

Dates for your diary

Day / Date	Event	Time
11th May	Brass on the Grass Contest, Victoria Farm near Willey, Lutterworth.	All day
2nd June	Botanic Gardens, Oadby	3pm
30th June	Melton Park	2:45pm
18th August	Hollycroft Park, Hinckley	3pm

Got an event coming up and would like some musical entertainment?

Feel free to contact The Wigston Band to see what we can do for you! With competitive rates, high quality musicians and a wide repertoire of music you are sure not to be disappointed!

Or if you play a brass instrument and would like to join our friendly band, then feel free to give us a ring!



THE WIGSTON ENTERPRISE BAND



THE WIGSTON HORIZON BAND



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Our Family Caring For Your Family

Memories are built in a moment
but last more than a lifetime

#LiveLifeToTheFull

Contact the Senior Band:

0116 2877187

Email: wigstonbrassband@gmail.com

Contact the Horizon and Enterprise Bands:

07866 958583 / 07928 192650

Email: wigstonenterpriseband@gmail.co.uk

Contact the Website and Bum Notes:

01455 271720

www.wigstonbrassband.com

Bum Notes

In previous years, I would write an article explaining about the Senior Bands trip to Bedworth for the Midlands Brass Band Championships and their performance there (this year they came 8th by the way). However, this year, one member of the band had an exciting personal journey to the Area that I am going to share with you!

I have been in The Wigston Band for about 13 years now and have enjoyed progressing through the ranks from my initial stints on 3rd cornet through to solo cornet before challenging myself with a go on Eb horn. But, I never really felt comfortable, always feeling inadequately placed or that the seat didn't quite suit me. However, quite out of the blue last August, MD Chris Small pulled me aside and asked if I would like to have a go on flugel horn. Not being a particularly brave or confident player made me initially think he was having a joke! I had never been considered for such a big musical responsibility before and didn't particularly think I would last long!

So, there started my journey and what turned out to be 6 months of mixed emotions! No matter what I did it just never was right—too loud, too quite not enough vibrato! My head was spinning with a whole range of new expectations and on

top of it all having to switch to learn how to play a new instrument. As well as that, the flugel can happily be playing along with everyone else and then suddenly find themselves totally on their own playing a solo! There was lots to get used to!

As the weeks and months past, I thought things were getting easier and that I could cope with anything, up until the difficult stand up solo at Christmas! I just wanted to do well and on the night the notes were all there just not necessarily in the right order! I was so disheartened and ready to call it a day then, but instead picked myself up and put in a couple of much more impressive performances that Christmas period, the best one being at St Thomas Church. My heart was racing and I was having to swallow down nerves, but the feeling of playing on my own in such an amazing venue was great.

Inside this edition:

Contest news

Upcoming events

SPRING
2019

VOLUME 9
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News and events from
The Wigston Band



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Journey to the Area

Continued on page 2

Into the new year, as the rehearsals on Rise of the Phoenix ramped up, I was getting pulled up on everything from tempo to vibrato to the extra 5% in volume that MD Chris Small didn't want and then did want! The rest of the band were wonderfully supportive, giving me kind words of encouragement and praise for my progress. These kept me going when it was all getting tricky!

A big hurdle to overcome came at the end of February at the Oxford Contest. Nerves were certainly flowing and as such my playing ended up with a lot of extra vibrato! But I got through it with only a few tiny mistakes and a huge growth in confidence. And the band finished with a 4th place position so it was a reasonably successful day all round!

Finally the day of the Area contest arrived. I was certainly excited for day in order to be able to show off what I had learnt, but also so nervous that I would just mess it all up! But, sitting on stage everything

just felt so right, like it had all clicked into place and I had found my instrument. The lyricism seemed to flow the instrument and I put in a confident performance, being so different from the ball of nerves I have been in December! All of the hard work and emotions flowed out in the form of tears of relief as soon as I walked off stage!

Through the past 6 months, I felt like I had been on a huge personal journey, from an unsure Eb horn player, to a confident, soloist flugel horn player. But, I did realise something—brass bands and their players can't truly be successful with the support and friendships that are formed within them. Sitting on stage knowing they were all behind me was such an amazing feeling. The Area was a huge, unbelievable achievement for me and one which wouldn't have been possible without all of unwavering support and encouragement from my Wigston Band friends. Thank you to you all!

By Abi Harding, Senior Band Flugel Player



200 Club



wigstonbrassband@gmail.com

Here are the results from the recent 200 Club draws. Well done to all of the winners!

To be in with the chance of winning some fantastic cash prizes, email Gary Lewin for details about joining the 200 Club:

1st Prize = £70

2nd Prize = £30

January

38 The Enterprise Band

136 Mrs P Ward

February

051 Mrs M Horsborough

116 Mr D Spray

March

075 Mr D Spray

020 Mr P Spray



Would you like the opportunity to win a £70 cash prize?

Well join The Wigston Band 200 Club!

For just £2 a month, you can have a number and be added into our monthly prize draw. Plus there is a £400 star prize at Christmas! It is certainly well worth it!

For further details contact, Gary Lewin:

wigstonbrassband@gmail.com

www.wigstonbrassband.com



End of 2018



The end of 2018 was as usual an extremely busy time for the Wigston Band. From caroling at supermarkets to performing concerts at bowls clubs and churches we all put in a lot of hard work and enjoyed getting everybody into a festive mood. Here are some highlight pictures from our St Thomas Church concert.



Very early 2019 diary dates:

- December 8th—ASDA, Fosse Park
- December 15th—ASDA, Fosse Park
- December 15th—Shearsby Church

December 19th— St Thomas Church Concert

- December 20th—ASDA, Fosse Park
- December 22nd—ASDA, Fosse Park

Enterprise and Horizon Band Bum Notes

Contest News

Back in January, The Enterprise Band took their annual trip to Skegness. As always, the weather was bitterly cold, but that didn't stop the band giving their all!

This year's Butlins Contest was a huge transition point for a number of the members as they started to make their first steps from Horizon Band into Enterprise Band. Caleb, Daniel and Lily enjoyed their first contest with Enterprise and are looking forward to many more contests and concerts to come.

On stage the band played a wonderful varied concert that was enjoyed by all. They started off their programme with a rousing 'Grand March from Aida' that certainly helped to wake everyone up. Following this, Rhiannon showed her talent on flugel in the Toy Story 2

classic, 'When She Loved Me'. They then played a moving rendition of 'In Christ Alone' and ended their programme with the Beach Boys hit 'God Only Knows'. All came off stage beaming due to the wonderful performance they had put in.

After a trip to the pool and a couple of rounds of crazy golf it was time to gather back together for the results. The adjudicator told of how he loved seeing all of the young talent on display and especially the major improvements he had heard in bands over the past few

years. Enterprise Band were placed 3rd and intend another trip to Skegness is needed next year to try for a 2nd or even a win! Well done Enterprise!



If you'd like to join the fun in Enterprise Band or Horizon Band, contact our MDs Pat and Matt for more details:

07866 958583 / 07928 192650

Horizon Training Day



The Wigston Band is full of very talented individuals, and this can especially be said for our youngsters within Horizon Band.

On 17th March, the band got together for a day focused on learning a range of new pieces ready for the upcoming Brass on the Grass Contest at Victoria Farm. Starting off with a range of team building games, the band then split off into groups to focus on their individual parts alongside Enterprise and Senior Band tutors.



Following a day full of hard work on their new pieces, the Horizon Band came together to put on a special concert to the parents to show what they had learned. Considering they had only just started learning those pieces and some of

them had been to Horizon for the very first time that day, it was amazing to see the amount of progress that everyone had made. They put on a great mini concert! An especially big well done to Charis, who plucked up the courage and chose to play a duet in front of all of the parents. Baring in mind she had only seen the piece, which was called 'Two Butterflies' for about 15 minutes that day, this was a huge achievement. Well done!



Both Enterprise and Horizon Bands are always looking for new members so if you'd like to join the fun, or know someone who would then contact our MDs Pat and Matt for more details. **07866 958583 / 07928 192650** We would love to see you there! And remember, you are never too old to learn a brass instrument!



Concert in the Gardens

Sunday 2nd June, 3pm

**University of Leicester Botanic Gardens,
Glebe Road, Oadby, LE1 7RH**

A free concert in the gorgeous surroundings of the botanic gardens, with lots of delicious refreshments and a raffle. Bring a picnic and a blanket!



For further details contact: 0116 2877187

wigstonbrassband@gmail.com

www.wigstonbrassband.com

www.le.ac.uk/botanicgarden

Donations to be collected following the concert to be split between the Botanic Gardens and The Wigston Band.



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The Wigston Band Organisation

Cake and Plant Sale

Special for 2019!

Featuring an 'Unusual Planter' competition—
get your gardening gloves on and see if you can make a
surprising and unique planter!

What remarkable blossoms will you plant up?!

**Saturday 18th May,
10:30am—1:30pm**

**8 Stoughton Road,
Oadby
LE2 4DS**



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Solos, Duets and Quartets



Once again it was that time of year for the LBBA solo, duet and quartet contest held in Loughborough. As always, the Wigston Band took along a great group of youngsters to take part in the various sections.

Our playing for the day kicked off at 9:30 in the morning (far too early for a Sunday) with Daniel and Kahlan doing great jobs with their slow melodies. This was very ably followed up by Caleb and Bethan both who played real-

ly well in their sections.

Following a lot of walking from room to room and a bit of extra practice, we heard Rhiannon do a splendid performance of Solveig's Song.

Following this it was on to the duet portion of the day. William and Kahlan made an intriguing duo with cornet and glockenspiel. Well played to you both. This was followed by Abi alongside 4 of our talented youngsters: Charis, Bethan, Kirsty and Daniel really pulled their best performances from the bag when on stage. The same can be said for Matt alongside Caleb who gave an interesting Eb horn and Bb bass rendition of 'This Little Light of Mine'. Peter and William both shined on percussion alongside Jamie.



Finally it was time for the quartets. The enterprise group took to the stage first and put into an atmospheric performance of 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. Then there was a quick run over to the other hall for the Horizon band quartets. Both groups did an excellent job with their performances of 'Eudoxia'.

As well as all of this, a huge congratulations must be given to The Wigston Band catering crew. Once again, they did a marvellous

job making sure all of the adjudicators were kept hydrated and the competitors fuelled on delicious cakes! Super effort!

All in all it was a great day of playing for The Wigston Band. All of the youngsters who performed did a great job and are improving year on year. A huge well done to all involved! Although we didn't win any prizes on the day, the children involved all showed a great deal of potential and we are sure they will have prizes in their sights for next year!



THE WIGSTON BAND Player Vacancies

Tenor Trombone (position negotiable)

We are a very friendly band based in Wigston, Leicestershire. The Wigston Band boasts a thriving family orientated scene with two other bands in its organisation. We enjoy a sensible mixture of concerts and contests and would look to welcome some new musicians within our organisation.

If you are interested in giving us a try please contact us via our email address. wigstonbrassband@gmail.com. Strictest confidence is assured.

wigstonbrassband@gmail.com

www.wigstonbrassband.com

