



THE BRADWELL BUGLE

Newsletter of the Bradwell Silver Band July 2004

Editor's Comments

Sadly, as you will read in this month's newsletter, we are soon to say good-bye to two stalwarts of the Bradwell Silver Band who together have totalled nearly sixty years of active membership.

Brian Keech is resigning from the position of Musical Director and David (Tug) Wilson, our principal cornet, will both be leaving the Band in July. Words cannot adequately convey the debt of gratitude Bradwell Band owes both these gentlemen for their services.

It would be no exaggeration to say that Tug has been the mainstay of the Band's playing membership for many years and his high standard of playing has won him many admirers.

Similarly, Brian took over the conducting at a time when the Band was short of players and his dedication has seen us through to the current top five places in the Third Section. Brian has also devoted countless hours to teaching the learners class, which has produced nearly half of our current playing membership.

We thank them both for their services and naturally wish them every success in whatever they choose to do next. We hope that they will still remain friends with and in contact with the Bradwell Band.

So, what happens next? We have advertised for a new Musical Director and front row cornet players. We have had a number of replies and the committee is currently dealing these with. They will keep us informed on developments. Any change in the running of Bradwell Silver Band is going to be difficult for us all and in losing two of our longest serving member we now face a period of consolidation and rebuilding. The committee will need all of our support during this time, let's all give it to them.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ENGAGEMENTS

SUNDAY JUNE 6TH CHESHIRE HOMES AMPHILL

Sunday June 6th saw the Bradwell Band making its second visit of the year to Ampthill. This event was a garden party for the Cheshire Homes. The Band was positioned at the front of the home and tables were laid out nearby where visitors could listen to the Band and partake of a cream tea.

It was nice to see a lot of people there and many commented on the bands performance. Our programme consisted of music from the lighter side of our repertoire including four soloists. David W ("Spanish Eyes") David H ("Be My Love") Helen ("Memory") and Martyn ("I Wan'na be like You") all played very well. This was Martyn's first solo with the Band since he had re-joined us.

We were grateful to Catherine (tenor horn) and Georgie (cornet) from Broseley Brass who were our guests for the afternoon. Also many thanks to Robin for pulling the trailer.

SUNDAY JUNE 20TH PARSONS CLOSE LEIGHTON BUZZARD

After a couple of weeks of lovely weather dark clouds and threat of rain greeted Bradwell Band on this visit to Leighton Buzzard. Though the threat of bad weather kept the audience size down there were still a lot of people listening.

This engagement is structured liked an outside concert so a lot of music was played with little rest. Five soloists were featured: David W, David H, Adam, Helen & Keith. All played very

well and each received prolonged applause from the audience.

The rest of our programme was made up of a nice mix from newer pieces to those we have performed before. The newer music included "Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone" and "Spiritual Sounds."

A good performance from the Band with nice individual and ensemble playing. Many thanks to Clive Keech who helped on solo cornet, also to Liz, Karen and Fraser who changed parts to help the balance of the band.

Once again Robin kindly carried all the band equipment and was grateful to all the help with loading and unloading.

SUNDAY JUNE 27TH WILLEN LAKE

Once again, the Milton Keynes Parks Trust is funding a series of Sunday afternoon band concerts at Willen Lake. We had the honour of starting the series, which also features concerts by the Milton Keynes Salvation Army band, Stantonbury Brass & Broseley Brass.

The windy overcast conditions made it difficult to keep stands upright but the Band coped with these conditions very well. It was also nice to see many people at the lake and we had a large passing trade for our whole concert.

The programme of music was the same as the previous Sunday with our five soloists all in good form again. The ensemble playing and sound control was also very good which our appreciative audience noticed.

Many thanks to Clive (cornet) and Perry Harris (euphonium) our guests for today. Thanks also to Robin who once again made the logistical side of today's performance so much easier by pulling the trailer.

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PLAYER NEWS

On the 10th July Bradwell Band is to lose the services of it's second longest serving player, David Wilson.

David joined the band in 1975 and has been a stalwart member ever since. In his 29 years he has progressed into one of the finest cornet players in the area. His continual high level of playing has amazed audiences, adjudicators, fellow players and Musical Directors.

David has also made many friends by his ability to lead from the front. His commitment and dedication to the Band also reflect the kind of person David is and he will be greatly missed.

However, David will not lose complete contact as his wife Karen will continue with the Band as will Luke and Jack who are in our learner group.

Many of our younger members are currently undertaking their A Levels and GCSE exams. We hope they are coping with the stress and strains of these exams and the results will reflect all their hard work.

LEARNER PRACTICES

The final learner practices before the summer break are:

*Monday night group 5th July
Thursday night group 15th July*

We wish you all and your families a happy holiday and hope you keep practicing during this period. Practices re-commence week beginning 4th September.

MANY THANKS

As many of you are aware I am leaving the Bradwell Band on July 8th.

After 28 years I have decided to do something else (mid-life crisis I suppose). I would like to say a big thank you to all the players I have worked with as a fellow player and later Musical Director. I don't refer to them as colleagues; I class them all as friends.

I would also like to thank everyone who doesn't play with the Band but has supported us for many years. The players work hard to create music but this would be wasted if there weren't people there to enjoy it. I have greatly enjoyed meeting all of you and perhaps soon I will join you in the audience to experience your view.

I know Bradwell Band is in fine shape and the current members have the ability and dedication required for the Band to progress even further. Let's all look forward to the next 100 years of Bradwell Silver Band.



Brian Keech

Editor's Note: I would personally like to thank Brian for his monthly reports on the Band's activities. He has been the major contributor to the newsletter and his leaving will leave a huge gap in this information process. This presents the opportunity for other members to get more involved with the production of the newsletter.

100 years Ago

Committee Meeting held July 14th 1904

Present: Messrs E. Johnson, Walters, Jones, Saunders, S. Johnson, Farrow, Walton, Ward and Tucker

Mr. Facer in the chair

Proposed by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson that the minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed by Mr. Farrow, seconded by Mr. Walton that the Secretary obtain 250 announcement bills – carried

Proposed by Mr. Ward, seconded Mr. S. Johnson that five shillings (editor's note 25p) per member be voted from the funds and paid regardless of practice attendance and two shillings (10p) to enable extra member to go to Great Linford – carried

Proposed by Mr. Farrow, seconded by Mr. Walters that the question of the band being photographed stand over to the next meeting - carried

Proposed by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Farrow that a vote of thanks goes to the chairman – carried

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

HUMOUR

Following the colourful expression of support for the national football team before their exit from the European Championship, the DVLA at Swansea is sending out warning letters to drivers as follows:

"In order to assist other motorists in identifying potentially dangerous drivers, it's now compulsory for anyone with a lower than average driving ability to display a warning flag. The flag (comprising of a red cross on a white background) will be attached to the top of at least one door of their vehicle.

For drivers of exceptionally low ability, additional flags are required."

The following advertisement has been published by the Royal Parks Agency in London, the band in question being volunteers from the R.A.F station at Halton. Because of the spelling mistake goodness know what sort of audience will attend!

04 Jul 2004
Halton Blue Bras Band
 Kensington Gardens (Bandstand)
 Traditional brass band form
 Buckinghamshire.
 2pm-3.30pm

The following are questions asked by lawyers during trials:

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Q "Now Doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?"

Q "The youngest son, the twenty-year old, how old is he?"

Q " Were you present when your picture was taken?"

Q "Were you alone or by yourself?"

Q "Did he kill you?"

Q "How far apart were the vehicles at the time of collision?"

Q "You were there until the time you left, is that true?"

Q "How many times have you committed suicide?"

Q: "So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?"

A: "Yes"

Q: "And what were you doing at the time?"

Q: " She had three children, right?"

A: "Yes."

Q: "How many were boys?"

A: "None."

Q: "Were there any girls?"

Q: "You say the stairs went down to the basement?"

A: " Yes."

Q: "And these stairs, did they go up also?"

Q: "Mr. Slatery, you went on a rather elaborate honeymoon, didn't you?"

A: "I went to Europe, Sir."

Q: "And you took your new first wife?"

Q: "How was your first marriage terminated?"

A: " By death."

Q: "And by whose death was it terminated?"

Q: "Can you describe the individual?"

A: " He was medium height and had a beard,"

Q: "Was this a male or a female?"

"Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?"

A: "No, this is how I dress when I go to work."

Q: "Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?"

A: "All my autopsies are performed on dead people."

Q: " All your responses must be oral, OK? What school did you go to."

A: "Oral."

Q: "Do you recall the time that you examined the body?"

A: " The autopsy started around 8.30 p.m."

Q: "And Mr. Dennington was dead at the time?"

A: "No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy."

Q: "You were not shot in the fracas?"

A: No, I was shot midway between the fracas and the navel."

Q: "Are you qualified to give a urine sample?"

A: "I have been since early childhood

Silly Newspaper Headlines

Something went wrong in jet crash, experts says

Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers

Safety Experts say school bus passengers should be belted

Drunk gets nine months in violin case

Survivor of Siamese twins joins parents

Iraqi head seeks arms

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Panda mating fails; Veterinarian takes over

British left waffles on Falkland Islands

Eye drops off shelf

Teacher strikes idle kids

Reagan wins on budget, but more lies ahead

Squad helps dog bite victim

Shot off woman's leg helps Nicklaus to 66

Enraged cow injures farmer with axe

Plane too close to ground, crash probe told

Miners refuse to work after death

Juvenile court to try shooting defendant

Stolen painting found by tree

Two soviet ships collide, one dies

2 sisters reunited after 18 years in checkout counter

Killer sentenced to die for second time in 10 years

Drunken drivers paid \$1000 in '84

If strike isn't settled quickly, it may last a while

Cold wave linked to temperatures

FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

Engagements will appear here when they are confirmed. Please look at the list carefully.

If you are not going to be available for any of these engagements you must let the Bandmaster and your Section leader know as soon as possible. This will allow time for arrangements to be made to cover any missing parts.

Thursday 8th July

Paganell Grange

Evening Concert

Saturday 10th July

New Bradwell School

Carnival Parade and Fete

Saturday 24th July

Claydon House

The Bradwell Bugle

Saturday 21st August

Drayton Parslow Horticulture Show

Sunday 22nd August

Tiger Moth Rally Woburn Abbey

Saturday 28th August

Wedding

The next edition of the Bradwell Bugle will be published on Tuesday 3rd August, any contributions to be handed in to the editor by July 27th please