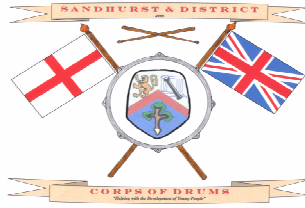


Sandhurst & District "Corps of Drums"

"Helping with the Development of Young People"

**News Letter No 17
August 2006**



**Founded April 2005
Registered Charity No
1110329**

Affiliated to BACYP and NACYP

Welcome to the August news letter. I hope you are enjoying the heat? I think with what the band has achieved over the last month all of which has been in the extreme heat; they have done extremely well to cope, well done. July proved to be our busiest month so far. We have successfully performed at three carnivals, the Sandhurst Freedom of the Borough day and also the Rushmoor Youth Band Contest, more on these later. July has been a real learning experience for everyone involved with the band. We have seen a lot of support from parents at these events which has been a big help to us all and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who helped out. The last few months have been quite intense for all of us so I think we are all relieved that we can have a more relaxed time over the next few months. However, we can not afford to sit back on our successes for to long? We now need to start looking at areas for improvement so we will still be working hard at our band practice evenings. For those of you who are about to go on holiday, I hope you have a great time and make the most of your break. Best regards Mark.

Band Contest – Three Cups but lessons to be learnt?

Sunday 16th July saw the Sandhurst & District Corps of Drums enter their first ever band contest. The Rushmoor Youth Band Contest was held as part of the Aldershot Army Show. The day started with us all meeting at 10.00 a.m. We started getting ready for our performance which was to be at 11.10 a.m. thankfully, we were playing during the morning as it was an extremely hot day and at least we did not have the full heat which other bands experienced as the day went on. We marched down to the holding areas where nine of our band members were picked at random to be inspected for their turnout.



(Band members being inspected for turnout)



(Proud members holding cups that were won)

Once this was completed we marched round to the arena entrance and then marched in to the arena to get ready to perform. After saluting the judges to signify we were ready to start we opened with our bugle call and drummers call. Then stepped of to Farmers Boy followed by Jalalabad. Once halted, we played the Great Escape, World in Union and finished our performance with Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines. I have to say that we received a really good response from the audience which always helps to give the band members confidence. At 4.00 p.m. we again marched down to join the other bands for the final muster and awards giving. I was completely surprised and extremely proud when we were awarded a cup for best Wind (bugles) and best Mallets (Bell Lyre) we also shared the cup for second place.

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The one down side was that during our performance we went 15 seconds over time and therefore had three penalty points deducted. If this had not happened we would have been the out right winners of the novice class. I have to say that I have been proud of our band on many occasions, but Sunday was the ultimate for me. To think that eleven months after our first practice evening the band achieved this was truly incredible. Well done to every band member for their hard work and commitment. One final note, everyone now has the contest bug and we will be back next year to show how we have taken on board the judges comments and improved over this year.



(The Salute to signify the end of the performance)



(Bands form up for Awards)

SANDHURST FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH DAY

Saturday 15th July was the Sandhurst Freedom of the Borough day which saw over two hundred Officer Cadets from the Royal Military Academy exercise their right to march through the town. The RMA Sandhurst were awarded the Freedom of the Borough in July 1997. The day started as normal, very hot and we set up our fund raising and recruitment stall ready to receive the expected 15 thousand visitors for the day's event. Our fund raising team worked very hard throughout the day on the two Tombola's we had while myself and other band staff covered the information and recruitment side of things. We had been asked to perform after the RMA Cadets had arrived and after the RMA band had performed their display. We assembled in full uniforms and marched round to the arena entrance ready to go on. As the RMA band marched out of the arena we gave them a well deserved round of applause and then got ready to march on.



Rose, Linda and Lorraine covered the Fund Raising stall (Lorraine Peters pictured above)



The band ready to march on (very smart indeed)

As we marched in to the arena, I think we were all surprised of how many people were watching us, all four sides to the arena must have been 3-4 people deep and they gave us a massive round of applause as we entered. We marched in, counter marched and carried out several right and left wheels before halting to play our main set. We played in extreme heat for over half an hour before I asked the Mayor of Sandhurst Cllr Elizabeth North permission to march the band off.

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As we marched off the audience gave another massive round of applause with many of them cheering. We managed to get away from the arena before two band members had to be pulled out due to the heat. However, after a well deserved drink of water and a cold face wipe they were OK. At the end of the event the money collected from the tombola's was counted and after floats taken out we made £230.00 which will go towards our general band fund. So again, another very successful day for all concerned.



Here they come.....

There they go...



Chelsea Shirt Sold

You may remember that we were kindly donated by Kirk Scott (Angie's husband) a signed Chelsea shirt. Well I am pleased to announce that Paul Cave recently sold this on our behalf for £250.00 this was great news as we have put the money towards imitation leopard skins for both our bass drum players and also leg aprons for our new potential tenor drum players. On behalf of everyone in the band, we would like to thank Kirk for his kind donation to us, we really appreciate it. Thank you from the Band

School holidays, remember to still practice

With the school holiday's now in progress, I would like to request that all band members continue with their daily practice routines. Do not forget, the band is still there for you every Monday evening up until Christmas so you need to maintain your practicing. Although through out the summer holiday's, we will have reduced numbers, it means that those attending will need to work an extra bit harder.

CORPS OF DRUMS – DIARY OF REMAINING EVENTS

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
Saturday 12 th August	Whitebourne Care Home	TBC
Sunday 27 th August	Sandhurst Donkey Derby	TBC
Saturday 14 th October	Make Poverty History	TBC
Wednesday 22 nd November	Fleet Street Festival	TBC

IMPORTANT NOTES

Please note: we may require some help with transport for band members at some of the above events. If you would be happy to help us then please let Rose, Lorraine, Linda or Angie know so we can make a list in case we do need help.

AUGUST COMPETITION

As I was away on holiday prior to the end of July, I will announce the July competition winner at our first night back which is 7th August. Thank you for a better response last month to the competition.

The August competition is on our history so far. All band members should be aware of certain things regarding the band as there will come a time (most likely on an inspection) that you could be asked questions about the Sandhurst & District Corps of Drums? All questions in the competition can be found in previous news letters or on our web site www.sandhurstdrums.co.uk

Q: Which month was the Corps of Drums founded?

Q: What was the exact date we held our first weekly practice session?

Q: Who is the Secretary, Treasurer and who are the two Fund Raisers for the Corps of Drums?

Q: Who is our Drum Tutor?

Q: Who is our main Wind Instructor?

Q: Who was the founder of the Sandhurst & District Corps of Drums?

All entries to be back with me by the end of August. The first correct answer drawn from a hat will win a new pair of **ShawX White Drum Sticks**.



Officers and Cadets on parade Photograph courtesy of RMAS

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