



Golden Anniversary
(1971 - 2021)

HOLBEACH TOWN BAND

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2022

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Band took place on Wednesday 5th January at the Women's Institute Hall.

The following Officers were appointed:

Chairman	Neil Simons
Vice Chairman	Geoff Cooper
Musical Director	Mel Hopkin
Secretary	Bev Davey
Treasurer	Deborah Simpson
Music	Emma Simpson
Uniforms	Martin Walters
Welfare Officer	Deborah Simpson

The role of the Chairman will now incorporate the role of Band Manager

Following the meeting the Rt Hon Lord Taylor of Holbeach CBE accepted our invitation to be a Vice-President of the Band.

Since the meeting Toby Walters has been appointed to take charge of social media including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter and Youtube.

It was agreed to purchase a new set of uniform jackets.



The following trophies were awarded:

Musical Director's Award (awarded by the Musical Director for Achievement or Service to the Band) to Matthew Simons for progress on flugel horn.

Cecil Cook Trophy (awarded to the Player's Player of the Year) to principal cornet Paweł Nieweglowski.

Jack Hopkin Shield (awarded for achievement in the Training Band) to Claire Stroud

COMING UP

Sun 1st May - Moulton Chapel Tuliptime Parade

Fri 7th May - Holbeach Air Cadets formal meal at South Holland Centre

Sat 4th June - Queen's Jubilee at Carter's Park, Holbeach

Sun 5th June - Queen's Jubilee garden party in Cowbit

HISTORY OF THE BAND (PART 1)

The Band was founded in 1971 as Holbeach Community Band by Mr Brian Long with the help of a grant of £50 from Holbeach Parish Council.

Mr Long discovered that the Thetford Band in Norfolk had disbanded and that their instruments and uniforms were for sale. After obtaining a loan from the bank of £250, Mr Long was able to purchase 12 instruments and 15 uniforms from the Thetford Band.

The Band had no premises at the time; it held its weekly practice sessions in peoples' homes and later, as numbers increased, in the George Farmer School in Holbeach (now University Academy Holbeach).

In 1978 the Band obtained the lease on the present band-room in Back Lane, Holbeach, which had previously been the property of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Holbeach and was their original 'Kingdom Hall' in this area. The Kingdom Hall had become vacant and the band asked the local Council for financial help to buy it; instead, the Council purchased the hall themselves and let it to the band at a peppercorn rent for a 30 year term.

OBITUARY

We are sorry to say goodbye to Les Ward who died on 14th January. He was bass drummer with the Band for many years and raised substantial sums through fund-raising by running monthly bingo sessions and a Saturday stall.

OFFICERS

Musical Director	Mel Hopkin	mel@mhopkin.co.uk
Chairman	Neil Simons	neil@blott.org
Secretary	Bev Davey	bevsl Davey@gmail.com
Treasurer	Deborah Simpson	deborah.simpson4371@gmail.com
Welfare Officer	Deborah Simpson	deborah.simpson4371@gmail.com