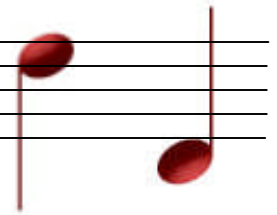


# Quarter Notes



## THE WHITBY BRASS BAND NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer 2008

### Welcome to our first Newsletter!



The Whitby Brass Band is proud to present our first Newsletter publication. With this first edition we hope to start a tradition of communicating with you, our audience, on a quarterly basis.

Through the Newsletter we hope to introduce you to

some of our players, give you details about our upcoming trips and concerts, and share any current news that may be of interest.

If you would like to receive our newsletter through email, please either use the form on the back page of this page, or visit us online at [www.whitbybrassband.com](http://www.whitbybrassband.com) to sign up online. If you don't have email and would like a print copy of the newsletter, please fill in your full mailing address on the sign up form.

#### History, History, History

The Whitby Brass Band is now in its' 145th year! As a volunteer organization within the Town of Whitby, we have seen many changes over the years. Houses have sprung up where once there was just fields, and lifestyles have become busier and busier.

While the Band's membership has certainly changed since the "old days", we think that the Band's focus is pretty much the same. We still make music for the love

of it, and we try to provide entertainment and a chance for our audience to take a break from their busy lives and just listen to a band concert!

We hope that you enjoy learning more about the Whitby Brass Band through our newsletter, and we look forward to getting closer to our audience through our new Publication.

Should you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to email us at [mail@whitbybrassband.com](mailto:mail@whitbybrassband.com)

### Meet Bandmaster Roland Hill



Roland has been Whitby's conductor since February 1980. His earliest training was with the Salvation Army in his native Yorkshire. As a young man he worked as a

coal miner, and played in various colliery bands, including Harton and Westoe and Carlton Main Frickley. Eventually he became a bandsman in the RAF, and by the late 1960s he was Principal Tuba with the Central band of the Royal Air Force, travelling extensively throughout the world. When he emigrated to Canada in 1978, Roland played with Toronto's Metropolitan Silver Band. In 1980, he answered Whitby Brass Band's advertisement for a new leader in the North America-wide *Brass Band Bridge*

magazine. He was one of half a dozen applicants, each of whom came to conduct a rehearsal. Roland's credentials made him an obvious choice, and it was a unanimous decision. Over the past 28 years Roland has led the band in a huge variety of events, ranging from competition in the USA and at home, concerts indoors and out, parades in all weathers, every conceivable community venue throughout southern Ontario and beyond, plus a concert tour to Boston and New York in

2007. That the band continues to flourish, both in numbers and quality of playing, is due in large part to his solid leadership. Roland's son, Brendan, currently the youngest member in the band, plays Principal Trombone, and has obviously inherited his father's musical talent.



## Quarter Notes

### Whitby Brass Junior Band



Whitby has had a Junior Band in some form since the 1930s, when Eric Clarke was bandmaster. Alvin "Sam" Church (1925-2007), along with his brother Walter "Moe" (who still plays trombone in the Senior Band) and friend Ted McCormack, recalled receiving tuition from Eric in the old PUC building as early as 1933.

The Junior Band started up again following World War II, first led by Eric Clarke and then Stanley Redfearn. It was

Stan who brought the juniors into the public eye, raising funds for uniforms, and taking them to competition at the CNE, and playing parades and concerts.

Since then there have been many Junior Band leaders. Today the group continues to thrive under the direction of Gerry Murphy, ensuring a vital source of new members to the Senior Band. Indeed, of the band's 30-some present members, 19 came up through the Junior Band, and

five of these learned to play as youngsters with Stan in the early 1960s.

Whitby Junior Brass Band continues to be the best deal in town. Instruments and tuition are provided free of charge to learners of all ages. Visit the band's website for further details.

### Trillium Foundation Grant Application

In the fall of 2007, the Whitby Brass Band applied for a Trillium Foundation grant to help fund the purchase of new brass and percussion instruments. We are pleased to announce that the band was successful in their bid, and we have received funds which will be applied to the purchase of new Baritone, trombones, Eb horns, a flugel, new P.A. system, and what amounts to a complete

new set of percussion instruments. We have also purchased a cargo trailer that will be used to haul the percussion, making it possible to bring all necessary percussion along to any performance.

The new equipment will allow us to enhance our Junior Band program as well. Instruments will be made available to the junior and beginner players allowing more people to participate. The Junior program

will also be receiving new music folders as part of the grant.

We would like to thank the Trillium Foundation and the government of Ontario for supporting communities and organizations throughout Ontario!

Thanks also to Bill Foster for spearheading the application process and putting together the proposal.

**THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION**



**LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO**

### Quarter Notes Sign up Form

Please fill in and return this form to a band member.

Comments:

Name

Email

Address - if no email

Sign up online at [www.whitbybrassband.com](http://www.whitbybrassband.com)

### Upcoming Concerts

**Free Summer Concert Series at  
Rotary Park in Whitby:**

**Thursdays @ 7:30pm**

**July 10th  
July 24th  
Aug. 7th  
Aug. 21st**

**Rain or Shine!**

Bring along a blanket or lawn chair