

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2010**

This past year has been an interesting one for the branch. We had 13 bands registered, a figure not seen for some time. Unfortunately the Royal Corps of Signals band did not re-locate from Bramcote Barracks to Stafford as was hoped. The band members are now based at various locations, but it is hoped that the band will continue and remain in the Midlands branch.

Under the current financial situation it appears unlikely that Council sponsorship, or any other sponsorship will be found for the Birmingham contest, so it is unlikely that it will run again in the foreseeable future. However, moves are afoot to secure a grant, so we are always hopeful. The prospect of holding a mini band contest as a replacement is under discussion, hopefully bands will commit to supporting the venture.

The branch has continued to be an active branch by running both a PDQB course and a workshop during this last year. At the time of writing a further workshop designed to raise the playing standard of grade four bands is in the planning stage.

Finally, I wish to announce that I am resigning as Branch Secretary at the AGM. I have held the position for almost 30 years and I find that I am unable to provide the commitment the post deserves, as I was once able to.

**Ric Stewart**  
*Branch Secretary*