**Pilling Band News Summary 2017**

# **January 2017**

Preston Guild - After a lot of hard work and several ups and downs, all Len Charnock's efforts with us paid off today and we were awarded 3rd place in the brass contest at the Guild in Preston. This is a good result and gives us a basis for moving forward to the next contest at Blackpool. Well done to everyone who took part.

Band Belated Xmas Social - December is always a busy time for the band so we have our Christmas meal and social evening in January. Last night the band members celebrated with friends and family at The Golden Ball, Pilling- we like to have our social here as, apart from the good food, we like to give our support to a local business in the community which gives us so much help. Thanks to Jen Ormerod for organising the evening and for the excellent quiz- it certainly got us thinking. It was great to relax and enjoy the company of our friends and fellow band members.

# **April 2017**

Knott-End-On-Sea - Some of the band played at the Coffee Morning at St Bernard's on Saturday and had a very pleasant time playing to passers-by and to those who attended a very successful morning. Thanks to everyone involved for supporting the band.

# **May 2017**

Pilling - It was a cold summer proms evening but despite this it was a good turnout for the celebration of all things Pilling. It was an excellent concert by the band with the help of some very generous deps who along with band members all gave up their time to entertain. Our music was appreciated by all and we had some very positive comments walking back to the cars. I believe the raffle has made the band a substantial amount of funds through the generosity of local people, band members, friends and family. Well done to all who organised, attended and listened. (Thoughts of Lynn Preston, one of our players)

What a great time we had at Pilling Celebration Day. It was lovely to see families enjoying all the events, including our evening concert. Thanks to Joe for the bbq he did for band members and supporters, thanks to our deps who helped with the concert and thanks to the organisers for the event and all those who were there to help celebrate what is good about being part of a small community. It's not often we get to play in a curtainsider!

We had a have-a-go session at the Pilling Celebration day and it went very well. We were joined by adults and children, some who wanted to try brass and some who tried percussion. We had a lot of interest and are pleased with the response

Goosnargh Church - Our welcome at Goosnargh Church was just as warm on a Spring evening as it is on a cold, Winter one. The audience enjoyed the selection of pieces for a Last Night of the Proms programme and the refreshments were as good and varied as they always are. A great night was had by all! Thanks to our deps and supporters too!

Friday Night is Music - Our 'Friday Night is Music Night' was a great success. Thanks to The Elswick Singers for being our guests and for providing such an entertaining programme of songs. Special thanks to our sponsors and supporters for helping us to raise over £1600 to refurbish the band room. The audience gave generously to the collection for Macmillan Cancer Care and £525 was raised. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously of time, efforts and money. It is very much appreciated.

The band played 'Swing when you're winning' at last night's concert. A new piece for the band's repertoire and a winner with the audience.

# S**eptember 2017**

We had an excellent concert at Great Eccleston WI.

The hall was full and everyone enjoyed the selection of music, with lots of foot tapping and plenty of smiles. Our guest conductor, Steve Simpson, kept everyone entertained with his stories and repartee so a big thank you to him. It was a very enjoyable evening!

Pilling Hymns ‘n’ Things - We are thrilled to tell you that we made a profit of £1,400 at the Hymns 'n' Things concert. This is a fantastic amount for a concert and we wish to thank everyone who helped in any way.

# **Christmas 2017**

December was a particularly busy time for the band with a total of 13 engagements in addition to our usual rehearsals.  We enjoy this time of the year covering as many local festive events as possible,  Our engagements included several tree lighting events, various church carol services, a very special event at a local hospice, our annual Christmas concert and concluding our busy month with a heart-warming visit to a number of local care homes.