



## **Best of brass rubbing off on local musicians?**

20 January 2009

One of the world's top 50 brass bands comes to Andover next Saturday (31<sup>st</sup> January) to perform at Andover's John Hanson School Theatre, alongside our own Test Valley Youth Brass Band.

South West Trains Woodfalls band, based near Salisbury are in the brass band equivalent of the Champions League. They now regularly compete against famous bands such as Black Dyke and Brighouse and Rastrick.

The two bands will each perform separate programmes, drawing from popular music, traditional brass band pieces and their classical repertoire. They will then join together to perform several items as a massed band.

Test Valley Brass Youth Band musical director Steve Large hopes that his young players will learn from playing alongside such world class talent. He said:

"I expect Woodfalls players to be an inspiration to our young people. Rehearsing with excellent players and sharing a stage with them will have a lasting impact on the teenagers in our band. They will learn from their technique, their attention to detail and their dedication to constant improvement. It will also demonstrate what can be achieved by aiming high. Several SWT Woodfalls players are former Test Valley bandsmen and women."

Steve added that the audience should look forward to a resoundingly good concert. He said:

"For only £8 a ticket our audience should prepare to be dazzled by an evening of fanfare and lullaby, march and melody. We always like to put on a show, but SWT Woodfalls promise to make it an even more special evening. And when it comes to the joint items, with over 50 musicians on stage, we will certainly blow away a few cobwebs!"

The concert begins at 7.30pm on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January at John Hanson School Theatre. Tickets (Adults £8, concessions £6) are available from parents of Youth Band members or on 01264 324056.