

Cheshire County Council



Education Services

*The*

**CHESHIRE COUNTY YOUTH**

*Brass Band*

presents

**25<sup>th</sup>**

*Anniversary Concert  
and Reunion*

**GUEST CONDUCTOR**

*Peter Room*

**JOINT MUSIC DIRECTORS**

*Sandy Blair & David Lancashire*

\* \* \* \*



CIVIC HALL,  
WINSFORD

SATURDAY 10TH  
FEBRUARY 1996  
7.30PM

*Supported by BNFL as part of it's  
'energetic support in the community' programme*

# Foreword

**I** am very pleased indeed to have this opportunity to congratulate the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band on its Silver Jubilee.

Now part of the Cheshire County Council's School of Music, the band has made its mark in Cheshire, the UK, Europe and the United States during the first 25 years.

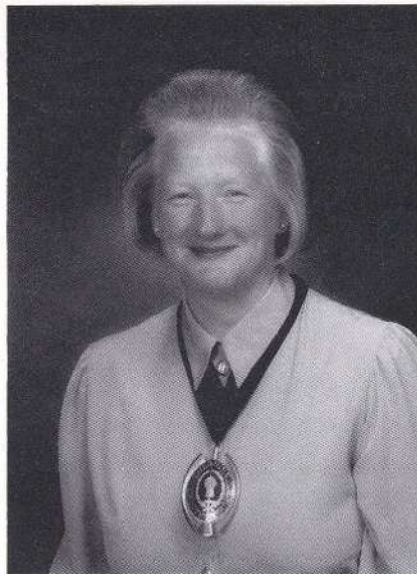
During that time, hundreds of talented young musicians from Cheshire have had the opportunity of playing in the band, widening the experience they will have gained in their local schools and in the county's traditional brass bands.

The richness of the experience they have gained can be measured by considering for whom and where they have performed since 1970. Their audiences have included HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, HRH The Princess Royal and HRH The Princess of Wales; their venues have ranged from Cheshire schools to London's Royal Albert Hall and the UN Building in New York.

The high standard of the band is reflected in the fact that members of the band have also been members of the National Youth Brass Band and have reached the final stages of the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition.

The Cheshire County Youth Brass Band has been a splendid ambassador for the county and I wish them every success in the next 25 years.

*Diana  
McConnell*



*Cllr Mrs Diana McConnell CBE DL  
Chairman  
Cheshire County Council*

# PROGRAMME

*The Cheshire County Youth Brass Band*  
*Conducted by Sandy Blair and David Lancashire*  
*Principal Cornet, Jeremy Vernon*

## **STAGE CENTRE**

*Richards*

\* \* \* \*

## **THE YOUNG AMADEUS**

*Parker arr. De Haan*

\* \* \* \*

## **SUGAR BLUES (CORNET SOLO)**

*Williams arr. Morrison*

\* \* \* \*

## **PASTIME WITH GOOD COMPANY**

*arr. Roberts*

\* \* \* \*

## **CAN CAN**

*Offenbach arr. Richards*

\* \* \* \*

*The Reunion Band, Conducted by Peter Room*

## **ACES HIGH**

*Goodwin arr. Bryce*

\* \* \* \*

## **CAPRIOL SUITE**

(I) BASSE-DANSE (II) PIEDS-EN-L'AIR (III) MATTERCHINS

*Warlock arr. Brand*

\* \* \* \*

## **YOUR'E A LADY**

*Skellern*

\* \* \* \*

## **GRANDSTAND**

*Mansfield*

\* \* \* \*

## **MUSIC**

*Miles arr. Sparke*

\* \* \* \*

## **HOOTENANNY**

*Walters*

\* \* \* \*

## PETER ROOM

Peter Room formed the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band in the autumn of 1970. His wealth of experience gained with the Brass Band Association of Yorkshire Schools and the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain established the monthly rehearsals, courses, tours and varied concerts which are still the foundation of the band today.

Throughout the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band's first 25 years its fine reputation for enjoyable music making is directly attributable to Peter's rapport with the members and parents.

Here are some of the notable dates associated with the music at tonight's concert;

Saturday November 7th	1970	First rehearsal
Saturday July 7th	1973	English Schools Athletics HRH Princess Anne
Saturday June 28th	1975	Tour of West Germany
Tuesday July 19th	1977	Tour of Denmark
Saturday February 10th	1979	Harry Mortimer
Wednesday April 9th	1980	Tour of U.S.A.
Saturday May 25th	1985	Royal Albert Hall
Wednesday April 22nd	1987	Tour of Portugal
Friday July 24th	1987	H.M. The Queen H.R.H The Duke of Edinburgh
Saturday September 21st	1991	Peter Skellern
Thursday November 14th	1991	H.R.H. The Princess of Wales



*The Cheshire County Youth Brass Band  
is part of Cheshire County Council's new*

## CHESHIRE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

*Principal - Mervyn Williams*

The CSM aims to enhance instrumental tuition and performances of Cheshire schools, district and county groups

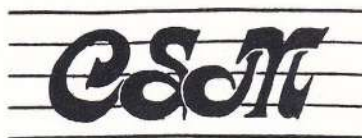
It is working to provide an endorsed instrumental music service in partnership with

**Rushworths Music**

**Dawsons Music**

**Don Ezard Music Agency**

**Music for Life**



## **SANDY BLAIR**

Sandy Blair has worked with the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band since 1984. A tuba player, his experience as a player and conductor has been with many of the country's leading brass bands including Brighthouse and Rastrick Band, Black Dyke Mills Band, Leyland DAF Band (now BNFL) and Besses o' th' Barn Band.

As Head of Instrumental Tuition for Cheshire Education he has been responsible for the growth of district bands and orchestras as well as teaching brass instruments in primary and secondary schools.



*The Cheshire County Youth Brass Band (1973)*

## **DAVID LANCASHIRE**

David Lancashire, a former member of the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band, was appointed as a brass teacher with Cheshire Education in 1979. Many of his pupils have progressed to the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band and the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain. He has played with and conducted many local brass bands and is Music Director of the Vale Royal Schools Concert Band.

## **BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS PLC**

BNFL is delighted to be associated with the 25th anniversary concert and reunion of the Cheshire County Youth Brass Band. Youth plays a vital part in our policy of involvement in the community and it is fitting that we should support this event during what is our own silver jubilee year.



# 'Twas a worthy celebration

THE recent anniversary concert of the Cheshire County Youth Band was a magnificent celebration.

Not only did the current county band take the stage, but for part of the concert they were joined by a large number of former members.

The celebration marked not the initial launch of the band in 1969, but its first concert at the beginning of 1971.

The band, which meets each month in Hartford, near Northwich, continues with the strength and dedication which have been apparent for all those years.

Sandy Blair, who has been with the county authority for 11 years, is Head of Instrumental Studies. Assisting him in the continued success of the band is David Lancashire.

For some years the Cheshire authority had supported a youth orchestra and also a youth choir, but when Peter Room was appointed Music Adviser the opportunity presented itself to enlarge the authority's musical interest with the formation of a brass band.

Peter Room had worked with the Yorkshire Schools' Band and also the

National Youth Brass Band. Sandy Blair was also to be greatly involved with the Yorkshire band, although the paths of Peter Room and himself never crossed during that time.

Peter Room, who served the Cheshire band from its inception in 1969 to 1994, was the main driving force. In a brief history of the band he says of the launch: "Notice of intention to form a band went out to all county schools...; there was a disappointing response."

Twenty boys and one girl had passed the audition, but the first planned rehearsal was put on the back burner as the result of a national strike by caretaking staff.

Writing of the second rehearsal, Peter Room records: "The second rehearsal started promptly on time . . . and after a quarter of an hour we noticed through the window 11 young people walking down the road from the railway station, all carrying brass instruments . . . They were from the Stalybridge and Tintwistle area of Cheshire. . ."

The band is open to any brass players, says Sandy, and not all are concerned with brass bands, although there are some with an allegiance to other brass bands. There is also an influx of brass players from the concert



Above: the band of present and former players conducted by Peter Room; below: Chairman of the County Council, Clr. Diana McConnell, with (rear) Neil Anthwal and Rebecca Stubbs and (front) Heather Scott and Laurel Thomas.

bands which are in being throughout the county.

"The difference between the Cheshire band and some of the other county bands is that because we only meet once each month it's a non-competitive band," says Sandy.

From the early stages of the set-up, the band has enjoyed something of a pioneering spirit in their many excursions abroad. The first trip took them to West Germany, and then came visits to Denmark, where a lasting friendship has been developed with Herbert Møller, the United States of America and Portugal.

Courses are also part and parcel of the band's activities plus those trips abroad. This year there will be a tutorial with plans already on the stocks for another trip into Europe: back to Denmark or back to Germany.

The idea of these visits is to promote Cheshire and to be just another band playing in a town square, says Sandy.

And the success of the band? Sandy puts this down to the social life of the organisation, something which has been encouraged by Peter Room.



