



The Bradwell Bugle

Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band

April 2009

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From the Editor

Hello everyone

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter. Although the weather forecast isn't that good let's hope we can get some gardening done (take note Ron..) and possibly the first BBQ of the season!

Hope you're all well and still out there. Do feel free to write to me on any subject!

Maggie

REGIONAL CONTEST

Well, we tried and did our best! Full report from Keith inside.

SUPPORTERS CLUB –MEETING!

As you know, the supporters club has been instrumental in raising funds for the band and has made a great difference. With Norman's passing away, we need to get this up and running again. Please, have a word with any family or friends who might be able to spare some time to keep the club going and therefore raise funds which the band dearly need. The more people there are, the less time that everyone has to spend, so please give it some thought. If everyone comes up with one idea for fundraising, and does something about it, then we're on the way.

A MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR THURSDAY 23RD APRIL 7.30 PM AT THE SCHOOL TO DISCUSS. ALL WELCOME! PLEASE RING LISA HUCKLE ON MK 217429 IF YOU WANT ANY MORE DETAILS BEFORE-HAND. PLEASE COME WITH FUNDRAISING IDEAS AND ANYTHING YOU FEEL THAT CAN RAISE MONEY FOR THE BAND.



Area Contest Results—by Keith Jones

The London and Southern Counties 2009 Regional Qualifying Contest was held on Sunday 22nd March 2009 at the Arts and Leisure Centre in Stevenage. This also happened to be Mother's Day so what better way to spend it!

Having spent the best part of three months rehearsing a very difficult test piece, we travelled to Stevenage more in hope than expectation. Ralph attended the draw for the order of play on our behalf and we drew number 12 which meant there was plenty of time to listen to some of the other bands in our section or have a wander through the town on what was a nice warm spring day.

We met up again to prepare and go through the registration process. Whilst all the other sections had the professional theatre to perform in, the fourth section was held in the pretentiously named "Main Hall" which is normally used as a multi-purpose sports. However, we seemed to be relaxed on stage as we launched into the test piece.

After playing we had our photographs taken, both as a band and then as individual players. Perhaps we can update our website with some of these! After packing the instruments away there was still time to catch the last two bands in the section and then await the results.

Roy Roe was the adjudicator and he said he had enjoyed his return visit to Stevenage and thanked all of the bands for their efforts. He acknowledged that the music was tough but said this was for qualification to play in the Brass Band world's greatest contest. Mr. Roe went on to say that we should get used to this "modern" music with unusual time signatures because that was the direction we are heading!

There was quite a wait for the results to be announced. Unfortunately for Bradwell, the adjudicator decided our performance only warranted a 14th place which was something of a disappointment. At least the comments were constructive and we know the areas we need to work on if we wish to improve.

For previously mentioned financial reasons, we travelled to Stevenage in a convoy of cars, with Robin towing the trailer containing the percussion equipment and larger instruments. Personally, I missed the coach trip from the point of view that when you travel as a band you have the chance for some light hearted banter and the usual post-contest inquest.

Our thanks go to Brian for his patience through the three months of rehearsals, also to Robin for his organisation and skills as a trailer driver!

Finally, grateful thanks go to Liz, Steve and Ron for agreeing to take part in the contest. We appreciate you giving up your time to play with us.

Keith

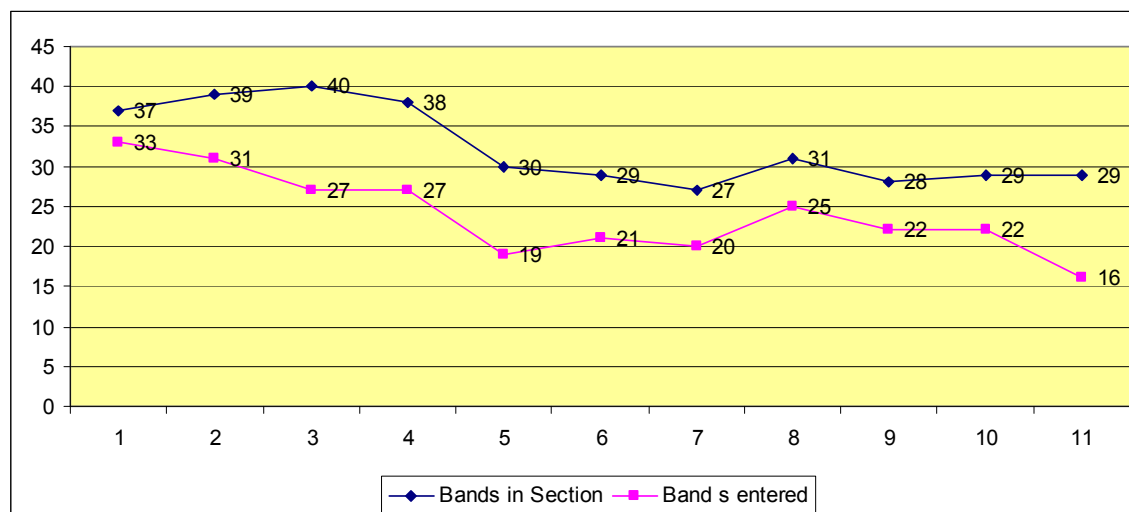
Results

1. Battle Town (J. Penton), 14
2. Wantage Silver 'B' (D. Dulforce), 8
3. Jubilee Brass (Oxford) (C. Sadler), 3
4. Hemel Hempstead (G. Weeks), 5
5. Harwich RBL Brass (A. Sanders), 10
6. Kings Lynn Town (S. Ingham), 9
7. Bletchington Silver (N. Hall), 13
8. Letchworth Garden City (T. Welch), 1
9. Cold Ash Brass (M. Clark), 4
10. Charles Church Camberley (R. Cherry), 2
11. Royston (S. Earley), 7
12. Amersham (I. Hogan), 11
13. Milton Keynes Development (D. Johnston), 6
14. Bradwell Silver (B. Keech), 12
15. Cobham (D. Ruel), 15
16. Hilgay Silver (K. Beckett), 16

Our congratulations go to the top three bands who qualify for the National Finals.

4th Section Entries for the Past 11 Years

Obviously with far too much time on my hands, I did some research on entries in the fourth section. The graph below shows the pattern for the past eleven years, this year being shown on the extreme right.



In the past 11 years 71 different bands have appeared in the 4th section. Of these 16 competed this year, 11 are now in the 3rd section, 4 in the 2nd Section and 2 in the 1st section. So where are the other 38 bands? I was happy to discover that nearly all of them are still active. Now, of course, not every band wants to enter the area contest, many are more than happy with their banding activities throughout the rest of the year.

This, I think, keeps our music making in perspective. The contest is over and done with, let us now continue to enjoy being able to perform live music for all sorts of occasions.

COMPOSER PROFILE—KENNETH ALFORD

Kenneth Joseph Alford is a pseudonym taken by Major Fredrick Joseph Ricketts. In 1885 when he was just fourteen he lied about his age in order to join the First Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment and, after seeing service in India, he joined the Royal Military School, Kneller Hall. He is supposed to have helped a number of other students who were given the task of composing music but were not as proficient as he was. British officers of his day were not encouraged to pursue interests outside the Services so, as a Lieutenant, he published works under a pseudonym. The first name, "Kenneth", was that of his eldest son, and the surname, "Alford", was his mother's maiden name.

In 1930 he became director of music for the Plymouth Division, Royal Marines. Under his leadership this ensemble achieved worldwide fame, with tours to France and Canada. During the Second World War, Alford, by then promoted to the rank of major, took the ensemble all over England. He retired a year before his death. His most famous march is *Colonel Bogey*, not least because of the prominent role it plays in the film *The Bridge on the River Kwai* (1957). It also became extremely popular during the Second World War among British soldiers, who provided it with texts unsuitable for printing.

Ricketts/Alford is known as "The British March King", and is considered by many to be Britain's equivalent of America's John Phillip Sousa.



Other works include:

- Army Of The Nile
- By Land And Sea
- Cavalry Of The Clouds
- Dunedin
- Eagle Squadron
- The Great Little Army
- H.M.Jollies
- Holyrood

EASTER RECIPE**SIMNEL CAKE**

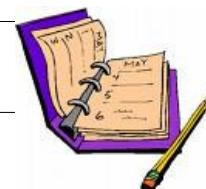
225g butter, softened
 225g sugar
 4 eggs
 225g plain flour
 225g sultanas
 110g currants
 110g glacé cherries, quartered
 grated zest of 2 oranges
 grated zest of 2 lemons
 2 tsp ground cinnamon,
 450g almond paste
 2 tbsp apricot jam
 1 egg, beaten

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 150°C / gas 2.
2. Place the butter, sugar, eggs, flour, sultanas, currants, glacé cherries, orange zest, lemon zest and cinnamon in a large mixing bowl and beat together until thoroughly blended
3. Place half the mixture in a buttered and lined 20cm deep round cake tin and level the surface.
4. Take one-third of the almond paste and roll it out into a circle the size of the tin. Place it on top of the cake mixture. Spoon the remaining cake mixture over and smooth the surface.
5. Bake the cake for about 2 hours 30 minutes until well risen and firm to the touch. Cover with foil after 1 hour if the top is browning too quickly. Allow the cake to cool in the tin for 10 minutes before turning out onto a wire rack to cool completely.
6. When the cake has cooled, brush the top with the warmed apricot jam and roll out half of the remaining almond paste to fit the top. Press firmly on the top and crimp the edges to decorate.
7. Mark a criss-cross pattern on the almond paste with a sharp knife. Form the remaining almond paste into 12 balls (to represent the 12 apostles). Arrange the balls around the outside.
8. Preheat the grill. Place the cake under the preheated grill to turn the almond paste golden.

Contact Details

Chairperson:	Sue Snoxell chairman@bradwellband.co.uk	217541
Secretary:	Robin Allen secretary@bradwellband.co.uk	616463
Treasurer:	Dave Sanderson treasurer@bradwellband.co.uk	616357
Musical Director:	Brian Keech md@bradwellband.co.uk	310959
Supporters Club:		
Newsletter	Maggie Snape editor@bradwellband.co.uk	379138
Webmaster:	Fraser Cousins fras@sky.com	225772
Website:	www.bradwellband.co.uk	

Engagements

Saturday 25th April	Concert—St James Bradwell	7.30pm
Saturday 4th July	Combined concert with Northampton Male Voice Choir—Stantonbury	TBA

CONCERT SPOT

If you want to publicise any fellow band concerts, or indeed any other events, please email the editor



Bradwell Silver Band Membership List

Committee

Chairperson:	Sue Snoxell	Playing Members:	Karen Wilson, Gary Morris , Luke
Secretary:	Robin Allen	Junior Rep:	Sam White
Treasurer:	Dave Sanderson	Non Playing:	Michael White
Bandmaster:	Vincent Jarjadian		
Librarian:	Sam White		

Playing Positions

Principal Cornet:	Sue Snoxell
Solo Cornets:	Jack Wilson
	Bill Holding
	Gary Morris
Soprano Cornet:	Ralph Tatam
Repiano Cornet:	Clive Keech
2nd Cornet:	Sam White
	Brin Carstens
3rd Cornet:	Alison Drury
	Rachel Griffith
Flugel Horn:	Karen Wilson
Solo Horn:	Keith Jones
1st Horn:	Byron Cox
2nd Horn:	Luke Wilson
1st Baritone:	Position Vacant*
2nd Baritone:	Position Vacant*
Euphonium:	Fraser Cousins
	Luke Colvin
1st Trombone:	Vincent Jarjadian
2nd Trombone:	Lawrence Matthews
Bass Trombone:	Position Vacant*
E♭ Basses:	Dave Sanderson
	Joe Hillyer
B♭ Bass:	Robin Allen
	Position Vacant*
Percussion	Steve Osborne

Non Committee Positions

President:	John White
Musical Director:	Brian Keech
Publicity Officer:	Position Vacant*
Magazine Editor:	Maggie Snape
Fundraising:	
Quartermaster:	Sam White

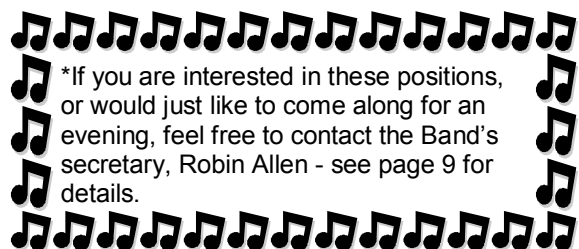
Honorary Members

Chris Coull	Brian Keech
Malcolm Hills	David Wilson
Jim Whyte	

Development Group

Jack Wilson	Jez Billingham
Emily Tilley	Luke Wilson
James Fosch	Kay White
Lewis Wilson	Jack Nicholls
Abi Preen	Rachel Griffith

The Development Group is open to everyone, irrespective of age. So if you know anyone who's been thinking of taking up a brass instrument, get them to come along. No experience necessary.



*If you are interested in these positions, or would just like to come along for an evening, feel free to contact the Band's secretary, Robin Allen - see page 9 for details.