

Looking Back at 2004

What a year we had!! We have played in a wide variety of venues. From a stately home to a supermarket car park, from a school hall to some of the county's more delightful churches - we were there. 2004 was the year that we played in concert with a professional musician, lifting our playing to new heights. Our playing membership has consistently been around fifty which has contributed to the unique 'Staunton Sound'.

The year marked two new ventures of which we are proud. The Celebration Concert with professional trombonist Chris Jeans brought us new friends in the Ashby district and raised our standards both in playing and presentation. Chris's solo piece The Concertino for Trombone and Concert Band was brilliant for both audience and orchestra. We had to find funding to make the concert possible, so it was a major exercise for the Band to be there.

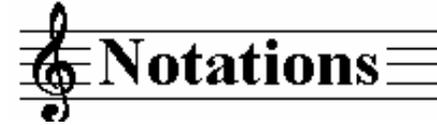
Our other new venture was playing at the Ashby Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, with its mixture of sombre tribute to those who lost their lives fighting wars for their country and music of hope for the future. We are delighted that we are going to play for this event again in 2005.

We give our special thanks to our musical director Adrian Ashton, whose continued hard work for the band made everything happen in 2004. He doesn't just confine himself to rehearsing and conducting the orchestra, he is also the driving force behind our playing. He takes on many of the tasks that need to be done to make a concert happen and for this we are extremely grateful.

**Don't forget to visit our web site
www.stauntonconcertband.co.uk**



STAUNTON CONCERT BAND



Welcome to 'Notations' the newsletter of Staunton Concert Band, for January 2005. May we wish our patrons a very happy and prosperous new year.

We are looking forward to another year of music making under the leadership of our musical director Adrian Ashton. As we go to press several concerts are at the organising stage. A new event for us this year will be playing at the re-opening of Kedleston Hall in March. We have been invited back to St. Denys church, Ibstock, in May, to give a concert with a VE Day and Last Night of the Proms theme. We are playing for the Leonard Cheshire Home at their annual Rotary Garden Party in June - another new venture for us. We are delighted that we have been asked to play at Ashby's Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance in November, and of course our Christmas diary is already filling up with concerts in Ashby and Hugglescote.

There are also two social events for you to look forward to. We have a **Barn Dance** booked for Saturday 5th March (see advert below) and of course we will have our **Summer Barbeque** in June.

We have entered into preliminary talks with Ashby's Twinning Committee about a visit next year to Pithiviers in France. Altogether we are going to be a busy band for next year and beyond.

**Portrait of a Player
Brian Perry**

Look along the clarinet players for the distinguished gentleman of military bearing and you will have found Brian. An ex-regular soldier in the Royal Marines, he saw Foreign Service in Aden, Yemen, Bahrain, Kuwait, Hadramaut, Oman, French Somaliland and Norway as well as several home postings on the South Coast.

Brian's early life was not without tragedy, he lost his father in a road traffic accident when he was 10. This led to him and his sister spending some time in a Dr Barnardo Home, before going to live with a Foster Parent. Between leaving school and joining the Royal Marines he was apprenticed to GEC. It was during his time in the service that he met his wife to be, Elise, who plays tenor saxophone with SCB.

After leaving the Marines Brian first worked for Rediffusion and then set up his own auto-electrical business, which he now partners with one of his sons. His other business interest is the up-market 'Bed & Breakfast' venue that he runs with Elise.

Making music did not enter Brian's life until 1994. Brian is a life-long fan of Benny Goodman, and looking for a new challenge, he bought a clarinet and took part in group lessons at Norman's in Burton on Trent. It was from here that Staunton Wind Orchestra (as it was known then) was formed. Brian was the founding chairman, and has been a loyal member ever since.

His other interests centre on the Ashby de la Zouch branch of the Royal British Legion. It was Brian's efforts that made the Remembrance Concert in November such a success. Brian is a tireless fundraiser for both the Legion and Barnardos.

**Staunton Concert Band's
Annual
BARN DANCE
at Breedon Community Centre**

Saturday 5th March 2005 at 7:30 pm

**Dancing to
THE WINDMILL FOLK**

**Licensed Bar
Refreshments**

**members, patrons and guests all welcome
Tickets £5.00 (Children £3.00) from Pat Maltby**

Diary Dates 2005

- 5th February - Barn Dance
- 19th March - Kedleston Hall
- 21st May - Ibstock St Denys
- 11th June - Leonard Cheshire Homes Garden Party, Ashby
- June (tba) - SCB Barbeque and rounders match

For ticket reservations and further information please contact Jackie Ashton on 01332 864007 or Pat Maltby on 01530 222934 or visit the web site www.stauntonconcertband.co.uk