



We Remember

2020 should have been a year of commemoration and celebration. It was the 75th anniversary of VE Day and the end of the Second World War with VJ Day. It was also the centenary of the unveiling of many war memorials including the Cenotaph and our own memorial in Hathern. Hathern had great plans for the VE Day holiday on 8 May. Hathern Village Association obtained permission to close off Cross Street and hold a street party with music and dancing. At 2.55pm, along with musicians all over the country, a soloist from the Band would have played The Last Post.. The lockdown meant the event couldn't take place.

Many war memorials were established in 2020, including the nation's memorial - the Cenotaph. Musical Director Stephen Barnwell has obtained permission for us to reproduce the story of the unveiling of the Cenotaph and interment of the unknown warrior written by Colin Dean. Also in this edition is information about Hathern's own war memorial that stands in the cemetery.

We don't have much information about Hathern Band in 1920. It was three years after the amalgamation of Hathern's two rival brass bands into the Hathern United Prize Band (the original band suffered an acrimonious split in 1890). Tom Miller jnr. was the conductor and Jimmy Fisher bandmaster and principal cornet player. Playing at remembrance services has been a fundamental part of Hathern Band's programme throughout the years. However in 2020 our annual attendance at services in Hathern, Shepshed and Loughborough won't take place. We can however still remember the fallen in our own way.

**Dru Sparks plays
The Last Post in 2018**



This Time Last Year . . . A missive from the Colonel

For the first time since March I managed to visit the Band Room in this (at the time of writing), the first week of the October Half Term Break. It was strange, but nice to be back and making music again, even it was with a small group of players.

This time last year of course we were rehearsing regularly for the Leicestershire Brass Band Association Open Contest – one of ten bands entered in to the Championship Section – with our unanimously chosen piece, Philip Sparke's "The Year of The Dragon". Remembrance Sunday was almost upon us too and it was to be my first time in Hathern Church for the occasion. It was a crisp and sunny Sunday morning when the band eventually sat down in the Church for a quick warm-up rehearsal ahead of the Service. I remember during the Vicar's pre-service briefing him turning to me and saying, "This will be a lot less formal than at the Cenotaph." My reply being, "Yes, it will be a lot more intimate and personal – just how it should be". And so it was too. The band performed "Passchendaele" as an in-going voluntary - a new work by Colonel Simon Haw. The band sounded truly magnificent, befitting of the occasion and I absolutely believe it was this one single performance that inspired so much confidence and self-belief in the players at the time. It carried forward all the way to the contest and set everyone up for a truly memorable contesting moment.

A year on and life and the band's playing opportunities are so much different - for now at least. Remembrance Sunday will still come and go of course, as it does every year and so, with that in mind, let's take a moment to look at what we do have and on that day at least be grateful for the very freedoms we all enjoy, each and everyday - freedoms that were made possible by so much sacrifice. The Hathern Band is an institution that dates back to 1856. It is still flourishing and currently sits (as it has done for the last few decades) in the most capable of administrative hands it could ever wish for. The camaraderie and unity amongst the players is strong. It has many assets ranging from equipment to the building and it enjoys wide-ranging support on so many fronts. Long may it continue, even when times are tough.

And so it is with all this in mind that I ask if you can do nothing else on Remembrance Sunday watch "Passchendaele Narrated". Reminisce about our own performance of this thought-provoking work and in so doing "Remember". If we do that every year, their sacrifice will never be in vain.

"Passchendaele Narrated": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZ8VzsoDSil>



The Unveiling of the Cenotaph and the Interment of the Unknown Warrior

By Colin Dean (Author, Military Music Historian, Former Band Secretary of the Irish Guards Band)

Two years following the commemorations of the centenary of the armistice we have reached the milestone which perhaps draws the first world war centenaries to a close, as we recall the unveiling of the Cenotaph in Whitehall and the interment of the Unknown Warrior who lies in the Collegiate Church of St. Peter at Westminster.

The Victory March, or Peace March, to mark the end of the Great War was held on 19th July 1919 and what was intended to be a temporary Cenotaph was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and constructed from wood and plaster in Whitehall to act as the focal point for the nation's homage. This struck a huge chord with the nation and overwhelming public demand led to the Cenotaph being made into a permanent structure of Portland stone.

The body of the Unknown Warrior was chosen to represent all those who fell during the Great War and was brought across the Channel from France in a destroyer, HMS *Verdun*, on Wednesday 10th November 1920, being accorded the honours due to a field marshal.

The *Verdun* arrived at Admiralty Pier at Dover soon after 3.00 pm to a field marshal's salute of 19 guns fired from Dover Castle. Awaiting its arrival was a guard of honour found by 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Fusiliers (Princess Victoria's) with the band under its bandmaster, Mr. L.P. Bradley, but the music played was not a funeral march as might have been expected. Instead, the Unknown Warrior was brought home to the triumphant strains of Elgar's *Land of Hope and Glory* although reports differ as to whether this was played as the *Verdun* drew alongside or as the bearer party approached the gangway. Bandmaster Bradley later recounted that Chopin's Funeral March had originally been suggested but that he had felt something more martial was required and had therefore sought the approval of his commanding officer for Elgar's music to be played.

The coffin was taken to Dover station where guards of honour from 2nd Battalion The Connaught Rangers and The Duke of York's Royal Military School awaited, and placed in a carriage, the train leaving Dover at 5.50pm.

In the words from the orders for the ceremony:

'The Coffin will be brought in a special saloon carriage to the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company at Victoria where it will arrive at 20.32 hours on the evening of Wednesday November 10th.

The saloon carriage will then be brought round to No. 8 Platform of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Company's Station at Victoria. Here it will be placed under guard with double sentry, to be furnished by 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. The guard will consist of 4 NCOs and 12 Guardsmen and therefore contain 6 reliefs. The 2 sentries will rest on their arms reversed and will be relieved every half hour.'

In recent times a commemorative plaque was placed by Platform 8 but unfortunately the wrong one, as in 1920 there were two Victoria stations owned by different railway companies and each with a Platform 8. The correct one was at the station on the western side, presumably now numbered Platform 16 after the stations were combined, but perhaps you could reasonably argue that there is symbolism in 'Platform 8'.



Returning to the printed orders:

'A Funeral Procession will be formed at Victoria Station on the morning of November 11th and will conduct the Coffin in slow time by way of Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Wellington Arch, Constitution Hill, The Mall, Admiralty Arch, Charing Cross to the Cenotaph in Whitehall. Length of route - 3,960 yards (2¼ miles).

The Procession will be formed by:

1. *Firing Party - 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal and 12 Guardsmen of 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards.*
2. *Gun Carriage with a team of 6 horses, together with 3 Limber Gunners on foot, will be furnished by "N" Battery Royal Horse Artillery.*
3. *Bearers - 1 Serjeant and 8 Guardsmen of 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards.*
4. *Pall Bearers - 12 Distinguished Officers of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force.*
5. *The Massed Bands, Pipes and Drums. The Band and Drums of the Coldstream, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards, the Pipes of the Scots Guards - total of 4 Officers and 209 other ranks including 1 Director of Music and 1 Serjeant Drummer* of each of the 4 regiments.*
6. *The Mourners*
Royal Navy - 76 Officers, 150 other ranks
Army - 174 Officers, 307 other ranks
Royal Air Force - 31 Officers, 60 other ranks
7. *Representatives of various ex-servicemen's organisations - 400 in total.*

A steel helmet and side arms will be placed on the Coffin.

The Gun Carriage will be drawn up on the west side of the Carriage Road opposite the Railway Station and facing Eccleston Bridge. The Massed Bands, Pipes and Drums will be formed in 4 ranks on each side of the Carriage Road facing inwards, the southern flanks (Band of the Coldstream Guards) being 10 yards north and clear of Eccleston Bridge.

The Mourners of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force will be drawn up in three ranks on each side of the Carriage Road facing inwards. The Royal Air Force will be next to the Massed Bands (Band of the Welsh Guards) and the Royal Navy nearest the exit into Buckingham Palace Road. The ex-servicemen will be drawn up in fours in the centre of the Carriage Road, the head of the column south of the Gun Carriage, facing north. The Massed Bands will arrive at the Station entrance at 09.15 hours.

The Bearers will carry the Coffin from the Railway Station and secure it on the Gun Carriage.

At 09.40 the Firing Party, having reversed arms and turned to its right, will move off in slow time, the Massed Bands commencing to play. At the same time, "N" (St. John's Wood) Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, will commence firing 19 minute guns in Hyde Park.

As the Firing Party reaches the Massed Bands these will turn towards it. The 4 ranks on each side of the Carriage Road will step off, wheeling inwards, so that the Massed Bands follow the Firing Party 8 abreast. Bands or Pipes and Drums will play continuously throughout the march. The Gun Carriage, escorted by the Pall Bearers, will march next in rear of the Massed Bands.

As the Coffin passes between the Mourners, the Officers only will salute. The Mourners of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force will, when the Firing Party, Massed Bands and Gun Carriage have passed between their ranks, turn in the same direction (i.e. towards the station exit) and follow the Gun Carriage. The ex-Servicemen will follow in fours.'



The Massed Bands entering Whitehall from Trafalgar Square having just passed through Admiralty Arch

The massed bands stepped off from Victoria playing Chopin's Funeral March and as they approached the Cenotaph, which was draped with huge union flags, they passed to the east side and marched on as far as King Charles Street, counter-marched and halted facing the Cenotaph from the south. The gun carriage halted opposite the point where His Majesty King George V was standing. One Serjeant Drummer and 8 Drummers of the Brigade of Guards took post on the east side of Whitehall facing the Cenotaph and two choirs were in position on either side of the entrance to the Home Office.

A short service commenced at 10.50 am with the hymn *O God Our Help in Ages Past*, after which the Archbishop of Canterbury led the Lord's Prayer. As 'Big Ben' struck the hour of 11 o'clock The King unveiled the Cenotaph and two minutes' silence was observed, commencing with the last strike of the hour. At the end of the silence *Last Post* was sounded by the Guards Drummers, and The King and the distinguished guests placed wreaths on the Cenotaph.



The Massed Bands, seen on the left of the photograph, in position at the Cenotaph towards the end of the service. The Firing Party is in front of the band; the Gun Carriage is on the extreme right of the picture

The service over, the massed bands counter-marched and, led by the firing party, marched along Parliament Street via the north and west sides of Parliament Square towards the North Door of Westminster Abbey. Behind the bands walked the Archbishop of Canterbury and the heads of various religious denominations, then came the gun carriage, behind which marched The King and Royal Princes, followed by the Mourners.

The firing party passed through the gate in the iron railings and marched towards the Abbey's North Door, opening out to 6 paces between ranks, halting and turning inwards to rest on their arms reversed. The massed bands had continued along Broad Sanctuary, countermarched and halted.



The Massed Bands in Broad Sanctuary as the coffin of the Unknown Warrior is removed from the Gun Carriage to be carried into Westminster Abbey

The bearer party carried the coffin from Broad Sanctuary into the Abbey between the ranks of the firing party and through two lines of holders of the Victoria Cross, wearing either service dress or civilian clothing and, at the King's request, they were sized irrespective of rank.

The service in Westminster Abbey had begun earlier with the Band and Drums of the Grenadier Guards on duty inside, the band being placed immediately west of the organ loft on the south side of the Nave, under the direction of Captain Albert Williams, MVO, Mus.Doc, Senior Director of Music, Brigade of Guards.

They began playing at 10 o'clock with the following programme:

Overture: In Memoriam	Sir Arthur Sullivan
Marche Funebre et Chant Seraphique	Alexandre Guilmant
Morceau Symphonique - Redemption	Cesar Franck
Slow Movement from Symphony – 'Killed in Action'	Arthur Somervell



Captain
Albert Williams
in Frock Coat
and Full
Ceremonial
Dress

At 10.45 am the choir and clergy moved from the Nave to the High Alter, while singing *The Supreme Sacrifice (O Valiant Hearts)* and *O God Our Help in Ages Past*, and after a short service the choir moved to the North Porch singing *Brief Life is Here Our Portion*, as the sound of Chopin's Funeral March from the massed bands drew closer from outside.

After the coffin arrived the 'Sentences' *I am the Resurrection and the Life* from the burial service, were sung to the music of Croft and Purcell as the procession moved from the North Porch to the graveside in the centre of the Nave.

The Grenadier Guards played Beethoven's *Equale for Trombones* before the short service which included the hymn *The Lord's My Shepherd*, and then *Lead Kindly Light* as the Unknown Warrior was laid to rest. The Lord's Prayer was followed by the singing of *Abide with Me* and Rudyard Kipling's *Recessional*, after which a roll of drums reverberated around the historic walls of the Abbey and buglers sounded *Reveille* from the steps west of Henry VII Chapel at the conclusion of the service.

The outgoing voluntary was *Grand Solemn March*, which had been composed by Major George John Miller of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, Portsmouth Division, for the funeral of HRH Prince Henry of Battenburg in 1896. The composer's son (of the same name) was to succeed Captain Williams as Director of Music, Grenadier Guards, in the following year. Major Miller's voluntary brought the interment service to a close just as, one hundred years later, remembrance of that event brings our sequence of First World War centenaries to a close too.

Hathern War Memorial Centenary



This is the scene on the afternoon of Saturday 15 July 1920. The dedication service for the Hathern War Memorial is being performed in the presence of demobilised soldiers on the left and other dignitaries on the right. The memorial was unveiled by General Burn-Murdoch and the benediction was given by the rector. It consists of a dark green Aberdeen granite cross surmounting an ornate crown support on a tall shaft. The base is two tiered granite and white marble. There are gold inscriptions on three faces of the shaft and on a small tablet. It cost £160.

30 men are now commemorated on the Hathern War Memorial - 21 in the First World War, seven in the Second World War and two in Cyprus and Egypt. 125 men from Hathern served in WW1 with two receiving the Military Medal and one the Croix de Guerre. Thomas and Mary Ann Hart from Wide Lane, Hathern lost three sons in the conflict. Their sons Joseph and John died within a few days of each other on the Somme in 1916. Arthur died two weeks before the end of the war in 1918.



We Are Playing!!

We are playing in groups of six, as sanctioned by the Department for Media, Culture and Sport, outdoors if possible, otherwise indoors with a stringent set of rules. These include social distancing, hand sanitising, taking temperatures and cleaning of seats and stands between each session. Most of the Senior Band are now playing this way and the Concert Brass has also started group playing. It means that the band room is in use every day except Saturday. At the time of writing, plans are being made for members of the Youth Band to play in groups of four with Lesley Bentley and Dave Newman and if this is successful, hopefully it can be extended to the Training Band and Learners. Dave has made up folders of music that are changed monthly, so there's lots of sight reading of music that wouldn't normally be played.

It's not ideal, but we are determined to continue as best we can, with the safety of everyone at the forefront of what we do.



Please Note!!!!!!

LESLEY HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT RECORDS

Contact Info is now

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Rachel Completed her Challenge!

From the Leicester Mercury

Longcliffe Golf Club's Ladies Captain, Rachel Miller knew she would have to challenge herself if she was to raise much needed funds for her charities this year.

"It's been a tough year for us all, so I knew I had to push myself in order to ask others to put their hands in their pockets," she said.

With social distancing guidelines in mind, Rachel decided to try to complete four rounds of golf in one day - 72 hole in 24 hours - but as the big day approached, it was the unsettled weather that was foremost in her mind.



"A golf course isn't a great place to be when lightning is forecast!" she said, but she carried on regardless. Completing the challenge in just 11 hours, Rachel was both elated and relieved. "It's been fantastic," she said afterwards. "I managed to completely avoid the worst of the weather and the support from members has been incredible. I feel really proud to be a member of the club." Rachel is hoping to raise £5000 to be split between local charity, Hathern Band and Rett UK, and fundraising continues through 2020.

Musical Terms

Stephen's list of important musical terms in the last newsletter caused some amusement.

David Stevenson suggested

Falsetto - a set of dentures

How about



Pochettino Former manager of Spurs

Score What are the football results?

Supertonic Really great mixer

Diatonic Slimline version of above

Relative major

Triplet

B Flat Minor

My uncle's in the army

You're expecting how many?

The b..... battery in my Morris needs charging

Any more suggestions? (printable please!)