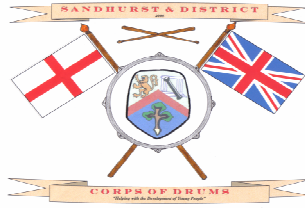


Sandhurst & District "Corps of Drums"

News Letter No 14
May 2006



Founded April 2005
Registered Charity No
1110329

Affiliated to BACYP and NACYP

*Welcome to news letter number 14. I hope you all had a nice Easter and did not eat too much chocolate? Well, as most of you who attended the **Thank You Concert** will hopefully agree, I think it was a complete success. As mentioned in my talk on the night, we were expecting a few mistakes (from me as well) and some were made. However these were very few and at the end of the day to start our career as a band in front of nearly 200 people I think everyone done extremely well. I have received many phone calls, letters and e-mails asking me to pass on congratulations to all band members for their performance and their turn out on the night. I myself felt very proud of the band and thought they looked very smart in their new uniforms. More on the concert later on in the news letter. Still as they say in my job, "you're only as good as your last order"? Well although we can enjoy the compliments for a short while we must now move on to the next event and start preparing for that. We have a very busy couple of month's coming up but if we can continue the way we have been then there should be no problems? Hope you all enjoy this issue of the news letter. Best regards Mark*

"Thank You Concert" Saturday April 8th 2006



Full band at attention and ready to play

We have received many calls of congratulations for what the band achieved at the concert. When we first thought of putting this event on we had several reasons why we felt we wanted to do it.

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*Drummers Josh Powell and Jon Niblett
(smart lads)*

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“Thank You Concert” ***Saturday April 8th 2006***

(Continued from front page)

We wanted to use this event to introduce the band to a good size audience. This was achieved with nearly 200 people present. Many of our band members have never performed in front of an audience before and certainly not to this size of audience. However they carried their selves very well and in my opinion looked like a far more experienced band than they are? We also wanted a tool in which we could thank everyone who has helped us over the last 8 month's. This was also achieved as I believe the many people who were in the audience that have helped financially could see how their donations have been used and have benefited the members in the band. Lastly we wanted to also stress that we still have a way to go with equipment and uniforms and further financial help is still needed. The Mayor of Sandhurst Cllr Elizabeth North said some very nice things during her speech, these being ***“the Corps of Drums is a jewel in the crown of Sandhurst”, “We are already very proud of them”***.

We expected a few mistakes to happen and they did although many people may not have noticed them. However this is good as we can learn from them and improve things for next time. However, 95% of what the band done was spot on and I really believe that the audience were more than impressed. So to summarise, everyone connected with the band were very pleased that the evening went well and everyone enjoyed the first big performance. Well done to the band.



*Even the Queen could not get a seat at the concert.
We found her taking pictures through the window.*

Thank You Concert DVD –on its way

For those of you who attended the concert, you would have seen that we were having it filmed. We hope to have a DVD as a record of the evening. This will hopefully be available in the next 3-4 weeks. The expected cost will be £14.99 and will be available to buy at band practice or via the news letter (***post cost will be additional***) We would like to get a feel for how many copies we need to order, so if you are interested then please let us know in advance if possible.

New Trailer Used for the First Time

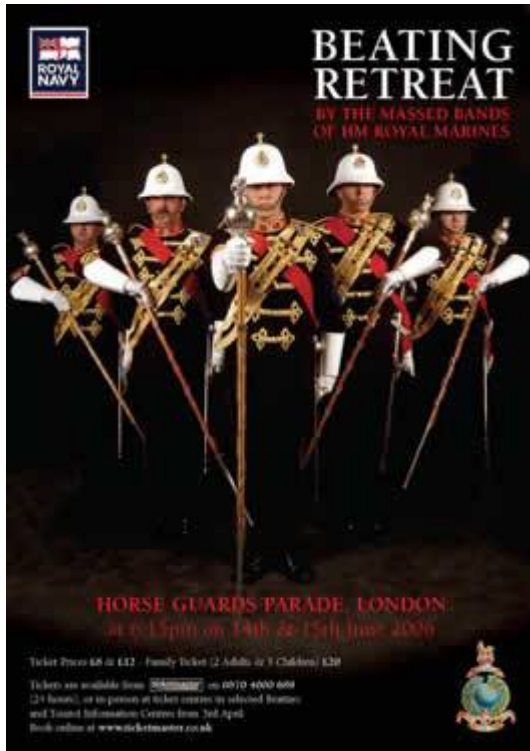
The Thank You Concert also gave us the opportunity to use our new trailer which is pictured below. This as you know was kindly donated by the ***Rotary Club of Crowthorne and Sandhurst*** and was sign written by ***Vulcan Motors***. I have to say how good it was using this to transport everything we needed for the concert. We were able to get all the instruments, uniforms and other items needed in side with room to spare. It was really nice to be able to just load every thing up in one go. This is a great asset to the Corps. Once again, many thanks.



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Corps First Trip booked.



The Corps first trip out is now booked. We will be running a coach to Horse Guards Parade in London on Thursday 15 June 2006 to watch the massed bands of HM Royal Marines "Beating Retreat".

This should be a spectacular event with over 250 musicians on parade.

The cost of the trip is £23.00 each. We have a few places left on the coach but if you want to go then you must let us know as soon as possible. Once the coach is full we will keep a reserve list in case anyone has to cancel. Please note that if you cancel your place we can only return your money if we are able to sell the ticket to someone else.

I have a video of the Royal Marines performing this ceremony when they last attended it in 1996 and it is really good. We can learn a lot from seeing how the professionals do it. I can't wait to see them.

Anyone interested should talk to Rose, Linda, Lorraine or Angie who will give you further information.

Bugle Lessons, new idea

I am considering the possibility of running a Bugle Diploma. This is only at concept stage currently but my basic thoughts are as follows.

I need to raise some money to purchase sufficient bugles to allow as many band members as possible to access the diploma course. This will take some time to do. I am currently applying for various grants to hopefully cover the cost of this. If successful, there will be a further period of time when we are waiting for new bugles to arrive. I will also need to find a qualified bugle instructor who can work with and assist Toby Garde.

If we can go ahead with this idea, you will appreciate that to try and run this on a normal Monday evening would be impossible. Therefore I think we would try to run it on Saturday afternoons. This will then allow us to totally focus on bugle playing.

I am aware of a few band members who may be interested but I need to get a better understanding of how many members would like to do this if we can get it going. Please could all members interested please let me know as soon as possible. **Regards Mark.**

Berkshire Scout's St George's Day Parade Review.

The Corps first full marching parade took place on Sunday 23rd April. We were asked to lead the Berkshire Scout groups on their annual St George's day parade which was held at the RMA Sandhurst. The Corps of Drums had to lead nearly 300 scouts, cubs and beavers. The weather although very overcast did remain dry for most of the time and considering this was the first proper march for them they all done extremely well. When we arrived, we played several tunes for the waiting audience. The estimated number must have been around 500-600 people (maybe more?) many were very surprised with the standard the Corps of Drums showed. The drummers performed both the 6/8 beating and the drum static they done at the Thank You Concert, these went down very well. I have been told that the organisers were very impressed and we will be asked to do this event next year. Well done everyone.

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CORPS OF DRUMS – DIARY OF EVENTS

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
Saturday 13 th May (evening)	2 nd Sandhurst Scouts AGM	Selected Members
MONDAY 29th MAY	SANDHURST DONKEY DERBY	SEE NOTES
Saturday 3 rd June 2006 (afternoon)	Freemasons Open Day	All members
Saturday 10 th June (afternoon)	Broadway House	Selected Members
Tuesday 13 th June (evening)	Yateley Towns Women's Guild	Selected Members
Saturday 1st July (morning)	Aldershot Victoria Day Parade	All members
Saturday 1st July (afternoon)	Fleet Carnival	All members
Sunday 9 th July (afternoon)	Frimley Green Carnival	All members
Saturday 15 th July (mid day onwards)	RMA Freedom of the Borough	All members
Sunday 16 th July (all day)	Aldershot Youth Band Contest	All day event
Wednesday 22 nd November	Fleet Street Festival	TBC

IMPORTANT NOTES

As previously advised, we will not be playing at the Sandhurst Donkey Derby. However we will have a stall there and will require some members to attend if possible.

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.

MAY COMPETITION

Sorry we did not have a competition for April, but this month we are back with the May one. The competition this month is a mix of questions. You may need to do a bit of background work to find the answers out but please have a go. I keep telling you "you have to be in it to win it"

Q: The Sandhurst & District Corps of Drums has recently been affiliated to two organisations. You need to tell me who these are? A clue is in this news letter. However I need to know what the full names are of these groups. You may need to refer back to previous news letters to help you?

Q: We are entering the Youth Band contest at Aldershot on 16th July. This is run under the TYMBA ruling system. You need to tell me what TYMBA stands for?

Q: There are several youth marching band associations. You need to give me two youth band organisation names? This sounds hard but just look on the web.

The first correct answer drawn from the hat will win. Prize this month will be a surprise.

Good luck...

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