



# Hathern Band

Newsletter No. 7

Winter 2017

## Christmas Celebrations



Christmas is always a busy time for the Hathern Bands. Even people who aren't fans of brass band music (I'm told there are some apparently!) will often admit that brass bands and Christmas carols go together. Our bands fulfilled 14 engagements which included Melton Christmas Tree Festival (above), Loughborough Baptist Church, Loughborough Masonic Hall , Loughborough Hospital, Quorn Village Hall, Barrow and Quorn Christmas Lights, Marwood Home, Shepshed, Lingdale Golf Club, as well as our Hathern engagements at the church and round the streets. This year we even had groups playing at a pub and a brewery!

Our annual concert at Hodson Hall was another great success with a wide variety of Christmas music and was the first one for Chris Groom, Concert Brass Musical Director. Training Band gave us Silent Night, Jingle Bells and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. Chris told the audience they were the most important band playing that evening as they were the future.

More Christmas pictures inside.



## Carols Round Hathern Streets

No, it wasn't as bad as this! On the contrary, this was the most successful "Street Day" we've ever had!

This year we had three groups out on Sunday 11 December made up of Main Band and Concert Brass players which meant we covered all of Hathern including the new estates.

The response from the people of Hathern was amazing. A total of £833 was raised and this will go towards new instruments and music for our Training Band.

The Hathern Band organisation would like to say a big thank you to the people of Hathern for their very generous donations.

**We think the Hathern Club  
gnomes enjoyed the music,  
but they weren't very  
forthcoming with donations!**



**Thank you to Amber for  
coming from Sheffield to  
help us, and for playing an  
Eb bass for the very first  
time!**





**Christmas Tree Festival,  
Hathern Church**



**The Band at  
Loughborough Hospital**



**Jack Browne and Rian  
Grindley from the Youth  
Band busking again in  
Loughborough. The boys  
raised £82.64 for  
Macmillan Cancer Support**

**Concert Brass at the Charnwood  
Brewery and the Band on the stairs  
at the Needle and Pin micropub**



## Marian



It was great to welcome our good friend Marian Vervoort over from the Netherlands to play with the Band before Christmas. Marian first played with us in 2012 when she worked for six months as a translator in Loughborough. She currently works for Eneco, a Dutch energy supplier. Marian, who also speaks fluent German, plays flugelhorn in the fanfare band, Muziekvereniging St. Caecilia America - that's not in the USA, but in her home town which is called America in the province of Limburg in the Netherlands. She is a member of the youth committee and helps to organise concerts and activities for the youth band.

Kom snel terug Marian!



# Annual Hodson Hall Concert

**“It’s the Most Wonderful  
Time of the Year” featuring  
the Horn Section**



**Great applause for our brilliant  
Training Band**



**Congratulations to Ben Grace who  
received the award for most improved  
player**



**Jenny, where did you get that hat??**

# 160 Years Young!

1856 marked the end of the Crimean War and the beginning of the University Boat Race. On the music front, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of My Fathers) was composed, it was the centenary of Mozart's birth, and we now know that this was the year Hathern Brass Band was formed. Back in 2015 we reported on the Hathern History Society on-line archive of newspaper articles in which we found that the earliest engagement recorded for the Band was in 1860 at Long Whatton - seven years earlier than we had previously thought. Now an article from 1900 has come to light which reported the death of founding member William Widdowson, and this gives 1856 as the year the band was formed. William was bandmaster in 1879 when he thanked contributors to the fund for a new military uniform. William was brother in law to fellow founding member Tom Miller - the Miller family were mainstays of the band for over a hundred years.



**William Widdowson ca 1879**

## LBBA Contest

The annual Leicestershire Brass Band Association Contest took place on 20 November at Loughborough Endowed Schools. Over 50 bands took part competing in six sections. Hathern Band were in the First Section contest, and played Tallis Variations by Philip Sparke, a piece inspired by Thomas Tallis' original theme written in 1567. Dave Newman was pleased with the performance of this exciting music, with the Band finishing 7th out of a field of 15. The Band has now begun preparation for the Midland Area Contest in March. This will be another Philip Sparke composition entitled Aotearoa (The Land of the Long White Cloud) written for the 1980 New Zealand Brass Band Championship.





# LOROS Concert



Hathern Band started 2017 in fine style with a charity concert (14 January) held in Hathern Parish Church in aid of LOROS, the Leicestershire and Rutland Hospice. The Charity has particular significance to the band as three members of the organisation have been cared for by LOROS in recent years.

The Band was certainly on top form and together with Musical Director, Dave Newman, treated the audience to a lively programme in a variety of musical styles which illustrated extremely well the diversity of music played by brass bands.

We were treated to a trip to the movies with music from Ben-Hur and then came hurtling down the slopes to the Ski Sunday TV theme tune. Next we were given a Ticket to Ride, with an arrangement of the Lennon and McCartney number which evoked travel on a steam train most effectively, all very appropriate with nearby Loughborough being home to the Great Central Railway. Long distance travel was next and to mark the first anniversary of the death of David Bowie, the Band gave a powerful performance of his composition, Life on Mars.

The pace was slowed by Simon Baum's lovely rendition on trombone of the Hoagy Carmichael number, Stardust and all without the aid of music! Euphonium player Graham Rix whisked us off to Italy with his fine playing of the Neapolitan song Catari, Catari which had us all thinking of warmer, sunnier days. Two of our younger players, who have progressed through to the Main Band, George Baum and Edward Heffernan, gave us a sparkling performance of the xylophone duet, The Two Imps which was very well received by the audience. The Band is extremely grateful to the members of Hathern Church for the free use of their wonderful building for the concert and the finale, Hymns of Praise, was a fitting conclusion to the concert.

The concert was a great success and raised £2040.38 for the Leicestershire Hospice including a donation of £750 from Barclays Bank under their £4£ match funding scheme. The cheque was accepted by Derek Horsfall of LOROS who thanked everyone for achieving such a fantastic amount. He was pleased to report that the extension work at the Hospice was well underway with the new Professional Development Centre due to be completed this summer and the Therapy Unit is set to be finished by the middle of 2018.

Louise Haworth

## Band Contact Info

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

# Barclaybrass



Dave Newman and Lesley Bentley are also members of the Barclays Bank Brass Band, Barclaybrass which they helped to found over 30 years ago. Players are drawn from employees throughout the country. On 14 December the band played at Birmingham Cathedral when the band included guest players from Hathern Band, Simon Baum, Stuart Morgan, Ken Powell, Neal Williams and Allan Kent.

## Hathern Band Forthcoming Engagements

- Midland Area Concert  
Saturday 11 March, 10:00pm, *Civic Hall, Bedworth*
- Kegworth Proms Concert  
Saturday 25 March 7:30pm, *St. Andrew's Church, Kegworth*
- Concert with Loughborough Male Voice Choir  
Saturday 20 May, 7:30pm, *Trinity Church, Loughborough*
- Hathern Proms Concert  
Saturday 17 June, 7:30pm, *Hathern, venue to be confirmed*

## Could you help?

### Patrons

Hathern Band is a non-sponsored organisation and relies on the continued support of its patrons. Every year the band says thank you by giving patrons their own concert in Hathern. It costs a minimum of £25 per annum to be a patron. If you're not already a patron, could you consider supporting us in this way?

### 200 Club

Income from the 200 helps to supplement band funds and pays prize money in return. Numbers cost £1 and a monthly draw takes place with up to six cash prizes to be won. Half of the money goes to the band and half split into prizes. Payment can be made by cheque (yearly or half yearly) or preferably standing order. If you are interested in joining please let us know.