

TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL

EDITOR'S NOTE

Well, summer may have been and gone but the talented folks down at the Elland band room certainly haven't been holidaying since our last newsletter—the hard work and rewards keep coming in equal measure! All comments or contributions gratefully received:

FeVarley@hotmail.com

Heather

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Blackpool Contest	1
Training Band News Youth Band News	2
Slow Melody Results	2/3
Senior Band News	3
Band Calendar	4
Band Merchandise	4
Contact Details	4

Elland Silver Band

Notes

ISSUE 9
SUMMER 2011



WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST

Top Brass, Top Class!

Masters of the brass discipline give Elland a lesson in— ...

Saturday 21st May 2011

A host of top brass stars joined some 50 members of the Elland Silver Training, Youth and Senior Bands in the massed band finale to a day-long brass and percussion workshop.

The special training day, also attended by guests from other local bands, was held at Rastrick High School and was part funded by a "Progressive Band Award" from the British Brass Band Federation.

The event was organised by Samantha Harrison, Musical Director of the Youth Band, in collaboration with Murray Greig, Musical Advisor to the Youth Band, with suggestions for music, tutors and workshops all made by members of the youth band.

A challenging programme of music was first tackled in sectional rehearsals: pieces included Peter Graham's 'Summon the Dragon' and 'Gaelforce', and 'The Saints' by Goff Richards. The tutors also demonstrated breathing techniques and other key aspects of brass playing.

"There was a real buzz about the day, lots of enthusiasm for making and enjoying music, with the tutors providing simple tips

THE TUTORS
Murray Greig, Principal Trumpet of Opera North; **James McCabe**, Principal Cornet of Rothwell Brass Band; **Sandy Smith**, Resident Conductor of Brighouse & Rastrick Band; **David Thornton**, international euphonium soloist and tutor at the RNCM, Huddersfield University and Cheetham's School of Music; **Rob Burtenshaw**, trombonist, Opera North; **Joe Cook**, Eb bass, Black Dyke Band; **Mark Wagstaff**, former Brighouse & Rastrick Percussionist.

on how to become better musicians," said Samantha Harrison.

The workshop also provided the opportunity for players to ask the panel for advice on aspects of playing, such as improving home practice and sight-reading skills, how to conquer nerves, and that mystery, "What is vibrato?"

Look out for excerpts from the Q&A session in future issues of ESB Notes...

At the end of the workshop parents and friends were treated to a performance of the pieces that the band had worked on all day. "I was blown away by the fantastic sound of the band" commented one parent.

Some comments from the young people: "It was a fantastic day", "time well spent", "I learnt a lot" and "Joe Cook is a legend!"



Ben Clapham takes tips from Bass ace Joe Cook, of the world-famous Black Dyke Band.

Training Band News

New Members Open Evening

Friday 8th April 2011

The Training Band is our starter group for children and adults interested in learning a brass instrument or percussion. We have some instruments available and welcome players of any standard. An Open Evening was held in Spring to give prospective new musicians a chance to see just what they could expect from joining rehearsals and learning to play an instrument. There was a good turn-out, from complete novices to one more experienced lad who even brought his own cornet!

Our Youth and Training Bands are ALWAYS open to new members aged 7+; if you are interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Kathleen Harrison, our Band Secretary, for more details (see page 4)

Junior Duets

- 1st - Gerry Simpson/Anna Liddell, Elland Silver Youth Band
2nd - Andrew Straiton/Joshua Barber, Elland Silver Youth Band
3rd - Julian Bayley/Jason Smethhurst, Dobcross Youth Band

Junior Quartets

- 1st - The Grove, Dobcross Youth Band
2nd - Milnrow Youth
3rd - Sandy Lane, Dobcross Youth Band



Junior Band News

Youth Band remain Entertainment champions at Action Medical Research

Sunday 13th February 2011

After a veritable *carnivale* of costumes, capers and, above all, marvellous music, Elland Juniors triumphed to retain their Entertainment crown at the annual contest in Blackpool's Winter Gardens...

It was with another terrific themed programme—inspired by Saint Saens' *Carnival of the Animals*—and with items specially arranged by Murray Greig, that the youth band impressed the adjudicators.

In a twist resulting from the new marking system—in which bands were awarded places in

order of merit rather than the traditional points—this performance saw Elland caught in a three-way tie for first place with Rochdale Borough Youth and Youth Brass 2000.

Achieving a thoroughly well-deserved first place for Entertainment and third in the Music category, the weighting in favour of the latter meant that Elland were placed third overall. Nevertheless, it was a great result for the junior band in what was a tightly fought contest.

Missed the big day? Buy the DVD and relive the fun (see page 4)

22nd Annual Slow Melody, Duet & Quartet Contest Sunday 8th May 2011

Current members of the Training Band did well in the annual Elland Silver Band Slow Melody Contest, as can be seen in the results below:

11 years & under

- 1st - Emily Armitage, Elland Silver Training Band
2nd - Benjamin Jarvis, Eccleston Band
3rd - Joshua Barber, Elland Silver Training Band

Youngest player

George Kelly, aged 8, Elland Silver Training Band.

14 years & under

- 1st - Bethany Moore, Elland Silver Youth Band
2nd - Bethan Plant, Elland Silver Youth Band
3rd - Dulcie Fieldhouse, Elland Silver Youth Band

16 years & under

- 1st - Seth Livingstone, Dobcross Youth Band
2nd - Bethany Moore, Elland Silver Youth Band
3rd - Andrew Straiton, Elland Silver Youth Band

It seems that the Youth Band has no end of soloists to promote in the future; Bethany Moore (cornet) also achieved a certificate of merit and came second in 14 & Under section of the Brighouse Youth Solo Championships, held the day before the annual festival of brass (see Page 3 >>>)

National Music for Youth Festival, Birmingham Symphony Hall

Thursday 7th July 2011

Having performed at the Regional Music For Youth Festival at Heath Training Centre in March, the band were delighted to receive an invitation to represent Calderdale and perform in the National Festival at the prestigious Birmingham Symphony Hall.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for our young musicians to perform in such a nationally acclaimed event" said Musical Director Samantha Harrison.

The band performed at the event in 2009, but for several youngsters this will be their first experience of the festival. The band had to find some £3000 towards accommodation and travel for the occasion.

The band performed a shortened version of their *Carnival of the Animals* programme in a performance that was dubbed 'technically sound and musically sensitive' and 'accurate and enthusiastic playing which captures the audience' by the adjudicators.

Slow Melody & Quartet Contest Results cont.

Senior Quartets

- 1st - Flixton Four
- 2nd - Flixton Low Brass
- 3rd - Just Four Brass.

Open age group

- 1st - Stephen Lomas, Leyland Band
- 2nd - Bethany Moore, Elland Silver Youth Band
- 3rd - Jim Tew, Vernon Building Society Poynton Band

Veterans (over 40)

- 1st - Jim Tew, Vernon Building Society Poynton Band
- 2nd - Janice Davison, Elland Silver Band

Special Awards

Adjudicator's award

Given at the adjudicator's discretion, this was awarded to 10-year-old Eb bass player Alex Cockburn of Dobcross Youth Band. Kevin gave him the award because of his 'true grit'.

Best Euphonium of the day - Flixton Four Quartet

Best Trombone of the day - Andrew Straiton, Elland Silver Youth Band

Best Tenor Horn of the day - Flixton Four Quartet

Best Cornet of the Day - Flixton Four Quartet

Best Soprano Cornet of the Day - Charlie Morris, Rochdale Intermediate

Highest Mark Elland Silver - Bethany Moore, Elland Silver Youth Band

Best Bass of the day - Jim Tew, Vernon Building Society Poynton.

The contest was once more well supported: there were almost forty slow melody entries with ages ranging from 8 to mid-60's. A new section for Junior Duets (under 16) saw five entries, while a record nine quartets took part overall: five junior (under 16) and four senior.

Speaking at the results ceremony adjudicator Kevin Wadsworth remarked on the success of the day; how much he had enjoyed it and how impressed he was with the standard of playing, especially in the 11 & Under section. He was also impressed with and approved the new section for Junior Duets.

Mr Wadsworth thanked Elland Silver Band for organising this long-established event, saying that they had set a benchmark for others to follow. He also went on to say that, as the brass band tradition suffers a decline, this kind of event can only be good for the movement.

Senior Band News

Yorkshire Regional Championship

Sunday 5th March 2011

Just as the Youth Band were celebrating their success in Blackpool, the Senior Band were beginning to get into the spirit of their own contesting season, which was also to prove successful. It kicked off in Spring with a battle much closer to home, at Bradford's St George's Hall for the annual 'Area' contest.

Competing in the third section under the baton of James Shepherd, the band performed the test piece 'A Little Light Music', by Philip Wilby, to secure fourth place from adjudicators Philip Harper and Major Paul Norley.

Brighouse March & Hymn Tune

Sunday 3rd July 2011

After all of the travelling of previous months, the band's last hurrah before the summer break was all but on their doorstep. On the first Sunday in July the sun came out in strength, and so did the crowds to watch our local favourites beat all the competition in their section! And that wasn't the last of the prizes...

- Tom Wilby Memorial Trophy for Best Youth Soloist—Tom Fox, Principle Cornet, Elland Silver Youth Band
- Charles Badrock Shield and £50 for Best Youth Band—Elland Silver Youth Band
- Harrison Family Shield for Best Youth Department—Elland Silver Youth Band
- £50 for Best 3rd Section Band—Elland Silver Band

Before the announcement of these happy results, Elland Silver Band had a much sadder duty in playing a tribute to composer Goff Richards, who died at the end of June. Principle Cornet Samantha Harrison played a beautiful rendition of 'Demelza' before the audience were entertained with Goff's ever-popular 'Breezin' Down Broadway'.

Whit Friday

Friday 17th June 2011

Having competed with their near neighbours at St George's, the band then headed over the hills for Whit Friday to prove that they can also hold their own further afield, even punching above their weight to win a prize in the second section!

Saddleworth and Oldham District:

Friezland—2nd place, £75

(41 bands competed)

Lydgate—2nd in 2nd section, £75

(60 bands)

Scouthead & Austerlands—Best in 3rd section, £125

(63 bands)

Tameside District:

Carrbrook—highest 3rd section—£125

(37 bands competed)

BAND CALENDAR

DATE	BAND	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	START/ FINISH
SAT 10 SEPT	SENIOR	LAST NIGHT of the PROMS, (Indoor)— Tickets £7	RASTRICK BOWLING CLUB	8.00– 10.00PM
SUN 11 SEPT	YOUTH	HARDRAW SCAR CONTEST	GREEN DRAGON INN, HAWES	ALL DAY
SAT 17 SEPT	SENIOR	MARIE CURIE CONCERT	HALIFAX MINSTER	7.30-9.30PM
SUN 2 OCT	SENIOR	FLEETWOOD OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP	MARINE HALL, FLEETWOOD	ALL DAY
SAT 8 OCT	YOUTH—TBC	CONCERT with HALIFAX YOUNG SINGERS	TBC	7.30PM
SUN 9 OCT	SENIOR	BUTTIES & BRASS CONCERT	SHELF VILLAGE HALL	2.00-4.30PM
SAT 22 OCT	ALL WELCOME	ZUMBA DANCING & DISCO FUNDRAISER— Tickets £6	RASTRICK BOWLING CLUB	7.30-11.00PM
SUN 23 OCT	SENIOR	POGSON BRAY ENTERTAINMENT CONTEST	BERTIE'S BISTRO, ELLAND	TBC
SAT 29 OCT	SENIOR	CHARITY CONCERT for MS SOCIETY	ST JUDE'S CHURCH, HALIFAX	7.30PM
SAT 5 NOV	ALL WELCOME	FESTIVE FAYRE, donations required for stalls	BANDROOM	11.30-3.30PM
SUN 6 NOV	YOUTH	CONCERT with BLACK DYKE & YORKSHIRE YOUTH in aid of CHILDREN IN NEED	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN HALL	6.00PM

MERCHANDISE

www.ellandsilverband.co.uk

Next time you're attending one of our many engagements, please take a look at our growing range of souvenir items, usually on offer during the interval. The most recent additions to the collection are a fabulous limited edition **Elland Silver Band Calendar** (nearly sold out so grab one fast!), which would make a perfect gift alongside our **newest recording**, *Breezin' Down Broadway!*

CDs (£10 each)

**BREEZIN' DOWN BROADWAY
AND ALL THAT JAZZ
HARLEQUIN**



DVDs (from £5 each)

ON STAGE – Hardraw Scar Contest, 2009; Todmorden Park concert; Birmingham Symphony Hall; Halifax Parish Church concert (1 hour)

THE ENTERTAINERS – Action Medical Research Entertainment Contest, Blackpool 2009 – 'Adventures at Sea' programme (45 mins)

CARMEN – Action Medical Research Entertainment Contest (winners), Blackpool 2010 – programme adapted from Bizet's opera (45 mins)

ADVENTURES IN BRASS – National Youth Brass Championships, Manchester 2010; selection from Salendine Nook concert (1 hour)

MASSED BRASS – Elland Senior Band together with Diggle Band, jointly conducted by Jim Shepherd, at Northowram Parish Church (1 hour)

CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS – Action Medical Research Entertainment Contest (1st in Entertainment), Blackpool 2011 – also, material from Hardraw Scar 2010, Sage Gateshead rehearsals and more (1 hour)

Contact Details

For further information about Elland Silver Band - joining, supporting or booking us - please contact our Band Secretary:

**Mrs Kathleen Harrison
102 Burnsall Road
Rastrick
Brighouse
HD6 2EA**

01484 717126

ellandband@hotmail.co.uk

Half of all proceeds raised from the sale of Blackpool contest DVDs will go to the Action Medical Research charity, with the remaining half going towards the Youth Band funds, so buy and enjoy in aid of good causes!

**All our DVDs are £5 each when purchased in person
(from our bandroom during rehearsal or at any band event),
OR £6 incl. P&P (from ellandbandmusic@hotmail.com)**