

## **B Band Report March 2007**

'beware the flying gazebos'

A very different year for the B Band. It started with the entry into Croydon Music Festival where we won a piece of silverware (the Gilbert Cup) for the first time. Entering a music festival had the advantage that brass band registration rules did not apply.

This was followed by our usual job at Macauley School for their fete. A job outdoors on a very windy day. The school had thoughtfully provided gazebos to shelter us, but they were unequal to the wind and twice took off from over us as we played.

We then did a new job on Clapham Common for the Holy Trinity Church fete and followed this by going to Sanderstead for their Horticultural Society Show. A very nice job on a warm Summer's day and in very pleasant surroundings.

We rounded off the year by entering the National Qualifiers. Given the lack of numbers (only 18 players on the day) and that 13 of the players had never taken part in a brass band contest before, the entry this year was always going to be for experience only. I was very pleased with the attitude, the commitment shown and by the performance on the day. The result was the one I had expected, and identical to the experience last year of another B band whose first entry it then was. I feel the entry was well worthwhile and gives us a basis on which to build.

The B band is able to accommodate players who cannot attend rehearsals every week. I understand the problems of getting here for 7 p.m., which is why I would prefer the rehearsals to run from 7.15 to 8.45. Attendance was generally better during the time we had two rehearsals a week and had a contest to prepare for.

### Contest results

May 2006 Croydon Music Festival - 1<sup>st</sup>

March 2007 Stevenage - 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Date list

June 16 Holy Trinity Church Clapham Common fete 3pm to 4pm

June 23 Sanderstead Horticultural Society time t.b.a.

Special thanks are due to:-

Mike for support

Adam for opening up

Margaret and Joe for all the work they do, including efforts to advertise

Clare for the advertising in which she has included the B Band

All those main band players who have come and sat in at the B Band rehearsals.

And last but by no means least, to all those main band players who have played at jobs as part of the B Band.

Ian Whittaker