



# Capital Concert Brass

## Alan Mann RIP

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014

Alan passed away over this weekend and it is fitting that our website should acknowledge the contribution he has made to our Band. As a friend and partner in banding for over 20 years this is inevitably also a personal tribute.

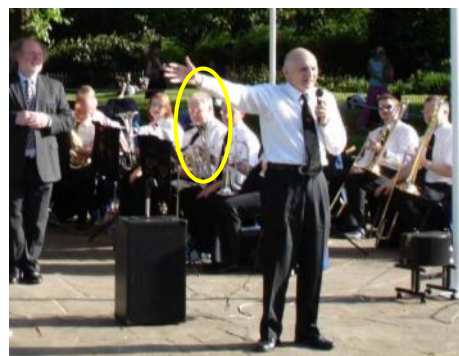
Already an accomplished string player, Alan started playing brass rather late in life, round about 1990, with Ealing Brass. Under the guidance of Greg Haynes and other members of the Band he applied himself with enthusiasm and quickly became a competent player on his instrument of choice the tenor horn.



I first met Alan when he came along to the Hanwell Band around 2003. Starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Horn he moved quite quickly to 1<sup>st</sup> Horn, a seat he occupied until 1999 when he moved to Staines Brass for a period that included many Contest wins under the baton of Ewan Campbell.

In 2001, jointly with Ewan, he organised the formation of Capital Concert Brass, and he has been with us ever since. Excerpts from some of the photographs from the website are repeated on this page, with Alan highlighted. He was always there, although as a horn player he was often obscured by the conductor!

Throughout this whole period Alan also played with the RAF Halton Area Voluntary Band and, when Capital ceased contesting a few years ago, also played with the St Albans City Band. He continued with the three Bands until his recent ill health made the travelling impossible. He played with Capital at our last concert in December 2014.



Alan brought his enthusiasm and generosity to everything he did. To hear him talk of his work restoring stringed instruments was a revelation to me and many other brass players. With his wife Ros he raised four children and delighted in his grandchildren. His many brass band friends will all recognise that enthusiasm as he played alongside them in rehearsals, concerts and contests. For Capital the contribution he made to our start-up and early success will be remembered by all. In more recent harder times for the band he has encouraged the new players and his presence has been valued by all of us.

He will be missed by us and by many.

**Alan Couch,**  
Secretary, Capital Concert Brass