

Band News Autumn 2021

Number 26

It's Great To Be Back Together!



Senior Band



Concert Brass

Quorn Concert

22 August was a bit of an overcast day In Stafford Park, Quorn, but that was not going to dampen our spirits because most of us there hadn't heard the band play since the Covid outbreak. Dave Newman conducted, and we were off in grand style with the rousing march, Grandioso. Then it was a change in mood as the band played Peter Graham's A Time for Peace featuring Dru Sparks on cornet

Let's Face the Music and Dance was followed by another thoughtful piece of music, I'll Walk with God sung by Mario Lanza in the film The Student Prince. The second featured soloist was principal baritone player Adrian Drewitt who gave a brilliant rendition of the Irish folk song, Carrickfergus.





Composer John Williams was commissioned to write a piece of music for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul and his Olympic Spirit remains a memorable piece of music and sounds as if it was written with a brass band in mind, as it seems ideally suited to the combination of instruments. The hymn, Praise My Soul the King of Heaven came next which was arranged by our own Ian Bartram, then in similar vein, Jesus Christ, Superstar rounded off a great first half.

Time to get a welcome cup of tea and we now had rain to contend with. Dave encouraged us to ignore the downpour, saying that the biggest drips were on the stage. Another rousing march, The Standard of St. George, lifted our spirits and was followed by Gilbert Vintner's Portuguese Party, one of those well-known pieces of music that you can never quite put a name to.



Three parts of Les Miserables were followed by The Lament of the Dandelion, a composition used as music for the Ground Force television programme. Then we enjoyed Game of Thrones - another arrangement by one of our musicians, bass trombonist Joe Dobos-Southgate. Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines flew in next – this one is a real Hathern Band standard. The powerful Nimrod, from Elgar's Enigma Variations was followed by the last number, another standard, Colonel Bogey. The great response from the audience was rewarded by an encore, the Carillon March. composed for Hathern Band by Stephen Barnwell.

It was great to meet up, not only with the band, but with patrons and friends who had come along to support and enjoy after all this time. Patron Dave Hopkins summed it up when he said how special and memorable the day was, with the band on top form. There just seemed to be another dimension to the performance that said - we're happy to be back.



We don't care about the rain It's Hathern Band!

Well done, Chris



Over the years many musicians have learnt to play with Hathern Band and then moved on elsewhere. We have our band "alumni" playing with bands up and down the country as well as in other countries. Many of our young players go off to university leading to employment elsewhere and we have often found suitable local bands for them to play with.

Siblings Chris and Jenny Allen started out in Hathern Training Band and progressed through to the Senior Band. Chris played tenor horn and Jenny played euphonium. Jenny now works as a Transport Planner in Leeds and plays with Horbury Victoria Band. Chris studied music at the University of Birmingham and has continued there doing a Masters degree in composition this year. He has produced a test style brass band piece for his portfolio.

Over a year ago, Durham University organised a composition competition, which was open to their students and to recent graduates nationwide. The theme was either a march or a piece about North East England. Chris won the competition with a piece reflecting three images of the North East, the Millennium Bridge over the River Tyne, the lonesome sycamore tree on Hadrian's Wall (made famous in the film Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves) and the iconic Angel of the North.

Chris is hopeful that the Durham University Brass Band will be playing his piece soon, and it is now on sale at Durham Music Shop. Chris said, "I'm looking to take brass band writing further. I've completed a brass band composing course with composer Mike Sheppard which I found very helpful. It would be really great to write a test piece that gets used one day." I'm sure we'll be seeing the name Chris Allen on brass band compositions long into the future.

Stephen Barnwell



The pandemic has changed many things, not least Stephen Barnwell taking over as full time Musical Director to the Hathern Band. Because of work commitments, Stephen will now be living in London for the foreseeable future, but wants to remain involved with the Band. It has been suggested that he becomes "Musical Advisor", to attend occasionally to work on separate pieces to develop the Band, which he is very happy to do. Dave Newman has been asked by the Committee to continue as Musical Director at least through to the Area Contest next year, and he has agreed to this request. His intention is to use Stephen's vast musical knowledge in the Area preparation work. Stephen will be conducting the Armistice Service at Hathern Church on 14 November and Dave will be conducting all the December engagements.

Well done, Ratby!

Ratby Co-operative Band are one of our brass band neighbours and we've enjoyed a friendship and rivalry for many years. Ratby was a late replacement at the national championship finals at the Royal Albert Hall and despite having had only three weeks practice, came fifth. Congratulations!



Hathern Band Forthcoming Engagements

• Armistice Service Sunday 14 November, 10:00am, Hathern Church

• Armistice Service and Parade Sunday 14 November, 3:00pm, Glenmore Park, Shepshed

Hathern Band Patrons Evening
Sunday 21 November, 7.00pm, Hathern Church

• West Leake Carol Service Friday 3 December, 8:00pm, West Leake Church (HALF BAND)

• Carols at Stanton Saturday 4 December, 7:30pm, Village Hall, Stanton under Bardon (GROUP)

Melton Mowbray Christmas Tree Festival
 Sunday 5 December, 6:00pm, St. Mary's Church, Melton Mowbray

• Carols Round the Streets Sunday 12 December, 10:00pm, Hathern Village

• Hathern Christmas Tree Festival Sunday 12 December, 4.30pm, Hathern Church (GROUP)

• Masonic Hall Carols Wednesday 15 December, 9:00pm, Ashby Square, Loughborough (GROUP)

• Hathern Band's Christmas Concert Saturday 18 December, 7:00pm, Hodson Hall, Loughborough Grammar School

• Lessons and Carols Sunday 19 December, 6:00pm, Hathern Church

• Carols at the New Inn Monday 20 December, 7:30pm, The New Inn, Coleorton (GROUP)

• Loughborough Hospital Tuesday 21 December, 6.45pm, Epinal Way, Loughborough (GROUP)







Concert Brass Forthcoming Engagements

• Armistice Parade Sunday 14 November, 10:00am, *Queen's Park, Loughborough*

Carol Service at Gotham
 Friday 10 December, 7.30pm *St. Lawrence's Church, Gotham*

• Carols Round the Streets Sunday 12 December, 10:00pm, Hathern Village

• Hathern Band's Christmas Concert Saturday 18 December, 7:00pm, Hodson Hall, Loughborough Grammar School

> The high point of our Christmas Concert? Our wonderful Training Band

Lesley Bentley Secretary 01509 672029 lesley.bentley@btinternet.com www.hathernband.co.uk



The 200 Club is providing the band with welcome funds during these difficult times. There are still a few numbers available. £1 per number per month by standing order. Great cash prizes!! If you'd like to join, please contact

Sam Peak Email: sambigfootg@hotmail.com



