

'Hark the CCB Herald'



# THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

## CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 4 Issue 1  
30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

'CCB – A New Season Begins'

**Hello & Welcome** to the first issue of **Volume 4** of your **New Herald** as we embark on our 29<sup>th</sup> season. No resting on our laurels after what was a hectic summer transitioning our operations from St Matthew's to the Methodist Church with your relieved Committee, pictured right, after our first rehearsal at our new HQ on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.



Thanks for the generally positive approach to our change of HQ and return to indoors as safely as possible, whilst building up to our first gig of the season last Sunday. All the above and much more is covered in this issue. Many thanks & enjoy the read. **Yours in Banding, Rob**

**In this issue:** A Message from our Conductor; Calendar Dates; Music Matters – review of our return to indoor rehearsals and our first gig of the season; Heritage series Part 16; New Series Preview: 'Almost in the Band' by Stuart Atkinson, The return of 'Library Corner'. Band News including – Congratulations, Welcomes to New Recruits, Deps and Returners, Crumpsall Community Day, 'Stats Entertainment', Fancy being a role model? and much more. Thanks for Reading !

### CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: "We are a Team and every player is valued":



**Hello everyone**, isn't time flying now we are beginning to get activities back in place? We have now had four very successful rehearsals at our new home. Thank you to everyone who put the work in to get us there and also to those who make sure the space is safely organised for us when we arrive each week. Last Sunday, we had our first indoor concert (*Ukrainian Centre, Cheetham Hill*), since I joined you. What a brilliant venue and lovely welcome! We were down on numbers a little but everyone played well and we were well received. **Looking forward, we have an autumn concert coming up soon.** Please make every effort to join us, (it doesn't matter if you are 1st or 76th Trombone) we are a team and every player is valued. **See you next rehearsal, Alan**



### Calendar Dates:

**Every member counts, please save the dates; thank you**



DATE/TIMES	EVENT	NOTES
<u>Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 or Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021</u>	Autumn Concert – at MCC. Set up 6.30pm. Start 7.30pm <b>Keep both dates free please &amp; we'll confirm the date ASAP</b>	<b>Our first autumn event since our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert in 2018. Full Band Uniform</b>
<u>Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021</u>	No Rehearsal – Half Term Break	<b>Return to rehearsals Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>
<u>Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021</u>	Remembrance Sunday – Methodist Church Crumpsall	<b>Buglers required please</b>
<u>Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021</u>	Herristone Park – Christmas Fair	<b>Afternoon event– more details to follow</b>
<u>Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2021</u>	Crumpsall Christmas Tree Light switch on	<b>Evening Carol event – Methodist Church</b>
<u>Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021</u>	Last rehearsal before Christmas / New Year Break	<b>But not our last event .....</b>
<u>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2021</u>	Carols by Candlelight – St Matthew with St Mary's Church	<b>Full band event, more details to follow</b>
<u>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022</u>	Return to rehearsals	<b>Happy New Year !!</b>

### MUSIC MATTERS: Indoor Rehearsals, Cheetham Cultural Festival & New Music Link :



**Incredibly, 547 days** had elapsed since our last indoor rehearsal (11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at St Matthew's) before their resumption at Methodist Church Crumpsall on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021. See the main hall at MCC pictured left, cleaned, spaced, ventilated and safely prepared in advance of our indoor return.

**Up to this point, since March 2020, despite lockdowns** and the demands and pressures caused by the pandemic, we managed 16 outdoor rehearsals, one outdoor concert, an outdoor carol service and a couple of acts of commemoration / remembrance, but nothing indoors.

Of course, we are fully aware that Covid has not gone away and as a committee we planned for a resumption of indoor rehearsals with member wellbeing remaining paramount and recognising that wider society and activities are now fully opened without the formal restrictions that existed pre-19<sup>th</sup> July. Despite this, over and above what is happening at large, we opted to put additional, risk-assessed measures in place to support and reassure members as much as we are able. However, we fully understand, appreciate and respect that this still may not be enough for some. **As we have regularly reiterated throughout the pandemic**, there is no compulsion for individual members to attend rehearsals or events until they feel personally comfortable and ready to do so. As a band we will continue to go above and beyond general guidance for as long as is necessary and if anyone wishes to suggest any additional pragmatic safety measures, please let your committee know for due consideration.

Thanks to all those who have made the start of the season so encouraging. The following montage is taken from our first four rehearsals and should feature, at least once, all 34 musicians that have so far attended at least one rehearsal (zoom in as required):

**Week 1: 08/09/2021 – including a safely observed outdoor gathering at the break**



**Week 2: 15/09/2021 – as the band became more familiar with the new surroundings and rehearsing indoors once more**



**Week 3: 22/09/2021 – Featuring Deps Steve Millington (Perc) and Sarah Moran (Tuba) ahead of our concert on 26<sup>th</sup>.**



**Week 4: 29/09/2021 – Featuring our Founder, Derek Farnell on horn and his brother Ian making a return on percussion.**



**Band in Concert – Cheetham Cultural Festival - 26<sup>th</sup> Sept '21 – Ukrainian Centre, Cheetham Hill:**

Last year's CCF Spring Fling (May 2020) and Summer Event (Sept 2020) were, by necessity of the times, held virtually. We played our part in both events last year, contributing lockdown videos for streaming on the appointed days.

The CCF Summer Event for 2021, only slightly delayed, was back to a physical four day celebration of the diverse communities, traditions and cultures of Cheetham and Crumpsall and as a band we were delighted to play our part. We featured on the festival's final day playing a concert at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, Cheetham Hill on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> after only three rehearsals back.

Congratulations and thanks to the Festival organisers, in particular Gareth Redston from the Jewish Museum, Cheetham Hill, for their vision and resilience in organising such a celebration against a challenging backdrop. Thanks also to Bob and his team at the Ukrainian Centre for their help and accommodation on the day. Likewise, huge thanks to all from the band who were able to play and to deps

**Steve Millington** (Percussion) and **Sarah Moran** (Tuba) who came in to help us out. A great team effort all round and so good to get the band out and visible in the community once again: **Well Played!**



**New Music Link - Pieces you need to download for rehearsals from Wed 6<sup>th</sup> October:**

The River Kwai March and Moon River accessible from:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pFairjYfwqKFMgWxIJoJEJbLgRYcN\\_IU?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pFairjYfwqKFMgWxIJoJEJbLgRYcN_IU?usp=sharing)

Those without access to the internet, parts will be available at rehearsal. Thanks to Stuart for scanning the latest pieces.

**CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – Band Heritage Series Part 16: Season 1976/77 #2:**



In Part 15, we reviewed the first half of the 1976/77 season and now we move our heritage series into 1977: – the second half of a season that saw **Elvis Presley** pass away and the **Punk era** invigorate youth culture. In sport, **Manchester United** denied **Liverpool** a treble by winning the FA Cup, **Virginia Wade** won Wimbledon (*a Grand Slam singles feat that was not repeated by a British woman until the recent phenomenal victory of 18 year old Emma Raducanu in the US Open*). Nationally, **Queen Elizabeth II** celebrated her **Silver Jubilee**, sparking nationwide euphoria and street parties. **Crumpsall** celebrated like everywhere else and our local bands played their part as pictured in the case of the **Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band**:

**Jubilee**, sparking nationwide euphoria and street parties. **Crumpsall** celebrated like everywhere else and our local bands played their part as pictured in the case of the **Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band**:

**Pictured Top Left:** the band, sporting 191<sup>st</sup> (St Matthew's) Group bugle banners, despite beng a joint band with the 434<sup>th</sup> (Methodist Church), march past St Matthew's Church as **Scout Master Charles Ashton** leads the Scout Troop through the church gates for a monthly parade service in early 1977. The back rank of buglers is one of great early renown; from left to right **Vinny Valentine**, **Kenny Valentine** (both of the 191<sup>st</sup>) and **Nicholas Cohen** of the 434<sup>th</sup>. The two visible buglers in front of them are me (191<sup>st</sup>) doing a nosey 'eyes right' (good job **Colin Heil** on bass drum didn't halt suddenly) and **John Mills** (434<sup>th</sup>). **Michael Robinson** (191<sup>st</sup>) is the fully visible side drummer in shot and who would go on to be **CSGB's Bandmaster from 1993 to 1998**. **Pictured top right** is **Bandmaster Tom Lock** presiding over a march past on the District St George's Day parade – April 1977.

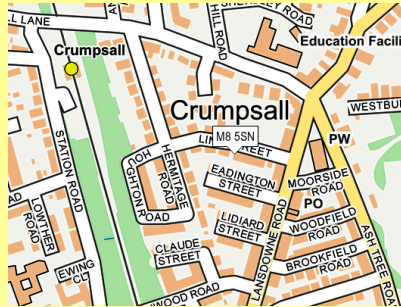


The formal climax of **Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee** celebrations was in **June 1977** (although parties carried on all summer) and the badge pictured far left was presented to all active members of the Scout and Guide Associations. Zoom in on the picture near left showing the band leading the local whit walks, June 1977, with

the **commemorative badges** visible on the left breast of most uniforms. With **Bandmaster Tom Lock**, marshalling the band (just pictured on the far left), the parade and band is being led onto Herristone Road by **Drum Major Andrew Robinson** who would succeed **Mr Lock** as Bandmaster the following year. **This picture truly depicts the Crumpsall Scout and Guide Band** with players from both Scout Groups and Guide Companies being represented. The front rank of drummers of early renown, clearly sporting their Jubilee Badges, were to set the benchmark for the nationally acclaimed percussion sections of the future; from left to right, **Phil McConville (191<sup>st</sup>)**, **Ian Phair (191<sup>st</sup> and soon to move to 434<sup>th</sup>)** and **Michael Robinson (191<sup>st</sup>)**.



**The Queen visited Manchester in 1977** as part of her nationwide tour and is pictured (courtesy of Manchester Libraries) outside the Manchester Town Hall in Albert Square. Meanwhile, one of the most **enduring street parties in Crumpsall at that time was being held on Lidiard Street**, only 100 yards from where we now rehearse, off Lansdowne Road, (see map below). The evidence of celebration persists to this day as pictures below show Lidiard Street in September 2021; still visible on the wall at the end of the street is the Union Flag flanked by the letters ER with the numbers '77 still just visible above the flag. The wall was updated in 1995, 50 years since the end of WWII, as this occasion was marked by the street and local community also.



**Next issue, in Part 17**, we cover the end of the 1970s and it's all change at the top as the the struggling local banding scene prepared to usher in a new decade against a backdrop of sadness and decline, but ever, with hope. Thanks for reading. **RF**

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

### **A New Series Preview – ALMOST IN THE BAND !!! – by Stuart Atkinson**

We've all been there. As a nod to all those times you've seen someone and thought "*Hmmm, the way they're dressed they look like they're in the band – but they're not!*" we present a **brand new feature** called, by startling coincidence, "**Almost in the Band**". Our dedicated team of musical minions have trawled the depths of the internet for images of celebrities wearing something which bears some fleeting resemblance to CCB uniform and have come up with some astonishing facts. Yes, we know it sounds like a complete bomb, but bear with us. It will be worth the wait until the next exciting issue of the band newsletter when we release episode one of **ALMOST IN THE BAND!!!** **Stu**

### **Congratulations – The Marriage of flautist Catherine Kay to Andrew Brown; 14<sup>th</sup> August 2021**



**Congratulations Catherine & Andrew from all your friends in and around Crumpsall Concert Band.**

**Rachel and Jo, pictured near left with the Happy Bride, performed on their flutes during the service along with Catherine's flute teacher Jenny.**

### **Welcomes – To New Recruits, Deps and Returners.....**



**Welcome to Bryony Carter** on flute (pic far left) who joined us back on week 1 of the season and has been an ever present throughout September making her public debut with the band at the CCF concert last Sunday. We hope you enjoy your time with the band, Bryony. Grateful thanks to **Sarah Moran** (Tuba) who actually played on all our lockdown recordings, and **Steve Millington** (Percussion), who both joined us for rehearsal on 22<sup>nd</sup> and helped us out for our CCF Concert on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>. Thanks folks.

Welcome back to brothers Ian (left) and Derek Farnell who joined us on 29<sup>th</sup> September. Ian was our percussionist for many years up to his retirement following our summer concert in 2019. Following his successor Jake going to Uni and stipulating that Jake takes precedent when he is able to play with us again, Ian has offered to step into the breach once again.



Our Honorary President, Founder, multi-instrumentalist and Conductor for our first 19 years, Derek Farnell needs little introduction; his vision is why we are all playing together in the CCB to this day and despite his personal struggles with health in later years, it's great that Derek has rediscovered the desire to get out and play once again and we hope to see you as often as you are able, Derek. Thanks gentleman and above all, enjoy yourselves. Rob

**STATS ENTERTAINMENT – September Facts & Figures following our return to indoor rehearsals....**

Date >>>	08/09/2021	15/09/2021	22/09/2021	29/09/2021	Average
Attended >	24	26	26	26	25.5

**Individual musicians who have attended at least one rehearsal in September: 34**

**Most consistent average section attendance (containing 3 or more players): Trumpets: 6 per week**



As part of our commitment to maintain as safe a rehearsal environment as is practically possible, we have invested in a couple of Carbon Dioxide (Co2) detectors to better understand the air quality during rehearsals. You may have seen our **Air Quality Detectors** (one pictured right) on top of cabinets facing the band at either end of the rehearsal hall?

Recommended indoor concentrations of Co2 should be maintained at or below **1,000 ppm** (parts per million) (*Schools and Offices*). We take 3 readings per rehearsal off each detector – before, break and at the end - then average them. The following table details readings at rehearsals on 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September - either end of the month:

Rehearsal Date	Average Co2 ppm Store Room End	Average Co2 ppm Foyer End	Overall Average Co2 ppm Rehearsal Hall
8 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	589.0	545.6	567.3
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	526.3	528.7	527.5
Detector Location Average	557.65	537.15	547.4

Accepting that such detectors have a margin of error and we are not operating under strict scientific conditions, the averages are significantly lower than the 1,000 ppm limit and lower even than upper concentration limits recommended in our own homes (circa 800 ppm). Interestingly, the averages on 29<sup>th</sup> September are lower than on 8<sup>th</sup> yet there were two more band members at rehearsal on 29<sup>th</sup>? .....hope they were breathing 😊 . This could indicate that ventilation air flows were sufficiently influenced by external climatic conditions: The 8<sup>th</sup> was a unseasonably warm, still evening and 29<sup>th</sup> was cool, breezy and damp. It's probably safe to say that weather conditions over the coming months are more likely to correspond with 29<sup>th</sup> September as opposed to 8<sup>th</sup> 😊 . We hope this helps provide some additional reassurance and we'll continue to monitor levels and publish findings each month going forward. Thanks.

**Fundraising & Finance - Subs, T-Shirts, Greetings Cards and Murphy Minding !**



Vital to financing our running costs, thanks to all who have paid subs over the past few weeks. Stuart is poised each week as pictured far left, to not only receive your subs

(cash or card) but to sell you a fine quality band t-shirt also. Pick up your order form from Stuart's desk. In addition, Enid pictured right with Jane and Alan's dog Murphy who she minds as required on rehearsal night, has handmade a fantastic selection of Christmas and General greetings cards in aid of band funds. Pick them up for just £1 each or 3 for £2. Again, cash or card accepted. Thanks to Enid and Stuart and thanks to all members as always for your support. Your Committee

**Crumpsall Community Day - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

The day before our appearance at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre and just a stones throw away, the 'Cleaner Crumpsall Volunteers Group', held a **Crumpsall Community Open Day** at the Crumpsall and Cheetham Model Allotments. Local groups were offered a free table to



publicise their activities including St Matthew's with St Mary's Church, The Local History Society, the Cleaner Crumpsall Group themselves, the Royal Exchange Theatre and Crumpsall & Cheetham Horticultural Society amongst others. Thanks to former Band Chair **Barbara Shaw** and event organisers **Cath and Dave**, we were allocated a shared table with the **434<sup>th</sup> Manchester Scout Group** based at Methodist Church Crumpsall like ourselves. It was great to meet with people from other Community Groups and the event certainly helped raise local awareness of the Band and Scout Group. **My thanks to Karen, Victoria, Stuart, Les and Doug for their support on the day** and for our **fab new recruitment posters produced by Caroline** and pictured right. Les did really well on the Tombola, donating his prizes for a band fundraising raffle at some future point. Cheers Les 😊



**Pics Above L-R:** Outside and Inside the Agricultural Hall (our table is on the right), Cleaner Crumpsall Volunteers, Tombola Stall holders and former members of our Band Committee back in the 1990's, **Kath Wilson** and **Berniece Blood**.

**Pics Below L-R:** **Karen** minding the Band half of the stall and **Victoria** the Scout Group half. **Les** displaying his Tombola Booty and **Stuart and Doug** covering the late shift.



## Library Corner – Part 1 – music on the move and some crazy lyrics

With the support and contributions from our long suffering librarian, **Sue Atkinson**, we embark upon another short series of **Library Corner**. This issue we feature the migration of our extensive Library from St Matthew's to our new HQ band room ahead of the new season starting....just! We also feature a piece unearthed by Sue, composed by friend of the band, **Clifford Bevan**, several decades ago and featuring some crazy lyrics. Poignant perhaps, as we currently rehearse **Pop Culture** which involves the band singing 'Hey Baby'. Not sure we'll be singing the featured 'Garn West' anytime soon though 😊. Grateful thanks to Sue who has unearthed some real gems that will feature in future issues and we hope you enjoy this mini-series.

### Music Migration- Late Summer 2021

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August:** >> Assisted by and under the watchful eyes of Librarian **Sue**, **Stuart** and **Nicky** empty the shelves at St Matthew's and bag up all the music ready for transportation.



<< **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August:** **Stuart .A.** and **Rob** arrange 4 trips to transport the shelving units and notice board up to MCC where **Karen** and **Victoria** were on hand to receive the goods.

A day later, **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August**, >> **Rob** finalised the installation of the shelving units and **Karen** began laying the flooring in the new band room. By the end of the month self-imposed deadline, the room was as ready as it needed to be, pending the arrival of music and equipment.

All this after **Nicky** had given a hand with the painting on **22<sup>nd</sup> August** (pictured far right) >>





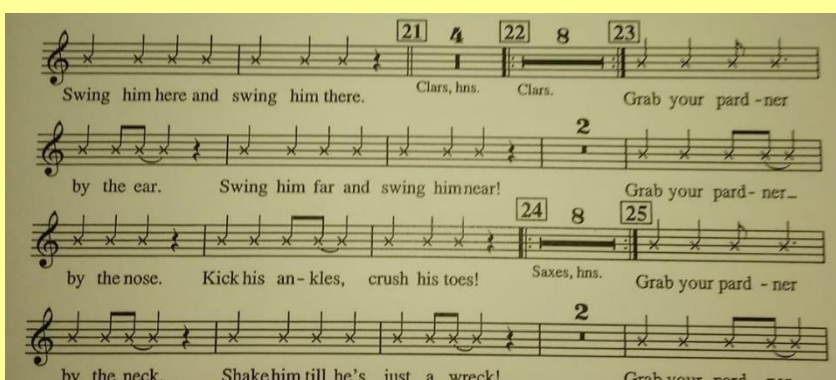
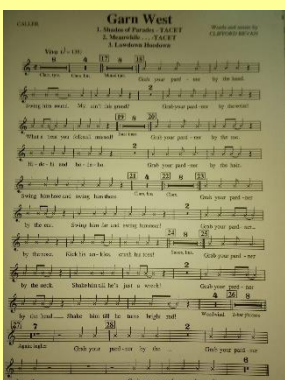
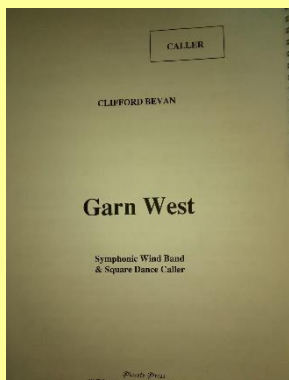
<< **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September:** just one week before our scheduled first rehearsal, the music library and other belongings begin the careful migration to our new band room. **Les Payne**, pictured left with his hands full on his 76<sup>th</sup> Birthday, being aided by **Stuart Fieldhouse** and **Peter Dawson**.

Using 4 cars over several trips, we successfully migrated the 634 catalogued pieces and majority of uncatalogued music and other belongings to MCC where, pictured right, the band room stood in readiness and was soon filled by Librarian Sue ably assisted by Joe, just days before he headed off to Uni in Scotland. **A great team effort all round.**



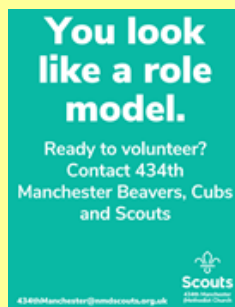
### Music Library Feature – Some Crazy Lyrics !

**‘Garn West’ composed by Clifford Bevan** (who has featured several times in the story of our band’s heritage and is a friend of the band and great friend of our founder Derek Farnell). The featured piece for Symphonic Wind Band and a Square Dance ‘caller’ is perchance, not a dance any self-respecting male would want to be a ‘pard-ner’ in when you see how the dance progresses from the innocent: **Grab your Pard-ner by the hand, swing him round now ain’t this Grand**, to the more sinister **Grab your Pard-ner by the nose, ears, hair, head, neck** until the final refrain: **Grab your Pard-ner by the .....** (2 bars rest where you are encouraged to use your own imagination.....). Nice one Cliff 😊



**Next Issue**, Sue has scoured the library and uncovered some stunning adverts found within some very old scores. **So, if you fancy picking up a Hawkes & Son Excelsior Class Cocoa Wood Flute with 8 Sterling Silver keys for £7 17s 6d, not to mention a trombone or natural trumpet, don’t miss next issue’s ‘Library Corner’.**

### Fancy Being a Role Model – Can You Help or know anyone who might want to?



Upon moving to our new HQ recently, MCC boasts a long standing tradition of supporting a healthy **Scouting & Guiding Community** for local youngsters. Post lockdown, the demand for places in all sections has boomed and as young people want to join in droves, sadly leaders and helpers have drifted away from the movements after a prolonged, enforced period of inactivity. **Such is the effect that our Cub Pack, Scout Troop and Guide Company are all under threat due to lack of leaders.** Our move to MCC coupled with our strategic ambitions to develop a **training band** and perhaps resurrect the once nationally renowned **Scout & Guide Band**, provides a mutual synergy that could well benefit all parties. **Music in schools continues to trend downwards and there is a real potential for us to bring music to future generations.** If you or anyone you know wants to know more about potential volunteering opportunities with our partner youth organisations, please speak to **Victoria Fullen** or myself and we would be pleased to hear from you. **Many thanks, Rob**

### THE LAST BIT:

**Vote of thanks – The Summertime Movers .....** Committee Colleagues – Stuart, Sue, Nicky and also Karen & Victoria. Music Movers: Andrew Shaw, Stuart Fieldhouse, Peter Dawson, Les Payne & Joseph Atkinson.

**Next Issue** – Due 24<sup>th</sup> October will include all the regular features and Part 1 of Stuart’s ‘ALMOST IN THE BAND’.

Also, a look ahead to the festive season; talking of which.....

**And Finally** – Remember, get your Christmas cards early from our Merche Stall & thanks for reading. Rob