

The Bradwell Bugle

The newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band



August 2006

From the Editor

Welcome to the August edition of the Bradwell Bugle. This month we have many engagements to report - hope you enjoy reading them all!



First of all, congratulations to Sam Allen who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Jessica Louise, at 7:19pm on Wednesday 26th July. Jessica weighed in at 6lb 3oz. The Band wishes to send congratulations to Sam, partner Mike and Granddad Robin!

We wish to thank all those players who will be helping the band this summer as many of our members will be on holiday in August.

The September edition of the Bradwell Bugle may be out a little later than usual, due to holidays! Please ensure all Articles are submitted by 26th August. Thanks!

Guy Drury
and **Alison Drury**



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Engagement Report

Leighton Buzzard - Parsons Park Sunday 2nd July

Having played at Dunstable the previous week-end, the Bradwell Silver Band were back in a very hot and sunny Bedfordshire for another Band in the Park concert, this time on a Sunday and in Leighton Buzzard. Fortunately we were playing on a proper bandstand, which meant most of us were shaded from the sun, apart from the trombone section.

We started promptly at 3:00 p.m. with musical director Chris Johnston lifting the stick for "Olympic Fanfare and Theme". There were a good number of people to listen to our performance, nearly all of them sensibly sitting in the shade of the many mature trees that fringe the park. There was also a group of Leighton Buzzard's younger element who were noisily amusing themselves - but annoying other park users - by drinking copious amounts of alcohol. Fortunately, their musical tastes do not extend to brass band



music and much to my relief and no doubt to that of the audience, this group decided to move away to another part of the park after our opening item.

After our rousing opening we played the overture, Dvorak's "New World Symphony", starting at the Largo, or as most people know it, the Hovis theme of "Going Home".

Next was a selection from the show and film, "West Side Story". The film dates back to 1961 and was loosely based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet in that the best friend of a gang leader falls in love with the relative of a rival gang's leader. This selection includes some memorable tunes "Something's Coming," "Maria" "America," "Somewhere," "Tonight," "I Feel Pretty," "One Hand, One Heart,".

Our first soloist of the afternoon was Keith Jones playing the tenor horn solo "Your Song" and this was followed by the whole horn section of Adam, Keith, Sian and Luke Wilson with the Beatles tune "Hey Jude".

Engagement Report

"The Golden Lady" by Goff Richards flowed along nicely, helped by having Steve Osbourne our usual percussionist driving the rhythm along.

The Bangles hit "Eternal Flame" brought the first half of the concert to an end.

Cold drinks for the band were thoughtfully provided by Robin and other refreshments and facilities were available in the adjacent old people's home.

Having been suitably refreshed, the Band resumed with a tight and tidy rendition of Alford's march "The Great Little Army".

We followed this with the overture "Die Felsenmuhle" (The Mill on the Cliff). The tempo had a much steadier feel to it and the fast sections at the end of the piece were well handled.

Our second soloist was the flugel solo "Share My Yoke" played by Adam Keech with great feeling and his customary accomplishment.

"Everybody Needs Somebody" upped the tempo and had the audience tapping their feet.

To give the front row cornets a bit of a respite, we changed our published programme to play the hymn tune "Hyfrydol". One of the many well loved hymn tunes to



Charles Wesley's "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus".

Our penultimate offering was "Let's Face The Music and Dance" with Brian Keech doing well in covering the important trombone cues.

Our final item was "One Moment In Time" and as with last week's concert we concluded the programme with The National Anthem. We stood to acknowledge the applause before packing away.

It had been another difficult afternoon for playing because of the heat and being one short on the front row of cornets. However it was a much improved performance, helped in no small way by being on a proper bandstand, raised above ground level and with a roof. This helped with the overall sound of the Band, although quite understandably there were tired lips at the end.

We were especially grateful for help from guest players David Harris on euphonium and Brian Keech covering the trombone part on baritone.

This was the last engagement for Sam Allen for the time being as she is due to become a mother in the next few weeks. We will miss you Sam!

Newport Pagnell Carnival Saturday 8th July

There's nothing like a well organised event, and this was nothing like a well organised event! Let me set the scene. This was a job we haven't done for a few years and we were led to believe our mission was to provide background music away from the main event arena. In reality, although outside the designated main performance area, we were positioned in direct line with the enormous speakers of a sound system that would not have been out of place at the Notting Hill Carnival pumping out incessant pop music. Added to that, our proximity to the beer wagon made the area around the Band a magnet for people to stop for a drink and a chat with their friends but because of the noise from the speakers these chats degenerated into loud shouted conversations.

Faced with these adverse conditions, the Band patiently awaited the cue to start. It didn't come so we took the plunge and played our first item, the march "Great Little Army", after which one of the carnival's organisers arrived to tell us we could start to play! We continued our first short session with "West Side Story", "Proud Mary" and "Let's Face The Music".

After a break, we bravely continued the unequal struggle to make ourselves heard with "Joyful March", "Golden Lady", "Everybody Needs Somebody", "Eternal Flame", "British Legion March", "James Bond Collection" (an item especially requested by Sue's youngest daughter who



come from Wales, this was written by Rowland Huw Prichard and was first published in the composer's *Cyfaill y Cantorion* (the Singer's Companion) in 1844. The tune was first set to the words of this hymn in the *English Hymnal* (1906). Prichard was only twenty when he wrote this tune (the title "Hyfrydol" meaning 'good cheer') and the music has a metre of 8.7.8.7D which means alternating lines of eight and seven syllables. Another example of this rhythm is Blaenwern which means that tunes can be used as a setting for Dix's hymn "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!",

Whit Friday Marches 9th June 2006

had been impressed with this when we played it at the Stantonbury concert in April) "Elvira Madigan", "Hey Jude" and our last item "One Moment In Time"

It had been a difficult afternoon, it was not easy to concentrate on the music with all the other distractions and - unusually for me - I was not sorry when we finished playing. Under the circumstances I believe the Band gave a good account of itself.

Despite all the negatives there were some positives as well. During the last couple of items there was an old boy standing behind the back row of cornet peering over their shoulders to read the music. Apparently he had been in the Band of The Welsh Guards for 10 years on French Horn and was happy to reminisce about his music making. He was presented with the latest copy of the Bradwell Bugle and showed an interest in our activities. There was also a virtuoso performance of circular breathing when as we were packing up, a passer-by demonstrated tremendous technique by playing Lisa's trombone and then Robin's bass, making both sound like a didgeridoo.

Our thanks go to our guest players for the day, Julia from Wolverton on repiano cornet and Dave Huckle on BBb Bass.

At least the organisers kept to their word, the following appeared on their web-site.

Carnival 2006

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

The Newport Pagnell Carnival Committee is aiming to take the 2006 Carnival to new heights. Instead of a two day event which has, in the past, been somewhat lacking on the second day, we are looking to 'Wow' the town with a one day, all new, improved Carnival Parade and Entertainment Day.

The theme "That's Entertainment" brings to mind music, colour, fun and all round enjoyment. All the basic requirements for a Carnival. Newport Pagnell can do this and with your support we can make it the best ever. Come and join the parade! Bring your whole family to a day full of entertainment. Bright, noisy and sassy. Something not to be missed. We may be a small town but we can make a loud noise.

It was a pity we had to be sat in direct line!

British Legion Parade Sunday 9th July

In 2006, the Royal British Legion is celebrating its 85th birthday. The Legion is the UK's leading charity providing financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces and their dependants. Currently, nearly 10.5 million people are eligible for such support and the Legion receives thousands of calls for help every year.

The Legion was founded in 1921 as a voice for the ex-Service community and over 450,000 members continue to ensure that this voice does not go unheard. Although

the needs of ex-Service people have changed over the years, there is still the need to safeguard their welfare, interests and memory. British service people are in action around the world every day of the year. They know that if they need support - now or in the future - the Legion is always on active duty for them.

As part of the Bletchley branch's celebrations, they had organised a march and a short religious service.

On an overcast morning with some drizzle, we parked up at the British Legion club before walking to the starting point in Whaddon Way where the procession was forming up. The British Legion was there in force with their standard bearers and for some reason there were also people dressed up in French Foreign Legion uniforms.

We had to wait for the police to stop the traffic before the march moved off to the "Standard of St. George". Half-way along the route a saluting dais, on which stood the dignitaries had been positioned and appropriately we played the "British Legion March" as we passed this. Our last march was "The Middy" which



Picture from Bletchley Branch of the British Legion

saw us arriving back at the British Legion Club for a short Church parade. After the usual exhortations, Tug Wilson sounded "Last Post" and "Reveille", as the latter was being played some white doves were released.

The Band accompanied the singing of the hymn "Abide With Me" and concluded the formal part of the service with the National Anthem. As the parade dismissed and made their way into the club, we again played "British Legion March", much easier playing standing still than when marching!

Out thanks go to guest players Tug and Tim on cornet, Duncan Bruce on euphonium and Alan Bruce on bass. It was a good effort by the Band at a high profile event but it would have been more of a struggle had we not been able to secure the services of these guest players.

New Bradwell Carnival Saturday 15th July

A few years ago, the New Bradwell Combined School single handedly revived the old tradition of a carnival procession around the streets of New Bradwell (In years gone by, the Bradwell procession would then move on to join the Wolverton Carnival which was always held on the same day).

The whole school is involved and each year goes to a lot of effort in dressing up and decorating the lorries that are

kindly supplied by various local firms. The Band are always pleased to take part in this event as a thank you to the school for allowing generous use of their premises for our year round rehearsals. This year's theme was "Festivals" which the School wished to depict a variety of Festivals from different cultures and beliefs.

On a hot sunny day, the Band assembled for the first part of our involvement, the parade. We were told that the parade was to move off at 1:00 p.m. but at this time the floats were all empty so the Band formed up and played three marches on the stand. The children finally emerged from inside the school and climbed aboard the waiting lorries. The Headmaster, John White, thanked the Band for their patience and after clearing the playground of parents the procession was ready to start.

With a police escort, Bradwell Silver Band were at the head of the parade. Musical Director Chris Johnston played baritone which meant we had 19 players on the march. Starting with "Standard of St. George" we went through most of the march books with "Slaidburn", "The Middy", "CIV" and "True and Trusty". We had a short pause in Bounty Street to adjust Ozzie's drum strap which had come undone, otherwise the procession went along at a sensible pace. Crowds lined the streets and we had a particularly warm reception as we passed the Milton Keynes Dance School.

It had been a tidy march, some members still have problems sorting out left from right but the turns around corners were handled well. We arrived back in the playground and gratefully accepted the cold drinks that were offered by the School.

After a breather we were ready to perform a short concert. Unlike Newport Pagnell, this week we worked in tandem with the organisers who switched off the background music when we were ready to begin as the crowds of people were admitted into the school for the fete organised by the School Association.

We ran through items that have appeared in most of our summer performances, "The Golden Lady", "Proud Mary", "Eternal Flame", "Pastyme With Henry", "Hey Jude", "Let's Face The Music" and finishing with "One

Moment In Time".

A good performance on an extremely hot day, we were grateful for help on the march from Tug Wilson and also from Brian Keech and Julia from Wolverton Town Band who played in both sessions. We were joined for the seated performance by David Huckle, a work related injury preventing him from marching (I will spare his blushes by not revealing the cause and extent of his condition!). Our thanks to these guest players for giving up their time to play with the Bradwell Silver Band.

Special mention of Jack Wilson who gave up the chance to do the procession sitting comfortably on the back of a float, choosing to march with the Band instead. Well done Jack!

Our thanks also to the Supporters Club (Norman and Ann) who ran a stall selling a variety of items on behalf of Band funds.

We understand that the afternoon was a great success with the School Association raising over £1,000 for School Funds.

Keith Jones



Leighton Buzzard - Parsons Park

Sunday 2nd July

pictures by Guy Drury



Forthcoming Events and Engagements



Events appear on this page once they have been confirmed. Further details of times, venues and prices can be obtained from Robin.

- Sun 13th Aug
Bedford Bandstand - Mill Meadows
3-5pm
- Sat 19th Aug
Drayton Parslow Fete
Afternoon
- Sun 20th Aug
Tiger Moths, Woburn Abbey
Afternoon
- Sat 14th October
St James New Bradwell
7:30pm

Contact Details

Chairman:	Norman Keech	222298
Secretary:	Robin Allen	616463 rallen2@tiscali.co.uk
Musical Director:	Chris Johnston	rapid-radio@fsmail.net
Supporters Club:	Norman Keech	222298
Newsletter/ Press Officer:	Guy Drury	260546 guydrury@googlemail.com
Webmaster:	Fraser Cousins	225772 frasercousins@btinternet.com
Website:	www.bradwellband.co.uk	



Bradwell Silver Band Membership List

Committee

Chairman:	Norman Keech	Playing Members:	David Harris
Secretary:	Robin Allen		David Huckle
Treasurer:	Ron Snape		Nick Davy
Bandmaster:	Luke Colvin	Junior Rep:	Sam Allen
Librarian:	Dave Sanderson	Non Playing:	Mavis Harris
			Paul Harris

Playing Positions

Principal Cornet:	Sue Snoxell
Solo Cornets:	Clive Keech
	Karen Wilson
	Gary Morris
Soprano Cornet:	Ralph Tatum
Repiano Cornet:	Graham Huckle
2nd Cornets:	Mike Sanders
	Jack Wilson
3rd Cornets:	David Sanderson
	Alison Drury
Flugel Horn:	Adam Keech
Solo Horn:	Keith Jones
1st Horn:	Siân Haseldine
2nd Horn:	Luke Wilson
1st Baritone:	Liz Keech
2nd Baritone:	Guy Drury
Euphoniums:	David Harris
	Fraser Cousins
	Luke Colvin
1st Trombone:	Lisa Huckle
2nd Trombone:	Emily Colvin
Bass Trombone:	Nick Dytham
E♭ Bass:	Robin Allen
B♭ Bass:	Ron Snape
Percussion:	Stephen Osborne
	Position Vacant*

Non Committee Positions

President:	John White
Musical Director:	Chris Johnston
Publicity Officer:	Guy Drury
Magazine Editor:	Guy Drury/Alison Drury
Fundraising:	Norman Keech
Quartermaster:	Dave Huckle

Honorary Members

Chris Coull	Brian Keech
Malcolm Hills	David Wilson
Jim Whyte	

Learners Group

Amanda Blunda	Jez Billingham
Emily Tilley	Emily Colvin
Tara Cowel	Alison Drury
Callum English	Harry Gibbs
Aston Scales	Damian Tilley
Jack Wilson	Luke Wilson

*If you are interested in this position, or would just like to come along for an evening, feel free to contact the Band's secretary, Robin Allen - see page five for details.