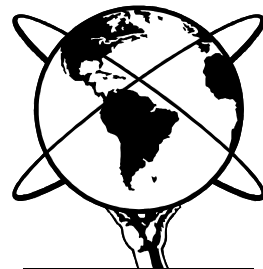


# Wingates World



Issue No. 56    SEPTEMBER 2007    COMPILED BY: NOVA-ADJUTOR

## CHICAGO HERE WE COME!

**JUST 6 WEEKS TO GO NOW!** As we go to press with this issue of our quarterly newsletter, that is the time we have left to prepare for one of the most momentous overseas trips in the band's 134-year history.

As announced in the last issue of **WINGATES WORLD**, as a result of our recent high profile on the concert and contest stages, the band was honoured to receive an invitation to represent the British brass band movement at the **2007 US OPEN BRASS BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS**, which take place in Arlington Heights, a North-West suburb of Chicago, on **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10th**.



The trip will be a relatively short one, but, without doubt, one of the most prestigious excursions Wingates Band has undertaken for many years. However, it will also involve a frenetic and adrenalin-fuelled schedule!

**... DON'T MISS IT!...**

### \*'STARS & STRIPES'\*

A very special concert to help finance our US trip.

**VICTORIA HALL, BOLTON • SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER**

**AT 7:30PM**

Featuring much of our **US OPEN "own choice"** programme, and, in the words of our conductor, **ANDY BERRYMAN**:

**"The chance to see WINGATES as you've never seen them before!"**

**TICKETS £9 (CONCESSIONS £8)**

**From ALBERT HALLS BOX OFFICE (01204 334400) or use the accompanying order form.**

### **IMPORTANT APPEAL FOR HELP!**

It is vitally important to us that we have a substantial audience at this concert, so may we ask for your help in publicising it, by arranging to display the accompanying poster in a prominent location in your locality (e.g. shop window, doctor's surgery, health / leisure centre, etc. etc.) – thank you in anticipation of your help.



QUARTERLY NEWS FROM THE WORLD-FAMOUS

Registered Charity No. 1097122



A party of approx. 40 musicians, officials, and supporters will leave Manchester on Thursday November 8th, for the flight to the mid-west of the USA (via Heathrow). Following a little rest and recuperation from the long journey, Friday will be a busy day, firstly with a full rehearsal for the contest, followed by participation in the so-called “**BUSKERS’ PREVIEW**” on Friday evening. This involves informal mini-concerts, performed by small groups of musicians (up to 7 players) from the contesting bands. However, as there are some prizes on offer, no doubt there will be great rivalry, even ahead of the main competition!

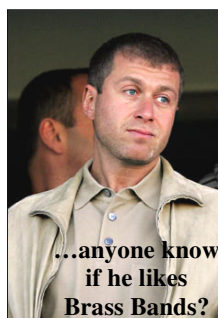
The main championship event takes the form of an **ENTERTAINMENT CONTEST**, in which each participating band takes the stage for 25 minutes, to play an “**own choice selection**”. In addition to the overall Open Championship Trophy, there are trophies and cash prizes on offer for **Best March, Best New Composition, Best Arrangement** and **Best Soloist**.

Representing Wingates in this last-named category is our 11-years old solo trombone prodigy, **PETER MOORE**, who will play the wonderfully-emotive arrangement of the famous hymn tune “**BLESSED ASSURANCE**”, with which Peter has thrilled audiences at a number of our concerts in recent months.

Our chosen march is that old favourite, “**RAVENSWOOD**”, by the legendary William Rimmer, whilst the blockbuster finale will be the stunning “**RE-UNION AND FINALE FROM GETTYSBERG**”, with which we have concluded several recent concerts to great acclaim.

“**WINGATES WORLD**” is convinced that Andy Berryman has drawn up a very carefully-constructed programme to gain maximum impact in Chicago, and we feel sure that all our friends and supporters will wish the lads and lasses of Wingates well on November 10th.

On Sunday, the day after the contest, the band will be in action again when they join forces with the **NORRIDGE CITADEL SALVATION ARMY BAND AND CHOIR** for a concert in Chicago. Proceeds from this concert will be shared between the local S.A. organisation and Wingates, and hopefully this will provide some more worthwhile funds to help off-set our massive costs for the trip. Finally, on Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>, the band will get a little opportunity for relaxing and sight-seeing in “**the Windy City**”, before returning home overnight. We will bring you a detailed report of this prestigious and exciting trip in our next issue.



We realise that, in these columns, we need to refer all too frequently to the sometimes unwelcome, but always inevitable, subject of **finance**. As long as Wingates Band remains a self-financing voluntary organisation (of charitable status) – i.e. until such times as a Roman Abramovich of the brass band world comes along to take us under his wing! – we shall need to continue our appeals to our many friends and supporters, with “**WINGATES WORLD**” being a primary vehicle for those appeals, of course. What is beyond doubt is that, without the wonderful help which we receive on an on-going basis from our loyal supporters, our fantastic band would simply not exist.

To finance the trip to Chicago for the band’s players and musical director (band officials and supporters will need to pay their own way) is going to cost in excess of **£20,000**, and, whilst we have been working very hard indeed, and in a diversity of ways, to raise the necessary funds over the past few months, **we are certainly not there yet!** (As we have written, admittedly somewhat whimsically, in the programme notes for several recent concerts, there is a real danger we will have enough money to get to Chicago – but not to get back again!)

With our last issue, we mailed out a donation form, and we have been delighted with the response from many of our supporters. We have received a large number of generous

individual donations, and whilst these have all been acknowledged privately, we would like to say a big public **"THANKYOU"** once again to everyone who has helped us thus far.

For those friends and supporters who may wish to help, but haven't yet had the opportunity of doing so, we are enclosing a further copy of our appeal form with this issue. We have also been trying hard to generate support from local businesses, but, as many other voluntary organisations know all too well, obtaining corporate financial support these days is a very tough challenge indeed. We have also applied to a number of appropriate organisations for grant support, and whilst we are hopeful of success with some of these applications, we have no positive news to report in this issue – perhaps next time around!

We know that many of our supporters, fans and friends feel the way they can support us best is by attending our concerts, and, in many ways that is indeed the ultimate. Not only do we derive **financial support**, via the ticket sales, but also **moral support**, since nothing gives the band a greater boost than a large and appreciative audience at a concert. As a specific fund-raising initiative for Chicago, we have arranged a very special concert, when we hope that **YOU, YOUR FAMILY, and THE REST OF YOUR STREET** will come to Victoria Hall, to cheer us along on the night, and to wish us well in our trans-Atlantic challenge. The full details of the concert – **"STARS & STRIPES"** - are given in the box on Page 1. As usual, we are making it easy for you to obtain your tickets for this concert via the enclosed ticket order form. You can also buy your tickets in Bolton town centre (Albert Halls Box Office) at any time.



## CROTCHETS AND QUAVERS



- We extend our thanks to **MR. LEN SCARFF** of Ladybridge, Bolton, for the donation of a significant amount of important brass band music. Now retired, Mr Scarff worked in the Bolton and Wigan areas for many years, but he originally hailed from Suffolk, where, during the 1950s, he was the secretary of his local brass band. He had carefully stored some very interesting band music for over half a century, and, rather than disposing of it, he kindly offered it to the Wingates library. We were delighted to accept – **THANKYOU, MR. SCARFF!**



- We feel sure that all the band's supporters will wish to join **"WINGATES WORLD"** in wishing our principal trombonist, 11-years old **PETER MOORE**, success in the **BBC YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR CONTEST**. Peter entered the contest for the first time in 2007 and progressed from Round 1 of the North West Regional stage of the competition in July. The second round was held on September 11th, at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, where Peter played a 15 minutes own choice programme. As we go to press, we await news with regard to Peter's results in Round 2. We will bring you up-to-date in our next issue.



- Once again, Wingates Band was chosen by the organisers of the internationally-renowned **SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW** to perform at this year's event, staged over 4 days in August. Once again, however, this wonderful occasion was blighted by miserable weather. For the first time, the band was joined by our friends **THE HOUGHTON WEAVERS** for some of the sessions on the bandstand, and, in typical whimsical fashion, on a very rainy Sunday, Tony Berry decided it would be good to start with **"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNIN"**, followed by **"EE, BY GUM, BUT I'M COWD!"**. (Incidentally, in the TV ads for this year's show, did anyone spot the shot of Wingates playing the previous year – notably a close-up of Peter Moore?)



- It is not often that Wingates Band plays in a concert venue in the north-west for the first time in its history, but that was the case earlier in September, when we played to a full house at **THE GLADSTONE THEATRE**, Port Sunlight. It was a wonderful evening, and the organisers are clearly anxious to book us in their engagement diary again in the not too distant future. A most unexpected bonus of the evening was that we made the acquaintance of **MR. WILLIAM SAWYER**, who is a great nephew of the legendary **WILLIAM RIMMER**, frequently labelled: "*the man who made Wingates world-famous*". We are planning some follow-up dialogue with Mr. Sawyer, and perhaps we will have something to report in a future issue.



- Sometimes help comes from quarters where it is totally unexpected. In response to our appeal for funds for our US trip, we were contacted by the secretary of a Horwich-based lodge of the **ROYAL AND ANTEDILUVIAN ORDER OF BUFFALOES**, who very kindly donated the proceeds of one of their monthly social gatherings to our appeal fund. We recently received a most generous and very welcome donation cheque, and we would like to thank all members of the lodge, via the secretary, **MR ROY PRIESTLEY**.

## IN MEMORIAM



It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death (on 20th August) of **MRS HELEN DICKINSON**, of Braunstone, Leicestershire, who, at 95, was the oldest member of the band's Supporters' Club. For some years, Mrs Dickinson, and her son Reggie, had supported the band from afar, this being another wonderful example of historic family links with Wingates. Mrs Dickinson's brother, **FRED NICHOLSON**, played with the band in the 1930s and 40s, and in her will she requested that a substantial donation be sent to the band in memory of her brother. We are indebted to Mr Reggie Dickinson and other family members for so kindly forwarding the donation to us, which, with the family's permission, we have allocated to the US tour fund. Mrs. Dickinson also expressed a wish that the Wingates recording of Crimond should be played at her funeral, and, as we have written previously in these columns, such requests represent the most graphic testimony of how much the wonderful music of Wingates Band has meant to so many people over the decades. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs Dickinson's family on their sad loss.

Further sad news reached us in July, when we received a very poignant letter from former player, **ARTHUR WADDINGTON**, now resident in Welwyn Garden City. Arthur was a member of the band's horn section from 1965 to 1972, and he remembers those "**7 wonderful years**" with great affection, the highlight being winning the British National Championship at the Royal Albert Hall in London in 1971. For many years, Arthur, and his wife June (who supported him faithfully throughout his banding career, despite not being a musician herself) kept in touch with Wingates via the late Charlie Southern, and both were amongst the earliest members of our Supporters' Club. Sadly, June died in July, and Arthur sent us a very generous donation cheque (again to be used for our US trip fund) in her memory. In his letter, Arthur told us that, shortly before her death, he played the band's version of "**DEEP HARMONY**" (from "**THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WINGATES**" album) to June, and this lovely tune aroused such strong emotions in June that she asked for it to be played again. At Arthur's special request, the band will play this wonderful piece of music at a forthcoming concert in June's memory.

Despite his sad loss, it was gratifying to learn that, now aged 73, Arthur intends continuing with his banding career, and he currently plays solo horn with the Enfield band.

Arthur would love to hear from any of his former Wingates colleagues with whom he played from 1965 to 1972, and, to this end, we have posted his contact details on the band's website. On

behalf of everyone at Wingates Square, “**WINGATES WORLD**” expresses deepest sympathy to Arthur and his family on their sad loss.

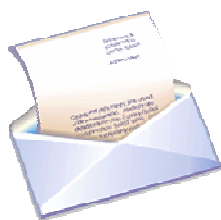
It was also with great sadness that we learnt of the untimely death (on 5th September) of former Wingates Band member, **STUART PULLIN**. Stuart was a very talented young musician, and had gained a great reputation for his playing, composing and conducting. After learning to play the cornet at 7, he had a close involvement with brass bands throughout the rest of his life, which was cut tragically short as a result of leukaemia. He gained a degree in brass band musicianship at Salford University, where he attended from 1992 to 1999, during which period he spent several years with Wingates, before moving to the YBS Band.

Until his illness meant he could no longer continue (18 months ago) Stuart worked as a peripatetic brass teacher in Chorley, and also conducted Chorley Silver Band.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Stuart’s wife, Donna, and all members of his family. He will be fondly remembered by all at Wingates Square.

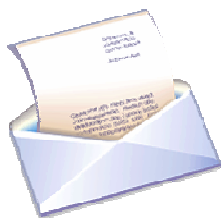
## **MORE EULOGIES TO WINGATES BAND**

In the band’s archives, we have a file entitled “**WINGATES BAND IN BOOK AND VERSE**”. Over many decades, the wonderful music of Wingates has inspired many people, from different walks of life, to pen eulogies to our famous band, and these have come in the form of laudatory articles, poems, songs, and a miscellany of other written forms.



We are delighted to say that, in recent weeks, we have been able to add two new items to this file. **Firstly**, we received a much-appreciated letter from one of our most avid supporters, namely **CLIFF JOINSON** of Blackpool, who sent us a copy of a poem entitled “**SILVER AND BRASS**”, by Joan Monghan of Bolton. This features in an anthology of Lancashire poems entitled “**WOVEN IN LANCASHIRE**”. Whilst the poem, in Lancashire dialect, is largely a eulogy to brass bands in general, it is clear from the final verse that the poet’s favourite is – you’ve guessed it – **WINGATES!**

Thankyou, Cliff, for your communication, and for your greatly-valued on-going support in a diversity of ways.



**Secondly**, both the band and The Houghton Weavers received copies of a joint eulogy written by **MRS GWYNETH CLEWORTH**, of Bolton. Mrs Cleworth is well-known in Lancashire for her poetry and prose, and she was moved to write a piece in praise of the band and the folk group following a hugely-enjoyable experience at the first of our two summer “**FOLK & BRASS**” concerts at Rivington Barn. Whilst space precludes us from reproducing Mrs. Cleworth’s piece in full, the following extracts give a flavour of her sentiments: “**What a night! – Wingates Band and The Houghton Weavers both on the same bill... atmosphere – you couldn’t beat it!... What a venue... absolutely packed. You know you have had a great night out when these two get together... no wonder Wingates Band and The Houghton Weavers win so many competitions... there is no competition really – they are the tops!... I knew so many people there I just couldn’t believe it – such a gathering of like-minded folk, singing along, and frequently doubled-up laughing at Tony Berry’s jokes... enjoy, enjoy, what talent we have here in Greater Manchester! I have already arranged for my next visit! – can’t wait!!**”.



# YET ANOTHER ACCOLADE FOR WINGATES!

Top level bands such as Wingates largely live two lives – one on the concert stage, and the other on the contest platform. Our record in the latter category is the envy of many bands nationally and internationally, and we are very proud of our “**competition pedigree**”, which has brought many trophies, diplomas, and other accolades to Wingates Square over many decades. However, just a few weeks ago, the band was the recipient of another prestigious award – but of a very different nature. At a ceremony held in Westhoughton on August 18th, the band was awarded one of the two annual **WESTHOUGHTON CIVIC MEDALS**, presented by the town mayor, **CLLR. JIM GILFILLAN**, who pointed out to the audience that the band was the first **group** to receive one of the coveted medals, as they are normally only awarded to individuals, for outstanding service in the community. A contingent of band trustees and officials were present to see committee member **MIKE BROOKE** receive the medal from the Mayor. A spokesman for the Council said: “**A medal was awarded this year to WINGATES BAND for long and distinguished service for many decades in the town. The band has won just about every accolade in the brass band world, and we are proud to recognise their outstanding years of music-making that have thrilled us all**”.



The medal has been subsequently placed in a special display frame, and hangs proudly on the bandroom wall in Wingates Square. (We do, however, have plans to take it with us to Chicago in November, where we shall proudly display it at the US Open Championships).

The band would like to express sincere thanks to the Town Mayor and all Westhoughton councillors for this greatly-appreciated recognition, and also to those members of the Westhoughton community who nominated the band for the council's consideration.



## YOUR LETTERS



*Dear Wingates World,*

We would just like to say how much we enjoyed the concert at Rivington Barn (“**FOLK & BRASS**” – September 5th). We were very warmly welcomed, met some wonderful people, sat next to 4 Mayors, and listened to your wonderful band and The Houghton Weavers!

At the end of the performance, one of your trombonists (I believe he is the band sergeant?) came over to add his personal welcome. Thankyou for organising our tickets at such very short notice – **we will be back!** (Best wishes to all for America...)

*Yours sincerely,* Maurice & June Grisenthwaite, West Kirkby



*Dear Wingates World,*

Wingates Band gave a magnificent concert yesterday evening (Parbold Village Hall – September 22nd), and on behalf of everyone in our society, I wish to thank you for getting our new season off to the start we had hoped for in our most rosy-tinted dreams! The band's sound

seems to have become more solid, and consequently more powerful and expressive. I hope you knock 'em out in Chicago and the States!

May I express again my wish for Wingates to return soon, and launch another season of music for us... We will be in touch again shortly, but, in the meantime, please pass my congratulations and best wishes to all the musicians and your musical director, Andy Berryman.

*Yours sincerely,* Michael Bonsall, Artistes' Secretary, Douglas Music Society, Parbold



*Dear Wingates World,*

I just wanted to say thanks for a wonderful night at Rivington ("**FOLK & BRASS**" – September 5th). The atmosphere was so relaxing, we really enjoyed ourselves, and it was lovely to meet you all. We will keep on coming just as often as we can! Many thanks again for a great evening...

*Yours sincerely,* Mrs May Birchall, Skelmersdale

## IN THE NEWS!

Regular readers will know that we quite frequently highlight important publicity which Wingates Band attracts in various publications, perhaps most notably our local evening newspaper, **THE BOLTON NEWS**. Until relatively recently titled "**THE BOLTON EVENING NEWS**", this was amongst the first daily regional newspapers in the country, and pre-dates our historic band by just a few years. Accordingly, our local newspaper has chronicled much of the band's story over the past 13 decades or more, a trend which, thankfully, still continues today.

**Calvert's Diary**  
Alan takes a wry look at 21st century life

**They don't make 'em like this any more . . .**

**N**OSTALGIC memories were stirred the other evening when I sifted through a large pile of LPs — long-playing records as they were known in the far-off days when they were made.

Most of them still play on my somewhat elderly sound system. I smiled fondly as I re-acquainted myself with the covers for the works of diverse talents such as Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Gong, George Formby and the Wingates Temperance Band (plus future incarnations when sponsored by Bass Brewery and British Aerospace).

The others include the Wizard of Oz film soundtrack, the Best of Johnny and The Hurricanes and Moving On with the Ynysowen male voice choir from Wales.

**100 YEARS AGO**  
From the Evening News  
September 3, 1907

THE Wingates Temperance Band commands the heartiest of compliments upon the triumph at Belle Vue yesterday. We suppose it is not too much to describe the Westhoughton players as supreme in the kingdom, if not in the world, for it is admitted that on the brazen instruments the Englishman has no superior.

It is fascinating to note just how often the band's name crops up on the daily "**LOOKING BACK**" page, and a piece in the September 3rd issue particularly caught our eye, and made us very proud indeed! Just a few days later, we also spotted the band's name in "**CALVERT'S DIARY**", and these two items are reproduced here by kind permission of the editor of **THE BOLTON NEWS**.

This latest publicity prompted a letter from the Band's President, **DAVID KAYE**, to the editor, thanking the newspaper for its continued valued interest and publicity coverage, and also expanding upon the wonderful contest success of a century ago. The editor kindly published David's letter in a recent edition, thus resulting in further valued publicity.



# WINGATES BAND • ENGAGEMENT DIARY • OCT 2007 – DEC 2007



Saturday	13th October	BURY PARISH CHURCH Tickets: £10 BOX OFFICE: 0161 253 5111 or 01204 880998	7:30pm
Friday	26th October	CYMRU THEATRE, LLANDUDNO BOX OFFICE: 01492 872000	8:00pm
Saturday	27th October	“STARS & STRIPES” VICTORIA HALL, BOLTON Tickets from ALBERT HALLS BOX OFFICE (01204 334400) or via DAVID KAYE (01942 845001 / 07970 131460)	7:30pm
Thursday – Tuesday	8th–13th November	2007 US OPEN BRASS BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS, ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, CHICAGO	
Friday + Saturday	14th + 15th November	PARR HALL, WARRINGTON (WITH WARRINGTON MALE VOICE CHOIR) BOX OFFICE: 01925 442345	7:30pm
Saturday	8th December	“CHRISTMAS FOLK & BRASS” VICTORIA HALL, BOLTON (WITH THE HOUGHTON WEAVERS) Tickets from ALBERT HALLS BOX OFFICE (01204 334400) or via DAVID KAYE (01942 845001 / 07970 131460)	7:30pm
Thursday	20th December	“THE WEDNESDAY CLUB” (WINGATES ENSEMBLE • PRIVATE FUNCTION)	c.9:00pm
Saturday	22nd December	GUILD HALL, PRESTON (WITH THE HOUGHTON WEAVERS) BOX OFFICE: 01772 258858)	7:30pm



BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONS  
BRITISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONS  
NORTH-WEST AREA CHAMPIONS  
THE GRAND SHIELD WINNERS  
FRENCH OPEN CHAMPIONS  
THE SENIOR CUP

1906,1907,1918,1921,1923,1929,1975  
1906,1907,1931,1971  
1945,1948,1971,1974,1977,1995  
1996  
2004, 2006  
2007

THE BANDROOM, WINGATES SQUARE, WESTHOUGHTON, BOLTON, BL5 3PS – 01942 819842

ALL ENQUIRIES TO: DAVID KAYE – PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE, APRIL COTTAGE,  
46 CHORLEY ROAD, BLACKROD, BOLTON, BL6 5JT

MOBILE TEL: 07970 131460  
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OFFICE TEL: 01942 845001  
E-MAIL: [david.kaye@krones.co.uk](mailto:david.kaye@krones.co.uk)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.wingatesband.org](http://www.wingatesband.org)