

## BANDROOM NOTES



~ Welcome to the Spring Edition of our newsletter ~

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## Yorkshire Area Qualifying Competition

- 1 Both our bands competed once again in the Yorkshire Area Qualifying competition held at Huddersfield Town Hall on the weekend of 3rd and 4th March
- 2/3 Both without success unfortunately. The senior band competed in the second section and came in at 7th place and the B Band in the third section finished in 12th place. Disappointing for both bands but we have enough points to remain in our respective sections to try again next year.
- 4/5
- 6
- 7 Congratulations to all the winners
- 8 Black Dyke
- 9 Championship Section
- 10 Strata Brass First Section
- 11
- 12 Crofton Silver Second section
- Barnsley Brass Third Section
- Gawthorpe Fourth Section



### Rehearsals

#### Senior Band

- Tuesday & Thursday  
8pm—9.45pm

#### B Band

- Fridays  
7.00pm—8.15pm
- Sundays  
10am—12.15pm

#### Training Band

- Saturday Morning  
10.00am—11.15am
- Website

[www.cliftonband.co.uk](http://www.cliftonband.co.uk)

## SANTA SEVEN ON THE RUN IN SKIPTON

When Jane asked if anyone had any good fund raising Ideas some bright spark (not mentioning any names at all STEPHEN WHITE) said “ Why don’t we put together a team to do the 5k Skipton Santa run?” and that’s where it all began.

The team of seven soon came together and started collecting sponsors. The team began training too. Well John Clay did anyway, walking into Brighouse and back most days a total of 3 miles.

November 26<sup>th</sup> arrived and the team assembled to get kitted out in their Santa outfits. As everyone began to get dressed, Stewart Swallow our trusty horn player had to be different and produced his special custom-made Everton **BLUE** Santa hat! We certainly were not going to lose him in the crowd. Meanwhile John managed to split his red pants before even getting to the start line. Good job he had his own trousers on underneath !!! (I left Jane to deal with that one)

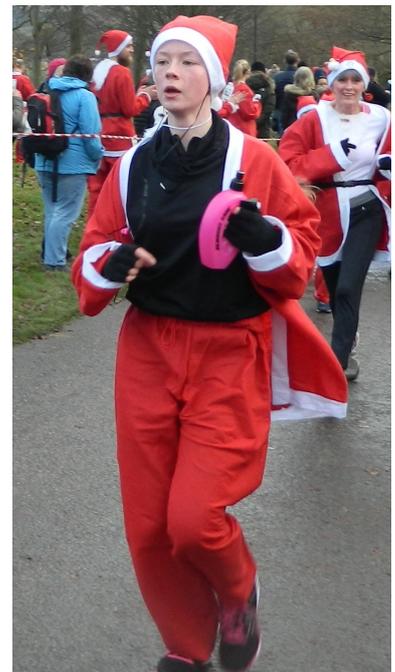
It was the 8<sup>th</sup> year this event had taken place and 2017 saw a record number of entrants. It was an amazing site to see 1,820 Santa’s stood in one place. It is a fantastic event which raises money for three main charities with the entry fee. This year they supported Sue Ryder Manorlands, Yorkshire Cancer Research and the Rotary’s own charities.

As all seven set off with their own personal targets, they also had a team goal of raising money for the band.

First to arrive back in just 40 minutes was Steph White aged 15 closely followed by Andy Shaw and Stephen White, Janet Bell was next with John Clay close behind who completed it in 1 hour, 8 minutes. Jane Clay and Stewart Swallow brought up the rear of our team and crossed the line together in 1 hour, 12 minutes. That was it, all seven safely back in one piece and all still smiling!

It was back to the car to refuel with a hot drink and a mince pie! What a great day out and such a laugh with a good job done. Their team effort raised an amazing £570.00

Well done everyone lets hope we can field a bigger team next year and make lots more money for the band. Thank you to all those who sponsored our runners.



## Various pictures throughout the Autumn of 2017

Snapshots taken of the B Band at the National Brass Band Finals in Cheltenham in September. The band came a very credible 8th out of a field of 20 competitors.



Left—both our bands take part in the Remembrance Day parade in Mirfield. We must say a special thanks to members of the Grange Moor Band for their help in boosting our numbers on the day.

Below—Girl Power and Carols at Tesco Brighthouse.

Bottom left—Long time members and best friends in the band Paul, Graham and Martin.



## Annual Concert 7th October 2017

Both our bands performed alongside Professor Philip Wilby on Saturday 7th October in our Annual concert which was held once again in the Central Methodist Church Brighouse.

The concert set off with the senior band playing three items, the March Empire Stadium followed by a cornet trio Three Little Maids from Gilbert and Sullivans operetta The Mikado. Our Three Little Maids were Joanne White, Caroline Hoyle and Nicky Jeffries. Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody finished off the senior bands contribution.

Professor Wilby performed Bach's Fantasia on 'Komm, Heiliger Geist' BWV 651, after which our B Band played the March Punchinellie which is a combination of the popular brass band march Punchinello and Nelly the Elephant cleverly woven together by composer and arranger Jonathan Bates. Solo Horn player Olivia Gregory then took the limelight with a lovely rendition of Somewhere over the Rainbow from the Wizard of Oz. This was the first time Olivia had performed a solo with the band and she received a wonderful ovation. The B Band finished their contribution to the first half with a selection of tunes from Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

Next, making their first appearance was our little training group the youngest being just 9 years old. They performed Bless this House with Robert Paxman accompanying them on the piano. What a lovely contribution they made to the concert and they brought the house down.

Final item before the interval was Suite Gothique which featured both the senior band and Professor Wilby on the organ. This is a great piece to listen to and you can hear it on our CD The Lost Chord which we recorded some time ago.

After the audience were suitably refreshed the second half commenced with the B band who played three pieces March of the Cobblers, Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone and the Beatles song Hard Day's Night, after which Professor Wilby performed Theodor Dubois: Toccata in G (1886). Three light numbers from the senior band Crocodile Rock, Little Serenade and Copa Cobana followed and the penultimate item was the Finale from Saint-Saens Organ Symphony which most people recognised as the theme running through the film Babe this was played by the senior band and Professor Wilby.

Finally both bands and organ joined together for Arthur Sullivan's The Lost Chord.

We all feel very privileged to have had Professor Wilby with us on our special evening and we thank him for joining us.





Above Both bands entertaining the audience.  
Right—Olivia player her solo. Below—Training group in action.



Below—Our three little maids—Nicky, Caroline and Joanne.  
Bottom left—Members of the senior band in action



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## BBC Radio Leeds Christmas Carol Service

It came as a very nice surprise on Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup> when Jane received an email from David Hoyle at Radio Leeds, inviting the senior band to take part in their Christmas Carol Service. The BBC plan at least six months in advance when recording an outside broadcast.

Jane asked the band the following day at rehearsal and all agreed it would be an excellent advertisement for the whole of our organisation.

We were asked to rehearse four items of music with an average time of three minutes each. The music chosen was the march Christmas Joy by Eric Leidsen followed by Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas, arranged by Chris Wormald. These two items were actually broadcast.

We did prepare my arrangement of John Rutter's Christmas Lullaby to accompany the church choir but unfortunately due to a shortage of time on the night we were unable to rehearse with the choir so they sang it accompanied by the organ. Our last item was Leroy Andersons Sleigh Ride. The band played it very well but it was cut out of the broadcast along with a choir item due to the timing of the overall broadcast.

The band accompanied four of the carols which were sung by the congregation. These were David Willcocks arrangements he was for a number of years the choir master at Kings College, Cambridge and also conducted the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir in the 1960's.

The week before the recording the band had a rehearsal in the church for the producer David Crickmore to listen to work out the logistics for setting up the microphones, we were hoping to rehearse with the choir at the same time but unfortunately they could not be present.

We were asked to arrive at Mirfield Parish Church for 6pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December for a sound check. We played the march and at the end received a good reception from a full congregation even though the recording did not start until 7.00pm everyone was keen to get a good seat.

Andrew Edwards introduced the service which was presided over by the Reverend Hugh Baker, Vicar of Mirfield. The Address was given by the Bishop of Leeds, The right Reverend Nick Baines.

Music was also provided by St Mary's choir, conducted by Scott Senogles and the organist Tom Moore. Huddersfield Choral Society Youth and Junior Choir conducted by Alison North also sang two items.

During the service readings were given by some of Radio Leeds presenters Liz Green, Gayle Lofthouse, David Hoyle and Ambreen Pervez.

The service was broadcast twice over the Christmas period. The first was on Christmas Eve at 6pm and the second was on Christmas day at 2pm.

We would like to thank David Hoyle for inviting the band to take part it was a great experience for all of us and we must also take this opportunity to thank him for regularly playing tracks from our CD's on his weekly Sunday afternoon Radio Leeds Listen to the Band programme. Only a couple of weeks ago he broadcast our recording of Suite Gotheque by Leon Boellmann which is featured on our CD The Lost Chord.

John Clay

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## CONTACTS

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

Musical Director—Mr John Clay 01422 201875

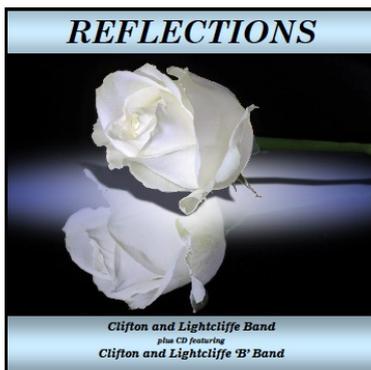
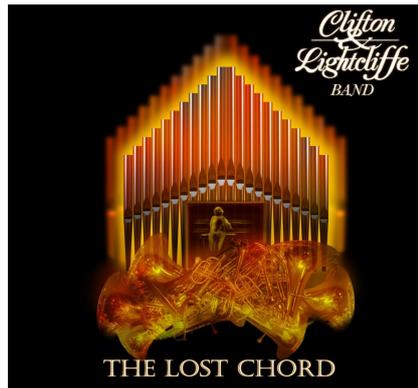
President—Mr Brian Nicholson 01924 490306

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

**Our CD's can now be purchased on line. Visit our web-site [www.cliftonband.co.uk](http://www.cliftonband.co.uk)**



### CD's for Sale

The two top left are £5.00 each and include a wide selection of music, Reflections has two CD's and features both our bands, this is priced at £10.00, and our newest is Live in Concert which was recorded on our very successful tour to Italy August 2015 is priced at £7.50 each. All CD's are available at our concerts or by contacting the band secretary

## 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 if you would like to join, all our contact details are in the contacts section, or ring the Secretary Jane Clay.

## 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, Easter and the Summer

The funds from the 125 Club over the years has provided the band with new equipment such as music, mutes, music stands, percussion items, ties and outdoor coats. If you would like to join please contact either Helen Woodcock or Jane Clay for more details.

# 125 Club Draw

## TRAINING BAND

Our training band is now up and running on Saturday mornings 10.00am—11.00am. If you know anyone who would like to come along and have a go please feel free to invite them along.

We are looking to recruit new members. We have instruments available, we also run a percussion class on Saturday's at 9.00am for an hour.

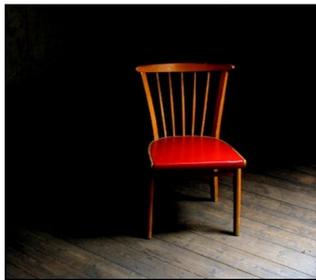
Contact Secretary Jane Clay for more details 01422 201875



## Vacancies

We are needing cornet players for our B Band. We have instruments available. We also need Trombone players.

If anyone is interested do come along either Friday evenings 7.00pm or Sunday mornings 10.00am we will be very pleased to see you.



Our Senior band requires a third cornet and a Bb bass player

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## Hello/Goodbye

We say goodbye to Derek Hoyle who has decided to retire after 50 years playing and Glenn Crisp has left to join Hammonds Saltaire Band. We welcome Matthew Lawrance on Percussion.

We are also pleased to welcome into our B Band John Sheard on Euphonium, Kerry Lawrance on Cornet. And after a break Justin Bartholomew has returned on Baritone. (We knew you could not keep away. Justin) Lovely to have you back with us.

## Adrian Denham

It is with sadness that we report the death of Adrian Denham. Adrian was the son of John and Kathleen Denham who lived at the family home built for their wedding 'Kingston' in Lightcliffe. The Denham family had been connected with the band since the 1940's with John Denham his wife Kathleen being Trustees, after their deaths Adrian kindly carried on the tradition. The family set up the Kingston Trust many years ago which generously supported local organisations around the area including the band. I well remember calling on Christmas mornings for many years with the band to wish the family Happy Christmas by playing their favourite carols, this was a tradition that continued until the house was eventually sold.

Adrian moved away to Rugby but always kept an interest in the band. He had been ill for quite a while. He is buried alongside his parents in the family grave at Warley Halifax. This is the end of an era in the band's history. Our condolences to his family.

Jane Clay

## Trip to the Houses of Parliament

On a recent trip to London in February John and I met up with Laurie Thraves. Laurie started as a young cornet player with our Junior band a number of years ago. As time moved on he progressed to the senior band and at 18 he left us for University.

Eventually he got married and invited the band to play at his wedding in Manchester. Laurie has always come home at Christmas to visit his parents in Lightcliffe and while he is here he likes to dust off his cornet and come out with the band on Christmas morning. He now works for the Government and is based in London. On his latest visit he offered to take John and I around the Houses of Parliament with a work colleague Oliver. While we were going around and listening to Oliver explaining things it brought back memories of when the band was invited on two occasions by our then local MP Donald Thompson to perform on the terrace at the House of Commons along with other Calder Valley bands. The first time was on 2nd June 1989 and the second time 24th May 1991. I particularly remember the second time as we set off via coach to London, got settled in the hotel and then prepared to go to Parliament to do our performance.

Once there everything was set up in the pavilion and someone said 'where is the music?' MUSIC !! Oh no we knew exactly where it was..... In the suitcase in the band room where we had left it. What a good job there were other bands there, a quick look through each of their folders taking one piece from each that we had played at some time before and hey presto we had a programme put together just in time before we were due on. Part of the day was a tour around which was really interesting and a great experience for the band. Happy memories brought back thanks to Laurie and Oliver.



Bottom left the Pavilion overlooking the Thames where we played. Bottom right band in 1991 with John Edward conducting. Top right a young Caroline and Derek along with Alison helping themselves to the refreshments, and top left is the invitation the band received to attend the event.



## Gigglebox

Our Band President Brian Nicholson also doubles up as our concert compere and does a great job, particularly with his little stories between pieces. Brian came up with the idea of Gigglebox and has offered a £5.00 prize for the most amusing one liner to be published.



### Send your entries to Jane and Brian will pick the best.

We have had three entries for the most amusing one liner.

How are cornets like pirates? - They both murder in the high C's

I started a band called 999 Megabytes—We still haven't got a gig

This is my step ladder—I never knew my real ladder

Winner announced next time.

As it was Valentines Day not long ago I thought the caption opposite was appropriate.



## Support from the Co-op

We are pleased to report that for the next 12 months the Co-op at Hipperholme and Scholes have agreed to have the band as one of their three good causes for 2018. I completed an application form last year asking if the Co-op would support our new training band with funds for some new student model instruments. After considering our application they kindly agreed and this means that if you join their reward scheme each time you purchase a Co-op product from either the Hipperholme or Scholes store you can nominate the Band as your good cause and this will add cash to our fund this will also give you cash on your card which you can spend at a later date.

The Co-op are also holding fundraising events throughout the year one being a Easter Tombola and the proceeds will again be split between the three good causes.

So if you shop at either of the two stores please join their reward scheme and nominate the band to add lots of cash to our fund.



## Easter Raffle

As part of our fundraising for 2018 we have organised an Easter Raffle which will be drawn on Thursday 29th March at the band room, and winners will be notified as soon as possible afterwards.

We have written to local businesses to ask if they would be willing to donate a prize, so far the response has been favourable. The first prize has been kindly donated by Crosslee Plc at Hipperholme as is a 7 bottle wine cooler valued at £170. We have various other prizes ranging from restaurant vouchers, hampers, wine, champagne, whiskey, chocolates, biscuits and lots of others.



We would like to thank the local businesses and band members who have generously given prizes.

Tickets are on sale at £1.00 each and can be obtained from any band member or contact Jane Clay on 01422 201875 or email [john366clay@btinternet.com](mailto:john366clay@btinternet.com). Thank you for your support.

## ENGAGEMENTS 2018

### SENIOR BAND

#### MARCH

Friday 16th Craiglands Hotel Ilkley 7.30pm

#### APRIL

Saturday 14th Bradford Grammar School 7.30pm

Saturday 21st Morley St Georges Day 11.00am

Sunday 22nd Morley Rugby Club Gala afternoon

Saturday 28th Bailiff Bridge Community Centre Evening Private Function

Sunday 29th St Georges Day Parade Brighouse 3.00pm

#### JUNE

Saturday 16th Rodley Ecumenical Centre 7.30pm

Saturday 30th St Martins Church Brighouse 7.30pm

### B BAND

#### APRIL

Sunday 29th St Georges Day Parade Brighouse 3.00pm

#### MAY

Monday 7th Little Gomersal May Day Gala 1.00pm

Saturday 19th Ilkley Bandstand 2.00 - 4.00pm

#### JUNE

Saturday 9th Scholes Gala 1.00pm

Saturday 23rd Northowram Church evening concert 7.30pm

