



Exeter Railway Band

welcomes you to its

Anniversary Concert

St. David's Church, Exeter

26th October 2019

Welcome from David Huxham (Chairman)

Good evening and welcome to this special concert celebrating the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Exeter Railway Band.

In October 1944, the idea of forming a Southern Railway Brass Band, by employees of the Southern Railway, was granted permission by their Recreation Club and funds were provided, in addition to a loan, to purchase instruments and music. The name of the band was officially recorded as 'The Exeter and District Southern Railway Band', and all members were, at the time, employees of the Railway. Since then, the band has changed its name a few times depending upon the operating franchise, but with the name having always been shortened to 'The Railway Band', we recently made what is hopefully the last change to reflect this. This evening sees the band wearing a new uniform of green jackets and waistcoats, this being the original colour adopted soon after the band's formation.

Our Musical Director, Gareth Davies, brings a wealth of enthusiasm and experience, having been influenced by some well-known names including Philip Harper, conductor of the current world champions, The Cory Band, with whom three of our founding members played prior to forming our Band. I hope you enjoy this evening's concert, which includes some traditional brass band favourites (including the march *Slaidburn*, which was the first-ever piece of music played by the band) as well as several more modern offerings. We are also delighted to welcome our friends from the Tale Valley Choir, with whom we have shared the stage on many occasions over the years: it seems apt that they too are celebrating an anniversary (their fifth) this year.

Thank you for supporting us and we all wish you an enjoyable evening.

Gareth Davies (Musical Director)

Gareth's passion for music started at a very early age, joining his local brass band, Pillowell Silver Band, at the age of 4. After many years of playing almost every instrument with the band, he eventually turned his hand to percussion. It wasn't until many years later, along with some encouragement from Kristyann Symonds, that Gareth picked up the baton for the first time with the Forest of Dean Area Windband. More recently, Gareth has been further motivated and inspired by Chris Spreadbury whilst playing under his musical direction at South West Comms Band.

Gareth is honoured to be the Musical Director at Exeter Railway Band and is looking forward to working with the band to further develop their skills and technical ability within an enjoyable atmosphere, and hearing the results of hard work.

Exeter Railway Band in 2019

The instrumentation for British-style brass bands is standardised, with bands competing at annual ‘contests’, judged blind, in the arrangement you see us performing in tonight. We are also fortunate to be joined tonight by a number of guests (indicated with an asterisk below).

Cornets

Matt Martin (*Principal*); Emily Harper, Samson Wang, Joy Richards*, Steve Stimpson* (*Solo*); Lowell Pinn (*Soprano*); Louise Wright (*Repiano*); Daniel Mullan, Edward Mills (*2nd*); Karen Mcanally, James Eustice (*3rd*)

Flugel Horn

Megan Newbery*

Tenor Horns

Steve Hardiman (*Solo*); Tamara Garner (*1st*); Alice Johnson (*2nd*)

Baritones

Alex Odell (*1st*); Louise Pike (*2nd*)

Euphoniums

Roger Carter, Catherine Barnet

Trombones

Graham Sharland (*1st*); Hannah Vodden (*2nd*); Aaron Lynch, Richard Williams (*Bass*)

Basses

David Huxham, Paul Gilbert (*E♭*); Graham Creasy, Mark Clarvis (*B♭*)

Percussion

Lee Watson*

If you enjoyed tonight’s concert, we warmly invite you to join us at one or more of our upcoming engagements:

11th November	Armistice service (Higher Cemetery, Heavitree)
2nd December	Lord Mayor’s Carol Service (Exeter Cathedral)
3rd December	Christmas Concert (St. Mary Magdalene’s, Stoke Canon)
11th December	Christmas Concert (St. Paul’s Church, Starcross)
12th December	Carols Down the Line (South Devon Railway)
13th December	Carol Service (Donkey Sanctuary, Sidmouth)
21st December	Carols (RAMM Museum, Exeter)

We will also be playing carols at various supermarkets around Exeter during the Christmas shopping period. For more information, see our new website (exeter-railway-band.co.uk), or find us on Facebook (search ‘Exeter Railway Band’).

Slaidburn

William Rimmer

Heartland

Alan Fernie

Featuring Matt Martin (Cornet)

Deep Inside the Sacred Temple (from *The Pearl Fishers*)

Bizet, arranged by K. Wilkinson

Soloists: Roger Carter and Catherine Barnet (Euphonium)

Mr. Blue Sky

Jeff Lynne, arranged by Christopher Wormald

PERFORMANCE FROM THE TALE VALLEY CHOIR

Bohemian Rhapsody

Freddie Mercury, arranged by Darrol Barry

The Lost Chord

Arthur Sullivan, arranged by Gordon Langford

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Prismatic Light

Alan Fernie

The Flower Duet (from *Lakme*)

Delibes, arranged by Philip Sparke

Soloists: Matt Martin and Emily Harper (Cornets)

Albion Treasures

Gavin Somerset

PERFORMANCE FROM THE TALE VALLEY CHOIR

Daydream Believer

John Stewart, arranged by Liam Walsh

Jesus Christ Superstar: A Selection

Andrew Lloyd-Webber, arranged by Alan Fernie