



The Bradwell Bugle



Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

May 2017

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From the Editor

Hi Everyone!

Bradwell Band's public appearances are a bit like London buses - you wait ages for one and then three come along all together!

The Band had an enjoyable concert at St. James and a full report on that follows. A couple of days ago they were in Yardley Gobion and today on May Day Bank Holiday are due to play at the Funday in New Bradwell. Let's hope the weather stay fine for that and of course you will be able to read a report on these in the next edition of the newsletter.

As always, I welcome any contributions towards future editions of the Bugle.

Sarah-Jayne

Make a Note in your Diary!

We are proud to announce that we will be hosting a joint concert with the amazing ladies of "Boobs and Brass" on 30th September at The Venue theatre in Walnut Tree. All profits are being donated to Breast Cancer Now and tickets are £10. Tickets can be purchased by phoning the box office or by visiting the band's website and clicking the link. Please note that if you want to choose your seating then you must telephone. It's a night not to be missed so don't lose out - book your tickets now! Please see Poster on the last page of this newsletter and help publicise this unique concert.



www.bradwellband.co.uk

Development Band

Bradwell Silver Band Development Group Solo Competition
THURSDAY 18th May 2017 – Commencing 6.45pm at New Bradwell School

Following on from the success of previous years we once again have invited all of the development band members to enter the annual Solo Competition. Playing a solo is an important part of everyone's playing journey, giving the opportunity to improve skills and confidence by allowing the spotlight to be on the individual.

The soloists will be entered into one of four sections dependent on their ability and experience:

- New Starters
- Beginners (less than 12 months experience)
- Intermediate (more than 12 months)
- Advanced (those already playing in the senior band)

The performances will be adjudicated by an independent judge who will provide written comments on what went well and what could be improved upon.

Whether the soloists are experienced or not it is still vital we provide a supportive audience to make the experience enjoyable and rewarding for all involved. We do expect that the soloists have family and friends in the audience encouraging them in what may be their first experience of performing a solo. We cannot stress this enough and hope that you agree and show your support. To encourage a larger audience, we will invite all members of the senior band to attend and provide support.

The senior band will rehearse after the competition and we welcome any development band players and audience members to stay behind to listen to how the main band rehearses.

Approximate timings for the evening:

- Arrival from 6.30pm
- Soloist warm up and play order drawn 6.40pm
- Development Band performance 6.50pm
- Competition starts at 7pm
- Competition estimated to end 8pm
- Comments and Awards 8.15pm
- Senior band rehearsal commences 8.30pm

Please note that we cannot guarantee supervision of children so we do ask that they are accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to welcoming you and your friends and family to what we know will be a great event.

Best Regards

The Committee

Engagement Report

Saturday 22nd April

Celebrations In Brass

St. James Church - New Bradwell

The Band's first indoor concert for 2017 was in the familiar surroundings of the Parish Church of St. James. Under the leadership of Musical Director Brian Keech we opened with Goff Richard's "Stage Centre". This has the feel of an overture for a musical stage performance with hints of slap stick comedy and a passing reference to the circus.

Following this lively opener the audience were introduced to our euphonium team of Fraser and Lucy who played Bizet's "Deep Inside The Secret Temple" from The Pearl Fishers. The opera by the French composer Georges Bizet, to a libretto by Eugène Cormon and Michel Carré was first performed on 30 September 1863 at the Théâtre Lyrique in Paris. Set in ancient times on the island of Ceylon, the opera tells the story of how two men whose vow of eternal friendship is threatened by their love for the same woman, whose own dilemma is the conflict between secular love and her sacred oath as a priestess. The friendship duet "Au fond du temple saint", generally known as "The Pearl Fishers Duet", is one of the best-known numbers in Western opera.

Our next item was from the world of popular music with "Beatles Medley No: 1". The Beatles were a group formed in Liverpool in 1960. With members John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, they became widely regarded as the foremost and most influential act of the rock era. In the early 1960s, their enormous popularity first emerged as "Beatlemania" but the group's music developed in a more sophisticated style led by primary songwriters Lennon and McCartney. Tonight's selection arranged by Edrich Siebert included 'Can't Buy Me Love', 'Michelle', 'When I'm Sixty Four', 'Yesterday' and 'Norwegian Wood'.

The film theme "Colors of the Wind" was next, a song written by lyricist Stephen Schwartz and composer Alan Menken for the 1995 Walt Disney animated feature film Pocahontas. The theme song, "Colors of the Wind" was originally recorded by American singer and actress Judy Kuhn in her role as the singing voice of Pocahontas.

The song poetically presents the Native American viewpoint that the earth is a living entity where humankind is connected to everything in nature and won the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Our first featured soloist of the evening was principal cornet David (Tug) Wilson with the John Iveson arrangement of the brilliant Latin showpiece "Tico-Tico". Written by the Brazilian composer Zequinha de Abreu in 1917 it tells the story of a bird flying around and eating someone's cornmeal and was popularised in the United States by Carmen Miranda in the 1947 film, 'Copacabana'. Tug gave an amazing performance which was particularly enjoyed by the parents of two of our Development Group.

We then played another arrangement of a more recent popular song with Steve Cortland's arrangement of "She's the One". Most people associate this with Robbie Williams who did have a big hit with it but it was originally performed by the British rock band World Party. It was written and produced by Karl Wallinger for World Party's fourth studio album, Egyptology (1997). The song won an Ivor Novello Award in 1997. World Party performed the song live on Later... with Jools Holland in 1998, before it was covered by Robbie Williams the following year.

Engagement Report

Our final piece of the first half was a performance of "St. Andrew's Variations" which was the test piece used for this year's area qualifying contest for the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain. After the break for refreshments it was time for the Development Group and their Musical Director Keith Jones to take the spotlight. We had a record number on stage tonight with 30 players and opened the programme with the premiere performance of "Shakespeare Fanfare" a piece of music composed especially for the Group. The compere for this evening was Samuel and he welcomed everyone to the performance and announced the next item "Guava Guy". For this item we had playing for the very first time in public five of our newest members, Michael, Amelia, Emily, Rauf and Joshua and they stood as they were introduced to the audience.

Next up was an arrangement of a South African hymn tune that became popular in North American churches around twenty years ago. The title translates as "We Are Marching" but it is best known in its original Zulu language "Siyahamba". This was followed by "Anna Magdalena's Minuet", music based on a classical piece found in the notebook of Anna Magdalena, wife of the great composer Johann Sebastian Bach. It starts with the Minuet In G before picking up in tempo as used for the 1966 popular song 'A Lover's Concerto' which uses the same notation. For the final item of their programme for the evening we had "Lord Of The Dance", a popular song which has been arranged in the style of the brass band classic Floral Dance

The group stood to acknowledge the applause of the audience and posed for a photograph before making way for the senior band to return.

The results of the raffle were then announced followed by the Annual Awards presentation by our Chairman James.

- The Allan Frier Trophy which goes to the member of the Development Band who has shown commitment and dedication to learn went to Adam Hird.
- The Norman Keech Trophy, the Chairman presents this award to an individual who has given outstanding service during the past year and this went to Lucy Bedford.
- The Keith Clements Shield decided on by the Committee to the individual who they feel has made an important contribution was presented to Karen Wilson.
- The Bill Holding Memorial Shield for the Young Player of the Year was Louis Wilson.
- The Graham Huckle Memorial Shield for the Player of the Year as voted on by the members was Keith Jones.

The audience were then introduced to Maggie Betts, co-founder of Boobs and Brass who made the announcement about our joint concert on 30th September. Maggie explained how in 2006 she was talking over a cup of tea with her friend Jane who said it had always been a dream of hers to form an "all ladies" band but had only ever got round to "thinking" about it. Within six weeks they had enough volunteers to form the brass band and to perform a concert and it was decided that any proceeds from this concert would be donated to charity. Since then they have raised over £200,000.00. Boobs and Brass are looking forward to their joint concert with Bradwell Silver Band in September. Apparently some of the ladies of our band can't wait to wear those pink jackets!

Engagement Report

The music resumed with "Swingtime Religion" by Barrie Gott, an Australian composer and conductor. Based on Give Me That Old Time Religion a traditional Gospel song dating from 1873 it has become a standard in many Protestant hymnals even though it mentions nothing about Jesus or the gospel. This upbeat piece features an extended solo again expertly played by Tug.

Our second soloist of the evening was Karen with the flugel horn solo "What A Wonderful World". This is a song written by Bob Thiele (as "George Douglas") and George David Weiss. It was first recorded by Louis Armstrong and released in 1967 as a single, which topped the pop charts in the United Kingdom. The song was initially offered to Tony Bennett who turned it down

Then we had a classic children's favourite with "The Teddy Bears' Picnic", a song American by composer John Walter Bratton, written in 1907, with lyrics added some years later by Irish songwriter Jimmy Kennedy. It remains popular as a children's song, having been recorded by numerous artists over the decades. The 1932 Henry Hall recording was of especially good quality with a large tonal range. It was used for more than 30 years by BBC audio engineers (up until the early 1960s) to test and calibrate the frequency response of audio equipment.

Although considered to be a song for the children, one of the verses paints a slightly more sinister picture with the words :

***If you go out in the woods today,
You'd better not go alone.
It's lovely out in the woods today,
But safer to stay at home.***

Following this familiar tune there was a quieter and more reflective offering with "Pastorale", another composition by Goff Richards. In musical terms Pastorale refers to something of a pastoral nature in form or in mood with a rustic tune depicting a peaceful rural scene.

Our final soloist for the evening was Luke Colvin with the Eb Bass solo "Tijuana Tuba". It was composed by Sandy Blair, a bass player with the famous Brighthouse and Rastrick Band. It was written in the style of Herb Alpert And The Tijuana Brass who were one of the best-selling acts in America in the mid to late 1960s. Alpert had heard a mariachi band while vacationing in Mexico, and upon returning to the US, adopted that sound to create a new style which was an instant sensation. A year after their great success with "Floral Dance", Brighthouse & Rastrick Band released a similar up tempo arrangement of "The Lincolnshire Poacher" and "Tijuana Tuba" played by Sandy Blair was on the other side of the record.

Luke was then joined by his colleagues in the bass section, Luke Wilson, Jennifer, Robin and David who all donned cowboy hats for "Wand'rin' Star" It was originally written by Alan J. Lerner (lyrics) and Frederick Loewe(music) for the stage musical Paint Your Wagon in 1951. When the film of the musical was made in 1969, Lee Marvin took the role of prospector Ben Rumson. Not a natural singer, Marvin nevertheless sang all of his songs in the film, rejecting the idea of miming to another singer's voice. Despite the film being a box office flop, the soundtrack became a success and was a number one single in the UK for Lee Marvin for three weeks in March 1970.. Marvin never released a follow-up single, so he is considered a one-hit wonder.

Engagement Report

Staying in the USA, our final item of the published programme was "Manhattan Skyline". Written by David Shire it was used as incidental music in 'Saturday Night Fever' and is a musical portrait of the hustle and bustle that is New York. This has some tricky rhythmical patterns and the syncopation gives it a funky feel.

We were thanked by a Church official for the concert. She also thanked the team that supplied the refreshments and the audience for coming along to help support not only the Band but also the Church. They are grateful for the funds raised to help support the beautiful and historic building which is the very heart of the New Bradwell community.

As an encore we gave the debut performance to a new arrangement of "I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)". This song was written and performed by Scottish duo The Proclaimers and first released as their lead single in 1988. In 2007 the Proclaimers re-recorded the song with Peter Kay and Matt Lucas as their characters Brian Potter from Phoenix Nights and Andy Pipkin from Little Britain respectively. There was a slight change in the title of the song, with the parentheses placed around "I'm Gonna Be" rather than "500 Miles". The lyrics also include a change, with the words "roll 500 miles" replacing "walk 500 miles", because the characters Brian Potter and Andy Pipkin are both in wheelchairs. "(I'm Gonna Be) 500 Miles" was released as a charity single for Comic Relief immediately following its performance on the Comic Relief 2007.

With Toby away performing with the National Brass Band of Great Britain in London, we were extremely grateful to Marc who deputised on percussion for both the main band performance as well as the Development Group. We also thank Emily for taking the soprano seat at short notice as Julia was unable to play through illness.

We thank the front of house team and Ron who captured some great photographic images during the course of the evening. These can be viewed on the Band's Facebook page.



A Poem From Facebook

GOING DOWN T' BAND

*You're going down t' band tonight, was what I heard dad say,
You're almost 8 years old now lad; it's time tha' learnt to play;
So off I went, all nervous like, not knowing what to do,
I'd like to play the tenor horn, but the cornet's awreet too.*

*It doesn't matter what you choose, just see how well ya play,
Ya might end up on't big bass drum; if conductor lets ya stay;
I tried trombone but that we'r hard, my arms weren't long enough,
And as for't bass, well that didn't work; I just don't have the puff!*

*I'm playing on't cornet just now, sittin next to a chap called Jim,
He's really old, about 35, but I've learnt a lot from him;
It's the area contest pretty soon; and I know I'll try my best,
But the piece is really really hard, and it's my first contest.*

*Up early and off t' contest and a practice before we start,
Then here we go, we're all on stage, I can hear my beating heart;
We won 3rd prize in Section 4, so we're off to London now,
I'm really enjoying this bandin lark, and ya get to take a bow.*

*Whit Friday is the best day yet, the crowds are everywhere,
Jump off the coach, and play a March, back on, no time to spare;
We're aiming to do seven, but we've only managed two,
The traffic today is really bad and there's still loads more to do.*

*I've moved on to Soprano now and it's really pretty good,
My dad thought I should try it, and I guess he knew I would;
At times it can be scary, cause you're up there pretty high,
But when it's good, it's brilliant, you feel like you can fly.*

*Good friends, great times, great music and a pint or two as well,
Just speak to any bandsman; they'll have a tale to tell;
Memories of those great days out, of contests won and lost,
Friends no longer with us, they're the things we talk of most;*

*I'm glad I went t' bandroom, years ago when I were eight,
Cause being in a good brass band, is something really great;
Of all the things I've ever done, of this I have no doubt,
That being called "A bandsman" is what it's all about.*

© Gareth G Proctor
April 2017

All Our Yesterdays

The latest in the series of interesting articles about the Band's history as recorded in the archives of the Northampton Mercury. The following is a report on an event 72 years ago.

Northampton Mercury 25th May 1945

BRADWELL SPORTS AND BOXING

A programme of sports, preceded by a fancy dress parade, headed by New Bradwell Band, attracted a large crowd to the Recreation Ground, New Bradwell, on Saturday. The effort, which was in aid of New Bradwell Forces' Comforts Fund, also included a boxing tournament and an old-time dance. There were also a number of sideshows.

The boxing tournament, held in the Recreation Ground, attracted over 1,000 spectators.

Two photographs separated in time by twenty five years show Fraser's distinctive style of wearing his bow tie at a 45 degree angle!



Future Engagements



MAY

Monday 1st May	May Day At The Mill - New Bradwell	1.00pm-2.00pm
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JUNE

Sunday 4th June	Lillingstone Lovell	12.00pm-12.45pm, 1.30pm-2.15pm
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Saturday 17th June & Sunday 18th June	Heritage MK Festival of History NO PLAYING BUT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP	
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JULY

Saturday 1st July	Milton Keynes Museum Victorian Weekend	PM
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Saturday 8th July	Milton Ernest	PM
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Saturday 15th July	New Bradwell Carnival Parade	Leaves 12.00pm, Dev. Band playing 12.45pm-1.30pm
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Saturday 22nd July	Lucy & Marc's Wedding	
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Sunday 30th July	Patronal Service, St James Church	AM
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AUGUST

Saturday 19th August	Bancroft	12.00pm-1.00pm 8.15pm-9.00pm
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SEPTEMBER

Sunday 3rd September	Leighton Buzzard	3.00pm-5.00pm
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Saturday 9th September	Royal Hospital Chelsea	PM (coach leaves late afternoon)
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Saturday 30th September	Boobs & Brass Joint Concert	7.30pm
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OCTOBER

Saturday 21st October	Autumn Concert, St James Church	7.30pm
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Playing members are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes before the start time shown for the performance.

If you are not going to be available for any of these engagements it is essential that you let Robin or Sam know as soon as possible and also advise your section leader. We will arrange for deputy players so you must leave your music folder or make arrangements for it to be collected from you.

Player List

Playing Positions

Principal Cornet:	David Wilson
Solo Cornets:	Adam Chappell Jess Gunn Orla Howell Tim Sell
Soprano Cornet:	Julia Hollis
Repiano Cornet:	Sam Lawrie
2nd Cornet:	Tania Dytrych Daniel Gaylor
3rd Cornet:	Alison Drury Adam Hird
Flugel Horn:	Karen Wilson
Solo Horn:	Keith Jones
1st Horn:	Louis Wilson
2nd Horn:	Steph Chappell
1st Baritone:	Maria Belton
2nd Baritone:	Martin Oliver
Solo Euphonium:	Fraser Cousins
Euphonium	Lucy Bedford
1st Trombone:	John Lee
2nd Trombone:	Evan Lovell
Bass Trombone:	Luca Ianotta Ben Mirfin
E _b Basses:	Luke Colvin Luke Wilson Jennifer Avery
B _B Bass:	Robin Allen David Sanderson
Percussion	Toby Dytrych James Lawrie Stephen Osborne





Tickets: £10

Via Theatre Box Office

Tel: 01908 528808

BREAST CANCER CHARITY CONCERT



Charity number: 1160558

**FEATURING: BOOBS & BRASS
AND BRADWELL SILVER BAND**

www.boobsandbrass.com / www.bradwellband.co.uk

SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2017 – 7.30PM
THE VENUE MK, FYFIELD BARROW MK7 7WH



**BOOK
NOW!**



www.bradwellband.co.uk