

A VERITABLE FEAST OF MUSIC

Songster Leader Jenny Wornham, Cheltenham Citadel, reviews *The Bandsman's Tale*, a new recording from Enfield Band

THIS CD depicts the story of an Enfield Band programme and is a veritable feast of music, which held me captive for the full 1 hour, 20 minutes. It had me wondering what it would have been like to see the band perform in the flesh.

Bandmaster Jonathan Corry draws a huge range of tonal colouring and styles from the band, which are

delightful to listen to. Many pieces will be familiar to band enthusiasts, including 'Rosehill', 'Pie Jesu' and 'I Will Follow Him', but the true gems of this CD are its epic numbers.

General Shaw Clifton (Retired) leads us beautifully into Elgar Howarth's 'The Bandsman's Tale' and Ray Steadman-Allen's 'Victorian Snapshots - On Ratcliff Highway' is delivered with style, understanding and excellence. Leslie Condon's 'Song Of The Eternal' is a joy to hear.

The band is blessed with soloists of the highest calibre, each giving exemplary performances of their chosen items, ranging from the contemplative to the foot-tapping.

The programme notes are helpful, informative and give a good background to the music.

Not only does the band present a faultless programme of music and

amaze with its technical skills – it also brings a blessing with the prayerful finale.

- *The Bandsman's Tale* is available from SP&S priced £13.95 (plus £2.95 postage and packing) or can be downloaded for £9.99 from worldofbrasstunes.com

