



# HARMONY

The Official Newsletter of the Oxfordshire and District Brass Band Association

Spring 2015

## Newstead Triumphs at Woodstock



March 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 saw 20 bands compete at the ODBBA Winter Contest at Marlborough School, Woodstock.

In a full entry across 5 sections, most bands gave their Area test pieces a run through and received helpful comments from adjudicator Frank Renton, who was complimentary about the standard of playing throughout the whole day. Lower section bands also performed a march.

The Championship section was won by Newstead Brass who performed a sparkling rendition of *The*

*Torchbearer*, winning not only the prize for the best test-piece, but also the prize for the best instrumentalist in the section and the prize for the overall best bass section of the day.

Although no ODBBA bands triumphed in the test piece competition throughout the day, Jubilee Brass did win the March prize in Section 3. Special commendation should go to Yarnton who fielded the youngest competitor of the day, plus the band with the most under-19 players.

Full results are available on Page 3.

## Editorial

Once again, I have to apologise for the long gap between issues. However, I am happy to report that in between times, ODBBA have (as always!) been extremely busy!

We've run a number of successful events over the year, not least the recent Winter Contest which has been the first event run by ODBBA for a couple of years to make a profit. While we don't run our events to make a profit, it is of vital importance that we at least break-even otherwise in a few years the Association will have to fold through lack of funds.

We were also delighted to run a successful Brass Festival and Entertainment Contest, and the full results from all of these contests can be seen elsewhere in this newsletter.

We ran a very successful Playing Day last year where a number of youth and training bands all combined to rehearse together and perform a short concert at the end of the day. Unfortunately, a planned second day had to be cancelled due to lack of support, but we hope to be able to run another one later this year.

A new venture for us was to run a workshop given by the composers of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> section area test-pieces. This proved to be very useful to both the conductors and players of the bands in these sections, and we hope to run similar events in the future.

If your band has any news for the next edition of the newsletter, please send it to us. We hope to produce another issue later in the year.

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### ODBBA Committee 2015

Chair:	Nikki Jones
Vice-Chair:	Martin Taylor
Treasurer:	Rebecca Lake
Secretary:	David Roberts
Property Master:	David Martin
General Committee:	Ken Membury*
	Rob Tompkins
	Lynne Whitley
	Mikaela Barwick
	John Underwood*

\* Denotes L&SCR Representatives.

New members of the Committee would be very welcome as new people always have new ideas, and it helps to spread the work-load of the other members. If you would be interested in volunteering to help us to support your bands, then please contact any of us and we will be delighted to hear from you!

### Dates for your Diary

April 26 <sup>th</sup> 2015	Brass Festival
October 25 <sup>th</sup> 2015	Entertainment Contest
November 2015	AGM (TBC)
February 28 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Winter Contest (TBC)

All of the above events (with the exception of the Annual General Meeting) will be held at Marlborough School, Woodstock. Rules and entry forms for the Brass Festival are now available for download from the ODBBA website.

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### Test Piece Workshop

ODBBA were delighted to be able to welcome Dean Jones, composer of the 4<sup>th</sup> section test-piece *An English Pastorale*, and Philip Sparke, composer of 3<sup>rd</sup> section test piece *Evolution: Five states of change* to a workshop on January 25<sup>th</sup> 2015 at Yarnton Village Hall.

Both composers talked about their pieces, and what they felt were the most important aspects that

conductors and players should be looking out for when performing the works at the area contests.

ODBBA would like to thank both composers for their time and valuable insights; the players who formed the bands that demonstrated the two pieces, and also to the many people who attended the workshop as spectators.

# Winter Contest Results

## Championship Section

1. Newstead Brass (D. Beckley)
2. Aldbourne (J. Ruck)
3. The Medway Band (M. White)
4. Kidlington Concert Brass (D. Wilson)
5. Alder Valley Brass (R. Burke)

Best Instrumentalist: Solo Cornet, Newstead.

## First Section

1. Verwood Concert Brass (K. Smith)
  2. Milton Keynes Brass (C. Patterson)
  3. Oddfellows Brass (R. Boulter)
  4. Brunel Brass (J. Winterflood)
  5. Epsom & Ewell (J. Smith)
- W. Egham Brass

Best Instrumentalist: Solo Cornet, MK Brass

## Second Section

1. Yiewsley & West Drayton (C. Cole)
2. Avonbank (Evesham) Brass (W. Belshaw)

March prize: Yiewsley & West Drayton  
Best Instrumentalist: Paul Horner, Euphonium,  
Avonbank (Evesham) Brass.

## Third Section

1. Towcester Studio Brass (N. Brownless)
2. Jubilee Brass (Oxford). (C. Sadler)

March Prize: Jubilee Brass (Oxford)  
Best Instrumentalist: Dave Nicholson, Solo Cornet,  
Towcester Studio Brass

## Fourth Section

1. Crystal Palace Band (M. Gray)
2. Wantage Academy (N. Jones)
3. Witney Town Band (R. Owens)
4. Bletchington Silver Band (S. Barwick)
5. Yarnton (G. James)
6. Abbey Brass (R. Tompkins)

March Prize: Crystal Palace Band  
Best Instrumentalist: Percussion section, Yarnton  
Band

## Special Prizes

Best Bass Section: Newstead  
Band with the most U19 players: Yarnton  
Youngest player of the day: Anna Hipkiss, Yarnton  
Band.

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## Much Missed.....

Since the last newsletter, ODBBA have been sad to lose Ken and Jean Anns, who were both ODBBA Vice-Presidents for many years. They were long standing supporters of the Association, and until fairly recently when ill-health intervened, regularly attended AGMs and shared the benefit of their experience.

We were also very sad to lose Ian Clamp, who had been secretary of the Association for many years, as well as MD at Marsh Gibbon Band. Ian was famous within the Association for his unique sense of humour, which is very much missed.

Trophies and shields were awarded for the first time at the Winter Contest in memory of our friends. The Ian Clamp Cup and the Jean Anns Shield were both won by Yiewsley and West Drayton Band, while the Ken Anns Shield was won by Towcester Studio Brass.



Ian Clamp

# Brass Festival Results

## Section A: Under 9 Slow Melody.

1st Anna Hipkiss, Yarnton Band  
2nd Tara Wilson, Yarnton Band  
3rd Daniel Taylor, Witney Town Band

## Section B: 9 – 11 Slow Melody.

1st Luke Barker, Shipston Town Band  
2nd Sasha Turner, Shipston Town Band  
3rd Bethan Bown, Shipston Town Band

## Section C: 12 – 14 Slow Melody.

1st Charlotte Wilkes, Yarnton Band  
2nd Deanna Stamp, Wantage Silver  
3rd Adam Allport, Yarnton Band

## Section D: 15 – 18 Slow Melody.

1st George Stratford, Forest of Dean Band  
2nd Aimee Bonner, Shipston Town Band  
3rd Charlie Poole, Wotton Silver Band

## Section E: Junior Solo Championship

1st George Stratford, Forest of Dean Band  
2nd Aimee Bonner, Shipston Town Band  
3rd Grace Coates, Shipston Town Band

## Section M: Senior Slow Melody

1st Ben Stratford, Flowers Band  
2nd Nikki Jones, Wantage Silver Band  
3rd Josh Bonner, Shipston Town Band

## Section N: Senior Solo Championship

1st Ben Stratford, Flowers Band  
2nd Neil Brownless, Brackley Brass  
3rd Nikki Jones, Wantage Silver Band

## Section P: U19 Percussion

1st Matthew Lane, Shipston Town Band

## Section S: Open Championship

1st Ben Stratford, Flowers Band  
2nd George Stratford, Forest of Dean Band  
3rd = Natasha Strange, Abbey Brass  
3rd = Neil Brownless, Brackley Brass

## Section F: Under 11 Duet

1st Ciaran Bird & Sophie Hambridge, Yarnton Band  
2nd Amy Jones & Sofia Milne, Witney Town Band  
3rd Alice Hipkiss & Anna Hipkiss, Yarnton Band

## Section G: Under 15 Duet

1st Luke Barker & Grace Coates, Shipston Town Band  
2nd Philip Methley & Fiona Methley, Yarnton Band  
3rd Sasha Turner & Jordan Bonner, Shipston Town Band

## Section H: Under 19 Duet

1st Aimee Bonner & Grace Coates, Shipston Town Band

## Section O: Senior Duet

1st Aimee Bonner & Josh Bonner, Shipston Town Band  
2nd David Birch & Val Trim, Shipston Town Band  
3rd Rebecca Coates & Mary Cox, Shipston Town Band

## Section I: Under 14 Quartet.

1st Yarnton 'Me'  
2nd Yarnton 'Doh'  
3rd Shipston Cornets

## Section J: Under 19 Quartets

1st Yarnton Gals  
2nd Yarnton Guys  
3rd Shipston Cornets

## Section Q: Senior Quartet

1st The Brass Monkeys  
2nd Shipston Town 1  
3rd Shipston Town 2

## Section T: Under 19 Quintet

1st = Yarnton  
1st = Yarnton

## Section U: Senior Quintet

1st Shipston Town

## Brass Festival (Cont.)

### Section K: Junior Ensemble

1st Shipston Town  
2nd Witney Town Juniors  
3rd Yarnton Band

### Section R: Open Ensemble

1st Shipston Town

### Special Awards

Best Cornet in Section B: Luke Barker, Shipston Town Band  
Best Boy under 15: Adam Allport, Yarnton Band  
Best Girl under 15: Charlotte Wilkes, Yarnton Band  
The Youngest Competitor: Isla Crosby, Witney Town Band  
Best U14 in Section E: Grace Coates, Shipston Town Band  
Band or Group with the most U19 Entries: Yarnton

## Long Service Awards

ODBBA have recently presented Long Service Awards to the following people.

Terry Brotherhood	60 Years
Dave Martin	60 Years
Howard Brett	67 Years
Norman Webb	67 Years
David Taylor	64 Years

The last 3 players on this list are members of Chelsey Band.

If there are any members of your band who have been playing for over 60 years then please let us know.

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## Entertainment Contest Results

### Section B (Unregistered Bands)

Music 1st Place: Watership Brass  
Music 2nd Place: Yarnton Band  
Entertainment: Watership Brass  
Best Instrumentalist: Emma Bishop (Watership Brass)

### Section A (4<sup>th</sup> Section Bands)

Music 1st Place: Witney Town Band  
Music 2nd Place: Abbey Brass  
Entertainment: Witney Town Band  
Best Instrumentalist: Guy James (Witney Town Band)

### Open Section (2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> and Championship Bands)

Music 1st Place: Kidlington Concert Brass  
Music 2nd Place: Regent Brass  
Entertainment: Kidlington Concert  
Brass Best Instrumentalist: Aine Jackson  
Highest 2nd Section Band: Hungerford Town Band

### Special Prizes

Overall Best Percussion: Kidlington Concert Brass  
Overall Best Horn: Kidlington Concert Brass  
Overall Best Conductor: Duncan Wilson (Kidlington Concert Brass)  
Overall Best Soprano: Ed Clark (Kidlington Concert Brass)  
Band with the most U19 Players: Yarnton

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## How to Contact Us...

You can contact ODBBA via our website ([www.odbba.org](http://www.odbba.org)) or by emailing ODBBA Secretary, David Roberts on [david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk](mailto:david@aldbrickham-music.co.uk)

Other member bands in the Association can be contacted by emailing [band@odbba.org](mailto:band@odbba.org).

If your band is interested in supporting the work of the Association by becoming members, please contact Rebecca Lake ([rebeccalake369@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rebeccalake369@hotmail.co.uk)) who will be happy to provide you with further information.