

BANDROOM NOTES



~ Welcome to the Autumn Edition of our newsletter ~

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Awards Evening</i>	1/2
<i>Busy Summer</i>	3
<i>Brassed Off</i>	4/5
<i>Brighouse Gala etc</i>	6
<i>Humorous Memories</i>	7
<i>Contacts/ CD etc</i>	8
<i>Training Band/ Vacancies</i>	9
<i>Christmas Fayre</i>	10
<i>Christmas Day</i>	11
<i>Engagements</i>	12

Rehearsals**Senior Band**

- Tuesday & Thursday
8pm—9.45pm

B Band

- Fridays
7.00pm—9.00pm
- Sundays
10.30am—12noon

Training Band

- Saturday Morning
10.30am—11.30am
- Website

www.cliftonband.co.uk

Awards Evening

This year our awards evening was held on Friday 25th October at the Bailiff Bridge Community Centre.

Our band President Brian Nicholson took on the responsibility of organising it this year. He thought a sit down meal would be a good idea and this proved to be very popular with 53 members and family attending.

We were very pleased to welcome a number of our patrons who joined us and Brian asked if they would present the awards.

First up presented by our Patron Colin Fretwell, Best Section Senior Band voted by the band members was the Front Row Cornets pictured below.

Well done to David, Alex and Joanne.



Next presented by Patron David Bedding was Best Section B Band again voted by the band members was the Horn Section. Congratulations to Pat, Pam, Conor, Julie and Olivia.



Players Player Senior Band (left) this was presented by Patron Frank Wright and voted by the band members. This year was different in that we had joint winners David Crisp (Cornet) pictured with Frank and Alex Smith (Trombone) who unfortunately could not be with us this year as he had a concert with his university band.

Right is Players Player B Band voted by the members and presented by Julie Thornton who has organised the last few awards evenings and is Horn player with the B Band. This award was won by Repiano Cornet player Cathy Gregory.



Most improved player Senior Band this is decided by the Musical Director. John Clay and was awarded to 2nd Cornet player Anne Schofield.



Most Improved Player B Band was decided by Mick Silson who has been taking our B Band for a number of months now. He has been very impressed with the Horn section in the B Band who have improved tremendously over the last few months and he thought rather than an individual the whole section was worthy of the prize so well done Horns. This was presented by John as Mick was unable to attend.

The final award was for Band Person of the Year. This is for the person not necessarily a player who has made a contribution to the organisation as a whole. This award is decided by the members of both bands and was won by Mick Silson.

Thank you to all those who voted and congratulations to all our winners.



Busy Summer

Both our bands have had a very busy summer with concerts in and around the area. Both bands have performed at a number of new venues and we are already receiving repeat bookings for 2020.

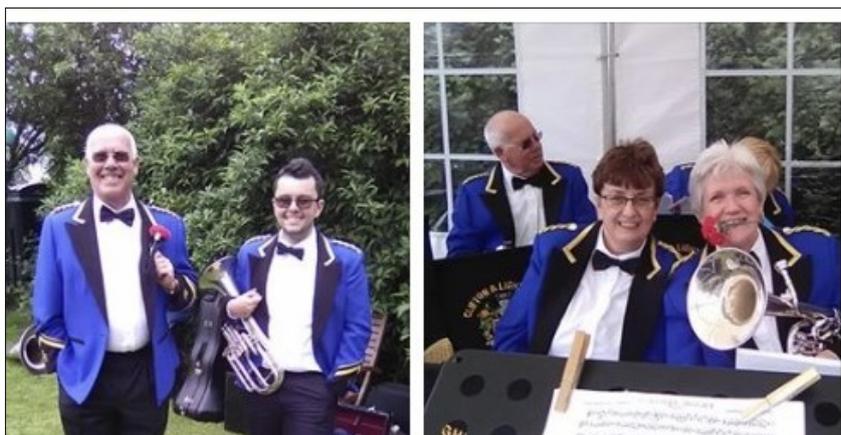
Our concert which was cancelled last Christmas due to the awful weather was re-scheduled to June and proved to be very popular with a large audience enjoying our selection of music. The concert featured our senior and B bands, as well as our small group of trainee players who gave a selection of music which received a very warm reception from the audience. Below is a picture of two of our trainees, brothers Sam and Ben Cooper.



Other venues included Almondbury, Burnley, Harrogate Flower Show and new to us this year was a proms concert in Elvington village near the Air museum, this was the first time this had been held and was reasonably well attended, the great British weather did not help as it was cold and damp, but hopefully next year will be warm and sunny.

The B Band was kept busy too performing at Scholes Church, Oxenhope Vintage Railway, Canal Gardens Leeds, Upper Hopton Gala and Ilkley Bandstand.

Below is the Senior Band at York and lovely to see Stewart back in his uniform and playing again after his illness.



Left is Joanne and Mick at Ilkley Bandstand on a lovely sunny day.



One of the special moments at the end of the summer was our concert at Cleckheaton Town Hall. It was just 12 months since Stewart fell ill at the concert and he felt it was important for him to play again on the stage after such a difficult time. After the interval Stewart's wife Glenda came on stage and said a few words of thanks to everyone who helped him, flowers were presented to our own

Kerry Lawrance for her part and Lynne Owen the cardiac nurse who was fortunately in the audience at the time. Martin Horsfield who also assisted could not be with us as he was working away.

Stewart was also presented with a new band jacket as his original one had to be cut to remove it.

One of our patrons very kindly offered to purchase a new jacket for him but the uniform manufacturer Centre Stage said they would make this jacket at no cost.

Thank you Martin Gernon of Centre Stage for your kind donation.



BAND BRASSED OFF YET AGAIN

The band was invited to perform once again in a production of *Brassed Off*. This time it was at the Cleckheaton Town Hall with the Cleckheaton and Spenborough AODS in May.

Our very first *Brassed Off* appearance was exactly 10 years ago when I received a phone call from Ian Stephenson who was a producer with the Cleckheaton and Spenborough AODS, he had seen the film and wanted to produce the stage version with a local brass band. We were delighted to accept on what was a new and exciting venture for us. So when I was contacted again 10 years on by Ian I knew what he was going to ask and was delighted to accept.

Rehearsals usually go pretty well now as we have done this so many times we just need to learn the staging and movements on and off the sets. I think most of the band can now recite the script by heart!!

Tickets for the three performances sold really well and the last night was a sell out.

The band really enjoys taking part in these plays and we hope it won't be the last time we are invited.



Pictures opposite top—Bandroom rehearsal where the famous Floral Dance scene is shot and conductor Danny thinks we are played a pile of ‘rubbish’ for want of a better word!! Of course this is followed with Gloria’s ‘Orange Juice’ scene which was beautifully dubbed by our very own Jill Crisp on Flugel Horn. Below left is the final scene with the band playing William Tell at the National Finals before being declared winners of the coveted trophy.

David casting his ballot for closing the mine and taking the money and right Alex looking for inspiration.



Scene before the interval Whit Friday Marches in Saddleworth. This was great fun to do and by the response of the audience they really enjoyed it too.

Brighouse Gala

Saturday 29th June was the Brighouse Gala held in Wellholme Park Brighouse and for the 17th year we ran our tombola stall along with a pull a string teddy and chicken in a basket. The day was once again organised by Julia and Rob Wood and is still one of our biggest fund raisers.

The weather this year was hot which meant there were hundreds of people in the park enjoying the day.

We managed to raise over £480 for the day which is then handed to the Brighouse Gala committee. After sorting all the money they collected on the gate and other events they then distribute a percentage of this to all the charities who have taken part on the day and our final total was just over £750 which was a great effort from everyone involved.

Thanks particularly to Julia and Rob Wood and all those who contributed tombola prizes and helped on the day.

We are already collecting tombola items for 2020 so have a look in your cupboards and drawers for anything that may be suitable for our stall. The Gala is always the last Saturday in June.

Items can be stored at the band room.



Annual General Meeting

The band held its AGM at the start of the summer and our President Brian Nicholson reported that there had been some excellent concerts given by both bands over the year and he was very proud to be not only President but our resident compere. He commented that although our contest results had not been great there was a good atmosphere in the band room and hopefully the deserved results will come.

The finances of the band remain strong, we had a costly expense having to do a major repair to the drains outside the bandroom but all is well now. The Italian trip in 2018 was within budget and we are hoping to travel again in 2020.

Fund Raising was busy with lots of events including Race Night, Brighouse Gala, Mini Tombolas, Christmas busking and our Christmas Fayre which were all organised by Julia Wood, Julie Thornton and Stephen White and Brian thanked them for their amazing efforts. The 100 club and the Patrons are continuing to do well and bringing in much needed income.

Officers elected were:

President	Brian Nicholson
Vice Presidents	Roger Whittaker, Susan Broughton, Elizabeth Sharp, Pam Lumb and Lyndon Stacey
Trustees	David Whitehead, Graham Cass, John Clay and Lindsay Todd
Secretary	Jane Clay
Assistant Secretary	Janet Bell
Treasurer	Joanne White
Librarian	Stephen White
Assistant Librarian	Anne Schofield
Fund Raising	Julia Wood, Stephen White
100 Club	Helen Woodcock
Patrons	Janet Bell
Committee	Tracey Shaw, John Clay, Lindsay Todd and Stewart Swallow
Safeguarding	Michael Martin, Janet Bell and Joanne White

Interesting and Humorous Memories

As records are lost over the passage of time articles from the local newspapers are invaluable when looking back at the history of the band. The following is taken from the Brighouse Echo January 1946

“When in 1938 the centenary of the origin of the band was celebrated. It was revealed that records from 1838 to 1877 were missing. Persons present at this celebration, and who knew the contents of these records stated a belief that they were destroyed when the band moved their headquarters from High Moor Lane to Bailiff Bridge. In the hopes of the survival of these records many enquiries have been made. Mr Sam Walton has gathered much verbal information of the band’s early activities, some from the late Sir George Armytage, who was Sam’s Sunday School teacher. Mr Jack Marshall’s grandfather, and Mr John Womersley’s father were among the pioneers of the old band”.

It was thought the band in the early years was known as Pratt’s Brass Band. However a contest held in Kirklees park on 4th July 1857 shows Clifton being unplaced in that contest with conductor Mr Fairburn Rayner and a Pratt’s Band Brighouse winning first prize. But in 1877 we know the band was called Clifton Subscription Brass Band and the first secretary being Mr H Bottomley and Mr H Brearley treasurer, so it is difficult to see exactly what happened with the band during this early period.

Then came a decline and very little activity until the year 1893, when we find the number of instruments had dwindled down to 11, plus bass and side drums, and these were lying idle. However, in the summer of 1883 a group of lads were playing in front of the Black Horse at Clifton which was known in those days as Prospect Buildings a man called them together and gave them a telling off about wasting time and advised then to see the instruments belonging to Clifton Band and ‘get them learnt’. The instruments were stored at the Armytage Arms in an outbuilding and they were told they could have them for a payment of seven and six.

After making the payment the lads sorted themselves out with an instrument and took them home to learn them. Eventually they acquired a ‘band room’ which was an old currier’s shop on Jack France’s Farm. Empty pop bottle cases were their seats and during the winter months the lads picked coal from the old quarry to keep warm and candles to see the music.

Who were the officials responsible for this adventure? H Hirst was secretary and A Hirst treasurer. To their credit they gave unstinted time to their duties and organised a subscription fund to which all bandsmen contributed two pence per week. They had lots of fun too when summer came they practised marching and playing around the old quarry. It was there they gave a trial to a man who worked a Blakeborough’s and who was ambitious to play the big drum. Strapping the drum high on his chest so that he could not see anything they lead him round the quarry edge and then slipped an empty pop bottle case in front of him. Over he went and into the quarry including the drum, I don’t think they were too concerned about his injuries they just laughed. Below is the earliest picture we have of Clifton Band dated 1894



CONTACTS

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

Musical Director—Mr John Clay 01422 201875

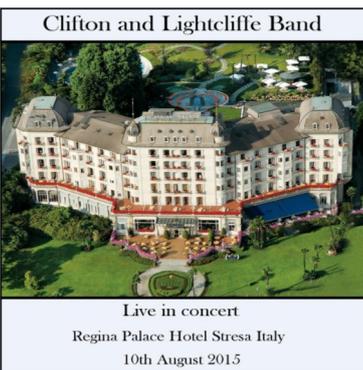
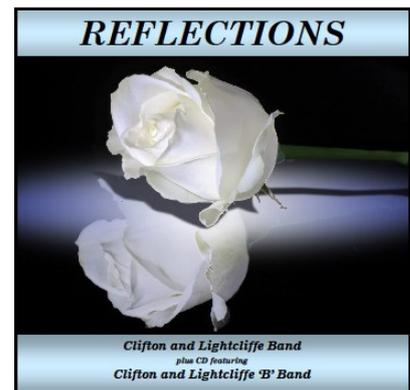
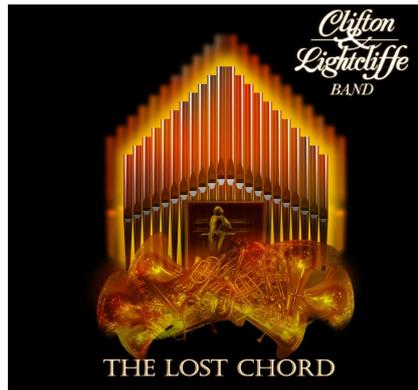
President—Mr Brian Nicholson 01924 689846

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



CD's for Sale

All our CD's are priced at £5.00 each and include a wide selection of music. Reflections has two CD's and features both our bands, and the latest one is Live in Concert which was recorded on our very successful tour to Italy in 2015. All CD's are available at our concerts, on line or by contacting the band secretary Jane Clay 07990633320.

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 01422 201875

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 10.30am—11.30am. If you know anyone who would like to come along and have a go please feel free to invite them.

We are looking to recruit new members. We have instruments available.



Contact Secretary Jane Clay for more details 01422 201875

Training band

Vacancies

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

If anyone is interested do come along either Friday evenings 7.00pm or Sunday mornings 10.30am we will be very pleased to see you.

Our Senior band requires a Soprano and Percussion players

www.cliftonband.co.uk



Clifton & Lightcliffe Brass Band
Christmas Fayre

Bailiffe Bridge Community Centre
 HD6 4DX
 Saturday 30th November 2019
 11am—3pm
 Includes:
 Chocolate Tombola
 Coffee and Mince Pies
 Santa's Grotto
 And Much More!

COME AND JOIN US AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

On 30th November we are having our Christmas Fayre again at the Bailiff Bridge Community Centre between 11.00am and 3.00pm. We have lots of local craft stalls, raffle, coffee and mince pies, games as well as our famous chocolate tombola. Entry is free so please come along and support, all proceeds are for band funds.

We are also on the hunt for more chocolate items these can be anything from cereals, sweets, shampoo, soap, Christmas figures as long as they are made or have chocolate in them they are welcome.

You can bring anything you have to the band room or ring Jane on 07990633320 to arrange collection.

Also if you have a musical group, singers, recorders, even brass instruments and you would like to perform some Christmas music/carols then again let Jane know and we will be happy to accommodate you.

If we don't get another opportunity to put another newsletter together before Christmas we would like to wish all our readers and Patrons a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.



CHRISTMAS DAY—Jane Clay

We are nearly at that time of year again and since the 1930's Clifton band has played carols around the Lightcliffe area on Christmas morning. I remember going as a young player to the band room for 9.00am in full uniform and setting off with carol book in hand and collecting boxes at the ready.

We would work our way into Lightcliffe and call on the President, Vice Presidents and Trustees at the time, these were usually local business men and influential people who lived in the area.

I remember calling at the home of the Brookes family who owned the stone quarry in Lightcliffe which was formed in 1840, in 1898 they patented the non-slip paving stone which enabled them to expand worldwide. They even had their own branch train line from the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. Sadly like many companies they eventually closed and sold the majority of its land at Lightcliffe to the electrical company Phillips now owned by Crosslee since 1986, and in 2019 has announced its closure.

William Brooke and the family who owned the quarry had been closely connected with the band since 1932, when we called and played their favourite carols the men in the band would be offered cigars and cigarettes from a silver box and the youngsters would be given chocolates like we had never seen before from big boxes with ribbons around them, we were under strict instructions to only take one!!!

There were lots of stops like this one including Lydgate House owned by the Whitehead family, Edward was our President for many years until he sadly passed away.

The care home Longlands on Leeds and Whitehall Road was also a regular where the matron used to give us steaming coffee with rum from her trolley which was full of cups, jugs and chocolate biscuits, it was delicious on a cold wintery morning.

I also remember as a child going to 'Kingston' which was the home of the Denham family who were band trustees. The older bandsmen used to tell us if the family heard us coming down the drive they would not answer the door, so we used to creep down as quietly as we could (which afterwards you realised was impossible as they had a gravel drive!!).

Mrs Denham would come to the door with a list of her favourite carols which we would play for her, after which she would generously fill our collecting box and give a sixpence to the child holding the box.

How things have changed over the years most of these lovely houses and families have gone, but the band still plays on in a tradition that has lasted almost 90 years.

Funny Musical Terms

Tutti	=	Ice Cream
Rubato	=	Ointment for the musician's back
Crotchet	=	Knitting
Time Signatures (Sorry guys!)	=	Things for the percussion section to ignore
Scales	=	Fishy things
Acciaccatura	=	Insects
Quaver	=	The feeling before a rehearsal when you haven't practised
Subdominant	=	I can't play until I've asked the wife
Dim	=	Thick
Professional	=	Anyone who can't hold down a steady job
Prelude	=	Warm-up session before the clever stuff starts
Forte	=	The neighbours are out
Trill	=	Bird Food



ENGAGEMENTS 2019

SENIOR BAND

NOVEMBER

Saturday 23rd St John's Church Cleckheaton 7.30pm
 Saturday 30th Christmas Fayre Bailiff Bridge Community Centre 11.00—3.00pm

DECEMBER

Thursday 5th Heartbeat Brighouse 7.30pm Christmas Music for an hour
 Saturday 7th St James Church Bolton Road Bradford 7.00pm
 Wednesday 11th Rodley Ecumenical Church Carols by Candlelight 7.00pm
 Wednesday 11th Manor Golf Club Drighlington 8.00pm
 Friday 13th St Thomas Church Greetland 7.30pm
 Saturday 14th Morley Music Society Christmas Concert 7.30pm
 Saturday 14th Carols at Tesco Brighouse 10.30am onwards
 Tuesday 17th St John's Church Clifton Christmas Cracker 7.15pm
 Friday 20th Bradford and Bingley Head Office afternoon
 Friday 20th Pudsey Masonic Hall 7.30pm 1 hour
 Saturday 21st Carols around the tree Upper Hopton 6.00pm—7.00pm
 Wednesday 25th Carols around Lightcliffe 10.15am to 1.00pm

On the run up to Christmas we have also been invited to play carols at Sainsbury in Brighouse details to follow

B BAND

NOVEMBER

Saturday 30th Christmas Fayre Bailiff Bridge Community Centre 11.00—3.00pm

DECEMBER

Thursday 5th Heartbeat Brighouse 7.30pm Christmas Music for an hour
 Wednesday 11th Rodley Ecumenical Church Carols by Candlelight 7.00pm
 Saturday 14th Carols at Tesco Brighouse 10.30am onwards
 Sunday 15th Wibsey Methodist Church Christmas service and short concert 4.00pm
 Friday 20th Bradford and Bingley Head Office afternoon
 Saturday 21st Carols around the tree Upper Hopton 6.00pm—7.00pm
 Wednesday 25th Carols around Lightcliffe 10.15am to 1.00pm

On the run up to Christmas we have also been invited to play carols at Sainsbury in Brighouse details to follow

