



## We're Building Our Way Back



Great news! Work has started to construct what will be the third extension to the original band room which was built in 1985. This will provide a much needed extra practice room, particularly needed when we have youngsters at different stages of learning. The work is being project managed by our trombonist and retired builder, John Baum. We are very grateful to patrons and friends who have so generously contributed to the costs. This has been so important given that we haven't been able to raise funds from concerts for over a year. Because of the fine weather in April, a good start has been made and we think it will be completed within three months.

# We're Back Playing



We're back to being able to play outside in groups of six. Above muffled up on a bit of a cold evening are Dru, Mike, Lesley, Dave, Adrian and Mary. At long last some of our youngsters are back practising in small groups. The guidance allows them to play indoors.

How about the photo below featuring members of Concert Brass playing outside? This was captured by a drone camera - thanks to Andrew Colegate for doing this. We reckon Chris Groom's yellow hat would be easily visible to most passing aircraft, never mind a drone. Clockwise from Chris are Seb, Bridget, Andrew, Dean and Jenny.





We had some surprise visitors outside the bandroom on the football field in early April - two rare birds called ring ouzels. President Dave Newman is a keen birdwatcher and said, "Ring ouzels are summer visitors that nest in mountain and moorland areas, and they stopped off in Hathern on their way north. They are like a blackbird with a white bib and are supposed to be very shy. However, they didn't mind a football match being played and even more amazing, weren't bothered by our band groups playing outside." They attracted a lot of visitors - bird watchers came from far and wide to catch a glimpse of them.

## Seen on a Brass Banding Facebook Group

I'm posting this with a heavy heart.

As much as I love playing music, it is taking up too much of my time. I am struggling to keep up with the everyday basics of cleaning and cooking and maintaining my home, so something has to give. I will be getting rid of my equipment.

Below is a list of what's available. Serious enquiries only, and please don't insult me with low offers. Thanks for reading and understanding.

1. Sponges
2. Dustpan
3. Window cleaner
4. Mop and bucket
5. Lawnmower
6. Vacuum cleaner
7. Leaf blower
8. Laundry detergent

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

Lesley Bentley Secretary 01509 672029

[lesley.bentley@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.bentley@btinternet.com)

[www.hathernband.co.uk](http://www.hathernband.co.uk)



We still have some DVDs of the band playing on the streets in December. To meet guidelines we had three different groups playing at fixed locations. The performances were videoed by Martin Clayton who has put the DVD together. (Thank you again, Martin). The introduction has some photos of past street performances and some of the music from our Christmas CD is included. The DVD is a little bit of history from these strange times. Please let Lesley know if you would like a copy. We're asking for a £5 donation to the building fund.



We've had quite a few people join up to the 200 Club - thank you - but there's still room for more! The monthly club has now been running for nearly 8 years bringing in around £4000 for the band, the idea of the club is to raise extra funds for the band as well as giving members a chance to win something back. Half of the income is distributed as prizes. We have taken the decision to continue the club but via monthly standing orders only. Meaning once set up, band members don't need to worry about remembering to bring cash every month/few months and they'll be no chasing anyone around the band room (currently illegal I know) with a naughty list.

Anyone can join, band members, family, friends, patrons. Numbers are £1 each, you can have more than one if you wish. I'll hold all previous numbers for those wishing to continue and new members let me know your preferred numbers ie 1-200 I shall see if they are available.

The account details are below, if you want to be a part of the June draw please set up a monthly £1 per number standing order on or before 26 May (ie 1 number £1, 2 numbers £2 etc)

Hathern Band    Sort Code: 20 52 69    Account No.: 00440272

Please let me know if you have any problems or questions and which number/s you would like to continue with or would like.

Sam Peak

Email: [sambigfootg@hotmail.com](mailto:sambigfootg@hotmail.com)