

Copthorne Silver Band



No 5 JANUARY 2019

Welcome to the Year of the Pig

According to Chinese astrology 2019 is going to be full of joy, a year of friendship and love. An auspicious year because the Pig attracts success in all the spheres of life.

Let's hope it's right, even if in some higher places seem devoid of friendship it's not lacking in the bandroom. So let's prepare for success in 2019 in whatever form it comes.



Holding the baton for another year

The committee are delighted to report that, at the request of the committee, Chris Newport has agreed to continue as our Musical Director for another year.

In reviewing his first year as M.D. the committee have been pleased with way Chris is working with the band and the support and understanding he has shown in some difficult periods. We feel confident that the Band can build on this good start using the wealth of experience and musical knowledge Chris has to offer and greatly appreciate his willingness not only to lead but to **be a part of Copthorne Silver Band.**

Music Music Music

We are incredibly fortunate in Copthorne Band to have our own Band Storeroom rent free. It enables the Band to not only to have its own photocopier and store its instruments but also to house what must be probably the biggest brass band music library in the south and certainly in Sussex. Over Christmas committee members, with our M.D's help, sorted the music out of the pads, tidied the room and put away lots of loose music that was laid around the room.

We want everyone to make use of the legacy we have inherited. So it's great when Chris asks for music ideas to go hunting in the library for those favourite pieces but please keep it tidy especially as we do not currently have a librarian.

Please help us.

The committee ask that If you get a music folder out of the library and Chris decides to keep it in the programme folder that all the parts are distributed and the folder is put in the **'Being Played'** box in alphabetical order.

If it is not put in the programme folder make sure all the parts are collected in and the folder is returned to the correct place in the library.

With my Chairmans hat on

Shortly all members will be receiving notification of the AGM and this year we are going to make a point of extending the invite to our Vice Presidents.

The AGM and Annual Review on Thurs Feb 28th is not just Another Gruesome Meeting it is a chance for us all to review the past year and look to the future.

Your current committee is Sheila, James, Alan, Robert, Mervyn and myself. Just 6 members and I set out in the last Newsletter what each committee member does. Mervyn is not currently able to attend due to illness and Robert will moving away as soon as his house sale completes.

I also said last time that the Committee quorum was 4. I was wrong and stand corrected the **Quorum for decision making is 5.**

So if, during the coming year, just one committee member falls ill or Roberts house sale completes the committee will be unable to function.

Without a committee the band cannot function and that would be a tragic shame not only for the band members but also for the current committee who are dedicated to the Bands success.

We must have more committee members.

The plea is becoming quite desperate. So please do consider if you or someone you know can give us support on the committee before it is too late.

If you would like more details about commitment and meeting dates please ask.

The future of the Band is in your hands.

Gwyn Cheesmur, Chairman

Bass trombone seat warm at last

A big welcome to Tony who has joined us on trombone this month. It's great to hear that part coming through again and we do hope it continues.

Remaining cold seats

James has placed adverts on 4barsrest website for cornet players and more bass support and the latest is that our website had received over 25 hits. (if that's the right term) No takers yet but clearly someone's looking. Thanks James.

Public Rehearsal

Following the relative success of our first open band practise last year we have another one planned for 28th March. If you know anyone young or old who might like to come along, even if it's only to complain about the noise, they will be welcome. Posters advertising this will be available shortly.

Instruments

As part of our annual instrument audit we have been checking all the numbers on the instruments owned by the band and I thank everyone for the help they have given in this.

Having been without an instrument officer for over a year and with the many comings and goings of players there appear to be 2 Cornets that I cannot locate. If this jogs anyones memory to having borrowed a cornet that's sitting under the bed please let me know. I just want to get the records straight.

Looking back on the Christmas engagements

They already seems a long time ago but thanks to all the band members for their support to the Christmas engagements.

Also special thanks to our guest players Jenny, Aidan and Martin for plugging the gaps when required.

John Lewis

Another good show well received and the support from the Songbirds choir added to the evening.

St Marys Church Southgate

Our turn to give support to the Songbirds. A well received concert from the Songbirds.

Copthorne Golf Club

A different format from previous years and the singing hasn't improved. Well done Chris for compering at short notice.

Wakehurst Place

Some of us were a little over dressed for playing indoors but we put on a good show to a small but appreciative audience. Hopefully this will lead to more at this pleasant venue.

Heatherley Cheshire Home

Copthorne Band has played at Heatherley every Christmas since it opened over 50 years ago usually on Christmas Eve. It's a wonderful traditional giving a little pleasure to those that need it at Christmas.

The committee welcome your comments on any of the band engagements. It helps us plan.

Dates for the coming year

Thur 28th March Open Band Evening

Sun 12th May Horsham Park

Sun 19th May Concert St Peters Church
(To be confirmed)

Sat 29th June Copthorne Carnival

Thur 11th July Open Band Evening

Sat 17th Aug Capel Flower Show

Sat 14th Nov Gang Show Rehearsal

Sun 17th Nov Gang Show Rehearsal

Fri 22nd Nov Gang Show dress rehearsal

Sat 23rd Nov Gang Show at the Hawth.

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

Christmas Social Pizza Night

We have received many good comments regarding the pizza evening social at the bandroom following the Wakehurst event. It's good to have a chinwag now and again. The committee feel the socials are a benefit to the band and would be interested to know if members would like more social opportunities. One suggestion is to go Bowling after the Horsham Park gig. Any thought on this?

FINALLY - If you got this far

Q: Why did they bury the conductor 20 feet under?

A: Because **deep down**, he was a really nice guy

Q: What's the range of a baritone?

A: About 50 feet with a good throwing arm

Patient. "Doctor, doctor, will I be able to play the Trombone after the operation?"

Doctor. "Yes, of course..."

Patient That's Great! I never could before!"

Having now equally offended every section of the band I realise it's only issue 5 of this Newsletter and I am running out of Brass band jokes.

All contributions welcome. E-mail to cinderwood@btinternet.com.

Please let the committee know your comments and views.

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