



The Bradwell Bugle



Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

March 2014

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From the Editor

Hi Everyone!

After the dreadful weather of the past two months, how nice it has been to see some sunshine at last.

Good luck to the band at the area contest, I know that they have been working hard in rehearsing the test piece. A full report will appear in the April edition of the Bugle. As always, I would be delighted to receive any other articles for inclusion in this or future issues.

Sarah-Jayne

General Information

Uniform

The Band jackets have been collected in and are currently undergoing dry cleaning. These will be delivered to the school on Tuesday 4th March at 7:30 p.m. Please arrive early for rehearsal to collect your jacket. There was also a request made for all ties to be handed in as well but there seems to be a number which have not found their way back in yet. Please check that you haven't got a band tie hidden in a drawer somewhere or perhaps in your wardrobe. We all need to take better care of Band equipment as having to replacing missing items is a costly business.

Fund Raising

Do you shop online? Do it through easyfundraising and the Bradwell Silver Band will receive a free donation every time you shop. You don't pay anything extra!
How it works. Let's say you want to buy a book from Amazon, Instead of going to amazon.co.uk you go to easyfundraising.org.uk first or use the easyfundraising toolbar. You click through the easyfundraising website through to Amazon to make your purchase. The price of the book is exactly the same as it would be if you'd visited Amazon directly. When the purchase has been completed Amazon will make a donation as a thank you for shopping with them. Easyfundraising collect these donations and pass them on to the Band and it costs you nothing!
You could start shopping now with over 2,700 retailers and top names such as Amazon, John Lewis, Argos, M&S, Next, Tesco and loads more! Sign up today!
<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bradwellsilverband>

Thanks to John for circulating the details on this, if you want more information on this please contact him.

Area Contest - Keith Jones

Contesting has long been a part of the brass band calendar and has a structure that can be compared to the football league. There are five sections, Championship, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th with annual promotion and relegation based on results. In the UK there are eight regions, with Bradwell being in the London and Southern Counties. The highest placed bands at the area contest qualify for an invitation to the National Final which is held later in the year. Contests can be used to measure the progress of an individual band as they strive to improve their level of performance. Entry to the contest is not compulsory and there are many bands who are more than content to enjoy their music making by performing at concerts and other public events during the course of the year. Currently there are approximately 570 registered brass bands participating in competitions and it is estimated believed that there are approximately 2000 brass bands in the UK at present.

The 2014 Area Contest of the London & Southern Counties Region of the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain will take place at the Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre over the weekend of March 15th and 16th 2014. Bradwell Band is in the Third Section and this is being held in the Main Hall on Saturday 15th March. There are 16 bands declared as entrants in this section and the draw for order of play will take place at 9:00 a.m. with the first band due to play at 10:00 a.m. The test piece selected for this year is Philip Wilby's Partita For Band.

These are the bands that we will be up against on the day. Amersham Band based in South Buckinghamshire has a history dating back to 1844 and won this contest last year. As winners they went on to represent the area at the National Finals where they were placed 12th. Betteshanger Colliery Welfare comes from Kent near the coastal towns of Dover and Folkestone. They were formed in 1932 by coal miners as a tool for relaxation after their days toil underground and were one of three colliery bands in the county. The mine was closed in the 1980s but the band continues the name. The band has been relegated to the Third Section this year having not managed to compete for the past two years. Cherwell Brass is Oxford's newest brass ensemble having been launched just last year. However they do have a very experienced conductor and some of its members have played at a high level, hence they have been graded as a third section band which is unusual for bands competing for the first time. Chinnor Silver is based in South Oxfordshire and has a very long history dating back to the 1850s. They have their very own band room right in the middle of the village.

Cold Ash Brass come from Berkshire were re-formed in 2003 some seventy years after the original band folded. They have enjoyed some contesting success and were placed fourth in last year's contest. Crystal Palace trace their origins to 1901 and is one of just a handful of traditional Brass Bands remaining in the Greater London area, quite astounding when you consider the size of the population in the nation's capital city.

Great Yarmouth Brass is one of the two bands promoted this year from the Fourth Section. Founded in 1973 as a school band they are kept busy during the year appearing in and around the seaside resort where they are based.

Grimsdyke Brass have been relegated this year from the Second Section They were formed in 1979 and the name relates to a prehistoric or Saxon earthwork which runs across Harrow Weald Common, so anyone thinking that the band's name is made up from the names of Grimethorpe Colliery and Black Dyke bands would be wrong!

Area Contest - Keith Jones (Cont'd)

Hangleton Brass is based in outskirts of Brighton and Hove and began life in 1965 as a school band. They have a thriving youth band which should supply the players of the future. Harwich RBL from the northern reaches of Essex were formed in 1958 and since 1994 have enjoyed an affiliation with the local British Legion.

The name Hemel Hempstead was formally adopted by the band in 2000 although their history shows them to be an amalgamation of other local bands.

Norfolk Wherry Brass is a comparatively new band formed in 2004 by members who had previously experienced playing with other bands in the area. Based in a village on the Norfolk Broads, they were the National Champions of the fourth section in 2012.

Olney Town require little introduction, they have some very experienced players and have performed consistently at this level for a number of years.

Simon Langton Brass are the second of the bands promoted from the fourth section having been the winners last year. Based in Canterbury it was formed as recently as 2011 with an experienced conductor at the helm and a mixture of experienced and younger players who have already enjoyed some excellent contest results. The final band in alphabetical order is Waterbeach which is a few miles north of Cambridge. Placed 5th in last year's event they should be looking forward with some confidence to the contest.

No doubt on the day all competing bands will have done their best to field a full complement of players, however most of them show they currently have some vacancies. If we return to the similarity of band contesting to football, the vital ingredient is the players. Individuals have different expectations from their musical involvement with some regularly moving from one band to another in an attempt to achieve their ambitions. Many more are happy to remain loyal to one band regardless of the perceived standard of playing on this one occasion. Whatever the result all competing bands should be congratulated for having managed to participate. Their conductors and players will have spent many hours in preparation for the privilege of receiving judgement on a performance that lasts for around twelve minutes. My best wishes to all Bands competing at this year's contest. I am sure they will give the two adjudicators plenty to write about!



Brass Band Politics

Brass Bands gain new voice in Parliament .

In an exciting development for the band movement in the UK, on Wednesday 15th January, a cross-party group of 14 MPs attended the inaugural AGM of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Brass Bands (APPGBB). The chair of the group, Angela Smith, MP for Penistone & Stocksbridge, has been working with the highly respected educationalist Roy Terry over recent months to ensure its re-establishment. Brass Band England (BBE) will again provide the secretariat for the group with BBE Chairman Mike Kilroy asking Roy to continue to work with the group as Parliamentary Liaison Officer.

It was revealed that the main purposes of the APPGBB are to deepen the relationship of brass bands with Parliament as well as to encourage Parliamentarians to engage with brass bands. It is envisaged that the group will better inform MPs on the role of brass bands in society as well as raise awareness of the impact of legislation in the fields of arts, culture and education on the brass band movement throughout the UK.

32 MPs and one member of the House of Lords (from throughout the UK) have so far accepted the invitation to join the group, with Angela Smith (Lab) taking on the role as Chair. Speaking after the meeting Angela Smith said: "I'm very happy to see the All Party Group reconstituted. Brass bands are a very important part of our national heritage and many Parliamentarians have sustained strong relationships with individual brass bands over the years." The MP added: "We can now continue to build on these relationships, raising the profile of brass bands in Parliament and ensuring that their importance is recognised by government and lawmakers alike."

It was also made clear that it was the intention to ensure that future events will be fully reflective of the banding community throughout the United Kingdom.

(with acknowledgement to 4Barsrest)



All Our Yesterdays

The exceptionally wet weather these past couple of months have brought flooding and misery to many people, especially in Somerset and along some parts of the Thames. Locally we have almost become accustomed to seeing flooded fields in and around Haversham, New Bradwell and Newport Pagnell but fortunately there has been little damage to property. For this month's look back in time we show a picture of flooding in New Bradwell which dates back to 1968.



In July of that year a heavy cloudburst resulted in New Bradwell suffering its worst flooding for many years. In just 24 hours the rainfall was officially measured at 12cm (or around four and half inches in old money!) British Waterways had to open the floodgates to prevent the nearby Grand Union canal from overflowing its banks and this created a surge of water into the Bradwell Brook that runs near the Clock Tower and into the River Ouse. Unfortunately, a 50-gallon water butt had become jammed in one of the culverts at Corner Pin and this reduced its efficiency by 80%. The Wolverton and North Bucks Express of July 19th 1968 reported what happened next:

“Within two hours the water was in Caledonian Road and Wallace Street, flooding a few kitchens but not causing any real worry. Then at 10.15 a garden wall in Wallace Street collapsed under the pressure of the flood behind it and a wall of water a foot high raced down the street.

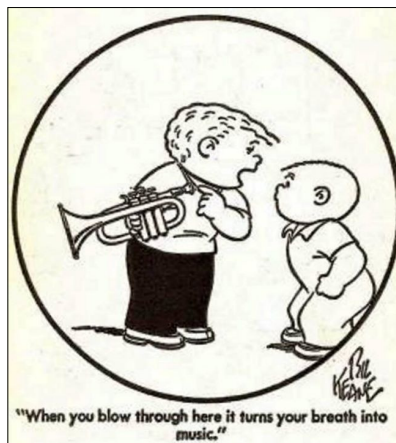
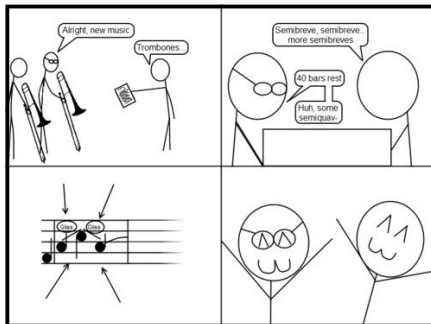
In minutes the streets and Newport Road were inundated as the torrent swept on its way through Corner Pin to opposite St. James' Church. Over 100 houses were flooded, several elderly residents had to be rescued, other people were marooned in upstairs rooms and Dr. M. R. Coster went on his rounds in his son's boat.”



Contacts, etc...



Contact Details



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Website:	www.bradwellband.co.uk

Sudoku

1				5		6		4
	9				1		3	
				6				9
	7				3	9		
					6			5
						7		
9			2		4	5		
		1			5		7	
4	2		1	3				



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:	<i>Vacant</i>
Solo Cornets:	Jess Gunn Julia Hollis 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
Jim Whyte	

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.

