



# HARMONY

The Official Newsletter of the Oxfordshire and District Brass Band Association

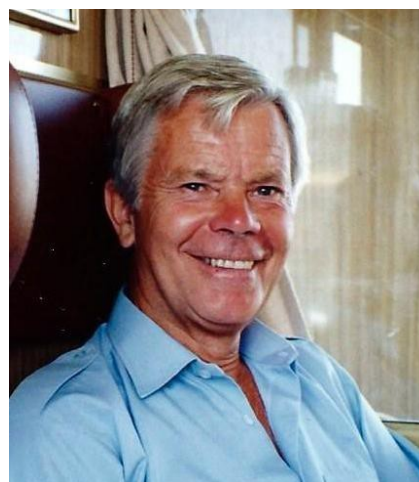
Autumn 2013

## Sad Death of ODBBA Stalwart

**The Oxfordshire and District Brass Band Association were saddened recently to hear of the death of one of its Vice-Presidents, George Tutte.**

George had been heavily involved with the brass band scene in Oxfordshire since moving into the area in the mid-fifties, in particular at Kidlington and Yarnton Band, for which he was responsible for founding in 1959.

For a full tribute to George, please turn to page 2.



*George Tutte*

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### Editorial

It has been a busy period of time since the last edition of Harmony was released, back in 2009! In that time, we sadly lost our long-term President and friend, Ron Sudworth, but were delighted that his wife Barbara stepped into his shoes as Association President. We also lost Mr Ken Anns as Vice President last year.

We've held a number of very successful contests, including the ever-popular Brass Festival which was held this year for the first time in Chipping Norton School.

We've also held several concerts at Blenheim Palace, and a charity concert at the John Radcliffe Hospital which raised over £1100 for the Oxford Heartfelt Appeal.

The editor would like to apologise for the long period of elapsed time between issues of this newsletter, and hopes that your bands have all continued to enjoy continued success in the intervening period.

Some of the very latest band news is found in this issue.

# George Frederick Tutte

12 October 1926 – 9 July 2013

George was born on 12 October 1926, and was one of seven children; four boys and three girls. He was brought up in Whitechapel in the east end of London. During and after the war, George was a Bevan Boy (1944) – he was too young to be enlisted, so he worked in the mines. He was posted to Ferry Hill, County Durham, where he lodged near the Jackson family. John Willie Jackson was the pithead engineer, and George became quite enamoured with his rebellious daughter Doreen. At the end of the war, George and Doreen eloped to London, he wasn't even twenty!

After living for a while in Whitechapel, George and Doreen moved to Torquay in 1947, where George had found work on the GWR (God's Wonderful Railway, as George called it). Whilst in Torquay, George became even more obsessed with the trumpet player Harry James, so much so that he blew his wages on a cornet – without telling Doreen first! So started George's love affair with brass playing and brass banding.

They stayed in Devon for a few years, and George joined Newton Abbot Brass Band – his first foray into the world of banding. His daughters, Julie and Glenda, were both born in Devon.

In 1955, the family moved to Oxford for George to work at the Pressed Steel car factory. He joined City of Oxford Band in the same year. Then in 1958 they moved to Yarnton where they stayed until moving to Meriden (1995). The year after moving to Yarnton, George started teaching Julie and Glenda, followed by two of their friends, which soon led to Yarnton Band being formed. George then taught most of the young people in Yarnton Band for many years, as well as teaching many in Kidlington Band and elsewhere in the county. As well as being the founder of Yarnton Band, George later became the lifetime President of the band as well as Vice-President of ODBBA.

George's funeral on 22nd July was attended by well over 100 people, and a brass ensemble made up of friends and ex-pupils of George played during the service.

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Yarnton Band will be holding a memorial concert in George's honour.

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## ODBBA Committee

The current ODBBA committee is as follows:

Chair:	Nikki Jones.
Vice-Chair:	Tony Redshaw
Secretary:	David Roberts
Treasurer:	Lynne Whitley
Contest Secretary:	Nigel Hall
Property Master:	David Martin
General Members:	Ken Membury* Martin Taylor Sheldon Barwick Rob Tompkins John Underwood*

\*Denotes L&SCR Representatives.

If you have any issues that you would like to be raised with the Committee, please feel free to contact any member who will be happy to pass on your views. ODBBA would also welcome any offers of assistance at any of our future events.

## Vice-Presidents

ODBBA are delighted to announce the recent appointment of several new Honorary Life Vice-Presidents. Vice Presidents are appointed in recognition of support and long service to banding in our area, and to ODBBA in particular.

Joining the existing Vice-Presidents, (Mrs Jean Anns, C.J. Edmunds and Mrs Shirley Webb), are Mr Ken Membury, Mr David Martin, Mr Mike Pickett, and most recently, Mr Frank Wolff.

David Martin is particularly remarkable, having put in almost 50 years unbroken service to the ODBBA Committee.

We offer our thanks and congratulations to all the Vice-Presidents, old and new.

## Entertainment Contest

Entries are now being accepted for the 2013 Entertainment Contest, to be held this year on October 13<sup>th</sup> at Marlborough School, Woodstock.

The closing date for entries is September 20<sup>th</sup> and further details are available from the ODBBA website (<http://www.odbba.org>), or from Nigel Hall (01280 700000 – 07772 249916 or by email: [nigel@mimi-music.co.uk](mailto:nigel@mimi-music.co.uk)).

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## Good luck to our National Finalists

On 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September, the Swindon Pegasus Band, Kidlington Concert Brass, Shipston Town Band, and City of Oxford Band will be competing at the National Finals in Cheltenham, having all achieved amazing results in their area qualifying contests. We wish them all the best of luck.

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## Long-Service Awards

ODBBA are in the process of awarding those band members who have given more than 60 years continuous service to bands.

Presentations will be made over the next few months to Frank Wolff, Ken Membury, Les Taylor, Richard Cox, Doug White, Horace Ing, Oliver Kemp, Ken Roe, and Paul Sargent.

Particularly remarkable are the contributions to banding made by Horace Ing and Oliver Kemp. Oliver Kemp, currently of Shipston Town Band has played for 75 years in various bands all around the country, and Horace Ing of West Wycombe Band is celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> year as a bandsman in 2013. Astonishingly, Horace's entire playing career has been spent with West Wycombe Band, and he has held most of the official positions within the band. He still attends all rehearsals and engagements at the ripe old age of 93.

ODBBA are delighted to be able to commemorate all of these outstanding achievements and send congratulations to all the players involved.

## News from Pangbourne Silver Band

In recent months, the Band has marched on to glory and perhaps should think of themselves as the Pangbourne Prize Silver Band. At the brass workshop at Englefield School on 13-14 April, band trainer Derek Broadbent emphasised the particular care that should be given to playing correct note values and rhythms in marches and this was taken very much to heart.

Then, at the Annual March and Test Piece Contest of the SCABA at The Hawth Theatre, Crawley on 28 April, the Band were awarded first prize for the march *Balmashanna*, and third prize overall for the test piece, *Divertimento for Brass* (Darrol Barry), being beaten only by Brighton and Hove City and Sussex Brass of Hastings. When announcing the results, the Adjudicator made the point that marches weren't easy to play well and needed great attention to note values and rhythms!

The Band then journeyed to the Saddleworth and Thameside region of Lancashire to take part with over 80 bands from Britain and Europe in the traditional Whit Friday marching contests. On 25 May they played in eight villages - marching to Kenneth Alford's *The Middy* and then playing *Balmashanna* in front of the adjudicators. In the village of Upper Mossley, where 36 bands played, including Foden's and Rothwell Temperance, Principal Cornet, Richard Powell, was judged the Best Cornet. The Band are grateful to the Greenham Common Trust and West Berkshire Council for a grant to promote musical excellence in part-support of the workshop - which obviously succeeded.

It was a great pleasure to play for the visitors from Houdan at the Twinning Association's Reception in the Village Hall on 3 May. With *La Marseillaise* and *La Vie en Rose*, the Band returned the welcome they received during their Parisian Tour in 2011.

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## New MD for Bletchington Band

Bletchington Band are delighted to announce the appointment of Sheldon Barwick as Musical Director. Sheldon takes over from Nigel Hall who has taken the decision to stand down after several years at the helm.

## Kidlington on Tour

Kidlington Concert Brass have recently returned from their tour to Edinburgh which took place from 29 May to 2 June 2013.

During the tour the band performed a joint concert with the Dalkeith and Monktonhall Brass Band in Dalkeith on 30 May, at the Glenkinchie Distillery on 31 May, and at Edinburgh Castle on 1 June.

The tour was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and the band would like to specifically thank Dave Taylor for the hard work he put in organising the tour; to Duncan Wilson for arranging two of the concerts and to Diane Scott for her local knowledge and help with arranging the joint concert. The hard work paid off with a fantastic tour which ran like clockwork.

## Ray Hewett Memorial Concert

Roke and Benson Band will be holding a memorial concert for Ray Hewett on Sunday 15th September 2013, from 2-4pm at The Bandstand, Mill Meadows, Henley-on-Thames.

The concert is free, but collections will be made and any resulting money will be distributed between these three local charities:

- Multiple Sclerosis National Therapy Centre, Milton Park
- SeeSaw
- Haematology Department at Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

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## New MD at Witney

Congratulations to Rhys Owens who has just been appointed MD of Witney Town Band.

Rhys began playing the trumpet at the age of 7 and soon joined his local brass band, Milford Haven Town Band on 3rd Cornet. He progressed through the band until the age of 17, playing Solo Cornet, Soprano Cornet and on occasions began conducting the band. During these years, Rhys also performed with many youth organisations at school, county, regional and national level culminating in him receiving a place to study Trumpet at Birmingham Conservatoire in 2005.

During his time at Birmingham, Rhys performed with all the Conservatoire ensembles including the Big band, Jazz Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra and the Brass band with whom he held the Flugel and Soprano seats. During this time playing with the band, Rhys was fortunate enough to be under the baton of Ian Porthouse who gave Rhys the opportunity to conduct the band on several occasions during rehearsals.

Outside of Conservatoire, Rhys was active as a freelance musician, playing with many ensembles ranging from symphony orchestras to a bhangra band, Bombay Baja, with whom he toured extensively.

Since leaving Birmingham and moving to Banbury, Rhys has taken a position playing with Brackley and District Brass band, playing both Soprano and Solo Cornet. Rhys is also a peripatetic brass teacher for the Oxfordshire County Music Service, a position he thoroughly enjoys, giving him the opportunity to work with musicians of all standards, ranging from beginners through to coaching the brass section of the county's award winning orchestra, OCYO.

Rhys is looking forward to working with the Witney Town Band and is hoping to continue the recent successes the band have had contesting whilst also delivering a fun and diverse concert programme.

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## Dates for your Diary

Entertainment Contest: 13th October 2013.  
AGM: 17<sup>th</sup> November 2013.  
Winter Contest: 23rd February 2014.  
Brass Festival: 27th April 2014.

## Band News?

Does your band have some news for the next edition of Harmony? Send it to [david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk](mailto:david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk)

## 2013 Band Contest results for Oxfordshire & District

<b>BAND</b>	<b>CONTEST</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
Abbey Brass (Rob Tompkins)	ODBBA Winter Contest	24/02/13	C	Testpiece: 1 <sup>st</sup> March: 1 <sup>st</sup>
	Whit Friday Marches: Lees Delph Scouthead Dobcross Greenfield	24/05/13		37 <sup>th</sup> 47 <sup>th</sup> 47 <sup>th</sup> 52 <sup>nd</sup> 53 <sup>rd</sup>
Amersham Band (Paul Fisher)	L & SC Regional	16/03/13	Third	1 <sup>st</sup>
	SCABA Entertainment	19/05/13	B	3 <sup>rd</sup>
	Whit Friday Marches: Denshaw Uppermill Dobcross Diggle Scouthead Delph Lydgate	24/5/13		7 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 35 <sup>th</sup> 52 <sup>nd</sup>
Bletchington Silver (Nigel Hall)	ODBBA Winter Contest	24/02/13	B	Testpiece: 1 <sup>st</sup> March: 1 <sup>st</sup>
	L & SC Regional	17/03/13	Fourth	14 <sup>th</sup>
Chalgrove (Terry Brotherhood)	Butlins Mineworkers	19/01/13	Second	14 <sup>th</sup>
	L & SC Regional	17/01/13	Second	14 <sup>th</sup>
City of Oxford (Steve Sizeland)	L & SC Regional	17/03/13	Fourth	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Chinnor (Dave Pegram)	L & SC Regional	16/03/13	Third	10 <sup>th</sup>
Cold Ash (Jemma Evans)	L & SC Regional	16/03/13	Third	4 <sup>th</sup>
Forest of Dean (Chris Howley)	West of England Regional	09/03/13	First	9 <sup>th</sup>
	Weston-Super-Mare	19/05/13	Ch / First	7 <sup>th</sup>
Brackley & District (Adrian Raven)	Midlands Regional	09/03/13	First	17 <sup>th</sup>
HUNGERFORD (Tim Crouter)	L & SC Regional	17/03/13	Second	13 <sup>th</sup>
JUBILEE BRASS (Clifford Sadler)	L & SC Regional	17/03/13	Fourth	9 <sup>th</sup>
Kidlington (Duncan Wilson)	Butlins Mineworkers	19/01/13	First	16 <sup>th</sup>
	ODBBA Winter	24/02/13	Open	Testpiece: 2 <sup>nd</sup> March: 3 <sup>rd</sup>
	L & SC Regional	16/03/13	First	1 <sup>st</sup>

<b>BAND</b>	<b>CONTEST</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SECTION</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
Marsh Gibbon (Andy Allcock)	Whit Friday Marches: Mossley Stalybridge Denton Tame Valley (Dukinfield) Hurst (Ashton Utd) Heyrod Friezland Lydgate	24/05/13		32 <sup>nd</sup> 34 <sup>th</sup> 35 <sup>th</sup> 40 <sup>th</sup> 40 <sup>th</sup> 41 <sup>st</sup> 41 <sup>st</sup> 60 <sup>th</sup>
Oxford University (Gareth Coulson)	UniBrass: University Brass Band Championship of Great Britain	16/02/13		12 <sup>th</sup>
Pangbourne & District (Stewart Lewins)	Whit Friday Marches: Mossley Dobcross Friezland Uppermill Grotton Scouthead Lydgate Greenfield	24/5/13		16 <sup>th</sup> / Best Cornet 21 <sup>st</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup> 40 <sup>th</sup> 42 <sup>nd</sup> 43 <sup>rd</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> 62 <sup>nd</sup>
Rushden Town (John Hudson)	Midland Regional	09/03/13	Third	8 <sup>th</sup>
Swindon Pegasus (Graeme Lewis)	West of England Regional	09/03/13	Second	1 <sup>st</sup>
	West of England Bandsman's Festival	15/06/13	Second	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Wantage Silver (Philip Bailey)	L & S C Regional	17/03/13	Champ'p	5 <sup>th</sup>
	Senior Trophy	11/05/13		18 <sup>th</sup>
	All England International Masters	26/05/13		9 <sup>th</sup>
Wantage Silver 'B' (Danny Dullforce)	ODBBA Winter Contest	24/02/13	A	Testpiece: 2 <sup>nd</sup> March: 2 <sup>nd</sup>
	L & SC Regional	16/03/13	Third	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Witney Town (John Button)	ODBBA Winter Contest	24/02/13	B	Testpiece: 3 <sup>rd</sup> March: 3 <sup>rd</sup>
	L & S C Regional	17/03/13	Fourth	7 <sup>th</sup>
Yarnton Band (Guy James)	ODBBA Winter Contest	24/02/13	C	Testpiece: 3 <sup>rd</sup> March: 3 <sup>rd</sup>

## Assistance needed at ODBBA

It is expected that, owing to family and other commitments, several members of the current Committee will be standing down at the AGM later this year. In order to continue our work with your bands, we desperately need to replace these members. It is not a huge commitment, and the more people there are involved the less commitment is needed!

If you would like to put your name forward, or simply would like further information, then please contact either the Secretary, David Roberts ([david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk](mailto:david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk)) or Chair, Nikki Jones ([nikki@brasstutor.com](mailto:nikki@brasstutor.com)). All enquiries will be treated in complete confidence.