



Wilton and District Band



Newsletter: Autumn 2014



CD Recording



Over the summer, the weekend of the 23rd and 24th August loomed large on the horizon. This was our date with the recording team which was to put our 50th Anniversary CD together. We duly arrived at Winterbourne Gunner and got straight into it. It took a while to become used to the microphones and gadgetry, but once we were, the Band excelled. There was some super playing - a couple of pieces were recorded virtually in one take - and what we had thought was going to be a real challenge became a real pleasure. The Band rose to the occasion and whilst there were some very tired lips at the end of the second day, we all went home very satisfied

with what we had done. The CD is currently being processed and will be out well before Christmas. If you'd like to put your name down for a copy of the CD (or CDs), please drop a note to the email address below. The CD is priced £8.



Proms Concert



Saturday 27th September was our annual Proms Concert at Michael Herbert Hall in Wilton. Battling against "Strictly" and the X-Factor was always going to be a challenge, but with a lively audience, who responded positively to Band Chairman Archie Barr's call for audience participation, we knew it was going to be a good night. The Band featured a number of pieces from their forthcoming CD, including the first ever public performance of "A Wilton Theme and Toccata" written by Derek Broadbent, and made a wonderful sound throughout. Soprano Sarah Best sang two lovely pieces - "O Holy Night" and "Rusalka's Song to the Moon" - accompanied by the Band, as well as leading the

audience singing a selection of WWII songs to commemorate 100 years from the start of WWI, as well 70 years since the D-Day landings. A rousing "When Thunder Calls" started the second half which built to a crescendo with Sarah again returning to the stage to lead the Proms section, with "Jerusalem", "Fantasia on British Sea Songs" (with the obligatory repeat of an ever-accelerating Horn Pipe - it made the cornet players sweat!), and "Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1" finishing a great evening's entertainment.



In addition to the Senior Band, the Training Band stepped up to the plate, putting in a great performance, following some excellent rehearsals. Indeed, a quote overheard at the end was "that's the best they've played yet".

Many thanks to Sarah for joining us again, and to Ian Harris and Matt

Spencer for helping us out, playing wise. Thanks also to Sue Stephens and Margaret Penny for doing the refreshments, Mel Murphy and Lin Raines for looking after the door, Yvonne Tinkler for the photos, Sharon Chalk and Tracey Crowley for running the raffle, and for our top-notch sound engineer, Ian "Raffles" Crowley.

Training Band

The Training Band is slowly building in numbers, but in terms of ability is coming along in leaps and bounds, as demonstrated by their performance at the Proms Concert. Please do encourage friends and family along. You never know where it may lead: for our Golden Anniversary programme we have currently identified 19 former players who started with the band and who have gone on to be professional musicians in the forces, or as teachers or conductors!

Player Profiles

This is the second edition of Player Profiles providing information on personal banding history, likes and dislikes, and aspirations.

Juliet Cook

When did you start playing? I started playing when I was 9.

Other bands played/playing for? I started playing for Ringwood and Burley when I was 11. In 1975 I was one of the founder members of Sandleheath and I joined Wilton in 2009.

Instruments played previously? I've mainly played the cornet, but did enjoy a few years playing flugel.

Instrument and position you currently play? Principal cornet.

Best banding moment to-date? It has to be Torquay 2012 - the moment it was announced that we had qualified for the National Finals for the first time.

Who were/are your banding inspirations? My Dad always inspired and encouraged me to play, for which I will always be grateful.

Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date? It has to be arriving at a church to play the Last Post - without my cornet!

Favourite piece? Labour of Love (Percy Fletcher) and Dark Side of the Moon (Paul Lovett-Cooper)

Least favourite piece? English Folk Song Suite

Banding aspirations? To qualify for the National Finals in the 3rd Section.



Brian Cooke



When did you start playing? I started playing at about 13 when I joined an Army Cadets Bugle and Trumpet Band.

Other bands played/playing for? Junior Leaders Military Band, Bovington; 17/21st Lancers; 9/12th Royal Lancers; Shrewton Silver Band.

Instruments played previously? Drums, French Horn, Cornet, Soprano Cornet, Tenor Horn.

Instrument and position you currently play? Bb Bass.

Best banding moment to-date? While in the Army, playing Last Post and Reveille at Mons Moy on Armistice Sunday: with the Band, best moment so far is getting promoted to 3rd Section.

Who were/are your banding inspirations? Terry Lynch. Terry was a wonderful man, an army cadet leader, who used to teach army cadets to play cavalry trumpet, bugle, and drums, and who inspired me to join the army as a boy bandsman.

Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date? Can't think of any but sure someone else could tell you a tale or two.

Favourite piece? The Dutch arrangement of Crimmond.

Least favourite piece? Theme from Black Beauty.

Banding aspirations? To be the oldest Tuba player in the world.

Laura Hillman

When did you start playing? When I was about 7/8 years old. I saw Wilton and District Youth Band (WDYB) playing at Broad Chalke fete and immediately wanted to join.

Other bands played/playing for? I left WDYB in 2006 to join Downton Brass Band and stayed with them for approx 4/5 years. I went back to Wilton for the Weymouth Band Contest and Colin persuaded me to re-join! I also play bass trombone for Girls Only Jazz Orchestra (GOJO). I have previously played with Salisbury Concert Band, Just Us Soul band, Salisbury Big Band, as well as Salisbury Area Young Musician (SAYM) whilst at school. I have also been privileged to play with Woodfalls Band, Shrewton Silver Band, Otterbourne and many more.



Instruments played previously? I started on soprano cornet due to not enough spare instruments and I had to share this with my sister. However, I found it too small and tried different ones. I settled for some time on baritone until I found my mum's trombone in the loft and that was it!

Instrument and position you currently play? Solo Trombone (Bass Trombone occasionally).

Who were/are your banding inspirations? I have a number of inspirations including our very own Colin Herbert for how he has taught me to become a better player (telling me to be quiet!). Christian Lindberg is also another inspiration simply because his level of music is what I aspire to.

Best banding moment to-date? Playing the National Finals 5 times in a row (three times with Downton; twice with Wilton).

Most embarrassing banding moment, to-date? Getting slated in the remarks in the national finals for being too loud. (Surely not - I'm the quietist in the band!)

Favourite piece? Music - John Miles.

Least favourite piece? Anything arranged by Frank Bernaerts (he never writes interesting trombone parts).

Banding aspirations? That Wilton will stay in 3rd Section and with time and training progress to the 2nd Section...who knows?

Other News

At the end of the summer the Band bid farewell to Alex James, our 2nd Euphonium player, who has moved to London. The Band thank him for his playing over the last few years and wish him well for the future.

Our 50th year celebration programme is coming together nicely. However, we can always do more! Please can you try to persuade a local business to advertise in it. Costs are: £40 for a ¼ page; £75 for a ½ page, and; £100 for a full page. Deadline is 1st November. If you have any queries, contact a member of the committee.

Dates for the Diary



There is a Band Jumble Sale on the 18th October at Harnham Church Hall. We need volunteers and jumble. If you're able to provide either, please get in touch at the address below. The next playing event on the horizon is the Evesham Entertainment Contest on the 1st November. We're then into the Christmas season - traditionally one of our busiest times - with our main Christmas Concert on the afternoon of Sunday 14th December at the Michael Herbert Hall, Wilton. A full list of events is [here](#). We need as many players and collectors out as possible over Christmas and will be encouraging the Training Band to get stuck in!

Website: <http://www.wdyb.co.uk/>

Queries, info to: andyb.wdb@gmail.com



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