



The Bradwell Bugle

Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

May 2014

From the Editor

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Hi Everyone!

Well done to the Band for a successful concert in St. James. The summer season of outdoor engagements begins on Monday 5th May and the Band will be performing at some very interesting events in the weeks ahead. You will find details of all of these in the following pages and we hope to see you there. Let's hope the weather is kind to us!

Don't forget that I would welcome any articles or photographs that we could include in future editions of this newsletter.

Sarah-Jayne

SAVE THE DATE!

Planning is well advanced for a special concert to be held at the Stantonbury Theatre on Saturday 6th September 2014. The concert is to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of World War I and will feature some special guests. All profits will be in aid of the Help for Heroes Charity. Further details will be confirmed soon but we do hope you can join us. Tickets will sell quickly, so if you wish to pre-order please contact Robin or Sam (*details shown below*).

We would love to hear from anyone who is willing to help out with suggestions or further ideas for the concert, advertising and raffle prizes etc. We are also looking for volunteers to act as ushers on the evening of the performance. To comply with the Conditions of Hire for the venue we must provide a minimum of four designated Auditorium Stewards/Ushers for the performance who must be over 16 years old.

If you are able to help please speak to any member of the Band's committee or you can contact Robin or Sam on 01908 616463, e-Mail secretary@bradwellband.co.uk



Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Saturday 26th April Concert @ St James Church New Bradwell

After all the fun of the area contest last month, tonight saw Bradwell Silver Band present their first concert of the year in the familiar setting of the Parish Church. Musical Director Brian Keech had selected a programme of music that would cater for nearly all musical tastes.

We opened the evening in traditional style with a march; tonight's being Goff Richard's "*Barnard Castle*". Our first soloist for the evening was Orla with "*Send In The Clowns*". Orla had been on the programme last October for her debut solo in public but unfortunately was unwell. "*Send In The Clowns*" was a song written by Stephen Sondheim for the 1973 musical *A Little Night Music* and has been arranged for brass band by Alan Fernie. Rather than being a jolly circus type tune, it is instead a ballad in which the character reflects on the ironies and disappointments of her life. Orla excelled in her performance and was rightly given prolonged applause, well done Orla!

We usually include a classical item in our concerts and tonight's was Mozart's overture to "*The Magic Flute*" or to give its original German title "*Die Zauberflöte*". This was to be Mozart's final opera and was written in 1791, the year he died. It was first performed in Vienna and the idea for *The Magic Flute* came about as a result of the friendship between the composer and Emmanuel Schikaneder who suggested that a pantomime type comic opera would be a crowd pleaser and potentially highly profitable for them both. Mozart, who at that time was suffering financial problems, readily agreed. The start of the overture symbolises in slow, sonorous chords the three knocks at the temple door and the introduction continues slowly to set the scene before launching into a much jollier sounding Allegro. Halfway through the overture, the solemn chords return before the fugue resumes, now sounding a touch more agitated but the cheerfulness is regained as it reaches a stirring conclusion. Mozart in his original composition did include trombones, quite what he would have made of a full brass band playing his work is only guesswork but hopefully he would have been impressed by our efforts tonight. The audience certainly seemed to enjoy it.

Our second soloist of the evening was John Lee on trombone with "*From a Distance*". This song was written in 1985 by American singer-songwriter Julie Gold and has had many interpretations with the most famous being the Bette Midler version in the United States and the Cliff Richard version in the UK. John showed his mastery of the trombone with the acoustics of the Church complementing his rich tone and perfect phrasing.

John was then joined by his colleagues Jemma and Luca for the trombone feature "*I Will Follow Him*". Arranged for band by Goff Richards the song was first recorded by Little Peggy March in 1963. More recently it featured at the end of the 1992 film *Sister Act*, where it was performed by the nuns' chorus for the Pope. It starts off slowly but then changes to a lively up-tempo swing style which is ideal for the unique sounds of the trombone. This item was very well received and the trio deserved the prolonged appreciation shown by Band and audience alike.

Engagment Report - Keith Jones (Cont'd)

Slowing the tempo down we next played "*The Music of the Night*", a song from the musical *The Phantom of the Opera*. The music was written by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Charles Hart and made famous by Michael Crawford, the actor who starred in the title role both in the West End and on Broadway. In the musical, it is sung after the Phantom lures Christine Daaé down to his lair beneath the Opera House. There was some excellent playing in this piece which showed the ability of the Band to play in a quieter and more reflective style.

The first half of the concert concluded with two movements from this year's area test piece, Philip Wilby's "*Partita For Band*" subtitled *Postcards From Home*. We played *Churches: Lord of the Dance* and *Coronation Day Parade*.

After an interlude to enjoy some refreshments, it was the turn of the Development Band under the leadership of Luke Colvin to show what they can do. The group is made up of players of contrasting performance levels. Some already play with the senior band whilst others have only been learning for a matter of months. The aim of the Development Band is to introduce people to playing a brass instrument as part of a group as soon as they have got to grips with the basics. The ultimate purpose is to provide the players of the future and a lot of hard work is being put in to achieve this. Tuition and the loan of an instrument are provided completely free of charge. We are particularly pleased to have a number of youngsters who currently attend the school in which we practise. We hope that they are enjoying learning to play and that this is the start of a long and happy association with the Bradwell Silver Band.

Luke is ably assisted by other members of the senior band and the results were there for everyone to hear this evening. They started their short programme with "*The Lion Sleeps Tonight*", followed by "*Mad World*" and finished with "*Around The Circle*" a circus type tune. Their efforts were warmly applauded by the audience and we look forward to featuring the Development Band more during the coming months. A special mention goes to those who were making their debut performances tonight which included Karen (Jonathan's Mother), Peter, Emma, Georgia and Adam.



Engagement Report - Keith Jones (Cont'd)

The result of the raffle draw was announced followed by Bradwell Silver Band's Annual Awards with the trophies being presented to the winners by Band Chairperson Gary Morris.

The **Bill Holding** trophy for the Junior Bandsman of Year– awarded to Daniel Gaylor for his continued improvement on cornet

The **Keith Clements** Trophy – awarded to Stephanie Chappell for services as Quartermaster and Press Officer.

The **Norman Keech** trophy which is the Chairman's Award – Luke Colvin for dedication to the Development Band and teaching programme

The **Graham Huckle** Trophy for The Bandsman of Year– voted by the band members and awarded to John Lee, principal trombone



The Band continued their programme with *"Imperial Echoes"* originally written in 1913 as solo piece for piano by Arnold Safroni that was later adapted as a military march and became well known through its frequent use on BBC radio during the Second World War and beyond.

We then featured our euphonium players Fraser Cousins and Luke Colvin who treated the audience to the duet *"Foxtrot Between Friends"* written by Gordon Langford. As the title implies, the music is written in the style of a foxtrot which is an English ballroom dance influenced by American band music. The characteristic syncopation is an example of the influence of ragtime on modern dancing. This is a tricky piece to play but our two euphonium friends captured the style perfectly in an enjoyable performance.

Our next item was the selection *"Swing When You're Winning"*. This was the title of a swing cover album by English singer-songwriter Robbie Williams released in November 2001. Robbie had been a member of the boy band Take That but wanted to take another musical direction. He had dreamed of making an album of big band classics which led to a hugely successful stage show. Arranged for band by Frank Bernaerts this selection included *"Have You Met Miss. Jones?"* *"Mack The Knife"*, *"Something Stupid"*, *"Things"* & *"Beyond The Sea"*. For some of the audience this was their favourite piece of the evening and they commented how much the band members seemed to enjoy performing this selection.

Engagement Report - Keith Jones (Cont'd)

We then featured a much quieter style of music with "*A Whiter Shade of Pale*". This was released in May 1967 by the English rock band Procol Harum, reaching number one in the UK Singles Chart. The opening chords are the same as Bach's Air On A G String and is characterised by the bass line moving downwards step by step in a repeated pattern which is known in classical music as ground bass. The words of the song are very strange but typical of the swinging sixties which a few of us lived through!

Another change in musical style was up next with "*Pastyme With Henry*" an arrangement by David Lancaster, He takes the original theme written by Henry VIII also known as "*The King's Ballad*", written at the beginning of the 16th century which became a popular song in England and other European countries during the Renaissance and is thought to have been written for Catherine of Aragon. After the opening with a medieval style drum beat the tempo changes to a more modern swing style. Add in a bit of "*Greensleeves*" which may or may not have been another Henry VIII composition and the result is an enjoyable piece of music in contrasting styles.

The final item of the concert was "*Glasnost*", a composition by Dizzy Stratford which symbolises the birth of the new Russia in the time of Mikhail Gorbachev with its openness in public affairs (glasnost) accompanied by political and economic reform (perestroika). The composer has combined the national hymn of the Soviet Union with two traditional melodies, Song of the Volga Boatmen, a Russian sea shanty which translates to Yo, heave ho! and the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite. With a steady, energetic rhythm these portray the wind of change and freedom in Russian society. Dizzy Stratford is a pseudonym of Jacob de Haan a contemporary Dutch composer and musician who is one of the most popular and most played wind music composers of modern times.

After words of thanks from a representative of the Church we performed "*Mama Mia*" as an encore. Arranged by Frank Bernaerts, this well known song was recorded by the Swedish pop group ABBA in 1976. Interestingly "*Mamma Mia*" replaced Queen's song "Bohemian Rhapsody" in the number 1 position in January 1976, which itself coincidentally contains the lyrical phrase "*Mama Mia*" sung in a very similar rhythmic fashion.

It had been a good evening of music making and Brian was very pleased with the level of performance and was also delighted to have received many lovely comments from the audience. He went on to say well done to the Soloists and featured players and congratulated the award winners.

We thank guest players Tug, Geoff and Vince and those who ran the front of house duties including selling raffle tickets. Thanks as always to Robin for making sure all the equipment is transported. Thanks also to Steph for her efforts with the publicity leading up to the concert which saw an article and photograph appear in the Milton Keynes Citizen. Steph's other half Ron was present tonight taking a number of photographs that will be used for future publicity.

There are a few You Tube clips from the performance, the links can be found on the Band's Facebook page, along with more photographs.

Future Engagements

The Band's next engagement is the May Day Fun Day at the Bradwell Road Recreation ground on Monday May 5th with a playing time of 1:00 p.m to 2:00 p.m. There will be stalls, live music, children's rides, dancing displays with refreshments and a licensed bar at what has become a very well supported local event. Originally known as the Fun Day at the Mill day, the New Bradwell Sports Association took over the running of this in 2004 when there was no longer a committee to organise the event on behalf of the Windmill Association. The Mill is due to be re-opened this summer after the Milton Keynes Council decided to spend more than £160,000 in renovating the sails and restoring one of the city's most historic Grade II listed buildings. The project started in autumn 2013, and since then millwrights have been busy removing the ten metre sails and restoring the building. Now under the care of Milton Keynes Museum, who will run the site on behalf of the council, it is hoped that the windmill will once again play a key role as a visitor attraction at the heart of the community.



Saturday 31st May will see the Band performing in Lillingstone Lovell as part of their Open Gardens event. The centre of this small north Buckinghamshire village is a beautiful conservation area, the focal point being the 13th Century church, which will be decorated with flower displays and where bell ringing and organ music will add to the atmosphere. Village artist Jane Scott's paintings will be displayed in the picture framing and conservation studio in the delightful cottage gardens of 9 Brookside and Little Thatch. Snack lunches, homemade vegetarian soup and refreshments will be served from midday in the Village Hall. Afternoon cream teas will be served with delicious home-baked scones, cakes and strawberry flans. You will also be able to browse second-hand books for sale.



On Sunday 1st June the Bradwell Silver Band will be performing on the Leighton Buzzard Bandstand in Parsons Close. The Leighton-Linslade Town Council are one of the few local authorities who still organise a regular series of free band concerts during the summer and we have the privilege of starting the 2014 season. The concert starts at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m. Admission is free and there will be a short interval for refreshments. Parson's Close Recreation Ground is adjacent to the High Street and there is a large car park nearby. Seating is provided but you can bring your own foldaway chairs and refreshments to enjoy a traditional Sunday afternoon outdoor concert in pleasant surroundings.

Future Engagements



May

Monday 5th	Mayday At The Mill	1.00-2.00pm TBC
Saturday 31st	Lillingstone Lovell	TBC pm

June

Sunday 1st	Bandstand, Parsons Close, Leighton Buzzard	3.00pm
Sunday 8th	Solo Competition, New Bradwell School	10.30am
Saturday 14th	Stony Stratford Riverside Fair	1.00pm-4.00pm
Sunday 22nd	Great Linford Waterside Festival	1.00pm

July

Sunday 6th	Parks Trust Event @ Campbell Park	1.00pm
Saturday 12th	New Bradwell School Fete	TBC
Sunday 29th	St James Church Patronal Service	TBC am

August

Sunday 17th	Tiger Moths @ Woburn Abbey	TBC pm
Monday 25th	Stony Stratford Fair	TBC
Sunday 30th	Evening Concert @ Bancroft Park	TBC

September

Saturday 6th	Help For Heroes Concert @ Stantonbury	7.30 pm
Sunday 14th	Wolverton Works Memorial Commemoration	TBC

October

Saturday 11th	St James Church, New Bradwell	7.30pm
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*** Thursday 17th July will be the last rehearsal before the Summer Break. Rehearsals will resume on Tuesday 12th August.**



Bradwell Silver Band Membership List

Committee

Chairperson:	Gary Morris	Trustees:	Brin Carstens / Graham Crisp	
Secretary:	Robin Allen	Members:	Sam Allen	Steph Chappell
Treasurer:	Dave Sanderson		Alison Drury	John Lee
Librarian:	James Lawrie		Karen Wilson	Louis Wilson

Playing Positions

Principal Cornet:	Julia Hollis
Solo Cornets:	Jess Gunn
	Lisa Huckle
	Andy Chase
Soprano Cornet:	Adam Chappell
Repiano Cornet:	Sam Allen
2nd Cornet:	Orla Howell
	Alison Drury
3rd Cornet:	Rachel Griffith
	Tania Dytrych
	Daniel Gaylor
Flugel Horn:	Karen Wilson
Solo Horn:	Keith Jones
1st Horn:	Louis Wilson
	Liz Keech
2nd Horn:	Steph Chappell
1st Baritone:	Lucy Bedford
2nd Baritone:	Maria Belton
Euphonium:	Fraser Cousins
	Luke Colvin
1st Trombone:	John Lee
2nd Trombone:	Jemma Cain
Bass Trombone:	Luca Ianotta
E♭ Basses:	Dave Sanderson
	Jonathan Evans
B♭ Bass:	Robin Allen
Percussion	Steve Osborne
	Toby Dytrych
	James Lawrie

Non Committee Positions

President:	Peter J Blake
Musical Director:	Brian Keech
Publicity Officer:	Steph Chappell
Quartermaster:	Steph Chappell
Magazine Editor:	Sarah-Jayne Edwards

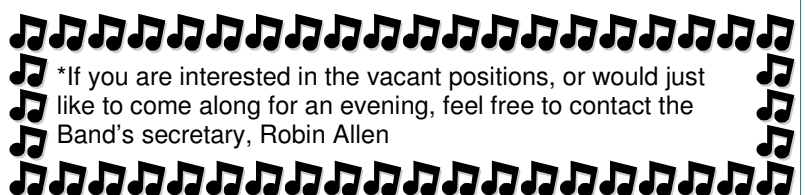
Honorary Members

Chris Coull	Brian Keech
Malcolm Hills	David Wilson

Development Group

Adam Chappell	Orla Howell
Oscar Beevor	Ben Mirfin
Steph Chappell	Ella Duncan
Daniel Gaylor	Adam Hird
Tania Dytrych	Sean Trayner
Toby Dytrych	Peter Roder
Evan Lovell	Emma Dixon
Adam Marshall	Georgia Marshall
Karen Evans	

The Development Group is open to everyone, irrespective of age. So if you know anyone who's been thinking of taking up a brass instrument, get them to come along. Experience not necessary.



*If you are interested in the vacant positions, or would just like to come along for an evening, feel free to contact the Band's secretary, Robin Allen