

# The Bandroom News



## BRASS & BONES *Review*

Article by Steven Ford.

Read about Steven in this issue's Spotlight on Players

Brass and Bones in Brighouse  
With the Clifton Trombone Choir as  
Special guests of the Clifton &  
Lightcliffe Band  
Central Methodist Church, Brighouse  
Saturday 19th February 2005

The Clifton and Lightcliffe Band had arranged to appear for charity in order to raise funds for the Restoration Fund of the local Ebenezer Methodist Church at Bailiff Bridge. Therefore I thought that this would be an ideal opportunity for the Clifton Trombone Choir to appear in public for the first time.

The Clifton Trombone Choir were formed eighteen months ago by Steven Ford (Clifton & Lightcliffe Band Bass Trombone Player), who organised the Trombone Day held in Halifax in 2003. The Choir was formed as a direct result of the Halifax Event after several participants expressed an interest in forming a local trombone group.

We are very lucky to have a nucleus of about 15 members, at this concert 13 trombonists were performing in the choir. During the

### In the News



The trombone section made their way into the Brighouse Courier on Monday 25th of April.

Thank you to Rick Dewhirst-Lister who got the article for me.

concert the Choir were directed by Frank Mathieson (Ex principal bass trombone LSO) and Simon Mansfield (Head of Brass, Rotherham Education Authority). Our players come from all over the North of England.

The group featured the first performance of a new composition especially written for the group by Rob Collinson (Musical Director of Clifton Band), this is called a "Trombone Triptych" a suite in three movements. This tested the technique and musicianship of the group and is certainly a worthwhile addition to any trombone choir's library. Rob is going to publish this work shortly.

The concert also featured Rob's arrangement of "The Long Day Closes" by Arthur Sullivan. Other music featured included several movements

Continued overleaf...

### Special points of interest:

- Brass and Bones
- Winter Takings
- Spotlight on Players
- Robertshaw Music Festival
- Grades: Congratulations
- St Patrick's Day Parade
- Points of Interest

### Holiday Dates

Please let Jane know about your holiday dates by filling out a form, available at the band or in a recent letter

## Winter Events

Collections from Haworth: £1,120.00

Total Christmas collections: £2,875.00

The band wouldn't be able to raise money from the jobs at Christmas without the help of the collectors. This year, we had maybe the youngest collector we have had in a long time.

Pictured is 15 month of Josh and his mum, Fiona. Fiona played with the band between 1986 to 1990.



Brass and Bones Continued.

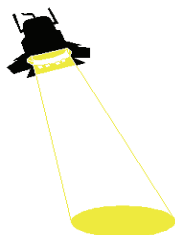
from "Six Pieces for Trombones" by Philip Wilby, Dvorak's best known Slavonic Dance, Jeannie with the light brown hair in the arrangement by Frank Mathison. The superb sound of the choir was displayed in "Ave Verum Corpus" composed by Mozart, this contrasting with the shuttle jazz like effects in "Georgia on my Mind". The second spot closed with the theme music from the Thunderbirds by Barry Gray.

The band featured a varied and well performed programme, this included music composed by Edward Gregson, Verdi and Goff Richards amongst many others. Steven Ford was the soloist in "The Hall of the Mountain King" by Grieg in the arrangement by Bill Geldard. For the Grand Finale the Band joined the Trombone Choir in a special version of "Trombones to the Fore" by Scull.

All in all a very successful first outing for the Trombone Choir. Hopefully they will be heard again in the Autumn at a Trombone Event in South Yorkshire.

Any tenor or bass trombonist interested in joining the group should contact Steven Ford by email ([tromford@hotmail.com](mailto:tromford@hotmail.com)) or by phone on 01422 369847





## Spotlight on

*Steven Ford*



I commenced playing the euphonium at the age of twelve under the guidance of Arthur Butterworth who was then a peripatetic teacher with the WRCC.

I later switched to baritone when I joined Clifton and Lightcliffe. My tutor then was John Womersley, a stalwart with C&L for many years.

My next band was Black Dyke Juniors who were then conducted by Geoffrey Whitham. I firstly played 2nd baritone but later switched to second euphonium as asked for by Geoff. During the mid 60's I was also a member of the Yorkshire School's Brass Band and the National Youth Band of Great Britain.

Then there was a move to the Friendly Band where I played euphonium for almost 9 years. It was during this period that I also started on trombone. My teachers during the Friendly years were Ronnie Fawthrop (ex Black Dyke and Brighouse and Rastrick) and Fred Spencer (ex euphonium Brighouse and Rastrick)

I returned to Clifton and Lightcliffe in the early 70's and played solo euphonium. During this period I switched from tenor to bass trombone and my interest in Big Bang commenced. My musical career then took me to Bradford Metro Concert Band and Lindley Band whilst also playing for several big bands in the area.

The 1980's brought me to Halifax Symphony Orchestra where I was the bass trombone player some 12 years. I was also involved on the administration and music subcommittee.

I came back to Clifton and Lightcliffe about 12 years ago and have seen the band come through a very bad patch in about 1998.

Recently as you know I have formed the Clifton Trombone Choir and we are lucky to have Frank Mathison (Ex Principal bass trombone, London Symphony Orchestra). This inspiration for forming the trombone choir came from the good wishes that I received for the trombone day in 2003. Several people enjoyed playing the special arrangements and on the 19th of February you will hear Rob's new work, Trombone Triptych.

I have known several members of the band for many years, and it is good to play in this fun group. It gives us chances to let our hair down (If you have any) after the many hours spent rehearsing test pieces etc.

### *Musical Career Timeline*

From	To	Band
1961	1963	Clifton & Lightcliffe
1964	1965	Black Dyke Junior Band
1965	1973	Friendly Band
1973	1975	Clifton & Lightcliffe band
1975	1981	Bradford Metro Concert band
1976	1978	Lindley Band
1979		Clifton & Lightcliffe Band
1980	1981	Hammonds Sauce Works
1981	1992	Halifax Symphony Orchestra
1993	present	Clifton & Lightcliffe

**Think you should be in the next spotlight?**

**You can write a small piece about yourself, or ask for a questionnaire from Holly. Your photo *will* be taken.**

## Junior Band -

### Robertshaw Music Festival

The Junior Band have always been supporters of the Robertshaw music festival, held at Bingley Grammar School. For the second year, the Learners group have also taken part, as well as a number of quartets and soloists.

The evening kicked off with the soloists. Eight members of the band took part, as well as two others that had come for the competition:

Daniel Galpin

Matthew Shaw

Rebecca Long

Corey Whitehouse

Sam Whitwam

Luke Matwiejczyk

Alex Murray

Matthew Broadbent

The competition was close, all players performing very well. The adjudicator had a tough job in choosing the winner, but eventually the first prize went to Alex, who played *Wiederkehr*.

Competing against each other next were the A and B quartets, along with the Learners group. Taking first place was the A quartet, closely followed by the others.

The evening ended with the battle of the bands. In a break of tradition, the junior band had opponents this year: Huddersfield Youth Brass Ensemble. It was good to have strong competition. It was even better to beat them!

By the narrowest of margins, of course.



Sam, Alex and Rebecca, performing their pieces and looking cool under pressure.



A Quartet: Holly Crawford, Matthew Shaw, Emma Orme, Elizabeth Cumberly, playing *Hymn to Music*.

B Quartet: Alex Murray, Rebecca Long, Sam Whitwam, Tracey Shaw, playing the *Bridal March*

## Grades

- Eleanor Barrett, Pass with 111 points on Tenor Horn aged 7 years
- Katherine Brewerton, Merit with 121 points on Baritone aged 10 years
- Christina Smith, Pass with 111 points on Baritone aged 10 years
- Jessica Peacock, Pass with 112 points on Tenor Horn aged 10 years
- Sam Gardener, Passed his grade 3 on Percussion with Distinction

## Dates for your Diary

### Senior Band

Sunday 17th April Pogson Bray Contest  
 Friday 22nd April Bradford Masonic Hall Concert  
 Sunday 24th April St Georges Day Parade Brighouse  
 Saturday 18th June Silver Wedding Party at Clifton  
 Sunday 26th June Temple Newsome  
 Sunday 17th July Connisborough Castle  
 Tuesday 19th July Knightsbridge Court Brighouse  
 Sunday 25th July Shibden Park

### Junior Band

Saturday 7th May Rodley Gala  
 Saturday 21st May Moravian Church Wyke evening Concert  
 Saturday 4th June Neil Jarvis (Eb Bass Junior Band Wedding)  
 Sunday 12th June Oakwell Hall  
 Sunday 3rd July Barnard Castle  
 Saturday 9th July Wyke Gala (St Mary's Church)  
 Saturday 30th July Ilkley Bandstand

## St Patrick's Day Parade - Photos

### The new ear cleaning method



### Anyone fancy a change in Uniform?



### Are you sure?



## Points of Interest

Jane is still hoping to arrange a trip to Austria next year unless anyone else has any other preferences.

She will be having a word with the band shortly to establish if we are still interested in going away next year.

Band Dinner.

Jane has a menu from Crow Nest Golf Club and will be issuing a note to see who is interested in going. We are looking at a date at the end of May.

### Slow Melody

We are hoping to have a band Slow Melody on Sunday 19th May. It will be made up of four sections:

12 and under,

17 and under,

Open,

Veterans

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### Band Open Day

Saturday 24th September 2005

Further details to follow

### Clifton and Lightcliffe Brass Band Association

Band Secretary: Jane Clay  
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**Have anything for next newsletter? Special events? Classifieds? Band photo's, news or jokes and facts, send them in!**

**See Holly at band or send them by email to the addresses given.**

**This is your newsletter, so let's make it yours!**