



THE NEW HERALD

Newsletter of

CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND



Volume 4 Issue 6
27th February 2022

'Spring is Coming – Concert Time'

Hello & Welcome to your February 2022 issue of the New Herald. Already the first half term of the year has been and gone and with six rehearsals under our belt since returning in January, we are gearing up for our Spring engagements. After a month of storms, Dudley, Eunice and Franklin, I feel sure we'd all welcome some spring sunshine and an opportunity to open our performing account for 2022. Please see our **Calendar Dates** below.



As well as previewing our **Spring Showcase Concert** to be held on 19th March, 'Music Matters' this month includes details of repertoire pieces with our concert in mind whilst our 'Library Corner' sees our Library receiving a generous donation of music from a fellow band. Following the recent sad passing of long-time supporter of our band and community stalwart, **Harvey Blood**, we have included a tribute to a great bloke.



Following the Government's recent decisions around changes to pandemic laws and guidance, we have included a **statement from your committee** outlining a path to wider normality whilst remaining mindful of member wellbeing and as always, the **Band News Section** is packed with news, views and banter for your consumption and pleasure. **We hope you enjoy this issue and thanks for reading. Yours in Banding, Rob**

Included In This Issue:

A Message from our Conductor; Calendar Dates 2022; Music Matters – Repertoire and Spring Concert preview; Our Heritage Series (Part 19); Band News, Views & Banter including – The DVD has landed, Committee News; Library Corner (Part 4); Episode 5: 'Almost in the Band'; Our Memories Feb' 2019, 20 & 21. Thanks for Reading. ☺

CONDUCTOR'S MESSAGE: "It isn't long now until our first concert of the year":



Hello again, it always amazes me that February seems to fly faster than ever, a good thing in that the days are getting longer and we can begin to look forward to Spring. It isn't long now until our first concert of the year and we have already made good progress with some new repertoire to perform. I have been working on a final playlist to hopefully go out next rehearsal.

In the meantime, **don't forget that we are always looking to welcome new players**, young or old, so get the word out to friends and colleagues. Thanks and best wishes, Alan

Calendar Dates:

Every member counts, please save the dates; thank you

2022

2022

DATE/TIMES	EVENT	NOTES
Sat 19 th Mar 2022 Band arrive from 6pm Audience from 6.30pm Concert Start 7pm	Spring Showcase Concert St Matthew's with St Mary's Church, Cleveland Rd, Crumpsall, M8 4QU	Our first live event of 2022 held in the magnificent church surroundings where we performed in December. Full details for band and supporters in the 'Making Music' Section below.
Wed 13 th Apr 2022	Our 21/22 AGM / Shortened last rehearsal before a one week Easter Break / Potential social after the AGM. (No rehearsal 20 th April returning at normal time on 27 th)	We plan to hold this as a physical event this year. Shortened rehearsal to start early, 7:00pm, AGM 8:00pm, then for those who wish, a drink at the Heaton Park Hotel after clear down.
New Date Sun 17 th Apr 2022 Band arrive 2.30pm Event Start 3pm	Easter Sunday (afternoon) 'Eggstravaganza' Outdoor event, under shelter in the Church Grounds St Matthew's with St Mary's Church, M8 4QU	After last year's event had to be cancelled due to restrictions, the family / community orientated Easter Egg Hunt in the church grounds is back. The band will be playing a selection of hymns.
Sat 18 th June 2022	7 th Bury Bandemonium, Kay Gardens, Bury Town Centre	Full band event, more details to follow
Sat 25 th June 2022	Prestwich Carnival – 100 th Anniversary	Full band event, more details nearer the time
Sun 3 rd July 2022	Herristone Park Summer Fair	Minimum half band required and valuable performance ahead of our Summer Concert
Sat 9 th July 2022	End of Season Showcase Concert	Full band event, more details nearer the time

MUSIC MATTERS: Recent Rehearsals, Taking Notes, Next Gig Preview:

February Rehearsals – 2nd, 9th & 16th February:



Thanks to all who have been able to attend rehearsals this month as a good turnout really helps, especially when new music is being trialled. Grateful thanks to Sarah Moran who covered for Alan as our conductor on 2nd and 16th.

Taking Notes – Repertoire & programme development - Spring term '22:

As Alan surveys our catalogued musical landscape to inform the spring term repertoire some old favourites have re-emerged alongside some pieces that we started to rehearse ahead of the first lockdown, almost two years ago. Our January and February rehearsals have provided a reasonable indication of the pieces that may be included in concert setlists in the months ahead and to support our collective 'private practice' the following is what we have looked at so far this year:

When he tells you "Babe, I've changed."



Amparito Roca, At the Movies, Centennial Olympics, Gershwin Classics, Lord of the Dance, Manilow Magic, Muppet Show, Neil Diamond, River Kwai, Syncopated Clock, Welsh Rhapsody, West Side Story. Lots to go at there and enjoy your practice 😊

Next Gig Preview - Spring Showcase Concert – Saturday 19th March 2022:

Our first 'gig' of the year is fast approaching and thanks to all who have so far confirmed their availability to play and any still to do so, please let us know via the link sent by email on 22nd Feb.

Please publicise to friends and family and all the details required are contained on the poster right and via our usual digital channels. Big shout out to Caroline Hall for once again producing our publicity poster.

Former Chair of the Band and long time supporter, Barbara Shaw has kindly agreed to coordinate refreshments for the event and big thanks for this to Barbara and her team of fellow supporters.

Help setting up the performance space inside St Matthew's with St Mary's Church ahead of the event will be much appreciated (much like we did ahead of the Carols by Candlelight event in December). This is likely to be on the Friday evening (18th) and any volunteers, please email Rob for full details.

We have also committed to ensuring the space is returned to normal after our performance and help at the end with clearing down will also be required and appreciated.

Many thanks to The Church for allowing us to use their facilities to stage our Spring Concert this year. It will be great to get our 2022 performing schedule up and running and any questions please let Rob or any member of the Committee know. Thanks.



CRUMPSALL CONCERT BAND – Band Heritage Series Part 19: 1979/80 (Part 2):



A new decade dawns; a pivotal one in the context of our band's heritage. To recap, 1979 saw the Scout & Guide Band rocked by two events that were to leave the band rudderless; Firstly the band's founding bandmaster, Tom Lock, sadly passed away early in the year and his successor, Andrew (Andy) Robinson moved away from Crumpsall, due to work, at the end of 1979. Against this backdrop the band's very future was in doubt.

By contrast, the 42nd Manchester Boy's Brigade Band (See The 42nd Company pic left, courtesy of Dave Austin, taken in St Matthew's Church grounds circa 1980) was still buoyant under the leadership of David Joy. Pictured, 2nd from the right on the front row is

my cousin **Steven Fullen** who was a novice bugler at the time, and following in the banding footsteps of his dad, **Ken Fullen**, a drummer with the 42nd in the 1950's. However, unlikely as it seemed at the time, it would be from the 42nd that Drum Major and side drummer **Russell Chadwick**, would cross the uniformed divide to help bolster the floundering Scout and Guide Band. As a friend and contemporary of Andy Robinson, the request for help may have been asked of Russell by Andy before he left Crumpsall?

Before this transpired during the spring of 1980, the Scout and Guide Band teetered on the brink and from January 1980 attendances at practices at our 'blue hut' home, plummeted alarmingly and members from the Guides of both units and the 434th Scout Group attended less and less frequently.

The low point came on a cold Friday evening in early February as just 6 band members from the 191st Scout Group attended practice supervised by Assistant Scout Leader (191st) **Tony Wainhouse** who crucially volunteered to serve the band as 'Leader in Charge' in the hope of a new band master coming forward. Besides **Mr Wainhouse**, the six members present at the Hut that evening were **Paul Wainhouse** (Bugle) the eldest at 17 along with side drummers **Phil McConville**, **Ian Phair**, **Michael Robinson**, bass drummer **Roger Willescroft** and me (bugle/cornet) all 15 at the time with our Mocks / 'O' Levels looming.



*My memory of that Friday night was one where no coordinated instrument or marching practise took place but, as a group of mates we kicked a ball around, whilst chatting in general and having a laugh until Mr Wainhouse prompted the conversation towards where we saw the band going? We sat down and chewed this over. Looking back now, at this very point on that cold February evening, with the benefit of knowing everything that has transpired since, not least – **future National Champions and the very formation of Crumpsall Concert Band** - we took an informal yes/no vote: 'should we call it a day?' or, 'should we carry on and see if things improved?'. It was by no means unanimous but we decided to carry on with Mr Wainhouse's continued caretaker support and review at the end of the Spring Term. Though we couldn't have possibly forecast the pivotal importance of our decision back then, essentially, 42 years ago this month, a group of teenagers determined the future of banding in Crumpsall which thrives, through CCB, to this day. Kids eh!*

With the immediate future secured, Part 20 of our series will chart the Scout & Guide Band's tenuous recovery to the end of season 1979/80. Thanks for sticking with the journey; I'm glad I did 😊. Rob

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

Get well soon – Very Best Wishes:

To those members awaiting appointments, suffering ailments or currently in recovery...you know who you are....know that the thoughts and best wishes of our CCB family remain with you, for complete and speedy recoveries.

STAT ATTACK – February Rehearsals - Facts & Figures:

Date >>>	02/02/2022	09/02/2022	16/02/2022		Average	Season High
Attended >	20	26	20		22	29 (24 th Nov'21)

Individual musicians who have attended at least one rehearsal/event in February: 29 Season to date: 45

Co2 Concentration Analysis: Rehearsal Date	Average Co2 ppm Store Room End	Average Co2 ppm Foyer End	Overall Average Co2 ppm Rehearsal Hall
2 nd February 2022	588.0	590.7	589.4
16 th February 2022	607.0	560.0	583.5
Detector Location Average	597.5	575.4	586.5

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

Health & Safety Update – Important First Aid News – Feb 2022:



As mentioned last issue, to support **Caroline** in her **First Aider** role and to provide contingency, anyone who is currently or lapsed qualified or is keen to refresh or become qualified (with our support), and wants to be an assistant First Aider for the band, please let **Caroline** or one of the committee know at your soonest opportunity. Thank you.

After research by **Caroline and Victoria** and following recent approval from the Church Council, we will be coordinating with other regular church premises users to jointly fund, source and fit a **Defibrillator in the Church foyer** as soon as possible. We will also coordinate appropriate training. Watch this space.

Update - Commemorative DVD 'And the Band Played On' has landed 😊 :

On 24th February, **Stuart took delivery of the fruits of his labour** in the shape of our first consignment of commemorative DVDs '**And the Band Played on**', as pictured. Following a final quality assurance test, the delivery of pre-orders has now commenced. Thanks for your patience and understanding and we hope you enjoy!



At just £10 this labour of love, in memory of CCB stalwarts **Norman Davies, Harry Hudson and Cyril Weinkove**, documenting our journey through the pandemic and lockdowns (March 2020 to July 2021), will prove an evocative and emotional watch on many levels. It is certainly a soundtrack for those times we journeyed through together and a reminder of how valuable our humble band was (and still is) to **our collective wellbeing**. Thanks to those who have pre-ordered, your copy will be with you asap. Anyone else wishing to secure a copy whilst stocks last, please let Stuart or any member of the Committee know at your soonest opportunity – first come first served. **Thank you.**

Greetings Cards 2022 - Progress Update on Up-cycling and early sales:



Thanks for continued 'old card' donations that Enid is busy up-cycling for resale Greetings Cards in aid of band funds. First sales of the year took place at the MCC Church service on 9th February with Karen and Victoria behind the counter. **Thanks to Enid, Karen and Victoria** for their efforts on our behalf and cards for all occasions (well, nearly all) will be available to buy at any rehearsal at **just 50p each**, so, even if you don't see them on display but have been caught short and need a card quickly, please just ask at the break. There is sure to be something suitable available. **It's all in a good cause with 100% of all sales going to support the band, thank you.**

Committee News from the ~~Band~~ Band Room - Covid -19 Committee Statement – Feb 2022:

As you will be aware, the Government has recently announced the ending of legal restrictions in England, changing the onus from regulation to personal responsibility. As we go about our daily lives it is sometimes difficult to recognise that the pandemic is still with us as many aspects appear almost as normal as they were pre-pandemic: workplaces, retail outlets, sports & leisure destinations and public transport included.

Against this backdrop and the tide of normality outside of the 1.5 hours at band every week, your committee has determined that, at least whilst free testing is still available, we will maintain some key rehearsal protocols that have worked for all concerned so far, whilst putting in place some, what we believe to be, sympathetic, sensitive relaxation of measures as we adapt to live with Covid.

What we will be retaining and what modifications will be in place from 2nd March 2022?

1. Continued encouragement of pre-attendance testing (whilst still free) and non-attendance if positive (during the contagion stage) or displaying symptoms (even though isolation rules have been scrapped).
2. Registration for attendance at rehearsals and events with amended health declarations to chime with recent changes.
3. Ventilation protocols in rehearsal space will be maintained and Co2 levels will continue to be monitored and published.
4. One member / one stand in principle. However, where members feel comfortable and wish to share, with mutual agreement, they may do so. Parts too can be shared where copies are not immediately available.
5. Distance between stands can also be closer than the current 1.5m although members can choose to retain this space if they wish. This may not always be the case in performance settings.
6. From 2nd March 2022: **communal brews at the break will be reintroduced** for the first time in two years– the last such brew break was Norman's last on 11th March 2020. A minimum 20p will get you a brew and a biscuit 😊 Clearly members can continue to bring their own sustenance if they don't wish to partake communally. The ventilated coffee lounge and foyer area will be designated for breaks and **grateful thanks to Karen** for agreeing to brew up for us.
7. Face coverings in communal areas remain optional.
8. Band members will be encouraged to arrive earlier where possible to help with the set-up of the rehearsal space.
9. The small hall will remain the designated space for leaving cases and coats etc. so as to maintain a clutter free rehearsal space.
10. Cloths on the floor to catch excess moisture from instruments will still be required.

This maybe a slower pace of change compared to wider society but we believe is a sensible, balanced approach to support all attending as our members' physical and mental welfare and wellbeing remain a very important priority.

As always our aim is that the band remains as inclusive as possible. These protocols will be reviewed regularly in line with any future changes in guidance and the general trajectory of the pandemic. Any questions, queries or suggestions from members always welcome. **Thank You, Your Committee, 25th February 2022.**

In other news – Christmas just keeps giving:

At Catherine Kay-Brown's first rehearsal of the year (09/02/2022) not only did she bring along a bag full of Christmas Cards for up-cycling by Enid, she also brought some of her *front row buddies* their overdue personalised Festive goodie packs as pictured. I think John consumed the enclosed goodies before rehearsal was over? 😊



Library Corner – Part 4 – Generous Donation from Macclesfield via Staffordshire:



Music donation from Macclesfield Concert Band 2/2/22: The Macclesfield Concert Band recently received a large donation of music from Staffordshire/Entrust Music Service, via our MD, Julia Harding. Some of the pieces turned out to be multiple sets, and others we already have in our music library, so thanks to friends Phil (CCB trumpet) and Sheena (MCB flute), eight sets of surplus music have been donated to Crumpsall Concert Band, with a few more to follow when MCB members have had time to sort them all. We do hope you'll enjoy them! Best wishes, Sheena Cummins.



On behalf of CCB, grateful thanks to MCB and Sheena and Julia in particular. Perhaps we can consider showcasing some of the pieces in a joint concert at some future point? Sheena pictured bottom left [pic above left] with her band, on stage at the RNCM and pictured right is Phil handing the donated music over to Stuart on 2nd Feb for passing onto Librarian Sue.

Episode 5 – “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 called “Almost in the Band”. These newsletters don't write themselves, and this month we take pride in really scraping the bottom of the barrel. Ed – so many non-starters received for this episode that sadly the article has been brutally edited, but, on request a full version can be made available to our readers.....

In this episode, we now present a series of 'non-starters' or 'also rans' which, would be barred from inclusion into this hallowed roll of fame.



Waterloo Road (left) - The Waterloo Road uniform has a tie which sort of looks like the band tie, but unfortunately is worn over a white shirt. Come on BBC, get your act together. (Keen-eyed readers will note Rebecca Ryan, 2nd from right, who played Liam's sister Debbie in *Shameless*).

Mr Bean (right) - Internationally-loved incompetent Mr. Bean wears a red tie (good start again) but over a white shirt?? What were you thinking, Rowan?!



Midge (the mouse) - TV fans of a certain age will remember with fondness the BBC cartoon *Mary, Mungo and Midge*, which was basically all about what it was like to live in a tower block and go up and down in a lift. Mary lived with Mungo her dog, and Midge her pet mouse. If we can convince ourselves that Midge is wearing a white shirt under that red bow tie then we're on to a winner, but to be honest we think it's just fur. Come on Midge, have a word with yourself.

The Monopoly Man (Right) - Some people think he wears a monocle – but he doesn't. But how does he fare in the CCB uniform arena? Red bow tie? Check. White shirt? Ch – wait, it's a waistcoat. Does that count? Call the referee...



SpongeBob - Comedic, yellow, orthogonal and absorbent he may be, but the inhabitant of the Pineapple under the sea in Bikini Bottom has lost the plot if he thinks he could ever have been even **Almost in the Band**. As already explained, we all know the red tie and white shirt was never an overlap on the Venn diagram of the history of CCB uniform. Just don't get us started, Nickelodeon.

Ant and Dec - TV favourites McPartlin and Donnelly in a promotional still for their Santander commercials, with costumes direct from House of Merovingian. They were really trying to look like the band Kraftwerk (as featured in Episode #2) too. Let's hope that is the last picture of this series of them looking seriously into the distance.



So that's our summary (albeit brutally edited and condensed) of the non-starters and also-rans which may now all be consigned to that dark corner of reality which was never even **"ALMOST IN THE BAND"**. In the next and for now, final instalment of this well-received, highly-respected and award-winning series we look at the overall winners and find out who amongst all the other runners and riders were, more than anyone else, **"ALMOST IN THE BAND"**.

Our Memories – What were we up to as a band 1, 2 and 3 years ago this month?:

February 2021:

Whilst still in full lock down, we released our 8th *Lockdown Recording*; Monty Python's **'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life'** on 20th February. On Saturday 27th we held our fabulous virtual fundraising quiz night via Zoom hosted by **Caroline Hall** and Quiz Master **Joseph Atkinson**. Teams joined us on line from far and wide as pictured. Also pictured is Rob presenting Quiz Champ and our former Conductor **Kathryn Burke** with her prize a few days later.



February 2020:



As pictured far left: with membership numbers continuing to grow across all sections following the arrival of new conductor **Alan Cottrill** the month previous, **Cyril Weinkove** (left) moved from clarinet to his beloved bass clarinet to reintroduce this woodwind dynamic.

February 2019:

After a vote, the new band tie was revealed at a February 2019 rehearsal and new banners were soon to follow too. In her second month as our Conductor, **Rosie Kingham** was keeping our Librarian busy with music selection requests including Memory, Mamma Mia, Queen on Stage, Simple Gifts, The Impresario, Instant Concert, Folk Song Suite, March to the Scaffold and **Rosie's signature piece, 'Oklahoma'**, all 6 pages of it 😊.



In Fondest Memory - Harvey Blood 07/08/1942 – 20/02/2022: Often from behind the view finder of a traditional or video camera, Harvey along with wife Bernice was a supporter of banding in Crumpsall as far back as 1989/90 when their daughter Lynsey joined the Crumpsall Scout & Guide Band as a tenor drummer. Their support continued when Lynsey joined our band at it's formation in July 1993 and has remained right up to the present as can be seen left during the interval at our Autumn Concert last November as **Harvey shares a laugh** with clarinettist **Shelley Lanchbury**.



Our band's first competitive outing in our marching format was at the West Craven Band Championships, Barnoldswick on 26th June 1994, a tremendous feat given we were less than a year old at that point. Pictured right ahead of our performance, **Harvey** (stood clutching his video camera) and a seated **Bernice** are pictured rear centrally in the 'Crumpsall Crowd' of supporters that day with daughter Lynsey the centre of the trio of band members, in the foreground.



Away from banding, Harvey, a huge Manchester City fan, has been a long standing pillar of Crumpsall's community, working with the 'Close Neighbours Residential Association' to improve the environment in and around Bowker Vale Woods. Also as a member of the 'Cleaner Crumpsall Group' he has been involved in many community events to raise awareness and regularly participated in litter picks around the area - action pics shown below: At a planning meeting with *Cleaner Crumpsall* last November for the Christmas Tree light switch on, Harvey was asked if he would play Santa Claus. As a 'Blue' he jovially declined the invitation as he couldn't be seen wearing so much 'Red' 😊.



On behalf of all in and around CCB, sincere condolences, thoughts and prayers extend to Bernice and family and wider circle of friends at this sad and difficult time. Harvey's supportive, community legacies will live on and will be visible every time the Snow Drops & Daffodils flower in Bowker Vale Woods. **Harvey's funeral will take place at Blackley Crematorium on Monday 14th March 2022 at 10:30am.** RF

THE LAST BIT:

Vote of thanks – Thanks to all contributors this month Anon or otherwise including Alan and Sheena.

Next Issue – Due late March will include all regular features, plus a review of our spring concert on 19th March.

And Finally – You and Yours keep safe and well and many thanks for reading, Rob