

HOLBEACH TOWN BAND

NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2016

BUSY MONTH

We had 3 engagements in September:

4th September - Family Fun Day at Woodlands Farm, Algarkirk

The Fun Day concluded with a Last Night of the Proms Concert by the band. The venue was very isolated and not many people found it!



The concert was a little shorter than usual at an hour and a half (including break). We had a few players away through work and holidays and had a couple of depts to help on 1st Trombone and Eb Bass (thanks to Nick and Adriaan)

17th September - Holbeach Primary Academy Fayre

A return visit (after a couple of years) to Holbeach Primary Academy for the opening of their Autumn Fayre. with a 12.00 noon start, we had a problem getting the



band together, so we had a relatively small band and not much of an audience. But we were on the back of a covered trailer and protected from the weather .

BANDROOM

The Bandroom was discussed by the Parish Council at their meeting on 12th September. We now have 2 more years to find a new bandroom.

Extract from the Council's Minutes:

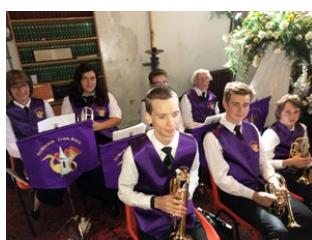
(c) Band Hall: There was considerable debate amongst Members and it was generally felt that the Parish Council wanted to continue to support the Town Band and (a) two year period would enable both the Parish Council to investigate opportunities for the site in addition to giving the Band more time to seek alternative premises.

Clr Armiger proposed in the first instance that the current lease be further extended for a period of two years from 1st October 2016 and this was agreed. She then went on to propose the rent increase to £750 in the first year of the new lease and £1,000 in the second year. There was a counter proposal of an increase to £200 per annum which was subject to a vote and which was carried by six votes in favour and with two abstentions.

25th September - Cowbit Flower Festival

We played at St Mary's Church, Cowbit The Church is small and there was not enough room for us at the altar end; so the organisers cleared a space for us at the West door. It was a bit of a squash and, perhaps, fortunate that we had a number of players absent!

An unexpected consequence of playing at the back of the Church was that the audience were sat in pews facing away from the band!!



BAND PRACTICES

Please do your best to get to practices on time. Practices for all bands will start as close as possible to the appointed time, so you should arrive 5 minutes before to get ready.

Please text, message or email the MD if you can't get to practice.

Subscriptions:

The half-time break is taking too long - too much time is spent paying membership subscriptions. From January we will ask for subscriptions to be paid quarterly in advance. Standing order forms will be provided to make this easier.

Please note:

1st October - NO starter or learner groups

5th October - NO Training Band

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COMING UP

Crowland Abbey

A return visit to Crowland for an evening concert in the Abbey on Sunday 16th October - start at 7.30pm

Always a lovely venue - not one to be missed!



Remembrance Concert

A new one for us! On 11th November, we will be playing at the South Holland Centre, Spalding. The concert will primarily be a remembrance of the first World War and will include the Ayscoughfee Hall School choir



Remembrance Sunday

Our annual visit to Holbeach St Marks for their Remembrance Service.

BAND MEETING

There was a busy meeting on 27th September. Please remember that all band members (including Training Band, Learner Group and Starter Group) are welcome at band meetings, as well as parents of younger members

Chairman

Yvonne has stepped down as Chairman after some 15 years in the post. Stephanie, as vice-chair, will take over the role until the AGM in January. The Band's thanks go to Yvonne for her hard work over her term of office, keeping the band on an even keel!

Librarian

Yvonne has also given notice that she will step down as Librarian at the AGM - a job she has done very well.

So, we will need to appoint a new Librarian. Can you do the job?

Subscription

See [Band Practices](#) on Page 1

Maintenance/House-keeping

We will:

- get the heaters repaired in the bandroom and toilet
- set up a rota for cleaning the bandroom, kitchen and toilet on a

weekly basis

- Clear out the rubbish!

Equipment

We will look for grants to get extra waistcoats and winter coats; mutes and additional percussion instruments. Also a grant to buy more professional-quality instruments to replace the 'student' instruments currently used by some in the senior band.

Band Party

We will have a band party at the end of January/beginning of February to follow a Music Café at the W.I. Hall.

The Music Café will include performances by the Training Band, Learner and Starter groups.

BINGO

The next Band Bingo is on 14th October. With a rent increase it is more important than ever to keep these fund-raising activities running. Please help if you can. Arrive at the W.I. Hall at 6.30pm to set up; finish approx 9.30.

The Bingos are usually held on the 2nd Friday of the month but, in November, the band is playing that night, so the Bingo has been moved to 4th November

EVENTS LIST

Date	Time(s)	Event
Sun 16 Oct	7.30 - 9.30pm	Concert at Crowland Abbey
Fri 11 Nov	7.30 - 9.30pm	Remembrance Concert at South Holland Centre
Sun 13 Nov	2.30 - 4.00pm	Remembrance Service at Holbeach St Marks
Fri 2 Dec	7.30 - 9.30pm	Christmas Concert at Tydd St Mary Church
Sat 3 Dec	7.30 - 9.30pm	Spalding Parish Church (Gentleman's Society and Ayscoughfee Hall)
Sun 4 Dec	1.00 - 3.30pm	Holbeach St Nicholas Fayre
Sat 17 Dec	7.30 - 9.30pm	Christmas Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Holbeach

Carol playing on 3rd, 11th, 17th and 24th December.

OFFICERS

Musical Director	Mel Hopkin	01775 712420	mel@mhopkin.co.uk
Chairman	Stephanie Palmer	01406 425227	stephaniepalmer@tesco.net
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