

ISSUE 5, OCTOBER 2019

"TEMPUS FUGIT"

20 years - A Personal Perspective by Kevin Lamb

In the Summer of 1998, I arrived at a country house called Benslow in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, a country house very similar to Hothorpe Hall. I was there at the request of the Bristol Concert Wind Band, who were enjoying a week's residential music-making, a band camp of sorts. They had been there a few days already and I was to conduct the illustrious group for the final three days. It was a hugely enjoyable experience.

On the last day, whilst in conversation with senior members of the band - Sue Parry, Chris and Bobby Chaloner - we chatted about the 'pros and cons' of their band camp. Band members were finding it difficult to give up a whole week of their Summer holidays to attend the camp. A suggestion was made, "Why not make it just a weekend and hold it in the October holidays?" This was quickly followed by "and open it up to other bands?". Everyone thought this a wonderful idea and determined to go away and consider this cunning plan. It wasn't long before it all came to fruition.

In October 1999, the Wind Band Festival was born. The venue, The Queen's Hotel, Southsea.



Queen's Hotel

Pleasingly, it was an immediate success. Not only did we have people attend from the south of England, but also from Yorkshire and indeed a small group from Scotland. I had the pleasant duty of conducting that first festival and although it was a highly enjoyable experience, it was extremely hard work! Sadly, the following year, I was unable to attend as I was working in the Bahamas (it's a hard life I lead!), so my good friend and colleague David Cresswell took over the role of Director. 2001 and I was back to the Queens Hotel. The Festival was as popular as ever and remained in Southsea until 2006. Clevedon in Somerset was the choice of venue for the next two years and whilst here, the Festival received its first real invasion from the Scots - notably twenty members of Capital Concert Band from Edinburgh. By now numerous guest conductors were invited

to take the strain and allow me to relax, enjoy and play various instruments that were needed in the bands.

The Festival had also blossomed in its format. The impromptu 'self-help' concerts that had been carried over from Benslow, were on the Friday evenings, but we had begun to invite wind bands to give a 'Gala Concert' to the attendees on the Saturday night. The first band was The Band of the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers conducted by our good friend Major Ian Peuple. Other impressive bands followed. The impromptu Friday night musical soirees were soon replaced by 'theme nights' and fancy dress.

Having moved from Southsea to Clevedon, the Festival moved again in 2008 to Glasgow where it stayed for two years. Whilst in Glasgow, a major decision was made to create an association of like-minded musicians. The Festival of 2010 was held in the Europa Hotel in Gatwick and The Wind Association was formalised with a constitution and an election of committee members consisting of: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Representatives.

The Festival and the Association have come a long way since its humble beginnings. It has travelled the length and breadth of the UK. It has brought hundreds of amateur and indeed professional musicians together. Formed lasting friendships and indeed seen members marry having met at the Festival!!

It's been a wonderful twenty years.



**We're on
Facebook!**

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Note from the Editor...

I was still at school in 1999, embarking on my first year of A-levels, just up the road from Hothorpe Hall in Loughborough. Little did I know that 20 years later I would be editing the newsletter for the Wind Band Association and preparing to travel from Edinburgh back to Leicestershire to celebrate the 20th anniversary Wind Band Festival. I have been coming for the last 10 years, only missing one because the birth of my eldest son inconveniently clashed with the Friday night antics.

So I asked myself.... What has changed in the last 20 years?



Apparently not much.....



How to Join the Association

To become a member of the Association please download a membership form from the WBA website or contact the Treasurer who can send one to you.

Please complete and send to the Association Secretary at 104 Boswall Terrace, Edinburgh, EH5 2BW.

The subscriptions are £15 per year, payable on 1st April 2020. Cheques should be made payable to **Wind Band Association**.

If you wish to pay by Direct Debit or Standing Order, please contact the Association Treasurer for details.

Benefits at present for members are: discounted fees for the annual Wind Band Festival; all other events presented by the Association, a yearly newsletter, 20% off Bandleader Publications.



CHILWORTH MANOR HOTEL, SOUTHAMPTON

13th APRIL 2019



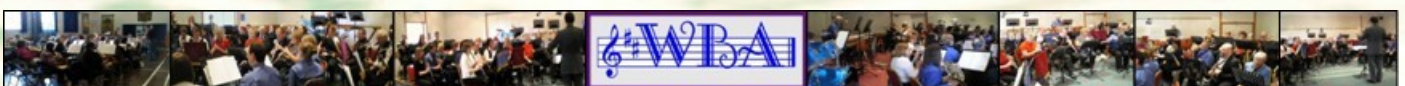
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An Overview of Edinburgh and District Bands

Music is definitely not dead within Edinburgh and the surrounding district, especially in the genre of wind bands. In Edinburgh alone there are eight wind bands of various sizes and capabilities. We are lucky enough to have two professional military bands; a semi professional military band; and an array of concert and community bands. In total there are at least eleven bands within a 10 mile radius of Edinburgh city centre and this does not include youth bands. *Just imagine what one of our "Big Blow" events would conjure up!*

- The Band of the Royal Marines
- The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
- Bristo Community Concert Band
- Capital Concert Band
- Central Band of the Royal British Legion
- Dunedin Wind Band
- Edinburgh Concert Band
- Edinburgh Wind Orchestra
- The Lowland Band, The Royal Regiment of Scotland
- No Strings Attached
- Rosyth Concert Band

THE BAND OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND

is a professional military wind band based in Scotland and forms part of the Corps of Army Music (CAMUS). We are based in Edinburgh and travel extensively around the U.K. and all over the world, most recently to Hong Kong and France. A Ceilidh band, brass ensembles, woodwind quintet, saxophone quartet and a state fanfare team are all groups formed from within the band.

Professional musical development for the members of the band is continuous throughout their careers. We accommodate all genres of musical development, many of the musicians in the corps who participate in brass banding, were given the opportunity to work with The Cory band's musical director Philip Harper at the Royal Military School of Music.

CAMUS often offer opportunities for smaller ensembles to train other military bands across the world. These trips are open to all serving members of CAMUS and are highly sought after as they are extremely rewarding experiences and a great way to see the world. CAMUS are very dedicated in promoting inclusive musical workshops and lectures for all its bands, names like Philip Sparke, Martin Ellerby and Paul Lovatt-Cooper have been guest lecturers for larger CAMUS events.

After successful completion of military training, musicians in the army can expect to be paid from £20,000 - £25,624 annually, and by successfully climbing the rank ladder to Band Sergeant Major you could be earning up to £51,800, and it doesn't stop there!

You can arrange to visit the band, or even attend one of our many music academies held throughout the year. If this is something of interest, please get in contact with us.

Facebook: [@TheBandoftheRoyalRegimentofScotland](https://www.facebook.com/TheBandoftheRoyalRegimentofScotland)

BRISTO COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

is based in Bristo Baptist Church, Edinburgh. Rehearsals are on a Monday evening from 7-9pm. The band is open to woodwind, brass, and percussion players of all ages and abilities.

www.bristoccband.co.uk

CAPITAL CONCERT BAND

is an Edinburgh based community wind band formed in 2004 by 13 like minded musicians. The band rehearses in Leith St Andrews Church and performs several concerts a year in support of various charities. A sociable group of amateur musicians, we believe music and fun go together. Our members are not only from Edinburgh, but also as far afield as Fife, Perthshire and the Scottish Borders. We are a member's band, an Equal Opportunities organisation and a registered charity (No. SC035673).

Conductor: Kevin G Lamb

Email: capitalconcertband@blueyonder.co.uk

www.capitalconcertband.co.uk

DUNEDIN WIND BAND

was formed from an idea in May 2006 between 11 players, with the idea of creating a relaxed, fun, friendly band for wind players of all ages and abilities. The band has grown to approximately 50 playing members but our ethos has remained the same. We play several concerts and festivals every year, in addition to our popular 'Play away' rehearsal days. As a registered charity, we also support other charities with fundraising concerts.

www.dunedinwindband.org





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EDINBURGH CONCERT BAND

was founded in 1988 with the aim of providing an opportunity for community musicians, school leavers and the student population to come together to make music. While the band consistently performs to a high level, the ethos is focused on being inclusive and welcoming. Today ECB is a true community band, with over 60 members aged 18 upwards and from all walks of life, performing and enjoying a wide range of music across the concert band repertoire.

The band undertakes a number of varied engagements each season, with a strong commitment to community and charity events. Recent highlights for the band include the commission of an original work composed for the band by the renowned Jazz Composer and Educator, Richard Michael (2013) and the involvement in the Making Music Adopt a Composer programme in 2017-18 where the band was paired with the composer Gaynor Baradell who composed the piece 'Step Up!' that premiered in June 2018 and was played on BBC Radio 3 in January 2019.

Conductor: Sarah Cunningham

Email: info@edinburghconcertband.net

www.edinburghconcertband.net

EDINBURGH WIND ORCHESTRA

is a concert wind band in central Edinburgh. We rehearse on Mondays from 7.30pm until 9.45pm in Morningside United Church, 15 Chamberlain Road, Edinburgh. We do concerts, go away for residential musical/social weekends and go abroad every year to do music festivals. The band was formed in 1994 and is for all levels of ability.

This concert band is run by a group of enthusiastic amateur musicians. We have people from all walks of life, students of all sorts, music teachers, ex military musicians etc. We have represented Scotland at all sorts of high profile engagements at home and abroad.

Email: secretaryband@outlook.com

NO STRINGS ATTACHED

is a non-auditioning ensemble that meets on Thursday evenings during the school term time. We meet at Broughton St. Mary's Parish Church, Edinburgh at 19:15 and rehearse to 21:15 with a lovely tea and biscuit break in the middle. Twice a year we have a concert in the church hall with an audience of family and friends. Our concerts are very popular as in addition to our wonderful tunes, we have wine, cake and raffles afterwards. The band is made up of a variety of people at all skill levels; we encourage members who are either new on their instruments or returning to playing after a break. Unfortunately, we cannot accept members under 18 years old unless a parent/guardian is joining the ensemble with them.

Email: MeganBWaller@gmail.com.

Facebook: [No Strings Attached](#)

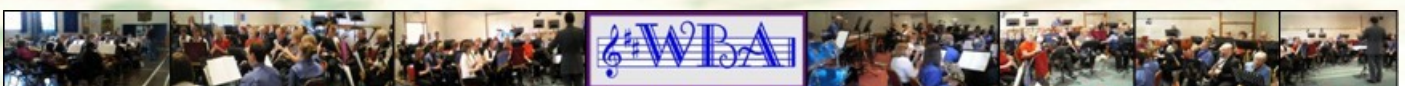
ROSYTH CONCERT BAND

is a phoenix that rose from the ashes. Originally a Boys Brigade band at the Parish Church in Rosyth, when the band folded some members of the congregation got together to carry on with some of the youngster that wanted to continue and met weekly to keep up the musical tradition.

Nowadays we are able to field most of the standard instruments comprising a wind band, including rarities such as a Baritone Saxophone, Bassoon and Bass Clarinet.

Our emphasis is on enjoying our music. We are community band supporting events locally and in the surrounding areas. We enjoy nothing more than performing in public for others enjoyment and are happiest when someone asks us to play at their event.

www.rosythconcertband.webnode.com



Wind Band Associations Composers Competition

This year the association held a composer's competition. Composers were asked to compose an original work for symphonic wind band to celebrate the association's twentieth year. The awards for the three outstanding works were sponsored by the Wind Band Association, Bandleader Publications Ltd and The Wind Section. The prizes were as follows:

1st Prize - £1,000

2nd Prize - £500

3rd Prize - £250

The competition was very successful with seventeen entries being received.

All composers had to write under a pseudonym to ensure anonymity and then the works were sent to all three judges - Kevin Lamb, Colin Touchin and Ian Peale. The three worthy winners are below with a short biography on each of them.

Special mention must be made however, regarding one entry which unfortunately did not appear in the prizes. This was written by a twelve-year-old school boy, Victor Seifert who attends St Mary's Music School in Edinburgh.

1st Prize: VICENNIAL CELEBRATION by KARL D. A. WHELAN



Karl began playing piano at the age of four and started playing various brass instruments when he was ten, eventually settling on Euphonium.

Between 2003-2006 he studied music at The University of Salford, pursuing his interests in composing and arranging for Brass Band and Wind Band under the mentorship of Peter Graham.

In 2013, he attended Liverpool Hope University and gained his PGCE in secondary music. He teaches music and works as a Teaching Assistant at Hindley High School, In Wigan.

He has played in many brass bands throughout the North-West and in 2018, he accepted the position of Principal Euphonium at The Besses o'th' Barn Band and spends his time composing and arranging for Brass Band and Wind Band and occasionally giving brass lessons - even to his headteacher!

2nd Prize: THE INNOCENCE OF YOUTH by ROBERT ELY

Born in SE London, Robert moved to Leicester in the 1950's where he did his schooling. In 1967 he joined the Army as a musician with the Royal Corps of Signals, then four further years with the Lifeguards. All the time developing his arranging/composition skills. In 1976 he was chosen to attend the Royal Military School of Music to train as a Bandmaster.

Having passed the course, winning a number of awards, Robert was appointed Bandmaster of the 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment in 1979 until 1986 when he left the army.

His music portfolio includes a significant number of classic works for orchestra, wind band, vocal and various chamber ensembles.

In 2015, Robert reached the finals of "Coup de Vents" where his work "Les Sirènes" won third place and in 2018 he was runner up in a similar competition in Galicia (Spain) with "Noite de San Xoán"



3rd Prize: KENDAL CASTLE by STUART RYNN



Stuart Rynn is a percussionist and composer from Sydney, Australia and now a British citizen.

After completing his bachelor's in performance at the University of New South Wales, he came to Glasgow to study a master's degree in composition at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, which he completed earlier this year under the tutelage of Stuart MacRae.

He has had works performed by a wide variety of ensembles, including wind band, brass band, clarinet quartet, and handbell ensemble, among others.

