

Derwent Valley Wind Band

Registered Charity No. 700574

Web site - <http://www.dvwb.org.uk>



Annual General Meeting 13th October 2008 Music Directors Report

It has once again been a very successful year for concerts, with the main musical highlights being the Christmas concert at Ecclesbourne School, where a guest singer proved to be a great success. The Last Night of the Proms concert at the Queens Hall in Derby was very successful, both for the charity, and also created a new musical challenge for the band. We performed at several concerts over the summer, including the Belper River gardens, Chatsworth house, Buxton and Nottingham Castle bandstands which provided both great venues to perform, and some large and appreciative audiences.

As far as our concert programmes are concerned, it has been a great year for new repertoire, and the speed of which the band learns new pieces, and takes them from the rehearsal room to the concert platform, makes it possible to introduce a large amount of new music of a much higher standard. This is a reflection of the higher standards of musicianship of individual players, as well as the overall improvement of ensemble playing in the whole of the band, I would like to congratulate the band for your continuous enthusiasm throughout the year.

Recruitment has been very good this year, and it is really great to see new faces in a lot of sections, I hope that this healthy situation continues in the future especially in the training band, as this is an area that we need to develop to keep the "fresh blood" flowing. A really special thanks to Kath Hoblyn for running the training band, as I really do appreciate how difficult it is to work with musicians of this age and ability.

I would like to conclude this report by saying how much I have enjoyed working with the band over the last year, and to thank all of the members and families for their encouragement and support. We must remember that it is not just the music side of the band that enables its success, the help from the parents who run taxi services to rehearsals, helping out at concerts with numerous things such as refreshments, programmes and raffles provide tremendous help throughout the year. Finally, I must not forget the work that the committee does, the band could not run without the help and dedication of these people, it is a real pleasure to work with them.

Signed