

# Foden's Band E-Update

Regular updates to your inbox



May 2018



Plans are now under way for our concerts on the 1st and 3rd June to commemorate the 100-year anniversary since the passing of Edwin Firth...

'FODEN'S REMEMBER EDWIN FIRTH'



To those who played in the famous Foden Band with him, or simply heard him play, Edwin Firth was by far the finest ever cornet player.

He had played with Earby (where he was born) and Skipton Bands before being invited to join Foden's Band in 1909 aged 19 years old.

Edwin led Foden's Band to victories at both the National Championships at the Crystal Palace in London and the Belle Vue British Open at Manchester. In addition, he was a talented composer and, among other compositions, won a National Award for his march Westward Ho!

In 1917 he volunteered to enlist with the London Regiment (Artists Rifles) and was soon posted to France. On 1st June 1918, while serving in Varennes, North West of Amiens, he was sadly killed when a shell exploded. He is buried in the Varennes Military Cemetery in Picardie.

One hundred years on, it is timely for Foden's famous band to recognise his service to their band and his sacrifice for his country.

On the 1st June, a service will be held at the war memorial in Elworth village at 1.30pm led by a Minister from the Royal British Legion and at Sandbach Memorial on the cobbles at 2.30pm. BBC North West TV will attend to record the service which is open to all.

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At 7.30pm that same day, a memorial centenary concert will be given by the band in Sandbach School Theatre on Crewe Road and because of expected demand for tickets, a repeat concert will be given on Sunday 3rd June at 2pm (same venue).

Prior to each concert there will be a large selection of memorabilia on show that was owned by Edwin including his original cornet (which will also be played during the concert).

Tickets for the concerts can be obtained by contacting Mark Wilkinson 07740 354106 or via <http://www.priorbooking.com>

To help advertise the concert the band have produced a promotional video <https://youtu.be/JEUgARu7riw>

**EDWIN FIRTH COMMEMORATION CONCERT**  
*Principal Cornet player of Foden's Band killed in WW1 on 1st June 1918*

**Foden's Band**  
*'There will also be a large display of Edwin's memorabilia'*

**Friday 1st June 7.30pm**

**Sunday 3rd June 2pm**

**SANDBACH SCHOOL**  
Crewe Road, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 3NS

**Tickets £10**  
[www.priorbooking.com](http://www.priorbooking.com)  
Mark Wilkinson 07740 354106

The poster features a large photograph of the band performing on stage in a school theatre. The band members are wearing red jackets and black trousers. There are two smaller inset photos: one showing a close-up of a musician playing a brass instrument, and another showing a close-up of a drummer. A small portrait of a young man in a suit and bow tie is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.