

'Hark the CCB Herald'



Hope Springs Eternal

# THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

## CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 3 Issue 7  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Welcome** to your **March 2021** issue of **The New Herald**. Spring is definitely in the air and likely, by the time you read this issue, the clocks will have just 'sprung' forward into British Summer Time. The nights will be getting lighter and the weather, by degrees, will be warming up as the season blossoms. For me, there is something about this time of year that never fails to garner hope and optimism; although last spring certainly tested that assertion to the extreme as the move into lockdown was shortly followed by the sudden passing of my Dad. However, despite lockdown restrictions still being with us, the vaccination programme is progressing remarkably and, in a good way, this spring feels different to last. Significantly muted 12 months ago, long absent cautious positivity now pervades the air. This issue is full of reasons to be cheerful for all in and around our wonderful band and includes a celebration of last month's fantastic quiz night, and the pending, hopeful return to rehearsals in a matter of weeks. Enjoy the read, keep practising, spread the kindness and positivity, keep safe & well and hope to see many of you actually in person all being well, in the hopefully not too distant future.



Yours in Banding, Rob 😊

**STOP PRESS: LATE GUIDANCE , FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH, INDICATES OUTDOOR REHEARSALS NOW LOOKING LIKE 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY (STEP 3) NOT 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL (STEP 2). WE WILL KEEP ALL INFORMED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS & PLEASE SEE MUSIC MATTERS SECTION BELOW**

### In this issue:

**A message from our Conductor, Music Matters – Back to Rehearsals?, Player Profile Feature, Our Banding Heritage Series Part 12 1974/75, Band News including Band Comms, Poet's Corner, Quiz Night Review, Notice of our AGM, Best Wishes, Happy Birthdays, Calendar Dates & much more!**

### **CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: A POSITIVE FEELING; THINGS ARE LOOKING UP ....**



**Hi everyone**, well, as I write, the sun is shining, birds singing, we're seeing some flowers and the trees are in bud. At last, there is a positive feeling that things are looking up! A year on from first lockdown we are at a point where we can tentatively plan for a more settled future. Many of us will now have had one, if not both, of our COVID vaccines and I hope you, like me, are feeling more confident to get out and about (whilst remembering to still follow all COVID safety rules). I'm looking forward to getting into some routines, especially those involving music, rehearsals and, of course, practice!!!! Hopefully we will see lots of you as soon as you feel able to join in with rehearsals; outdoor to start with. **Best wishes, Alan**



### **MUSIC MATTERS: Road map back to rehearsals; Keep practising; What Music?**

### **AMBER LIGHT: Outdoor rehearsals pencilled in to begin. But when?**

This section was originally headed **GREEN LIGHT** and as the issue was about to go for proof read and circulation late on Friday evening (26<sup>th</sup>), we received further guidance that strongly contradicts that previously received and now indicates we cannot return to outdoor rehearsals until **Step 3 (earliest w/c 17<sup>th</sup> May)?** This latest guidance, from Brass Band England who have a direct link to the Dept for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), is **being questioned** and should it alter and indicate a return next month, as we had been gearing up for, we will of course let you know. This late change only serves to prove how fluid things are at present and we fully appreciate the disappointment some may feel but in metaphorical musical terms, it just means we have performed a **Dal Segno** (back to the Sign) and will very soon be heading for the **CODA** of our lockdown composition, meaning we will soon be at the start of a new piece and back together again. Just a bit more patience and we'll be ready to take it from the top once more. **RF**

**Practice Challenge: Now more time to get our lips in trim and be ready to play together again...** Before we start back, as mentioned in the last issue, this is your challenge, should you choose to accept it: Try setting yourself some dedicated time in the week (little and often to start with) to play your favorite practice pieces, warm up with long tones, scales and selected pieces from your study books. If you have not played at all for a while, start small and build up your stamina gradually. Try and schedule your time in the week to build up to a longer practice on a Wednesday evening. This will serve two purposes; 1) it will get you into the habit of a Wednesday rehearsal again and 2) will provide a weekly focus for your practising. **Above all, enjoy your playing and be kind to yourself.**

## Outdoor Rehearsal Pad: What Music Will I need when we do start back outdoors again??

As all attendees need to have their own pad and stand (a full list of what else you need will be sent). Pieces required are as follows:

★ CELTIC CREST ★ DISNEY AT THE MOVIES ★ MAMMA MIA! ★ QUEEN ON STAGE ★ A WELSH RHAPSODY ★ WHEN THE STARS.....  
In addition, Alan will be introducing a new piece ★ 'MR HOLLAND'S OPUS' ★. So, if you need any of the above and want the parts emailing across to you so you can print or upload to your i-Pads / tablets etc please email [r.fullen23@gmail.com](mailto:r.fullen23@gmail.com) in plenty of time. RF

### \*\*\*\*\* PLAYER PROFILE #3 'PHIL HILTON' \*\*\*\*\*



Phil, a mainstay of our trumpet section for the past six years and regular attender on our *Zoom Wednesdays*, has also enjoyed a busier than you'd expect last 12 months with the band. He was a regular attender at outdoor rehearsals last year and played Last Post and Rouse as part of our bugle party on Remembrance Sunday. Phil has provided a fascinating insight into his musical life journey so far and I'm sure you'll enjoy the read. RF

**When did you join Crumpsall Concert Band?** Spring 2015 having decided to have a break from the Hallé Choir as my voice was suffering and felt it was long overdue to get back into playing trumpet again. Something I had neglected. **Crumpsall Concert Band has proved the perfect choice.**

**Any other bands or music groups past /present?** I played 3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet in the **Chetham's School of Music Orchestra** from 1964-70 and Cornet in the **Irwell Forge Band**, Bury, from 1968-70. As a teacher at **Radcliffe High School** 1975 - 2007, the school band was made up of staff and pupils and although the band didn't rehearse regularly we did come together and play for special occasions such as the school carol service at St Thomas's Church and also playing in the community at care homes, the hospital and hospice. Also I have sung Tenor with the **Hallé Choir** from 2000-present and with **St. George's Singers**, the **Sotto Voce Choir** of Manchester, the **Nightingale Singers**, the **Cantibus Choral Ensemble**, and the **Lyme Park Singers**. (Pic right: Chetham's School of Music, Long Millgate, Manchester)



Whilst at Chet's, Phil sung with the **Manchester Cathedral Choir** and the pic far left shows Phil (centrally placed, 5<sup>th</sup> choirboy from the left). Near left, Phil is pictured on the right of the two in Tudor Dress complete with Posy ready for Chetham's Founders Day. Both pictures circa 1965.

**Instrument you play in the band (Make / Model)?** Yamaha Trumpet, YTR 5335GII (Ed: Phil pictured at the top of this piece playing this trumpet at the Spring Fair, Methodist Church 2019) and Yamaha Cornet, YCR 2330II

**If you were granted a wish to be able to play any other instrument that you can't currently play, what would it be and why?** Acoustic Guitar, to sing along to.

**Favourite genre / artist / band?** Genre – Rock / Pop, Artist – Art Garfunkel, Band – Jethro Tull (Ed: Superb folk rock band)

**Favourite Album?** Jethro Tull – 'Songs From the Wood' (Ed: Excellent, charismatic lead singer / flautist **Ian Anderson** pictured in action – bizarre fact: on stage he usually plays flute stood on one leg)



**Favourite pastime?** Looking after our grandchildren, Matilda and Jasper.

**Hobbies also include:** Music, fishing, photography, wildlife, walking, gardening, aircraft modelling, D.I.Y. and travel. (Ed: so what do you do in your spare time Phil???? As a musical mentor of mine, Derek Farnell, once told me 'a busy man always finds time').

**Favourite Cuisine:** Indian: chicken tikka madras with a side order of taka dahl plus pilau rice & poppadoms (Ed: Lip Smackin' grub)

**Musical Influences?** My teacher **Gerald Littlewood** at Chet's who was a musical and artistic genius and also a good man, and **Sir Mark Elder**, Conductor and Music Director at the Hallé.

**Best and Worst of 2020:** **Worst:** the end of band and choir rehearsals from March 2020 and not being able to see our daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. **Best:** recording several pieces with CCB during lockdown, rehearsing together again for a while at FC United and being able to go on holiday with our family last August in Whitby.

**The band is gifted £10K to spend on / towards a maximum of three things. What would you spend it on?** 1. Buy more music for the CCB Library 2. Reach out to young players locally with a view to bringing them into the band. 3. Buy some new instruments to loan to young players who need one. (Ed: A youth / feeder band would strengthen our sustainability and future for sure..... with all that time on your hands Phil, do you fancy the job? 😊)

**Favourite musical memories – non-CCB:** Singing Elgar's *Dream Of Gerontius* at the BBC Proms with the Hallé, singing the National Anthem & 'Australia Fair' at an International Rugby League Final, Elland Road with Sotto Voce, Girls Aloud and Martin Toal, singing in the backing choir for Procol Harum at the Bridgewater Hall, and at other concerts over the years with Russell Watson, Aled Jones, Bryn Terfel, Alfie Boe and the Kings Singers. (Ed: *Stellar moments there Phil for sure*). Phil pictured (back row 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) singing with Sotto Voce at a friend's wedding in Phillips Park, Whitefield, 2006.



**Your favourite memories / moments with Crumpsall Concert Band?** Playing at 'Bandemonium' events in Bury. Representing the band playing Last Post and Rouse on Remembrance Sundays in 2019 and 2020.



**Far Top Left:** Phil in the sun cap, Kay Gardens, Bury Bandemonium 2017

**Nr Top left:** Phil far left of picture at the same event, sheltering from the rain in 2019.



**Far Bottom Left:** Pictured centrally with Les Payne in the Last Post line up, Methodist Church Crumpsall, Remembrance Sunday 2019.

**Nr Bottom Left:** Pictured, socially distanced, on the left of the Last Post Trio, Remembrance Sunday, St Matthew with St Mary's, Crumpsall, November 2020.

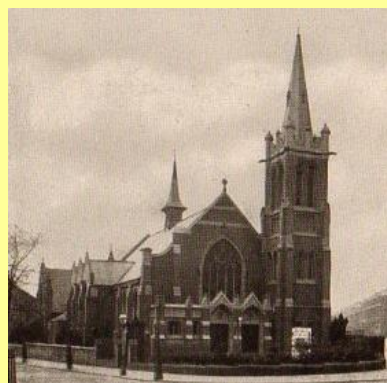
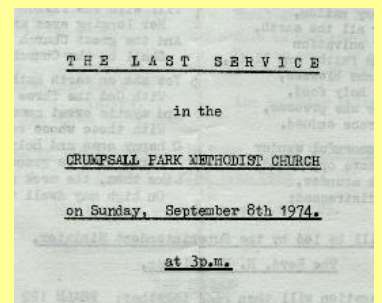
**Hopes for the year ahead:** For all of us to get back to as near normality as possible. (Ed: *Here, Here Phil*)

**Very enjoyable read, thanks Phil. Any volunteers for future issues, please let me know!**

### **CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – Band Heritage Series Part 12: 1974 /75:**

The last instalment of our series, (Part 11: 1974 Part 1), concluded with the 191<sup>st</sup> St Matthew's Scout Band on display in the Parish Hall. This issue we look at why 1974 proved a very pivotal year for the **Crumpsall Park Methodist Church**, their sister Church in **Cheetham Hill** and their respective **Scout Groups, Guide Companies and Bands**. With the benefit of hindsight, this seismic event triggered developments that would significantly influence the banding scene in Crumpsall ultimately aligning directly to the formation of our band just under two decades later. As a result, these events are definitely relevant to our story:

**1974 Part 2 – All Change on Crumpsall Green:** During the early 1970's the local Methodist Church Communities, based at **Crumpsall Park** and **Cheetham Hill Methodist Churches**, took the momentous decision to consolidate their high maintenance buildings onto one site. The Crumpsall Park site was preferred, and a Chapel had been present in the triangle formed by Oak Road (now Ash Tree Road), Lansdowne Road and Moorside Road since 1886. The original one was replaced by the grander building pictured below in 1909 and whose doors closed after the final service on **September 8<sup>th</sup> 1974**. Cheetham Hill Methodist Church closed at a similar time. Despite its name, the Cheetham Hill Church was actually within Crumpsall's boundaries on the site of the Polygon where sheltered housing complex **Anchor Court** stands today.



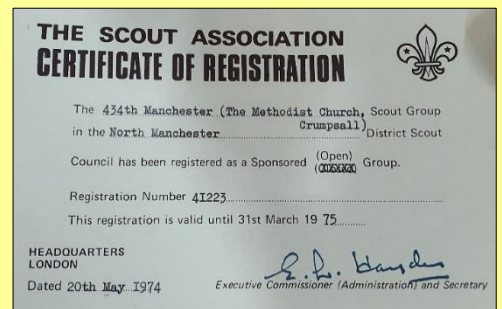
**Between September 1974 and January 1976** (when the present-day Methodist Church Crumpsall opened its doors), the Crumpsall Park congregation worshipped at St Matthew's Church each Sunday in a service of their own that preceded St Matthew's own Sunday morning service. Members of the Cheetham Hill congregation joined with their friends from Crumpsall also.

**Pictured Far Left:** Crumpsall Park Methodist Church and **Near Left:** a painting of Cheetham Hill Methodist Church. Two huge, impressive but very high maintenance buildings.

**Pictured Right:** The tiny, but significant marble font used for baptisms for decades in the old Crumpsall Park Methodist Church now anointing our feathered friends in a local back garden.



Both churches supported their respective Scout and Guide Groups and bands which were also destined to merge. The two Scout Groups (209<sup>th</sup> Crumpsall and 2/119<sup>th</sup> C'Hill) joined forces and became the present day **434<sup>th</sup> Manchester Scout Group** which was officially registered on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1974 (as shown on the certificate pictured right) ahead of the original churches actually closing. Whilst the new church was being built, they held their Cub Pack and Scout Troop meetings at The Trinity United Reform Church premises on the junction of Greenhill, Cheetham Hill and Waterloo Roads. The respective Brownie Packs and Guide Companies (2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Crumpsall – the 7<sup>th</sup> being Crumpsall and 2<sup>nd</sup> being C'Hill) held their meetings at St Mary's Church Hall (now no longer there) on St Mary's Hall Road and ultimately the 2<sup>nd</sup> merged into the 7<sup>th</sup> when the new church building opened. The two Methodist Scout Bands also came together, and church parade services were held at St Matthew's whilst the new church was being built.



At this time, being a Cub in 1974 transitioning to Scouts in 1975 at the 191<sup>st</sup> St Matthew's group, I was largely oblivious to the changes affecting the local Methodist groups. Therefore, our story is taken up by recollections from two members of 2/119<sup>th</sup> Cheetham Hill Group, **David Lynch** and **Andrew Watts**, both of whom would play their parts in the story of the **Crumpsall Scout and Guide Band** in the years to come with Dave going on to become a founder member of our band in 1993 also:

**Memories of David Lynch:** *"It must have been when the schools went back in September of 1972 when I joined the 2/119th Cub Pack, (there was no Beaver Colonies in those days). I went into Cubs earlier than I should have done as I joined with my cousin, Ged. Ged was a year above me in school but only 3 and a half months separated us. Plus, it was easier for us to go into Cubs at that age with the 2/119th as our Uncle **Harold (Maffia)** was the Akela. Our enrolment would see us presented with the deep blue neckerchiefs of the 2/119th (which I still have to this day). We were only to spend a couple of years at Cheetham Hill Methodist Church as it was to be knocked down along with Crumpsall Park Methodist and a brand new building was to be built on the site of Crumpsall Park Methodist Church. Cheetham Hill Methodist Church was a traditional spired church with long dark corridors and a huge hall, or maybe that was just the effect the hall had on a small 7-year-old. It had a theatre complete with a stage where I can remember watching Akela (Uncle Harold) do his rendition of 'Jake The Peg' at one of the many shows that were put on by the church. I attended the Sunday School along with other cousins Louise, Andrew and Jane and our Sunday School teacher was Mrs Dorothy Dixon."*

*"1974 soon came along and the Scout group had to move further down Cheetham Hill Road to Trinity Church for our Scout meetings and parade services would be held at St Matthew's until the new church opened up. Cheetham Hill Methodist Church also had a very strong Guide section, of which my mum (Margaret) was one of the leaders. They too had to move, and the 2nd Crumpsall Girl Guides were to amalgamate with the 7th Crumpsall who were led by Rosa Slater at the new church but until then they would meet at the old St Mary's Church on Rectory Road in Crumpsall. **The original Scout Band at Cheetham Hill ended due to the war.** My Uncle Clifford was in it and **Uncle Roland** but they lost a lot of players due to the war (many children, including my Uncle Roland, were evacuated) and the band took a while to start back up again."*



**Memories of Andrew Watts:** By the early 70's **Andy Watts** remembers the 2/119<sup>th</sup> just having a small drum band with a bass drum and 6 side drums (2 white and 4 black drum shells). *"We had a small band usually reserved for our own parades. We used to practise in the cellar under the church and it was deafening. I played the snare drum back then, but our repertoire wasn't great. We had no bugles just drums. By the time of the merger my Dad, **Hartley Watts**, was a GSL (Group Scout Leader) and our Scoutmaster, **David Bird**, was the driving force behind the band and recalls **Steve Carelli** and **Keith Clegg** being drummers around that time too."* Andy made a comeback on side (snare) drum with the CSGB in the early 1980's and is pictured being subject to close scrutiny by the late, Mr Keith Harrop, Greater Manchester East, County Band Advisor at the band's Annual Inspection in November 1983.



**Roland Maffia Remembered:** Dave refers to his Uncle Roland above, who after guesting with us on clarinet in December 1993, would join our band, primarily on tenor sax, in early 1994 to support the development of the Concert Band side of things but also help out with the Marching side too. To demonstrate this, pictured left is **Roland on sax behind Dave on valved trombone, formed up for our band's first public parade; local Whit Walks, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 1994.** On the eve of World War II in September 1939, 7-year-old Roland was evacuated to Blackpool with one of his older brothers, Clifford, where they would spend the next 4 years. In 1949, aged 17, Roland undertook his National Service in the band of the Cameroonian Highlanders (pic top right with his sax). **In 1994, Roland** penned a three part series for our band's original newsletter 'The Herald', for issues produced May, June and July about his memories of being a war time evacuee and I hope to reproduce these in his memory and for wider enlightenment at some future point. Pictured bottom right, **Roland,**



Roland, with Saxophone, 10 years after evacuation, aged 17 in the Cameroonian Highlanders.



along with our Founder, **Derek Farnell**, played with the renowned **Greater Manchester Police Band** who, on **12<sup>th</sup> March 1994**, under the baton of Musical Director Mr M Hennis A.R.C.M, performed a fabulous concert in aid of our funds, at St Matthew's Parish Hall. **Sadly, Roland passed away on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2000** after spending six years with our band as it transitioned from a Marching to Concert outfit and as a nod to his service with the famous Scottish regiment, and at the family's request, our band played 'Scotland the Brave' (on loop) at Agecroft Cemetery whilst the many mourners paid their respects.

On a Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1975, on my first night in Scouts at the Parish Hall, a bugle was thrust in my direction by the 191<sup>st</sup> Group's No1 and Scout Band Master, **Mr Tom Lock**, with the instruction to turn up at the 'Blue Hut' for band practice at 7pm the following night... like I had a choice, and from that moment my destiny was sealed. The dented copper and brass bugle had a cord, but no case, and I ran home after Scouts and on tip toes aligned the bugle with the letter box that I gently teased open. I could see my Mum with her back to me at the sink in the kitchen. I took a big breath and blew the loudest possible raspberry almost causing a startled Mum to drop the pots she was clearing away and causing Dad to wonder why I didn't just ring the bell like normal. All very amusing, kids eh!

Part 13 of the series, sees the story move into 1976 where further integration would lead to the formation of the Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band. Another key milestone defining our heritage. **Thanks for reading once again, Rob.**

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

### Get Well Soon – to any members who need our thoughts and best wishes at this time including:



**Norman Davies (trombone), Harry Hudson (tenor saxophone), Cyril Weinkove (bass clarinet) and Samantha Heywood (flute)** – all of whom are continuing to receive appropriate care. Speaking to Norman earlier this week, he was still in hospital and is particularly frail at this time. Subsequently, Norman has transferred to a care home in Sale, near his relatives. I reassured him that as with fellow members above, all our thoughts and best wishes are with him and he said in response *“that’s very nice of everyone and I do hope the band can get back to rehearsals soon although I am very tired and won’t be able to come for a while I expect.”*



He’s also not too keen on the food and has had CUP a SOUPs delivered as has Samantha who joined us on Zoom on Wednesday from her hospital bed in the MRI. **Get well soon one and all, and hope the CUP a SOUPs do the trick; from all your friends in and around Crumpsall Concert Band.**

### FROM YOUR COMMITTEE – Notes & Feedback from the General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021:

Open to all band members, thanks to the 17 able to make it on Wednesday and those who sent their apologies. Thanks also to Julie for hosting the meeting once again. The meeting was called to cover two key topics:

1. The potential return to (outdoor) rehearsals on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April. (Now superseded as I write; see *Music Matters*, above)
2. Serving notice of our 2020/21 Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April via Zoom; 7.30pm

The meeting was informed that the following current committee members are willing to serve again for the coming year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021: **Rob Fullen** – Chair, **Stuart Atkinson** – Treasurer, **Sue Atkinson** – Secretary & Librarian, **Nicky Kay** – HR and Events

Unfortunately, due to work commitments preventing the level of involvement she would like, **Carole Blackston** has indicated her wish to stand down from the Committee for the coming year and was thanked for all her support during the last difficult 12 months.

The wider membership are encouraged to email [r.fullen23@gmail.com](mailto:r.fullen23@gmail.com) ahead of the AGM should they wish to consider joining the committee for 2021/22 and to ask any questions of the current committee that will help them better understand what is entailed. All such enquiries will be dealt with in confidence. Any enquiries would be welcome, and support will always be appreciated. Thanks in advance for any considerations.

Ahead of the AGM, an email will be sent to all members along with key reports including from the Chair and Treasurer and any queries raised will be appropriately responded to. As well as reviewing the last 12 months, the AGM also provides an opportunity for a forward look as to how the next 12 months might unfold for the band and it will be great to see as many as possible in attendance. **Thanks to committee colleagues and all members for your continued support. Rob.**

### POET'S CORNER #1 – A lockdown trip to garage & bank by Doug & Brenda Graham; March 2021:



In normal times, surely such a trip, would not move one to creating observational rhyme and verse but, these are not normal times. Inspiration will out and anyone else who feels so moved, please email your compositions for this potential new expressive feature in Your newsletter. In the meantime, thanks Doug for your insightful '6 verser' entitled:

#### 'Our Rochdale'

1. What a jolly old town is Rochdale,  
Its citizens sturdy and fair.  
You can get a meat pie or a 'sarnie',  
If hunger attacks while you're there.

2. Today at the crack of nine thirty,  
We drove to that Lancashire town,  
In our faithful Japanese motor,  
To give it a check and hose down.

3. In the hallowed halls of Toyota,  
A charming young lady appeared;  
Not a Geisha, (her speech was Rochdalian),  
But she dealt with us well – never fear!

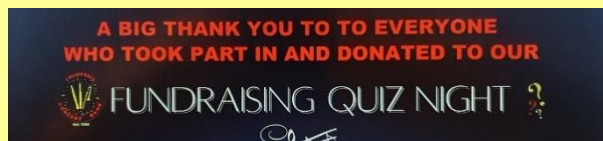
4. The car service would take two hours,  
So we set off exploring the town,  
For Brenda had once been a scholar here,  
But, alas, her old school was torn down.

5. At the top of a street labelled Yorkshire,  
Stands a Nationwide Bank in its prime.  
'Twas Brenda's task number two today.  
Thank goodness we got there in time!

6. Our aims achieved, we headed south,  
Well pleased with our duties done;  
We only stopped at a paper shop,  
Then home for tea and a bun. *DDG*

## QUIZ NIGHT REVIEW – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021:

What a Fantastic Night, enjoyed by all at the end of last month and grateful thanks to all who joined in and supported the virtual event from as far afield as **London, Hertfordshire** and **Buckinghamshire**; geography no barrier. In total 38 teams took part and the evening raised in excess of £800 for our funds. This is a game changing amount to help offset a year of lost income for the band and everyone's generosity, particularly in these uncertain times, remains very much appreciated.



### Congratulations & Thanks:

Congratulations to **Kathryn Burke**, our former Conductor, pictured right being presented with her winner's vouchers by Rob on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, runner up and our **Compere** for the evening, **Caroline Hall** and joint third place **Naomi (and daughter Penny) Peach** and our own **Stuart & Sue Atkinson**. **Naomi**, a former flautist with the concert band and bass drummer with the Marching Band back in the 90's, recently celebrated her big 4-Oh!! Double congratulations and **belated many happy returns Naomi** pictured right in **September 1994** taking on the bass drum from **Christian Chivers**. **Special thanks to Joe Atkinson** who not only put the quiz together but did a fabulous job as **Quiz Master** on the night; to our aforementioned

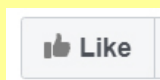
Position	Name	Total
1	<b>Kat B</b>	34
2	<b>Caroline Hall</b>	32
3	<b>Naomi &amp; Penny Peach</b>	30
3	<b>Sue &amp; Stuart Atkinson</b>	30
5	Alison Roberts	29
6	Nicky Kay	28
7	Sylvia Grimshaw	27



**Star Compere Caroline**; scorers **Nicky & Steven** (pressure job) and our technical back-up team of **Julie, Sarah & Jo**. Full line up, from living rooms up and down the land, is pictured below and huge thanks once again everybody. Maybe we can make this an annual occasion; hopefully, when times allow, a **hybrid Live and Zoom event?..... RF**

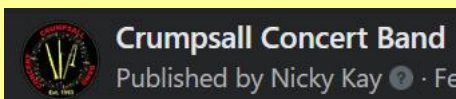


### Band Communications – Please help the Band on Facebook:



If you are on Facebook one of the best ways you can help the band is to **like & share** the band's announcements. If you're a supporter of the band and haven't yet liked our Facebook page, please go to our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/CrumpsallConcertBand/> and click on the 'Like' button which looks like the button in the top right of this article. This will make sure that any announcements we make will appear on **'your timeline'**. When **you share one of our posts** it means that it is seen by many more people than we can normally reach, the more you share the more people get to see all the good stuff we are doing.

A quick reminder to band members that if you are also a member of our **'Crumpsall Concert Band Group'** on Facebook, that when announcements are posted on Facebook on both the public page, and the **'Crumpsall Concert Band Group'**, please share the announcement from the **'Crumpsall Concert Band'** only. This way we can monitor how many people it reaches more easily.



Basically, supporters & band members please like and share posts with this logo and header. We appreciate all the help and support you give us, many thanks! **Julie Thompson**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY– Royal Albert Hall, London: 150 years old on 29/03/2021; Crumpsall links:**



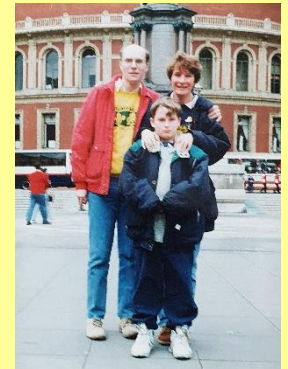
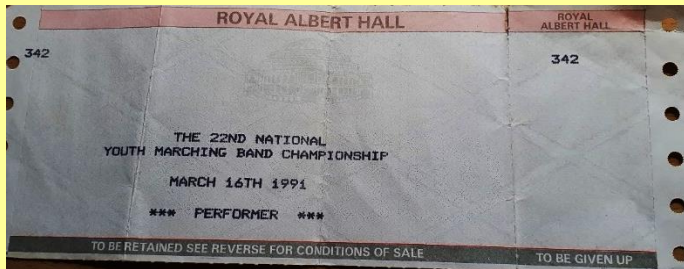
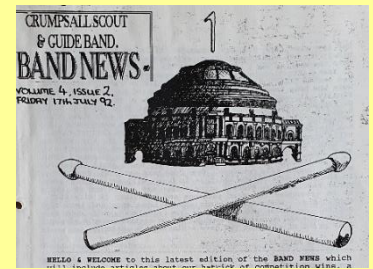
Why, you may ask, are we celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of one of the world’s most iconic concert venues located in our Capital some 221 miles south of our humble Cleveland Road base? Well, there are two very compelling reasons:

1 Firstly, in 1871 on the occasion of the Albert Hall’s opening night, on the bill were a group of around 40 musicians drawn from the aristocracy and military who performed nationwide at the time, all in aid of charity.



Their name, the **Wandering Minstrels** (pictured right), their Conductor, **Seymour Egerton**, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Wilton who was synonymous with Crumpsall. Crumpsall’s **Seymour Road** (running East to West from Station Road to Bury Old / Cheetham Hill Road), is named after the Earl and the local pub, just off Seymour Road, **The Egerton Arms**, named after the family. Seymour (Sym as he was generally known), was a friend of **Sir Arthur Sullivan** (one half of the famous comic opera duo Gilbert & Sullivan) and they used to meet at Heaton Hall. It is thought that Sullivan’s, ‘A Wandering Minstrel’ a song featured in the G&S opera ‘Mikado’ in 1885 was penned in tribute to Seymour as leader of his band of well travelled, time served musicians. Seymour died in 1898 and is buried in the impressive family vault in St Margaret’s Church graveyard, St Margaret’s Road, Prestwich. 1 Martin Gittins- A Crumpsall History, BBC Radio 3, British Library – Wandering Minstrels – the story of a long forgotten Victorian orchestra.

The second and more recent connection, notes the fact that the **Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band**, responsible for so many members of our own band when we formed in 1993, competed in the **National Youth Marching Band Championships** for four consecutive years from 1990 until the final event in the famous hall (due to spiralling hire costs) held in March 1993. Of course, proper coverage of these historical performances is reserved for when our heritage series reaches that era, but it is certainly relevant mentioning now, in light of the 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday of this famous venue.



**Top Row L-R:** Sketch of the RAH in it’s Victorian Pomp; Modern day photograph; Fabulous hand drawn front cover of a CSGB Band News (July 1992) ‘Skull & Cross Bones’ by **Dave Walker**, one of the CSGB side drum section who joined our band in 1993 and enjoys a high degree of artistic talent.

**Bottom Row L-R:** My ‘Performer’ ticket from 30 years ago, 16/03/1991; Programme from the 1992 Championships held on 21<sup>st</sup> March in which we were crowned Contest Class, **National Champions**; Performance time 14:17, Awards Ceremony: 17:25; **The Shaw Family, Andrew, Jonathan (Tenor Bugler) & Barbara** 21<sup>st</sup> March 1992; all of whom would become founder members of our band within 18 months; Andrew being an ever present from day 1. Pic taken post performance and pre the awards and it had already been a long day as our coaches left Crumpsall around 6am. By the time we arrived home, jubilant but shattered we’d been on the go around 20 hours.

**Calendar Dates**

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021 7.30pm	Zoom Wednesday Social <a href="https://zoom.us/j/97067958074">https://zoom.us/j/97067958074</a> Meeting Password: 760690	News, Views and Banter and all members welcome. Maybe more guidance available regarding rehearsals too?
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 7.30pm	CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – 2020/21 AGM via Zoom WE LOOK FORWARDED TO WELCOMING OUR MEMBERSHIP	A REVIEW OF THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND OUR FINANCES & AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AHEAD TO 2021/22. Usual Zoom Details; as above.

**THE LAST BIT:**

**Thanks to Alan, Andy, Dave, Doug, Julie & Phil for their contributions.**

We hope you enjoyed this issue with the next one due 30<sup>th</sup> April. In the meantime, let’s continue to look out and where we can, reach out to each other and keep ourselves safe and well. Thanks for reading. RF