

Band News Autumn 2025 Number 42

Patrons Evening

Our annual Patrons Evening took place on 4 October at Hathern Church. This is always a memorable occasion when patrons meet up and are entertained not only by good music, but also splendid refreshments, the food having been prepared by Jenny Drewitt (centre right in the photo). It's an opportunity for the band to thank the patrons who have contributed so much to Hathern Band's success.

It was an evening of soloists and duos. Father and son duo Ken and George, Hannah Peak and Dave Tooth reprised their numbers from the Quorn concert (see page 5). Principal cornet Seb Burrows gave us his brilliant rendition of Concerto d'Aranjuez, and we had another family affair when husband and wife Adrian and Jenny Drewitt performed a duet on baritones, They gave us Softly As I Leave You which was recorded by Matt Monro. The band gave a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday for Dave Newman's mum, Joan who celebrated her 95th birthday.

Dave went over the highlights of the year and thanked all those who work hard to keep the band going. Chairman John Worsfold echoed Dave's comments but also expressed appreciation to Dave for his hard work and commitment to Hathern Band - 46 years now as musical director.

If you're not already a patron, please do consider becoming one. It's a minimum of £25 per annum, and patrons' subscriptions are really important in keeping the band going.





MATHEORIE Prize Bond

Seb Burrows

Jenny and Adrian Drewitt



George and Ken shared the Bandsman of the Year trophy



Seb Burrows and Lesley Bentley shared the Players' Player of the Year trophy

Hathern Band and the Grenadiers

No, not the Grenadier Guards, but the Hathern Grenadiers Jazz Band. They wore colourful uniforms, their instruments being kazoos, mouth organs and comb and paper. They were formed exactly 90 years ago, and Hathern Prize Band (as we were then), was responsible for their formation - and it split the village as a result.

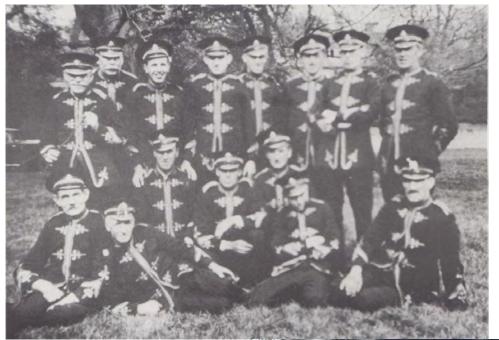
1935 was the year of King George V's Silver Jubilee and the celebration was to be held on 6 May. Now there are two versions of events. Hathern Prize Band said that they gave the Parish Council adequate notice, the council didn't book the band, so they accepted a booking to play at Sutton Bonington's celebration. The band said, "We did give the council notice. We would rather stay in Hathern but apparently, they did not want us, and it was a matter of business to accept Bonington's offer." Not so, said the council. "The band did not consult us at all. They have gone and done this without us, and we did not know in the least what they were doing. Of course, we can manage quite well without them."

A secret meeting was called to decide what to do, and 40 of Hathern's women and a few men decided to be their own band for the celebration. It became quite a cause-celebre closely followed and reported on by the Leicester Daily Mercury. Despite the fact that the village was supposed to be divided between those for the band and those against, Hathern Prize Band did loan a big bass drum to the jazz band. A Mercury reporter turned up at a jazz band practice and said he was lucky to get away with his scalp. "You could have cut the air with a knife when they saw me," he said. The jazz band refused to play while he was there and after a half hour standoff, the reporter left to the sound of hearty applause ringing in his ears.

A few days before the event, the jazz band set out to carry out marching practice with conductor H. Kirk at the front. After marching round the streets, they went along Loughborough Road and turned into the Wakes field. There were cows in adjacent fields who decided to join in with the music. The jazz band soldiered on until a number of the cows pushed their way through a gate to join in on the act. Cue a stampede – not of the cows, but the jazz band marchers who wanted to escape. The band reformed in an orchard, and marched round there where the only interruption from livestock came from several hen houses.

The jazz band morphed into the Hathern Carnival Band and then became the Grenadiers in 1938. The band played during World War II raising money for the Services Comfort Fund.





Hathern Prize Band around 1935

Fast forward 90 years. The Senior Band in action on the bandstand at Cutt's Close, Oakham on a sweltering hot day in August.



Why not join our 200 Club? It provides welcome funds for our bands as well as paying out cash prizes to the lucky winners. It's only £1 per number per month by standing order. If you'd like to join, please contact Sam Peak Email: sambigfootg@hotmail.com



September

£30 Joan Newman £24 O'Neils £15 Charlene Freeman £12 Sam Bradbeer £6.50 Pauline Fletcher

Congratulations all!

October

£30 Andrew Haworth £24 Hannah Peak £15 Mike Hale £12 Harry Baum £6.50 Julie Allsobrook

November

£30 Mel & Steve Hope £24 Mike Wood £15 Lesley Bentley £12 Ken Powell £6.50 Rowland & C Tatton

Solos and Duets at Quorn



It was a hot day in August when the Senior Band played our annual concert at Stafford Park, Quorn. Father and son duo Ken and George gave us a brilliant rendition of Pie Jesu.

Principal Euphonium player, Hannah Peak played Paul Lovatt-Cooper's beautiful slow melody, With His First Breath.





Andrew Lloyd-Webber's All I Ask of You from Phantom of the Opera was played by Principal trombone player, Dave Tooth.

A great concert on a sunny Sunday afternoon thoroughly enjoyed by over 100 people.

Ever to be remembered as the day when a wasp did battle with lan Bartram. Ian said, "It was during my solo in Let It Go. I heard it near my ear then it was buzzing round my head the whole solo! I think it then had a go at Adrian sitting in front of me."

Mark Needham



We were so sorry to hear that Mark Needham had passed away. His daughter Olivia (Livs) pays tribute to her dad.

"Dad was a brilliant musician, cornet player, and a loyal friend to so many. He and I, played with Hathern bands for many years and we played in Concert Brass together before I left for university.

Dad kept playing with Concert Brass right up until his illness wouldn't allow him to, still finding joy in playing even when it was hard work for him. I remember Chris Groom making a special folder for him with a mixture of cornet parts that he could practise to keep his playing up. Dad was always so grateful for things like this and was very fond of Chris and his work with the band.

He was a true friend of the band and kept in touch with members while he was poorly, continually supporting concerts and contests when he was able to. In fact some of you in the Senior Band might remember an alarm going off mid contest while another band was playing in Hodson Hall - that was us trying to get into the building!

On 11 September he lost his battle. He was very peaceful and it was painless. We celebrated his life beautifully with so many of the musicians he met over the years, and a sea of brass players came together to play a massed band piece which he would have absolutely loved. Dad will live on in all of our hearts."



At the Quorn concert, we were delighted to meet up with Amber Lewis-Roberts who used to play bass trombone with the Senior Band. Amber and husband Tim travelled down from Sheffield and introduced us to ten week old Dylan.



Inigo

16 year old Inigo plays tuned percussion with the Senior Band and is another of our talented youngsters who have progressed through our Training Band organisation. Inigo also plays the church organ and is being tutored by Dr. Colin Walsh, Organist Emeritus of Lincoln Cathedral. He plays on Sundays at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Loughborough and at Sacred Heart Catholic Church when asked to fill in at Christmas and First Holy Communion. He also often plays at Hathern Church including Christmas Eve and Harvest Festival.

While playing at St. Mary's he was noticed by a representative of Ratcliffe College, who immediately offered him a scholarship to the college. Now Inigo plays at Ratcliffe Chapel as well.

Well done, Inigo!

George

15 year old George still plays with the National Youth Brass Band. George attended a week long residential course and took part in their summer concert held on 9 August at the Amaryllus Fleming Hall, Royal College of Music in London. The conductor was Martyn Brabbins and the programme included the Pageantry Suite by Herbert Howells. The following week, George played at another National Youth Brass Band Concert, this time at St. Martin in the Fields church in Trafalgar Square. This was a more relaxed informal concert, numbers played included Abba Gold and Floral Dance.

George has now replaced his dad, Ken as soprano cornet in the Senior Band with Ken moving on to flugelhorn.



Champions!

Our contests conductor, Gary Wyatt plays principal cornet with Desford Colliery Band, based in Coalville. Desford was one of two bands representing the Midlands at the National Championships held at the Royal Albert Hall on 11 October, and they won the contest leaving a lot of big names in their wake. It's 34 years since a Midlands band lifted the trophy - and that was Desford!

Many congratulations to Gary and all our friends at Desford Colliery Band.





Have you ever wondered what our esteemed president and chairman get up to when they're not attending to the business of running Hathern Band?

Here are the dynamic duo enjoying a quiet (?) drink at the Oktoberfest held at the Needle and Pin micropub in Loughborough.

We should have a caption competition! Any suggestions?



Youth and Concert Brass at Gotham





Youth and Concert Brass gave an excellent performance at St. Lawrence Church at Gotham on 11 October. The Band played varied and а entertaining programme all. music, 18 numbers Highlights included Marching Trumpets featuring a quartet of players, and the cornet beautiful Cavatina written by Stanley Myers (also known as Theme the from the Deerhunter).

Film music was celebrated with the Theme from the Great Escape by Elmer Bernstein and 633 Squadron by Ron Goodwin. Trolly Dolly Molly rounded off the first part. This is an arrangement by the Band's own Dean Onyon based on the well known Irish tune, Molly Malone.

The second half included Burt Bacharach's Close to You, featuring the horn section and Hine e Hine, a beautiful traditional New Zealand melody. Needless to say, the audience demanded an encore which was a lively rendition of Abba's Super Trouper, arranged by Ian Bartram from our Senior Band. A most enjoyable evening and the Band have an invitation to return to play at Gotham.

Clearing the Way

We have been flooded twice in two years and so we are having some construction work carried out to make the bandroom less susceptible to the rising waters. The costs have been met by an anonymous donor, which is greatly appreciated and our thanks go to that supporter. The first job was to clear vegetation at the back of the bandroom. So on a Saturday in September a motley crew took on the task.

From left to right, Stuart, Ken, Gary, Sam, Charlie, Will, Phil, Baumy, Mouse, Stevo, Dave, Hannah, Dru and George. Not forgetting Lesley behind the lens who provided drinks and bacon and sausage cobs which were the incentive for all the hard work.



Who Are You Gonna Call?



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Email lesley.bentley@btinternet.com

www.hathernband.co.uk

Facebook Hathern Band

If you do not wish to receive our newsletter please contact the secretary

Back to School

We've been on the road again with visits to Stonebow and Robert Bakewell Primary Schools. Lots of youngsters came forward to have a go and several have joined the Training Band. That makes a record breaking 50 youngsters now learning with Hathern Band.





Seb's 18th Birthday

It was Principal Cornet player Seb Burrows' 18th birthday on 5 November so after band practice the previous Sunday the band surprised Seb with a birthday party with lashings of cake. That was after the band played their usual discordant version of Happy Birthday.

Seb is pictured with his present flanked by Gary Wyatt and Dave Newman.



Band Engagements

- Hathern Armistice Service Sunday 9 November, 11:00am, Hathern Church
- Loughborough Armistice Sunday 9 November, 10:00am *Queens Park*YOUTH AND CONCERT BRASS
- Shepshed Armistice Service Sunday 9 November, 3:15pm, *Glenmore Park*, *Shepshed*
- North East Midlands Brass Band Association Contest

Sunday 16 November, 10:00am, *The Post Mill Centre, South Normanton, Derbyshire DE55 2EJ*

COME AND SEE US OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

- West Leake Carol Service
 Friday 5 December, 8:00p.m.St Helena `s Church, West Leake
- Carols at Quorn Friday 12 December, 7:30p.m. *Quorn Village Hall* GROUP
- Christmas Concert Saturday 13 December, 6:00p.m. Hodson Hall, Loughbrough Grammar School ALL THE BANDS
- Carols round the streets of Hathern Sunday 14 December, 10:30a.m. *Hathern Cross*
- Carols at The New Inn Monday 15 December, 7:30p.m. *The Green, Griffydam* GROUP
- Carols at the Needle & Pin
 Tuesday 16 December, 8:30p.m. The Rushes, Loughborough GROUP
- Carols at the Black Swan
 Friday 19 December, 7:30p.m. Shepshed

YOUTH AND CONCERT BRASS GROUP

- Carols at Baxtergate Baptist Church
 Saturday 20 December, 10.15a.m.Loughborough GROUP
- Lessons & Carols Sunday 21 December, 6:00p.m.*Hathern Church*
- Carols and Brass
 Monday 22 December, 7:00p.m. Manor House, Quorn

