



# HOLBEACH TOWN BAND NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2019

## DECEMBER EVENTS

We have had an amazing but busy Christmas.

We played three Christmas Concerts. The first was at St Mary's Church, Tydd St Mary (our regular start to Christmas!) on 6th December. We had a good turnout and the refreshments at half time were a wonderful selection of home-made soups



and hot dogs. Yummy! There was a good audience, who were impressed by the Band's amazing jumpers!

The following week we played at St Paul's Church, Fulney. Another return visit with



a good turnout again and another good audience and good refreshments.



Our third concert was at the Elizabethan Centre, Whaplode Drove. This concert was well organised by our own Martin and Helen Oliver.



We had a few absences through illness and holidays but still put on a good performance. We were joined by local singer Sharon Bingham who sang during our half-time break while we had a good array of refreshment



We also had groups out playing carols at Tescos Holbeach (3 times), Sainsburys Spalding, the Band's Bingo, Crowland Abbey, and Caffé Aurora. The plan was to have groups of 8 or 9 players which was generally what happened. We also had a good turnout of collectors, although collectors were in short supply at Caffé Aurora. Thanks also to band members who did some collecting. And thanks to Pawel and Corey for leading the carols at Crowland and Tescos, respectively, while the MD was with a different group.

## CAROLS PHOTOS



## BINGO

The bingo sessions raise welcome funds to help with the band's overheads. All sections of the band benefit. The next bingo is on Friday 10th January. Help is needed to set up at 6.30pm, sell tickets at 7.00, serve refreshments at 8.15, and pack away at 9.30. Please help if you can .

Please donate raffle prizes for the Bingo's raffle. A box is provided in the bandroom.

## COMING UP

**Band Meal**

The Band Meal is at 7.30 on 2nd January at the Bluebell Inn, Cranesgate, Whaplode St Catherine PE12 6SN. Please arrive by 7.00pm

**Band Music**

We are meeting at the bandroom on Friday 3rd January to sort out the black folders ready for the new season. We need to remove some music and replace it with the band's choice of what to play this year!

## GOODBYE

**Paul Sayers:** after a long battle fighting cancer, Paul passed away peacefully on Christmas Eve. He was a member of the Learner Group, having joined through the Learn to Play week in August 2014, and was a regular at our concerts.



**Ben Walters:** Ben has left as he did not find the timpani enough of a challenge. We hope he returns at a later date.

## PRACTICES

**Senior Band:**

Practices restart at 7.30pm

**Training Band:**

Practices restart at 6.30pm on Wednesday 8th January

**Learner Group:**

Practices restart on Saturday 4th January. There will be a small change of times! The learner group will meet at 10.00am as usual, but there will be a new group for beginners at 11.00am. This new group will be for those just starting to play.

## DONATION

We were delighted to receive a donation of £125 from the Holbeach Charity Book Shop. The Book Shop also gave similar amounts to three other local charities. They presented a cheque to our Musical Director at a special social event in December. The donation was specifically for the Training band to publish leaflets about the Band and its training opportunities and for new music.

## EVENTS LIST

Date	Event	Arrive	Start
Thursday 2nd January	Band Meal at the Bluebell Inn	7.00 pm	7.30pm
Friday 3rd January	Sorting music at the bandroom	2.00pm	2.00pm

## OFFICERS

Musical Director	Mel Hopkin	mel@mhopkin.co.uk
Chairman	Stephanie Palmer	spalmer9902@gmail.com
Secretary	Deborah Simpson	deborah.simpson4371@gmail.com
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Band Manager	Neil Simons	neil@blott.org
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