

## **Chairman's Report for Year Ending December 2003**

An overview of 2003 shows that it was a musically productive year with concerts covering English music, Russian music, film music and Xmas music. The standard of our performances and ensemble playing has improved and this has been commented on by our audience and was also evident in the production of the Xmas CD. I think we should all be proud of ourselves.

Yet again, the secretary has done most of the organisation and although we should be very grateful for his input, it is still too much for one person to do. However, numerous members have contributed to the general organisation of concerts and their efforts should not be forgotten.

I feel we are beginning to understand how to attract an audience and there seems to be a growing number of supporters but overall this is still our biggest issue. We have a good product and we need to sell it. Perhaps we need to elect an advertising officer.

Attendance seems to have improved recently and I feel that the trombone section is becoming stronger. We may have too many trumpets but there seems to be a good mutual understanding of each players fortes and abilities and this seems to be organized in a surprisingly friendly and non back stabbing (for trumpet players) manner. While the attendance has been good the need for all members to pay regular subs needs to be addressed. I understand that at the moment we are not in debt, but it would be useful to have some money available for purchases. I suspect people (like me) have just not got around to filling in the direct debits.

Finally, on behalf of Surrey Brass I would like to thank Robin for his unfailing enthusiasm throughout the year. His enjoyable rehearsal technique is something which I feel we sometimes take for granted but on a week to week basis, it is what makes us work as a group.

Will Spencer 18/01/04