



'Hark the CCB Herald'
Happy New Year, Decade & Era

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of the

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



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WELCOME to Your New Herald in this New Year at the start of a New Decade & Era in the life and times of Crumpsall Concert Band. Wow, what a start to the New Year we have enjoyed as we welcome Alan Cottrill to the band as just our 4th Conductor in 27 years. This packed issue will include a **welcome to not only Alan but 17 other new members** who have swelled our ranks to great effect since we resumed after the festive break on 8th January. Also included this issue is Part 2 of a look back at our **festive engagements**, a look forward to some known **calendar dates** for 2020 and much more. All the very best for a happy, healthy and musical 2020. **Yours, Rob**



Facebook best post: From Julie Thompson – Tenor Sax; 08/01/20: Reflecting what we are hearing from right across the band: "Thought tonight's practice was great, enjoyed the new music and thought the new conductor was great too. Looking forward to next week." 😊

WELCOME TO OUR CLASS OF 2020: On 8th & 15th January we have welcomed **18 new recruits** into the Crumpsall Concert Band many travelling from Werneth on a minibus driven by our **Conductor Alan** and a big thanks to Alan's wife **Jane** for all her efforts behind the scenes in advance of that first rehearsal; liaising with me regularly to update on anticipated numbers, instrumentation, safeguarding matters and much more. 'Thanks Jane.' In addition we welcome back **Aaron** and **Colin** – both former members and several other new recruits, all as listed: **Welcome everyone & above all, enjoy** 😊

Aaron – Clarinet, Abby – Clarinet, Adam – Trumpet, Adam – Trombone, Alan – Conductor, Alex – Trombone, Andy – Tuba, Angela – Clarinet, Colin – Trumpet, Ed – Trumpet, Jack – Flute, Jane – Trombone, Lily-Mae – Euphonium, Milly – Alto Sax, Molly – Clarinet, Robbie – Clarinet, Vicky – Clarinet and Wendy – Baritone.

Such a rapid expansion can be unsettling for current and new members alike, but I am delighted with how quickly we have gelled as a band and that is credit to each and every one of you. With almost every section of the band having grown these past few weeks, please take the time to get to know each other to further support our successful integration – the break is a great time to do this. Thank you to all and here's to a challenging, exciting and enjoyable time ahead for all within the band. **RF**



<<MORE CHAIRS AND STANDS PLEASE 😊

First rehearsal of the New Year, Wed 8th January with Alan on the baton and a further 10 new recruits; a further 7 came along last week making 42 at rehearsal with 7 regulars giving their apologiesWow!

FESTIVE FOCUS 2019 PART 2:

Last Issue we covered the initial engagements of a busy Festive period from the local Christmas Fair through to the Community Christmas Tree light Switch on here in Crumpsall. This time we highlight a busy Festive Weekend (14th & 15th December) at Salford's haunted Ordsall Hall where we provided a musical backdrop to the Tangled Dance Company's Frosted by Magic show with big thanks going to Conductors **Kate Burke** (Saturday) and **Joseph Atkinson** (Sunday) and all who were able to play across either or both days of the weekend. We held our band social on Wednesday 18th December and very grateful thanks to Eva for organising the meal and to all those able to join us including **Alan** and **Jane** ahead of them joining the band proper. A day later we played our final engagement of the year and **Kate** once again conducted us at the Local Community Carol Service; our last performance of the decade. Thanks to all those who were able to play and well done **Bernard**, making his debut on percussion.



Above Left – The Saturday Band (14/12). Above Middle, Kate amidst the splendour of Ordsall Hall. Above Right – The Sunday Band (15/12)



Above Left to Middle – Festive Band Social – The Wilton Arms Hotel 18/12. Below Right – last performance of the decade; Community Carol Service 19/12



MUSICAL MATTERS: Huge thanks to Alan and Jane for bringing along several pieces for the

band to try; sight reading for many but all so far has been well received. Our Librarian Sue will be kept busy going forward as Alan reviews our library and contents of the 2019 pad to develop an understanding of the band's strengths, allowing him to formulate a programme that is balanced, develops us as players and is enjoyable for us as musicians and audiences alike. Watch this space in future issues of your New Herald as the evolution / revolution takes shape. **Congratulations to Joe**, pictured right, for passing his **Grade 8 practical on Trombone with a Distinction** at the end of last November. **Joe** also served alongside **Kathryn Burke** as our interim conductor following Rosie's departure last October up to the end of 2019 in advance of Alan taking over the role as our new conductor. Those at rehearsal last week will have witnessed Joe conducting us in **Westside Story** and he will continue the baton aspect of his musical development under Alan's guidance as we move forward. **Well done Joseph, from all in the band.**



FAREWELL TO EVA JACOBS

After several years' service to the band, musically as a member of our Bassoon section and behind the scenes in so many capacities not least as Chair of our hardworking Committee, for a number of reasons, not least her health, **Eva** made the reluctant decision that 2019 was to be her last year with Crumpsall Concert Band. Eva will be missed on so many levels by so many of the band not least for her delightful eloquence, charm, dignity and professionalism in all her dealings on our behalf through the Committee. On a personal level, I joined the committee in mid 2018 and Eva, as part of stepping back recommended me to succeed her as Chair last April which both surprised and deeply humbled me and I hope I can do her recommendation justice as we work tirelessly for the welfare of our members and development and good name of our band. I so appreciated Eva's continued friendship, wisdom, guidance and support as myself and other committee colleagues came to terms with her



depending departure at Christmas. Eva's last act was to organise our Christmas social gathering at the Wilton Arms Hotel back on 18th December and she has vowed, health permitting, to remain an avid supporter of the band and may even be around at concerts to serve as our photographer; another role she has performed with quiet efficiency and diligence over the years. I am sure I speak for the whole band Eva when I wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement and offer our eternally grateful thanks for all your endeavours on our behalf. As a friend of the band you will be welcome at any rehearsal or event at any time and it will be great to see you. All the very best, Rob.

2020 CALENDAR DATES – (THOSE KNOWN AT THIS STAGE) – PLEASE MAKE A NOTE

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 19/02/20	Potentially no rehearsal – Half Term Break	This will be confirmed as soon as poss
Wed 08 & 15/04/20	Potentially no rehearsals – Easter Break	This will be confirmed as soon as poss
Sat 06/06/20	Radcliffe Carnival – Red Bank fields, Radcliffe – FULL BAND (Playing on the carnival field prior to the parade setting off)	Mid-day – 2pm We will not be required in the parade...phew!
Sat 20/06/20	Bandemonium – Kay Gardens, Bury – FULL BAND	1pm – 3pm
Sat 05 or 12/07/20	Potential Summer Concert – FULL BAND	Full details to follow

OTHER POTENTIAL DATES / EVENTS: Potential for playing for a Dementia Charity Event – March, at a local Spring Fair – April / May and St Matthew's and Herristone Park Summer Fairs late June / early July. We will confirm all dates as soon as known.