



Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Eynsford Concert Band

Dates for your diary

Next year promises to be busy, opening with a concert in May titled 'Cries of London' including a piece of the same name and music associated with our great capital city.

Tickets for this concert will be available soon, so please ensure you reserve yours fast!

At the other end of the year we are pleased to announce that we will perform **two** Christmas Concerts at the Mick Jagger Centre - adding an afternoon Matinee for the whole family.

Sunday 13th May 2007
'Cries of London'

Mike Jagger Centre

Tickets available soon at £8.00, concessions £6.00. Call Paul Gould on 07831 320905.

Sunday 19th August 2007
South Darenth 1812 Fireworks
Concert

Friday 24th August 2007
Swanley Park 1812 Night

9th December 2007
St Nicholas Church Sevenoaks

16th December 2007
Matinee & Evening
Christmas Concerts
Mick Jagger Centre

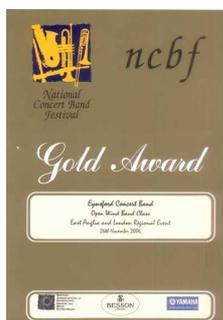
Welcome to the Christmas Newsletter from the Eynsford Concert Band. We hope you find this an informative summary of what we have been up to during 2006 and what we have planned for 2007.

We are excited to see the Band thriving. With standards remaining high and tickets for our concerts selling fast, the Band continues to enhance its reputation.

The Band is indebted to you for your continued support and on behalf of the entire ensemble we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

On Sunday 26th November, in a rare excursion into the land of competition, the Band performed at the National Concert Band Festival regional heats held at the Colchester Institute for Music & Performing Arts.

Musical Director John Hutchins' reason for entering was to challenge the Band musically and to get valuable independent feedback and advice on our progress. The day was also a chance to meet other musicians and hear similar Bands perform.



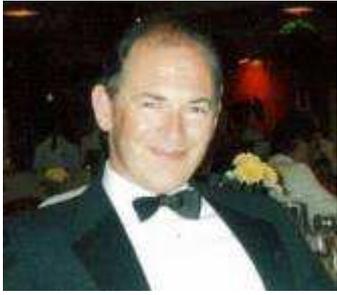
Unlike the brass band world, the wind band festival has a 'non-competitive' format where bands are judged on their ability to perform a 15-20 minute programme from a set list of graded pieces.

We performed Yiddish Dances, a highly evocative piece of music that challenges the Band's ensemble playing and allows many soloists to shine, in particular Christine Till on the Eb Clarinet, who was deservedly commended by the judges.

Our performance was very well received by the judges, and we were given a Gold award - the highest attainable. They commented on our excellent ensemble playing and on the way that John Hutchins led the Band.

The day was a highly valuable experience for the Band, and we now wait with baited breath to see if we receive an invitation to participate in the National Finals in Gateshead in the spring.





Sadly, next year marks the tenth anniversary of the death of our founder, Robin O'Connell, who formed the Band in 1972 in order to give local music students the chance to meet and play together in an ensemble.

In his memory, the Band's chosen charity for 2007 will be Cancer Research, and we hope to hold a number of fund-raising events during the course of the year.



This August, the Eynsford Concert Band were honoured to play as part of the entertainment programme on board Fred. Olsen's Black Watch cruise of the Fjords of Norway.

For 8 days, the Band and a large group of friends and family were paying passengers aboard this magnificent ship, able to enjoy a perfect summer holiday together.

The Band demonstrated its versatility by performing 4 onboard concerts for the enjoyment of the passengers and crew. These included 'Broadway Showstoppers' evening entertainment, an 'At the Movies' afternoon Matinee and a dramatic outdoors 'Proms' performance with the magnificent Nordfjord as our backdrop as we cruised away from Olden.

A great time was had by all and this is something the Band will be considering repeating in the future.



For your event

The excitement and beauty of our music can transform your event into a very memorable occasion.

We are happy to play anything from Bach to Big Band, with music that will appeal to young and old alike.

If you would like a spectacular finale to your evening, then few things go down as well as a fireworks display!

If you would like further information, then please contact our Concert Manager, Steve Bennett, on 07973 243487 or by email at enquiry@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

James Watson was, until recently, the Artistic Director of Black Dyke Band and Principal Conductor of the National Youth Brass Band of Wales for six years. He is currently Artistic Director of the National Youth Symphonic Brass Wales and Vice-President of the National Youth Wind Orchestra.

On a damp afternoon in February, James helped us to work on one of our more challenging pieces – Paris Sketches by Martin Ellerby. Through working on this piece, James shared his many years' playing, conducting and teaching experience and worked with us on the wider aspects of our playing. These included: sound production, ensuring that the sound fills the room; using our breathing to support the sound quality we want to achieve; and allowing the tune to flow, by playing it as though it were being sung.

Most importantly though, one of James' key messages was that we should always take the time to enjoy everything we do.

We are very thankful to James for giving up some of his time to tutor the Band and provide his guidance.



Players needed

We are very pleased that the Band is close to having a full complement of players. However, we continue to seek French Horn, Percussion and String Bass players.

If you know anyone who would like to join us, then please ask them to contact Paul on 07831 320905 or by email at enquiry@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

Become a Friend

Get regular updates via email, including advance notice of performances, charity events and social occasions plus first choice of tickets before they go on sale to the general public.

If you would like to become a Friend, then let us know by contacting Clare on 07799 641906 or by email at friends@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk