

Band Report

In the past year Peter Benson has become the Musical Director for the Band a position held by his father Aidie, for many years. Under his direction the Band took part in the annual parish Carol Service and the Community Carol Service along with Warrenpoint Silver Band(WSB). We also played in the Parish Centre on St Patrick's Day. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the Golden Jubilee Concert held in the Parish Centre in April to celebrate 50 years of the Band within the club. On that occasion the local band members were joined by ex-members who now live away from and their support made all the difference in terms of the musical offering we were able to produce on that occasion. We were joined by the Club Scór na nÓg singers and singers from Flynn Performing Arts and the public reaction to the concert was very encouraging for the Band. I fondly remember Hubert Shannon saying to us that it was the best value he ever had for £7 and giving out that the tickets were too cheap!!

At the moment on our own we have 12 musicians involved with the band when we add our ex members we can boost this by five or six more, still seven short of the complement of a full brass band.

In recent weeks we have met with the Chairman and Secretary of WSB and have discussed some ways we might work more closely together going forward. As a step along that way the two bands will be hosting a joint concert to be held in St Peter's Parish Centre on Friday the 1st of March. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend.