

## **Crystal Palace Band**

### **Property Report 2020**

A positive year overall, with strong progress continuing to be made on our asset register and recovery. Numerous evening treks to various parts of the South East have been made by a number of the band to collect instruments and jackets and I think it speaks volumes of how committed people are to the band that they have volunteered to do so.

The introduction of new shelving units and the annual cleaning of the band's main property repository (the big cupboard next to the toilet) went very well and I extend my thanks to all members who helped on the day. The ongoing overall tidiness of that room has been made much easier as a result of the work done last August and I'd like to applaud members from all bands for their efforts in keeping it as organised as is possible in such a small space. I'm aware it can feel like 3D Tetris using heavy brass and percussion accoutrements at times in there, so I'm very pleased with how people have used the space.

The staged refurbishment plan of the band-owned instruments scheduled for after the annual trip to Stevenage has had to be put on hold in light of current apocalyptic circumstances but should be reasonably easy to start up again once we're back into a rehearsal and concert routine. The proposed approach is to have an instrument repair specialist join us for a rehearsal in order to assess which instruments need the most urgent remedial work. We have already begun overhauling some of the instruments in the cupboard so that we can roll those out to band members as temporary replacements when their main instrument needs attention.

Finally, I would particularly like to praise the members of the band who continue to transport equipment to gigs and rehearsals away from the museum. Organising what is needed changes for every gig and it is done seamlessly, often without my intervention. I'm extremely grateful to you all for doing so and for doing all the driving, it's a real team effort and, as with playing, you make my job much easier. Thank you for all your efforts.

Benedict Ward  
Property Master  
Crystal Palace Band  
April 2020