



HOLBEACH TOWN BAND

Enjoying Brass Banding in Holbeach since 1971

Golden Anniversary
(1971 - 2021)

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024

MAY EVENTS

We are ready for the two big tuliptime parades!

On Sun 5th May we make our annual trip to Holbeach St Marks for their tuliptime parade. Roads close at 1.00pm but we will be allowed to go to the starting point! We expect to set off about 2.30 / 2.45ish.

We will be on a trailer towed by a tractor. We will play while there are people to listen! But we travel out of the village and lose the audience so we have a rest, then we turn around and go back.



On Sat 11th May we are playing in the Spalding Flower Parade. We presume we will be on the back of a lorry as we were last year.

We have been invited to go to the lorry on Friday evening to decorate it with tulips etc. and to attach our new banner.

Many roads will be closed; but participants have been asked to be at the ground by 9.15am at the latest. The parade is due to set off at 11.00am.

Last year we had difficulty getting away at the end of the parade as we weren't allowed out until the whole parade had returned.

[photos from 2023]

COMING UP

- Sun 5th May - Moulton Chapel Tuliptime Parade
- Wed 8th May - Brownies and Guides visiting us
- Sat 11th May - Spalding Flower Parade
- Thu 6th June - D-Day 80th anniversary at Fleet Hargate
- Sun 9th June - Summer Fete at Fleet Hargate
- Fri 28th June - Open Day
- Sat 27th July - 50s themed Garden Party at Patchett Lodge
- Mon - Fri 29th July to 2nd August - Learn to Play Week
- Sat 10th August - Give It A Go in Carters Park
- Sun 1st September - Holbeach Food Fair
- Sat 14th September - Last Night of the Proms
- Sun 10th November - Remembrance Service at Holbeach St Marks

Note: we will have rows of 4 players for Moulton Chapel; but rows of 3 players for the Flower Parade.

There will be a seating plan for each parade!



OFFICERS

Musical Director	Mel Hopkin	mel@mhopkin.co.uk
Chairman	Neil Simons	neil@blott.org
Secretary	Bev Davey	bevslidavey@gmail.com
Treasurer	Deborah Simpson	deborah.simpson4371@gmail.com
Band Manager	Martin Walters	martin.walters@sky.com
Welfare Officer	Zoe Holdsworth	zoe.hopkin@gmail.com



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BANDROOM

Car Park:

The Parish Council have told us to stop parking on their car park. This seems to be because the Council and its other tenants *might* want to park there. This is strange because the car park has been used by the band for the past 46 years without any problems. We only use the car park on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings so we rarely interfere with access for other users and have been happy to move our cars on the rare occasion it has been necessary. Neil has written to the Council.

Learners:

There will be no Saturday morning lessons on 11th May due to the Spalding Flower Parade

Brownies and Guides:

On 8th May, the local brownies and guides are coming to the band room to see what we do and try out instruments.

There will be approx. 15 Brownies who will come at 5:30 for an hour; and 18 Guides who will follow them for another hour.

Members of the main band and training band are invited to come along and help.

PRACTICE TIPS

This is the next of a series of tips from Fiona Berry B.Mus(Hons), L.R.S.M, L.T.C.L, L.L.C.M © Learn Together Music 2002.

TIP 7

Make faster progress by practising more slowly

It's essential to practise slowly to ensure you get things right on your first attempt. Your brain needs to strengthen the neural pathways so that you can play a passage accurately every time. People often refer to this as muscle memory.

Your brain remembers all the information you input into it, regardless of whether it's right or wrong. To develop your muscle memory, you have to strengthen the pathway. **You can only do that by repeating the action in the same way every time.**

So when you practise slowly, it gives you a far better chance of achieving accurate repetitions. And when I say slow, I'm talking at least half-speed, if not below. It's an excellent idea to practise with the metronome set to the lowest note value of the music.

For example, if you've got a quaver (1/8th note) passage, play one quaver per click on the metronome. Then gradually increase the tempo until you can play the notes confidently without error. Don't try and subdivide straight away, as it will slow down your progress in the long run.