

Derwent Valley Training Wind Band Report for AGM 2008

I have enjoyed another successful year conducting the Derwent Valley Training Wind Band. It's always fantastic to work with players who turn up every week on a Monday evening, rain or shine - especially as I know many of them have so many other commitments.

I am pleased that a growing number of adults have been playing regularly with the band. They have added an extra dimension to rehearsals, with the adults and children forming really good working relationships. This is reflected in the change to the band's name, which is now Derwent Valley Training Wind Band.

The aim of the band is to provide a music-making opportunity for beginners through to Grade 3 standard. Well done to Kathryn Fleet, Louise Walker and Madeline Tomlinson, who have all achieved Grade 3 this year, and to adults Chris Rowe and Alison Bubb who have also been very successful in their exams.

Since the last AGM in February 2007 the Training Band have entered the Derby Arts Festival twice, and both times won their section. In 2007 they played 'Kangeroo hop' and 'When the Saints go marching in', and in 2008 'What shall we do with the drunken sailor' and 'Snake rattle and roll'. They have also performed at the Derwent Valley Wind Band Christmas Concerts.

The Training Wind Band award is being given out at the AGM this year, and as usual it is always such a hard task to pick one player out. This year the award is going to someone who has been a quiet but very valuable member of the band for over 18 months. She has a very cheerful disposition, has come along to band regularly, has always been willing to help others struggling with their music, has been happy to play any part if asked and has even found time to practise band pieces! The 2008 Derwent Valley Training Wind Band award is being awarded to *****.
Congratulations *****.

Well done to the Training Band. Keep up the fantastic work!

Kath Hoblyn. Musical Director, Derwent Valley Training Wind Band