

Special Edition - Summer 2025

The New Herald

Crumpsall Concert Band



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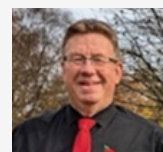
Hello and welcome to this special edition

of the **New Herald** that, after a two year break, we are hoping to publish more regularly once again. To help achieve this we have put together an editorial / publishing team to broaden the output and spread the workload and we hope you enjoy the fruits of our labours.

Traditionally, the band's newsletter has helped engender a sense of belonging, kept members, supporters and the wider community abreast of what we have been up to and, perhaps more importantly, what we have planned for the future.

As our 33rd season begins, we hope you enjoy this review intended, in part, to plug the gap since the last issue in August 2023. It's not all looking back, as we'll also have a sneaky preview of what's coming up as we look ahead to 25/26. Thanks for reading and any contributions or ideas for future issues please let me or one of the team know.

Yours, Rob & The Team



Editorial & Publishing team: Rob Fullen – Editor, Victoria Fullen & Julie Thompson – Design

STOP PRESS

Sadly, at the time of compiling this Special Edition we learned of the peaceful passing of our **Founder and inaugural Honorary President, Derek Farnell** at the age of 90 on Friday 25th July; the day following the band's 32nd birthday. Our sincere condolences extend to Derek's family and many friends and thanks to all band members who have contributed memories, thoughts, condolences and photos that we intend to include in a New Herald Special Edition dedicated to the life and times of Derek in the coming weeks. This will be shared with his family and made generally available too. **There is still time to email or WhatsApp your memories and any photos to me or any member of the 'Newsletter Team' as detailed above.**

Left-Right: Derek is pictured conducting Christmas Carols played by the fledgeling band at MCC in December 1993; with his wife Amy at their retirement concert in October 2012 then with Rob on 19th November 2022 at Derek's first concert with the band (playing French Horn) since retiring in October 2012. He's then pictured sporting his trademark grin on his 90th Birthday, posing with a card from the band on 8th October 2024. **RIP Derek; thanks for the sheer hard graft, music, expertise, memories, vision, wisdom & leaving a living banding legacy.**



Highlights from 2023/24

Typically our band season mirrors the academic year, starting in September, and can therefore be divided into 3 distinct 'terms'. Before we look at the events during term 1 of 24/25, it's worth setting the scene with some highlights from 2023/24.

You may recall that 2023 marked the Band's 30th Anniversary with celebrations focussed around a trio of Showcase Concerts; bookended in the Spring (1st April) and Autumn (25th November) with concerts at MCC, with the Summer Spectacular held at the Ukrainian Centre on 16th July.



Bandmembers heavily influenced the set lists for each concert which featured favourites from across our first three decades. All three events were fantastically supported, testament, at least in part, to the appeal of our accessible community music-making in Crumpsall and beyond.

After a busy festive period, the band geared up for the first concert of 2024; our Spring Showcase held at MCC on 20th April featuring a varied musical programme and including the first formal performance by our Training Band after just 25 rehearsals since forming in October 2023 (more on our Training Band later in this issue). Between our Spring and Summer Concerts, the band played for the Methodist Church Spring Fair on 27th April, then at Bandemonium in Bury town centre on 15th June.



Highlights from 2023/24 Cont.

On Sunday 30th June, staying within Manchester 8, we held our summer concert at the Irish World Heritage Centre, Cheetham Hill; the first time we had used this venue that was familiar to many of the audience and band as the venue had been utilised as the local mass vaccination centre during the COVID pandemic. The concert was a success and the Training Band once again featured too. Despite the success of the concert, in a later survey of band members and audience reviewing the 23/24 season, the concert was seemingly the least favourite of the three showcases held during the season.



Your generosity helped me purchase a high quality vintage (1976) B&H Sovereign cornet that I now play in Radcliffe Brass Band having joined them just before my 60th.

By coincidence 1976 was a poignant year for me as, having played a bugle (without reading a note of music) in the 191st Scout Band / Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band for a year, I joined my high school band and began learning the cornet; marking the start of my chromatic banding journey.

Another successful season; a milestone one in the history of our band, just setting us up nicely for season 2024/25. RF



CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND
FEATURING CRUMPSALL
TRAINING BAND

SUMMER Concert

7pm, Sunday 30th June 2024

Venue:
Irish World Heritage Centre
Irish Town Way off Queens Road, Cheetham Hill,
M8 0AE

Tickets:
Over 16s - £5, Under 16s - Free
Under 16s must be accompanied
Buy tickets from band members
Complimentary programme on entry
(subject to availability)
Licenced bar selling hot and cold drinks



SUMMER SHOWCASE CONCERT – 30th June 2024

PROGRAMME OF ENTERTAINMENT

*** Welcome ***

*** Concert Band – Part 1 ***

Chaconne – First Suite in Eb (1st Mvt) – Gustav Holst

Sgt Pepper – Beatles Selection – Lennon & McCartney Arr. Michael Sweeney

Miller Magic – Arr: Ray Woodfield

*** Introducing our Training Band ***

1. Charleston 2. Nightfall 3. Slapstick – All composed by Ernie Waites

*** Intermission – Refreshments available at the bar ***

*** Concert Band – Part 2 ***

Bugler's Holiday – Leroy Anderson Arr: Michael Edwards

Appalachian Spring – Aaron Copeland Arr: Robert Longfield

Danzon Variation No 3 – Leonard Bernstein Arr: Maren Kuzmak

Tetris Theme – Arr: Michal Worek

Breezin' Down Broadway – Arr: Goff Richards

*** Thanks and closing remarks – Chair, Rob Fullen ***



The 2023/24 season closed out with the band supporting Herristone Park's Summer Fair once again and we followed this with a short break from rehearsals with our end of season social taking place at the Woodthorpe on 17th July 2024.

I'd like to formally thank the band for their best wishes, cards and gifts (some as pictured below) as I celebrated my 60th Birthday over a couple of weeks in July 2024 including at our social.



It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

SATURDAY 28TH
SEPTEMBER 2024
10.00 - 12.00

METHODIST CHURCH
CRUMPSALL,
LANSDOWNE ROAD
WITH CRUMPSALL CONCERT
TRAINING BAND



Season 2024/25 Review Part 1: September – November 2024

After a series of informal summer rehearsals and a brief break, rehearsals for season 2024/25, the band's 32nd, commenced on Wednesday 4th September. The immediate focus was to build towards the first performance of the season; the Macmillan Coffee morning held at MCC on Saturday 28th September.

The honour of opening our 2024/25 performance programme was handed to our **Training Band** who, just days later marked their first birthday having been founded on 4th October 2023. They played really well in the church foyer, providing a musical backdrop to the coffee morning. Thanks to all who played in the band and to everyone who supported the event.

As a band we had been looking to enter the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) for several years but the heats have traditionally been held in December when the band are usually in the midst of a busy pre-Christmas schedule. This year the event was held much earlier than usual on Sunday 3rd November. Unfortunately, the planned Bavarian Evening for Saturday 2nd was postponed indefinitely, allowing rehearsals to fully focus on our NCBF programme. From the permitted list of pieces we chose the three movements of the English Folk Song Suite composed in 1923 by Ralph (Rafe) Vaughan-Williams and the more contemporary piece, Robert Smith's Encanto, composed in 1989.

The festival took place at The Crompton Academy in Oldham where, in total 15 bands would perform throughout the day in front of an adjudication panel and appreciative audience. We exceeded our debut expectations and scooped a Gold Award overall with some aspects of our performance even going Platinum. We received very positive and constructive feedback which will undoubtedly help support our continued development.

A week later, the Band's Bugler's, **Mandy, Phil, Ruthanna, Victoria** and I, between us covered **Remembrance Sunday** at MCC and the following day, Armistice in **Blackley Forest** supporting Bowker Vale Primary School's Annual Act of Remembrance in partnership with the 'Friends of the Forest'. The school's Y6 pupils read some powerful poems ahead of our Bugles sounding Last Post, and, following the silence, Rouse. As

with previous years, it was a poignant ceremony and the school do fantastic work in ensuring the younger generation recognise the **importance and solemnity of Remembrance..... Lest we Forget.**

Several members of the band, who also play with other bands were involved with ceremonies across Greater Manchester on Remembrance Sunday and our youngest band member, **Alissa**, played Last Post on her cornet in her primary school assembly on Monday 11th. Very brave and good to see the future of Remembrance is being encouraged and assured by today's young people. At the other end of the spectrum, as always, I remain personally privileged and honoured to play each year; this being my 43rd consecutive rendition of the Last Post on Remembrance Sunday in Crumpsall, my first being in the grounds of MCC, representing Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band on 14th Nov 1982 playing alone, conducted by CSGB's Music Lead, **Derek Farnell** - seems like only yesterday 😊.



Growing a Legacy

Introducing our Training Band, Launched 4th October 2023

Prompted by Derek Farnell's advice upon becoming our inaugural Honorary President in 2020, a long held ambition of the Band's Executive, to launch and develop a sustainable Training Band, finally became reality, fittingly, during our 30th Anniversary year. Planning began in earnest in February 2023 with the intention of commencing rehearsals in June. However wisdom dictated that longer should be spent in planning and preparation to ensure a successful launch. Four weeks after the end of the summer break the Training Band was finally launched on 4th October and held its first public appearance at our HQ playing a simple selection of festive music (in unison) after just 9 rehearsals, during MCC's Christmas Fair - pictured top right.

We began 2024 with ambitions to develop the repertoire

introducing 4 part harmonics using the 'Ernie Waites Level 1' series for beginner to intermediate wind bands. The Training Band, with support from Concert Band mentors, worked really hard in preparation for their first formal appearance playing a spot during our Spring Showcase Concert on 20th April 2024 after just 25 rehearsals - pictured bottom right. At an hour each, 25 rehearsals is a little over 1 day in total. The second formal showcase of our Training Band was part of the wider Summer Concert at the Irish Centre on 30th June 2024 and demonstrated still further progression as we performed the final three pieces from the Level 1 series compiled by Ernie Waites. So ended a very successful inaugural season and every credit to the aspiring musicians and their mentors (from the concert band) for their dedication and commitment. Subsequent performances by our Training Band during the 24/25 season are covered elsewhere in this review.



Training Band 1st public appearance - 2nd December 2023



Training Band 1st formal concert 20th April 2024

Season 2024/25 Review Part 2: December 2024 – April 2025

The band enjoyed (and endured) another busy festive season, providing the music at events held at MCC. As well as these, we played at other Christmas dates in the local community, including Herristone Park's Fair, Tree Light Switch On events in MCC's grounds organised by 'Cleaner Crumpsall' and at St Thomas's in Lower Crumpsall, St Matthew's Carol Service (Carols by Candlelight) under the baton of guest Conductor **Michael Fawcett** (Radcliffe Brass Band), and finished off our run of 'gigs' with Carols for patrons at the Woodthorpe Hotel on Thursday 19th December, pictured right.



In amongst all these dates, we were honoured to be asked to play for Together Dementia Support's Christmas Concert held at the iconic, historic venue of Manchester Cathedral on Sunday 15th December. The band played for the opening and close of the event, and three carols for the 'Carol-oke'.



The top three chosen by the audience were Silent Night, O Little Town of Bethlehem and favourite, Away in a Manger. We thank the charity for inviting us to be a part of such a wonderful afternoon of music, with very poignant messages about the amazing impact music and song can have on people living with dementia. This was brought still closer to home as we watched one of our stalwart supporters Margaret Humphreys sing with The Choir That Can!

A further Crumpsall Connection:

The Cathedral Concert was opened by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant (The King's representative), Carl Austin-Behan, a Crumpsall Lad and former member of the 42nd Manchester Boys Brigade band (St Matthew's with St Mary's Church, Crumpsall) in the 1980's. Carl is pictured above front and centre with the band in front of the magnificent Christmas Tree in the Cathedral and right addressing the congregation.



Season 2024/25 Review Part 2: December 2024 – April 2025 (Cont)



After the festive break, both Training and Concert Bands were back in rehearsal on 8th January. The Training Band performed the first event of 2025 holding a well-received concert and interactive workshop for 7th Crumpsall's Rainbows, Brownies and Guides (and their families) on Monday 3rd February – something they hope to repeat later in the year.

Then it was full steam ahead finalising the set for our Spring Concert (once again featuring both our bands) held at MCC on 5th April 2025 and billed as Top of the Pops. Music from our Concert Band included selections from Simon & Garfunkel, Queen, Aha, Led Zeppelin, ELO, Neil Diamond, Stevie Wonder, Tom Jones and David Bowie. The Training Band set comprised the theme from Eastenders (a hit for Anita Dobson) and the world wide smash hit by Celine Dion – My heart will go on – the love theme from the blockbuster film Titanic. The concert was another sell out success and the scene was set for our summer term.



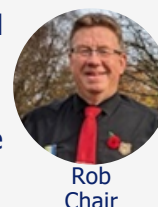
AGM 2024/25 and meet your Executive Committee for 2025/26

At our 24/25 AGM, held following a shortened rehearsal on Wednesday 30th April 2025, we were pleased to welcome two new additions to the Executive Committee, **Julie Thompson** and **Angie Barrett** both of whom expressed interest when the invitation was issued to all members several weeks in advance of the AGM. We also expressed fond farewells to long serving committee colleague Nicky Kay (2012-2025) and Ruthanna Stamp (2022-2024).

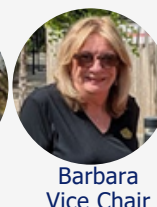
Both were thanked for their time and service on the Exec and on 10th June we gave Nicky a special send off at the Woodthorpe in recognition of her long service. **Nicky** is still willing to support the Exec as and when time allows which is much appreciated. **Julie's** previous tenure on the Exec as a former Chair (2011/12 – 2015/16) saw her play a pivotal role in stabilising and moving the band forwards following the retirement of our Founder, **Derek Farnell** in 2012 and appointment of a new conductor **Kathryn Burke**.

The Exec now boasts the experience of two former Chairs, **Julie** and current Vice Chair **Barbara Shaw** who served as the first Chair of the band from our formation in 1993 to the turn of the century. **Angie**, being relatively new to the band, brings a fresh pair of eyes and bucket loads of enthusiasm to our Executive dynamic and so we move forward with enhanced optimism with some important challenges facing us in the months ahead – not least the recruitment of a new conductor following Maren's retirement announcement at the AGM – see the Conductor update later in this issue.

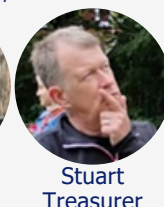
A long overdue revised Constitution was also approved as were the previous year's accounts and **grateful thanks to all Exec colleagues and those undertaking non-Exec support roles** that help to keep the band on track; working tirelessly throughout the year, often behind the scenes. RF



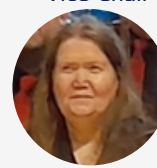
Rob
Chair



Barbara
Vice Chair



Stuart
Treasurer



Sue - Exec
Secretary

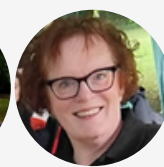


Caroline

Newly appointed Exec Members



Julie



Angie

Retired Exec members



Nicky



Ruthanna

Stop Press: Since going to press circumstances, particularly around work, has meant that sadly Angie has had to step back from her Exec and sub-committee roles at this time but thankfully is still able to continue playing with the band. Thanks to Angie for her enthusiasm and support. RF



Season 2024/25 Review Part 3: May – August 2025

And so, to the final term of our 32nd season:

Broughton House, Sat 10th May 2025

Whilst the festive season is a short but intense period of performances for the band our second busiest period, in a standard year, is the summer term. This year the nation has celebrated and commemorated the 80th Anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day with the actual anniversary being on 8th May. Fittingly, on Saturday 10th May, our summer term engagements began with a performance at Broughton House Veterans Retirement Home in Prestwich where we shared the bill with Vera Lynn tribute artist **Sarah Dennis**, dubbed the Veteran's Sweetheart. The band, (conducted by **Dominic Ferguson**), and singer alternated two sets each with ours featuring traditional marches as well as Swing the Mood and Vera Lynn Medleys. It was a lovely afternoon, patriotic setting and a privilege to entertain the veterans, staff and other guests. Thanks to Broughton House for making us so welcome and to alto sax player **Carole** for coordinating arrangements for the event.

Concert in partnership with Together Dementia Support (TDS), Fri 16th May 2025

The following Friday, the band performed an afternoon set at MCC for those living with dementia and supported by TDS staff, volunteers and carers with much of the music chosen by the group. Music included: Stupid Cupid, Congratulations, Singing in the Rain and medleys featuring classics from Elvis Presley and Neil Diamond. The concert was facilitated by grant funding obtained by the band from Forever Manchester to work with the TDS charity and thanks to



Caroline for preparing and submitting our bid. Grateful thanks to Committee Colleagues **Caroline, Julie & Angie** for organising and co compering this event and to guest conductor **Mike Fawcett** of Radcliffe Brass Band. Everyone had a great time and a touching moment was captured of an impromptu dance in the aisle during our rendition of Elvis's 'Can't help falling Love'. Fingers crossed, all bodes well for a repeat event in the future as we continue to develop our partnership with TDS.



Bandemonium, Bury Town Centre, Sat 14th June 2025



Making our 7th appearance at this annual event in Bury Town Centre, we were once again sited on 'The Rock' outside M&S and The Range where we played 2 sets between 1 and 3pm. The footfall was generally good on a day that despite warm sunny spells always threatened wet weather. The rain held off for the vast majority of our performance. However, with two pieces to play the heaven's opened and we cut the set short to give us a

fighting chance of packing away before music, banners, instruments and band members got too wet. Nevertheless, as pictured right things had to be dried off afterwards in the late afternoon sunshine. Thanks to **Joseph Atkinson** who conducted this one for us and to **Stuart Fieldhouse** for the supplementary gazebo.



Summer Showcase Concert, MCC, Sat 21st June 2025 - The Longest Day

Pitched somewhere between the 80th Anniversaries of VE and VJ Day, our Summer Concert was dedicated to these celebrations and commemorations. With flags, programmes and song sheets at the ready for our audience. The Concert & Training Bands provided a memorable performance befitting of the theme. Our audience certainly played their part with great singing and flag waving during Cockney Cocktail, Vera Lynn Medley, Land of Hope & Glory and others. It was all captured for posterity for a creative arts film covering amateur creative enterprises across North Manchester which premiered at the Irish World Heritage Centre on 19th August – see article later in this issue.

Thanks once again to **Joseph Atkinson** for conducting, to Radcliffe Brass Banders **Jamie Kilpatrick** and **Mike Briggs** for dep'ing on cornet and to all those who supported and joined in the spirit of the occasion. Thanks also to **James Webster**, pictured in welcoming mode on Front of House duty – a support role he has made his own for recent concerts.



Herristone Park Summer Fair, Sun 6th July 2025



Our final engagement of the summer term was in Crumpsall's Herristone Park as we once again supported The Friends of the Park as we also do for their festive event. We played a couple of sets of popular music including Elvis, Sinatra, Neil Diamond, Queen, Dire Straits and Glenn Miller to help the afternoon swing along. We had time to relax and look round between sets, with some of our number trying their luck at axe throwing and archery.

Presidential Inauguration

At our summer concert on 21st June we surprised our recently retired former Principal Clarinettist Alan Bernstein with an invitation to undertake the position of our Honorary President alongside our founder Derek Farnell, who whilst at this time rightly was still recognised as such since his inauguration in 2020, was unfortunately experiencing deteriorating health and has sadly since passed away.

Original Honorary President Derek, is pictured left talking to his future successor Alan at rehearsal in early October 2021 and also pictured is Alan, alongside wife Andrea (who was in on the secret) captured at the moment of surprise ahead of being formally recognised in the role ahead of the 2nd half of our concert.



Thankfully Alan accepted the invitation and we look forward to developing the ambassadorial aspect of the role working with Alan in the months ahead.



Conducting Update

At our AGM on 30th April, Maren announced their retirement as our Principal Conductor effective at the end of this calendar year ahead of returning to the United States in January 2026.

Unrelated, Maren wasn't able to conduct the band at several rehearsals or any events during the summer term due to a combination of holidays and then sadly, on a climbing expedition in Italy, they suffered a fall resulting in a fractured ankle.

Maren, pictured top left conducting rehearsal on 25th June wearing a protective boot, was able to fly back home to the US at the end of June for a summer of rehab and physio returning to the UK in a much more mobile condition, recovering well and in time to conduct our final rehearsal of the season on 20th August; pictured bottom left.

We have recently launched a recruitment exercise to find Maren's successor and we'll

keep all members updated and involved at the audition stage for any potential candidates and in the meantime grateful thanks to all those guest conductors who have helped us fulfil our engagements and rehearsals in Maren's absence during the final term of the 24/25 season:



Joseph Atkinson



Mike Fawcett



Dominic Ferguson



Naomi Isaacs

World Premiere – Shout Out North Manc – Irish World Heritage Centre Tue 19th August 2025

It was great to see the band represented at this event on 19th August hosted by the team from Malandra Jacks and featuring a half hour film portraying just some of the fantastic creative groups that exist and operate in North Manchester. Our segment includes footage from our summer concert and rehearsals leading up to it with audio from interviews conducted with members of the band. Very soon we will receive a website link that we can hopefully share to allow everyone to view the film and a second screening will be held in Manchester on 23rd September. Keep an eye on your weekly email for further details. Thanks again to those able to make the premiere.



WE'RE LOOKING FOR A CONDUCTOR!

Crumpsall Concert Band is looking for a **Principal Conductor** to lead our friendly community band.

ABOUT US

- A community wind band welcoming musicians of mixed abilities and ages
- Holds regular rehearsals on Wednesday evening in Crumpsall, North Manchester and local performances throughout the year.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO

- Has experience conducting and strong musical leadership skills, desirably with wind band experience
- Can inspire, encourage, and bring out the best in our community players
- Enjoys being part of a supportive social music group making music for the community

INTERESTED? We'd love to hear from you! Closing date Friday 1st November. Find out more on our website <https://crumpsallconcertband.co.uk>

Band News

Subs 25/26 and payment options:

The good news is that the level of subscriptions for the new season remain the same as last year at less than £10 per month and we have equalised the termly amounts due as well as offering flexible options for payment:

Concert Band

(including those who play in the Training Band as well):

Term 1: £37.50 due September 2025

Term 2: £37.50 due January 2026

Term 3: £37.50 due May 2026

Annual option if you wish to pay up front for the season: £112.50

Training Band (exclusively those who only play in this ensemble):

Term 1: £30.00 due September 2025

Term 2: £30.00 due January 2026

Term 3: £30.00 due May 2026

Annual option if you wish to pay up front for the season: £90.00

If any member wishes to speak in confidence about the subs and any other payment options available, please let Rob, Barbara and / or Stuart know. Thanks.

Payment Method options:

Via **debit card** at any rehearsal during the first month of each term.

Via **bank transfer** during the first month of each term to the band's account:

Bank: Santander

Acct Name: Crumpsall Concert Band

Sort Code: 09-01-55

Acct No: 96906706

Ref: Your Name and the word 'Subs'

If you prefer, you can set up a **Standing Order** to the above account:
£9.38 per month for Concert Band
£7.50 per month for Training Band

Cash option for the termly amount payable during the first month of each term - payable to Barbara Shaw for Training Band and Stuart Atkinson for Concert Band.

New Music Pads

As you will have seen at rehearsal on Wednesday 3rd September, our brand new music pads have arrived. Complete with engraved pencil, these pads will hopefully last us 30 years as the previous ones did. At our recent Band Committee meeting Stuart said he was "looking forward to seeing the band members glowing faces of surprise" when they saw the music pads for the first time. Many thanks to Stuart who has put a lot of thought and care into sourcing these pads. Also many thanks to Sue, Stuart and Caroline for organising the new season's music into these new music pads before the first rehearsal on 3rd September 2025.



Stuart was "looking forward to seeing the band members glowing faces of surprise"

Aaron's glowing face

Band Badge Photo Map

There is now a Google map for you to pin your photos of your travels with the Band's pin badge. For those new to the band, recently it has become tradition for band members to take their band pin badges on holiday with them and take a photo featuring the badge all over the world. Even including the glamorous spot just near the bins at Aldi in Whitefield, courtesy of John (Tenor Sax). 😂

Julie has created a short video giving instructions on how to add a new place and photo which can be found here: [Crumpsall Concert Band Map Instructions Video](#)

The actual map can be viewed by clicking on the Map image or by following this link: [Band Badge Map](#)

Please be careful when using the map as it's quite easy to drag a pin and move it from its spot! A couple of pins were found in the sea, which unless some of us are keen surfers or been on a cruise, seem to have been accidentally moved.

Hopefully the video above explains everything you need to know for now, but if you're struggling please let Julie know, she is happy to help you. Hope you have fun placing pins on the map and looking at the various places we've all been.



Band Calendar Dates

Please save the dates, thanks

DATE	TIME	EVENT	NOTES
Sat 27th Sept 2025	Morning	MacMillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning Methodist Church Crumpsall	Our first engagement of the new season that, like last year, will be performed by our Training Band
Sat 8th Nov 2025	Doors 6.30pm, Start 7.00pm	CCB Autumn Showcase Concert Methodist Church Crumpsall 'BIG BAND BASH'	Featuring our Concert & Training Bands. Full uniform and arrive 5.45pm. Doors for supporters 6.30pm. Concert starts 7pm
Sat 8th, Sun 9th, Tue 11th Nov 2025	TBC	FC United, Remembrance Sunday, Armistice Day Broadhurst Park, MCC and Blackley Forest respectively	Lest we Forget..... Calling our buglers once again for Last Post and Rouse duty at these events
Sat 29th Nov 2025	Morning / early afternoon	Christmas Fair Methodist Church Crumpsall	More details nearer the time
Thu 4th Dec 2025	Evening	Crumpsall Christmas Tree Light Switch On Methodist Church Crumpsall	Organised once again by our friends from 'Cleaner Crumpsall' this event, supported by our band playing Carols this community event, has become a firm favourite.
Sun 7 th Dec 2025	Afternoon	NEW ENGAGEMENT - Woodthorpe Hotel Christmas Extravaganza Bury Old Road, Prestwich	More details nearer the time
Tue 9th Dec 2025	Evening	Lower Crumpsall Tree Light Switch On St Thomas's Church, Lower Crumpsall	More details nearer the time
Wed 10th Dec 2025	Evening	Final Rehearsals of Term for both our bands	We are back on 7 th January 2026 but this is not the end of our music making in 2025...
Thu 11th Dec 2025	Evening	A Community Carol Service Methodist Church Crumpsall	The band have been asked to play for this festive Community Event held at our HQ.
Wed 17th Dec 2025	Evening	Community Carols by Candlelight St Matthew's With St Mary's Church, Cleveland Rd, Crumpsall	A firm and established favourite for band and community alike that first came into being during the pandemic.

Other News:

There are **only 8 rehearsals** before the Autumn Concert which will be titled 'Big Band Bash'.

If you have an **up to date DBS check** please could you let Jo Baynham or Stuart Fieldhouse, of our Safeguarding Team, know, so that we can add you to our documentation as a 'Back-up' person.

We have a **vacancy within the band for a Stores Manager** who would keep a record of the the band's instruments. It wouldn't involve any meetings, but good organisational skills to monitor any lending of instruments and checking any newly acquired instruments were in good working order. If this is something you'd like to take on please speak to Rob or one of the Band Committee team ([See page 6 for details of the committee](#))



Recently tidied stores

The Last Bit ...

Big thanks to design colleagues Julie and Victoria for producing this fantastic special edition of our newsletter; the first issue of our New Herald to be published since August 2023. We hope to bring you quarterly issues during our 2025/26 season and any suggestions for content or feedback on this issue will be gratefully received and considered. Thank you for reading.

Rob & The Team

Visit our website or follow us here:



Our Website: www.crumpsallconcertband.co.uk



Facebook: www.facebook.com/CrumpsallConcertBand



Instagram: www.instagram.com/crumpsallconcertband



Email: crumpsallband@hotmail.co.uk