



ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION CONCERT BAND

www.rmacb.org.uk



The Band at CTCRM

Newsletter

Issue No. 1

Dear Friends,

We promised to keep you abreast of developments and this résumé comes with our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. 2006 has been busy but it has also been an unqualified success; and, thanks to you all, we are now well placed to meet the opportunities and challenges that 2007 presents.

The Beginning

With the Commandant General's blessing and help from both the Corps and former Royal Marines we formed in June at Whale Island and quickly began rehearsals under Ted Whealing our enormously experienced Music Director. By September we had over 50 players on our books with most attending weekly rehearsals regularly; and the standard had developed sufficiently to encourage us to take on our first 'gig' - the Royal Marines Association's annual reunion at Lympstone.



First Gig

Judging by the large number of congratulations we received we feel justified in counting this as a major success. It certainly achieved our aim of establishing the Band's presence in the RMA as well as the Corps: and we have already been asked back for next year's reunion. As it was the RMA's diamond jubilee year we felt honoured to be asked to perform, and to be part of that major Corps Family occasion which at-

tracted well over a thousand former Royal Marines and their guests.



Finance and Equipment

The business of kitting out a major military band is obviously expensive. Thanks to an astonishing number of generous donors we have already achieved more than half our funding target of £50,000 and in the process paid for our new uniforms; and very smart they are too. Photos of us wearing them will appear in our next newsletter, but briefly our concert 'rig' consists of a navy blue mess jacket with scarlet collar in the style of the RM mess jacket; and navy blue uniform trousers with the normal broad scarlet stripe. It is set off by a scarlet cummerbund and worn with a white shirt and black bow tie a somewhat more comfortable rig than the No. 1 ceremonial tunic!

We are indebted to Major Alastair Donald RM of the Royal Marines Historical Society for his help and advice with the design; and to R & J Handley Ltd of Leeds, who produced the original prototypes, as well as executing the order on time and to budget.

Incidentally, Roger Handley has kindly donated to the Band our music stand banners - the familiar scarlet cloth drape with embossed Corps crest in gold. We are indeed most grateful to him and his company, whom we thank most warmly.

Special points of interest:

- *The Band is to move to Eastney in early 2007*
- *Finances on track*
- *Uniforms completed*
- *First Gig*
- *Future Concerts*
- *First CD Recording*

Including:

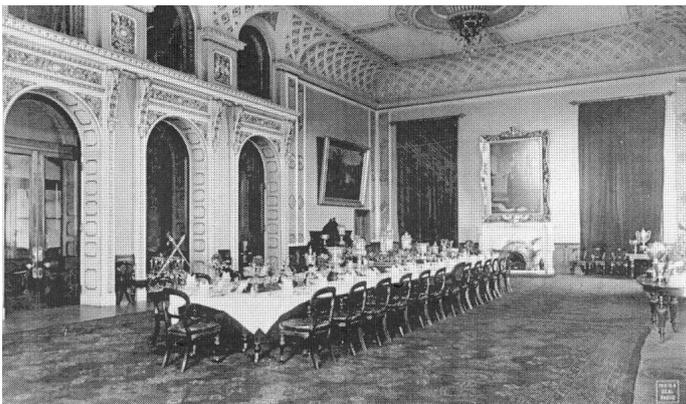
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RMA Concert Band to Move to Eastney

We have been extremely fortunate in being able to start in the RM conference room at Whale Island - our thanks in particular to Director Royal Marines and his staff for extending this facility to us - but spacious though it is it presents severe limitations when we rehearse at full strength, and the sound can frequently be just a little deafening in a room designed primarily as a com-

mittee room (health and safety issues!). So we have been considering a move to a new home. We're now delighted to announce that in early February we will be moving into the Royal Marines Museum at Eastney to rehearse weekly there in future in the magnificent Mountbatten dining room. We extend our gratitude to the Museum's trustees for kindly agreeing to take us on, and whilst there are

undoubted mutual benefits for both the Museum and ourselves the fact is that we will be rehearsing in what is most probably one of the finest band rooms in the world! Eastney in any case evokes the Band Service's proud musical heritage so we're greatly looking forward to establishing ourselves there and being part of the Museum's team, well-placed to give concerts in this superb setting.



The Mountbatten dining room in the Royal Marines Museum at Eastney (circa 1923, but little changed since)

From February the Band will rehearse there every Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm

First CD

We record our first compact disc in late January 2007 and at the time of writing we're busily rehearsing its programme. The album will be titled '**Once A Marine**' - of course! -

and it will feature a new march of that name specifically composed for us by Ray Woodfield, a former RM director of music. And a cracker it is too! The CD will contain a selection

of traditional favourites and feature at least two soloists. It will be available for release to the public by Easter (price £12- incl p+p).

Provisional Concert Programme 2007

This is still being finalised but to date we have been booked to play at the following venues: **Hayling Island** (17 Feb); **Weymouth** (29 Apr);

Newport, Isle of Wight (20 May); **RM Museum** (24 May); **Eastbourne** (2 Sept); **CTCRM Lympstone** (9 Sept); **Poole** (23

Sept); **Street, Somerset** (8 Dec). Doubtless this list will expand over the next few months. We will keep you informed.

Summary by our Music Director

An excellent start has been made and we look forward to 2007 with enthusiasm. We reiterate our particular thanks to the growing army of supporters who have helped us in various ways; and we aim to repay them by bringing the Corps' special reputation for quality musicianship to an even wider audience. Additionally we are pledged to help fundraising activities for Corps charities whenever opportunities arise, as well as promoting the profile of the RMA.



On behalf of all members of the RMA Concert Band may I wish you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year

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Capt E P Whealing MVO BA ARAM ARCM RM

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find

“filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thou-

sands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be



Caption describing picture or graphic.

sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

The Band at CTCRM

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555-555-5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

**We're on the
Web!
example.micro
soft.com**

Your business tag line here.



Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms

of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tues-

day of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.