



Band News

Summer 2019

Number 17

Welcome to our new MD - Stephen Barnwell



Saturday 8 June 2019 will be a significant date in the history of Hathern Band as this was the occasion of the concert at St. Mary's Church, Melton Mowbray when new Musical Director Stephen Barnwell conducted the Senior Band for the first time. David Newman conducted the Band for most of the evening with Stephen taking over for a few numbers. Stephen is still living in London and will be relocating to his house in Leicestershire in 2020. Until that time he will be working with David taking contests and as many concerts as possible.

The Melton Mowbray programme included Rainbow Pier, Breezing Down Broadway, I'll Walk with God, Do-Re-Mi, Irish Blessing, Stardust (trombone solo Alex Bland), With One Look, Radetsky March, Robinson's Grand Entrée, Nimrod, Let's Face the Music and Dance, Here's That Rainy Day, Helter Skelter (xylophone solo, George Baum), Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines, Can Can, Jerusalem and Pomp and Circumstance - Land of Hope and Glory.

It was a fantastic concert and even the sight of some Pentecost balloons, let up to the ceiling during activities earlier that day, swooping down and rising again didn't put the band off its stride.



Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Barnwell was born in Nottingham and played trumpet with the City Wind band and Orchestra, and the bugle with the local Boys' Brigade (44th Clifton Methodist Company), winning the Nottingham Battalion Silver Bugle Competition three times in a row.

He joined the army in 1975 as a trumpet player and his career began with two years' training in the Junior Musicians' Troop, Royal Artillery, at Woolwich, where he took up the viola as a second study instrument. In January 1985 he was selected for the three year Student Bandmaster course at Kneller Hall. He graduated in December 1987 having gained the highest marks in the Ministry of Defence examinations for Bandmasters in that year. His first appointment as Bandmaster was with the Band of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment.



Following the reorganisation of Army music in 1994 he briefly (for a period of three months) became Bandmaster of the Band of the Corps of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers before taking up the appointment of Bandmaster with the Band of the Irish Guards. On 1 May 1996 he was commissioned and posted to Kneller Hall for two years as the Deputy Chief Instructor before being appointed Director of Music of the Band of the Prince of Wales Division (Clive) in June 1998. He was deployed with them in March 2003 on Operation Telic (to Iraq) in support of 34 Field Hospital.

He returned to the Band of the Irish Guards in June 2005 to take up the appointment as Director of Music and in November 2008 he exchanged shamrock for leek, rearranged his buttons and stepped through the connecting door to the adjacent office as Director of Music of the Welsh Guards.

He became Senior Director of Music, Household Division in November 2011 and was soon facing the challenges of the following year with The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympic Games. Very much respected by the musicians across all five bands for his integrity, Lieutenant Colonel Barnwell retired from the Army on 10 November 2013 after conducting the Massed Bands at the Cenotaph and the band of the Welsh Guards at the Regiment Memorial Sunday in the afternoon.

Notable engagements include:

- The Guard of Honour Band at Buckingham Palace for the marriage of Prince William to Kate Middleton.
- Barack Obama's address to Parliament.
- The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Service of Commemoration at St. Paul's Cathedral and he Queen's Diamond Jubilee Concert on the Mall.
- The Closing Ceremony of the London Olympic Games
- The Funeral of Baroness Thatcher
- The 60th Anniversary Service of the Queen's Coronation at Westminster Abbey.



Stephen conducting the Massed Bands of the Household Division at Beating the Retreat at Horseguards Parade in 2013 (above) and conducting musicians from nine military bands plus the Royal Philharmonic Chorus at the Festival of Remembrance held at the Royal Albert Hall in 2012 (below).



We asked Stephen to tell us a bit about himself

I was 11 years old when I learned to play. Ours wasn't a particularly musical family, although I have a mother and sisters who are keen singers. I was fortunate to be able to learn at school. Tuition was free but you had to buy an instrument, usually on hire purchase. I remember that a clarinet was £42 and a trumpet was £32 - a lot of money in those days. Economics determined that it was the trumpet for me. If the clarinet had been cheaper, I could have had a completely different career!

I was taught by the legendary Dave Hinson. When I was 16, he took me to the Commodore on Nuthall Road in Nottingham to listen to him play in the resident swing band. They were a trumpet short so I played and at the end of the rehearsal was offered a job - which I had to turn down as I'd decided on the Army

I joined the Army as a junior musician on 9 September 1975 on the same day as Andy Bestwick. Andy is a fine Eb bass player and skilled repairer of brass instruments based in Nottingham. I was delighted that Andy came along to play with the band at the rehearsal I took on 30 June. We hadn't seen each other since 1978.

I went to Kneller Hall on a three year bandmaster course and my career progressed from there as a bandmaster, then director of music. It's a different musical route as you have to forego playing an instrument yourself to concentrate on bringing the best out of other musicians. I have been proud of many performances, all mean something to me. However in particular I will always remember playing in Normandy at the anniversaries of the D Day landings. We played in cathedrals and in the field where the action took place. It was always a great honour.

It was sheer chance that I've ended up at Hathern Band. I am involved with music publishing and was looking at band websites for contact details. I came across Hathern's website, realised they were near to where I was to retire, and they were looking for a musical director - so I sent off my application. I'm impressed at the setup at Hathern with its grass roots approach and family of bands, but especially the enthusiasm of musicians who want to play and perform. I'm looking forward to working with them.

**Dave Newman with
Annette and
Stephen Barnwell**



For those on the internet you can see some of Stephen's performances on Youtube.

Beating the Retreat (2013 Fireworks Finale) is at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X2ziyN4hFI>

Scarlet and Gold Concert 2012 is at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTaXr7YTkXE>

Festival of Remembrance 2012 is at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PprMxl_8EI4

And Stephen conducting Nimrod at the Cenotaph on his last day in the Army is at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlkpqjopFKQ>

Back in 2015 we reported on the fact that "Don't Give Me Hathern Band" meaning don't keep repeating yourself, featured in the Thesaurus of Traditional English Metaphors.

This newspaper article dating from 1985 when the bandroom was opened, sheds more light on the saying.



Thank You Shepshed Lions



Bill Holland of Shepshed Lions presents a cheque for £350 to Dave Newman for the Training Band.

Hathern School

Another school visit, this time just next door to Hathern C of E Primary School where several of our Training Band youngsters are pupils.



Hathern's Big Week

Hathern held it's popular Big Week again in the second week of June. Do you remember that week? - an almost constant deluge. Despite it raining cats and dogs the presence of the big marquee meant that all the events went ahead with a good turn out for all of them - proving that the people of Hathern won't let a bit of rain stop them from having a good time.

The week kicked off on Saturday 8 June with It's a knockout when thankfully the rain stopped long enough for the events to take place. Concert Brass did the honours and entertained during the afternoon.



The eagle eyed will have spotted that Concert Brass has a sousaphone player.

Viv Danning has recently joined Concert Brass to improve his sousaphone playing. A versatile musician, Viv is appearing in a forthcoming touring show celebrating Adge Cutler and the Worzels called Don't Tell I Tell Ee. Comedian Andy Ford is starring as Adge Cutler.

Is this the first sousaphone in a Hathern Band?



On Monday 10 June the Training Band decamped over to the marquee and held an open session and mini concert. A good number of people came along to see our great young musicians in action. At the end of the session youngsters in the audience were invited to have a go and as a result the Training Band has four new recruits.



The third Proms in the Park concert took place at the end of Big Week on Saturday 15 June, and because of the weather it was the first one indoors. The theme was 75 years since the D Day landings and the band together with the Loughborough Theatre Choir gave us a programme of music and singing featuring many World War Two numbers. Of course the concert ended with the ever popular Proms finale with a rousing Land of Hope and Glory.

Julie Easter,
Laura Hardy
and Anita
Benson stood in
for the Andrews
Sisters and
gave us the
wartime classic,
Boogie Woogie
Bugle Boy from
Company B.



Thank you Dave!



Parish Council Chairman, Roy Dann sprung a surprise on Dave Newman during the Proms Concert on Saturday 15 June. He presented him with a double crystal decanter tantalus, appropriately with brass fittings, to mark the occasion of his retirement as Musical Director after 40 years. The tantalus is inscribed

David Newman, Musical Director, Hathern Band 1979 - 2019, from the people of Hathern.



Storm Clouds on the Horizon

Saturday 8 July 1939. The Mayor and Mayoress of Loughborough were present at the opening of the Wakes Carnival at Hathern organised in aid of the funds of Hathern Prize Band and Hathern Grenadiers Carnival Band. (This was a marching band playing horns and drums). The Mayor said that it was a pleasing feature that the two bands of the village were able to co-operate in their activities. He was also pleased to hear that the Prize Band was making notable headway under its new conductor for it had a long history and held a prominent position amongst the bands of the district.

Mr. E Holman won skittling for a pig and the children's sports were cancelled because of inclement weather. There were certainly storm clouds on the horizon because two months later the country was at war.



Hathern Band 1939

Back: Aubrey Henson, Cyril Brown, Jack Miller

Second Row: Jack Watt, Herbert Thornley,

Tom Dennis, Les Kelham, Charlie Ward, Ernest Miller

Third Row; Jack Aldridge, Jock Iveson,

Walter Harbidge, Albert Ward, Tom Kelham, Caleb Kelham

Front: Jim Wortley, Harry Webster



**Hathern
Grenadiers**

Engagements

Senior Band

August 2019

- Concert
Sunday 18 August, 3:00p.m. *Quorn Park*

September 2019

- Commemoration Concert for 75th Anniversary of D Day
Sunday 8 September, 2:00p.m to 4:00 p.m. *Oakham Bandstand*

October 2019

- Concert
Saturday 5 October, 7:30p.m. *Trinity Methodist Church, Oadby*

Concert Brass

September 2019

- Bands on the Park
Sunday 8 September, 3:00p.m. *Evington Park, Leicester*

Patrons - a date for your diary!

Patrons' Concert Sun 15 September, 7.30pm

at Hathern Community Centre

And if you're not a patron, could you consider joining their ranks ? It costs a minimum of £25 per year, less than 50p a week.

Band Contact Info

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