



Newsletter No. 2 –February 2010

From the Chairman

Is it a really year since the last Newsletter? We had hoped to get one out before this, but time seems to fly by.

I must start by apologising to everyone for the cancellation of the Christmas Concert. Although a few of the Band and the audience made it to the Forum Theatre for the start of the concert, the weather at 5.30 pm was such that those who had been in to set up for the concert had great difficulty getting home! At that time Romiley was completely cut off from the outside world. Since it was not possible to know whether things would get better or worse in the following few hours, the decision to cancel was made. It was not made lightly, as it had a considerable financial impact on the band, with the hire charge still having to be paid and the possibility of having to refund ticket money. On this latter matter, you will find information on the website about the possible alternatives. We must add that this is the first time in 26 years that we have had to cancel a concert.

Quite a lot has happened since January last year, including much of the planning for the trip to Spain in May. A full update is given later, but I would like to thank John Glynn, Allan Jones and their team for the hard work that is going into this. At the present time we have 42 players and 19 family members booked for the trip.

The band has given its usual quota of concerts during the past year, starting with a concert for the Mayor of Stockport's Charity at St George's Church in February. It was then relatively quiet until the Summer Concert in June. We gave a concert at St. Chad's, Romiley in October and then approached the busy Christmas season. This started with the band playing carols in Romiley Precinct to support the switching on of the Romiley Park Christmas tree. This was followed by a concert at St. Joseph's Church, Stockport. Members of the band played carols again in Romiley Precinct and also at Morrison's in Bredbury. As already said, the annual Christmas concert had to be cancelled. The Swing Band has been much busier, having been booked for a number of public and private venues throughout the summer.

At the Annual General Meeting last July Gordon Robson resigned as Treasurer and from the committee. We all thank him for the hard work that he has put in both capacities. He remains a committed member of the Band. Terry Mitchell took his place as Treasurer and the committee is now as follows:

Chairman – Nick Bradley (bassoon), Secretary – Christine Murphy (trombone), Assistant Secretary – Melanie Oliver (alto sax), Treasurer – Terry Mitchell (clarinet), and committee members Andrew Dyson (tenor sax), John Glynn (euphonium), Shelagh Humphries (clarinet) and, Alan Sawyer (baritone sax). Musical Director Allan Jones is an ex-officio member of the committee.

Collections taken for during our carol-playing outings were for our two chosen charities, Christies and Deaf@x. We collected just over £1000 and are delighted to be able to donate £500 to each of the charities. Well done everyone!

Nick Bradley

Notes from the Podium

Hopefully, you will all know that Werneth Concert Band has made 3 recordings which are all available on CD, namely:

- WERNETH CONCERT BAND
- FLOURISH
- A WERNETH CELEBRATION

If you have not got all 3 in your CD collection, shame on you, but you have another opportunity to redeem yourself.

I have recently sat down and listened to all 3 CDs; how sad is that? It occurred to me that I had not received nor sought, other than informally, any opinions or responses from band members on their views regarding the recordings. Now here is your one and only chance. I am going to conduct (excuse the pun) a **WERNETH CONCERT BAND – RECORDINGS SURVEY**, gasps all round!

Of course, to contribute to this survey, you will need to possess or have access to all 3 CDs. To this end, the committee has agreed for band members/friends to be able to purchase any or all of the CDs for a special price of £5 each. These will be on sale every Tuesday at band rehearsals or may be ordered online through Terry Mitchell on treasurer@wernethconcertband.org.uk To encourage you to take part, the committee has also agreed prizes of £50, £30 and £20 Amazon tokens to responses drawn from those submitted. You never know you might even enjoy the experience as well as familiarising yourself with some of the repertoire we have played over the last 26 years.

The **WERNETH CONCERT BAND – RECORDINGS RESPONSE FORM** is available on our website www.wernethconcertband.org.uk , through

the Members area and may be submitted electronically or a hard copy will be available on Tuesday evenings. Hopefully you will all feel inclined to contribute to this survey and make it a worthwhile project with some interesting results. Deadline for submissions is **Tuesday, 2nd March**.

HAPPY LISTENING

Allan Jones
Founder/Musical Director

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 20th February – Swing Band – Beverly, Yorkshire

Saturday 20th March – Full Band Concert in St. Chad's Church, Ladybarn

Friday 23rd April – Full Band – Wellspring Concert at The Plaza, Stockport

Saturday 1st May – Swing Band – private function at Shrigley Hall Hotel

Sunday 16th May – Swing Band – Vernon Park, 2.00pm

29th May – 5th June – Concert trip to Spain

Saturday 26th June - Summer Concert in the Forum Theatre, Romiley

Sunday 11th July – Full Band – Wilmslow Show

Sunday 19th December – Christmas Concert in the Forum Theatre

These and other events will be posted on the website as they are arranged – so keep looking! (www.wernethconcertband.org.uk)

Snippets

Sian Fullaway (trumpet), having left us in January for a six-month trip to New Zealand, extended her stay and is now back in the trumpet line-up.

Glen Fairhall (trumpet) and his wife Nicola are the proud parents of son Alex. Also Richard Morris (Tuba) and wife Catherine have a second child, Andrew James Congratulations to all!

Kate Whittaker (clarinet) completed a 145-mile cycle ride with colleagues from The Co-operative, in aid of the Children's Adventure Farm Trust, Altrincham.

Three band members have celebrated Golden Weddings in the past year, **Nick and Marjorie Bradley** (bassoon and euphonium) in July and **Trevor Marshall** (bassoon) and Natalie in September. Keith and Beryl Scammell, parents of Jane Shields, also celebrated their Golden Wedding in July.

We send our heartiest congratulations to **Jane Shields** (trombone) and **Alan Cotterill** (tuba) on their recently-announced engagement.

We are sorry to report the recent death of **Terence Greaves**, father of **Philippa** (clarinet). He will be best known to members of the band as the composer of 'A Werneth Suite', dedicated to Werneth Concert Band and given its world premiere by the band in the RNCM on the 2nd March 2008. The Band was represented at the funeral by Nick Bradley, Allan Jones, John Glynn and Gordon Robson. We send our sympathy to Philippa and the family.



Do you know this person (on the right)? Yes, it's **Sarah Wellicome** (clarinet) in her role as Jiggeri Pokeri ('a failed and gormless thief!) in 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves' at the Carver Theatre, Marple. Just in case you might think that this is all that Sarah can do, she received an adjudicator's commendation for the part of Linda in Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers' at the Carver last year. (Photo courtesy of the Carver Theatre, Marple)

New Members

We are delighted to welcome eleven new members since last January. These are: Kate Bryant (flute), Kate Goalen (alto sax), Nicola Halford (flute), Kelly Gwilliam (clarinet), Doug Hawes (oboe), Colin Ingham (trombone), Valerie Jones (clarinet), Klara Morsley (French horn), Rachel Moat (clarinet), Patrick Sockett (trombone) and Sally Whittle (Eb clarinet).

Miscellaneous

The Band has bought three white gazebos, for use when playing outdoors. Each is white, easy to erect, with side curtains and ten feet square. These are available for hire to band members at reasonable rates!

The Band also has a small generator, also available for hire.

For further information please see the Members section of the Band website at www.wernethconcertband.org.uk.