

'Hark the CCB Herald'



'Always Remembered'

THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 4 Issue 3
30th November 2021

Hello & Welcome to your November 2021 issue of the New Herald as we look back on a busy month that saw us hold our first own indoor concert since July 2019, engage in a busy Season of Remembrance and, on the cusp of meteorological winter, begin our festive programme against a very wintery backdrop on Advent Sunday. Check out our calendar dates below, for remaining festive engagements and advance notice of a date next spring. Thanks to all band members and supporters for helping us achieve a memorable month in November and despite the looming presence of Covid variant Omicron, I hope we can continue to look forward with optimism whilst always maintaining mutual vigilance over the welfare of all in and around Crumpsall Concert Band. You and yours keep safe and well and enjoy the read. **Yours in Banding, Rob**



Pic top right: The Crumpsall Christmas Tree looking the part on 28th Nov ahead of the light switch on at MCC this coming Thursday, 2nd December.

In this picture packed issue: A Message from our Conductor; Calendar Dates; Music Matters – a review of our Autumn Concert; Remembrance Season 2021; Winter Wonderland in Herristone Park; Band News including – Get well messages, 'Stats Entertainment', A festive gift idea; Episode 2: 'Almost in the Band'; and more.

Thanks for Reading!

(PS: Our Heritage series (Part 18) and Library Corner (Part 3) will appear next issue)

CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: "Our concert on Saturday 13th November was a great success" :



Hello there, hope everyone is keeping warm and well. It has been a busy month with rehearsals and performances. **Our concert on Saturday 13th November was a great success**, an appreciative audience listened whilst we played a range of pieces, and I was very pleased with the concentration shown as well as the quality of the playing. Thanks too to the organisers and those who provided excellent refreshments. On Sunday 28th a smaller group of intrepid carollers went to Herristone Park to play at the local Christmas fair. The snow didn't get them down and they braved the cold to entertain the onlookers, very well done. A similar carolling event will be taking place this coming week as the Crumpsall Christmas Tree lights are switched on although the weather forecast does not predict another appearance of the weekend's snow. We now have a couple more rehearsals to polish our carols and Christmas pieces for the Carol service on 22nd Dec at St Matthew with St Mary Church in Crumpsall. **Best wishes, Alan**



Calendar Dates:

Every member counts, please save the dates; thank you



DATE/TIMES	EVENT	NOTES
Thu 2 nd Dec 2021	Crumpsall Christmas Tree Light switch on	Evening Carol event – Methodist Church
Wed 15 th Dec 2021	Last rehearsal before Christmas / New Year Break	But not our last event
Wed 22 nd Dec 2021	Carols by Candlelight – St Matthew with St Mary's Church	Full band event, more details to follow
Wed 5 th Jan 2022	Return to rehearsals	Happy New Year !!
Sat 19 th Mar 2022	Special Celebratory Spring Showcase Event	Save the date please It could be a Biggy!!

MUSIC MATTERS: Autumn Concert Review – Saturday 13th November 2021:



The band, in all our splendour, entertain an appreciative audience at our Autumn concert; Methodist Church Crumpsall



Our Autumn Concert 2021, held in memory of three valued members and friends who passed away earlier in the year; **Norman Davies, Harry Hudson and Cyril Weinkove**, was well received and proved just what can be achieved, even in the difficult circumstances in which we are all still living. Well done to all who were able to take part and grateful thanks to Deps **Alex Burgess** (Trombone), **Dominic Ferguson** (F.Horn) and in particular **Adie Smith** (Percussion) *pic right*, who was drafted in at the eleventh hour following Ian Farnell's decision to leave the band just a few days before the event. Adie guested on all our **lockdown recordings** and is the Band Leader of our neighbours, **Blackley Brass Band**, whilst having a rich pedigree as former percussionist of the **World Famous Black Dyke Brass Band**.



Of course events don't just happen (especially not these days) and a lot of work went in behind the scenes and on the night itself resulting in the success of the concert. Special thanks to Committee colleagues **Nicky, Stuart & Sue**, to **Alan and Jane, Karen, Victoria and Sam Fullen** (Sam and Victoria for sorting out the on-line ticketing solution) and **Caroline** for the posters. To those who helped set up and clear down on the night and for the refreshment crew; **Karen, Sue (marvellous cakes), Jean and Brenda** and to

all who bought tickets and came out to support the event. Much appreciated everyone. Thanks.

Special thanks to our hosts **Methodist Church Crumpsall** for allowing the concert to go ahead and to **all band members** for your hard work at rehearsals leading up to the event and on the night. **Enjoy more photos below from the interval and second half performance:**





CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND REMEMBERS – A Busy Remembrance Season 2021:

At one time, as far as banding in Crumpsall was concerned, it seems as though observance was restricted to Remembrance Sunday only with buglers from the 42nd Manchester Boys Brigade Band playing Last Post at St Matthew with St Marys Church as far back as I can remember until their band folded in the late 1980s. Also, **Derek Farnell** remembers playing Last Post at the old Crumpsall Park Methodist Church on occasions in the distant past, on a long Bb bugle that he recently donated to our stores.

40 years – and still bugling: On Remembrance Sunday, 14th November 1982, a very nervous 18 year old bugler (that would be me then) stood shivering (or maybe just shaking) in the grounds of Methodist Church Crumpsall just before 11am. Representing Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band, I was faced by Band Master and conductor **Derek Farnell** and surrounded by fellow bandmembers, the uniformed groups and a large congregation. Cub Pack Leader (Akela) at the time and military veteran, **Harold Maffia** read the famous lines from **Laurance Binyon's** WWI poem 'For the Fallen' "They shall grow not old...." Then **Derek brought me in and my debut was underway**; thankfully, much to my lasting relief, it all went well. To try and calm the nerves, I had practiced multiple times in a back room at the 'Blue Hut' prior to the parade setting off for the church earlier that morning and spent the pre 11am part of the service nervously cradling and polishing my newly allocated silver bugle (still the one I use today as pictured) waiting in the churches' coffee lounge with Derek prior to getting the signal to head outside for the Act of Remembrance. I still get butterflies to this day 😊.



This was the band's (and my) first rendition of the Last Post and Rouse and this year, again falling on 14th November, marked my 40th consecutive rendition of the famous pieces, in Crumpsall. Besides wondering at where those four decades have gone, I remain as honoured and privileged to perform this duty today as I did way back then.

I was to repeat the solo effort in 1983 & 1984 but since then have been joined by fellow buglers and it's been a privilege to share the honourable legacy with them all, down the years. Pictured right is that first collaborative rendition at MCC on 10th November 1985. Conducted by Bandmaster **Derek Farnell** the bugle party comprised (left to right) **Mandy Fullen** (now Burke), **Sue Scott** (now Harman), **Julie Carter** (now Lynch) and a slim version of me in the yellow instructors sash. Picture by **Karen Smith** (now Fullen).



Back to the present day: Grateful thanks to fellow buglers from the band; **Sarah Ferguson, Victoria Fullen and Ruthanna Stamp** along with long time friend and fellow bugler representing the 434th Scout Group, **Eddie Humphreys**, for all your efforts during this year's season of Remembrance. Thanks to **Stuart** for videoing Remembrance Sunday itself and to trumpeter **Les Payne** for turning up in uniform to support us also. It's not just one day anymore as testified below:

Saturday 6th November 2021: **Sarah, Victoria and I** represent the band at last season's outdoor rehearsal base, Broadhurst Park, home of FC United of Manchester. The occasion was the club's final (mens) home game before Remembrance Sunday and the impeccably observed Act of Remembrance took place in front of a crowd of 1,700 plus. The wreath was laid by FC United fan and military veteran **Stan Derbyshire**. Sarah joined us to watch an entertaining game as the reds defeated visitors Gainsborough Trinity FC, 3-2 :



Thursday 11th November 2021 (Armistice Day) Part 1: **Sarah, Ruthanna and I** took a time out from work and at the request of the *Friends of Blackley Forest*, we were invited to the Bowker Vale Primary School Remembrance Service, held in the Forest. Youngsters from the school were involved in replanting the forest back in 1953 and have regularly held services in the 'top meadow'. This year, Local Councillor, our own **Shelley Lanchbury**, was in attendance to say a few words (2nd left), I did a small talk about the band and the bugle, **Dot Keller** (from the FBF) talked about the forest's legacy and connection to the school, the Year 6 classes and their teachers read poems (1st left) and a military verteran read a self composed poem. Then it was time for 'the act' which coincided almost perfectly with the boom of cannon fire from the service at the Cenotaph in the centre of Manchester as the 11am silence commenced:



Thursday 11th November 2021 (Armistice Day) Part 2: Victoria, who was unable to leave her teaching post earlier in the day, attended the 434th Scout Group Beaver and Cub meeting at MCC on the Thursday evening and held an Act of Remembrance (Last Post, Silence and Rouse) as part of the work the other leaders were undertaking to help the youngsters understand the meaning of Remembrance ahead of the Sunday service. The day overall was a perfect example of the importance of passing down the legacy of Remembrance to future generations – Lest We Forget !



Sunday 14th November 2021 (Remembrance Sunday) Part 1: Victoria, Eddie and Ruthanna joined me for my 40th consecutive Remembrance Sunday where it all began, at MCC, in 1982. Personally, these events are always emotionally charged for me but even more so this year as I remembered years past and absent family and friends with whom I have shared the same hallowed space down the years. After a reading from the Minister **Matt Smith** and Binyon's words, read by me rather than good friend and fellow bugler **Dave Lynch** who, for good reason, was unable to be present, the four of us launched into Last Post. I later learned that **Derek Farnell**, who conducted me back in 1982, heard us from his garden gate on Crumpsall Lane and approved. Phew!



Sunday 14th November 2021 (Remembrance Sunday) Part 2:

Victoria, Ruthanna and I, after a quick lunch break, uniform change and tyre pressure check on Ruthanna's car, headed to Broadhurst Park for FC United's Womens' FA Cup 1st round tie v the higher placed



Brighthouse Town Ladies FC. We played before kick off following the laying of the wreath on the centre spot by FC's Captain **Kirsty Chambers**, thus concluding a very busy Remembrance season 2021. **Once again, thanks to all involved, past and present. RF**

CCB IN WINTER WONDERLAND – HERRISTONE PARK, SUNDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2021:



For many years, stretching back into the 1990's, the band have played in support of both the Summer and Christmas Fairs organised by community group, 'the Friends of Herristone Park'. Last year proved an exception, due to Covid-19 so it was great to get back out into the local community last Sunday. Although our anticipated numbers of 19 were ravaged down to a hardy 11 by a combination of **Storm Arwen** and illness, nevertheless, we were able to provide the required festive cheer on Advent Sunday. In Crumpsall, the snow began falling around 11:30am and an hour later, Herristone Park was blanketed in the white stuff and travel for those coming from further afield was proving tricky. **Alan, Jane and Abbie** were three such affected much to the disappointment of **Alan and Jane's dog Murphy** who is pictured in anticipation and dressed for the occasion in his 'I'm with the Band' scarf, and was no doubt looking forward to the day out. **Phil** set off from Harrogate only to get as far as Bolton Abbey before being forced to turn back. **Ruthanna** was up in Scotland, as was **Sarah** and both were affected by no rail travel back due to the storm and powercuts. **MaySon** was similarly affected by the weather too.



Displaying a true 'the show must go on' spirit, the band rose to the occasion bolstered by a very supportive group of carol singers and hot mulled wine and mince pies, courtesy of our fabulous hosts. **Well played one and all who made it and thanks to all who intended to be there but were thwarted. Thanks to the organisers and to Sue and Karen for some marvellous photos and videos:**



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

Get well soon – Very Best Wishes:

To all who are struggling long term including Samantha, Rachel and now Derek who is recovering from the first of his cataract ops. Also to all those suffering with seasonal coughs and colds. Best wishes and get well soon everyone, from all your friends in and around Crumpsall Concert Band.

Autumn / Winter Festivals 2021 – happy celebrations:

Happy Diwali, Advent and Hanukkah to all who celebrate respectively.

STATS ENTERTAINMENT – November Rehearsals - Facts & Figures:

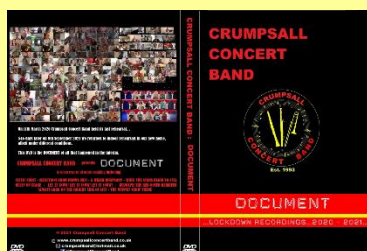
Date >>>	03/11/2021	10/11/2021	17/11/2021	24/11/2021	Average	Season High
Attended >	27	26	21	29	26	29 (24 th Nov)

Individual musicians who have attended at least one rehearsal/event in Nov: 35 Season to date: 40

Co2 Concentration Analysis: Rehearsal Date	Average Co2 ppm Store Room End	Average Co2 ppm Foyer End	Overall Average Co2 ppm Rehearsal Hall
3 rd November 2021	563.3	523.3	543.3
24 th November 2021	610.0	529.0	556.0
Detector Location Average	586.7	526.2	549.7

Recommended maximum Co2 indoor measure (schools and offices) 1,000 ppm.

Fundraising & Finance – Commemorative DVD & Autumn Concert Proceeds:



To recognise the unprecedented impact on the band and capture the spirit of survival during the pandemic, we are pleased to produce a **commemorative DVD** which will feature our **Lockdown Recordings**, concert excerpts and much more. Superbly packaged and priced at just £9.99 the DVD will prove an ideal addition to any collection or as a Christmas gift for friends and family. **Order by 8th December** to guarantee delivery before the big day either at the next two rehearsals or by emailing crumpsallband@hotmail.co.uk

Proceeds from our Autumn Concert are still being collated along with any expenses and we should be in a position to announce the total raised for band funds in or before our next issue of your newsletter. Thanks, *Your Committee*

Committee News - Latest from Your Committee:



Our latest committee meeting, and a rare *in person* one, was held socially distanced in the partially decorated coffee lounge at MCC back on 1st November. It was more or less a one item agenda based around planning for our Autumn Concert but, as you will see from the picture above, Stuart debuted

the new band banners that were used to good effect at our concert and will serve us well going forward in a variety of performance and recruitment / publicity settings. Looking ahead, we are of course keeping a close eye on pandemic developments and will respond to guidance and prevailing conditions as necessary in the coming days and weeks as required. We will keep band members fully informed through the usual channels as often as is necessary on the run up to our Christmas break and ahead of any resumption of rehearsals in the New Year. Any questions for your committee in the meantime, please let us know. Many thanks, *Your Committee*.

Episode 2 – “ALMOST IN THE BAND !!!” – Anon

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 the next episode in our feature “**Almost in the Band**”. This time our guests are German synthpop pioneers **Kraftwerk**.



Kraftwerk adopted this iconic look for their 1978 album *The Man Machine*. Probably the most famous track on it is *The Model*, which reached number 1 in the UK charts 4 years later as the band was gaining popularity.

“But wait”, we hear you exclaim. “They’re not wearing anything like CCB uniform”. And you would be right, keen-eyed reader. For those of you unable to see it, if you look really closely you will see that the creators of

classic albums *Radioactivity*, *Trans-Europe Express* and *Computer World* are actually wearing reverse band colours and so there’s no way these masters of the low-frequency oscillator could ever be “**Almost in the Band**”.

But wait just a moment. Check out this picture (Right) of founder member and flautist Florian Schneider (in the group picture above he is pictured second-left). Here Florian seems to have broken with Kraftwerk tradition and reversed their own uniform, recreating the classic CCB 2014-19 era look. Who knows, in an alternate reality we could have been performing all 22 minutes and 43 seconds of *Autobahn* arranged for wind band, but as that reality never intersected with CCB, that’s why Kraftwerk and particularly Florian Schneider were only “**ALMOST IN THE BAND**”.



Have you seen a picture of a celebrity wearing something which bears some fleeting resemblance to any piece of uniform the CCB used to or currently wears? Let us know and we can clear up the confusion by letting everyone know they were only “**ALMOST IN THE BAND**”. *Anon*

THE LAST BIT:

Vote of thanks – Thanks to all contributors this month including photographers Eva Jacobs, Sue Atkinson and Karen Fullen

Next Issue – A Festive special – Due 24th December and will include all regular features, plus Episode 3 of “**ALMOST IN THE BAND**”. The issue will also review our latest festive engagements and a look ahead to the New Year.

And Finally –

You and Yours keep safe and well and all the very best . Thanks for reading, Rob

