



Cornwall Youth Brass Band

Band Brest an Yowynkneth Kernow

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2015 – 60th Anniversary Year

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This is my first contribution to the Newsletter as Chairman, a position I am honoured to have been offered. Having been associated with the band for most of the 60 years it has been in existence, as player, tutor and trustee I understand the way the organisation runs and know the hard work put in by all those involved. As Chairman I know we must continue to look forward and offer the very best musical experience to the young members of the Band.

Our Easter course was a great success when Philip Harper was our guest conductor. He not only demonstrated his skill as a Band trainer and conductor, but also his enormous talent as a composer, with the band giving the first performance of “The Mermaid of Zennor”. This work was commissioned by CYBB to celebrate our 60th Year.

We are now well into our Summer break which has been broken into temporarily as we were honoured with a request to play at Padstow on the visit of The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, where they spent time with and showed great interest in the Band, speaking to a number of officials and members.

Our young players will be very busy during the Summer months with their parent Bands, and I urge you all to encourage any of your friends to consider applying to join the Band where they will get a friendly welcome and the very best that Brass bands have to offer.

All enjoy the remainder of the summer and come back refreshed in the autumn when rehearsals start for the Christmas Course. Our guest conductor at Christmas will be the very popular Michael Fowles.

Brian Minear

MESSAGE FROM PHILIP HARPER

Thanks so much for inviting me again to lead the CYBB at the Easter course. I was thrilled to be asked, as I knew what lay in store, and I wasn't disappointed. The young players of the band are an absolute credit to the organisation and were a real pleasure to work with. I really enjoyed meeting new people and catching up with familiar faces too.

As for the concert – wow! It was another great show from the band and I really felt like something special was happening on stage. Congratulations to all involved.

Thanks too for asking me to compose a new piece. I was very pleased with the reaction to the music, and I hope we can use this piece now to further raise the profile of the CYBB across the banding world. I look forward to hearing the recording when it surfaces.

Finally, may I repeat what I said in the concert: the atmosphere of CYBB is unique. So many people commit so much energy and time to the organisation, and all to provide an opportunity for young people to experience a night like we had last night, and a course like we had at Easter. I salute you all!

I hope we might be able to do it all again at some time in the not too distant future. I'm sure I will see you all before then, and I look forward to that.

All best wishes,

Philip

ORDER YOUR CD

A cd of the Easter gala concert is available from PM Sound, 01872 263300. The CD includes 2 World Premiere's, Dan Hall's Illusions and The Mermaid of Zennor by Philip Harper, both written for the CYBB.

2015 ANNUAL AWARDS

Congratulations to those CYBB Musicians who received Awards at the Easter Concert.

YOUNGEST PLAYER Lia Teague, aged 10.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER The Allen Knight Memorial Cup, Ellie Joy.

MOST PROMISING PLAYER CYBB Shield, Lia Teague.

GOFF RICHARDS MEMORIAL CUP for the **MOST PROMISING TROMBONE PLAYER**, Jasmin Quick.

A R TRUDGIAN YOUTH AWARDS, Presented at The West of England Bandsman's Festival, the Players Representatives, Megan Thomas and Matthew Brown.

W A HUNT CUP for the Most Conspicuous Contribution to the CYBB, Megan Thomas.

PLAYERS PLAYER The Eric Richards Shield, Sarah Matthews.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR The Albert Chappell Shield, Ryan Huxtable.

LONGSTANDING MUSICIANS

We were sorry to say goodbye to three longstanding musicians at Easter, Thomas Howard after 21 Courses, Sarah Matthews after 20 and Rachel Sloggett after 16. We wish them well for the future.

The Trustees have decided that any Musician leaving after completing 20 or more Courses will receive a Special Award to mark their achievement. Sarah and Tom were the first to receive these Awards, being the first two musicians to complete more than 20 Courses since the CYBB was founded in 1955.

WELCOME BACK

A goodly number of past musicians, of all ages, attended the 60th Anniversary Reunion Evening during the Easter Course. Quite a few brought their instruments and sat in for the evening Rehearsal under Philip Harper. A display of past Programmes and Course Photographs was mounted and it became quite clear that all those attending had fond memories of their time in the Band and the important part it played in their musical lives.

WEST OF ENGLAND BANDSMEN'S FESTIVAL

Congratulations to all those CYBB musicians that played with their Parent Bands at Bugle on 20th June, especially those in the Bands that came in the Prizes, including William Lucas and Matthew Opie, Trustee, Matthew Julian, and Megan Thomas and Thomas Howard who all won Solo and Special Awards, as well as to the dozens of other past CYBB Musicians and Conductors who took part, including other Trustees.

We continue to be extremely grateful to the Festival for the generous support they give to CYBB to help us purchase music for our Courses each year.

AUDITIONS

Why not invite your friends to come and join the Band? We will be holding Auditions for new musicians at the end of August, for those wishing to join for our next season in September. We have another exciting season lined up and hope that you will encourage many of them to join you in the Band, you know how good it is, so why not tell them. There is nothing like personal recommendation, so over to you. More information about the Band, joining details and Auditions are on our Web Site, www.cybb.co.uk or speak to Phillip.

CYBB CATERING SITUATION VACANT

After 16 years as our Caterer and cooking for our Courses, Jim Gore will be stepping down from that position after the Easter 2016 Course. The Trustees would welcome interest from any suitably experienced person to take over this honorary role, or you may know someone who could be interested. It involves four full days at Christmas and Easter cooking breakfast, lunch and supper for up to 90 hungry young musicians and helpers, with Menu planning and food purchasing prior to the Courses. The Caterer is backed by a willing team of helpers and will need to have professional catering experience cooking for these numbers, with the relevant Health & Hygiene and DBS (ex CRB) Certificates. Please contact the CYBB Secretary in the first instance for further details.

The fact that we have been able to provide our own Catering on the Courses has been a major factor in keeping the cost of the Courses so low. If we do have to employ outside Caterers it may mean the cost of each course could rise by around £50 per Musician. So, please help us replace Jim, it will be to all our benefit.

Like all Trustees, Conductors and Tutors Jim gives his time voluntarily to the Band and we are grateful to them all for this major commitment, without which the CYBB could not function.

ROYAL PERFORMANCE AT PADSTOW

Forty two musicians from the Cornwall Youth Brass Band were privileged to play for HRH The Prince of Wales and HRH The Duchess of Cornwall at Padstow on their annual visit to Cornwall on July 20th. The Prince, known as The Duke of Cornwall while in the County, and the Duchess toured the Harbour at Padstow, where thousands of well wishers had gathered.

The Royal Couple toured the Harbour, where the Band had been entertaining the crowds, and paused to listen to them, before being introduced to the Band's two Conductors, Alan Pope and Darren Hawken, as well as several of the musicians, including Senior Members, Megan Thomas and Matthew Brown and Trustees of the Band.

In talking to the Band, the Duke warmly congratulated the musicians on their performance and enthusiasm for music and thanked them for taking the time off from school to entertain the Duchess and himself.

At the same time The Duke and Duchess also met members of the Committee of The West of England Bandsmen's Festival, of which he has recently become Patron.

WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome Tom Bassett to the Band as a member of the Tutoring Team. Tom is Musical Director of the Porthleven Town Band. His Father was a musician in the CYBB some years ago.

Mrs Margaret Hunt has accepted the invitation of the Trustees to become a Vice President of the Band, in recognition of her longstanding involvement and support.

LOOKING AHEAD

As the Chairman mentioned above, at Christmas 2015 we will welcome back Michael Fowles, Musical Director of the Foden's Band, as Guest Conductor, and their Principal Trombone, John Barber as Guest Soloist. The Course will be on the usual dates, Saturday 27th to Tuesday 30th December. Gala Concert Tuesday 30th December 7pm, at Newquay. At Easter 2016 we will be joined by the young Welsh Composer and Conductor Tom Davoren, and at Christmas 2016, Ian Porthouse returns.

2015/2016 REHEARSAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2015: Sunday 13 September, Sunday 18 October and Sunday 29 November.
Christmas Course, Sunday 27 to Wednesday 30 December
Guest Conductor Michael Fowles
Guest soloist John Barber (trombone)

2016: Sunday 17 January, Sunday 21 February and Sunday 20 March.

Easter Course, Friday 25 to Monday 28 March.
Guest Conductor Tom Davoren.

MUSICIANS RE-REGISTRATION

A Re-registration Form is enclosed with this Newsletter, please return this to Phillip with your Subscription of £15 as soon as possible, at the latest by Sunday 15th August. No Audition is required for existing or rejoining Musicians.

A REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AND YOUR COMMITMENT

Being a Musician in The Cornwall Youth Brass Band brings many benefits. There is the chance to make new friends, to work with the best known and most talented Conductors and Soloists in the Brass Band World, as well as regularly rehearsing with our local Tutors. With Membership however comes the responsibility to give total commitment, not just to the Band itself, but to your friends and fellow musicians in the Band to ensure the high standards for which the CYBB is renowned are maintained. Many people work very hard voluntarily to organise the Band for your benefit and it is only right that these efforts should be supported by all the Musicians. It continues to be our policy of course that Parent Bands always come first, but beyond that by joining the CYBB it should be understood that you commit yourselves to attending the monthly Rehearsals on a regular basis as well as both Annual Courses. Remember when you sign your Re-registration Form you are accepting this commitment. For those Musicians away at College or University outside Cornwall, application can be made to the Secretary to be able to attend the Courses but to be excused Rehearsals.

BAND REPRESENTATIVES

During the first Rehearsal in September it is the responsibility of the Musicians to appoint by a vote two Players Representatives. Their Role is to act as a link between the Musicians and the Trustees and to canvas, receive and pass on comments, opinions and suggestions from the Musicians, all of which, positive or not are welcomed by the Trustees. Our thanks go to

Megan Thomas and Matthew Brown who have worked very hard on your behalf this year.

There is no restriction on the age of the Representatives but a means of transport is needed as it is important that Representatives are prepared, as part of their duties, to attend the regular meetings of the Trustees and contribute to those Meetings, though under the Charity Constitution of the CYBB voting on resolutions is not permitted. In relation to the CYBB Residential Courses they also assist in the allocation of rooms and help show Musicians to their accommodation, oversee the Course Musicians Survey and generally assist the Trustees and Welfare Team in ensuring that Health and Safety Regulations, CYBB Rules and School Instructions are followed as well as acting as Role Models for the benefit of the smooth running of the Course. They also assist the Welfare Team in suggesting and if necessary help to organise Social Activities during the Course and make a collection during the Course to purchase suitable Gifts for the Guest Conductor & Soloist. During the end of Course Concerts to propose a Vote of Thanks and make Presentations to the Guest Conductor and Guest Soloist and at the Easter Course assist in organising the Voting for Players Player of the Year.

Naturally a commitment to attending all the Rehearsals and Courses is essential as well as the ability to attend the Trustees Meetings at St Dennis Band Room about four times during the year. If you would like to be considered by your fellow musicians, or propose someone, please let Phillip know in advance, with the names of a proposer and seconder.

MESSAGES FROM FORMER MUSICIANS

We are always delighted to hear from former musicians, particularly on how the CYBB has influenced their lives.

From IAIN McKNIGHT. Thanks for your email regarding the anniversary reunion. Regrettably, due to work/going on holiday I won't be able to be there. Please pass on my best wishes to all present. I've been privileged enough to make music my career and life and a big part of that was CYBB. It's so encouraging to be kept up date with how the band is going from strength to strength.

I was also quite sad to hear that they are finally demolishing the Coliseum. I remember the Easter 2000 concert – it was the first time one of my arrangements was publicly performed. I was 15, half my life ago now... who could have known what path it would set me off on?–the place was already falling to bits and, if I remember rightly, it was condemned about 2 weeks later by the fire department. Being a local lad, I spent many summers there – happy memories!

Take care and hope to see you soon, Iain McKnight MA (Dist.) PGCE
Arranger, Composer, Conductor and Teacher, Chairman, the Leyland Band.

From JOHN PORTER. Thanks you for the invitation to the reunion in Truro on Saturday 4th April. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend but send my very best wishes to all for a great event. The Youth Band was an important part of my life in the 1960s and I have very fond memories of my time playing in bands in Cornwall before my life moved on and I was not able to make banding a part of my life.

I learnt to play under the guidance of Frank Moore whilst attending Trewergie School in Redurth and also played for Stythians Band for about seven years before attending college to study civil engineering. In 1976, I played for the Horsham Band, in West Sussex, for a while but found the pressures of career, family, home made it difficult to find enough time.

Best wishes, John Porter, Euphonium, member from 1965 to 1970.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT CYBB MEMBERSHIP MAY BRING

Through his membership of the CYBB our Principal Euphonium, Greg Graves, was invited to play in a Charity Concert with a top Military Band as he recounts,

“Since the Easter course I have had the opportunity to perform with the 'Waterloo Band of the Rifles' and present a recital at the Flavel Arts Centre in Dartmouth. Both were exciting yet different experiences. Initially playing with the Rifles was a bit daunting. The musicians were very welcoming but I didn't realise that military band Euphonium music is predominantly written in

Bass Clef. However, after a crash course on how to read bass clef music quickly and a few tenor saxophone parts, the situation was resolved and the concert proved to be a stimulating event which also gave a valuable insight to military banding.

Performing at the Flavel Arts Centre presented challenges of a different kind. Choosing the music, timing, what to say to the expected type of audience. In the end everything came together and it worked out really well ending with an encore. I was, almost as soon as I got off stage, invited back to play again as part of their 'Young Artist Platform' programme in the New Year.“

Greg Graves.

CORNWALL CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY

The CYBB is a Member of the Cornwall Children's University, a national project which celebrates the involvement of young people between the ages of 5 and 14 in out of School learning activities. There are Bronze, Silver and Gold Certificates to be achieved and hours spent at CYBB Rehearsals and Courses soon count towards these Certificates. Two of our Musicians, Sarah Wilton and Harrison Farbrace, have already received Silver Awards. The hours are recorded in a Passport available from Phillip. Full details of the scheme are available on their Web Site at, www.cornwall.gov.uk/cornwallcu.

TWITTER & FACEBOOK.

Our successful Twitter Account continues to build up an impressive list of followers, over 800 at the moment, including many well known names in the brass band world. The address is @Thecybb. Please follow it and make use of it as much as you can.

The Band now has a Facebook page, facebook.com/TheCYBB. Keep an eye on it.

FRIENDS OF THE CORNWALL YOUTH BRASS BAND

We are always pleased to welcome new Friends of the Band. Even though everyone connected to the Band is a Volunteer, we still need to ensure a regular income to continue our work for your benefit. Please ask Relatives or

anyone you know to consider helping us in this way. Our formal details about the Scheme are below.

Why not become a Friend of the Cornwall Youth Brass Band, which is a self-funding charity? 100% of every £1 you donate will help our young musicians. All our trustees and local tutors give their time to the band entirely without charge. It is an expensive business running two four-day residential courses for the band, directed by eminent conductors, one at Christmas and one at Easter, to say nothing of the cost of music, percussion instruments and other essentials. We are, therefore, always grateful for donations to help us provide the best possible and most stimulating musical experiences we can for our young musicians.

Ways in which you can be a Friend

- Set up a standing order
- Make a one-off donation
- Make a gift aid declaration, if you are a UK taxpayer, and enable us to claim 25p from the government for every £1 you donate at no cost to you.

As a Friend, you will be entitled to receive our email Winter and Summer Newsletters to keep you up to date with news about the band and its activities. Your donation will be acknowledged in our Concert Programmes. Full details of how to make a donation can be found on the CYBB Web Site, www.cybb.co.uk

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CYBB is on our Web Site, www.cybb.co.uk Follow us on Twitter, @Thecybb and Facebook,

CONTACTS

CYBB Administration, Secretary Phillip Hunt 01752 843919.

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CYBB Music matters, Lead Conductor Alan Pope 07980 653855.

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Please pass this Newsletter on to anyone else you feel may be interested