



The Bradwell Bugle



Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

June 2019

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From the Editor

Hi Everyone!

Welcome to the June edition of the Band's Monthly Newsletter.

There was just the one engagement for the Band during the past month, plus the highly enjoyable Development Group's Solo Contest. My congratulations go to the winners and my admiration to all those brave enough to perform a solo in front of a live audience. Reports on these follow.

The Band now prepare for three appearances over the coming four weeks, which will see them perform at two outdoor events and an evening concert. More details on these events follow.

The opportunity of being heard by hundreds of people as part of what promises to be some well supported local events, is something the Band are looking forward to, so let's keep our fingers crossed for some decent weather.

Sarah-Jayne



Fancy a nice day out in July – and all for free? The Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival is an annual event that showcases 20 brass bands over the course of a weekend. This is a non-competitive festival in which all Bands give their time free of charge to perform at a very popular outdoor event in the glorious setting of The Green at The Museum of Iron, one of the 10 award-winning Ironbridge Gorge Museums. Admission to the daytime event is free of charge and offers the chance for brass band enthusiasts to enjoy 15 hours of the best brass band music and for the inquisitive to sample brass band music. There's a bar and refreshments available or you can take a picnic, settle down and enjoy an experience that is quintessentially British.

Bradwell Silver Band will be making their third appearance at this festival on Sunday 14th July and are travelling by coach. There will be a number of spare seats available on the coach for player's family members, friends and supporters of the Band. If you don't want to listen to the bands the other attractions of Ironbridge are only a short distance away. The coach is due to leave New Bradwell mid morning to allow plenty of time for us to arrive for our performance scheduled to start at 13:10pm. We expect to arrive back in New Bradwell around 8:00pm.

If you are interested in having a nice day out please contact our secretary Robin Allan who will be able to advise on the availability of spare seats.

What's On?...June

Where to see and hear the Band this month...



The Annual Stony Stratford Big Lunch will be back at Wolverton Road Recreation Ground on Sunday, 2nd June from 12:00pm-16:00pm. This FREE family friendly event offers something for everyone. Please feel free to bring along your own picnic, chairs and picnic blankets and relax. Alternatively, there will be lots of food vendors where you can purchase a delicious lunch or snack on the day which includes fish and chips, pig roast, Saf's Kitchen, Guiseppie's Pizzeria, Baja Cantina, Good Times Cafe and of course, an ice cream van. There will be plenty for the children to do with a bouncy castle, Punch and Judy show, balloon modelling and a planting activity with Stony Stratford In Bloom. The Bradwell Silver Band will be there to entertain you as well. We also hope to have a Flypast by a Spitfire from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (subject to operational conditions). We look forward to seeing you there! Bring your friends and family, and some good cheer and enjoy!

The Band are booked to be playing from 12:00pm-12:45pm and 13:15pm-14:00pm

Saturday 8th June

Newport Pagnell and Allies Vintage Wartime Event *(see advertisement on the last page)*

The Band are booked to be playing in the High Street outside the Medical Centre and Boots The Chemist from 12:00pm-12:45pm and 13:15pm-14:00pm

Flypast of a Lancaster Bomber expected at 13:20 subject to operational conditions .

Saturday 29th June

Evening Concert at Whittlebury in the lovely Parish Church of St. Mary's. Starts at 19:30pm

Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Saturday 6th May

May Day Fun Day

New Bradwell

It was with much pleasure that Bradwell Silver Band again accepted the invitation to perform at the annual May Fun Day organised by the New Bradwell Sports Association. Among the other attractions on offer were children's rides, stalls, a licensed bar and food with all proceeds going to Willen Hospice.

A year ago we had experienced one of the hottest May Day Bank Holidays on record. This time round we were not as fortunate as a combination of cloud cover and a breeze kept the temperature down to around 12 degrees. We set up in front of the cricket scoreboard in plenty of time to begin our playing. The sun did make an appearance as we prepared to open the proceedings for the afternoon. We presented a sixty minute programme of music using some items used at the recent St. James Concert plus others that will form the basis of this summer's repertoire.



Photo courtesy of Sarah Gates

With Musical Director Brian Keech ready with the baton, we opened with "Fanfare and Flourishes" followed by Tug's solo "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue". The next few items provided a contrast in musical styles with the lively "Rock Around The Clock" followed by "Amazing Grace" and then "New York, New York". Evan was our next featured soloist with "Love Is All Around". We then played the selection from "The Greatest Showman" before featuring the horn section in "Yesterday Once More". "La Bamba" picked the tempo back up before the more sedate "One Voice" was given another airing. "There's No Business Like Show Business", our version of "Waltzing Matilda" which would have had any passing Australians tapping their toes before we concluded our playing for the afternoon with "And All That Jazz".

This was our first outdoor engagement of the year and the playing was generally good as we acclimatised to the absence of normal acoustics. There were lots of people out and about and many stood to listen to at least part of our performance.

Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Thursday 23rd May

Development Group Solo Contest

The Annual Solo Contest has become an eagerly awaited event in the Development Group's calendar and this year on a warm summer's evening was again held at the New Bradwell School. The evening didn't get off the greatest of starts as we discovered on arrival that the school were simultaneously holding a parents evening for the new intake due to start in September. We quickly grabbed what chairs were not needed for this plus some trestle tables and set up in the dining area. There is not as much room there as in the main hall and it was a bit of a squeeze getting all the chairs positioned for the players and a larger than expected audience made up of family and friends with members from the senior band also attending to show their support.

The idea of performing a solo is to give the players in the group more experience. They already perform as part of the ensemble and playing a solo is designed to help them further develop their individual skills as well as building up confidence. As is the tradition the group under the leadership of their Musical Director Keith Jones opened proceedings by playing a couple of items, mainly to allow those playing solos to get their lip in. We started with the march "Killaloe" and followed that with "The Earl of Oxford's March".

The adjudicator for the evening was then introduced. Kevin Nicholls has been part of the music service in Bedfordshire for over 40 years during which time he estimates having worked with over 20,000 children learning to play brass instruments. He has also been Musical Director at a number of brass bands and is currently the conductor of our friends and neighbours at Olney Brass. Away from music he lists his main hobby as motorsport and he can often be seen at places such as Brands Hatch, Donington and Silverstone.

The soloists were competing in one of four categories depending not on age but their current level of playing. Tonight we started with the Intermediate Section which is for those with a bit more experience in playing but not yet quite ready to play with the senior band. This section attracted six entries starting with Rudolf on cornet who played "O Sole Mio". Next up was Samuel on trumpet with an excerpt from Vivaldi's "Spring". This was followed by Daniel on trombone with "Danny Boy", Oscar on cornet with "Blues For Big Ears", Gail on cornet with "Alouette" and to round off the section Karen on tenor horn with "Cantique de Jean Racine" by Gabriel Faure.

With that section concluded we moved on to the New Starters which is for those who have only recently joined the group and are on the first steps in learning how to play a brass instrument. Here we had the three youngest entrants of the evening. Isla on tenor horn was first up with "Melody", followed by Amelie on flugel horn with "Hot Cross Buns" and Erin on baritone with "Light Up The Fire".

The largest section this evening was to be the Junior Section which had eight entrants from those members of the group who have been learning to play for a bit longer but not yet as experienced in performing as the Intermediate Section. Pedro on cornet was the first to play with "Oranges and Lemons". Rauf on cornet played "La Cucaracha", followed by Ella on baritone with "The Pink Panther", Elisha on trombone with "Rescue Squad", Thomas on cornet with "Ten Green Bottles", Elliott on tenor horn with "The Guv'nor", Matthew on trumpet with "Match of the Day", and Neil on trombone with "Ode To Joy".

The final section was the Open which is for those members of the Development Group who are already playing regularly with the senior band. Ben on bass trombone was the first to play with "La Mourisque", followed by Jayden on baritone with the theme from the Muppets Show, Peter on tenor horn with "Thunderbirds", Daniel on cornet with "Dad's Army" and the final soloist of the evening was Oliver with "Colonel Glib (Retired)".

The group then performed one more item with "Misirlou" before packing instruments away into cases and enjoying the refreshments on offer. Over the course of the evening we had heard no less than 22 solos, not quite a new record but still a magnificent turn out. The group currently numbers 34 and with six unable to attend this evening we were grateful to Julia for helping out on the front row of cornets and to Luke Colvin on Bass.

Engagement Report - Keith Jones

The refreshment break allowed the adjudicator to finalise his deliberations and for the stage to be set up ready for the awards. Adjudicator Kevin Nicholls was invited to share his observations with us and he said how much he had enjoyed the evening of music making and offered words of encouragement for all the soloists. Kevin then announced the winners. Each section was called up in turn and the players given a medal to commemorate their participation plus a certificate. Then the winners were declared. In the Intermediate Section the winner was Daniel, the New Starters Section was won by Erin, the Junior Section by Elisha and the Open section award went to Oliver. Each received a handsome trophy to be retained for a year plus a smaller memento which is theirs to keep.

It just remained for the audience and players to thank the adjudicator for the evening he spent with us and for him to be presented with a token of our appreciation.

So this year's contest has been and gone. We had twenty two brave individuals who performed an item of their own choosing and they all received very warm applause from a responsive and appreciative audience. All soloists will receive a copy of the adjudicator's comments and this should give them all encouragement plus some pointers as to what they do to further improve.

Most of the group are youngsters but we also have a small number of new adult members and we were delighted that they took up the challenge to play a solo. We had Gale who many years ago had played in the Newport Pagnell Town Band before giving up playing to concentrate on bringing up her family. Now that they are grown up this has allowed her the time to take up playing again and we are very pleased to be able to offer her that opportunity. We had Matt on trumpet who had taught himself to play and has been brave enough to perform at a number of football grounds whilst supporting his favourite team the MK Dons. And we also had Neil who is the newly installed Vicar at St. Lawrence Church in Bradwell Village. Neil had been persuaded to take up the trombone with a colliery band in his previous parish where he initially was taking his young son for playing experience. It is really great to see the older ones sitting alongside the younger members and all fitting in so well with the rest of their sections.

It had been a good evening and we are especially grateful to all those who turned up to be part of the audience. We also thank those who provided the refreshments. The adjudicator turned out to be a bit of a character and his humorous comments added to the proceedings.

We should value our Development Group as we look to find the players of the future that will see the Bradwell Silver Band continue its long and proud history as well as being such an important part of the local community. We offer lessons, the loan of a good quality brass instrument and music all completely free of charge.

We have a waiting list for new members, but we are unable to offer them a firm starting date, as we are short of teachers.

We keep appealing for help from members of the senior band, but we don't seem to be able to convince them how important it is. Maybe, just maybe, some of those who were good enough to come along to support the Solo Contest will see that they can help be part of this. It's hard work but it can be rewarding, especially when you see the learners develop to the point that they are invited to join the main band.

So please have a serious think about whether you could spare an extra 45 minutes on a Thursday evening, that can make all the difference. If you do not feel you are up to individual teaching, you could still help by sitting alongside some of the less experienced players and helping them to follow the music.

Keith and Steph would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested!

All Our Yesterdays

From the Northampton Mercury 22nd June 1924

NEW LEGION STANDARD DEDICATION BY BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM

Eight British Legion standards were carried in procession at Great Linford on Sunday the Bishop of Buckingham H. Eliot) dedicated the new standard of the women's section of the New Bradwell Branch of the British Legion, and two banners of the New Bradwell Girl Guides. The latter were under Miss B. Ingram (captain). procession was formed on the Green, and included members of the New Bradwell, Wolverton, Stony Stratford, and Great Linford men's and women's branches of the Legion, and the Newport Pagnell men's branch. Headed by the New Bradwell Band, the members paraded through the main street to the Parish Church, where the service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Waller. The new standard bearer was Mrs. Walton, and her supporters were Mrs. A. Bardell (hon. secretary of the New Bradwell women's section) and Mrs. Jakeman. After the service all the members of the parade were entertained to tea at Great Linford Manor by Major and Mrs C Mead, who were thanked by Mrs. Bardell and Mrs. H. Canvin (chairman of the Wolverton women section).

Bradwell Silver Band performing at Luton Town Football Ground



In 1958 Bradwell Band received an invitation from Luton Town Football Club to play on the pitch during which a collection was taken in aid of the Munich Air Disaster which tragically took the lives of Manchester United players returning from a European fixture. Collectors carried a blanket and walked around the pitch with the idea that people from the crowd would throw coins into it. A sum of £120.00 was collected along with numerous cuts and bruises from the less accurate flying coins!

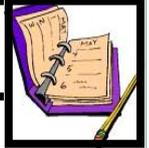
Dates For The Diary

Sunday 2 nd June -	Big Lunch Stony Stratford 12:00pm-12:45pm and 13:15pm-14:00pm
Saturday 8 th June -	Newport Pagnell Vintage Day 12:00pm
Saturday 29 th June -	Whittlebury Church Concert 19:30pm
Saturday 13 th July -	New Bradwell School Fete 12:30pm
Sunday 14 th July -	Ironbridge Brass Festival ALL DAY
Sunday 28 th July -	Patronal Service am
Saturday 3rd August -	Blakesley show
Sunday 25th August -	Abington Park 14:00pm-17:00pm
Sunday 1 st September -	Leighton Buzzard Bandstand 15:00pm-17:00pm
Saturday 12 th October -	Cosgrove Church Concert 19:30pm
Saturday 19 th October -	St. James Church Autumn Concert 19:30pm
Saturday 7 th December -	St. James Church Christmas Tree Festival T.B.C
Saturday 7 th December -	Concert with Newport Pagnell Singers T.B.C
Saturday 14 th December -	St. James Church Christmas Concert 19:30pm
Sunday 22 nd December -	Stantonbury Sports & Social Club Christmas Concert T.B.C

Please note that the August event at the Blakesley Show is a **HUGE** event and the one at Abington Park will involve 3 playing sessions. We need to put on a good performance with a full band for both of these events. It would be greatly appreciated if you could arrange your summer holiday plans accordingly and keep these dates free in your diary.



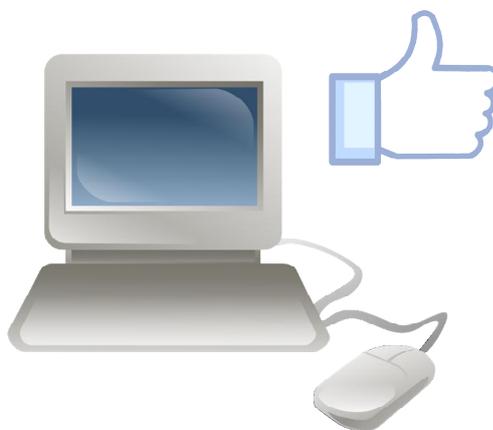
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If you're on Facebook, then visit and "Like" the Band's page: <https://www.facebook.com/BradwellBand>

Here you will read the latest news on the Band and also there are many photos and videos to peruse as well.



NEWPORT PAGNELL & ALLIES

Vintage Wartime Event



8TH
JUNE
2019



8TH JUNE 2019

Get your programme in advance at the Town Council office, or buy one on the day so that you don't miss out on any of the fun.

See more details of the event at www.newport-pagnell.org.uk

To book a stall phone Mandy

Yoyde

on 01908 618756

email web@newport-pagnell.org.uk

For more details of the event
phone the Town Council on
01908 618756



▶ THE DAY INCLUDES

- Ⓜ A whole town dressed for the event
- Ⓜ Static Spitfire display
- Ⓜ Dozens of vintage stalls
- Ⓜ Indoor displays from the period
- Ⓜ A living history museum
- Ⓜ A vintage fashion show
- Ⓜ Anderson shelter
- Ⓜ Re-enaction including the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill PM
- Ⓜ Singers and dancers from the period
- Ⓜ Outdoor display
- Ⓜ Vintage car and military vehicle show
- Ⓜ Re-enactment events

▶ Events at the Swan Revived:

- Ⓜ Vintage afternoon tea with music from Lola Lamour
- Ⓜ VE Day street party with entertainment from Lola Lamour
- Ⓜ George Formby Experience and more
- Ⓜ Beer and Cider festival

Organised parking available at Riverside Meadows £4 for the day

AN EVENT BY NEWPORT PAGNELL TOWN COUNCIL