

'Hark the CCB Herald'



'Seasons Come Seasons Go'

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 4 Issue 12
31st August 2022

Hello & Welcome to your final edition of Volume 4 of your New Herald as season 2021/22 draws to a close. It's been the band's first full season since 2018/19 and a busy one too; see the **STAT ATTACK** section in this issue to see just how busy! As well as looking back we look ahead with genuine excitement to our **30th Season** and to welcoming our new Principal Conductor, **Maren Kuzmak**, to our first rehearsal of 22/23 in just a week's time. As always, your newsletter is packed with all things relating to the band and the communities we serve and thanks for your continued readership and support. **Yours in Banding, Rob**



Included In This End of Volume Issue:

New Principal Conductor Press Statement; Calendar Dates; Music Matters incl. Summer Rehearsals & Library Corner; Community Corner; Band News, Views & Banter incl. New Recruit Welcome, Stats Attack, A Level Congrats, Classic FM Big Platinum Competition – Results, and more; Almost in The Band – the long-awaited conclusion. Thanks for Reading!

NEW PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR - MAREN KUZMAK- PRESS STATEMENT

Ahead of Maren starting in the role on 7th September we are once again pleased to share their opening statement, on accepting the position, that was originally included in our Summer Concert Programme back on 9th July:

My name is Maren Kuzmak and I am pleased to be taking up the appointment as Principal Conductor of the Crumpsall Concert Band. Having just finished my music degree at the University of Manchester, this is an exciting opportunity for me to continue improving myself as a musician and conductor. Previously, I have conducted the University of Manchester Wind Orchestra and assisted with the University of Manchester Symphony Orchestra. My previous teachers have included Robert Guy at the University of Manchester and American conductor, Kenneth Kiesler.



I believe that music is for everybody; more importantly I believe everyone should have a place to make music with others. Community ensembles, such as Crumpsall Concert Band, often provide that place for many people. Music is the most important part of my life and I cannot wait to share that with this ensemble. There is no limit to musicianship, and that's something I strive to take with me into Crumpsall Concert Band's 30th season. I hope to introduce new repertoire to the band and the wider Manchester community to grow our musical knowledge together. This is an exciting time and I hope you are as dedicated as I am to setting our standards high. I look forward to working & making music with all of you! Maren Kuzmak (they/them)



Band Calendar Dates: Please save the dates; thanks (See Community Corner for other dates and fundraisers)

2022

2022

DATE/TIMES	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 7 th Sept 2022 7.30 – 9.00pm	<u>1st Rehearsal of our 30th Season 2022/23</u> Methodist Church Crumpsall	We welcome our new Principal Conductor, Maren Kuzmak, to their first rehearsal in the role.
Sun 18 th Sept 2022 1.30pm – 3.30pm	<u>Cheetham Cultural Festival Summer Event</u> The Guidance Hub, Waterloo Rd, Cheetham Hill, M8 9AB	Our first public engagement of the New Season just 11 days after starting back. 2 slots at 2pm & 3pm
Fri 11 th , Sat 12 th & Sun 13 th Nov 2022	<u>Armistice Day, FC United and Remembrance Sunday</u> Blackley Forest, Broadhurst Park and MCC respectively	Calling our buglers once again for Last Post and Rouse duty at these events including pre kick off at FC United (Men's) on 12 th & 13 th (Women's)
Sat 19 th Nov 2022 Doors 6.30pm Start 7.00pm	<u>CCB Autumn Showcase (Themed) Concert</u> Methodist Church Crumpsall Theme to be Revealed !!!	Band to arrive from 6pm and supporters travelling with bandmembers can gain entry at this time too. More details in future issues.
Sun 27 th Nov 2022 1.30pm – 3.00pm	<u>Herristone Park, Christmas Fair</u> A local community event we have been privileged to support since the 1990's. Last year to welcome in the festive season, it snowed !	After polling members we have taken the decision not to enter this year's National Concert Band Festival, but are delighted that instead we are able to support this local Christmas event.

We also have a series of festive season engagements which will be fully detailed in forthcoming issues: For now however, please add the following **December 2022** dates to your calendars/diaries: **Thu 1st , Sat 3rd , Sun 4th , Thu 15th , Wed 21st**. Thank you.

MUSIC MATTERS: Summer Rehearsals, Early Season Repertoire & Library Corner:

Informal Summer Rehearsals - can be considered a success!

The initiative to hold informal summer rehearsals on the five Wednesdays 27th July (as featured last issue) to 24th August inclusive, at the request of band members who wanted the option to carry on during the traditional summer break, can be considered a success. **Thanks in no small part to the Family Atkinson, Stuart, Sue and Joe** for facilitating these from arranging registration, sorting out parts from the library and conducting, to mopping up afterwards with help from others like **Sarah Ferguson** in this respect too. **Thanks also to those members able to support the rehearsals** and to **Methodist Church Crumpsall** for allowing us additional rehearsal access. If the right personnel are available in the future, this maybe something we can consider in next summer as it will certainly have helped members be ready for the challenges of the new season. **Enjoy the pictures of the four August rehearsals:**

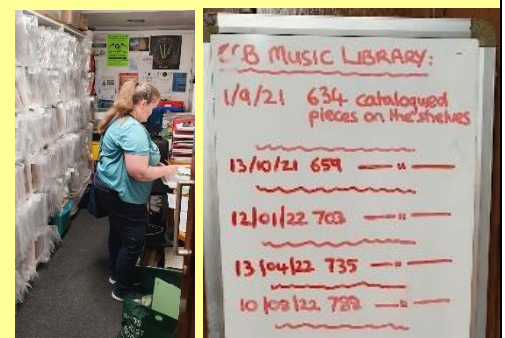


Early Season Repertoire - For our first gig at the Cheetham (and Crumpsall) Cultural Festival:

After just two rehearsals of our 30th season we will be playing our first public event at the CCF Summer Festival event on **Sunday 18th September** (see calendar dates for full details). Unfortunately, as discussed at their induction meeting back in July, this gives **Maren** no time to introduce new repertoire and only two rehearsals to familiarise themselves with our summer events pad to get us up to speed. **We are playing two sets in the afternoon on 18th** and the set lists will be announced when we start back on **7th September** but as a heads up, will likely include summer term standards such as: **Amparito Roca, Klezmer Karnival, Disney at the Movies, Queen on Stage, Neil Diamond and Greatest Showman**. **We need the best possible turnout and please make every effort to attend this event**. Thanks

Library Corner - What a difference a year makes!:

Our Librarian, Sue, pictured right, in her band room / library domain during the summer and you can clearly see behind her, the packed shelves that now contain 788 catalogued pieces. Well played and thanks Sue. Plans are being developed to



further expand library capacity in and maybe beyond the confines of our band room? However, 12 months ago this month, we were busy relocating the entire library from its former home at St Matthew's Parish Hall to the current location and the pressure was on to get everything ready by 31st August 2021





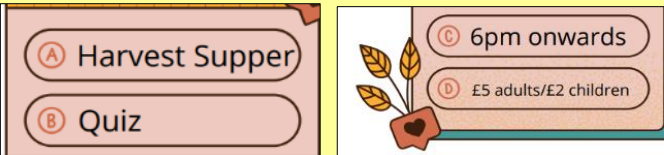


to move in on 1st September: Guess what, as pictured above and with a massive logistical effort, we did it!

CRUMPSALL COMMUNITY CORNER – 'COMMUNITY MATTERS - THE BIGGER PICTURE'

COMMUNITY & FUNDRAISING CALENDAR DATES

(See also **BAND CALENDAR DATES** front page)

DATE / TIMES:	EVENT / VENUE:	NOTES:
<p>Sat 10th Sept 2022 10am – 12 noon</p> 	<p><u>CLEANER CRUMPSALL GROUP – LITTER PICK</u> Labour Club, 98 Wilton Rd, Crumpsall, M8 6PX</p> <p>Hi-Vis, grabby stick, bags, gloves and post-pick refreshments provided.</p> <p><i>It's a sociable, worthwhile, well-being enhancing way to spend a Saturday morning.</i></p>	<p>Any members / supporters who want to assist in this environmental endeavour, would be welcome. Four of the band (pictured left) made the last litter pick, thanks. The more the merrier!</p>
<p>Thu 15th – Sun 18th September 2022</p> 	<p><u>CHEETHAM CULTURAL FESTIVAL 2022</u></p> <p>The band takes part on the final afternoon of the festival (Sunday 18th - see Band Calendar Dates on page 1) which will include a food festival too. There is so much more happening across the 4 days of the festival and it all starts with a litter pick on Thursday 15th. For full details, follow the Festival on Facebook, Twitter or their website.</p>	<p>So much going on to celebrate the diverse cultures and communities of Manchester 8 (Cheetham Hill and Crumpsall) with lots of local diverse groups and organisations involved across the 4 days. Something for every one to enjoy. Spread the word. Thank You</p>
<p>Sat 1st Oct 2022 10am – 12 noon</p> 	<p><u>Macmillan Coffee Morning</u> <u>Methodist Church Crumpsall</u></p> <p>Pop in for a brew, nibbles and a natter any time between 10am and Noon and support a Crumpsall contribution to this nationwide event for a very worthy cause: <i>'supporting people living with cancer'.</i> All Welcome.</p>	 <p>Macmillan's Coffee Morning It's time for Coffee Morning and you're invited. Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer. Place: Methodist Church Crumpsall Date: Saturday 1st October Time: 10am-12pm</p> <p>To donate, volunteer, raise money or campaign with us, call 0300 1000 200 or visit macmillan.org.uk</p> <p>In aid of MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT</p>
<p>Sat 8th Oct 2022 Harvest Supper & Quiz From 6pm onwards £5 adults / £2 Children</p> <p>Book early to avoid disappointment</p>	<p><u>Methodist Church Crumpsall Social: Harvest Supper & Quiz</u> <u>(Hot Pot, with Veggie option and cakes to follow)</u></p> 	<p>Methodist Church Crumpsall</p> <p>Speak to any representative of MCC to book your ticket, or email: methodistchurchcrumpsall@outlook.com</p>
<p>Sat 12th Nov 2022 10am – 12 noon</p>	<p><u>CLEANER CRUMPSALL GROUP – LITTER PICK</u> Labour Club, 98 Wilton Rd, Crumpsall, M8 6PX Hi-Vis, grabby stick, bags, gloves and refreshments provided</p>	<p><u>Final Pick of the year</u> and any members / supporters who want to assist in this environmental endeavour, would be welcome.</p>
<p>Thu 24th Nov 2022 9pm – 10.30pm</p>	<p><u>Community Quiz Night and Raffle in Aid of Band Funds</u> <u>Labour Club, 98 Wilton Rd, Crumpsall, M8 6PX</u></p> <p>Being in aid of the band it would be great if we could put at least a couple of teams into the quiz and anyone interested in forming a team, please let Rob or Barbara know. Thanks.</p>	<p>This event takes place on the last Thursday of every month in support of a local charity or community group and Committee Colleague, Barbara, has kindly arranged for this night to be in aid of our band funds. Thanks Barbara.</p>

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – 'BAND NEWS, VIEWS & BANTER...'

STAT ATTACK – Aug 22 informal Summer Rehearsals, Instagram, Season Totals - Facts & Figures:

Date >>>	27/07	03/08	10/08	27/08	24/08	Average	Season High	
Attended >	14	21	29	17	21	17	29 (24 th Nov '21 & 19 th Mar & 9 th Jul '22)	
Individual musicians who have attended at least one summer rehearsal 2022:							26	Season to date: 61



Instagram Stats (from launch on 20th April) as at end of Aug 2022:

Number of followers: 130

Number of Views/ Accounts: 7,111

Most Popular Video: Lord of the Dance from our Spring Concert; 19th March 2022.

Season 2021/22 Overall Stats: How many were you able to attend – want to know? Please ask.

'Regular' Wed Rehearsals: 38 'Informal' Wed Rehearsals: 5 Extra Rehearsals: 1 Total No of rehearsals: 44

Full Band Performances: 9 Part Band Performances: 6 Bugler only Performances (Acts of Remembrance): 4

From CCB – Thoughts and Very Best Wishes:

For all those who need our collective thoughts and best wishes for whatever reason, here's to you from all your friends in and around Crumpsall Concert Band.

A Warm CCB Welcome to – Becca Pimblett – Clarinet:



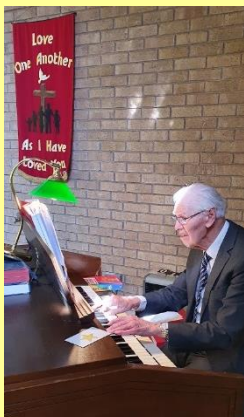
Welcome to Becca, who, having recently moved to Manchester after graduating from University (congratulations) contacted us during the summer. Becca is a Grade 8 clarinetist and was heavily involved in wind band and orchestra during her time at university and we were delighted to welcome her to our band at our final informal summer rehearsal on 24th August, as pictured. *"We look forward to welcoming you to the wider band Becca when our milestone 30th season commences next week and hope you enjoy your time with us. You've picked an exciting time to join the band and any queries at all, in particular whilst settling in, please let us know and if you like it, spread the word"* 😊.

CONGRATULATIONS – For 'A' Level Results & Secured University Places:

At break during our summer rehearsal on 17th August, the night before A-level results day, anxious, yet philosophical Mums, Sarah Ferguson and Natalie Hurst, were in discussion as to potential A-Level outcomes and subsequent options for their respective offspring Dominic and Abigail. Well, with the benefit of hindsight, such anxieties were unfounded as F.Horn player and occasional conductor Dominic and clarinetist Abigail achieved all they needed to on results day and are off to their universities of choice in a few weeks' time...CONGRATULATIONS. Dominic will be studying History at Exeter whilst Abigail will be tackling Physics at Lancaster and on behalf of all the band good luck and very best wishes to them both. As with those that have or are currently treading the path before them, both Dominic and Abigail will be welcome back at rehearsals and events as their studies and vacations allow, in the coming years. *'Music is for life, keep playing if you can folks and all the very best !'* Rob



A Very Happy Birthday – To our sage elder statesman & multi-instrumentalist Douglas Graham:



Is it really two years ago that as a band, we celebrated a surprised Doug on his milestone 90th Birthday via Zoom (out of pandemic necessity of course) with that fabulous video of Doug's musical exploits compiled by Julie Thompson? Still going strong, congratulations to multi-instrumentalist Doug who turned 92 on Saturday 27th August and is pictured playing hymns on the church organ at the MCC service the following day. Many will know Doug as one of our bassoonists but before moving to woodwind with the flute, soprano sax and of course bassoon, Doug was a celebrated brass player, dabbling with the trumpet, euphonium and more seriously the trombone in his younger days. He recently brought his Boosey & Hawkes trumpet (pictured) to rehearsal that he purchased second hand for around £5 in the 1950's and he still managed to eke a scale of C Major out of it all these years later. In the 1980's Doug alternated on piano accordion with a small brass group (that included Derek Farnell and me) as we played carols around the streets of Crumpsall each Christmas for charity. A former teacher he is also an



excellent orator and chorister and has sung with St Matthew's and the Methodist Church choirs down the years. Many Happy Returns Doug and keep playing and singing.....perhaps that's the secret ?!?

Classic FM & Making Music – Britain’s Big Platinum Performance – The Results:



You might remember that back in May 2022 and as reported in that month’s New Herald, we submitted a video of **Highland Cathedral** into this Nationwide competition with winning entries to be professionally recorded for **HM Queen Elizabeth II** to mark her 70th Anniversary as our Monarch as well as receiving air time on Classic FM. Sadly, we were not shortlisted, however **Making Music & Classic FM** have just revealed the seven lucky winners as follows, Congratulations to all: **Carne Ensemble (Northern Ireland), Curzon Brass, Fulham Brass Band, Birmingham Symphonic Wind, East London Brass, London**



Welsh Male Voice Choir, Carluke Primrose Orchestral Flutes (South Lanarkshire). As always it’s the taking part that counts and we can be proud of our involvement in this once in a lifetime competition 🎵

Robbie O’Brien Reports - National CL&GB Band’s Annual Concert, St Mary’s Church, Beverley:



Honorary CCB member **Robbie O’Brien**, clarinettist and interim conductor, who moved back to York last summer (yet travelled over to help us out at Bandemonium back in June; cheers Robbie) reports on the Annual Concert of the National Church Lads & Girls Brigade Band that he helps organise and run each year:

Sunday 1st May 2022 saw the annual Church Lads’ and Church Girls’ Brigade (CLCGB) National Band concert, this year in St Mary’s Church Beverley. The National Band is made up of players from Leicestershire, Yorkshire,

Lancashire, and Manchester regions (as well as a few stragglers from further afield) and ages range from 11 to over 80; all of whom play for a local CLCGB band! We meet 6 weekends a year to make music which ends in our annual concert in May bank holiday. Due to the timing of the concert, this year saw the first one since 2019, and it was great to be back doing them. As this was our first live event as a band since Lockdown, I wanted to arrange a piece that meant something to me thinking about lockdown, so I picked **Celtic Crest**, this being one of the first pieces I played to a camera in my spare room (and I suspect it was to a lot of you as well – CCB Lockdown Recording #1 April 2020) and summed up lockdown and Covid for me. **As this was introduced by CCB you all got a mention at the concert (and Stuart and Joe’s editing skills, as their advice also enabled me to produce videos for the National Band throughout lockdown).**

If you want to find us on Facebook our page is: <https://www.facebook.com/CLCGBNationalBand> to see more of our videos (ones of the concert, including Celtic Crest, will be coming out very shortly). Our next annual concert will be held on **Sunday 7th May 2023, 2.30pm at St Mark’s Church, Heyside (Nr Oldham)** so, being local to Crumpsall, it would be great to see a few of you there. **Thanks, Robbie.** Thanks for the CCB mention Robbie and we’ll be sure to publicise your concert next May, nearer the time. Cheers, Rob

Episode 6 – “ALMOST IN THE BAND !!!” The final Instalment – Anon

Okay, Episode 5 was featured in the New Herald way back in February and the editor has ruthlessly kept readers waiting until the very last issue of this Volume before publishing the big reveal. Okay, space is limited and it’s been a busy season of banding but a 6 month wait for the big finale..... I ask you? However, enough of my bellyaching and here goes. In this final instalment of this well-received, highly-respected and award-winning series we look at the overall winners and find out who, based on attire, amongst all the other runners and riders were, more than anyone else, **“ALMOST IN THE BAND”**.

Third place goes to **Gary Numan’s** backing group, circa 1979-80. Gary had been toying with red accents on black clothing throughout this period. His look on the *Telekon* album shows this to good effect. Looking back to episode 3 of this outstanding series, you will remember Mrs. Carta’s offering of an image of Gazza but with a red and blue tie. If only she has taken the inner sleeve out she would have found this image of the band. Unlucky Mrs C.



Second place goes to actor, comedian, musician and singer **Bill Bailey** during his 2004 *Part Troll* tour. Here we see Bill (far left) and three colleagues performing his song *Das Hokey Kokey*, a tribute to Kraftwerk. The number of Kraftwerk references throughout this series is not lost on us and it makes us wonder where the inspiration for the CCB uniform design 2014-2019 actually came from? We should certainly be aware that the design is iconic. Four red ties, four black shirts and 4 pairs of black trousers adds up to 12 points and second place as far as we are concerned, and that is why **Bill Bailey and friends** are **“ALMOST IN THE BAND”**



First place may be an unusual, but perhaps appropriate choice but it just comes down to the sheer number of people involved. Here we see **Norwegian Band Krapfoss Horn Orkester** playing in Manchester in 2019 during their visit for a marching competition, according to their website. We count 26 band members, of which 18 are clearly wearing red a tie on a black shirt

(presumably all 26 are). Whatever the scoring system is, this must easily take first place, and that is why KHO scores 78 points and is most certainly **“ALMOST IN THE BAND” CONGRATULATIONS !!**

Thank you for bearing with us during this diverting and page-padding exercise. These newsletters don't just fill themselves, you know. And to conclude in a similar vein as usual: Have you seen a picture of a celebrity wearing something which bears some fleeting resemblance to any piece of uniform the CCB used to or currently wears? If so, please keep it to yourself and be content that you recognised they were only "**ALMOST IN THE BAND**".

Ed: If readers require an unabridged copy of all 6 episodes of this popular series, in time honoured fashion feel free to send an A4 SAE to AIB C/O CCB, Crumpsall, M8. (can't guarantee it will arrive) Or, just email the editor 😊

THE LAST BIT:

Vote of thanks – to the 61 musicians that contributed to our fullest and busiest season in years. To Committee colleagues for all your help and support running the band, to newsletter article contributors and to everyone who has taken the time to read this season's New Herald. Thank you for reading and hope you've enjoyed.

Next Issue – Volume 5 Issue 1 - Due late September, will include a feature on early thoughts from our new Principal Conductor as well as a review of our first performance of the season at the Cheetham Cultural Festival.

And Finally – As we close the door on season 2021/22 here's to a successful 30th season ahead for all in and around the Crumpsall Concert Band including our many friends and supporters. Yours in Banding, Rob