



'Hark the CCB Herald'
Mamma Mia here we go again

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of the

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 2 Issue 8
30th April 2020

WELCOME to the latest issue of your New Herald; the second issue produced during our 'locked down' status. I hope you and yours are keeping well and staying safe during this unprecedented global pandemic. **Your band**, like many similar bands and choirs, has found innovative ways of keeping in touch with each other and even continuing to make music; **please read on for more details.** Myself and family are negotiating a difficult time at present following the sudden passing of my Dad on 2nd April and on behalf of the family, thank you for messages of support and condolences, they have certainly helped and been much appreciated. I hope you enjoy this issue and please feel free to forward on to friends & family. Above all, stay well and keep safe. All the very best. **Yours in Banding, Rob**

IN THIS ISSUE: A message from our conductor; Update from our virtual AGM ; Music Matters – our recording project latest & how to get involved, Our banding heritage Part 1 – 1948-1950; and much more.....enjoy the read and thanks.

A MESSAGE FOR OUR TIMES FROM OUR CONDUCTOR: ALAN COTTRILL

Hello Everyone, hope you are all keeping well and managing to stay positive and busy. Jane and I have finally blown the cobwebs from the tuba, euphonium and trombone and have done some practise. We have both looked out good study books, for example, Arban (brass / clarinet), Moysé (flute) Kopprasch (trombone) Blazhevich (tuba) , and chosen something fairly straightforward to get the basics of breathing and articulation back up to scratch. We have also found some duet books for a bit of light relief and to work on intonation.



Music isn't just about playing; you can get a lot of pleasure and also learn from listening to a range of music. Technology should allow you to choose all sorts of genres, pieces you know, styles you enjoy and also new pieces. Make a note of anything that particularly appeals, we may be able to source a band arrangement! Keep playing, stay home and safe, look forward to the time when we can meet and play as a community again. **Best Wishes, Alan**

COMMITTEE UPDATE - 2019/2020 AGM REVIEW

On Wednesday 22nd, as scheduled, we held our band AGM albeit virtually, via Zoom. Thanks to the 22 able to tune in (*see multi screen pic right*) and to the 6 who sent formal apologies, a good turnout for an AGM by any standards. The chair's report, circulated in advance, was well received thanks, as was **Stuart's** update on our Financial position. **Robbie** put forward a suggestion that we make a goodwill financial gesture to our landlords in lieu of lost income. This excellent motion was unanimously approved and as reported at the Zoom get together this week, we have made a donation to St Matthew's who have replied in very appreciative terms. In addition, it was confirmed that, to support continuity, all members of the 2019/20 Committee were prepared to stand again for 2020/21 in their existing roles. Thanks to **Julie**, our Zoom convenor, and all for participation in a good meeting.



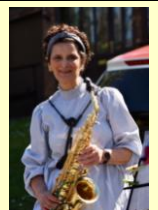
HONORARY APPOINTMENTS As detailed in the Chair's report for the AGM, I am delighted to announce the inauguration of the band's **first ever** Honorary Appointments. Pictured left is our Founder **Derek Farnell**, penning his official acceptance of the **Honorary President** role back in February. Shortly afterwards, **Eva Jacobs** pictured right, similarly accepted the role of **Honorary Vice President**. Both roles take effect from **1st April 2020** and are not only bestowed in acknowledgment of the huge contributions both have made to our band but also, going forward that both **Derek and Eva** will have authority to act as ambassadors for the band and continue to spread our good name and raise our positive profile. The roles also symbolise that **Derek and Eva** remain **very much part of the CCB family** and I look forward to the day when we can formally introduce them in their



Presidential capacities at a concert; something we had intended to do at our Spring Concert planned for back on the 4th April but cancelled for obvious reasons. On behalf of the Committee and wider band, my grateful thanks to both **Derek and Eva** and I wish them all the very best in their roles. **RF**

MUSICAL MATTERS: RECORDING PROJECT BREAK THROUGH & SPREADING POSITIVITY

Last issue we outlined the potential for the band making a composite recording of **Celtic Crest**. On Saturday 18th April, thanks to everyone who persevered to send in their recordings and to hours and hours of video weaving by **Stuart**, the **CCB Lockdown Sessions #1 Recording** was released via our website and Facebook. For those that haven't as yet, please try and take a look and listen; it's well worth it and proof that the show can go on in these difficult times.



Our #2 recording is underway and proving a significant challenge: The ABBA Selection, **Mamma Mia** has been chosen and anyone who wants to have a go but needs a part, please email Rob (r.fullen23@gmail.com). Details of how to get involved can be found on our website.

To further illustrate the power of music as a mood lifter for players and listeners, **Carole Blackston** (Bottom Right on Page 1), took part in an evening of entertainment coordinated by the neighbours in the Close where she lives. **Carole** played three pieces including *Fly me to the Moon*. On our **National Saints Day** in honour of our **front line Saints** guess what I played on 23rd April? **Alan & Jane**, (pictured Right) likewise delivered a musical tribute to front line workers on the 23rd playing an appropriate Trombone / Euphonium duet, *Somewhere Over The Rainbow*. Any pictures of your musical endeavours during lockdown that you may wish to share, please email me for potential inclusion in a future issue. Thanks, Rob



To join in and keep in touch on the Crumpsall Concert Band WhatsApp Group please contact Julie Thompson on 07960 149364

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – BAND HERITAGE SERIES PART 1: 1948 – 1950 SETTING THE SCENE

After the end of the Second World War (1939 – 1945) bands (some of which were around before the war) blossomed in an era when communities, in need of a boost, were emerging from the stresses, strains and privations of conflict. Many bands of that time were allied to male orientated youth organisations such as the Scouts, Boys Brigade and Church Lads Brigade as well as community focussed like our own. In preparing this series I have uncovered historical traces to our band today stretching back more than 70 years, some only faint but others extremely significant. **My grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to an unfolding, fascinating story and enduring legacy.**

Our story fittingly begins with our founder **Derek Farnell**, born in Beech Mount, Rochdale Road on 8th October 1935. As you will have read earlier **Derek** is now our **Honorary President** and his experiences will add a consistent context to this historical sojourn as we travel through the decades to the present day. We begin however, just after the end of WWII:



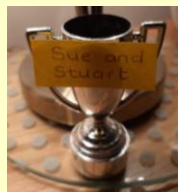
A member of the 209th Crumpsall Park Methodist Scout Group, a forerunner of the current 434th Group, the influence of one of his Scouting friends, **Cliff Bevan**, was to be absolutely pivotal to **Derek** becoming involved with music. Cliff's family had been the leading lights in the **Harpurhey & Moston Silver Prize Band** since its formation by **Reece Bevan in 1920** (see picture left from the 1920s) and owned the band premises above an engineering works on the right at the top of Factory Lane, Harpurhey.

In 1948 the band were looking to add a Junior Section to their set up and **Cliff**, who already played trombone, invited **Derek** along to the first rehearsal. **Derek** was one of around a dozen lads who turned up and a selection of instruments was arrayed on the band room floor, the lads being invited to take their pick. **Derek chose the euphonium** and the rest as they say, is history. The Junior Band rehearsed at the Factory Lane band room every Thursday and Sunday and **Derek, Cliff and others** from the Crumpsall contingent would walk to and from rehearsals in all weathers over the bongs (the hills/banks behind Crumpsall Hospital [NMGH]) and up 'the brew' (the 1:4 steep Factory Lane). Often on the journey home they'd pause behind the hospital near the Jewish cemetery and hold an impromptu open air rehearsal. Directly benefiting from the experience some of its members were gaining from the Harpurhey and Moston band, the 209th Scout Group constituted its own Scout Band and in **Part 2** we capture a 1951 episode with the 209th Band in action, featuring **Derek** himself.

CCB QUIZ CHAMPS 15TH & 22ND APRIL



WHO WILL LIFT THE VIRTUAL
At our weekly Zoom get togethers, Husband Andrew, both keen quizzers; a series of questions and **& Stuart (pic Left)** for taking the prize prevent an Atkinson hattrick? Thanks to all who have taken



TROPHY NEXT TIME OUT?

Oboist **Hilary (pic Right)** and her have helped keep us entertained with conundrums. **Congratulations to Sue** in the first two events and can anyone part in this fun aspect of our gatherings and particularly to



Hilary and Andrew for organising the quizzes.

RAYMOND ARTHUR FULLEN 12/12/1940 – 02/04/2020

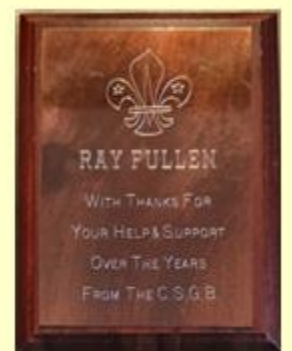


On Thursday 23rd we bade a lovely, fond farewell to **Ray Fullen**. Ray was a loving husband to **Ann**, Father to **Rob & Mandy**, Grandad to **Victoria, Sam & Matthew** and Father in Law to **Ian & Karen** (all with band connections past and present). It was a lovely moment in beautiful sunshine as the limited funeral entourage (because of the times we are in) left the house on Sheepfoot Lane to a rousing three cheers '**Hip Hip For Ray**' and much applause from the many gathered safely on the grass verge opposite. **Ray supported the Scout & Guide and Concert Bands tirelessly from 1985** in so many ways down the years and he was a **great friend to many of us** past and present; a true gent.

When Rob asked me if I could support the family and let people know about Ray's sudden passing, it was amazing how many people responded with the word **LEGEND**. Sleep tight Ray, thanks for everything and bet you're now swapping jokes again with my dad as you always did ☺. Cheers.

Dave Lynch – Group Scout Leader 434th Manchetser &

A Founder Member of both Crumpsall Scout & Guide & Crumpsall Concert Bands



2020 CALENDAR DATES – (PLEASE NOTE: ZOOM GATHERINGS EACH WEDNESDAY AT 7PM – ALL WELCOME)

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Sat 04/07/2020	Potential Summer Concert – Parish Hall - FULL BAND	Likely to be postponed
Wed 02/12/2020	Crumpsall Christmas Tree light switch on	More details nearer the time

FEATURING IN ISSUE 9 DUE LATE MAY: Crumpsall's banding heritage Part 2, Recording Project Latest and much more.....

