



# The AnyFace Association Newsletter January 2022

Happy New Year one and all!

**Membership for 2022.** Firstly a very warm welcome to our new members for 2022. It's great to have you onboard! If you happen to stumble across any old (or not so old) 849 memorabilia or photos then digital copies are greatly appreciated for our ever expanding archive on the website. If you haven't already, then please feel free to create a member profile on the website [here](#) (not essential but useful for connecting with other members).

To those who have renewed their membership for 2022 a huge thank you for your continuing support! For anyone still wishing to renew then I'd appreciate if you could fill in the form [here](#) and transfer £10 (if applicable) to the following account:

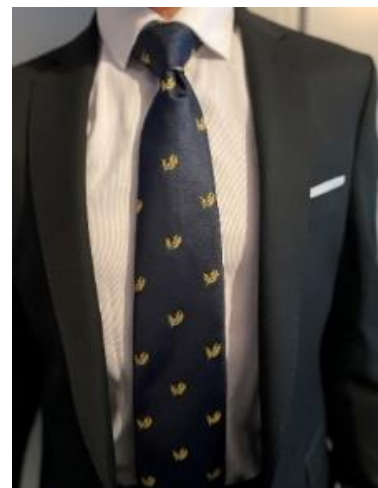
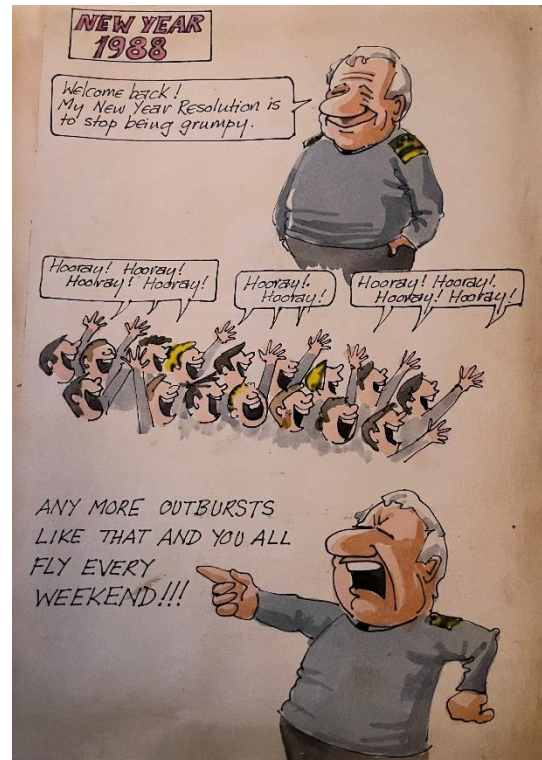
*AnyFace Association  
Acc 17736048  
Sort 010155  
Reference Member 22*

If you do not wish to renew your membership then please email me to ensure I take you off the distribution list.

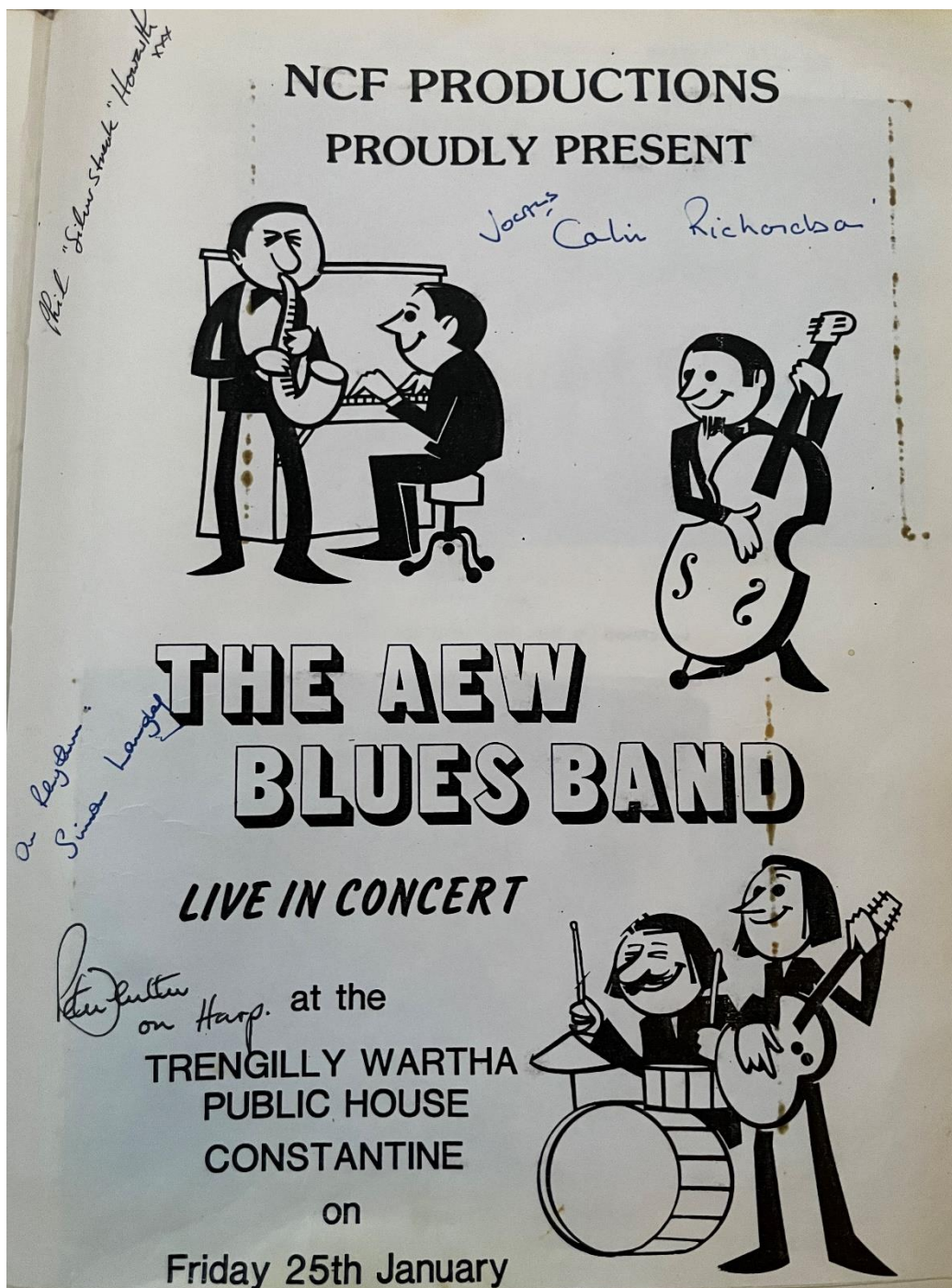
**Association Rules.** Now that we are a formal association, the Committee have drawn up a set of rules which can be found on the website [here](#). If any member would like a paper copy, then please email me and I will pop in the post.

**AnyFace Association Tie – only 3 now in stock!** A must have accessory for the AnyFace 70 reunion, we have 3 ties left in stock. Each tie is made from 2 plastic bottles so we're doing our bit for the environment! Cost is **£10 p&p included**. To purchase, just drop me a line.

**AnyFace 70/Project LAST 40 Reunion.** Apologies that we don't have a firm plan for our get together and AGM but rest assured that the Committee are working hard to finalise plans for later in the year. We will publish a date as soon as we can!



**Down Memory Lane....** Today is a very notable date in 849's history as it marks the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first live performance by the illustrious AEW Blues Band.



I was intrigued as to how the band started and Phil Howarth (849 Senior Observer at the time and original band member) takes up the story.

*'Nick Funnell had kidded me before we went on Christmas leave that he had been chatting to his local pub landlord about this great band and had procured an invitation for us to play there. We all then disappeared on leave whilst I set about getting the embryo band to put together a couple of 30 minute sets in time for us to do something in January. So, we practised throughout leave to put a good blues and rock show together ready to take to the road and find fame! On 1<sup>st</sup> January, myself and my wife met with Nick Funnell and his wife for a lunchtime drink at the Trengilly Wartha and I proudly proclaimed that the band were ready to rock and roll. "What date have you fixed?" I asked Nick, noting the growing paleness of his complexion – yet another Hogmanay overdose thought I. "Oh SObs" said he, (what happened to the friendly 'Phil' tag thought the wives?). "It was just my fun banter with you before Christmas. There is no gig, I didn't fix a band date...That night I just went for a pee!" I dispatched Nick to search for the owner of the Trengilly and to return only when he had fixed a date, which he duly did!'*

The original 849 band members were the lead singer Colin Richardson, Peter Flutter (849 CO) who played the blues harp (and had a flair for wrecking the band equipment whilst dancing on stage) with Phil Howarth and Simon Langley on rhythm guitar.



*Peter Flutter (left) and Colin Richardson (right) limbering up for their first performance.*

With their first gig a resounding success (perhaps partly due to the Boss imposing a 3 line whip on squadron aircrew and students) the AEW Blues Band went from strength to strength playing a pub gig on the last Saturday of each month plus Wardroom Mess Balls and other events. On occasion they had up to 12 band members, including Dick Buckland (also of 849) on alto sax. They released 2 albums 'Central Heating for Europe' and 'Take Cover' selling all 1800 cassettes produced and many t-shirts to their adoring fans. What a great time to be on 849!

