



The Bradwell Bugle



Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

July 2014

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From the Editor

Hi Everyone!

Since the last edition, the Band has completed four outdoor engagements and held their solo contest, full reports follow and there are lots of pictures and videos on the Band's Facebook page. July will not be quite as busy as we head towards the holiday season.

Let me remind you that there will be a break in rehearsals with the last one being on Thursday 17th July. They will resume on Tuesday 12th August. If you are going away I hope you have a great holiday.

Liz Keech correctly guessed the identity of the drummer in the previous edition of the newsletter. It is indeed the Band's president Peter Blake.

I thank Robin for his contribution to this month's edition and I really would like to receive your articles for inclusion in future editions.

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 a special guest (*see back page*). 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.

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



What's On!....July

Sunday 6th July 2014

Summer Celebration and Open Day organised by the Parks Trust.

Time: 1pm - 4pm Location: Campbell Park

Among the attractions will be Country talks, guided walks, music, demonstrations and displays.

Join The Parks Trust and sample for free some of the exciting activities planned for the afternoon.

There will be no parking in the park, the nearest recommended parking is at Central Milton Keynes Shopping Centre.



Saturday 12th July

New Bradwell Carnival. This year the procession will again be a walking route as the Band leads the parade around the streets starting from the school at 1:00 p.m. We also expect to be playing a short programme in the school once the parade has returned.



Sunday 27th July

Members of the Band will be playing at the Patronal Eucharist Service being held in St. James Church. We will be accompanying the hymn singing and also expect to be playing before and after the Service which begins at 10:00 am.



Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Saturday 31st May

Lillingstone Lovell - Open Gardens Weekend

After a week in which we had seen a lot of heavy rain, it was a great relief that for the start of a busy weekend for the Band we had at last got some better weather. It was cloudy but warm and there was just the hint of a breeze.

The village of Lillingstone Lovell lies about 4 miles north of Buckingham and the occasion was the Open Gardens Weekend when many of the villagers open their gardens to the public. We have played there several times before and this year we were asked to set up outside in the grounds of St. Mary's Church. The full name is the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and with parts dating back to the 13th century this picturesque historic building was to provide the backdrop for our performance today. Chairs were set out around the ancient burial ground and the elevated position ensured the Band could be heard throughout the village.

Musical Director Brian Keech had selected a programme designed to suit most musical tastes and our soloists today included Orla with "Send In The Clowns", John with "From A Distance" and the percussion duo of Toby and James playing "Sandpaper Ballet". As well as people passing by on their way to the different gardens or to the Village Hall for refreshments, we had a captive audience with a herd of cows in the fields opposite. Depending on what we played they alternatively stood staring at us, ran away or headed off early to the milking parlour. Toby's rendition of "Soul Limbo" on cow bell was particularly moo-ving.

The Church was decorated with flower displays themed on World War One and it was a happy coincidence that we had included in our programme this afternoon both "Pack Up Your Troubles In Your Old Kit Bag" and "1914", which is a medley that features "It's A Long Way To Tipperary", "Hello, Who's Your Lady Friend?" and "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty." I am sure we will hear these tunes many times during the coming month as part of the Great War centenary and it was great to see people singing along to these rather poignant songs

Also today we gave the first public performance of "Burn". This is a modern popular song made famous by English singer Ellie Goulding. Although she started out writing songs in a folk-inflected style, she eventually grew into a more electronic-influenced artist, touching upon dance music and ambient synth pop. Needless to say the lyrics are somewhat strange to those of us of a more mature age and the catchy chorus goes along the lines of And we gonna let it burn burn burn burn..... I am sure that this will prove to be popular with the younger members of our audiences during the summer months.

As we concluded our playing for the day the Church bells rang out and we took a bit of an ear bashing as we packed the equipment away! As I made my way back to the rather boggy car park, a number of people went out of their way to say how much they had enjoyed our playing this afternoon. This makes you feel that our efforts were appreciated.

With a number of our own members unavailable we were extremely grateful for help from to Carolyn, Lyn and Tom Stoneman who play with Towcester Studio, and Duncan and of course Tug from Olney Brass

Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Sunday 1st June

Leighton Buzzard Bandstand

One of the abiding memories from my early days were the Sunday afternoon Band Concerts performed in the local parks. Living in London I was spoilt for choice with bandstands in St. James Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens and Battersea Park all within comfortable walking distance. Every Sunday during the summer months military and brass bands would entertain the crowds who arrived early to secure a deckchair in the best vantage points. Over the years Sunday has sadly become just another day with all the shops being open and along with all the other distractions available the tradition of Band concerts seems to have lost its appeal.

Fortunately there are still some enlightened local authorities who continue to arrange and fund a regular season of Summer Concerts, with the Leighton-Linslade Town Council being one of them. So with the arrival of June we had the privilege of starting this year's programme of performances in the traditional bandstand situated in Parsons Close which is located a short distance behind the local High Street.

A warm sunny day ensured we had a large audience gathered around the bandstand ready for an afternoon of musical entertainment. After words of welcome from a representative of the council, we launched into our programme. Musical Director Brian Keech had chosen a similar programme to the one used yesterday but with the addition of solos which featured some of the Band's younger members. Today's soloists were Adam with "Solitaire", Toby with "Soul Limbo", Luca with "The Acrobat" and Louis with "The Merry Peasant". All played extremely well and they were given a great reception from the audience. We are indeed fortunate to have an excellent group of youngsters who enjoy not only playing but also each others' company.

There was short break for refreshments or a trip to the ice cream van and in the second half Fraser and Luke were featured in the second half with the euphonium duet "Foxtrot Between Friends". At the conclusion of our concert we received prolonged applause from the audience who must have enjoyed the selection of music on offer today.

Our thanks go to guest players Jayne Scott from MK Brass, Andrew Long from Woburn Sands and Tug. It was great to have Sue with us as well.



Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Saturday June 14th

Stony Stratford Riverside Fair

The Riverside Fair has become established as an annual event which is organised by the Stony Stratford Riverside Parks Group. They are a voluntary group formed in 2005 and with the support of the Parks Trust in Milton Keynes their aim is to encourage use and upkeep of the riverside parks and wildlife areas around Stony Stratford. The fair is aimed at families with young children and offers a range of free rides, art activities and music.

There had been some overnight rain which had cooled the temperature from the very hot weather we had had over the last couple of days but we got away with just a few spots of rain and when the sun was out it was really hot. We had been booked to perform two thirty minute sets with music chosen from our current repertoire. Under the baton of Musical Director Brian Keech we opened our first session with the march "Barnard Castle" and rattled through the first half of our programme which featured John as soloist with "From A Distance". We had a break for around 45 minutes before our second half began with "Pack up Your Troubles". Tug was the soloist in "Memory" and Toby and James featured with "Sandpaper Ballet". We concluded our playing with "Glasnost" and received a great round of applause and thanks over the PA system from the organisers.

There had been a large crowd of people at the event and it was great to see how they reacted to some of the items we played. "Happy Horns" had people clapping along and "Burn" had some of the younger people cheering our efforts. It was equally gratifying to notice people of a more mature disposition singing along to "American Pie" and "Sweet Caroline" from the Neil Diamond selection. This was one of those occasions where people seemed to be out to enjoy the afternoon and the Band responded with some excellent playing and a great sound. Brian was very pleased with the performance and received some excellent comments.

For various reasons we were without the services of a number of our playing members so we were especially appreciative of playing help from Tug, Jack and Alan Bruce. We also thank Steph for arranging the transportation of the equipment to and from the band room and for the people who helped load and unload the van

Photograph and the following quote courtesy of the Stony Stratford Riverside Parks Facebook page:

"Please pass on how much everyone enjoyed the band at the fair and how much they contribute to making it an event for all ages. This year we thought they were especially good and liked the topical selection of WWI tunes."



Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Thursday 19th June

Solo Competition – Part One

Bradwell's Got Talent!

This was a date re-arranged from earlier in the month for our annual solo competition for Development and Main Band members. The competition encourages players who do not usually have the opportunity to perform solos to play a solo of their choice in a 'safe and supported' environment. Unfortunately there was a late hitch with the adjudicator for the evening having to cancel at very short notice due to illness. This meant having to hastily revise the plans for the evening. It was decided to concentrate on the Development Band with the senior band open section to be re-arranged for a future date. Musical Director Brian Keech kindly stepped in to do his Simon Cowell impersonation and judge the performances of the youngsters.

Under the baton of their conductor Luke Colvin, the development band opened the evening in splendid fashion with two items. The first was "Misirlou" a song dating back to 1927, originally as a Greek composition influenced by Middle Eastern music. The song gained popularity among Middle Eastern audiences through the medium of belly dancing! In more recent times it has been revised with its use in 1994 Quentin Tarantino film Pulp Fiction and again through its sampling in The Black Eyed Peas song "Pump It" (2006) and Mad Men: "The Jet Set" (2008).

The second item, specially chosen bearing in mind that England were about to kick off in their World Cup match, was "Football Crazy". This is an arrangement of popular tunes heard with various lyrics at football grounds up and down the country and includes Here We Go, We Shall Not Be Moved, Vindaloo and Glory Glory Hallelujah,

Both items were enthusiastically played and the audience of family members and senior band people were very generous with their applause. This shows the progress that is being made and will hopefully encourage the youngsters to continue to enjoy their music making with the Bradwell Silver Band.

Then it was time for the soloists and they were split into three groups.

The Beginners was for players who had been learning for a relatively short time. Up first was Rudolph who performed "Cielito Lindo" The other entrant in this section was Oscar with "Merrily We Play This Tune".

The Intermediate section was for those who have been playing slightly longer or who have been making excellent progress. Having drawn their order of play prior to the evening starting, Karen Evans on tenor horn was first to play with "Jerusalem". Next we had Evan on tenor trombone with "The Parson's Nose" followed by Ben on Bass Trombone with "Galway Piper. The final entry was from Adam with "Rumba for Two"

The Advanced Group was for the more experienced members of the group. Emma performed "Scherzo", Adam "Number Ten" and Georgia "On My Own"

There was some excellent playing by every one of the soloists and as everyone enjoyed some refreshments Brian had the unenviable task of choosing a winner from each section. After words of encouragement to all the soloists, the winners were announced. The Beginners section was awarded to Oscar, the Intermediate to Adam and the Advance to Georgia with the trophies being presented by Band President Peter Blake. Everyone who competed received a certificate and a commemorative medal. Medals were also presented to members of the group who had played in the opening ceremony but were not quite ready to play a solo.

Engagement Report - Keith Jones

Sunday June 22nd

Great Linford Waterside Festival

The Great Linford Waterside Festival is a weekend of music and attractions suitable for the whole family. The annual event is held in the grounds of Great Linford Manor and organised and run entirely by volunteers. This not-for-profit festival is put together every year with the help and assistance of various local bodies and organisations.

We were once again blessed with a warm and sunny day as we gathered around the main stage for our performance. The first act on stage today was the Peartree Bridge Family, a long established Milton Keynes based group who perform Rock and Glam covers. Their enthusiastic (and loud!) performance got some of the audience bopping about.

When they made their way off stage we set up ready for our performance. We were to do a set of around thirty minutes and adopted an unusual playing formation due to our relatively short playing time and the space constrictions of the stage. We had the basses sitting at the front, the percussion at the back and the rest of the band standing. After an enthusiastic introduction from the organisers, Musical Director Brian Keech started the programme with "Diamond" which is a selection of Neil Diamond songs. We followed this with "American Pie" and "Soul Limbo". We continued with "Sing" and our version of "Happy" which seemed to attract the most interest from the large audience as they joined in with clapping. Having publicised our September Concert we played the march "1914" before finished with "Mama Mia". We got a very good reaction from the crowd and organisers. As we packed away our equipment the next act started their performance in front of the stage and they were the Wolverton based Rashiqa Middle Eastern Dance Troupe.

So our involvement had been short but sweet but it was great to be part of such a wide assortment of musical entertainment presented during the course of the festival week-end. We had the chance to perform in front of many people who would not normally go out of their way to listen to a brass band and I believe we gave a very good account of ourselves. I also think that it is unlikely in the Band's long history that they have followed a Rock Band on stage and after playing were themselves succeeded by Belly dancers!

We thank Tug once again for helping us out and it was great having Dan with us as he begins his summer break from his studies at university. A special thank you to little Jess who stood at the front of the stage handing out leaflets advertising our Help For Heroes concert.



Flower Festival

The Band would like to thank Edwina (Keith's wife) who produced a wonderful display on behalf of the Band at the St James Church Flower Festival. We were asked many times who had produced our display as we were also at Christmas as it was so lovely. I know those of you who saw the display which also appeared on Facebook thought it to be fantastic.



Set up had been on the Friday afternoon and the Band had been allocated one of the prime positions at the back of the Church behind the altar. Our pedestal display included Chrysanthemums, Iris, Carnations, Gypsophila, Gerbera, Eucalyptus, Freesias, September and Roses. Added to this was some blue ribbon in the Band colours and dotted around the flowers could be found butterflies, ladybirds and dragonflies. More photographs can be found on the Band's Facebook page.

Songs Of The Great War - Keith Jones

We mentioned in last month's edition the history of the song "Pack Up Your Troubles" which became popular during the Great War. Equally popular was "It's A Long Way To Tipperary". At the outbreak of war, recruitment songs such as 'We Don't Want to Lose You, but We Think You Ought to Go' proved popular in music halls – as did anti-German songs like 'When Belgium Put the Kybosh on the Kaiser'. On the Western Front, marching bands were sent to accompany the troops. Soldiers would regularly put on concert parties and almost every division had its own entertainment troop. In the long periods of waiting between battles, songs played an important role in staving off boredom and boosting morale.

'A Long Way to Tipperary' was the first hit of the war. Originally co-written by Jack Judge and Harry Williams as a ballad for the music hall, it was the song's publisher Bert Feldman who suggested it should become a marching song. Now commonly called "It's a long way to Tipperary", the original printed music has the extra "long," making the correct title "It's a long, long way to Tipperary".

A Daily Mail correspondent saw the Irish regiment the Connaught Rangers singing this song as they marched through Boulogne on 13 August 1914 and reported it on 18 August 1914. The song was quickly picked up by other units of the British Army. In November 1914 it was recorded by the well-known tenor John McCormack, which helped its worldwide popularity.



The song's lyrics are not war-like urging soldiers to do glorious deeds, instead it expresses the longing for a safe return to home and loved ones

*It's a long way to Tipperary,
It's a long way to go.
It's a long way to Tipperary
To the sweetest girl I know!
Goodbye, Piccadilly,
Farewell, Leicester Square!
It's a long long way to Tipperary,
But my heart's right there.*

Songs about home resonated throughout the war, with 'Keep the Home Fires Burning', released in 1914, remaining popular throughout. As the war continued upbeat messages about staying cheerful and carrying on, such as 'Pack Up Your Troubles', played a vital role in keeping spirits up. The songs united people in a shared experience whether they were at home, on the Western Front or stationed further afield.

Wolverton Visit Twin Town In Belgium

Following last month's article relating to the centenary of the commencement of the First World War, we thank Robin for the following account of Wolverton Town Band's recent visit to Belgium.

The alarm went off at 5am and the thought ran through my mind, 'Why did I volunteer for this!' By 6.30, having been dropped off by James, I was outside Tesco's in Wolverton waiting for the coach to take us to Ploegsteert in Belgium for Wolverton's bi-annual twinning trip. A very green double decker coach finally appeared driven by a slightly grumpy Polish driver who was quite obviously stunned by the amount of kit he had to squeeze in a rather small space. It was a good job that the coach had a luggage box bolted on the back.

We were soon on the way Dover to catch a ferry to Calais .



Yes that is Julia you can see in the picture!

The ferry crossing was, thanks to some great weather, very pleasant and accompanied by suitable entertainment.



Wolverton Visit Twin Town In Belgium

The Twinning trips were instigated because of a young man called Albert French.

Albert, although born in New Bradwell, lived at the start of the First World War in Wolverton. Albert, like a lot of young men, volunteered for the army and by lying about his age was eventually to fight in Belgium.

On June 15th 1916 Albert was killed aged just 16. He is buried in a Belgian cemetery in Ploegsteert. The British soldiers had trouble with the name and it was known as Plugstreet. The Cemetery is known as Hyde Park cemetery. Many local features were given local names by the English soldiers to make themselves feel at home. Thus the cemetery was on the junction of two roads known as Hyde Park corner. Since June 1999 on the first Friday of every month the last post is sounded inside the Memorial at Ploegsteert in memory of the fallen. The Ploegsteert memorial alone has 11,447 names of soldiers who have no known burial place. In 2010 the remains of a soldier were found. They were eventually identified as one of those named on the memorial and were buried, finally, with full military honours.

Another relic of the fighting is ordnance, or unexploded bombs to us. The bomb disposal teams in Belgium get on average 10 calls a day from people carrying out ordinary tasks in their gardens and on building sites etc who have found a suspect device

After a Friday evening concert in the square in Ypres, we had a short walk to the Menin gate. The Menin Gate has the names of a further 54,896 British and Commonwealth soldiers who have never been found. Every evening at 8pm buglers from the local fire brigade play the last post.

On Sunday Morning Wolverton and Ploegsteert band took part in a wreath laying ceremony at Albert French's Grave. For the first time a ceremony took place simultaneously at the MK Rose where there is a pillar dedicated to Albert. More local performances in Ploegsteert, including a joint concert on Saturday night with The Ploegsteert Harmonies Band, rounded off a thoroughly enjoyable week end with some enthusiastic and friendly Belgians.



Future Engagements



If are not going to be available for any of these engagements please let Robin or Sam know 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.

Playing members are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes before the start time shown for the performance.

<u>July</u>		
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
<u>August</u>		
Sunday 17th	Tiger Moths @ Woburn Abbey	TBC pm
Monday 25th	Stony Stratford Fair	TBC
Sunday 30th	Evening Concert @ Bancroft Park	TBC
<u>September</u>		
Saturday 6th	Help For Heroes Concert @ Stantonbury	7.30 pm
Sunday 14th	Wolverton Works Memorial Commemoration	TBC
<u>October</u>		
Saturday 11th	St James Church, New Bradwell	7.30pm

**Thursday 17th July will be the last rehearsal before the Summer Break.
Rehearsals will resume on Tuesday 12th August.**

Contacts, etc...



Contact Details

Chairperson:	Gary Morris chairman@bradwellband.co.uk
Secretary:	Robin Allen 616463 secretary@bradwellband.co.uk
Treasurer:	Dave Sanderson 616357 treasurer@bradwellband.co.uk
Musical Director:	Brian Keech 310959 md@bradwellband.co.uk
Newsletter	S-J Edwards 319942 editor@bradwellband.co.uk
Webmaster:	Fraser Cousins 225772 fras@sky.com
Website:	<u>www.bradwellband.co.uk</u>

New Bradwell School News

In the next few weeks it is planned that the replacement of all the heating is to start. This should all happen after the school closes and the contractors will work from 4-10 each evening. This will ensure as little disturbance to the running of the school as possible. Unfortunately it may affect some clubs and group use if an area of the school has to be closed as the contractors work. This may affect where we will be able to hold our rehearsals and we will let you know if we are advised. It is an exciting time for the school and when all the work is complete over 2.5 million pounds will have been spent on the school and its improvements. This will sustain the school well into the future.

Congratulations to all those involved in the choir at the school. Last term they entered a local competition in Northampton against a wide range of school choirs, orchestras and individual performers. This was also across all age ranges from primary to secondary and with schools who had specialist music provision. They were very pleased to come away from the event with very positive feedback from the judges – who were very complementary about the school and the children involved. The school is delighted to announce that because of that performance the children have been put forward to the national finals on Wednesday 9th July at the Birmingham Symphony Hall. This is an impressive achievement in itself and they are rightly very proud of their children and are looking forward to the performance.



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
	Gary Morris
Soprano Cornet:	Adam Chappell
Repiano Cornet:	Sam Allen
2nd Cornet:	Orla Howell
	Alison Drury
3rd Cornet:	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
2nd Euphonium:	Luke Colvin
1st Trombone:	John Lee
2nd Trombone:	Jemma Day
Bass Trombone:	Luca Ianotta
E♭ Bases:	Dave Sanderson
	Jonathon Evans
BB♭ Bass:	Robin Allen
	Vincent Jarjadian
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

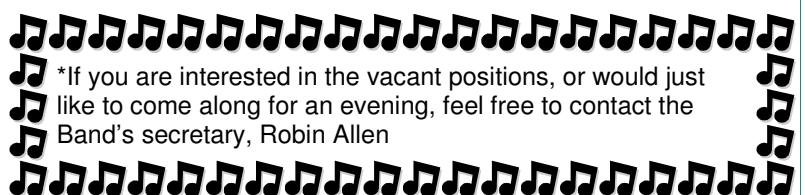
Honorary Members

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	Samra Gabriel
Mabel Painter	Demi Sullivan
Rudolph A.G	

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

SATURDAY 6th SEPT 2014 - 7:30pm

STANTONBURY THEATRE, MILTON KEYNES, MK14 6BN.

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With special guest Ben Godfrey, Central Band of the RAF.

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REMEMBERING THE PAST - SUPPORTING THE PRESENT