

'Hark the CCB Herald'



Green Shoots; we dare hope !

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 3 Issue 10
29th June 2021

Welcome to your **June 2021** issue of **The New Herald**. Well, six rehearsals under our belt and our average attendances, in parallel to society at large are showing tenuous yet promising signs of recovery. See our **Green Shoots of Recovery** section in this issue to see 'hope' in action. The road might be long with many twists and turns ahead no doubt; however, as a former Marching Band we remain in step with the wider procession towards recovery. We welcome a further two new recruits this month, celebrate a prize giving 13 months after the prize was won, look ahead to an end of season outdoor concert, look back to the hot summer of 1976 in our heritage series and see the band take a shower in the latest spell of hot weather. Conscious that recent issues have been on the lengthy side, this one is slimmed back to 4 action-packed pages (loads of pics), easily digested in a 10 minute sitting; so, kettle on, sit back, relax, tune in to all things CCB, 'Bee Happy' and enjoy the read. Many thanks. Yours in Banding, Rob 😊



In this issue:

A Message from our Conductor; Music Matters – New (Old) Music for your pads, recent rehearsals; Our Banding Heritage Series - Part 14 – Summer '76; Band News including – Welcome to New Recruits, Zoom still has a role, Bingo Winner, Fundraising & Finance, End of Season Concert; Important, updated Calendar Dates and much more. Please Read On !

CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: "Six rehearsals in and things are going strong":



Hello everyone, hope you are still keeping well. Six rehearsals in and things are going strong. We regularly have good numbers playing on a Wednesday at FC United and also welcome those who join on Zoom.

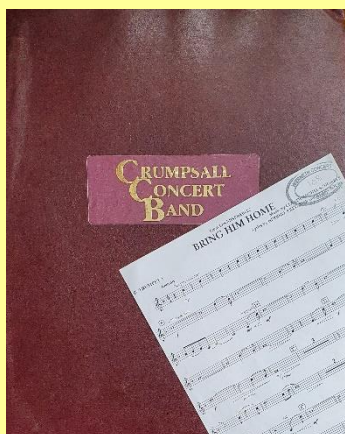
Again, I need to thank the committee for everything they are doing behind the scenes, not least scanning and sending out new pieces so we can ring the changes at rehearsals. The band is sounding great, there are challenges playing outside, at a distance, but everyone is trying hard and we are producing a good sound. We have some new music, some tricky because we don't know the tunes, but that is what banding is about, stretching ourselves and finding new things to entertain us and our audience.

On that note, I am delighted that we have a performance at FC United to look forward to on 21st July (see *calendar dates*), our final rehearsal before the summer, where you can invite your friends and relatives to come and listen. Let's hope the weather is kind to us all (& the pitch sprinklers aren't activated 😊). Looking forward to it. **Best wishes, Alan**



MUSIC MATTERS: New Music for your pads and a look back at recent rehearsals:

New (Old) Music – 'Bringing it Home' - Your parts, available to download and print:



Hot on the heels of 'Mr Holland's Opus' (which was made available for our rehearsal on 16th June), last Saturday, Stuart finalised scanning three new pieces that Alan wishes to add to our expanding repertoire ahead of our **'End of Season Outdoor Concert' on 21st July** and looking further ahead to a potential **Autumn Concert (indoors, hopefully)** around the middle of October (Sat 16th perhaps?).

We emailed you all the link to our library on Sunday and hopefully, by the time you read this, you will have accessed and printed the parts you need. Any issues however, please let us know at the soonest opportunity. There will be more to come before and over the summer break so please keep an eye on your emails. Thanks to Stuart for making these available. RF

Latest pieces to download and print:

- **Bring Him Home**
- **Folk Song Suite No1**
- **Highland Cathedral**
-

Rehearsal Snap-Shot & Diary Record - 2nd to 23rd June 2021:



^ **Wednesday 2nd June 2021 – Rehearsal #3 2021:** A fabulous turn out of 26 (joint highest so far outdoors) with Carole joining us on Zoom too. A debut for **MaySon Scanlan** on Trumpet with **Alan** pictured conducting us playing the Muppet Show Theme shortly before being showered by FC United's over zealous sprinkler system 😊. During the rehearsal we observed a moment's pause in memory of **Harry Hudson** (Tenor Sax) who had been laid to rest that morning in the cemetery, not 300 yards from where we were rehearsing. His coffin was adorned with his band tie and Les and I were honoured to represent the band in full uniform. **Rest In Peace, Harry.** Fittingly, **Les** made a welcome return to rehearsals that evening (his first since pre lockdown in March 2020). Les pictured above warming up whilst propping up the West Stand Bar...if only the pumps were working eh, Les? See bottom of the page for when they actually were.



< **Wednesday 9th June 2021 – Rehearsal #4 2021:** With Alan and Jane caravanning in Harlech, **Robbie** took up the baton for this rehearsal safe in the knowledge that the sprinkler system

timer had been reset to 9pm. 😊 Turn out was a steady 22 plus **Carole** on Zoom again and Robbie worked us as hard as Alan to keep the momentum going. We welcomed our lockdown Zoom coordinator, **Julie Thompson**, and her Tenor Sax, back to physical rehearsals this evening for her first one since 11th March 2020. Happy 16th Birthday to **Abbie** who was out enjoying a family meal which probably saved her from the embarrassment of a CCB song. 😊

Wednesday 16th June 2021 – Rehearsal #5 2021 >: The half way line in our 10 week rehearsal stint at FC United's Broadhurst Park with **Alan** back on the baton fresh from his week in Wales. Out came a new piece of music this evening; Mr Holland's Opus. Again, 26 were in physical attendance but this time there were 3 joining us on Zoom, **Carole** (Alto), **Hilary** (Oboe) and **Sarah** (flute) so a fantastic highest total turnout so far. See our Band News section for a classic 'Bargain Hunt' moment at this rehearsal 😊



< **Wednesday 23rd June – Rehearsal #6 2021:** A study of concentration from **Stuart** and **Robbie** and far left our 'Rehearsal Support Officer and Chief Photographer', **Karen** (that's some job title, Kaz) is joined by **Mary** at our latest rehearsal. Another good turnout of 24 plus 1 on zoom saw us major on *Mr Holland's Opus* which Alan has earmarked as an indoor piece for our Autumn Concert. **Sylvie Lee** debuted on Alto Sax at this rehearsal. Our second new joiner this month. See Band News section.



As you are all aware, our outdoor rehearsal space is actually a football ground; it is, honest. Although we had to wait a long time for restrictions to ease sufficiently to allow us to rehearse this year (19th May), spare a thought for our landlords who hosted a football match for the first time this year only **last Saturday, 26th June**. Our rehearsal space became a bar for the day as the current squad took on 'legends' from the club's past in a restricted capacity curtain raiser enjoyed by all; not least for the 8 goals served up on the day as the current squad prevailed 5 – 3. 😊



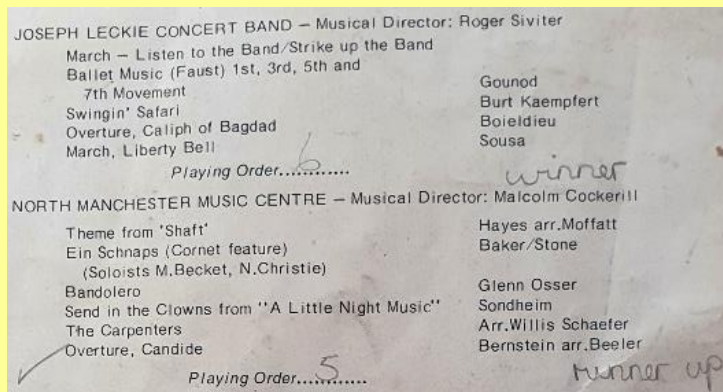
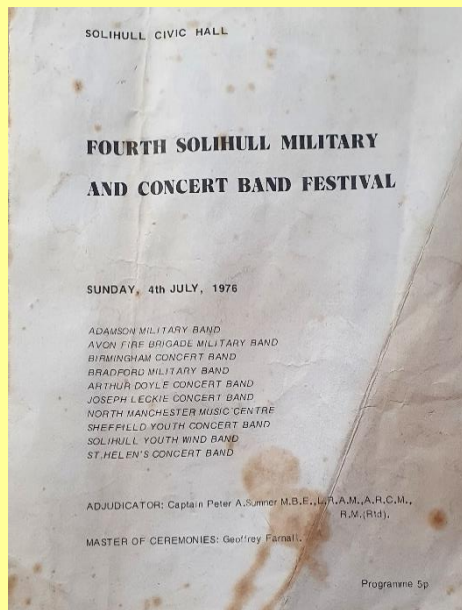
CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – Band Heritage Series Part 14: Summer, 1976: Part 13 charted the rise of Methodist Church Crumpsall from the rubble of the former Crumpsall Park Church building. We also witnessed the birth of 'Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band' (CSGB) with pictures from their first ever parade in April 1976. This issue will look at the first set of CSGB awards to be presented and we catch up again with the exploits of our founder Derek Farnell, during the famously hot, balmy summer of 1976.

1976 – CSGB Inaugural Awards (the first and last for some time):



As we have established, the CSGB (although not so named formally until circa 1981) came together in April 1976 with a membership drawn from the 191st and 434th Scout Groups and 5th and 7th Crumpsall Guide Companies based at St Matthew's and the newly built Methodist Church Crumpsall respectively. Towards the climax of the 1975/76 Scout year / Band season, the inaugural band awards were presented at the St Matthew's Summer Fair in June 1976 by **Bandmaster, Tom Lock**. Tom is pictured front row far left on the lawned area between the Parish Hall and Church that many of you will be familiar with. The award recipients are as follows from left to right after Tom Lock; **Ian Phair** – Smartest Turnout, yours truly, **Rob Fullen** – Best New Recruit, **Michael Robinson** – Best Drummer and **Kenny Valentine** – Best Bugler (and he was very good). Other members of the band and 191st Scout Group are pictured, including Assistant Scout Leader **Tony Wainhouse** (back right) who went on to become bandmaster of the CSGB in 1982 handing over the reins to **Derek Farnell** at the end of the following year. Due to a number of factors, it wouldn't be until the Band's Annual Inspection in November 1983 that

awards were once again introduced. Of the four award recipients above, 17 years later **Ian and I** would become founder members of our band whilst **Michael** would take over the bandmaster role of the CSGB in the summer of 1993 and serve in that capacity for the next 5 years. We briefly made contact with **Kenny** again in 2006 as the CSGB celebrated its 30th Anniversary and he had long since given up playing any instrument but remembered his Scout Band days fondly. Back to Summer 1976, and as soon as schools broke up, the 191st Scout Group headed for the shores of Windermere to the Wray Castle Scout Camp for their annual summer camp; my first as a Scout. Having previously not ventured much further than **Boggart Hole Clough** (Blackley) for **District Cub Camps** this was to be a real adventure but almost ended in tragedy. I will forever owe my continued presence to the aforementioned **Tony Wainhouse** and no room here for further explanation but, in the expanded history series that I hope to compile, all will become clearer.



As mentioned above, it would be another few years before **Derek Farnell** became involved once again in the Crumpsall band scene but a foretaste of what his influence would ultimately achieve with the CSGB and the formation of our band, was very much

in evidence in the Summer of 1976. From the mid 1960's along with the Leader of the **Birmingham City Concert Band**, Derek became a founder member of the Association of Concert & Military Bands (which initially encompassed marching bands also). On Sunday 4th July 1976 the Association held the **Fourth Solihull Military & Concert Band Festival** at Solihull Civic Hall. Derek has kindly donated a surviving programme from the event; a priceless 45 year old historical document costing just 5p at the time. The full list of the 10 participating bands are shown on the front cover left whilst the winner and runner up along with their programme of music are shown above. The North Manchester Music Centre Band, under the baton of **Malcolm Cockerill** (a superb trumpeter by trade) came runners up and were a tremendous influence on banding in our area through the 70's and 80's in particular. **More on Malcolm's influences and links to our band family tree in Part 15 as we look at the 1976/77 band season.** RF

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

Welcome to New Recruits – MaySon Scanlan – Trumpet & Sylvie Lee – Alto Sax:



MaySon joined us on 2nd June and having recently moved from Ontario, Canada to Manchester, brings a wealth of experience to the band. Most recent previous ensembles have included London Gay Symphonic Winds, The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Band, Oakville Wind Orchestra and Upper Canada Brass. **Sylvie** joined us on 23rd June on Alto Sax and has known Alan and Jane for many years, graduating through the Werneth Youth Concert Band that they previously ran. Most recently Sylvie has played with Salford University Ensembles where she currently studies. **A warm CCB welcome to you both and hope you enjoy your time with us. Any questions, please ask.** RF

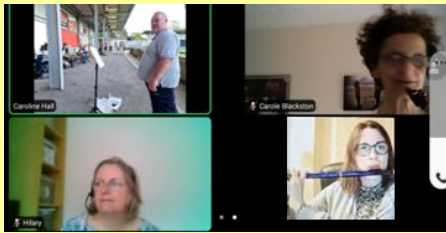


The Road is Long – Green Shoots of Recovery: As society, slowly, cautiously, and tenuously unfurls from 15 months of



unprecedented restrictions, our band is perhaps a reasonable barometer of societal recovery; particularly when you base this on rehearsal attendances: **Using our pre-pandemic average of 40 (high of 43) per rehearsal** (Jan 8th to Mar 11th 2020) as our aspirational target, the table below shows the understandable effect the restrictions have had on our attendances but, notice how things are looking up as we move forward with cautious optimism. **Thanks to all your efforts and our united determination to keep the music alive and relevant in the most challenging of times, together we will travel the long road with positivity and confidence and get back to where we were or better; for certain.** 😊

Rehearsal Period	Number of Rehearsals in Period	Physical Average (Rounded)	Zoom Average (Rounded)	Total Average (Rounded)	Highest Physical + Zoom Occurrence (Rounded)
30/09 – 16/12/2020	7	17	4	21	26 (18+8) 30 th Sept 2020
19/05 – 23/06/2021	6	24	1	25	29 (26+3) 16 th June 2021



Zoom is still playing its part in our recovery, as pictured left at our record-breaking total turnout (so far) of 29 at our rehearsal on 16th June. The pandemic has highlighted the simple things we all perhaps previously took for granted, in the most innocent sense. So, as we unfurl from restrictions, the sheer delight in being able to meet friends and family again (in the UK) and the enjoyment of simple pleasures like making music together as we are doing, are all the more important in the context of what we are enduring. I doubt any who have experienced

these times will take the simple pleasures for granted ever again. Perhaps no bad thing? Thanks to Jo for sharing her pictures of a recent family reunion, denied for so long, and that will surely waft the embers of optimism for us all. Let's keep everything crossed that those simple green shoots of recovery manifest, in time, into a mighty forest of global wellbeing. RF



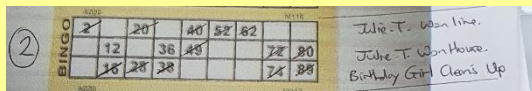
Social News – Belated Prize Giving; Slow Cooker – Going Going Gone! ; & End of Season Social:



2 minutes & Ping: If you are off-loading something, even a slow cooker, particularly for free, it will get snapped up in microwave speed using our WhatsApp Group. We look forward to an autumn rehearsal classic hot pot later in the year Alex 😊



On the 13th May 2020, just three days after her big half century, Julie T set up a Wednesday CCB



Zoom Social as she had done in the previous weeks and continued to throughout the various lockdowns we have endured since. The theme of this particular social was Zoom Bingo organised by Tricia Rose. Card 1 of the evening went to the Fergusons, Sarah and Charlotte and their new kittens (see Zoom pic top right) but birthday girl Julie, swept up Card 2, winning the Line and House (see Zoom pic top row 2nd from left just above the Caller Tricia). Last week at rehearsal, nearly 14 months later, Tricia turned up with Julie's winning prizes of Chocolate for the Line and Wine for the House – pic right. Congratulations Julie and patience is indeed a virtue; enjoy your spoils. 😊



We are looking to arrange an end of season drink / meal on Saturday 24th July and anyone interested please email crumpsallband@hotmail.co.uk with your preference and for more details. Many thanks, Rob

Fundraising & Finance – 100 Club re-launch reminder; Subs Update:



The 100 Club re-launch in September, will be open for members and supporters aged 18 and over and we encourage you to ask friends and family if they would like to participate in support of the band. For full details and how to register your interest please access the 100 Club tab via our website: Crumpsall Concert Band and completing the Joining Form. Thanks to all those who have utilised our contactless payment facility to pay subs (£2.50 per attendance) to support our rehearsal expenses whilst in residence at FC United. Pictured above, Victoria



paying her dues and thanks to our Treasurer, Stuart, for sorting out the mechanics.

Calendar Dates

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 21 st July	End of Term Open Rehearsal / Concert FC United of Manchester's Broadhurst Park Stadium. We need to be set up and ready to play by 7.45pm. Finish playing 8.45pm with a 10 minute interval.	Full uniform for the band and we will have the banners out for our stands too. All friends and family welcome and full details will be provided at upcoming rehearsals and via usual channels.
Sun 25 th July 2021 Event Postponed	Cheetham Cultural Festival summer event POSTPONED until September 2021 – New Arrangements to follow	EVENT POSTPONED Until September.
Sun 15 th Aug 2021 Afternoon	Prestwich Carnival, St Mary's Fields, Prestwich Venue and timings to be confirmed.	Another date saver please: we are still awaiting confirmation of our involvement

THE LAST BIT:

Thanks to Alan for his article, Derek for his input and Karen and Jo for some wonderful pics. We hope you enjoyed this issue with the next one due at the end of July featuring our end of season concert & much more as we look ahead to September. In the meantime, I hope you & yours keep safe and well. Thanks for reading, Rob