



Seindorf Beaumaris Band

FRIENDS NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2015

A day to remember...

The **Intermediate Band**, under Bethan Evans's leadership, took part in the British Youth Brass Band Championships in Manchester earlier this year.

The Junior Category of the Championships is open to bands whose band members are under 16. We faced quite a challenge – with 11 bands competing, including last year's winners, Fred Longworth High School, Manchester.

According to the judges, the opening notes of our band's performance were "strong" and "confident" and the young musicians' pleasure was evident as they relaxed and got into the swing of things.

All the hard work paid off, with a memorable performance of the hymn *Aurelia* - the only band to succeed in capturing the dynamic and correct phrasing, according to the judges.

We were then treated to a first class performance of *Tragedy* by the Bee Gees and two songs from the musical *The Lion King*; *Can You Feel The Love* and *Circle of Life* to complete their programme.

A rapturous applause broke out across the hall as the youngsters took their bows.

When the announcement came that Beaumaris had won, I'm sure everyone on Anglesey must have heard the noise that filled the hall! It was another special day and more evidence of the talent in our family of bands. To beat some of the best bands in Britain was quite an achievement.

You can hear their programme in the summer concert.



Huge congratulations to Bethan and the band

Beaumaris Band Summer Concert 2015

Friday 10th July 2015 7.30pm

Tickets now on sale in Canolfan Beaumaris
Leisure Centre.

To book please ring 01248 811200

Friends – please spread the word!

We are always eager to welcome new Friends to join us and support the Band. Your contribution is invaluable in supporting our talented local musicians – helping to buy instruments, uniforms and other essentials for the Band's activities.

Many Friends now receive this newsletter by email, helping us reduce costs. If you can join them, please email

friendsofbeaumarisband@gmail.com.

Juniors – The 45 players in our **Junior Band** will open the summer concert, under Fred Evans's nurturing leadership. Ranging from four to 11 year olds, many will take to the stage for the first time - we've gained 20 new recruits in the last six months! They will perform popular tunes that they enjoy playing to delight us all.

Fun in the sun ... in mid Wales

After several months of cajoling and encouraging the **LSW** band, Fred finally managed to persuade them to compete for the very first time!

The LSW travelled to Newtown for the annual Hymn and March competition ... but the band did pass up the opportunity to march down the main street! Of course, it's not the competing which is important to the LSW, but the social element and the chance to blow and have a laugh!

A wonderful day was had by all in the sunshine, listening to all the other bands with the highlight being the fantastic performance of the Beaumaris Senior Band.

The **Senior Band**, under the baton of Gwyn Evans, won the competition for the second successive year, with the band also picking up the Best March (The Cossack), Best Bass section and soloist (Euphonium) prizes.

Playing with the Senior Band in Newtown were several members of the **Youth Band** who have enjoyed another successful year.

The band was awarded the music prize at the Youth Brass Band Entertainment Championships of Great Britain in Blackpool.

Pippa Scourse secured the Outstanding Soloist award again this year, but unfortunately the Band had to be satisfied with second place in the overall competition.

After all their hard work, the Youth Band is going on tour to Norway this summer, playing two concerts with Tasta Band of Stavanger as well as one concert with Norwegian Champion Band, Stvanager Brass. We'll report on their trip in the next newsletter.

SEE PHOTOS OF ALL OUR ACTIVITIES ON FACEBOOK: SEINDORF BEAUMARIS BAND

Some words from the Chair

This has been another wonderful year for our young players and those not so young!

They have made us very proud, not only in their competition and concert successes, but in their commitment. They are a shining example of young people today and we've received great comments from far and wide about their friendliness, exemplary behaviour and musicianship.

All this would not happen without our musical directors and I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Gwyn, Fred and Bethan along with all the other players who give their unstinting help. There are so many others who give of their time and talents – to all of them a big THANK YOU.

The recent death of Ruth Gwilliam has shocked and saddened us all and our sympathies go to Bari and all the family at the loss of this true friend of the band.

Ruth and I started our association with the band all those years ago when Fred and co. reformed the band with youngsters from the local schools. Bari and Ben, our sons, were five years old and we parents ran coffee mornings, raffles, etc. to raise funds. The band room in Margaret Street would never have passed health and safety checks as there were sections of floor that had to be avoided in case you fell through the holes! We had egg cartons on the walls to help the acoustics! We've come a long way since then thanks in no small way to the continued support of our many friends.

Thank you all, and best wishes, **Patsy Thomas.**

Senior Band ensembles can be heard at...

21 June – Castell Penrhyn (1pm and 2.30pm)

9 July – Anglesey Youth Sports Awards

12 September – Beaumaris Food Festival

