

## Friends of Christchurch Park launch their Free Brass on the Grass Summer Concerts 2022

The Friends of Christchurch Park launched their free, summer Brass on the Grass concerts yesterday afternoon, Sunday 24 July, with popular local band, Martlesham Brass.

Despite the heat, around 150 people turned up to hear the band play a wide-ranging selection of music, including one piece composed by a member of the band to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Fittingly the concert ended with Fantasia on British Sea Songs with the audience waving union flags provided by the Band.



The concert took place in the Arboretum bandstand which had been badly damaged by fire only a few days previously. Swift repair work by Ipswich Borough Council fixed the damage enabling the concert to go ahead as planned.

"We couldn't have asked for a better start to the Brass on the Grass concert series," commented Peter Gray, Chair of the Friends of

Christchurch Park. "Martlesham Brass are a wonderful band and they kicked things off in style."

Adam Cable, bandleader, added: "Performing at Christchurch Park is one of the highlights of our banding calendar. It's always a joy to make music in such beautiful surroundings, and the bandstand helps to create a wonderful acoustic"

Other concerts feature Woodbridge Excelsior Band, sponsored by Woodbridge Antiques, on Sunday 31 July; Ipswich Hospital Band, sponsored by Gotelee Solicitors LLP, on 7 August; and Stowmarket Concert Band, sponsored by Woodcock and Son, on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

All concerts are in the Arboretum in Christchurch Park, entrance via the Henley Road gate. As a result of sponsorship, all are free.