

BYBA Notebook
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Editors Notes

Welcome to a mid-season update edition of Notebook. A variety of articles and news this time, including a couple of reports from BYBA member bands who attended the World Championships in July.

I haven't got a lot to say this time (I can hear the sighs of relieve now) except a couple of reminders. Firstly the National Conference & AGM, see diary events on page 15. This is where the decisions are made, but only by those who put forward ideas and attend the meeting. All registered members get a vote, so if you don't use it don't complain about those who do.

Lecture over, the second reminder is that a Year Book will be produced again for 2004. Bigger, better and brighter, but only if all member Bands/Corps send in the information needed to put it together. Watch out for further details shortly.

Robin
BYBA Notebook editor

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The Story So Far

League Table For The First Part Of The Season

DIVISION 1 LEAGUE 2004

1 Forgemen	84.324
2 Northern Star	84.100
3 Black Knights	79.026

DIVISION 2 LEAGUE 2004

1 6th Hove Scouts	83.033
2 The Cavaliers	82.293
3 Distant Thunder	81.094
4 Trinity School SB	70.375
5 Pacemakers D&BC	66.501
6 Upton Youth Band	65.596
7 Midsomer Norton MB	64.398
8 Donisthorpe Scouts	59.235

DIVISION 4 LEAGUE 2004

1 Downsmen Corps	79.000
2 Revolution	73.080
3 6th East Kilbride	68.186
4 Marching Mariners	67.160
5 Halifax BB/GB	66.520
6 Stateside D&BC	66.143
7 4th Uckfield S&G Band	65.325
8 Marxmen	61.036
9 Beeches Cadets	59.878
10 TS Superb	59.805
11 Phantom Knights	50.582
12 Chase D&TC	49.875
13 6th Hove B Corps	43.677
14 Squires D&BC	30.247

CADET LEAGUE 2004

DIVISION 3 LEAGUE 2004

1 Eclipse Corps	80.917
2 11th Northampton BB	78.569
3 City of York Scouts	77.722
4 Equinox D&BC	76.898
5 Silhouettes	71.671
6 Hesse High School	64.639
7 Polesworth Pioneers	60.001
8 Atherstone YMB	55.113

1 11th Northampton BB	46.500
2 Black Knights Cadets	45.000
4 Upton Youth Band	41.500
5 The Falcons	30.000

With two contests to go the league positions can still change and Championships is the one contest when all the top Bands/Corps in each division get to play it out head-to-head. Don't forget nothing is a foregone conclusion. It's all about how it goes on the day.

From the last issue
No prizes, but how many did you get right?

1995

Not that long ago but can you name the Bands below?



Braintree dimensions



Enigma



Emerald Express



Gillingham MB



Colchester Blue & Whites



Hadleigh MM



Staplehurst MB



TS Zealous

National Championships 2004

Saturday 18th September
Coventry Rugby Football Club
Butts Park Arena
Coventry, CV1 3GE
www.coventryrugby.co.uk



Still time to take up the options below

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Band Stalls: £40 (none BYBA)

All stall holders should be prepared to operate externally on freestanding hard sites, without services. (Any improvement on this will be advised in due course, but can not be guaranteed).

All bookings for Finals Program advertisements and stalls should be directed to: contesting@byba.org.uk

Adverts should be emailed as a jpeg file format, FAO Richard Cartwright.



THE 2004 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MARCHING SHOW BANDS

Congratulations to all the Bands that took part
and especially to those representing the UK

WORLD MARCHING SHOW BAND CHAMPIONS



KATAKURA HIGH SCHOOL WIND BAND

THE WORLD SHOWBAND CHAMPIONSHIPS BOURNEMOUTH, 21ST– 25TH JULY 2004

ACCORDING TO SOME MEMBERS OF THE UPTON YOUTH BAND

Wednesday, 21st July

We arrived at our 'digs' at about midday and were shown to our individual rooms, set out in flats in Southampton Institute, Halls of Residence. They were a real luxury after spending recent weekends away and all sleeping in a small hall in sleeping bags!! And there were plenty of showers!

After dumping our gear in the room, quickly refreshing ourselves and using the loos, we had to all get back on the coach and travel to Bournemouth to rehearse our 'special job' at the Opening ceremony at Kings Park Stadium.

When we arrived, we couldn't believe the size of one band that were all standing in a group – they were at least 3 times the size of our two little bands combined number of 28!

The Mahavajiravudh School Band from Thailand seemed to be friendly and were all excited to see our girls get off our coach – especially the blonde ones!! And they promptly wanted photos of each of them with the girls. They also thought our little Cadets were great and took lots of photos of them too. However, we all trooped round to the back of the stadium where we were given a name placard to hold and shown where to stand and when to move etc.

Continued

Then the big moment came - we were all in our uniforms and looked very small against the other bands as most of them contained adults who towered above us, but we still carried out our jobs and skillfully brought each band onto the arena and stopped in our appropriate places – giving a wonderful array of colours on the arena ready for the opening words from HRH, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Once we had all listened to the Royal Marines Fanfares and the National Anthem we all led our bands off to sit and watch some awesome performances by:

The Mahavajiravudh School Band from Thailand, The Vejen Garden from Denmark & The Farenzug Strausberg Band from Germany – with an all girl tenor drum section!! They were great!

We all arrived back at Southampton buzzing but absolutely shattered and eventually managed to get to sleep in the early hours of the morning.

Thursday, 22nd July

We all woke up and started off on what we thought was a little walk to get our breakfast. 25 minutes later we found the place & after recovering managed to eat some of what was on offer. After finding our way back to the ‘digs’ we managed to find a swimming pool in Southampton not too far away and took the Cadets there for some relaxing fun. Whilst they did that the ‘A’ corps held a quick rehearsal on some open ground. Then we all loaded onto the coach and drove to Bournemouth, about an hour away, and arrived at the BIC where we received some excellent tuition/advice from two lads from Madison Scouts, USA. This was followed by an afternoon of watching some great bands at Kings Park and then back; to try and get good nights sleep.

Friday, 23rd July

After recovering from our route march to the breakfast place, we all arrived in Bournemouth and spent an hour or so on the Beach, we then had a quick rehearsal on stage in the BIC for the Raw Rhythm and all trundled off to Brewsters for some lunch. This was a very nice meal but unfortunately put us behind time and made us a little late for our spot in Raw Rhythm. Gavin Johnson really put us all at ease and told us ‘not to panic or worry’ and to ‘take our time’ which was great as we were very nervous, hot and flustered – especially as we had our ‘new show’ uniforms on!! By the way, they looked great and we felt great, thanks Wendy! We eventually performed our show to rapturous applause and even made our Director and Instructors cry!! It was a great feeling but now we all had to go back onto the stage for the results. These were read out in the order of play so we were last and after hearing so many other bands receiving ‘Gold Award’ we were very worried. We needn’t have been though because we were also awarded – after a long pause – a GOLD AWARD!! We couldn’t believe it! Yes, it was true! All we had to do now was to go out on the Arena in about an hours time and replicate that Gold winning performance!!

Continued

Well, after calming down and arriving at the Stadium, we were told that our time slot had been put back by ½ an hour which was great because we had rushed from the BIC to get there and we were all very hot. Fortunately, our Director made a last minute decision, much to the delight of us all, that we could perform in the ‘new’ uniforms instead of having to put on our hot jackets and black hats. This helped us all to relax a bit ready for the performance, as we loved the way our sequined waistcoats shone in the sun. Anyway, it was time for our show – all 19 members – we felt so small on the field but we knew we could pull off another ‘gold’ performance. It was with great pride and honour that we completed our show and received a standing ovation – not from just our own supporters – it was such an emotional show we were all crying as we marched off the arena with heads held high and knew that we couldn’t have given anymore, any of us. However, we marched onto the arena with all the other bands and stood and waited for the announcements. We were awarded a Bronze medal. We were a little disappointed after receiving Gold earlier on in the day but to be given this at such a great event was wonderful and we would like to thank the organizers for including us in this event.

After the competition we all went back to Pier head to watch the fireworks display. Before this started we were playing on the beach and in the sea. Two of our young Cadet members were taken by the Lifeguards to a place to put their feet in some hot water to ‘boil’ the poison. They had both stepped on a ‘Weaver Fish’!!!! So everyone was told to get out of the sea immediately!! We hoped they would be alright for tomorrow because they were marching in competition.

Saturday, 24th July

Today was another day and we had put yesterday’s results behind us as we had to focus on our young Cadet band that was in Competition today. (The two had been stung were ok but had sore feet and legs). We, the ‘A’ Corps felt small on the arena; we couldn’t imagine what would be going through the minds of our little 8 – 14 year olds!! And there were only 17 of them!! Anyway, we arrived at Bournemouth Pier head and managed to have a little time on the beach, some even went on the sea in the kayaks and all managed to stay dry!! Our coach driver hadn’t got any hours of driving left for the morning, so we all loaded ourselves onto a local ‘Double Decker’ to Kings Park. Well, if any of you have seen Harry Potters latest film, we all felt like he did on that bus and could easily have been thrown against the front window!!! We were all very glad to get off that bus, it really made us appreciate our own coach driver! After having our sandwiches and fruit for dinner we all went round to help prepare the Cadets for their performance. It was their time to go on, we tried to put them at ease but I think we made it a bit worse, still, they entered the arena, like dots on the horizon, and made their way towards the front. They started off with ‘The Flintstones’ and the audience seemed to enjoy this as they were clapping along then they went into their rendition of ‘William Tell’ which was greatly appreciated, followed by some fancy drumming which led into ‘Tie me kangaroo Down’ starting with a wobble board. The audience immediately started clapping along to this and gave the Cadets more

Continued

confidence because we've never seen them play so well!!! They marched off the arena in disbelief we think and were still in a daze when the announcements were given. They had scored 71.60, just a few points below us!! They also received a medal as they were entered in Class 3. Their faces' were a picture!

After today's performances we all went to the 'BBQ' event at Canford Arena. Unfortunately the weather had turned cold and the queues were very long for the food so we made the decision to go back to the 'digs' and order pizzas from the one just round the corner. Trouble was, so had some of the other bands and we managed to get ours at about 11.30pm. They were worth the wait though, 'coz they were very good.

Sunday, 25th July

Well, the last day has arrived and we all decided that it just wasn't worth the route march to get breakfast so we ate in the flats, especially as we had to pack all our bags and be on the coach for 10am!!! We drove to Bournemouth Pier head for one last time to spend a while on the beach and get some dinner and then made our way to Kings Park to get our seats for the Finals. Because we hadn't all bought seats for the finals we had to sit at the back and watch the bands perform, this was ok but we would have preferred to watch them from the front. Anyway, halfway through, there was an announcement that all bands could take up spare seats in the front stands and we didn't need telling twice! This was much better and it meant that we could appreciate all the music as well as the moves.

We are pleased to have taken part in this event and as this was our first ever attempt at the Worlds Competition, we now know what the judges are looking for and hopefully will be able to take part in a future World Contest. We're not sure which one yet, but sponsorship to travel abroad would be nice.

By: Kym Lane, Sheridan Lane & Russell Dudley.
UYB 'A' Corps members



SUN, SEA, SAND AND A SILVER LINING!

Stafford Lancers view of the week

World Championships 2004

Yes the 2004 World Showband Championships in Bournemouth and for us Southampton too is one to be proud of if you are or ever have been a Lancer!!!

Thursday 22nd July

It all started as most Lancers journeys do at Rising Brook Methodist Church where we all met at 8.00am with our luggage, instruments, flags, equipment, uniform oh and did I mention luggage. Amazingly everyone had done their own individual job and everybody was there on time with everything they needed.

The buzz of excitement was to be expected and the talk was of Stafford Lancers on BBC1 the night before and what was to come over the next few days!

Friday 23rd July

It was an early rise Friday morning and our coaches driven by Tony and Simon, who were to become honorary Lancers ready to drive us to breakfast at another Southampton Institute site where the restaurant was. The first day's choice was continental breakfast and cereals and it took us a little while to get sorted, as we were to have breaky here every day. We were not the only unit eating so it was a bit chaotic mixing with our friends from Trinity and Concord along with members of some of the foreign bands including our friends from Denmark.

From there after going back for the truck we were on our way to Bournemouth and our performance on the pier head. Everyone was wearing their new Lancers World Championship T-shirt on top and what ever they wanted on the bottom. It was basically an opportunity to do the beach wear thing and do our stuff.

After our set was over and everything was put back on the truck and was safe, everyone had five hours free time to relax and enjoy themselves around Bournemouth. For most this included sunbathing on the beach, swimming in the sea, getting buried on the beach, getting drenched in the sea and well just generally having fun together, it was great.

Saturday 24th July

It was now time to get our game face on as it was the day of our Heat Three of the Championships and that meant our performance, yes it was time to prepare but not before heading off for breakfast.

The rehearsal was great with everybody focusing in on what was being said, you had the sense that something special was about to happen. We decided to make the rehearsal a short condensed one so as to keep the members as fresh as possible in the hot conditions for the performance. This included getting to the Championship venue

“Bournemouth AFC Stadium”; nice and early giving everyone chance to take in their surrounding before it was time to get changed into our uniforms.

It was emotional just sat in the stands watching it happen, as our hoards of supporters with all the staff and support team along with the whole of the stand who rose as one to acclaim what they had just witnessed. This feeling could only be topped by those who had just marched that show and indeed as they came off the arena the buzz from each and every member enveloped and overwhelmed all of us! Tears were shed yes but they wear tears of joy, everyone knew they had literally rocked the house and that was all that mattered, a new marker had been set!

The only thing left to do now or so we thought was to go back on the field for retreat and get our score which was an 82.6 and a Silver Medal, then came the cherry on the icing on the cake as they announced the Bands that had made World Finals the words “Stafford Lancers” echoed round the stadium. Disbelief turned into realisation, realisation turned into ecstasy



an ecstasy turned into realisation that we were back to perform again tomorrow. This was the one thing we had not counted on, to the extent where as we had bought every member a seat in the centre stand so as to watch all the Final performances. Guess what we were going to be one of them, nothing left to do then but party a bit and we did by going to the International get together straight from leaving the venue.

Sunday 25th July

So we were up again breakfast came and went and once again we were on our way to Bournemouth, however this time we decided not to go to rehearsal at Canford Arena for a full rehearsal, after all this was a bonus and well we just went straight to the Stadium and prepared there.

It was certainly another proud moment to march out one again onto the field and many of our supporters had bought tickets to witness today’s show after we had qualified the day before. Once again the members delivered, another great show two great shows back to back on consecutive days, proving that a new level had been achieved which we must now use as a springboard to push us into the future.

Finally Katakura from Japan were crowned World Champions our congratulations go to them and indeed all the other units and our friends from all over the world it was a pleasure and a privilege to march along side you.

A full version of the report can be found on the Lancers web site

Magic Drum & Bugle Corps was founded in 1998, and the Storm Colour Guard was our first competitive unit.

Magic DBC is now a member of the British Youth Band Association, Drum Corps United Kingdom and Winter Guard United Kingdom.

As well as teaching young people from 8 years of age upwards, Magic also organises competitions, festivals and events across the North and Midlands, (Barnsley, Scunthorpe, Stoke and Leicester)



If we can be of any assistance from our wide variety of resources and services, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Magic Drum & Bugle Corps is pleased to have received support from the following organisations and funders.



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Phantom Knights Fight for the Future

In the heart of the Midlands, Nuneaton's Phantom Knights have had many ups and downs, shaping the corps and members alike into seasoned colleagues, all aiming for the same cause: To work hard, but enjoy every step of the way, encouraging individual performances to improve.

Here in Nuneaton, after last year's Cadet Class Success, Phantom Knights looks very different. Is this because of the height of the current members? Perhaps. Is this because of the sheer number of people marching? Getting warmer. No, it's all of these things, plus a brand new uniform – their first ever.

Founded in 1996, PK have been developing this new uniform for quite some time, and now seemed to be the perfect time to launch it, as the corps returns to its roots and is building up bright new talent with a similar approach, but with innovation.

The staff, experienced from this corps and several others, consists of a wide age spread with new ideas and teaching methods in order to expand upon each individual member's potential.

“With members this age, it's imperative to realise that each one is different,” says Corps Director Carl Harris, “And try to find the best way for them to work so they get as much out of the sport as possible.”

This year's show, written as a collaboration between Musical Director Chrissie Lowe and section instructors, allows each person to contribute their views and personal inspirations to make the package as complete and professional as possible. Frequent communication is vital, with scheduled meetings and even just running ideas and thoughts past each other in rehearsals can articulate augmentation.

Each piece of music has also had the drill written by a different member of staff, in order to get a wide variety of concepts, ideas and interpretations.

The jobs of staff members are spread out to incorporate each one, challenging them to grow and gain knowledge of more processes that are unequivocally vital to the Corps. Even the members themselves get to learn more than just how to play and march. Regular classes for music theory (who said drummers can't be 'musical?') run in tandem with chances to try conducting, teaching and writing exercises for themselves.

All in all, Phantom Knights is not just a corps it's a community. A community of people all thriving to improve their talents and obtain new ones, growing together with respect, sharing of ideas, techniques and experiences.

We would like to wish all of you the very best of luck for next season, and we hope that you will come along to visit, and witness the foundations being developed for a bright new corps, with a bright future ahead.

Andrew S. Gordon

Percussion Instructor

www.phantom-knights.com

Halifax Brigade Bands celebrate after success at the Boys Brigade National and Championships

The 18th and 5th Halifax BB Bands joined up to form a joint band for 2004, due to lack of numbers on both sides. The formation producing a band of 9 along with an ex Drum Major Champion, the band competed at the Boys Brigade National Band Championships on the 5th June in the beginners class.

Traveling down the night before because of the early start the band set off feeling nervous and wondering what would happen. The practice the night just before bed went better than usual, (after a false start, when the cob webs had been blown out). The day looked grim but that didn't stop the bands performance. Starting with an old fanfare, echo, played by the two senior cornets.

Then into the bands opening tune, 'Thine be the Glory' which needed running in before it flowed fluently before the drums started up into the first drum piece with a lot of hard stick lifting and a great bass feature. After this another change and into lord of the dance before another old drum piece originally played by the Anchormen roughly 25 years ago.



The bands closer, clearly the bands favourite was James Bond, which flew like the wind bringing the band to a close. Marching off proudly, the lads knew they had put every into it and that it was the best performance ever.

All that had to be done was to wait about

Two hours until the presentations.

At 12:15 the band marched back onto the arena to Men of Harlec ready to find out what positioning the band had been given. At first it sounded that the band wouldn't be awarded any thing, going through wind, drill and deportment, and so on until percussion. Then shortly after, the runners up trophy. We had come 2nd; a lot better than what was expected.

The lads were well chuffed with what they had done, and the Officers of the band were pleased as could be.

Here's to 2005 and all it brings.

If you don't check the 'Diary' link on the BYBA web site then here are some dates for the rest of the year and into the next. Remember that the National Conference & AGM is your opportunity to put forward views and ideas. If you don't like something then have your say, or accept the decisions that are made by those who attend.

September 2004

- 5th Southern YBC
- 12th Brass Explosion Contest
- 18th BYBA National Championships

October 2004

- 9th Contest Committee meeting
- 10th BYBA Council meeting

November 2004

- 1st All BYBA Memberships due for Renewal
- 6th Federation (BFoYMBO) Conference
(staff and marching members welcome)
- 21st BYBA National Conference & AGM
Quality Hotel - Wallsall

December 2004

- 31st Late Membership renewals incur surcharge after this date

January 2005

- 1st London, New Years Day Parade
- 29th Federation (BFoYMBO) Task Force Meeting
- 30th Federation (BFoYMBO) AGM/Board Meeting

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