Michaels Church, Andover	15 Dec 2012	19:00
Farmers Market	Andover Time Ring	16 Dec 2012	10:00-12:00
Quiz and Carols	Andover Lodge, East Street, Andover	20 Dec 2012	19:00
Chatterbook Jingle	St Pauls Church, Andover	21 Dec 2012	16:00-19:00 tbc
Carolling	Andover Time Ring	22 Dec 2012	10:00-12:00
Nativity Service	Andover Baptist Church	23 Dec 2012	16:00
Carolling	Andover Time Ring	24 Dec 2012	13:00-15:00
Wessex Youth Band Contest	Trafalgar School, Downton	26 Jan 2013	All day
West of England Contest	Riviera Centre, Torquay	09-10 March 2013	All weekend
Summer Concert	The Lights, Andover	29 June 2013	19:30

The band is in the final stages of organising a possible concert in January 2013 with one of the great personalities in the banding world, with ATB playing alongside one of the UK's top bands. This promises to be a fantastic evening not to be missed, and will really kick start the year! When details are confirmed you shall be the first to know.

And Finally ...

If you know of anybody else who would enjoy staying in touch with Andover Town Band, by receiving this Newsletter and more, please encourage them to contact Friends of the Band at friends@andovertownband.co.uk