

BANDROOM NOTES



~ Welcome to our Summer Edition of our newsletter ~

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Senior Band qualifies for National Finals

1 We are delighted that the senior band has qualified for the National Brass Band Finals which will take place at Cheltenham Racecourse on the weekend of 16th and 17th September.

2 Back in March we entered the regional qualifying rounds. Last year we just missed qualifying in our section by being placed third, only the first and second placed bands qualify. So this year we were determined to do at least one better. The competition was held at Huddersfield Town Hall and the test piece chosen for the bands competing in the third section was Chorale and Toccata by Stephen Bulla. The adjudicators were Glyn Williams who is a well respected brass band musician and currently the Principal Euphonium player with the Cory Band in Wales, and Helen Douthwaite-Teasdale who has extensive experience working with young people as well as being a classical trombone player.

3 The band played well and were delighted to be placed second which meant we go to the finals. To add the icing on the cake our Principal Cornet player David Crisp was awarded the best cornet player in the section much to his and the bands delight.

4/5 Congratulations to Huddersfield & Ripponden in winning and qualifying with us.

6 We are now busy raising the £4,000 needed to take the band to Cheltenham, we will be staying overnight in a Premier Inn just outside Cheltenham as our section starts early on Sunday morning.

7 Below is David receiving his award from Graham Horsfield.



Best Soloist: David Crisp (Clifton & Lightcliffe)

Rehearsals

Senior Band

- Tuesday & Thursday
7.45pm—9.15pm

B Band

- Fridays
7.30pm—9.00pm

Website

www.cliftonband.co.uk

Secretary:

Mrs Jane L. Clay

01422 20187

07990633320

john366clay@btinternet.com



Runner-up: Clifton & Lightcliffe

A few pictures of the band at Huddersfield Town Hall. John receiving our shield from Glyn Williams. Warm up room before we play. Right is our Trombones in action. Below: Our celebrations at the Wyke Lion Bailiff Bridge



Left is Mick not quite sure which to have first!



Principal Cornet David Crisp

Following on from the news that David our Principal Cornet was awarded Best Soloist at the Area Competition I thought I would follow it up with a little bit about David and his playing career.

This is David's own account of his playing career. We are very grateful to him for being a valued member of the band and look forward to hearing his playing for many years to come.

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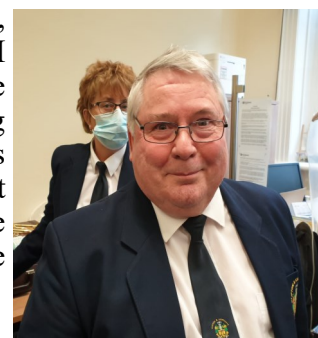
I was 12 years old when my dad and I first walked through the door at C & L's current bandroom in Bailiff Bridge. By the time we walked out I had in my possession a cornet and someone to teach me. He was Alf Ashmore and he was the Principal Cornet at that time. Considering I couldn't read music and had never played a musical instrument I look back now to an evening that totally changed my life.

I think my first successful tune was "How much is that doggy in the window". It took me about 6 months to be good enough to join the band, initially on Third Cornet and after 3 years I became Principal Cornet (Alf moved down so I could sit on the "end chair"). During this time I also played with the Queensbury Music Centre Band, conducted by Jim Shepherd. The highlight of my time with QMC was a two week exchange trip to Gothenburg, Sweden with Jim conducting and playing a few solos at our concerts.

In February 1974 I was asked to audition for the Brighouse and Rastrick Band who at the time were the National Champions winning the title the previous October. On the 1st March 1974 (St David's Day) I made my debut and in total over two separate spells I had about 10 years with "Briggus", which I greatly enjoyed. During those years we had concert tours to Holland, Switzerland and Guernsey. Probably the highlights were winning the 1975 Granada Band of the Year title at the King's Hall, Belle Vue, Manchester and also featuring on the recording of the Floral Dance. I have also played with the Yorkshire Imperial Band and at the 1981 Yorkshire Championships we were placed first with 199 points out of a possible 200, beating all the Yorkshire elite including Brighouse and Black Dyke.

In the summer of 1980 whilst helping Clifton on a band engagement I met for the first time a young Flugel Horn player called Jill Crabtree. Over the next 4 or 5 months we went out a few times, but it was at the end of 1982 that we met up again and have been together ever since, getting married in 1986 and we have two wonderful sons in Mark and Alex. I rejoined Clifton in 1985 on Principal Cornet for about 10 years, and then we both had a break from playing for a number of years due to raising two young children. When Mark was 8 years old he started having weekly piano lessons and then on his 11th birthday declared to his Grandma (not his mum or dad) that he would like to learn to play a cornet. He began lessons with a friend of mine called Les Smale (previously the Principal Cornet of the Hammonds Sauce Works Band), who also taught Alex a few year's later.

In late 2005, we decided it was time to knock on Clifton's door again. Coincidentally it was about the same time as John took over as conductor of the Senior Band. John asked me to play Principal and Mark joined on Second Cornet (he also played with the then Clifton Junior Band). Alex joined the Junior Band on tenor horn a couple of year's later. Since re-joining Clifton the band has enjoyed many great concerts and a number of overseas tours including Italy, Austria and California.





Norristhorpe United Reformed Church

Norristhorpe Lane, Norristhorpe, LIVERSEDEGE. West Yorkshire. WF15 7AN.

Web Site: www.spaceurc.org.uk/norristhorpe/

Chapel Mobile: 0774 520 9270

BRASS BAND CONCERT

On Saturday afternoon, 20th May, 70 people attended a Concert at Norristhorpe URC by The Clifton and Lightcliffe 'B' Brass Band, and organized by Rev Chris Wood. Those attending were entertained through a varied programme of music to appeal to a wide range of taste. The band of about 20 musicians is led by Alex Smith, a recent graduate of Huddersfield University, who took over the leadership of the 'B' Band from John Clay only about 3 months ago.



The programme consisted of such favourites as a Mary Poppins Medley from the original film; Men of Harlech, Baggy Trousers; American Trilogy; Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Chariots of Fire; Te Deum; I will Follow Him; Highland Cathedral, and, of course the icing on the cake, Bless this House in memory of the late Mary Broomhead. Indeed the link was initially made with the Band because Mary had left instructions for her to be brought into Chapel to a Brass Band playing 'Bless this House'. This became a challenge as we couldn't find a C.D., so Chris approached the Clifton and Lightcliffe band, given that he originates from Lightcliffe, and they kindly recorded a version at one of their rehearsals.



David Crisp was the soloist on the recording, and he attended as a guest of the Band to play this piece of music. There were tears shed by many attending as it brought back many happy memories of Mary, a faithful Elder for many years at the Chapel. The concert was held together by Brian Nicholson, the Band's President, who gave detailed background information prior to each piece, and threw in some jokes, much to the amusement of those attending. Brian has previously been a Councillor in Mirfield, as well as its Mayor. Brought up in Brighouse, he has known Chris Wood and his family for over 70 years. Indeed, Chris knew his mother as 'Aunty Annie' to demonstrate the closeness of the friendship. Through the Band this has renewed the connection, which meant there was a good rapport between them throughout the concert. It was clear from the response throughout, and especially at the end, that the audience thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon, and were soon shouting for an encore at the end, with the Band duly obliging by offering 'Scotland the Brave'. Refreshments of drinks and cakes were served at the end of the concert, and many stayed to enjoy further fellowship. There was certainly a buzz around the place which was carried over to the Sunday worship led by Rev Peter Sharp. We are grateful to everyone that contributed to make the event so enjoyable, including the many volunteers who rallied round in so many different ways. £340.00 was raised through ticket sales, and this has been divided equally between the Band and Christian Aid, the latter because this particular Saturday saw the culmination of Christian Aid Week. The Band has already been booked for a Christmas Concert on Saturday afternoon, 2nd December.



Chris Wood (Retired URC Minister and Member at Norristhorpe URC)

B Band at Wibsey Methodist Church Saturday 29th April

The B Band appeared at Wibsey Methodist Church for a full afternoon concert. The people at the church have always been really supportive of the band and we are grateful that the opportunity was given for the B Band to perform. They played a varied programme which was appreciated by the audience and afterwards a lovely tea was provided for all those who attended.



KING CHARLES 111 CORONATION WEEKEND

The senior band were very busy over the Coronation weekend with three engagements back to back. First on Saturday the 6th May we played for our Band President at his Probus Club Dinner. It was a full house at Bailiff Bridge Community Centre and we played a programme especially picked by Brian which included Grand March from Aida, Chris Partington played Solitaire on the soprano, Allan Holdsworth played Tuba Copper based on a Policeman's lot is not a Happy One, and Adrian Harrison played Softly as I leave you on the Euphonium. We also played Waltzing Matilda and Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody which is a requested item at a lot of our concerts.



This was the first time the band has played sat on bales of straw which was quite a novelty although a bit prickly.

Our third concert was at the Kings Hall in Ilkley where we took part in a variety concert organised by Mike Gibbons.(pictured) who has been a long time friend and supporter of the band. Besides the band other guest artists included Chris Why Tenor, Samuel Moor Flamenco Guitarist, Ilkley Upstagers, Pinsuti Chamber Choir and Philip Voldman on Piano.

A super evening was enjoyed by all.

Thank you Mike for inviting us.



Our second concert was at The Hartshead Club, totally different from the Saturday evening, the band was performing outside the Club on a glorious sunny day with at least 150 people sat around listening.

ILKLEY TOWN COUNCIL

A CELEBRATORY CONCERT
MONDAY 8TH MAY @ 6PM
KING'S HALL, ILKLEY

THE EVER POPULAR CLIFTON & LIGHTCLIFFE BRASS BAND
JOHN CLAY B.A. (HONS), MUSICAL DIRECTOR

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED FLAMENCO GUITARIST
SAMUEL MOORE
HAILED AS 'A FANTASTIC FLAMENCO GUITARIST' (BBC RADIO 3)

PINSUTI THE ILKLEY & SKIPTON CHAMBER CHOIR

POPULAR WEST YORKSHIRE TENOR CHRIS WHY

PIANIST PHILIP VOLDMAN
CONDUCTOR AND COLLABORATIVE PIANIST BASED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE USA

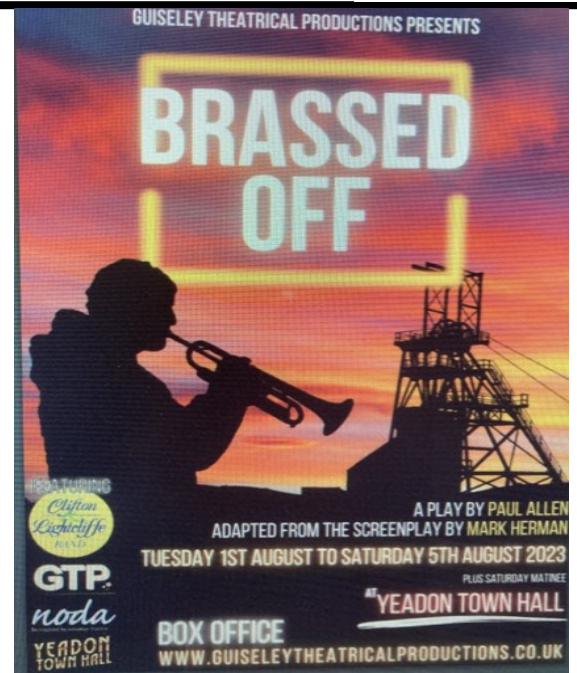
Ilkley Town Council

BRASSED OFF

The band are delighted to be asked once again to take part in a production of *Brassed Off*.

The story is based on the 1996 comedy-drama film about the troubles faced by a colliery brass band following the closure of their pit. There are some very funny moments in the script but also some serious and sad notes of how difficult things were for the striking miners and their families.

Guiseley Theatrical Productions are presenting the play and it will be shown at Yeadon Town Hall. The first night is Tuesday 1st August performances go through to Saturday 5th August and includes a matinee. Tickets are on sale now from their box office as shown opposite.



Summer Concert

with
The Northowram Singers
and
Clifton and Lightcliffe 'B' Band
at
St. Matthew's Church, Northowram
on
Saturday, 1st July at 7:30 pm
Admission and refreshments – FREE

(Donations to Overgate Hospice and
St. Matthew's Church)



Come and join our B Band with the Northowram Singers in a Summer Concert at St Matthew's Church on Saturday 1st July at 7.30pm
Admission free but donations on the evening will be for Overgate Hospice and St Matthew's Church



Entertainment from the region's brass, jazz and concert bands

Sundays at 2.30pm

FREE
ADMISSION
TO ALL
CONCERTS*



Both our bands are appearing in Pudsey Park this year as part of the Summer Bands in Leeds Park.

The senior band are playing on Sunday 25th July and the B Band on Sunday 22nd August. Both concerts start at 2.30pm.

Bring a picnic and enjoy the afternoon

Vacancies

We are needing Cornets Euphonium and Bb Bass players for our B Band.
We have instruments available.

If anyone is interested do come along Friday evenings 7.30pm we will be very pleased to see you.

www.cliftonband.co.uk

PATRONS

We have around 65 Patrons who support the band throughout the year, This scheme was set up in 2006 and we are very grateful for the support they have given over the years.

If you are interested in becoming a Patron we ask for a minimum payment of £20.00 per year which entitles you to 2 tickets to our Annual concert held usually in the Autumn and our newsletters telling you what the band is doing throughout the year.

Please contact our Patrons administrator Mrs Janet Bell 07799270955 or the Secretary Jane Clay 07990633320

125 CLUB

A very valuable source of income for the band over a number of years now is our weekly 125 club draw.

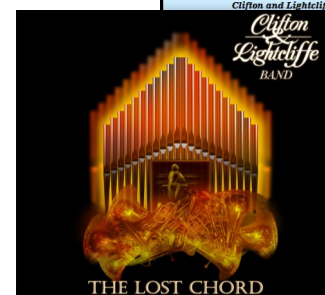
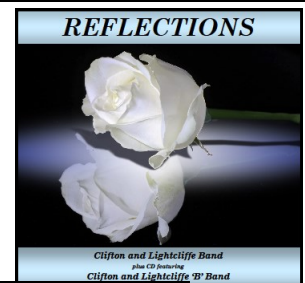
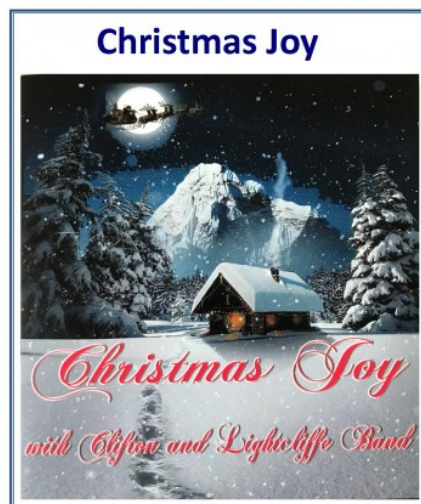
Numbers are 25p each per week to purchase and a £5.00 weekly draw takes place plus three times a year a prize of £50.00 is given at Christmas, Spring and the Summer

If you would like to join please contact either Helen Woodcock or Jane Clay for more details.

125 Club Draw

CD's for Sale

Our selection of Cd's including our recent Christmas Cd are available to purchase on our web-site, our concerts or from Jane Clay on 07990633320. Prices range from between £5.00 and £10.00



ENGAGEMENTS 2023

SENIOR BAND

JUNE

Saturday 17th Wibsey Methodist Church 7.30pm

JULY

Sunday 2nd Pudsey Park 2.30pm—4.30pm

Saturday 8th Moravian Church Bailiff Bridge Proms Concert 7.15pm

AUGUST

Tuesday 1st to Saturday 5th Brassed Off at Yeadon Town Hall

Sunday 20th Lightcliffe Cricket Club Proms

B BAND

JUNE

Saturday 17th Scholes Church Garden Party 1.00pm

JULY

Saturday 1st St Matthew's Church Northowram 7.30pm

Saturday 29th Upper Hopton Gala afternoon

AUGUST

Tuesday 1st August Yorkshire Day at The Hartshead 7.00pm—7.45pm

CONTACTS

The Band room—Band Headquarters, Birkhouse Road, Bailiff Bridge, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 4EW

Musical Director—Mr John Clay 01422 201875

Musical Director B Band—Mr Alexander Smith 07758739546

President—Mr Brian Nicholson 01924 689846

Secretary—Mrs Jane Clay, 260 Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe, Halifax West Yorkshire HX3 8TY

Phone 01422 201875, 07990633320, e-mail john366clay@btinternet.com

Patrons—Mrs Janet Bell, janetbell2008@hotmail.co.uk 32 Westroyd Avenue Hunsworth BD19 4DS



Clifton
&
Lightcliffe
BAND