



Winterley Methodist Brass Band



Founded 1938

Where Are They Now?

1.

DUNCAN HOOK

"I played percussion in the band for eight years from 1998 until I left the area in 2006. I was introduced by Neil Barnett and started by playing timpani with the odd glockenspiel solo (if I memorised the notes - I can't read normal music!) In 2000, I became the kit player.

My strongest memory of being in the band was when I managed to throw a drum stick at Jenny on B-flat Bass during a solo in "Fascinating Drums". While I obviously enjoyed the opportunity to play as loud and fast as possible in "Fascinating Drums", my favourite piece to play was "Cry of the Celts" shortly before I left the band. Fortunately by that time there were four of us to cover the multiple percussion parts required. I also enjoyed the slightly alternate version of "Twelfth Street Rag" we performed which required me to play the kit, 'rototoms' (small shell-less, pitch adjustable drums) and a kazoo!

After leaving the band I moved to London to study Stage Management and subsequently have worked on several large musicals in the west end including 'Love Never Dies', Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to 'The Phantom of the Opera'. I'm currently working on an eighties rock musical 'Rock of Ages', but may be moving show soon - I'll let you know!

The highlight of the last few years though was definitely last November when I trekked through the Himalayas to Everest Base Camp in Nepal to raise money for Help for Heroes. The experience has taken my life in a whole new direction and I am currently in the process of planning an expedition to the summit of Mount Everest for 2016 with two below-knee amputees who were injured in Afghanistan - once again for Help for Heroes. There's still a lot of preparation to do (especially as one of the soldiers only had his amputation in September), but hopefully in the not-too-distant future we'll organise a fundraising concert with the band. I'd love to be able to involve an aspect of my life that I enjoyed so much with my current plans."