



THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of the

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 1 Issue 6
17th July 2019

WELCOME to Issue 6; the *New Herald Sizzling Summer Special* which includes a review of our recent performance in Herristone Park, news from your committee, initial analysis of your questionnaire responses. We also look ahead to this weekend's Summer Concert, our social next Wednesday, the summer break and beyond. *Enjoy Issue 6, many thanks for reading and have a great summer. Yours, Rob*



Remember: Summer Social (at Croma) next Wednesday and next rehearsal Wednesday 11th September, 7pm.

YOUR VIEWS MATTER – COMMITTEE UPDATE: Since the last issue we have received three more questionnaires bringing the final total to 15: a fantastic collated randomly and allocated a number (1 to 15) to initial review of comments and subsequent analysis. document under the six headings took some time as sifting of the comments into common themes was then analysis taken forward to our committee meeting on 9th at sections **1 (rehearsals) 2 (Music) and 6 (Coda)** at our July meeting and will review the other three sections when we next meet in September.



54% of the band. All responses were maintain anonymity throughout the Collation of all comments into one you can probably imagine, and further carried out with a quick glance summary July. Due to time constraints we looked

Brief summary highlights from sections 1 and 2 as follows (section 6 themes have been included in sections 1 & 2, where relevant and other comments in section 6 fall in with sections that we will be reviewing in September):

1. Rehearsals:

- Generally okay, happy with duration, limit the break to 15 / 20 mins max - (as introduced last week)
- More emphasis on extra / sectional work in difficult pieces – breakouts are an option going forward
- Start and finish with a popular piece, try & ensure every section has a decent amount of playing each week
- Know what we are rehearsing each night at the start of rehearsal – (as introduced last week)
- Various conducting suggestions which Rosie is taking away as a series of development opportunities moving forward and which should ultimately help the mutual understanding and positive rapport between band and conductor. Some of these came from **Section 6** also.

2. Music: (The only section that all 15 respondents provided input – top 4 category preferences as follows)

- **Popular Selections:** ABBA, Beach Boys, Beatles, Buddy Holly, Elvis, Queen, Contemporary rock / pop etc.
- **Stage / Screen Musicals & Shows:** Les Miserable, Phantom of the Opera, JC Superstar, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Oklahoma, Disney, West Side Story etc.
- **Films:** John Williams, James Bond, Great Escape etc.
- **Jazz, Big Band, Blues, Ragtime** – Glenn Miller Special, Swing the Mood etc.

More feedback in the next issue and looking at how suggestions will start to filter through as has already happened in a couple of the bullet points summarised above in **section 1**. Any questions, please ask. The Committee wish to record **grateful thanks for all your input** and there is some really valuable intelligence in there that will certainly support planning for progression of the band in a sustainable and enjoyable manner as we move forward together.



MUSICAL MATTERS: Besides musical preferences as summarised above, **Section 2** of the survey also indicated a significant number of responses to having a **different / popular pad suitable for the dynamics of outdoor performances** with some of the same pieces perhaps also forming part of indoor set lists also. Rosie will be working closely with our librarian Sue to develop this idea more as we move forward and it may also involve purchasing new arrangements specifically written for concert / wind bands. **Back to the current pads** and this evening you will receive the full set list for Saturday's concert, which we will no doubt be rehearsing intensely, as you get your pieces in order. Many thanks.



FAREWELL After around two decades of sterling service to our band, as eluded to in the last issue, we say a sad farewell to our percussionist **Ian Farnell** whilst wishing him all the best in the future. Ian cites our performance on 2nd August 2002 in Longford Park, Chorlton, under the baton of his brother Derek and as warm up for the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the celebrations of the Commonwealth games hosted in Manchester that summer, as one of his highlights playing with the band. It certainly was a great



proms type occasion (pictured below, all mic'ed up on the big stage) culminating in a fantastic fireworks display. Our grateful



thanks for all Ian's efforts on behalf of the band and I am sure any adhoc future support he can offer us, and in particular to any future percussionists, would be greatly appreciated.

All the best Ian and enjoy your swansong with us at Saturday's Summer Concert.

WELCOME: In the last issue we published a 'stop press' given Ian's decision that he intend to step down after our Summer Concert and putting an appeal out for a percussionist. Clarinettist, **Cyril Weincove**, took up the challenge and subsequently introduced **Bernard Elkind** along to his first rehearsal a couple of weeks ago. Thanks for giving the band a try Bernard and we hope you feel able to carry on working with us after the summer break as we build up to our Autumn Concert. Bernard will be sitting in on rehearsal tonight taking notes as Ian joins us behind the kit for one last practice ahead of our weekend concert

PERFORMANCE REVIEW: PICNIC IN THE PARK – HERRISTONE PARK 23RD JUNE:

It's always good to turnout in support of local Community events and once again we played Herristone Park with the weather certainly kinder than it had been a week earlier in Bury. A good turnout of 23 played a 50 minute slot to start the afternoon off and we opened with old favourite, **Disney at the Movies**, ending with the popular **Instant Concert** sandwiching a varied and enjoyable selection of our repertoire. Sponsors of the 'Picnic in the Park', **Forever Manchester**, were suitably impressed and approached us with a view to potentially hiring us to play at their prestigious annual event in February 2020 when they will be celebrating their 30th anniversary. Watch this space and thanks to all those able to turn up and play; you never know who might be listening. Council Leader Sir Richard Leese also passed back kind comments through fellow Councillor and CCB Clarinettist **Shelley Lanchbury**.



ARRANGEMENTS FOR 20TH JULY – SUMMER CONCERT 2019 – FULL BAND EVENT

Venue: Here at St Matthew's with St Mary's Parish Hall. **Dress Code:** Usual Full Smart Band Uniform.

Bring with you: Instrument and music if you are taking your pad home tonight. Also, as an amnesty, any chairs and stands you may still have from our recent outdoor performances. Raffle prizes (perhaps one or two per section) would be appreciated also along with contributions of savoury and sweet foods for refreshments (as we did last year) would be great thanks.

Arrive to set up: Between 6pm and 6.15pm (doors open to the audience at 7pm but any guests you are bringing can come in with you – and may get press ganged into helping us set up 😊). **Finish:** Approx 9.15pm and **thanks for all your efforts during the first half of 2019. Let's make Saturday a good way to finish for the summer.**

SUMMER TERM CALENDAR DATES 2019 –

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR DIARIES & NOTICE BOARD CHART – THANK YOU

| DATE | EVENT | NOTES |
|--------------|--|--|
| Sat 20/07/19 | Summer Concert, Here at the Parish Hall | Full details above. This is our last event before the summer break. |
| Wed 24/07/19 | Band Summer Social – Croma Restaurant, Prestwich Town Centre | Table booked for 8pm – see Nicky for details |
| Wed 11/09/19 | First Rehearsal back after the summer break – come back tanned and refreshed and ready to go again and if you can, please bring back a post card from any summer travels that we'll use to brighten up our notice board ahead of the winter. | Hopefully a full turnout ready to play at 7pm as we launch into a new term together. |