

Scapegoat Hill Brass Band – two historical celebrations

Compiled by Gavin Holman, March 2020



Scapegoat Hill Brass Band was said to have been founded in 1854, but while the founder, James Haigh, did begin to teach various pupils to play brass instruments in 1854, it was not until 1859 that he formed a band with the pupils. Another report states that Haigh recruited five friends to form the band, and of the six original members, only Haigh could actually play an instrument.

Nevertheless, the Band celebrated 1854 as its founding date and commemorated their centenary (in 1954) and 125th anniversary (in 1979) with a range of events and souvenir history booklets. Scans of relevant parts of these two publications are given below. I have excluded the many contemporary local advertisements, recipes and quotations which padded the volumes out!

A few facts not covered in the two histories below.

- The Band's conductor was Shaw Singleton in 1888-1894.
- The secretary & solo euphonium player was Oliver France in 1905 (he died in September 1906, aged 25)
- Ephraim Whitwam was bandmaster from the early 1900's through to 1921, though it was reported that he stood down in 1914, taking up a playing position instead.
- Seth Ainby was the solo trombone player and Ambrose Ainley, secretary, in 1910



Scapegoat Hill Band – 1950's

- On the Band's 75th anniversary in 1929 it played on BBC radio - probably the first people from the village to appear on air.
- It was still active in 1986, though it probably disbanded very shortly thereafter.
- 1980 saw the birth of Vintage Brass - a band originally consisting of members of the Scapegoat Hill Band.
- The Band competed in the Junior Shield in 1962, conducted by Frank Gledhill and achieved the National Finals in 1962 (4th Section) and 1964 (3rd Section).
- The Band appeared in *Where There's Brass* – a Yorkshire Television documentary in 1969... *A brass band player emerges from J Findley, Joiners, Builder and Funeral Directors in Holmfirth. Other band members make their way in the snow and meet up at Scapegoat Hill Working Men's Club. Here the conductor oversees a practice session. A couple of children come running out of E. Green newsagents on the corner of Long Moor Road, and we see various parts of the village of Golcar. A pram stands outside G S Gee butchers. It is stated that Scapegoat Hill Brass Band are in debt, and that they have offered to sell their band room to pay this off. They are then seen in winter playing outside the Working Men's Club, while supporters go around inside, as patrons are drinking, collecting for the band. A band member is interviewed, and children play in the snow in a school playground. Inside the school children are being taught to play brass instruments. Next, we see Scapegoat Hill Brass band getting onto a coach and driving through Yorkshire to a competition, overtaking two other coaches carrying brass bands as they do so.*
- Local artist and children's illustrator Lauren Lister worked with people, at Huddersfield Library in April 2018, to create a new picture book telling the tale of the Scapegoat Hill Band. Participants enjoyed a day of creativity, exploring archives for inspiration, recreating the band's music, and creating words and images that Lauren brought together to create a book that would be shared at story times.

The known contest record of the Band can be found at:

<https://brassbandresults.co.uk/bands/scape-goat-hill/>

At one time the band had attended a musical competition and was successful in gaining first prize. Celebrations followed and the band returned home to the village. Not wanting to disturb the residents, they removed their boots and tip-toed along. However, they continued to play their instruments at full blast! In a Huddersfield Examiner article of 11 June 1938, this legend is similarly described by James Walton, with the added detail that the band was playing '*See the Conquering Hero Comes*' as they tip-toed. This anecdote is preserved in a painting by Charles Reginald Napier in 1940.



Scapegoat Hill Brass Band - Charles Reginald Napier, 1940

Further information:

- Anon - *Scapegoat Hill Silver Prize Band Centenary Celebrations - September 11th & 12th 1954 - Souvenir Handbook* - Alfred Jubb & Sons, Huddersfield, 1954
- Anon - *Scape Band 125th Anniversary 1854-1979: a souvenir brochure to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Scapegoat Hill Band* – Huddersfield, 1980



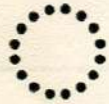
SCAPEGOAT HILL
SILVER PRIZE BAND

CENTENARY
CELEBRATIONS

SEPTEMBER
11th & 12th
1954

SOUVENIR HANDBOOK

SCAPEGOAT HILL
SILVER PRIZE BAND



Centenary Souvenir

PRICE 2/6

1854

1954

THE HISTORY OF SCAPEGOAT HILL SILVER PRIZE BAND 1854-1954.

Scapegoat Hill Silver Prize Band is rooted in the initiative of the late Mr. James Haigh, who in 1854, began to teach interested pupils to play various instruments by giving them private lessons at their own homes. When it was found possible a few years later to form a Band from these pupils, a meeting was held in the Cherry Tree Inn at Pike Law—since converted to private houses—and the first practices were held there for a short time.

Such was the enthusiasm in those early days, that we are told of a journey by Mr. James Haigh (who was said to be able to play any instrument) to Manchester to purchase an Ophicleide ; he walked all the way there and back via Nont Sarah's and Oldham one Christmas Eve—and played it throughout the night with the rest of the Band.

This Ophicleide, an example of the unusual type of instrument in use in those days, was discovered many years later in a barn at Haughs Farm—owned by the founder's son, Mr. Walter Haigh, who presented it to Ravensknowle Museum (after the removal of a nest of rabbits !) where it can still be seen.

The first conductor and subsequent tutor was Mr. George Bamforth, being succeeded by Messrs. J. Garside, G. Raine, W. Heap, Fred Swift and William Swingler of Halifax, to mention a few.

After leaving the Cherry Tree Inn, the Band rehearsed in the house of Mr. Frank Wood and at "Vermont," eventually finding it's way to the house still known as the "Band House" at Spring Head. From there, the Band moved to rooms adjoining the New Inn until the Band Club was opened in 1905. Open air rehearsals were held for a long time within living memory in the delph between the New Inn and the Liberal Club.

Financially, the Band depended as it does now, largely on subscriptions, engagements and collections taken whilst playing round the district.

On April 11th and 12th, 1898, a Grand Bazaar was organised and held in the school ; the object of which was to be able to clear off a debt of £35, to purchase four new instruments at a cost of £60, and to raise a sum to be expended on extra tuition "in order to improve the status of the Band."

The first contest entered of any consequence was at Crumpsall near Manchester during Easter 1903, when the Band was under the direction of Mr. Ephraim Whitwam, with Mr. Angus Holden of Horbury as professional conductor. The Band played number 17 of the 21 bands entered, and won first prize with "Classic Gems." Thus inspired with their first success, the Band and committee decided to build their own Band Rooms, and those who could gave a pound—or as much as could be afforded. £1 shares were issued, and the rest of the money required was borrowed. The shares were paid off within six years, but it was not until some 38 years later that the mortgage was cleared. On October 1st 1904—almost exactly fifty years ago, the foundation stones of the Band

Club were laid by Miss Evangeline Whitwam and Miss Martha Whiteley, and the building was opened the following March by the Band President, Dr. Webster of Golcar. Linthwaite Band and the reformed Slaithwaite Band attended the opening ceremony. Scapegoat Hill Band was present at the opening of Slaithwaite Band Pavilion about thirty years later.

Almost immediately, the Club was registered under the Friendly Societies Act, and affiliated to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union.

In 1919 it was decided to purchase the field in which the club stands with a view to constructing a bowling green. Trustees and a committee were appointed, but unfortunately their aim was never realized although work was begun on the project. The field has since been used for rehearsals and band concerts, and a boundary wall was erected in 1929.

After the opening of the Band Club, it was found necessary to form a sub-committee from the Band to deal with Band business, but suggestions of that committee had always to come back to the full committee meeting, and in 1907, two presidents were elected : one for the Band and the other for the Club. Sub-committees from the Band have since been appointed but have never been very successful. It is a rule that a sufficient number of bandsmen be on the committee, to command a majority if necessary.

Apparently the objects of the Grand Bazaar in 1898 were reached, as a set of basses were purchased in 1905, and greater achievements were attained in the contest field. After taking the seventh prize at the Crystal Palace in September 1903, the Band won contests at Mossley in 1906, Challenge Cups and first prizes at Ilkley and Woodkirk in 1908, Kirkburton and Thurlston in 1908, and in 1910 won the Halifax Zoo Challenge Cup and first prize, first prizes at Mossley and Stalybridge ; the crowning achievement being the success at Holmfirth when the Challenge Cup, first prize and six specials were won.

Meanwhile concerts were being held very regularly around the district, including performances at the Albert Hotel and Slaithwaite Spa. With the outbreak of war in 1914, Sunday evening sacred concerts were organized to aid the Local Distress Fund and the Belgium Relief Fund, and £12 was taken at two concerts held in the Leymoor Picture Palace. Proceeds from a concert at Royds Hall went to the aid of wounded soldiers. It is interesting to note that at a concert at the Albert Hotel on August 12th 1916, it was deemed necessary to ask for the presence of a policeman for two hours.

After the war, the Band gained more successes in the contest field ; the second prize being won at South Emsall in November 1919, first prize and gold medals won there on Easter Saturday of the following year, and two months later, the first prize was obtained at Marsden. Also in 1920, the Band tied with Wingates Temperance Band in a march contest at the Drill Hall, Ashton-Under-Lyme. Whit Friday contests were won later at Uppermill and Micklehurst. It was usual for final rehearsals for contests

to be held away from the Band Club, at such places as the Rose and Crown in Golcar, when collections were taken.

In January 1921 Mr. Joseph Whiteley succeeded Mr. Ephraim Whitwam as bandmaster, a subscription fund being opened for Mr. Whitwam for services rendered, and a cornet was presented to him. With the death of Mr. Angus Holden in 1923, Mr. Noel Thorpe became the professional conductor and the Band got third prize at Holmfirth.

During this period, the Band was said to include the finest three trombone players in this part of the country ; namely, Messrs. Seth Ainley, Harry "Lauder" Whitwam and John Beaumont.

In 1926, Mr. Gordon Lawson became the professional conductor, and took the Band to Slaithwaite (winning the third prize), Holmfirth and Spenny Moor contests. August of the same year found it necessary to employ a separate secretary to deal with arrangements concerned in a two day engagement at Sunny Vale. Hitherto, all secretarial work for both Band and Club had been carried out by one man.

The following year, Mr. Mellor Swift, son of the late Mr. Edwin Swift, celebrated brass band conductor and adjudicator, took over, and after repeated attempts, the Band won first prize at the Huddersfield Association contest in Greenhead Park in September 1930. Mr. Swift was followed the next year by Mr. Hervey Nuttall, who was bandmaster for two years.

In the 1930s, sections of the Band played for dances held every Tuesday and Saturday at the Club, and in 1933 a set of dance band drums were bought second-hand for that purpose, but were sold ten years later.

From time to time it has been found necessary to replace uniforms. The first entirely new uniform was bought in 1897, the next in 1912, and in 1931, dances and other social functions, including a field day in August were held to raise money for the fifth uniform, while a house to house collection raised £48. The cloth was woven at Joseph Hoyle's mill and the uniform made by Beevers in Huddersfield, being bought in 1932 and still in use to-day. The Band paraded and rosettes were worn when a Uniform Celebration Tea was held in the Band Club on May 20th the following year. A concert was arranged at the Alhambra Picture House for March 6th 1932 to raise funds for a conductor's uniform.

In April 1932, Scapegoat Hill Band was given a successful audition by the B.B.C., and broadcast in the North Regional Programme on Wednesday March 14th two years later, also being heard in the Overseas Programme during the same week, under their bandmaster and conductor Mr. Frank Braithwaite. Later that year, Mr. Braithwaite took the Band to the May Championship contest at Belle Vue, where the fifth prize was taken, and in two months, the Oldham contest was won. Also in 1934, a concert took place for the Cresswell Colliery disaster, and quartet concerts were interchanged with Marsden Band.

Quartets from the Band have been in existence for nearly forty years and were entered at Hepworth, Halifax, Oldham (second prize) and at

Holmfirth contests. At Holmfirth, the quartet party won every prize to be had.

Quartet contests were organized regularly at the Band Club between 1931 and 1938, and a Challenge Cup was purchased from Messrs. Boosey and Hawkes in 1934. Other contests held by the Band include a full band contest in 1906, a duet contest eleven years later, and 1923 saw the beginning of a long series of Slow Melody contests which have been held periodically ever since.

A disagreement came to a head in 1937 between the bandsmen and committee, and a special meeting was called for Sunday 2nd April, when the committee accepted the resignation of each bandsman who refused to sign for his instrument. Over half the Band resigned, and the persons concerned formed the short-lived Golcar Subscription Band. Undaunted however, the committee quickly refilled the Band, and a full band paraded the following Saturday with Mr. Ephraim Whitwam, who came back as a result of the emergency.

With Mr. Robert Cooper as professional conductor, the Band took second prizes at Stalybridge and Warrington in 1937, and six months later again won the fifth prize at the May Championship contest at Belle Vue. The same month, Mr. Albert Walker became bandmaster, to be followed nearly a year later by Mr. John Chappell.

War was declared and the Band was once more called on to help the Local Aid Society by giving concerts. Proceeds from a band parade in the summer of 1941 went to the comforts fund, and a parade was held for the Russia Red Cross Fund. At each Annual Meeting during the war, the secretary was asked to send best wishes to all members in the services. Throughout the Band's history, many sports days, field days and poultry shows have been arranged, and before the last war, a committee comprised of delegates from the Baptist Chapel, Liberal Club and Band Club, arranged carnivals under the auspices of the Band. When war came, proceeds from the carnivals were diverted from the Band funds to the Local Aid Society, and at the last event, the five bands which took part competed in a march contest. Even in wartime, the Band maintained its previous form, and won second prizes at Whitefield and Shipley with Mr. George Stead; also receiving a prize at Odsal contest in 1943.

In March 1944, Mr. Leonard Wood became bandmaster, and the Band entered the first Daily Herald contest at Bradford in 1945. After eighteen months service, Mr. Wood was followed by Mr. Edgar Berry, who took the Band to Whitefield, winning the second prize and a Cup. In December 1946 came the inauguration of the annual Carol Concerts, which are still very popular.

The summer of 1947 saw the Band win the Huddersfield Co-operative Society's march contest at Longley Hall Park; other contests entered in the ensuing months included those at Wigan, Greenfield, Rochdale and Blackpool, Mr. Fred Berry being the professional conductor at that time.

Once more, the Chapel, Liberal Club and Band Club joined forces to

produce a concert in the Chapel in February 1948, with Mr. Jan Van Der Gucht (tenor) and Miss Betty Woodcock (cornet and trombone soloist) as guest artists. Those who were present will long remember the event. The next day, a musical service was held, reminiscent of the Band Sundays held in the past.

After resigning as bandmaster in 1949, Mr. Edgar Berry was followed by Messrs. Leonard Schofield, Herbert Luty and John Morley, but he returned again for a further two years in 1952.

Three years ago, it was found necessary to start a recruiting campaign in order to get young people interested in becoming instrumentalists, as it had become very much apparent that bandsmen can NOT blow for ever. A circular sent to the local schools making enquiries for interested schoolchildren soon showed results, and a large learner's class was started, decreasing gradually until only the really keen ones were left. As a result Scapegoat Hill Band, in common with the majority of local bands, has now many young members, and is progressing favourably under the present bandmaster and conductor, Mr. Jack Watson.

Many well known bandsmen have played with Scapegoat Hill Band, and inducements have been offered by other bands to many more of its members with results such as one would naturally expect.

For the brief occasions when a conductor has not been forthcoming, the Band is indebted to the late Mr. Dan Ainley and Mr. Walter Taylor, among others, who have ensured the smooth running of rehearsals.

The first set of instruments used by the Band were very poor, but old and worn out ones have been replaced, and many new ones bought as funds would allow; a Christmas Draw was held in 1928 to buy a Euphonium. Treasurers have been appointed from time to time in connection with instrument funds, particularly with respect to the purchase of basses, which have always been bought in sets of four. It is fitting to make mention here of instruments which have been presented to the Band by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ainley, Mr. Ephraim Whitwam and Mrs. Betty Taylor to whom the Band and committee extend their sincere thanks.

Grateful thanks are also extended to all subscribers both in the past and at present, and to all who have helped or are helping in any way.

As in the past, the Chapel and Liberal Club have joined with the Band Club to ensure the success of the Centenary Celebration Weekend, and a special committee of delegates from each of the three organisations have been meeting periodically to deal with the weekend's arrangements.

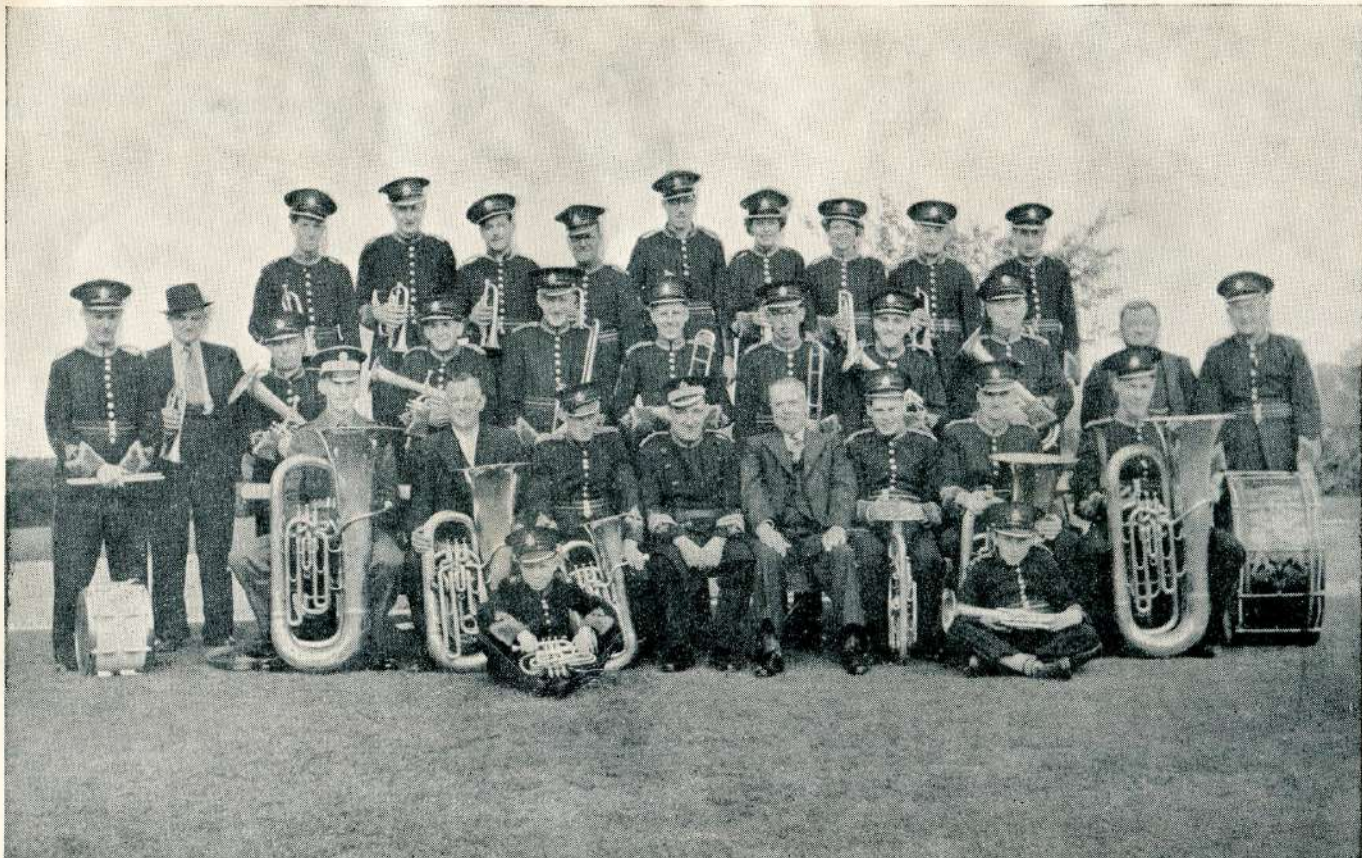
The Centenary Celebrations Committee.

Band Club : Messrs. Wright Wood (Chairman) and Percy France

Liberal Club : Messrs. Stanley Garside and Sam Sheppard.

Baptist Chapel : Messrs Charlie Wood and Stoney Wood.

Secretary : Mr. John Haigh. Treasurer : Mr. Irvin France.



Left to right (Back row) : H. Eastwood, J. Siswick (Solo Cornet), D. Armitage, J. Blakey, F. Holdsworth, B. Meadows,
 N. Walker, W. Taylor, D. Riley.
(Middle row) : C. Wheelhouse, A. Wrigley, H. Taylor, S. Day, M. Wood, M. Gaunt, J. Haigh (Band Secretary),
 B. Littlewood, G. Elliot, H. Haigh, T. Taylor.
(Front row) : S. Barraclough, L. Haigh, F. Taylor, J. Watson (Bandmaster), W. Berry (President), B. Taylor,
 W. Barraclough (Librarian), R. Pickard, D. Hinchcliffe, C. Barraclough.



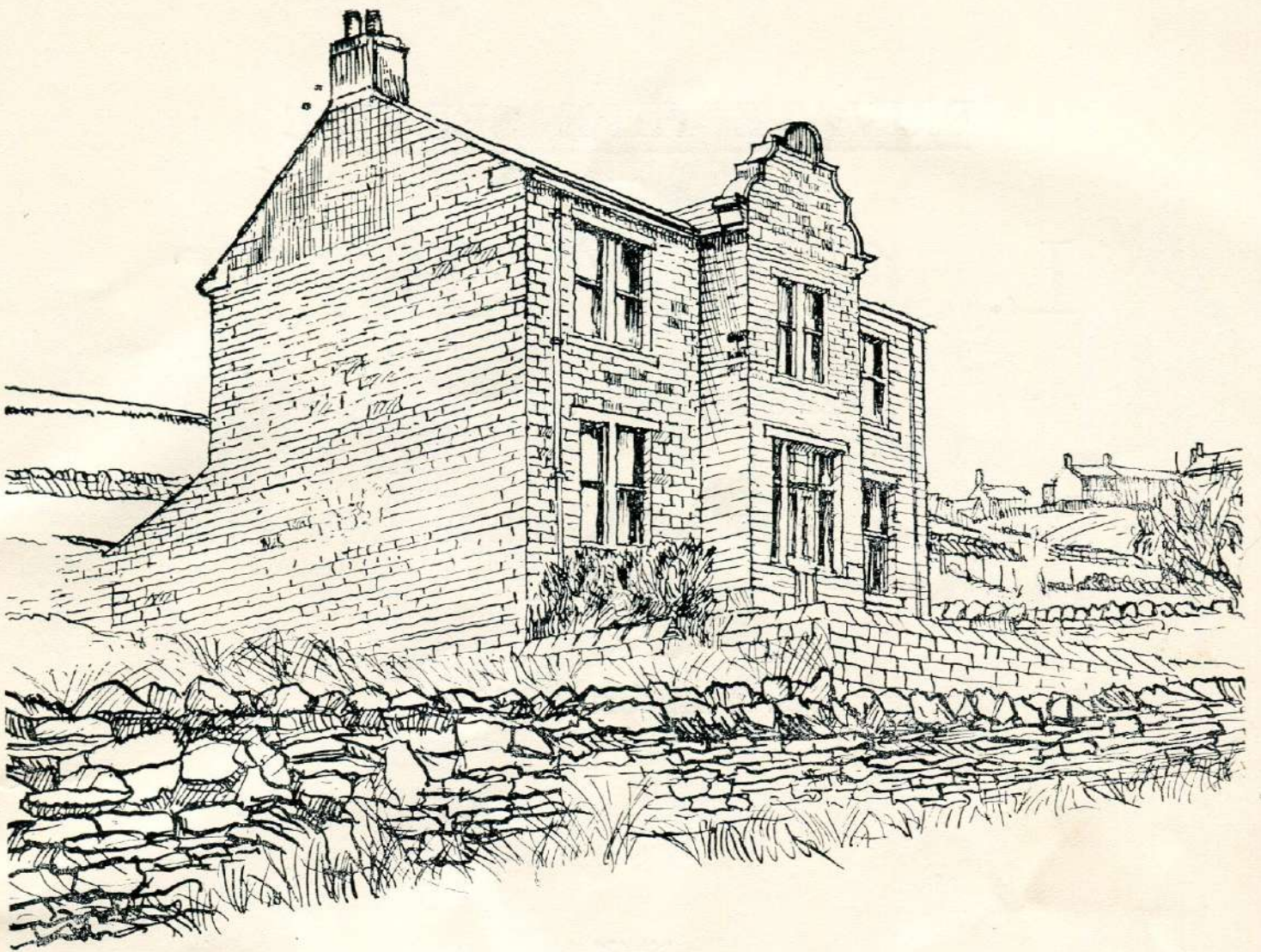
W. BERRY, Esq., PRESIDENT



Mr. J. WATSON, BANDMASTER



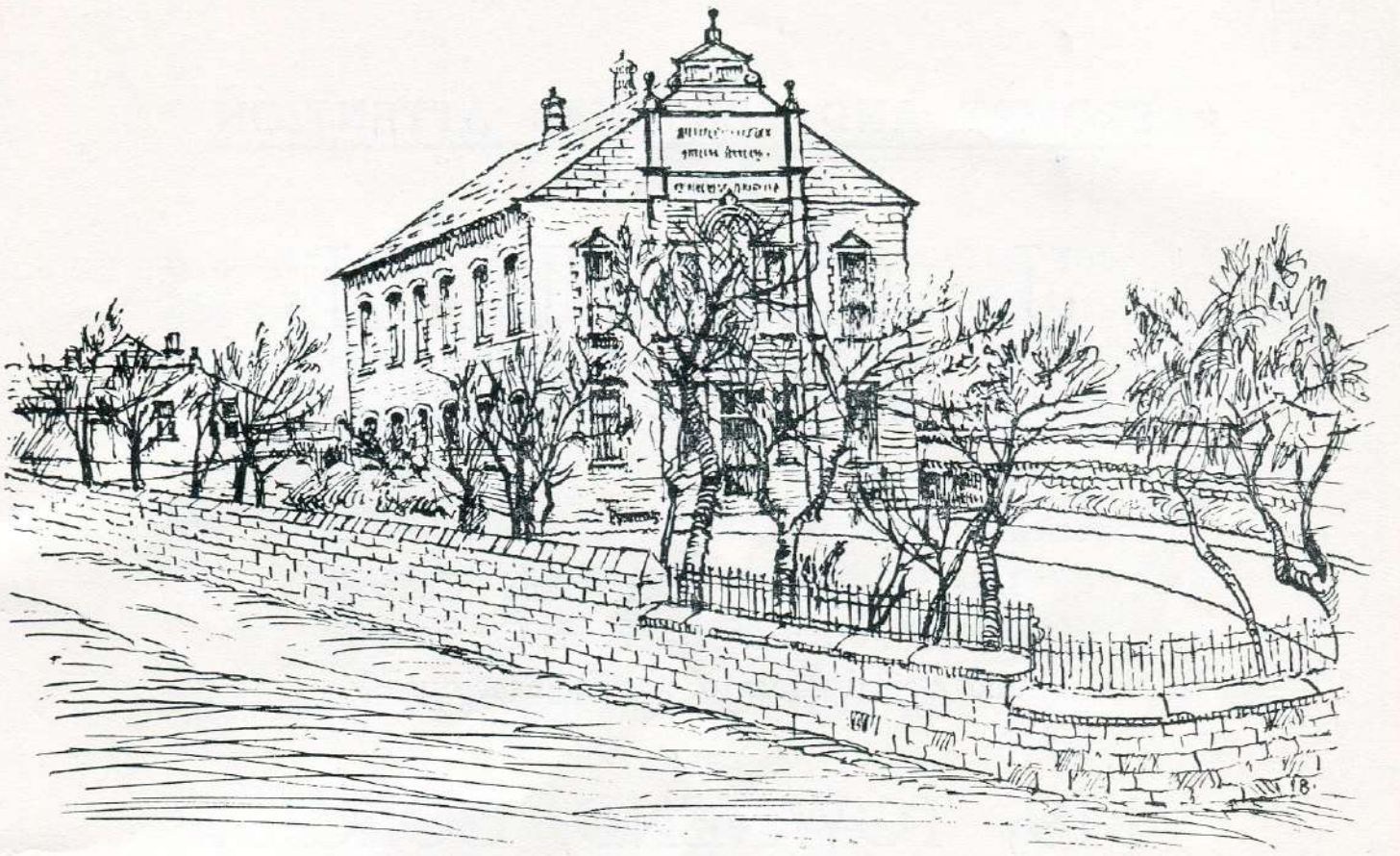
Mr. J. HAIGH, BAND SECRETARY



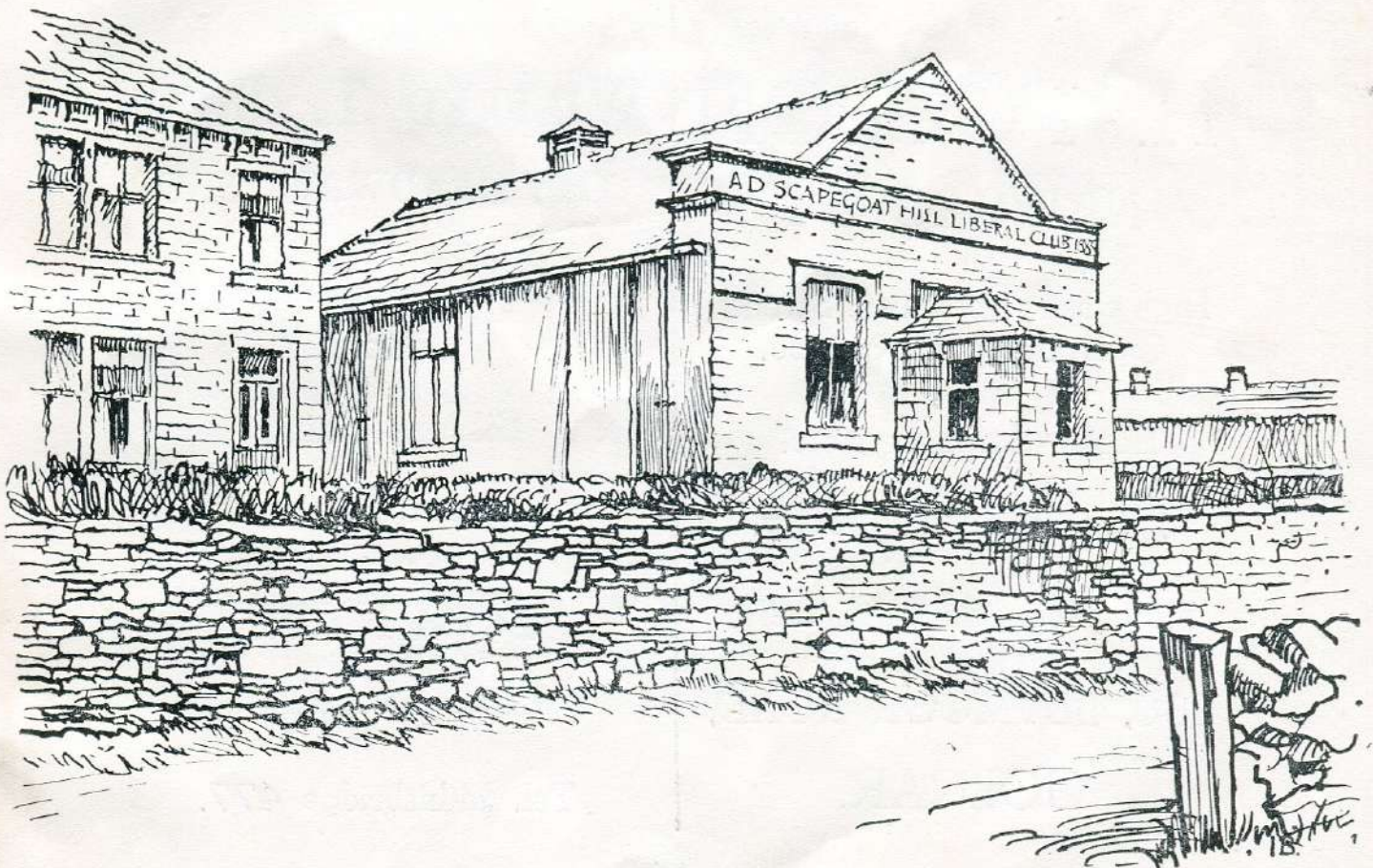
SCAPEGOAT HILL BAND CLUB



HIGH STREET, SCAPEGOAT HILL



SCAPEGOAT HILL BAPTIST CHAPEL



SCAPEGOAT HILL LIBERAL CLUB

“ YAR BAND.”

A 'undred yer sin' we are towld, some chaps at lived on t'Hill,
Discussin' w'at wor t'best to do ther leisure toime to fill ;
At last decided at they'd form a Brass Band o' ther own,
An' thus bring pleasure all ara'and wheeriver they wor known.

The started in wi' rey't goodwill, an practiced neet an day,
Who'll t'wimmin fooak made scoores o'teeas, ta 'elp 'em on ther way ;
An sooa, thra strength ta strength they grew, wh'oll t'critics scoffed an
sneered,
Predictin such a sticky end whenever they appeared.

Engagements started commin' in, w'ich dewly wor fulfilled,
Wh'oll, even up i' Lancasher, ther name wor bein' billed ;
An then they started contestin', wi' da'ans, as well as ups,
An in one seeason, at ther best, they went an won Four Cups.

Away i' t'past, on t'rooad, they 'ave a repewtation gained,
Fer playin' up, as well as da'an, a custom still maintained ;
Its been a tale all throo' the years, o' pullin' all one way,
O' Loyalty, an jonned 'Ard Wark, throo monny a stormy day.

Wi' Whitsun' Demonstrations, aye ,an playin da'an i' t'Park,
Or gooin' ra'and o' Christmas Eve, it means a lot o' wark ;
But it gives pleasure, we believe, an cheers fooak on ther way,
Sooa lets make sewer at yar Band 'll rey'n fer monny a day.

An sooa, this yer, we celebrate i' manner gay an grand,
A 'undred yers i' t'history o' Top o' t'Hill Brass Band ;
Thats why, ta 'elp us forrud then, we ask fer yore suppooart,
'Twill be the best encouragement ta them at's 'oldin' t' Fooart.

S.W.

PROGRAMME OF CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, Sept. 11th and Sunday, Sept. 12th, 1954

A GRAND

Centenary Celebration Concert

to be held in the school on Saturday, September 11th
will commence at 7 p.m.

given by

SCAPEGOAT HILL SILVER PRIZE BAND

with

Miss PEGGY CASTLE, Contralto

SCAPEGOAT HILL BAPTIST CHAPEL CHOIR

Compere and Entertainer :

Mr. CYRIL WHITWAM

Sunday, September 12th

A SPECIAL EVENING SERVICE

will take place in the

SCAPEGOAT HILL BAPTIST CHAPEL

(MINISTER : REV. A. H. B. COOK)

to commence at 6 p.m. when the hymns will be led by

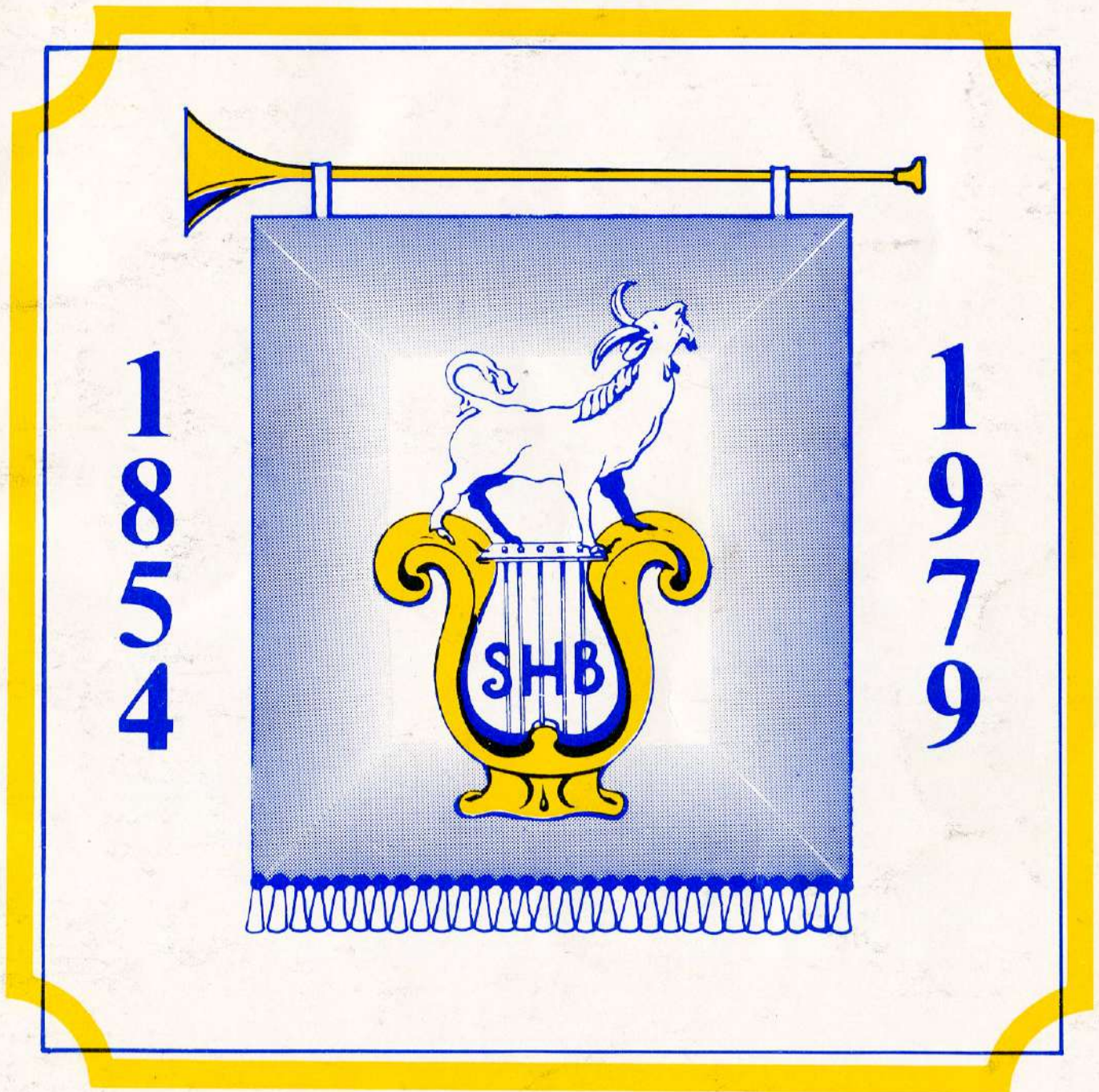
SCAPEGOAT HILL SILVER PRIZE BAND

The Service will include a Selection by the Band and
Solos by Miss Peggy Castle (Contralto)

SCAPE BAND

125th

ANNIVERSARY



A Souvenir Brochure to commemorate
the 125th anniversary of
Scapegoat Hill Band

Introduction

MUSIC. ONLY A SHORT WORD, but the scope of it's meaning is boundless. Presented in it's many forms, music is as essential to our daily life as the very food we eat, can you imagine life without music?

In it's early stages brass band music provided an outlet for the talents of the working man and a welcome relief from a hazardous existence. The brass band movement grew mainly because of its communal nature, a getting together to make music and create pleasure in such a way as to involve the individual with little or no expense.

As brass bands grew in number they brought with them an element of competition between villages followed by ever widening boundaries until in the present day the movement is world wide.

Throughout the past 125 years Scapegoat Hill Band has played it's part, at times with great success and on occasions, due to lack of finance or players has had to fight hard for it's very existence. However, always with a nucleus of dedicated workers the band has survived. With this spirit one hopes that Scape Band has many years before it and thanks go to all the officials and supporters who give freely of time and money to ensure the band's future.

This Commemorative Brochure is a grateful acknowledgement of your generous donation of 30p towards Scapegoat Hill Band's 125th Anniversary Fund.

The History of Scapegoat Hill Band 1854-1979

Scapegoat Hill Band owes its birth to the initiative of the late Mr. James Haigh, who in 1854, began to teach interested pupils to play various instruments by giving them private lessons at their own homes. A few years later a Band was formed from these pupils at a meeting held in the Cherry Tree Inn at Pike Law — and the first practices were held there for a short time.

Such was the enthusiasm in those early days, that Mr. James Haigh (who was said to be able to play any instrument) went to Manchester to purchase an Ophicleide; he walked all the way there and back via Nont Sarah's and Oldham one Christmas Eve — and played it throughout the night with the rest of the Band.

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After leaving the Cherry Tree Inn, the Band rehearsed in the house of a Mr. Frank Wood and at "Vermont," eventually finding its way to the house still known as the "Band House" at Spring Head. From there, the Band moved to rooms adjoining the New Inn, now the Scapehouse Inn until the Band Club was opened in 1905. Open air rehearsals were held for a long time in the delph between the New Inn and the Liberal Club.

Financially, the Band depended as it does now, largely on subscriptions, engagements and collections taken whilst playing round the district.

On April 11th and 12th, 1898, a Grand Bazaar was organised and held in the Scapegoat Hill school; the object of which was to be able to clear off a debt of £35, to purchase four new instruments at a cost of £60, and to raise a sum to be expended on extra tuition "in order to improve the status of the Band."

The first contest entered was at Crumpsall near Manchester during Easter 1903, when the Band was under the direction of Mr. Ephraim Whitman, with Mr. Angus Holden of Horbury as professional conductor. The Band won first prize with "Classic Gems." Thus inspired with their first success, the Band and committee decided to build their own Band Rooms. £1 shares were issued, and the rest of the money required was begged or borrowed. The shares were paid off within six years, but it was not until some 38 years later that the mortgage was cleared. On October 1st 1904, the foundation stones of the Band Club were laid by Miss Evangeline Whitwam and Miss Martha Whiteley, and the building was opened the following March by the Band President, Dr Webster of

Golcar. Linthwaite Band and Slaithwaite Band attended the opening ceremony then Scapegoat Hill Band was invited to the opening of Slaithwaite Band Pavilion about thirty years later.

In order to increase membership beyond the players and friends, the Club was registered under the Friendly Societies Act, and affiliated to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union.

After the opening of the Band Club, it was found necessary to form a sub-committee from the Band to deal with Band business and in 1907, two presidents were elected: one for the Band and the other for the Club.

Apparently the objects of the Grand Bazaar in 1898 were reached, as a set of basses were purchased in 1905, and greater achievements were attained in the contest field. After taking the seventh prize at the Crystal Palace in September 1903, the Band won contests at Mossley in 1906, Challenge Cups and first prizes at Ilkley and Woodkirk, Leeds in 1908, Kirkburton and Thurlstone in 1908, and in 1910 won the Halifax Zoo Challenge Cup, and first prize, first prizes at Mossley and Stalybridge; the crowning achievement of that era being success at Holmfirth when the Challenge Cup, first prize and six specials were won.

Meanwhile concerts were being held very regularly around the district, including performances at the Albert Hotel and Slaithwaite Spa. With the outbreak of war in 1914, Sunday evening sacred concerts were organised to aid the Local Distress Fund and the Belgium Relief Fund, and £12 was taken at two concerts held in the Leymoor Picture Palace. Proceeds from a concert at Royds Hall went to the aid of wounded soldiers. It is interesting to note that at a concert at the Albert Hotel on August 12th, 1916, it was deemed necessary to ask for the presence of a policeman for two hours.

After the war, the Band gained more successes in the contest field; the second prize being won at South Elmsall in November, 1919, first prize and gold medals won there on Easter Saturday of the following year, and two months later, the first prize was obtained at Marsden. Also in 1920, the Band tied with Wingates Temperance Band in a march contest at the Drill Hall, Ashton-Under-Lyme. Whit Friday contests were won later at Uppermill and Micklehurst. It was usual for final rehearsals for contests to be held away from the Band Club, at such places as the Rose and Crown in Golcar, when collections were taken.

In January 1921 Mr. Joseph Whiteley succeeded Mr. Ephraim Whitwam as bandmaster, a subscription fund was opened and a cornet was presented to Mr. Whitman "for services rendered". At the end of his playing career Mr. Whitman gave the instrument to the Band. After many years of use the cornet was returned to the safe keeping of the family at a concert in Scapegoat Hill School in 1978. With the death of Mr. Angus Holden in 1923, Mr. Noel Thorpe became the professional conductor and the Band got third prize at Holmfirth.

During this period, the Band was said to include the finest three trombone players in this part of the country; namely Messrs. Seth Ainley, Harry "Lauder" Whitwam and John Beaumont.

In 1926, Mr. Gordon Lawson became the professional conductor, and took the band to Slaithwaite (winning the third prize), Holmfirth and Spenny Moor Contests. The following year, Mr. Mellor Swift, son of the late Mr. Edwin Swift, celebrated brass band conductor and adjudicator, took over, and after repeated attempts, the Band won first prize at the Huddersfield Association contest in Greenhead Park in September 1930. Mr. Swift was followed the next year by Mr. Hervey Nuttall, who was bandmaster for two years.

Present day Bands have accepted percussion as an essential section, but as long ago as the 1930's, sections of the Scapegoat Hill Band played for dances held every Tuesday and Saturday at the Club, and in 1933 a set of dance band drums were bought second-hand for that purpose.

From time to time it has been found necessary to replace uniforms. The first entirely new uniform was bought in 1897, the next in 1912, and in 1931, dances and other social functions, including a field day in August were held to raise money for the fifth uniform, while a house to house collection raised £48. The cloth was woven at Joseph Hoyle's Longwood mill and the uniform made by Beevers in Huddersfield, being bought in 1932 they were in use for well over 30 years. A concert was arranged at the Alhambra Picture House for March 6th 1932 to raise funds for the conductor's uniform, these were very elaborate and much more distinguished than the usual players uniform.

When the set of Hoyle's uniforms eventually wore out, Scapegoat Hill Band, not being in a very good financial state in the late 60's had to purchase a set of second hand uniforms, the blue and grey that they are wearing today.

In April 1932, Scapegoat Hill Band was given a successful audition by the B.B.C., and broadcast in the North Regional Programme on Wednesday, March 14th two years later, also being heard in the Overseas Programme during the same week, under their bandmaster and conductor Mr. Frank Braithwaite. In more recent years the band have appeared on the other media, Television, a documentary was made in 1968 dealing with all aspects of running a village band. Various members were interviewed and the band were filmed at a number of locations. Another appearance was in the series TOM GRATTANS WAR when they dressed in khaki & puttees of the first world war, and turned out with "troops" on a routine march.

SHOULDER to SHOULDER, televisions version of the life of the Pankhurst family again found a dozen or so members of the band, suitably attired in uniforms of that period complete with pill box hats, playing "The Red Flag" at the graveside at Mr. Pankhurst's funeral.

Another filming engagement was for a documentary on the M62 Motorway. The band were filmed marching across Scammonden Valley by cameras on the Deanhead Bridge, the idea was to project the magnitude of this colossal construction achievement.

Later that year, Mr. Braithwaite took the Band to the May Championship contest at Belle Vue, where the fifth prize was taken, and in two months, the Oldham contest was won. Also in 1934, a concert took place

for the Cresswell Colliery disaster, and quartet concerts were interchanged with Marsden Band.

Quartets from the Band have been in existence for nearly forty years and were entered at Hepworth, Halifax, Oldham (second prize) and at Holmfirth contests. At Holmfirth, the quartet party won every prize to be had.

Quartet contests were organised regularly at the Band Club between 1931 and 1938, and a Challenge Cup was purchased from Messrs. Boosey and Hawkes in 1934. Other contests held by the Band include a full band contest in 1906, a duet contest eleven years later, and 1923 saw the beginning of a long series of Slow Melody contests which have been held periodically ever since.

A disagreement came to a head in 1937 between the bandsmen and committee, and a special meeting was called for Sunday 2nd April, when the committee accepted the resignation of each bandsman who refused to sign for his instrument. Over half the Band resigned, and the persons concerned formed the short-lived Golcar Subscription Band. Undaunted however, the committee quickly refilled the Band, and a full band paraded the following Saturday with Mr. Ephraim Whitwam who came back as a result of the emergency.

With Mr. Robert Cooper as professional conductor, the Band took second prizes at Stalybridge and Warrington in 1937, and six months later again won the fifth prize at the May Championship contest at Belle Vue. The same month, Mr. Albert Walker became bandmaster, to be followed nearly a year later by Mr. John Chappell.

War was declared and the Band was once more called on to help the Local Aid Society by giving concerts. Proceeds from a band parade in the summer of 1941 went to the comforts fund, and a parade was held for the Russian Red Cross Fund. At each Annual Meeting during the war, the secretary was asked to send best wishes to all members in the services. Throughout the Band's history, many sports days, field days and poultry shows have been arranged, and before the last war, a committee comprised of delegates from the Baptist Chapel, Liberal Club and Band Club, arranged carnivals under the auspices of the Band. When war came, proceeds of the carnivals were diverted from the Band funds to the Local Aid Society, and at the last event, the five bands which took part competed in a march contest. Even in wartime, the Band maintained its previous form, and won second prizes at Whitefield and Shipley with Mr. George Stead; also receiving a prize at Odsal contest in 1943.

In March 1944, Mr. Leonard Wood became bandmaster, and the Band entered the first Daily Herald contest at Bradford in 1945. After eighteen months service, Mr. Wood was followed by Mr. Edgar Berry, who took the Band to Whitefield, winning the second prize and a Cup. In December 1946 came the inauguration of the annual Choral Concerts, which are still very popular.

The summer of 1947 saw the Band win the Huddersfield Co-operative Society's march contest at Longley Hall Park; other contests entered in the ensuing months included those at Wigan, Greenfield, Rochdale and Blackpool, Mr. Fred Berry being the professional conductor at that time.



SCAPEGOAT HILL BAND ROOMS built in 1904 by public subscription and sold in 1969 to relieve the financial pressures on the band.

Once more, the Chapel, Liberal Club and Band Club joined forces to produce a concert in the Chapel in February 1948, with Mr. Jan Van Der Gucht (tenor) and Miss Betty Woodcock (cornet and trombone soloist) as guest artistes. Those who were present will long remember the event. The next day, a musical service was held, reminiscent of the Band Sundays held in the past.

After resigning as bandmaster in 1949, Mr. Edgar Berry was followed by Messrs. Leonard Schofield, Herbert Luty and John Morley, but he returned again for a further two years in 1952.

In 1951, it was found necessary to start a recruiting campaign in order to get young people interested in becoming instrumentalists, as it had become very much apparent that bandsmen can NOT blow for ever. A circular sent to the local schools making enquiries for interested schoolchildren soon showed results, and a large learner's class was started, decreasing gradually until only the really keen ones were left. As a result Scapegoat Hill Band, in common with the majority of local bands, has now many young members, and is progressing favourably under the present bandmaster, Mr. Jack Watson.

Many well known bandsmen have played with Scapegoat Hill Band, and inducements have been offered by other bands to many more of its members with results such as one would naturally expect.

For the brief occasions when a conductor has not been forthcoming, the Band is indebted to the late Mr. Dan Ainley and Mr. Walter Taylor, among others, who have ensured the smooth running of rehearsals.

The first set of instruments used by the Band were very poor, but old and worn out ones have been replaced, and many new ones bought as funds would allow; a Christmas Draw was held in 1928 to buy a Euphonium. Treasurers have been appointed from time to time in connection with instrument funds, particularly with respect to the purchases of basses, which have always been bought in sets of four. It is fitting to make mention here of instruments which have been presented to the Band by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ainley, Mr. Ephraim Whitwam and Mrs. Betty Taylor to whom the Band and committee extend their sincere thanks.

Grateful thanks are also extended to all subscribers both in the past and at present, and to all who have helped or are helping in any way.

The past 25 years have seen a few changes, as most people will know. During the first 10/12 years of this time the Band had a few Contest successes, winning the area contests in their section and going to the Championship Finals in London twice, on one of these occasions they gained third place. Then, the Band hit the hard times, getting into debt and being forced to sell the old Band Room to pay it off. We were lucky to be given the privilege of using the old Billiard Room at Golcar Central Liberal Club at a small fee for rehearsals, etc. An arrangement which exists to the present day.

The young players were improving fast and we had some small successes until once again we lost good players to other Bands and had to start with learners again. One can point to many of the top bands which include "Scape youngsters", Dyke, Imps, Fodens to mention but a few. But despite our difficulties we are still very much alive and kicking, and feel sincerely that our village Band **will** survive and thrive.

Over the last ten years the band have had limited success in the contest field mainly local and always busy giving concerts.

We cannot record a history of Scapegoat Hill Band without mentioning Albert Edward Haigh who this year has completed 59 years of service as a player, committeeman, secretary and trustee.

In March the band organised a celebration concert at Longwood Mechanics Hall when Albert was presented by an illuminated address in appreciation of his services.

Scapegoat Hill is the only band known to be registered charity organisation, its object being to promote and provide musical instruction to anyone who desires to learn. As maybe seen elsewhere in this book we are affiliated with Golcar Youth Band, regarded as our Nursery Band for future bandsmen and women. It is under the guidance of Ellery Ainley who for many years has assisted Scape both as player and in later years instructor.



Joint Presidents of Scapegoat Hill Band

James Haigh

Frederick R. Stallard

Vice-Presidents:

Evelyn Bray M.B.E., Richard Wainwright M.P., Clr. Barry Fearnley,
Norman Richardson, Mrs. Sagar, C. Parkinson, S.V. Grundy.

Committee:

Chairman: Friend Taylor **Treasurer:** W. Lax.

Mrs. Lax, J. Hopkins, S. Harris, F. Holdsworth, J. Pickard, E. Shaw,
H. Taylor, H. Beever.

Social Committee:

Chairman: W Lax. **Secretary:** H. Taylor.

H. Beever, Mrs. S. Harris, Mrs. Ann Holmes, Mrs. W. Lax,
Mr. I. Taylor, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walker, G. Harrison, Mr. Fox.

Trustees:

H. Beevor, A. E. Haigh, F. Taylor.



DAVID HIRST, L.T.C.L.

Musical Director of Scapegoat Hill Band.

David began his playing career at the age of 10 years with HOLME SILVER and soon became an accomplished cornet player.

This ability was soon recognised by the top echelon in the brass band movement and at the age of fifteen he joined the Yorkshire Imperial Metals Band, a year later he moved to the world's leaders Black Dyke Mills to fill the Soprano vacancy.

David studied at the Huddersfield School of Music his tutor being Maurice Murphy, principal trumpet with the London Symphony Orchestra and in 1973 gained his musical diploma. At this time he went freelance, accepting many engagements both as player and conductor, this added greatly to his wealth of experience. Many successes came to Holme Silver Band and Quaker-Sutherland Band whilst under his direction.

He returned to Black Dyke for a short spell before taking charge of Scape Band in June 1979.



Friend Taylor
Chairman of
Scapegoat Hill Band



W. [Bill] Lax
Treasurer of
Scapegoat Hill Band



Scapegoat Hill Band of the Mid Seventies

125th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

SUNDAY 9th SEPTEMBER, at 7.15pm

CONCERT BY

HAMMOND SAUCE WORKS BAND

CONDUCTOR: GEOFFREY WHITHAM

THE LEISURE CENTRE, SLAITHWAITE

SUNDAY 9th SEPTEMBER

SCAPEGOAT HILL BAND

at Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church. Morning Service

FRIDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER

Social Evening and Re-Union for Ex Band Members

Golcar Liberal Club, 7.30pm

SUNDAY 16th SEPTEMBER, at 7.15pm

CONCERT BY

BLACK DYKE MILLS BAND

JOHN FOSTER & SON LTD.

HUDDERSFIELD SPORTS CENTRE

FRIDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER

Social Evening for both Bands, Officials, Helpers etc.
at Golcar Liberal Club, 7.30pm.

SATURDAY, 24th November

GRAND AUTUMN BALL

MID NOVEMBER - SLOW MELODY CONTEST

To be arranged.

“SAMINDO”

To mark the occasion a new march has been written and dedicated to Scapegoat Hill Band by its composer Clive Barraclough.

Clive learned to play a brass instrument with the band in the early fifties, he progressed and joined the forces where he gained much of his experience with military bands. He has played with a number of championship bands and he is an accomplished euphonium player.

He has written and had published a number of marches one of which “SIMORAINE” is dedicated to Grimethorpe Colliery Band.

The first public performance of SAMINDO was at a concert given by the Band at Scapegoat Hill School on Saturday, August 18th, 1979.