



The Phoenix Flame



Music for life | Brass is Best | Age no problem

August 2025

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QR Code for
easyfundraising
(See page 2)



Message from David Watson, Musical Director, Phoenix Brass

I cannot believe that we are now in August – where has this year gone already?

The band has already completed a number of engagements as you will see from this latest edition of the Phoenix Flame. Compared to just a few years ago, and pre-Covid, the number of summer engagements has declined to what we used to see on the Band Engagement List. Nevertheless, we have played at a number of fetes, and it was lovely to be asked to perform at the recent Wilton Windmill Open Day. The band was pleased to support this event which was hoping to raise much needed funds to restore the sails of this Grade II listed building. As always, I would like to thank the players for all their hard work during rehearsals and at the events themselves.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the continued support of the small 'Friends of Phoenix' Committee. As I said in the last edition of the Phoenix Flame, sadly, some of our supporters have passed away and others have decided, for personal reasons, to end their membership. The membership roll is now just under 40 members, well down to when we used to enjoy a membership exceeding 100. If you know anyone who might be interested in supporting the band, even if they are unable to attend events, then please do feel free to send them a copy of the application forms at the end of this edition of the Phoenix Flame. Please also see Page 2 of this edition of the Phoenix Flame.

Looking ahead, the band will be playing their summer concert at the Victoria Park Bandstand, Newbury at 3pm on Sunday, 10 August 2025. If you have nothing in the diary, please do feel free to bring a picnic or just come and relax and listen to the band.

Then on Sunday, 31 August 2025, the band will be performing a Summer Concert in the beautiful surroundings of Marlborough Town Hall. The Concert commences at 2.30pm. There will be the usual refreshments and raffle, and whilst it is free entry there will be a retiring collection.

Last, but not least, thank you to the players and to all our audiences for their attendance and support.

Best wishes,
David

Remember to look at the Band Website for the up-to-date diary, news items and a more expansive gallery of photographs www.phoenixbrassband.co.uk.
Also, the Band Facebook www.facebook.com/PhoenixBrassBandFroxfield.

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Friends of Phoenix

Bonus Ball Winners

January 2025	-	Darren Scragg
February 2025	-	Number not taken – funds reinvested
March 2025	-	Jane Bastin
April 2025	-	Simon Parkin
May 2025	-	David and Cynthia Treweek
June 2025	-	Number not taken – funds reinvested
July 2025	-	David and Irene Watson

There are still a few unsold numbers available should anyone like to purchase a new or additional bonus ball. Just £12 a year and if your number is the bonus ball in the National Lottery on the last Saturday of the month, you win £25!

Please contact Marilyn Mason, 01672 512634, for further details.

An application form appears on the last page of the Flame.

This is a good way to support Phoenix Brass. Thank you for your support.

Friends of Phoenix – We Need Your Support Please!

As you will see from page 11 of this Flame, Phoenix Brass receives no sponsorship or other funding but still has to meet various costs to keep the band running and functioning as effectively as possible.

This is where the Friends of Phoenix support group comes in to play (excuse the pun). Formed in 1994, with a membership then that included parents, relatives, friends, and enthusiastic listeners, the Friends of Phoenix has supported the band in every possible way, providing refreshments for concerts, transport for players and has organised social events for Band members.

Unfortunately, over the years the support group has lost members for a variety of reasons including some members not renewing their membership. As a result, membership has declined massively from in excess of 100 members to just under 40 members today.

The Friends of Phoenix annual fee is just £5.00 per person which, I am sure you will agree, is extremely good value.

I would kindly ask you to reconsider joining the Friends of Phoenix or, indeed, pass on the details to anyone you know who would like to support the band. It is only £5 a year!

The opportunity has been taken to include a Membership Form, and also a Standing Order Form as we offer the ability to pay the annual subscription by Standing Order.

We appreciate any donation, however small, to help Phoenix Brass achieve its full potential, to help the Band develop young talent and to make the opportunity of learning to play an instrument available to all.

Thank you.

Ways to improve band

- Everyone should play the same piece
- If you play a wrong note, give a nasty look to your partner
- Always keep your fingering chart handy. You can always catch up with the others
- Carefully tune your instrument before playing. That way you can play out of tune all night with a clear conscience
- Take your time turning pages
- The right note at the wrong time is a wrong note (and vice-versa)
- If everyone gets lost except you, follow those who get lost
- Markings for slurs, dynamics and ornaments should not be observed. They are only there to embellish the score and make it look nice
- If a passage is difficult, slow down. If it's easy speed up. Everything will work itself out in the end
- If you are completely lost, stop everyone else and say , "I think we should tune"
- Happy are those who have not perfect pitch, for the kingdom of music is theirs

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Band Summer Draw 2025

Thank you to everyone who supported the Band Summer Draw, either by selling tickets, buying their own tickets, and/or supplying prizes for the Draw itself.

A list of prize winners can be found below. Congratulations to all the winners.

£475 was raised from this year's Summer Draw. I am extremely grateful to those Members who kindly added donations to the cost of the tickets.

Our grateful thanks.

David Watson

Prize No	Prize	Ticket Number	Winner
1	Drinks hamper	30	Chloe Parkin
2	Drinks hamper	540	Martin Hall
3	£30 voucher	573	Norman
4	Picnic hamper	560	Evelyn
5	Poker set	512	Mel Roberts
6	Chocolate cream liqueur	365	John & Lynne Miles
7	Box of chocolates	112	Ruth Roberts
8	Bottle of whisky	533	Doreen Hall
9	Votive candle set	489	Chris Cowlan
10	Necklace	380	Mrs Patterson
11	Four bottles of fizz hamper	249	Mark Cooper
12	Wheat bag	494	Alex Cowlan
13	Hand cream library	370	John & Lynne Miles
14	Set of glasses	9	David Treweek
15	Three bottles of wine	372	Mrs Patterson
16	Scented candle	331	Amanda Marchmant
17	Three bottles fizzy wine	73	Steve Hutchins
18	Knitted toys	374	Mrs Patterson
19	Box of biscuits	52	Hristiyan Georgiev
20	Set of hand creams	379	Mrs Patterson
21	Scented candles	427	M Smith



Note to Self.....

Sunday, 10 August 2025 at 3pm

Victoria Park Bandstand

Phoenix Brass in Concert

Phoenix Brass Training Section

Phoenix Brass Training Section has had a really productive first half of 2025 with lots of fun music-making and progress being made in both solo and ensemble areas.



At two of the most recent Main Band engagements, we held a 'Come and Try an Instrument' stand which attracted a lot of interest and resulted in five new players coming along to learn to play a brass instrument.

Thanks to Jenny, Loosh, Halbert, Howard and Jessica who encouraged the interested parties to 'come and have a try'. [And especially to Loosh for his enthusiastic clapping after every piece we played at Ham].

Everyone is welcome to come and try an instrument at any time but now would be ideal as you could join our recent 'Beginners'.

On Saturday, 5 July 2025, the Training Section started the Phoenix "Brass Band Week" activities with a Coffee Morning at Froxfield War Memorial Hall. We had a really good time playing as a 'band' and it was a chance for many of the players to display their solo playing skills.

Finally, I would like to convey my thanks to the Main Band members who give up their Saturday mornings to patiently teach, encourage, coax (and even occasionally bribe) the learners to have fun and achieve the best they can.

We cannot all be world class champion level brass players, but we can all do our best to enjoy our playing, make friends and be a happy and useful member of the Brass Band world.

Someone once said, 'Fortune favours the brave', so why don't you give it a go?



Phoenix Brass in Pictures



In January 2025, residents at Savernake View Care Home, Marlborough, which provides 24 hour residential, nursing, dementia and respite care for the elderly, welcomed players from Phoenix Brass Band recently. Residents and care home staff gathered to enjoy an afternoon of musical delight.

The Care Home commented on their Facebook *"This weekend, we had the pleasure of hosting the incredible Phoenix Brass Band. They treated us to a fantastic mix of music spanning various decades, from timeless classics to more contemporary pieces. The talent they brought to the performance was truly captivating, and we had an unforgettable time enjoying the show!"*

In May 2025, players entertained the public at the Lambourn Spring Working show for another year. This event usually starts the band's season of summer engagements.



On Thursday, 8 May 2025, Phoenix Brass Band was among some of the live musical performances entertaining the public during the evening to celebrate VE day 80. The Community Event was hosted by Marlborough Town Council, The Royal British Legion and Marlborough Rugby Club.

On Sunday, 11 May 2025, the band performed throughout the afternoon at a VE Day 80 community event planned by Burbage Parish Council.



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A "Concert for Springtime" saw players from Phoenix Brass perform at St Mary's Church, Marlborough in early May 2025. The band was joined by guest players from Swindon Brass, and we thank them for their support.

Phoenix Brass welcomed Councillor Emily Trow, the newly elected Mayor of Marlborough. This was Councillor Trow's first engagement and during the Concert she presented David Watson, Musical Director, with a gift and Certificate from Gloucester Brass Band Association to celebrate his 80 years in brass banding – please see later in this Phoenix Flame.

In early June 2025, Phoenix Brass played on The Green for the Ham Open Gardens in support of the British Dyslexia Association and Hungerford Dementia Choir. The band was joined by two players from Swindon Brass.





In mid-June 2025, players performed on a very hot day at Chaddleworth Fete. There was still time for some fun during the break.



In July 2025, Phoenix Brass held several events to celebrate Brass Band Week 2025.

Covering the length and breadth of the UK, and now in its second year, the week was organised by Brass Bands England (BBE) to raise the awareness of the nation's brass bands and everything they have to offer.

Phoenix Brass started the week with a Concert by the Training Section supported by players from Main Band at Froxfield War Memorial Hall.

This was followed by members of the public being invited to have a blow on an instrument with help from players at a Main Band rehearsal.

The following evening, the band held a display of albums, trophies and plaques depicting the "History of Phoenix Brass."



As part of Brass Band Week, Phoenix Brass has organised the following events, all at Froxfield War Memorial Hall, The Green, Froxfield, Wiltshire SN8 3LD

Saturday, 5 July 2025

Phoenix Brass Training Section Coffee Morning, 10.30am to 12 noon.
Teas/coffees/cake will be available.

Tuesday, 8 July 2025

"Have a Blow" with all Main Band players at their rehearsal from 7.30pm.
Come along have a blow on an instrument with help from Band members.
Spare instruments will be available.
Teas and coffees.

Wednesday, 9 July 2025

"History of Phoenix Brass" with display of albums, photos, from 7.30pm.
Find out how the band is run.
Teas and coffees will be available.

Thursday, 10 July 2025

"Open Rehearsal" with all Main Band players at their rehearsal from 7.30pm
at which the public are invited to attend.
See how a piece of music is worked on to be ready to play in public.
Teas and coffees will be available.

Saturday, 12 July 2025

Phoenix Brass Coffee Morning and Mini Concert, 10.30am to 12 noon
Teas/coffees/cake will be available.

Please do feel free to come and support all or any of the above events

www.phoenixbrassband.co.uk

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At their second Main Band rehearsal of the past week, members of the public were invited to the “Open Rehearsal” to see how a piece of music is worked on to be ready to play in public. This was followed by the Main Band staging a Mini Concert and Coffee Morning at which the Grand Summer Raffle was drawn.



Phoenix Brass had a lovely Sunday afternoon recently playing at the Wilton Windmill Family Fun Day.

The band was pleased to be able to support this fundraising event to restore the sails on the windmill, a Grade II Listed Building of Special Architectural and Historic Interest.

David Watson's 80 Years in Brass Banding



David Watson celebrated 80 years in brass banding in April 2025. It is worth re-printing the following article:

The December 2019 edition of "Whitton Ways", the Whitton Team Benefice magazine that covers news from around the local villages in Wiltshire, featured David Watson, Musical Director, Phoenix Brass Band. We thank Vanya Body, Editor, who has kindly shared the article.

David was born in Dovercourt a suburb of Harwich in Essex to a musical family. His grandfather played the cello and euphonium for a small Royal Marines band, while his mother was a songster with the Harwich Salvation Army. At age seven David was enrolled in the Salvation Army trainee band and progressed to the main band aged nine! He played the cornet and on Sundays, in-between services, and Sunday school, he played with the Band as they marched through the town and woe betide him if he tried to sneak off!

During the war years, his father served in the army. Harwich was an important harbour and suffered from the targeted bombings and hardships. David's house was destroyed during one such raid and the family moved in with his grandparents. At fifteen, he had to stop playing following an operation and moved to percussion instruments and then the drums, to add to his repertoire.

By now, David was working as a Porter for the railways and after two years National Service he re-joined British Rail in an age when 90% of the trains still ran on steam. A chance encounter with a taxi driver led him to resume playing the

cornet with the Grange Brass Band where he learnt about conducting and band management. Eventually the Grange Brass Band became the Harwich Concert Band and David was the band secretary. He also began conducting the Harwich Accordion Orchestra, which went on to win 1st place in the advanced Orchestra section at the UK Accordion Championships.

The railways had undergone some upheaval after the war as the country rebuilt. Diesel and electric locomotives would replace steam in the newly nationalised British Rail, and then Dr Richard Beeching took his axe to British Rail in the 1960s.

David moved to Marlborough and became the BR representative to the MOD at Ludgershall where his job was to ensure the safety of the heavy military armaments transported by train. He subsequently became the Southern Region YTS manager, based at Waterloo, before transferring to Euston as manager of British Rail's UK training scheme responsible for setting nation-wide industrial standards.

David retired from his long career with BR just as privatisation was being mooted. "When I look at all the hours that my generation put into running the railway and look at it now, I despair," he says.

During this time, David played for the Kennet Vale Brass Band and conducted the youth band. Then the Hungerford Town Band offered David the Music Directorship and the chance to rebuild its band which was heavily in debt with neither instruments nor music! With support from locals, David started a learners' course and raised enough money to buy instruments and a library of music.

But then, David decided to do it all over again — and started a completely new brass band — with no music, no instruments, and no money! In 1993, with a £300 loan, David acquired second-hand instruments, while a friend provided sheet music. Supported by a core of players from Hungerford,

Phoenix Brass was born, based at Froxfield. The hall was in a poor state and for a while, the band decamped to Burbage but decided to move back to Froxfield and to take on the challenge of revitalising the Memorial Hall. David and the band members formed a Committee, and then took over the lease, which stopped mooted redevelopment and secured the future of the hall for the village. They acquired a grant which was well invested in upgrading the hall's facilities. A lottery grant then helped buy new instruments and a music library, and the rest, as they say, is history! Thank you David for a life in music, teaching, and service.

Thank you David for a life in music, teaching, and service.

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As mentioned previously, Councillor Emily Trow, the newly elected Mayor of Marlborough, presented David Watson, with a gift and Certificate from Gloucester Brass Band Association to celebrate his 80 years in brass banding at the Spring Time Concert in Marlborough in May 2025..



CONGRATULATIONS!



THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED BY
GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRASS BAND ASSOCIATION
TO

David Watson

IN ADMIRATION OF 80 YEARS OF BANDING

PHOENIX BRASS BAND

Mike James
GBBA CHAIRMAN
APRIL 2025



Gloucester Brass Band Association asked for photos of David with the 80 Year Certificate, so the engagement at Wilton Windmill provided the opportunity for some to be taken.



Fundraising for the Band

The Band is an autonomous organisation and is completely self-financing and does not have any direct sponsorship or any regular financial input from any local authority or organisation.

As with any organisation, Phoenix Brass has to meet various costs to keep the band running and functioning as effectively as possible. Costs include instruments (including the purchase and maintenance), uniforms, music, materials, and administrative costs, hire of the band-room and insurance. These are funded by player subscriptions, fundraising, other fee-paying engagements, public donations, membership subscriptions from the Friends of Phoenix and the two Draws in the summer and at Christmas.



Thank You.....to all the supporters that have signed up to easyfundraising

Did you know you can raise FREE donations for Phoenix Brass EVERY time you shop online? 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them at no extra cost to you. Please take a moment to sign up and support us!

To do this, simply visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/phoenixbrass> and install the "Find and Remind" toolbar. The Band will then receive a percentage of whatever you spend.....at no cost to yourself!

In fact you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers offer discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' exclusive to easyfundraising.

If you shop online anyway then why not raise valuable extra funds for us by using this fantastic scheme. All you need to do is visit the registration page and register with your email address as a username and a password of your choice, to ensure you support Phoenix Brass.

Please be careful, since there is another Phoenix Brass Band.

Logging into <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/phoenixbrass> will ensure you have registered with us.

- The Band currently has 35 supporters comprising players and friends.
- A total of £749.87 has been raised to date.
- It only takes 2 minutes to sign up.
- All you have to do is go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/phoenixbrass/>
- See the QR code on page 1 of the Phoenix Flame



Do you have you any old printer cartridges?

The Band continues to collect old printer cartridges as a fund-raising scheme.

The scheme is linked to 'Think Inks' who collect cartridges for recycling. A total of £417 has been raised for the band since August 2022.

If you have any old cartridges for recycling, please drop them in the letterbox of the Froxfield War Memorial Hall or contact Marilyn Mason either by phone 01672 512634 or via email marilynmason1@yahoo.co.uk.

Thank you.

I have been looking back five years to this time in 2020 when we were all in lockdown due to Covid19. Unable to meet up in person for rehearsals or perform at engagements, many brass bands performed what became known as 'virtual recordings.'

It was the same for Phoenix Brass with all engagements booked for the Summer 2020 being cancelled.

Phoenix Brass performed some virtual recordings. This necessitated players performing individually at home and recording themselves. With the help of Andrew, one of Phil Gray's sons, the recordings were then weaved together resulting in the final renditions.

There are several new players to the band, and I thought that it would be an opportunity for everyone, if they so wish, to listen to the recordings again (just click on the links).

The first was 'Happy Birthday' that celebrated David Watson's birthday and 75 years in Brass Banding in April 2020 - <https://www.phoenixbrassband.co.uk/david-watson-celebrates-75-years-in-brass-banding/>

The second virtual recording was made in June 2020, with 'Loyal and True'.

<https://www.phoenixbrassband.co.uk/phoenix-brass-virtual-recording-loyal-and-true/>

Testimonials

Phoenix Brass receive many comments of thanks and appreciation following engagements. These are all available to see on the Band Website.

However, comments from the beginning of 2025 to date are captured below:

"Thanks to the band for their performance at Ham Open Gardens. We have had so much great feedback from a lot of people on the quality and choice of music, it really did put the icing on the cake" – Ham Open Gardens, June 2025

"Thank you to the band for the awesome performance at the Chaddleworth Fete on Saturday" – Chaddleworth Fete, June 2025

"We loved having you and as always the performance was excellent" – Burbage Parish Council VE Day Celebrations, May 2025

"Thank you very much for today. As always, you do a great job" – Lambourn Vintage Machinery Spring Working Show, May 2025

"I just wanted to pass on my thanks to you and the band for giving up your Sunday afternoon at Savernake View Care Home. Myself, but more importantly, my 86-year-old father really enjoyed the excellent music. He does not like to venture out of his room very often, so I was so pleased when he agreed to go downstairs and stay and listen. It made him very happy, and in turn, his daughter too. Please pass on my thanks to the band members" – Savernake View Care Home, Marlborough (January 2025)

Band Member's Prayer

by Carol Wills

Dear Lord, help me to play my parts well, have the ability of a virtuoso, and by some miracle to be able to play top C's in pianissimo while the conductor is looking at me menacingly over the top of his glasses.

When he gives me that evil eye stare, please give me the strength to not wobble off the note, but play it clean and pure and in tune.

Dear Lord, never let me lose my cool, even when the conductor tells me to scribble out parts that I shouldn't play, only to be questioned the next rehearsal why I hadn't played those parts. Let me always understand where he is starting from and never let me forget my sharps and flats.

Give me the intelligence of a musical maestro, although my musical education is limited to high school band training.

Help me to read the conductor's mind, follow his beat, and carry out all instructions without explanation. And never let my valves stick or momentarily forget my fingering.

Let me always know exactly where jobs are being performed, where to park the car so that I do not have to walk a mile and know what time the job finishes. Let me juggle my life around and always be on time, even though we are told to be there one and a half hours early.

And Lord, when the year ends, please give me the foresight not to just finally take a long earned rest during the Christmas break, but to continue home practice right through, so that I don't start the new year like a complete beginner.

I ask these blessings Dear Lord, in the name of band members everywhere.

Amen

Extract from an Article courtesy of the BBC Website, dated 1 March 2025:

'Brass bands have always played the music of the people'

Jacob Hickson, 21, from Saddleworth, is a student with the University of Huddersfield Brass Band and will be competing on Saturday with Hammonds Band.

He recently won the Best Soloist award at the UniBrass competition in Cardiff for the second year running and was the first player to win in consecutive years.

He plays euphonium and trombone but began his brass career playing cornet.

"I wanted to play a trumpet because my sister started playing flute, so I thought I'd do something more interesting.

"I started playing cornet when I was about six. I played that until I was 18 and then I found I couldn't get on with it and it was messing with my mental health and I didn't know what I wanted to do, so I swapped onto euphonium and I loved it ever since."

Mr Hickson's journey with bands began aged 14 when his now brother-in-law invited him to join his brass band. He was one of three teenagers in the band.

He says it taught him confidence and helped him perform better at school.

"The way I've been able to build my mental health over the past three years is incredible, because I was one of the worst students at school when I was in sixth form.

"Finding something I really enjoyed in euphonium just helped me massively and it gave me some goals to set for myself and allowed me to progress and become who I am now, a confident person.

"It's something anyone can do. There is plenty of them. You do not have to be the world's best musician.

"Anyone can get involved and progress like me. In three years I've gone from being not very good to where I am now."

Helen Minshall, youth development brass specialist at Brass Bands England, encourages young people to get into banding.

She says there are two routes in – family legacy and "first generation banders".

"First generation banders have had a go at brass at their primary school, and they've come to see what all the noise is about. You get one or two who come down out of curiosity and then they tell their friends.

"The best advocates for getting kids to join a band is the kids who are already there. Once you get a steady stream of them coming down, you are on to a winner and they get hooked.

"They enjoy meeting their friends there. They get to go on fantastic tours where they have great fun, they make music and meet lifelong friends.

"It gives them confidence for everything they're going to be doing in life."

But Mr Hickson says many bands are struggling, and to get the Huddersfield University band to the national championships they had to fundraise for transport.

"Many people are struggling. Brass bands are taking a big hit with dwindling numbers. Fewer people are paying subs.

"They still get good audiences, but obviously you need people to pay more to be able to afford to do the kind of stuff you want to do."

Kenny Crookston is chief executive officer of Brass Band England. Mr Crookston says one of the priorities of Brass Band England is "making sure the next generations are secure".

He says brass bands are "under-represented in the public psyche".

"People have a particular view of what we do and it's about playing march competitions. It has come from the film *Brassed Off*. But it is a love story that is not really based on reality.

"If people really knew what brass bands can do, the standard of music making that can be achieved, but more than more than that, the experience it can give young people and get involved in something that is a fantastic, creative hobby.

"Even if it's not doing music, the camaraderie and confidence it brings you. I know people who are still playing in their 90s and very good and enjoying every minute."

Ms Minshall says the benefits of brass banding go beyond musical education, enjoyment, and friendships.

"You walk into a brass band, and you see a headteacher sitting next to someone who works in Tesco, sitting next to an undertaker, sitting next to a solicitor, sitting next to a schoolboy, and it teaches them to relate to people from all walks of life. Once they walk into the band room, they are all equal.

"That's a wonderful thing about it. If you ever need some building work doing or your plumbing is gone, you just get down to band rehearsal, there'll be somebody there who can sort it out for you."





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2025 'Public' Engagements

Phoenix Brass play at many events, both to the public and to private audiences.

Come along and see us at the following upcoming **public events** and book the date in your diary:

Sunday, 10 August 2025	Concert at Victoria Park Bandstand, Newbury	3.00pm
Sunday, 31 August 2025	"Marching & Dancing" Concert at Marlborough Town Hall	2.30pm
Saturday, 6 September 2025	Collingbourne Ducis Church fete	12 noon
Sunday, 7 September 2025	Pewsey Carnival Opening Church Service	6.45pm
Remembrance Sunday, 9 November 2025	Remembrance Sunday March and Church Service	11.00am
Sunday, 7 December 2025	Christmas Concert at the Walwyn Hall, Lambourn	2.30pm
Saturday, 13 December 2025	Street Collection in Marlborough High Street	10am onwards
Sunday, 14 December 2025	Christmas Concert at Marlborough Town Hall	2.30pm
Tuesday, 16 December 2025	Carols around the Christmas Tree, Froxfield War Memorial Hall and followed by FOP Grand Christmas Draw	7.15pm
Friday, 19 December 2025	St James's Church, Leckhampstead, Newbury	7.30pm





Friends of Phoenix

Phoenix Brass are pleased that they can provide pleasure through their music to so many people and hope that it can continue for many years. A brass band however is expensive to run and, though the players themselves contribute a great deal, Phoenix Brass could not continue to operate in its success without the support of others.

A supporters' organisation, **Friends of Phoenix**, was formed in 1994. With a membership that includes parents, relatives, friends, and enthusiastic listeners they have supported the band in every possible way. This highly enthusiastic support group has provided fundraising, refreshments for concerts, transport for players and running social events for band members.

For an annual fee of just £5.00 each '**Friend**' receives newsletters and concession tickets for admission to certain events.

If you wish to become a member of **Friends of Phoenix**, or wish to renew an existing membership, and support the band please complete the form below and hand it or post it to either:

Mr R Fradgley, The Dairy, 5 Green Farm Rise, Froxfield, Nr Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 3YD; or
Mr D Watson, Wheatsheaf Cottage, Main Road, Ogbourne St Andrew, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1RZ

Alternatively, you can pass the form to any band member or officer in an envelope clearly marked with your name stating it is for membership to **Friends of Phoenix**.



Surname:.....

Forename:.....

Address:.....

.....Post Code

Telephone Number.....

Email address.....

Please indicate by inserting a cross if you prefer all communications to be sent to the email address

☐

Amount Enclosed.....

Cheque/Cash
£

Option to pay by standing order and completion of attached form.....

Please indicate by inserting a cross if you are completing the Standing Order Form

☐

Signature.....Date.....

Friends of Phoenix Brass Band - Bankers Order

ToBank / Building
Society

.....
(FULL address of your Bank / Building Society)

Please pay to Lloyds Bank, East Ham Branch, sort code – **30-92-93**

for the credit of the account of **Friends of Phoenix**

Account Number - **68576860**

the sum of £..... with effect from the day
of (Figures) (Words)

.....20.....and the same amount each year until further notice.

Name of your account to be debited.....

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Account Number

--	--	--

Sort Code

Signed.....Date

Address

.....

.....Post Code.....

Telephone Number.....Email address.....

Please do NOT return the form to your Bank.
Please return the completed and signed form to Mr D Watson or Mr R Fradgley



Friends of Phoenix Bonus Ball Application

Phoenix Brass is funded mainly by player subscriptions, fundraising which includes concerts, other fee-paying engagements, coffee mornings, public donations, membership subscriptions from the Friends of Phoenix and the Bonus Ball. As with any organisation, Phoenix Brass must meet various costs to keep the band running and functioning as effectively as possible.

Costs include instruments (including the purchase and maintenance), uniforms, music, materials, and administrative costs, hire of the band-room and insurance.

The Bonus Ball has proven to be a valuable source of income for the band over several years.

It costs £12 a year and if your number is the bonus ball in the National Lottery on the last Saturday of the month, you win £25!

This is a good way to support Phoenix Brass.

Thank you for your support.

For further details, please contact:

Marilyn Mason, Beech Lodge, Roebuck Meadow, London Road, Marlborough, Wilts SN8 2AL

Telephone: 01672 512634

Email: marilynmason1@yahoo.co.uk

Alternatively, you can pass the form to any band member or officer in an envelope clearly marked with your name stating it is for membership to **Friends of Phoenix Bonus Ball**.



Surname:.....

Forename:.....

Address:.....

.....Post Code

Telephone Number.....

Email address.....

Please indicate by inserting a cross if you prefer all communications to be sent to the email address

☐

Amount Enclosed.....

Cheque/Cash
£

Please pay to Lloyds Bank, East Ham Branch, sort code – **30-92-93**
for the credit of the account of **Friends of Phoenix**
Account Number - **68576860**

Amount Remitted
£

Signature.....Date.....