

SECRETARY'S REPORT – 2019/20

PLAYERS

We have welcomed five new players during the past year – Ambrose Gibbons, Pawel Gortych, Hywel Jones, Hope Mason and Richard Edney. Sadly we have had to say farewell to Carol and Chris Maher, Alex Bateson and Harry Weir.

CONTESTS

The main band is registered with the Brass Band Players Registry for all contests and are members of Brass Bands England and Making Music.

The band has taken part in one contest since the 2019 AGM, competing in the Butlin's Mineworkers Contest, Skegness on Saturday 11 January 2020 and was placed 12th out of 13 bands in the Third Section, playing Alan Fernie's Gothic Dances.

Unfortunately due to the Covid 19 pandemic the London & Southern Counties Regional Committee took the very difficult decision to cancel the L&SC Area Contest just a week before it was due to take place on Sunday 16 March 2020 in Stevenage.

Following promotion in January 2018 the main band's grading, both Nationally (L&SC Region) and locally (SCABA) is Third Section. The band is currently in 7th place out of 15 bands in the London & Southern Counties Regional Third Section. Since the cancellation of this year's area contest the Regional Committee has confirmed that places will remain the same for 2020/2021.

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CONCERTS

As a consequence of the pandemic two main band concerts have, so far, been cancelled and future bookings put on hold, leaving the main band with just three confirmed paid jobs.

Please see list below: *(dates in italics to be confirmed).*

Sunday 7 June	Memorial Bandstand, Deal, Kent
Sunday 12 July	Clapham Common Bandstand
<i>Sunday 27 September</i>	<i>SCABA Autumn Contest, The Hawth Theatre, Crawley - TBC</i>
<i>Saturday 31 October</i>	<i>Wychavon Entertainment Contest, Malvern - TBC</i>
<i>Sunday 8 November</i>	<i>Remembrance Service, Beckenham - TBC</i>
Saturday 5 December	Leeds Castle Christmas Market, Maidstone, Kent

Please keep an eye out for emails and remember to update your availability on Muzodo re future dates as soon as possible.

REHEARSALS

With the bands unable to meet to rehearse at the moment we are using the technology available to us and meeting via Zoom for a band social each Wednesday evening. Most weeks we are also each recording a part of a piece of music which Bob Barnes is very successfully putting together – thank you Bob for all your work on this.

With many thanks to everyone for your help and support over the past year.

Rachel Bleach
April 2020