

St Keverne Band (founded 1907)

The band is the most Southerly Band on mainland Britain and its home is in the village of St. Keverne on the Lizard Peninsula in Cornwall.

The Area is quite remote but despite this we have maintained a band for over 100 years and encouraged a large number of players to achieve success at various levels of music making.

We are totally self-financing and believe that our efforts provide valuable opportunities for all the people of the Peninsula.



St Keverne Senior Band at the Hall for Cornwall, Truro C. 2000

licensed clubroom and, to the envy of visitors, a practice room with views over open countryside to Falmouth Bay and the English Channel.

The Band has made considerable progress during its 100 years. Highlights include the building of its bandroom in 1971 and a further extension in 1996 to provide a

The Band has remained financially independent in an area where there is no big business and little opportunity for sponsorship. All funds are raised through Band activities including the famous Ox Roast. On over 40 occasions on the first Wednesday of August the village square has been taken over by the band and a whole ox has been roasted on a spit close to the church (BSE caused some problems but the event has continued).

At present we have over 80 active players. We run beginners classes, a training band, a youth band and a senior band and, especially during recent years, have gained considerable success in Local and National Competitions.



St Keverne Youth Band at the Hall for Cornwall, Truro C. 2000

musical director Tom Paulin takes a beginners group held on Wednesdays from 5pm. Then as they progress they join the beginners band where practices are held on Fridays and are led by Eric Taylor a loyal band member for over 50 years.

Bandsmen and other visitors are welcome at the Band room where rehearsals are usually held on Tuesdays and Fridays. The band's

The Band has a good record of competition results having risen from the 3rd to the 1st Section in only 2 years and in 2001 they competed locally in the Championship Section. As a direct result of our Youth Policy the Youth Band, after only a few years, competed Nationally against School, City and County Bands to become 1998, 2000 and 2002 National Champions and 1999 and 2001 BBC Youth Band of the Year.

Person responsible for the Band is: Mr. Alan Retallack, Manager of the Band.

Recent achievements of the Band.

05/11/2005

Torquay Contest

The band secured another win at the SWBBA 59th Annual Championships, which was held in Torquay at the Rivera International Conference Centre on Saturday. There were 6 bands altogether competing in the 2nd section all playing the set test piece *Partita for Brass*.

15/10/2005

Harvest Festival. (Photos)

The evening consisted of a service with hymns accompanied by the band and an auction of all produce, led by Derek Keverne. Also the evening was used to officially welcome Tom Paulin the new MD of the band and recognise the efforts of Eileen Triggs, who during this summer raised £1500 for the band from the sale of home made Jellies Jams and Marmalades. The band is very grateful to her as she has raised in total over £10000 for the band.

03/10/2005

New MD Tom Paulin.

The band are settling down practicing again with new Musical Director Tom Paulin, for their next contest in November at Torquay. Tom has recently come back from Australia where he conducted many brass bands, with his most recent being Hawthorn Band Victoria, making them Australian National Champions in 2004 and runners up a further three times. [Read more about Tom's banding History.](#)

Band Manager Alan Retallack becomes a Grandfather.

Lisa Roberts, eldest daughter of Alan Retallack, has just had her first baby. Oliver Jonathan Roberts, was born in the early hours of Saturday morning. New parents Lisa and husband Jon are delighted.

Harrogate Contest. (More photos).

The band win at the National Finals in Harrogate and Kelvin Retallack also secured the best instrumentalist award for his Solo Cornet performance on the day.

For most of September the band prepared for the National Finals, which were held in Harrogate at the end of September. After winning the South West of England area contest in the 2nd section at Torquay, the band were eager to pull off a great result for Derek Greenwood in his last contest as MD for the band. There were 16 bands who had all qualified for our section, two from each region.

The contest day was a long one, as the band were drawn 15th to play. With that in mind and having had a solid practice already, the band took themselves away from all the hustle and bustle of the contest arena and decided to relax out of town while keeping focused on the task ahead.

The piece was definitely a test, demanding top performances from all the principle parts. Also the two adjudicators, Steve Sykes and Philip McCann, would be ultimate judges to impress.

Derek and all of St.Keverne were so chuffed with the result, with the performance being remarked as the clear winner, having maturity of sound and expressing the musicality of the piece. A great result for Derek to retire on and hand over to Tom Paulin with. Tom recently has moved back to Cornwall from Australia to take over the position of MD for the band. [Read more about Tom here.](#)

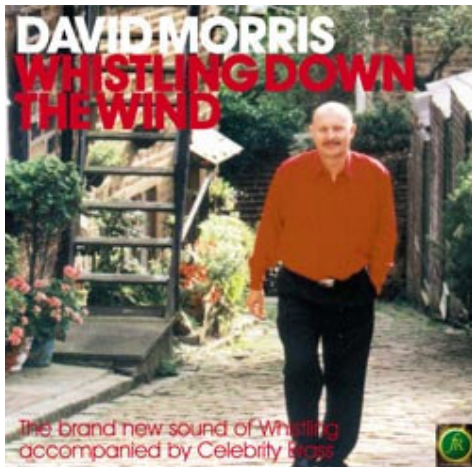
After a long journey back home the band were met by a great reception from all the people of St.Keverne. The band marched through the village to celebrate and say thank you to all the supporters of the band, with all newly acquired silverware on show ready for the band room trophy cabinet, where the celebrations continued.

Congratulations to all the guys. I know some of you were declaring a week-long holiday with lots of celebrating. I hope there are not too many sore heads at the end of it!.



David Morris – Whistling World Champion

- Born March 25th 1950
 - Started playing the cornet when 13 years old
 - Played principal cornet and was Musical Director with many northern bands
 - Musical Brass Tutor – schools and private pupils
 - Now dedicated to music through whistling and brass
- Lives in Dobcross, Saddleworth with wife



World Championship Contest:

Set in Louisburg North Carolina, the annual International Whistling Convention has been running for 30 years. This small town boasts an amazing auditorium and the event attracts whistlers from all over the US, Canada and on this occasion Great Britain. The championship is run over two days and there are two categories classical and popular in which you must compete for the title.

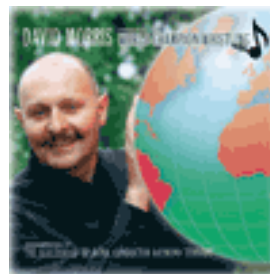
7 finalists are selected from the first round and the overall winner is crowned the International Grand Champion. In 2003 David Morris seized the Grand

Champion title and trophy and brought them back to Dobcross, Saddleworth, England.

The event attracted CBS television, coast to coast coverage in the US and the BBC were there to feature David's venture for 'Inside Out' aired on 9th June 2003 on BBC1.

ARCHIVE

David appeared on BBC North West Tonight
David featured on BBC Radio Leeds
David appeared on " Des and Mel " Show, ITV.
David live broadcast from the USA BBC North West Tonight
David featured on BBC 1'Inside Out'
David appeared on BBC 1" Blue Peter"
David appeared on ITV "This Morning" with Philip Schofield and Fern Britton
David is featured on BBC Radio 4 "Today" Programme
David is featured on BBC Radio 4 "Woman's Hour"
Interview by John Brunning on Classic FM
David appeared in New Zealand, March/April 2005 in concerts at Auckland and Wellington and in July again performed as guest soloist in St Louis, Missouri, USA



David Morris Testimony:

"It's hard to say which came first whistling or blowing a cornet! Whistling as a boy attracted the attention of George Gibson a well known Saddleworth Brass band character and playing to Cornet Champion of Great Britain standard by 1975 developed my technical whistling ability, expression and overall sound.

It was appropriate then to have brass backing for my first CD album and championship pieces for which I am greatly indebted to my brass friends, and the Boarshurst Band – my first band and one I took to the brass band national championships on more than one occasion as their Musical Director.

My aim is to be acknowledged as the best whistler in the world and I would like to thank you for visiting this site and your future support."

