

## CONTEST SECRETARY REPORT 2009

This year saw the date of the Birmingham Contest move to the 21<sup>st</sup> June which I believe was responsible for the highest entry we have had for quite a few years. Twelve bands entered, although due to circumstances beyond our control we had 3 bands unable to attend.

It was nice to see The Wirral and Beverley & District there and I hope they enjoyed the unique venue, along with the wonderful atmosphere, enough to come back next year.

After finding a little piece of grass for the Drum Majors, we were able to run a contest for them this year. This went down really well with the crowd and I would like to thank the Drum Majors for entering, especially after a few years of Birmingham being without a Drum Major contest.

Birmingham Council did us proud. On arriving at Centenary Square on the morning of the contest, to find everything was already in place and all we had to do was concentrate on the bands, was absolutely brilliant.

After a little juggling with the timings, the contest went off well.

Thanks have to go to Paul Swift, (Chief Steward) for doing a wonderful job on the day and managing to stretch things out.

Even mass bands went ahead on time. Thanks, to all band members for vacating the pub!!

I would like to thank Birmingham Council, obviously for making this financially possible, but also to their staff that were there on the day, and who helped make the event go so smoothly.

Thanks also to everyone behind the scenes.

Contest Secretary  
Diane Anderson