

Recruitment

As always we are keen to attract new players, and although we always welcome woodwind players to the Band, we are really keen to attract new brass instrument players. So if you play, or know anyone who plays, Trumpet/Cornet, French Horn, Euphonium, or Tuba then you will be most welcome to join SCB.

Future Concert Dates for your diary:

- November 9th – Chatsworth House, Derbyshire : midday – 3.00 pm
- December 6th – Christmas Concert: Hugglescote Church, Coalville
- December 22nd - SCB Annual Christmas Concert : Holy Trinity Church, Ashby
- February 14th 2004 – ‘Barn Dance’ with The Windmill Folk, at Breedon Community Centre

The SCB Christmas CD

SCB's first CD is now available for purchase. With a terrific collection of some of the best music that Christmas has to offer, you can enjoy listening to SCB in the comfort of your own home, or the car, in the run up to Christmas. The price of the CD is just £8.95, and copies will be available at our forthcoming concerts, or by telephoning 01332.864007 and securing your copy. We're expecting them to sell like roasted chestnuts, so order your copy soon to avoid disappointment!

The SCB Patrons' Scheme

SCB's Patrons' Scheme continues to attract new supporters who are keen to provide the Band with direct financial support whilst obtaining a number of exclusive benefits. Becoming a Patron costs just £20 per year. For more information contact our Chairman, Dave Curtis, on 01332 810116, or any member of SCB Committee.

Michael Arkle – A Fond Farewell

When SCB started on the initiative of Liz Burney in September 1996, its first rehearsals took place in a room above the tearoom at the Ferrers Centre, Staunton Harold (hence Staunton in the band's title). But it quickly outgrew the limited space there and within three months had moved to its present venue at Breedon Community Centre.

During the six and a half years that SCB has been based at the Community Centre, it has always received the active encouragement and support of Michael Arkle, head of Breedon School and warden of the Community Centre. Michael has always been on hand to help with the practical arrangements at rehearsals and concerts, to run the bar for concerts at Breedon and elsewhere, to help things to run smoothly and generally to look after the band's interests.

So when Michael retired from his role at Breedon at the end of this summer term, the band was able to say a public "thank you" to him at the Summer Concert on 5 July. In typical style, he had to be called from the kitchen where he was clearing away after the interval drinks in order for chairman Dave Curtis to thank him and present him with a gift of a pair of binoculars. The band then played the theme from "Superman" as a light-hearted tribute!

We wish Michael well in his future career and hope to see him and his family at future SCB events.



STAUNTON CONCERT BAND

'Notations'

September 2003

Welcome to another copy of Staunton Concert Band Newsletter
So what's new and of note?

Well, it's the start of another year for SCB. We've just taken our annual summer break – 2 months off to let the lips recover!

For 2003/2004 we will again be trying to secure some Lottery funding to help us realise our ambitions for the coming 12 to 18 months. Our previous attempts at securing funding have been unsuccessful, not because there has been anything wrong with our application, rather that the Lottery fund has run out of money for organisations like SCB. So this time we are going to go for one of the small 'Arts for All' grants to see if we can succeed in raising much needed funds to pay for a Celebration Concert we are planning for Autumn 2004. More of that in our next 'Notations'.

On November 9th SCB has been invited to open the Christmas Music programme at Chatsworth House in Derbyshire. This is a fantastic opportunity for us, so if you fancy a trip out to a beautiful part of Derbyshire then we would love to see you there.

Finally, our long awaited Christmas CD is available for sale. At just £8.95 it's a bargain, and will help to make your Christmas, plus Christmas for absolutely everyone else you know, complete. We only need to sell 8000 copies and it could be 'Top of the Pops', so don't delay – buy today!

Staunton Concert Band 2003 Autumn Concert

A date for your diary!! SCB's next concert will be held on Saturday 4th October at St Denys Church, Ibstock. The concert starts at 7.30 p.m. and will run through to about 9.45 p.m. with a mid-concert break for refreshments.

The theme of the concert is 'Traditional Treasures', and you can look forward to a pleasing mix of popular folk songs like Blow Away The Morning Dew, Blow the Wind Southerly, and Greensleeves.

Tickets £5.00 – call 01530.260460, or pay on the door, but beware, this concert is usually a 'sell out', so buy your ticket early to avoid disappointment.

**Saturday 4th October at 7.30 p.m.
St Denys Church, Ibstock**

Portrait of a player – Trevor Powis

If ever there was a position in a concert band that asks for a flamboyant extrovert it is the percussionist. What then is Trevor Powis doing in this pivotal role for Staunton Concert Band?

Talk to him and he comes over as mild mannered and quietly spoken with a self depreciating Birmingham humour, but an altogether different Trevor emerges when he gets behind that drum kit. His musical talent is inherited from his father who used to play in a post war dance band. After a brief flirtation with drums at school, the young Trevor learned to play the piano and crucially to read music. It was much later in life that he took up the alto saxophone. This led to him being invited to play with SCB shortly after it started in 1986. A tendon injury nearly forced him to miss a concert in 2001, but instead the band borrowed a pair of timpani and Trevor had found another outlet for his musical talent! The seat behind the drum kit became vacant in 2002 when Dominic Parkhouse left for University and Trevor leapt at the opportunity. He is now rapidly developing into an accomplished percussionist providing the heart beat of the Staunton Concert Band.

Trevor says that he used to be overshadowed by his father, but when he retired his Dad confessed that the best gig they ever played was for the local school for the deaf. That gave Trevor all the confidence he needed to play for himself. Or perhaps it is just that sense of humour coming out again!

More new pieces for SCB at our next concert (a word, or two, from our MD)

Once again Staunton Concert Band has been invited to give a concert in St Denys Church at Ibstock, as part of the annual Ibstock Music Festival. This will be the third year running that we have been asked to play at Ibstock, and we are looking forward to playing to a capacity audience.

The theme for this years concert is folk songs and traditional music, so we have come up with a concert title of 'Traditional Treasures'.

When it comes to traditional and folk music, there is a wealth of music to draw upon in the Concert Band repertoire. No traditional music concert would be complete without the Ralph Vaughan Williams 'English Folk Song Suite'; this very popular piece is frequently played on *Classic FM*, albeit in the arrangement for full orchestra – a shame really because RVW wrote it for Concert and Military Band. We will also be playing those two great works by Holst – a great friend of RVW – namely his First Suite in Eb and the Second Suite in F.

The Concert Band pieces will be completed by a Fantasia arrangement of 'Dashing Away With A Smoothing Iron', 'Men of Harlech' and a beautiful rhapsody on 'The Minstrel Boy' – the later was made famous when it was used as the main theme to the film 'The Man Who Would Be King', starring Sean Connery and Michael Caine – not many people know that!

There will also be two ensemble groups playing short folk song suites; a mixed wind quintet will play Diversions on "Early One Morning", and a sax quartet will play the Northern Folk Song Suite, which includes well known numbers like "Cushie Butterfield" and "Dance to Thy Daddy".

Finally, we are pleased once again to welcome Alexandra Gamble to our SCB concert at Ibstock. Alex will be singing a number of well known traditional songs, accompanied by Sian Turner on piano (Sian is usually to be seen playing oboe in the concert band).

Are there any pieces you would like us to play?

If you've got a real favourite you think SCB could play then drop us a line or e-Mail and tell us your suggestion - you never know - it could be on a future concert programme! e-Mail: requests@stauntonconcertband.co.uk