

'Hark the CCB Herald'



'New beginnings abound'

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 4 Issue 7
31st March 2022

Hello & Welcome to your March 2022 issue of the *New Herald*, and, as our 'Herald' top left decrees, 'New beginnings abound'. As you can see right, we are looking to appoint a new Principal Conductor following Alan's recent decision to step back into a playing / back up conducting role (where time allows). There are also other moves happening within the band and we will shortly be launching with optimism into a new financial year. For the latest on all the above and more, head to the **Band News** section of this issue.

As well as looking forward we will review our well received **Spring Showcase Concert** held on 19th March, and our **Making Memories** article we will reflect on all things CCB 1, 2 and 3 years ago as well as a seminal moment for the **Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band** 30 years ago this month.

We also celebrate the re-opening of **Norman's Café** this month whilst we remember Norman himself, who sadly left us to join the *big band in the sky*, 12 months ago this week. Please make a note of our **CALENDAR DATES** listed at the bottom of this page, thank you. We hope you enjoy this issue and thanks for reading. Yours in Banding, Rob

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND

HAS A VACANCY FOR A
PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR

Crumpsall Concert Band is a community wind band based in North Manchester. The band is seeking a Principal Conductor to commence during the Summer Term 2022 and lead us into our 30th Anniversary Year. As an accomplished musician, you will have relevant experience of conducting a large ensemble - wind band experience is desirable but not essential. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings in Crumpsall from 7 - 9pm. The band membership ranges from teens to 90+ and the band has around 10 engagements per year in the local area. Whilst this is a voluntary position, we are committed to reimbursing reasonable expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling the role.

Please send a CV and covering letter to
crumpsallband@hotmail.co.uk
Closing date Friday 8th April 2022
Selection will be by interview and participation in a short audition rehearsal.

www.crumpsallconcertband.co.uk

Included In This Issue:

A Message from our Conductor; Calendar Dates 2022; Music Matters – Spring Concert review; Band News, Views & Banter including – Norman's Café re-opens, AGM Preview, Recruitment Matters; Special Feature: 'The Lynch Reports' - 30 years apart; Making Memories March 2019, 20 & 21. Thanks for Reading. 😊
Regular Features: Heritage Series Part 20, Library Corner Part 5 and Almost in The Band Episode 6 back, in a forthcoming issue !

CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: "an honour to work with such a friendly, enthusiastic group of players" :



Hello everyone, thank you all for your very hard work this last term culminating in our Spring Concert on 19th March which went really well. I was particularly pleased with the intonation with everyone listening and trying hard to remain in tune.

At this point, as I take a step back from being your Principal Conductor, I would like to say it has been a pleasure and an honour to work with such a friendly, and enthusiastic group of players. Keep up the good work. Thanks and best wishes, Alan

2022

Calendar Dates:

Every member counts, please save the dates; thank you

2022

DATE/TIMES	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 13 th Apr 2022	<u>Our 21/22 AGM / Shortened last rehearsal</u> before a 1 week break. Informal social after the AGM. (No rehearsal 20 th April returning at normal time on 27 th)	Shortened rehearsal to start early, 7:15pm, AGM 8:15pm, then for those who wish, a drink at the Woodthorpe Hotel after clear down. More details in Band News section later in this issue.
Sun 17 th Apr 2022 Band arrive 3pm Event Start 3.30pm	<u>Easter Sunday (afternoon) 'Eggstravaganza'</u> Outdoor event, under shelter in the Church Grounds St Matthew's with St Mary's Church, M8 4QU	After last year's event had to be cancelled due to restrictions, the family / community orientated Easter Egg Hunt in the church grounds is back. The band will be playing a selection of hymns.
New Date Sun 22 nd May 2022	<u>Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee 1952 - 2022</u> Community Celebration Event Coordinated across the community by 'Rainbow Surprise' Venue TBC but likely to be St Matthew's	This will be an all afternoon event involving many community groups and as the planning takes shape we will keep you updated. It is likely the band will be playing around 3pm.
Sat 18 th June 2022	<u>7th Bury Bandemonium,</u> Kay Gardens, Bury Town Centre	Full band event, more details to follow
Date Change Sun 26 th June 2022	<u>Prestwich Carnival – 100th Anniversary weekend</u> (originally we were down to play Saturday 25 th but after liaising with the organisers the Sunday is a better fit all round)	Full band event, and we will be playing in static formation just off Bury New Road adjacent to the premises of the event's main sponsor.
Sun 3 rd July 2022	<u>Herristone Park Summer Fair</u> After a two year break the local summer fair is back 😊	Minimum half band required and valuable performance ahead of our Summer Concert
Sat 9 th July 2022	<u>End of Season Summer Spectacular Showcase Concert</u> The kickstart to our 30 th Anniversary year of celebratory events	Full band event, more details nearer the time

MUSIC MATTERS: Build up to and review of our Spring Concert and; What's up next !

As if by magic - 3 Day Big Gig Build Up – 16th to 19th March 2022:



^ Wed 16th March: Alan puts us through our paces at our final rehearsal just three days before our debut appearance of 2022 ^

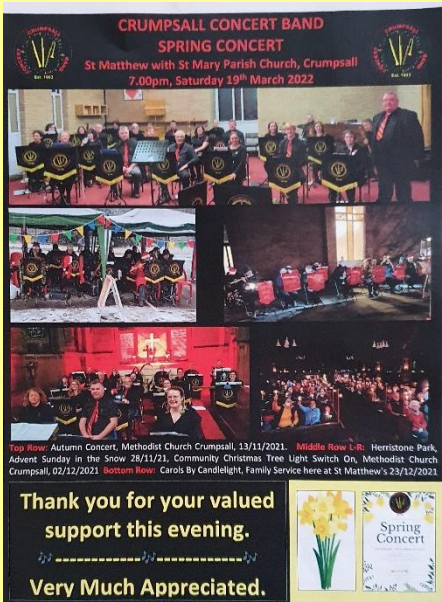


On the morning of Thursday 17th March, all the music stands, banners, chairs and a car full of other incidental equipment was transported from our MCC base to St Matthew's and Alan Bernstein kindly called down, at my request, to test the theory of being able to play a clarinet within the confines of the choir stalls (pic far left). The experiment was a success and a good job too as we would have struggled to seat a band of 29 on the night itself without using the stalls for our flutes and clarinets. An appeal at rehearsal on 16th led to a great turnout of locally based band members and supporter Mary

Nickson to help with the set up in the church the night before, on Friday 18th March. Along with Mary, thanks to Stuart, Sue, Julie, Les, Andrew and Victoria (pictured above centre) who joined me to make swift work of setting up the venue. On the day itself, there were some things that I had forgotten to take to St Matthew's, including spare ties, for our depts, and so, Karen & I went from one church to the other, tweaked the seating plan to ensure Alan was conducting on the same level as the band and as pictured above right, set up the welcome area with Karen arranging programmes, greetings cards and DVDs on our Merche Stall.

It's not just the set up, but the clear down too, and thanks to all able to help at the end particularly the late, late shift of Karen, Victoria, Scott, Sue, Stuart, Nicky and family who helped get the majority of the gear back to MCC and put away before clocking off (in our case via the Lucky Star chippy on Lansdowne Road) A great team effort; thanks to all involved along the way. Rob

Big Gig Review & vote of thanks – Spring Showcase Concert – Saturday 19th March 2022:



Our debut performance of the year was our Spring Showcase Concert held at St Matthew with St Mary's Church, Crumpsall, back on 19th March (*souvenir programme pictured left*). The band played our 12 tune setlist with a break half way through and audience feedback was very encouraging as were the comments from our Conductor. We had a few late scares with the concert start slightly delayed to allow for the arrival of flautist John and the recovery of a snare drum from MCC with Jake's still being at home in Romily 😊.

Covid is clearly still with us as we learn, as a wider society, to live with it. Our concert was not to get away unscathed with Doug (Bassoon) and Tim (Euphonium) both unable to play as a result. Our refreshments organiser Barbara Shaw was also having to isolate and I am delighted to say all three have now made good recoveries. Other illness prevented our founder Derek (French Horn) being unavailable to play on the night also and glad he has subsequently been well enough to attend rehearsals again.

Grateful thanks to depts and occasional players who came in to supplement our ranks and plug some gaps on the night, not least our drummer Jake Dillon, making a special trip home for the weekend from University in Hull, Louise Gorton on Bassoon, Dominic Ferguson on French Horn, Tom Rose on Euph and sometimes Conductor, Sarah Moran on Tuba.

Thanks also to our hosts from St Matthew's for allowing us use of the splendid, historical church setting for our concert; in particular to Rev'd Daniel Valentine (who keeps threatening to play Timpani's with us having achieved his Grade 2. Any Wednesday you're free Daniel, come on down; the kettle drums await 😊) and his event facilities team of Martin and Anthony.

Despite isolation, Barbara coordinated the refreshments for the evening from her sofa and grateful thanks to her for this and the team on the night, Kath Wilson, Sue Thurston on tea, coffee and juice and Sue Herbert and her magnificent cakes (pic right). The congregation at the Methodist Church Service the following morning benefited from the few left overs 😊. Barbara, Kath and Sue (Herbert) rolled back the years as they were all part of the POBS (Parents of the Band) team of fundraisers that were so important to the early establishment of a fundraising committee for our band when we began life back in 1993. Thanks again ladies. Thanks also to our front of house team of Karen and Scott and to Committee Colleagues Stuart, Sue and Nicky.



From the conductor and through every section of the band, thank you for the week in week out dedication and commitment at rehearsals that allow us to plan for live events such as our Spring Concert. It's not always easy to drag yourselves along to rehearsals each week now that other distractions of everyday life are back in full swing, but is always very much appreciated. Keeping the music alive. Thank you.

Last but by no means least, to our fantastic supporters and everyone who came along to watch and listen, thank you so much and we hope we did enough to justify you coming back again next time (pencil in our Summer Spectacular Concert to be held on 9th July 2022 with more details to follow in the coming weeks).

Your support makes all the hard work by the band very worthwhile and it's fantastic that we are now able to get out into the community and play live once again for your enjoyment; the last two years has taught us we should never take this for granted both as musicians and supporters; Onwards and Upwards. Until next time, enjoy the montage below. Rob. (Pics by Karen Fullen)



Next Gig Preview – Eggstravaganza – Easter Sunday family afternoon – Sun 17th April 2022:



Thank you to the 17 (there's that number again Carole 😊) members who have so far indicated availability to play at the Easter family event, outdoors at St Matthew's on Sunday 17th (there's that number again Carole 😊) of April. More the merrier please and see **Calendar Dates** above for timings and more details. Thank you. PS: Rev'd Daniel has challenged us to make Easter Bonnet's as part of our Uniform for this occasion. Prize for the best design, with an idea pictured left.... 😊

The Lynch Reports – Band Reports 30 years apart by Dave Lynch:

INTRO: Dave, one of my closest friends since the 1970s, was a founder member of this band (*on valved trombone as pictured on our band's first parade in Crumpsall on 5th June 1994*) as we supported making Derek's vision a reality back in 1993. Prior to this, as senior instructors, Dave and I, amongst others, worked tirelessly with our Bandmaster Derek from 1983 to 1993 taking the **Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band** (our fore-runner) from a humble local parade band to the dizzying heights of success in the National Championships at the Royal Albert Hall without ever neglecting our commitment to Crumpsall and our communities.

The April 1992 issue of the Scout & Guide Band's newsletter, simply titled 'Band News,' contained a classic 'Lynch Report' of our day out and ultimate success in London on Saturday 21st March 1992 and I have reproduced this below (and added some pics too) in the month the famous building turns 151 years old (*Recap your March newsletter from 2021 and you will discover a link to Crumpsall being involved in the opening of the Hall back in 1871*).



As people arrived for our Spring Concert on Saturday 19th March 2022, it was 30 years to the day since that success in London and Dave was in our audience at St Matthew's a week last Saturday and has kindly penned a special 'Lynch Report' that bridges the 30 year gap. Thanks for the memories Dave and here's to creating future ones. **But first.... Back to 1992. Enjoy everyone. RF**

THE LYNCH REPORT - ROYAL ALBERT HALL 1992:

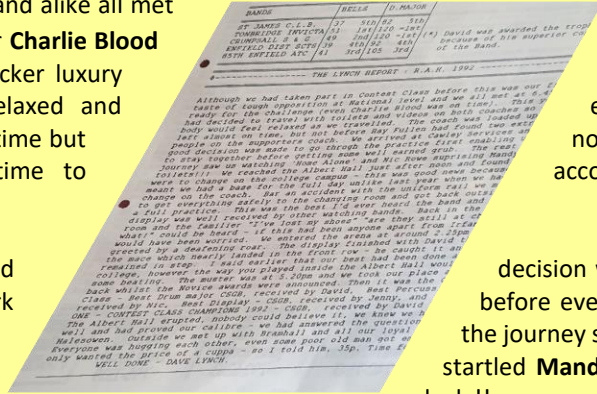
Although we had taken part in regional competitions before at Contest Class level, this was to be our first taste of tough opposition on the national stage. Supporters and band alike all met Crumpsall at 6.45am and even supporter **Charlie Blood** we had decided to travel on double decker luxury videos to ensure everyone arrived relaxed and were loaded up and we left almost on time but coordinator **Ray Fullen** had found time to his coach.

We arrived at **Cawley Services** and a good walk through of the display on the car park for some well earned grub. The rest of video and **Nic Rowe** inadvertently toilets whilst she was in there – dodgy

We reached the **Albert Hall just after noon** and found that our base for the day and changing rooms were on the College Campus in the precincts behind the Hall. This was good as it meant having a base for the full day unlike last year (when in the Novice Class) when we had to change on the coach. Barring an accident with the uniform rail collapsing in transit from coach to changing rooms, we got everything safely stored before heading out into the sunshine on the college lawns for a full run through (pic right). This was the best I'd heard us play and the display was appreciated by fellow bands who had gathered to watch.

at the Methodist Church was there on time 😊. This year coaches complete with toilets and enjoyed the journey. The coaches not before supporter coach accommodate two extra passengers on

decision was made to have a non-instrument before everyone disappeared into the services the journey saw us watching 'Home Alone' on the startled **Mandy Fullen** by bursting into the coach lock !!



Back in the changing rooms and the familiar exclamation of "I've lost my band shoes are they still at Church or What?" could be heard. If this was from anyone other than lead drummer **Irfan Chaudry** we'd have been worried as inevitably, his shoes turned up.



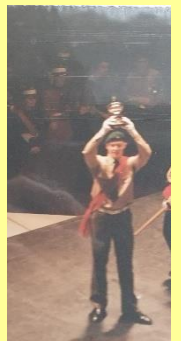
We geared up and trooped across to the performers entrance at the Hall before being led down stairs to the back stage 'bull runs' ready to enter the famous arena – both entry lines unable to see each other. At 2.25pm on we went into complete darkness directed across the stage and down the ramps to the famous red floor of the hall, by stewards holding torches. 'Come on Crumpsall' boomed and echoed from the vocal cords of loyal supporter and Guide Leader **Rosa Slater**, from somewhere in the seats where our supporters were gathered, prompting cheers and deafening applause. The lights came up cameras flashed, Drum Major **David Hartley** took the salute about turned and an air horn sounded to signify we could begin ... 'Band after 4, 1,2,3,4' barked David and we launched into our display.

The display finished with a flourish from our Drum Major, launching his Mace forty feet into the air, catching it and saluting without breaking stride as the final note of 'Swing March' dissipated into the swell of cheers and applause. People in the front row of seats just a few feet in front of David, must have been worried when they saw the high speed spinning mace descending towards them 😊.

I said earlier that our best had been done on the college lawns, however, the way the band played and performed in the hallowed hall would take some beating. And so it was to prove. The muster of Novice and Contest Class bands took place in the arena at 5.20pm with hundreds of musicians crammed in and soon it was time for the Contest Class awards to be announced:



Best Drum Major – **CRUMPSALL** received by David himself, Best Percussion – **CRUMPSALL** – collected by side drummer **Nic Rowe**, Best Display – **CRUMPSALL** picked up by bell player **Jenny Randal** and the Big One – **CONTEST CLASS CHAMPIONS 1992 – CRUMPSALL** the trophy received and hoisted high to our supporters by **David Hartley (pic right)**. The Albert Hall erupted, nobody could believe it (Rob was convinced we were looking at overall runners up as the sectional awards were presented and a shocked **Derek Farnell** couldn't believe it either as



pictured 😊). We had answered the question posed after our regional contest class win at Halesowen the previous summer ... could we do it on the biggest stage ?yes we could!

Outside, before heading back to get changed, we met up with our friends from the 4th **Bramhall Band** and all our own loyal supporters, friends and families. Wide smiles and enthusiastic hugs all round and even a passing old gentlemen got embroiled in the celebrations and he was only seeking the price of a cuppa – so I told him, 35p. **Time for a Party. WELL DONE ALL – Dave Lynch.**

Of all the many, many band photos down the years (more so in this mobile phone camera age) the one of Dave and I with the trophy, back in the changing rooms after the awards and initial celebrations, remains one of my most treasured. Cheers Dave. Rob



THE LYNCH REPORT - SPRING CONCERT 2022 (via Manchester Thunder):

“Flipping heck” or words to that effect, I said to myself, I’ve double booked, what do I do? let my niece and nephew down or turn up to the concert a little late? “Keep quiet” I said to myself “and hopefully it will all work out fine”. You see, I had never been to a **Manchester Thunder Netball** game before, in saying that I had never been to a netball game before. I know, check the start times; Manchester Thunder starts at 17:15; 4 periods of 15 minutes with breaks in between ! However, traffic lights in my favour and with a good wind behind I should be okay to get back to St Matthew’s in time?

The Concert was due to start at 19:00 Hours and yours truly went bounding through the doors only to find that the concert was taking place in the actual church building and NOT in the Crumpsall Community Hall where a private party was being held 😊. Not to worry I still had 5 minutes to spare, how was I to know that I was to be out done with my timings by one of the band’s flautists. I must shake his hand as it gave me time to catch my breath 😊 (maybe he was at the netball too?)

Now, I have not really seen the Crumpsall Concert Band perform a full set as a full band for a long time. I have seen the odd appearance by half the band at a local fair and most recently playing for the Christmas Tree Light Switch on at MCC in early December last year, but not the full band. It’s also been at least 20 years since I last played with the band and I was very, very impressed. It was also nice to bump into so many people that I had not seen for a long time. The selection of music was brilliant but my first half highlight was the rendition of a Spanish tune [Amparito Roca] that had my feet and my fingers tapping away.



The interval was a great opportunity to catch up with people whilst being showered with cake after cake after cake, what more would you expect at a CCB event? (Dave pictured supporting that pillar at the break whilst catching up with people and a plate of Sue’s cakes)

The second half passed quickly and the Band’s Conductor was asking for audience participation with some old classics. However the best was saved for last and I do not know how you did it band? Riverdance, [Lord of the Dance] after a full blown (excuse the pun please) filled second half, Riverdance had been selected for the finale complete with a Michael Flatley style encore. Very impressive. All that was missing was the Irish Dancers although the 2 young girls at the front [Nicky’s Daughters] gave it their best 😊.

To sum up, it was a treat of an evening and walking to the Lansdowne Rd, Lucky Star Chippy after the concert I could be seen floating along singing to myself “Dance Then Where Ever You May Be” with my head bobbing along Diddly Diddly style. Well played band and I’m looking forward to the next time. Yours, Dave Lynch.

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND - ‘BAND NEWS, VIEWS & BANTER...’

Get well soon - Very Best Wishes:

There are always members who need our thoughts and best wishes and this month is no different as we extend them accordingly from all your friends in and around the band. Keep smiling 😊

STAT ATTACK – March 2022 Rehearsals / Full Band Events - Facts & Figures:

Date >>>	02/03	09/03	16/03	19/03 - Concert	23/03	30/03	Average	Season High
Attended >	19	26	22	29	20	22	23	29 (24 th Nov’21 & 19 th Mar ’22)

Individual musicians who have attended at least one rehearsal/event in March: **34** Season to date: **48**

Community Corner - Cleaner Crumpsall – Litter Pick Saturday – 10am, 2nd April 2022 :



As mentioned at recent rehearsals and open to members and supporters alike, do you fancy some community minded Saturday morning exercise (tomorrow by the time this newsletter lands) whilst representing the band and doing your bit for a cleaner local environment?



Then, why not join the Cleaner Crumpsall Group at Crumpsall Labour Club, 98 Wilton Road, M8 6PX at 10am to 12.30pm. Gloves Bags and Litter Grabber Sticks provided and refreshments afterwards too. A satisfying and rewarding way to keep fit ! Thanks.

Committee News from the ~~Band~~ Band Room - AGM Preview and end of term informal social:

Crumpsall Concert Band - Notice of our 2021/22 AGM:

Date: Wednesday 13th April 2022

Time: 20:15 (Rehearsal 19:15 to 20:15 – (please note earlier start time and Norman's café will be closed this week)

Agenda:

- Reports – 2021/22: Chair (Rob), Treasurer (Stuart), Library (Sue), HR / Engagements (Nicky)
 - Election of officers and members for 2022/23
 - Questions and Answers

Post clear-down, you are invited to join your committee and fellow members for a drink at the Woodthorpe Hotel, Bury Old Road, M25 0EG (Approx. 1.5 miles from MCC and near Heaton Park Metrolink station).

As we build up to our 30th anniversary, and continue our recovery from pandemic restrictions, your band is entering an exciting period in its history and your existing committee have kindly agreed to stay on in their roles for 22/23 and we are looking to supplement their efforts with new members too. Meetings (approx. every 6 weeks or as required) can be held remotely so geography is no barrier if you want to become just that little bit more involved in all things CCB? Please let me or any member of the committee know in confidence in the next week or so, if you want more details. Thanks in anticipation. Rob

Recruitment and other news – Required:- Principal Conductor, Percussionists and more.



As you will have seen with the advert at the top of our front page, Alan is stepping back from being our Principal Conductor to adopt a backup conducting role and moving from the front to the back of the band on tuba, as time allows. We thank Alan for giving us sufficient notice to allow us to begin the search for a new Principal sooner rather than later and for all his service at the front of our band to date. Much appreciated.

Next term is likely to be very busy for Alan in his professional capacity and he may not be able to attend as often as he would like? Whilst our search goes on, from 18th May Joseph Atkinson is back from Uni in Scotland right through to September and has kindly agreed to cover the conducting for that period as required. Thanks Joe, much appreciated and with Alan being unavailable for our Summer concert this will give Joe time to prepare the band and inform the repertoire, unless of course a new Principal is recruited as a result of our current campaign in the meantime. This is an exciting time to be taking on the role as we head into our 30th anniversary year this summer building up to a big celebration in July 2023.



Our members and supporters are our best ambassadors, and thanks to you all for spreading the word, posters and internet posts far and wide and please be aware we are looking for a regular week to week rehearsal percussionist too whilst Jake is at University. Your committee will keep you informed of any developments and equally, please keep spreading the word and let us know of any leads that need following up. As an aside, we are always open to any new recruits for any section of the band so please don't limit your search. Thank you

In Other News: John Catterall recently borrowed our 'on the shelf Tenor Saxophone' (kindly donated to the band by Marilyn Stewart, widow of former member Ian 'Rocky' Stewart), to finalise a recording project he has been working on. As a result, John is giving the instrument a go in the band and will have his flute handy as contingency should the need arise. Good luck John (who first rehearsed on Tenor Sax on 30th March as pictured), and thanks for your flexibility as Julie will appreciate the company and support in Tenor Sax department 😊.



With the recent possibility of a Tuba player joining us, a slim possibility that now appears remote at best, Derek Farnell (a fine tuba player and instrument maker himself) set about tracking down and road testing a Double B tuba for us. His extensive network of contacts saw him find a vintage 'Hawkes & Son' instrument and mouthpiece in Darwen that was delivered last Wednesday (as pictured) for a very reasonable price. Whether or not the potential player joins or not, thanks to Derek, we have acquired a significant investment against the day when a tuba player comes along. This complements our Eb Tuba currently played by Charlotte Ferguson when home from Uni. Spread the word for a Bb player folks; if they are a lapsed player our recent acquisition is on the shelf and ready to play. We also have a small Eb tuba on the shelf too, Choices, choices eh!

Normans Café Re-opens – Under New Management (Karen) from 2nd March 2022:



As many restrictions have eased, but still respecting individual choices (always), we took the bold step to reopen Norman's Café back on 2nd March under Karen's capable management. The reopening coincides, almost exactly to two years since Norman himself served his final brews to us on 11th March 2020 and I'm sure he'd be delighted with us serving again. In our redecorated and refreshed comfortable lounge facility, the reopening has gone down really well with members and the opportunity for a communal break and leg stretch during rehearsal has been largely welcomed. As the cost of living rises at a rate not seen since the 1950s (that's even before I was born) we are committed to holding drinks at our 1993 price of just 20p (minimum donation) and, you get a biscuit thrown in for that too. I challenge anyone to find better value than that in a similar setting! CCB, doing our tidy bit to mitigate rampant inflation 😊. Thanks to Karen for keeping us sustained... much appreciated.

Making Memories as time marches on – What were we up to as a band in March '19,20 & 21?!

March 2021:

Whilst still in full lock down, up until the March 2021 newsletter going for a proof read we were working to a return to outdoor rehearsals in early April 2021. However, at the 11th hour and causing a two day delay in the issue being released, further guidance pushed back our return to W/C 17th May at the earliest; Step 3 of the Government's Road Map. The issue was finally released on 28th March and just a day later we received news that sadly, 95 year old Trombonist and Chief Brewer Uppa **Norman Davies**, had passed away peacefully on 29th March 2021.

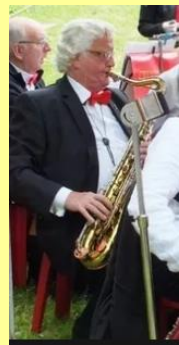


March 2020: As Shakespeare wrote, 'Beware the Ides of March': On Wednesday 11th March 2020, sustained by a cup of Norman's finest tea, on behalf of the committee, I sat in front of the band.



The message I delivered wasn't the best; the Coronavirus Pandemic was dominating all news and speculation was growing regarding an imminent national lockdown. **Not with the wildest guess could I have predicted it would be another 546 days before we would next meet for an indoor rehearsal** and weirdly I took the picture left of my instrument, the last one to be cleared away, after that final rehearsal on 11th March 2020. **Lockdown officially commenced on 23rd March and the Zoom era was born.** Pictured are the 18 members who gathered remotely to try 'Celtic Crest' on **Wednesday 25th March** and although varying internet speeds made playing together impossible (we did try for another week or so) over the next 14 months, Zoom Wednesdays and lockdown recordings would prove the intrinsic, essential ingredients for our survival.

March 2019:



This month in 2019 we were busy preparing for our first performance of the year and **Rosie Kingham's** first as our Conductor; the **Spring Fair** to be held at Methodist Church Crumpsall. We also welcomed 5 new recruits to the Band, three of whom only stayed for a short while but two were returners to the fold in January 2019. Firstly, **Harry Hudson** (left) who took a six month break during 2018 was back alongside **Julie Thompson** on tenor sax. Secondly **Victoria Fullen** (Cornet) who had a much longer break of around 16 years when she moved from our Junior Concert Band (Junior Comets) to the reformed Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band in the early 2000's. Pictured right,



Victoria on the left of the picture and the rest of the Junior Comets' cornet section, pictured at the Crumpsall Lane Primary School Summer fair on 18th June 2000. **Where has the time gone?**

THE LAST BIT:

Vote of thanks – Thanks to all contributors this month including Alan and Dave.

Next Issue – Due late April will include a return of regular features, plus a review of our Easter Sunday Bonnets

And Finally – You and Yours keep safe and well and many thanks for reading, **Rob**