

This year marked a very special Lismore Proms for Helston Town Band.



Not only did the band perform another evening of top entertainment, in what is one of its most popular events of the year, but also paid tribute to its longest - serving member, veteran Cornet player, Russell Harvey.

Former Postal Officer Russell, 79, is marking his 70th year as a loyal member of Helston Town Band, having joined towards the end of the war, in 1944. In recognition of this unparalleled achievement, he was presented with certificates and medals by the Chairman of Cornwall Brass Band Association, Trevor Bedding. He also received a special recognition from Brass Bands England.

The band itself also paid tribute to Russell, with long- serving former Musical Director, Edward Ashton, himself first associated with the band in the 1940s, speaking about his lifelong professional and personal relationship with Russell, who is a shining example to all bandsmen.

The band presented Russell with a silver salver and former playing colleague, Debbie Retallick,

also made a welcome appearance, presenting Russell with a framed picture of him leading the band during the 7 o'clock dance on this year's Flora Day.

In recognition of the whole familys support, Russells wife, Veronica was presented with a bouquet. For the Harvey family, Helston Town Band has become part of their life. Their son, Ian, is also a lifelong band member and was Principal Cornet for over 30 years, whilst his brother Malcolm is a former player. Russells brother, John, was a loyal band member for 40 years.