



# Winterley Methodist Brass Band



***Founded 1938***

## **75 Years Celebrations – Newsletter No.8**

### **EIGHT EVENTS COMPLETED - £653.50 RAISED TO DATE**

Twelve months ago we set a fundraising target of '12 in 12' – twelve events in twelve months. Having completed eight events and raised £653.50, we have four events remaining: carols at Middlewich on 1<sup>st</sup> December; carols at Wheelock Hall Farm on 8<sup>th</sup> December; a New Year Raffle and, of course, the conclusion of 'Winterley's Got Talents'.

Thank you to all those of you who have taken part in 'Winterley's Got Talents' during 2012. If you have not already given the money you have raised to Jill, please do so by Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November, and she will issue you with a receipt. Thank you once again for the variety of ideas which has made the scheme so enjoyable and successful.

### **CHRISTMAS CARD 2012**

We will be sending a special Christmas card this year to raise awareness of our special celebrations in 2013. We plan to deliver as many as we can by hand. Your help with delivering them to former members would be greatly appreciated.

### **A RECORD AMOUNT RAISED - THANK YOU**

Concert for St Luke' Hospice

A big thank you to the Alsager Support Group for hosting the very successful concert at Alsager Civic Centre on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> October.

Special thanks also to the Brereton Handbell Ringers who provided a wonderful dimension to the evening. Thank you to all band members who helped us to sell a total of 29 tickets for the concert.

The evening raised the magnificent total of £607 for St Luke's Hospice. This sum was then matched '£ for £' by Barclays Bank, making the final total a fantastic £1,214. This sets a new record for the largest amount ever raised for charity from one concert performed by the band. Thank you and well done everyone!

### **HELP NEEDED WITH COLLECTING**

We need to recruit some more non-players who can help collect collecting when the band is out playing carols this Christmas. Key dates are:

8<sup>th</sup> December at Wheelock Hall Farm,  
23<sup>rd</sup> December in Winterley, and  
25<sup>th</sup> December in Haslington.

Christmas morning is always the hardest one to find volunteers for – please, please do your best to think of anyone who may be willing to help us in this way.

### **BAND PARTY**

The annual band party will be held at School Farm, Hassall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2013, by kind invitation of Caroline and David Lowe.

Please give your name and a deposit of £5 to Kim French by 20<sup>th</sup> December.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

As part of the 'countdown' to our 75 Years Celebrations, some of our former members have been asked to write a few paragraphs about what has happened to them since they left the band. Our first article is from Duncan Hook, who played percussion for us. Duncan tells us:

*"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."*

## NEXT PLANNING MEETING

The last planning meeting was held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2012.

Thanks to Hazel for hosting the meeting and to Jill, George, Caroline (& Neil) for attending. Next meeting – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November, at 7.30 p.m., at 12 Newtons Lane.

### **"When eating a fruit, think of the person who planted the tree". (Vietnamese Proverb)**

In 1938 a handful of very young men 'planted' Winterley Methodist Sunday School Band. During the coming months we will need your help as we prepare to celebrate the 'harvest of music making' which has taken place during the last 75 years. Please don't wait to be asked – just let us know that you are willing to help, or why not come along to the next planning meeting and enjoy Hazel's hospitality.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- |                               |   |   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> November     | – | BAND SUNDAY 7.30 pm                     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> December      | – | CAROLS at Middlewich a.m./p.m.          |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> December      | – | CAROLS at Wheelock Hall Farm a.m./p.m.  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December     | – | CONCERT at Wheelock CE Church 7.30 p.m. |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> December     | – | CAROLS at Winterley 9.30 a.m.           |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> December     | – | CAROLS at Haslington 9.00 a.m.          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> January, 2013 | – | BAND PARTY at School Farm               |

Best Wishes

Neil Barnett - 75 Years Planning Group Chair

1.11.12