



# HOLBEACH TOWN BAND

## NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2019

### NOVEMBER EVENT

Our only engagement this month was our annual visit to the Remembrance Service at Holbeach St Marks. It is understood that this was the first engagement the band every undertook some 48 years ago and we have played every year since.

Our turnout was the lowest at this service in recent times, reflecting the reduction in band members this year.

As usual we played at the war memorial before the Church service. We did not get much opportunity to play much as the laying of the wreaths started a little earlier than anticipated.

We then go into the Church and play the hymns for the service.

Last Post is played twice. Corey Genovese played outside at the War memorial;



Toby Walters played in the Church at the end of the Service.



Following the Service we play suitable music as the audience retire. This year we played 'In Flanders Fields' which includes Last Post played over the tune, this time played by Pawel Nieweglowski.

The quality of the performances of Last Post was impressive and commented on by the congregation.



### MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

- We need to find time to sort out the black folders ready for the new year. Thanks for suggestions of what to include - we will try all the suggestions.
- Christmas uniform for outdoor events is Winter Coat and Santa Hat. But be prepared - sometimes, when we play outside supermarkets, we are allowed to play in a warm(ish) area; it is worth having your normal uniform underneath your winter coat so you can take the coat off.
- We are not wearing uniforms for our three Christmas concerts. Instead, it's Christmas jumpers or similar Christmas wear.
- Instruments can be decorated with tinsel etc.

### BINGO

The bingo sessions raise welcome funds to help with the band's overheads. All sections of the band benefit.

The next bingo has been moved to Saturday 7th December as the Band has a concert on the Friday. Help is needed to set up at 2.00pm, sell tickets at 2.30, serve refreshments at 3.15, and pack away at 5.00. Please help if you can .

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

As this is the Christmas Bingo we will play carls during the half-time break, so we could do with extra help serving refreshments that day.

## COMING UP

In December we have 3 Christmas Concerts. On Friday 6th December we are making our regular visit to St Mary's Church at Tydd St Mary (home of delicious soups at half time!). The next Friday (13th) we are making a return visit to St Paul's Church, Fulney where we were made very welcome last year. And on Saturday 20th December we are going back to the Elizabethan Centre at Whaplode for a concert with singer Sharon Bingham.

We are NOT playing for the Spalding celebrations on 8th December. The Council have filled the available slots in town (one of the problems of making sure we have a band before accepting an engagement); they had suggested we could play in Ayscoughfee Gardens that day, which would have suited us, but it seems there is no room!

But we ARE playing at Crowland Abbey - a group will go there while another group play carols at the Band Bingo.

We have lots of carol-playing lined up! Tesco on 7th, Sainsbury on 14th, Tesco and Aurora Caffè on 21st and Tesco on 24th. [Remember to register your vehicle in store on arrival.]



## COLLECTORS NEEDED

Please remember we need collectors for the supermarket/café carol-playing. If you are not playing in the group(s) then please collect; members of the Learner Group and Training Band can also collect, although there is a minimum age of 16 for collectors; please also ask partners/parents to help.



## CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Don't forget to put your name down on the list in the bandroom for this festive get-together. It's at the Five Bells, Whaplode St Catherines. There is the possibility of a carvery if enough people go.

## BAND PRACTICES

There will be No Band Practice on Christmas Day and New Year's Day (sorry!)

There will be NO Saturday morning Learner groups during December because the band is out carol-playing. They restart on 4th January.

## EVENTS LIST

Date	Event	Arrive	Start
Sunday 10th November	Remembrance Sunday	2.30pm	2.45pm
Friday 6th December	Tydd St Mary Church	7.00pm	7.30pm
Saturday 7th December	Carol-playing at Tescos, Holbeach	9.45am	12.30pm
Saturday 7th December	Carol-playing at Crowland Abbey	1.45pm	2.00pm
Saturday 7th December	Carol-playing at Band Bingo, WI Hall Holbeach	3.00pm	3.45pm
Friday 13th December	St Paul's Church, Fulney, Spalding	6.30pm	7.00pm
Saturday 14th December	Carol-playing at Sainsburys, Spalding	9.45am	12.30pm
Saturday 21st December	Carol-playing at Aurora Caffè, Holbeach	9.45am	12.30pm
Saturday 21st December	Carol-playing at Tescos, Holbeach	9.45am	12.30pm
Saturday 21st December	Elizabethan centre, Whaplode Drove	6.30pm	7.00pm
Tuesday 24th December	Carol-playing at Tescos, Holbeach	9.45am	12.30pm
Thursday 2nd January	Band Social at the Five Bells	6.45pm	7.00pm

## OFFICERS

Musical Director	Mel Hopkin	<a href="mailto:mel@mhopkin.co.uk">mel@mhopkin.co.uk</a>
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