

## Welcome to the Friends' newsletter

We hope you have had a great 2024 so far and are looking forward to a warm summer. Although we are only halfway through the year, the Summer Concert marks the end of the band year (before it all starts up again in September) and what a year it has been! Following on from successes last year, this spring the Youth band competed in Lithuania and the Senior Band in Birmingham, only slightly less exotic! Both did very well, and The Friends, your charity, were able to give significant help to both, as we describe in the news items below.

There were reports in the national news earlier this year describing a decline in brass bands across Wales and England. Beaumaris and district are very fortunate to have a thriving family of bands that provides a pathway from Junior learners all the way up to Youth and Senior success. This is made possible by incredible effort and dedication by the people who work to keep the bands going, parents of young players, and the many people who support the bands in many ways. And you, The Friends of Seindorf Beaumaris Band, are a very important part of that vital support.

We hope to see you at the Summer Concert on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July, and we hope you were able to make it to the Christmas Concert at the end of last year. The 'Friends' run the raffle and the bar at both, helping to raise funds that keep all the Seindorf Beaumaris Bands going.

## Youth Band success in Europe!



We are proud to report that on 5<sup>th</sup> May Beaumaris Youth Band represented Wales at the European Youth Brass Band Championships in Palanga, Lithuania. They performed extremely well on the world's biggest Youth Band stage, and came third in a hard fought competition with high standards. It was a very close result, just 1 point away from second place!

It was a weekend to treasure for our band of fun-loving and very, very talented young musicians. What a great experience for them and a huge boost to their development and journey in music! Ten of the band members were competing in the same competition six years ago in Utrecht!

### Forthcoming Events 2024:

#### July

Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm	Summer Concert	Canolfan
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#### September

Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Noon	Beaumaris Fun Run	
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#### October

Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm	Noson Cawl a Chân Soup & Song	Band room
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#### November

Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Parade	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm	Christmas Bingo	Band room
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Brass In Concert	Gateshead
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1.00pm	Christmas Fair	Town Hall

#### December

Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> 7.00 pm	Christmas Concert	Canolfan
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> 7.00 pm	Christmas Concert	Canolfan

The Friends of Seindorf Beaumaris Band were pleased to make a significant and essential contribution towards the cost of the Lithuania trip.

## Senior Band wins at ConsTest

The Band had a fantastic day at the Royal Conservatoire in Birmingham in April. The hard work of Bari Gwilliam and all the band was rewarded with plenty of silverware to take home.

Seindorf Beaumaris Band came 3rd overall, and also won:

- Highest placed First Section band
- Best Back Row Cornets
- Best Basses



All the competing bands thoroughly enjoyed a relaxed, well-organised and well-structured contest. Rehearsal space and time was generous and the format allowed bands to play music that suited them best. Beaumaris played *'The Saga of Haakon the Good'* which was very well received.

*Brassing Around* wrote that "... the solo euphonium had a brilliant day, along with the brilliant young principal cornet sat opposite".

The ConsTest competition was the first outing for the two newly-refurbished basses which was funded by The Friends of Seindorf Beaumaris Band, so you all had a hand in them winning that prize!



## Beaumaris Festival

The Senior Band made a welcome and much-anticipated return to the Gŵyl Beaumaris Festival with an entertaining program of music from Glenn Miller to Johann Strauss, *Sosban Fach* to *Mood Indigo* – there was something for everyone!

## Newtown competition

The Intermediate Band and the LSW both played at the delightful open-air competition in Newtown. The weather was kind, everyone enjoyed the day and both bands came away with trophies! Intermediate were joint 1<sup>st</sup> with North Powys Youth band in the Youth section, with Hari Siôn the youngest percussionist of the day, and LSW won 1<sup>st</sup> in the non-registered band section

## Fundraising activities

Members across all bands have been busy fundraising, particularly in aid of the Youth Band's successful trip to Lithuania. Highlights included:

- A concert in Llangoed by Beaumaris's young players. The Intermediate Band gave a wonderful performance with talent that assures the future of the bands, and the Youth Band gave a preview of their European competition programme
- An 'Entertaining Afternoon' by the younger members of the bands was very enjoyable, showing the marvellous vocal talent they have in addition to their abilities on various instruments
- A cycle ride across Anglesey raised money for the trip, as did a 10km sponsored walk that finished at Melin Llyn.
- The Junior and Intermediate bands held a very successful Coffee Morning in June which was well attended



### Friends' website

[www.friendsofbeaumarisband.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbeaumarisband.org.uk)

Don't forget to visit the Friends of Seindorf Beaumaris Band's own website, where you will find more photos, up to date news and diary dates.

