



## Brass and Voice - Together Again



The finale of the Brass and Voice concert held on 18 May at Loughborough's Trinity Methodist Church, was Speed Your Journey played and sung together by Hathern Band and Loughborough Male Voice Choir. Speed Your Journey is the Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Verdi's opera Nabucco. It's about the large number of Judeans kept in captivity in Babylon following the loss of the First Temple in Jerusalem in 586 BCE. It is a truly moving and memorable piece of music ideally suited to a choir with brass band accompaniment.

It brought to an end another superb concert featuring the two talented organisations and we look forward to more collaborations in the future.

# Training Band in Big Week

On the Monday of Hathern's Big Week the Training Band held an open practice in the marquee for family, friends and visitors. Dave Newman explained how the band is split into groups of similar ability and this has proved successful in bringing the youngsters through quicker - as can be seen by the number of young people now playing with Youth and

Concert Brass and the Senior Band.



Starting at 6.00pm there are four groups learning, Beginners are taught the basics by Sam Peak. They then progress to Lesley Bentley's group who practise in the new room.

The third 6.00pm group is Dave's first group who play in the main band room. Meanwhile John Baum gives tuition to the trombone players.



At 7.00pm Dave's second group takes over the band room and they are followed at 8.00pm by Dave's third group, many of whom are already playing with Youth and Concert Brass.

Dave paid tribute to the group leaders, Sam, Lesley and John and also to Mike "Mouse" Sturgess and Andrew Haworth who come along every Monday to help out.

# Proms in the Park

The finale of Hathern's Big Week is always the highly popular Proms in the Park. The Band was on top form playing a varied programme culminating in the traditional Last Night of the Proms ending when we do the usual singing and flag waving.



# Youth and Concert Brass at Shepshed



9 May saw Youth and Concert Brass give another concert at Shepshed Baptist Church and produced an entertaining and eclectic programme. They started off with Slaidburn, a rousing march and then it was into a James Bond Collection. Sue Rea on flugelhorn was the first of the evening's soloists and played the Beatles' Here There and Everywhere from the Revolver album. The band played music from two television programmes. Howard's Way and the Darling Buds of May came either side of a second solo piece, Let Me Try Again played by 14 year old George on soprano cornet.

Then it was another solo, this time from Dean Onyon on euphonium. Dean gave us the Eagles' Desperado. Back in time to 1791 for Mozart's Ave Verum before the Thunderbirds flew in. Little Lisa was followed by the ever popular Singing in the Rain. The Magnificent Seven brought a thoroughly enjoyable concert to a close.

The blend of young and not so young players under the leadership of Chris Groom makes Hathern Youth and Concert Brass extra special and we look forward to seeing them in concert again soon.



## Band of Runners

The group started last September when Sophie wanted to start running to get fit and Dad Adrian couldn't let her run the streets alone. Hannah joined them and they started the Couch to 5k. To give them an incentive, Adrian set up a Just Giving page for donations to Cancer Research raising £965. On 23 December they graduated to their first Parkrun

Since December the group has expanded to include four other playing members from the Hathern Band organisation and three honorary past playing and family members.



Adrian, Hannah and Sam took part in Leicester's Big 10K on 14 April and four of the group took part in the fractured marathon at Calke Abbey in June where their mixed team came a very respectable 15th out of 35.

## Our New Conductor

This is Rory from our Training Band. Mum Katherine explained:

"It was music day at school and Rory decided to go dressed as a conductor. It's good to know he has grand ambitions. He also played his trombone for his class which they all enjoyed."

Watch out Dave and Chris - it looks like there's competition on the horizon!



## Musical Director Case Dismissed



We reported in the last issue that Dave Newman had been summoned to appear at the Medieval Court that was held as part of the Hathern Big Week Festivities. There were around 60 people in Hathern Church to witness proceedings. The formal charge was that Dave and his musicians were playing music round the village without a proper licence. There was some suggestion that they made an awful racket but no witnesses were brave enough to come forward and attest to this.



Dave pleaded his case saying that he and his players only wanted to make music for the peasants of the village. There was a murmur of agreement from most of the assembled peasants in the church. The Lord of the Manor's bailiff decreed there was no case to answer as long as he went to the licensing court and obtained the necessary licence.

So it all ended happily as none of us wanted to see Dave thrown into a dark damp dungeon. Did we???

A big thank you to Gill Rockett of the Hathern Together group and the circa 1265 re-enactors for putting on such an enjoyable event.

## A Hathern Band in 1833

Moving on from 1265, our Hathern Band was formed in 1856 - and we celebrate our 170th anniversary in two years time. We are the oldest brass band in the Midlands, however we have discovered a reference to a band in Hathern 23 years earlier. First a bit of history. The truck or tommy system meant that workers had to accept being paid in goods, normally groceries of poor quality, or compelled to buy goods at the company shop often using tokens or vouchers. The system is the origin of the sayings "I'll have no truck with that" and "Tommy rot".



An Act of Parliament was passed in 1831 which required employees in many trades to be paid with the coin of the realm. The newspaper article relates:

"A correspondent writes that passing through Hathern on Monday last, he was surprised to find a number of people assembled **with a band of music** and a green and white flag, on which was inscribed "Reform". He enquired the reason and was told that they were celebrating the first fruits of the bill. They were framework knitters, employed in making rib-tops. Their master in Nottingham had sent them word that he should allow 1d per dozen more for making, which would increase their wages 2s per week, and this they thought good ground for rejoicing, as they could again find their families with a little meat and cheese, to their bread and potatoes."

Nottingham Review 12 Jan 1833."

## Mouse's 50 Years Recognised

We featured Mike "Mouse" Sturgess in our last issue and noted that he had been with the Band for 50 years. At the Band barbecue on 22 June Mike and wife Christine were cooking the food as usual, when the Band sprung a surprise. Dave Newman presented Mike with a certificate recognising his 50 years with Hathern Band.

Congratulations Mike!!



# Music Grade Success

Several of our young musicians have been successful in grading examinations conducted by Zoli Vicenze, Music Leader for Leicestershire Music. Jill Hepple was the piano accompanist.

At Grade 2, Iris Mattock (cornet) passed with distinction and Beba Atkin Barrett (cornet) passed with merit. At Grade 3, Mikael Tristante (tenor horn) passed with merit. At Grade 4, Hugh Jinks (baritone) passed with distinction and Calum Aird (cornet) passed with merit. At Grade 5, cornet players Charlie Embleton, Sophie Drewitt and Isaac Jinks all passed with merit.

Well done everyone!

## Forthcoming Engagements

- Summer Concert  
Sunday 18 August, 3:00p.m. *Stafford Orchard, Quorn.*
- Oadby Concert  
Saturday 5 October, 7:30p.m. *Trinity Methodist Church, Oadby*



Our 200 Club provides welcome funds for our bands as well as paying out cash prizes to the lucky winners.

it's only £1 per number per month by standing order. If you'd like to join, please contact

Sam Peak Email: [sambigfoot@hotmail.com](mailto:sambigfoot@hotmail.com)

### June

£30 Ken Powell

£24 Rowland and C Tatton

£15 Andy Bestwick

£12 Michael Pearson

£7.50 Mike Hale

### July

£30 Mick Veasey

£24 John Worsfold

£15 Dave Newman

£12 The Ainsworths

£7.50 Vanessa Harvey

### August

£30 Linda and John Wigley

£24 Sam Peak

£15 Mary Sibson

£12 Gemma Olweny

£7.50 Robert Fairlamb

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