



Copthorne Silver Band

Newsletter No 7

~~JUNE~~ DECEMBER 2019

Is there an award for being the slowest editor of all times? I started this Newsletter on the 12th June and now, 6 months later, I hope to finish it. Almost all the future events have come and gone and just around the corner is Christmas and another New Year. I have to apologise for my tardiness and can only say two words as explanation - Gang Show!

My thanks go to all the committee members and especially Sheila for keeping everything running smoothly.

In this Newsletter we try to review the past engagements since the last newsletter and bring you up to date with what the committee have been doing.

Firstly



To players who came in to assist us during this year.
Jackie Barwell for the help at the Gang show.
A thank you also to Jim Terry and Wendy for travelling down to join us at Capel.

And anyone else I may have forgotten

Farewell to Robert Feasey.



With grateful thanks for all Robert has done for the band over many years.
Hopefully he will keep blowing and another band will benefit from his friendship, playing and wit.



We welcome a new member in Mark Phillips filling the gap in the bass section.

Quick review of this years engagements

Sat 29th June Copthorne Carnival. This year the Band Played On. Located at the end of the field it was able to play a full programme without affecting other entertainments. Many good reviews from local people.

Thurs 11th July Open Band Evening. Not a very good response but a fun evening with some young enthusiasts. Thanks to Chris for encouraging them to come. The Committees view is that we should keep pursuing all avenues for new players.

Sunday 14th July Borde Hill Gardens joining Bands from Southern Counties Amateur Band Region. A hot Day and a short programme well received.

Sat 17th Aug Capel Flower Show. Always a pleasant day and a full programme of music without repeating any numbers. Booked for next year. An event enhanced by the guest visit of Wendy and the valuable support of Jim Terry and Aiden.

Sun 8th September Horley Lions Dog Show. A late request, so thanks to all members for helping us field a good band for this event.

Fri 11th October – Sheila's special Birthday party. What a privilege to play on this special day for a special person - and the food was good too!

Sat 12th October - Joint concert with Songbirds. Another great concert. The combination of the band and choir works so well. The committee are looking at how we can improve our marketing of concerts using social media.

Sat 30th November St Johns Christmas Fair. A small but happy band starting the Christmas Season

Sat 23rd November The Gang Show

The support the Band gave the Scouts and Guides was phenomenal and they are grateful for your help in making this show another tremendous success.

For the young people involved it will be a special day to remember. The enthusiastic audience have sent so many wonderful comments on the show not only about the Scouts and Guides but also about Copthorne's superb Band. The Band presented itself so well both in support of the singing and action and during the performance on the stage. The choice of

music was just right and Chris's help to the young cast was invaluable.

On behalf of the Copthorne Scouts and Copthorne Guide units I can only say the biggest THANK YOU.

Below are just a few pictures I snipped from the DVD.



The new Band Librarian

We are pleased that Ray has taken on the Band librarian position. This is a difficult task and we hope everyone will give Ray as much support as possible. The band has purchased a lap top computer to enable him to keep the band library records up to date and he has already been quite involved in sorting out the music.

Please remember music is expensive, it is easily damaged. One lost part can make a whole set useless. Some of our music is irreplaceable.

One of Rays first jobs will be to try and relocate the some 200 loose pieces of music gathered up in the bandroom, and from folders, that need to be put back into title folders. This will take some time so I am sure he will welcome volunteers to assist.

Committee Chatter

Band rehearsals

Band rehearsal time is short with 2 ¼ hours per week less the break time and the committee discussed possibly starting at 7.30 pm. However as some already find the start time difficult it was decided to leave it as it but efforts would be made to try and keep the well earned break as short as possible.

Publicity

Publicity, particularly for concerts, has been debated and opportunities discussed. It is felt that we are not making best use of what's available. We need to know publication deadline dates, how to utilise 'band' friendly sites, getting adverts placed accordingly and keeping the website up to date with events, photos and video clips to aid promotion. Lorraine is putting together a publicity schedule and investigating various social media options.

Image is everything

No matter how well we play, if the public perception of the band is not good we will find it difficult to be entertaining. Without doubt the bands persona has developed immensely over the last year and it is vital that we continue to build on this.

The committee are continually thinking of ways we can improve and publicise our image. Consideration has been given to putting our banner outside the band room on practise nights. We will continue to try and promote the Open Band Evenings. We will be producing a new poster seeking more players to be circulated in the new year. If you have any ideas on how we improve the bands image please pass them on to the committee.

Safeguarding

Lorraine has been working on updating our safeguarding policy in response to guidance received through our membership of Making Music. Should anyone ever have any concerns regarding safe guarding they should pass them to Lorraine where they will be dealt with in confidence.

The M.D requests.

Since Chris joined us nearly 2 years ago the Band has been a much happier, more social place to be and due to his encouragement the committee feel the band is now much better placed to perform its main function which is to entertain.

As a professional conductor Chris has integrated with the Band to a degree we could not have anticipated when he was first engaged and he faced our many challenges without ever directly criticising our many flaws.

I am sure he has earned all of our respect as an accomplished musician with knowledge and can make us all better players. Knowledge which he imparts in a friendly manner which is never disparaging.

Chris has requested that members do their best to take music home and carry out personal practice. They can access most music on You Tube so that they can listen to the parts.

The Committee support Chris in this request whilst asking that members are careful with the music and where possible take copies or photographs for practicing purposes.

So this year, one of my New Year's resolutions will be to try and set aside some time each week to practice, although I have to confess to being pretty useless at keeping New Years resolutions.

Committing to engagements

When the engagements are published for next year, please can all members assist Sheila by returning information of their availability as soon as possible.

It is important that all sections are covered and it is difficult to find deputy players to cover parts at short notice.

Future Engagements

Saturday 14th December Songbirds Concert
St Mary's Church Southgate 4.30 pm to start playing at 5pm

Fri 20th December – Seasonal songs and carols 6.30pm
Cophthorne Golf Club, Borers Arms Rd, Cophthorne, Crawley RH10 3LL

Tues 24th Dec Seasonal songs and carols (1 HOUR ONLY) 6.30pm Heatherley Cheshire Home
Effingham Lane, Cophthorne, RH10 3HS

Cophthorne Silver Band Evening prom on the green – 2020 – Friday 8th May



As part of village VE 75 day Celebrations the band have booked the village green for an evening proms with other supporting acts.

This will be the culmination of a days events and will be a chance for the band to showcase itself.

Sun 3rd May – Horsham Park Podium Concert
2.00-4.00pm

Sat 15th August – Capel Flower and Car show
12.00- 4.00pm

Further details on all these engagements and any new ones will be notified nearer the dates.

We look forward to another successful year in Cophthorne Band and wish all members, friends and supporters a



Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Please let the committee know your comments and views

Try the link. <https://cophthornesilverband.co.uk>