

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CRYSTAL PALACE BAND**

**HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL 2004**

**ST JOHN'S THE EVANGELIST CHURCH, PENGE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Elspeth Hackett

The meeting commenced at 8.15 pm and Roger Clements, Chairman welcomed everyone. There were 30 in attendance. Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated prior to the meeting, there were no matters arising. Adoption of the minutes of last year's meeting was proposed by Michael Burton and seconded by Roger Bleach and the minutes were duly passed by a majority

Musical directors report - this report had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no matters arising.

Secretary's report - ditto.

Property Master's report - Ditto except that Michael Burton volunteered to go to Ken Barker's house to trace a jacket which was missing. Roger Clements (RC) said that there were still three jackets missing.

Librarian's report - no matters arising.

B Band report - RC said that help was always a problem here and that we needed to help bring on the learners. Ian Whittaker, conductor of the B band was doing a stalwart job he said but he needed more helpers. Ian said that we all needed to give some time to the B band when we could as it helps to give them confidence. Chris Maher also stressed that we needed to get to know the B band so that they did not find it so daunting when they came to join the main band. RC said that the B band is the future of Crystal Palace Band.

Treasurer's report - RC thanked Roger Morton for his fine work on the accounts especially as he had been able to move the accounts to obtain the best interest. Roger Morton reported it had been a super year with lots of money coming in. Roger Bleach queried the Christmas Concert receipts of £1,398 when in fact more than this was raised for the hospice at our Christmas charity concert. It was explained that an additional £279 came in from cheques to the Hospice direct. In addition Lloyds TSB, as a result of Richard Lovett's help gave £500 in that direction. In total, nearly £2,200 was raised for the hospice and RC thank for whole band for their fine effort in achieving this huge sum.

Richard asked about the changeover of accounts and Roger Morton explained that the high-street bank account, which at one time was the

main bank for the band, gave a poor rate of interest and required a personal presence in the High Street to conduct transactions. He had now moved the main account to a Postal/Internet Abbey Business Account which was now the main vehicle for the band's finances and earned interest. He had also transferred some money to a new Abbey Reserve account which earned even more. Roger Bleach asked if there were any subs outstanding and apparently there is only one. The subscriptions for the year were proposed by Roger Morton to stay the same and Roger Bleach seconded this proposal. Roger Morton said that the year after next year the proposal would be that subs would have to increase to £80 but could stay at £75 for this year with concessions paying half i.e. £37.50.

RC thanked his hard-working committee and said that they had made his job very easy by willingly accepting delegated tasks. RC offered his huge thanks to Mike Gray for all his fine efforts, especially all the work he had done for the Christmas concert with all the musical arrangements. In conclusion RC said that he wanted to see more of the same in the forthcoming year as we were thriving as a band at a time when other bands were suffering.

No nominations for any committee positions were put forward and Ian Whittaker proposed and Veronica Peerman seconded that we voted the whole committee back en bloc and this was passed by the majority. The whole committee were then voted back in by a majority.

Ex-officio position is for a committee member who can be a channel for complaints and a monitor of the committee. Michael Burton is currently one such and Maggie Stallybrass was nominated by Clare Lipscombe and seconded by Lucy Rice to be the second ex-officio committee member. This was approved by a majority.

RC then stepped down as chairman and Rachel Bleach proposed that he be re-elected. This was proposed by Steve Cowlin and seconded by Roger Bleach and he was duly re-elected as Chairman by a majority.

#### Any Other Business

Adam Payn mentioned the question of security and stressed that care was needed in the church and in the locality generally. We needed to be more careful about closing doors and to be vigilant of any suspicious characters. Richard Lovett stressed that he and Adam needed help at the end of the rehearsal so that they could leave at the same time as everyone else. This not only enabled them to get away earlier but their own personal safety was an issue.

Clare Lipscombe thanked Roger Morton for his work on the website especially with the members' area which he is currently working on. Mike Gray mentioned that although our result at Hove was disappointing there were in fact few marks between the winners and losers. Basil Preuveneers commented about the heat and light in the hall at the Hove contest which was most oppressive. We also

discussed the problem at contests where there was much hanging around after the draw. RC said that we should perhaps be approaching contests on the basis that it was an opportunity to listen and learn from other bands. Another point was that trade exhibitors would be put off if bands just turned up and play their piece and left again.

Rachel Bleach reported that there were three new jobs - Horniman Gardens Bandstand, Tadworth on the 26 June and another on the 3 July. RC reported on the French trip to Trouville and that arrangements were coming on well.

Basil Preuveneers congratulated Clare Lipscombe on the excellent newsletter, Palatians. Clare responded by asking members to make contributions. Nicci Maher has volunteered to write an article.

RC welcomed new members and said how good it was that we were in such a strong position especially given that South London is a very transient area where many people come and go and stable members were hard to come by. "Stable members" was taken to mean a stable level of membership. In conclusion RC asked us to keep up all the hard work and to have another good year.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm, apparently a record time for brevity.