

The Word On The Wind

ISSUE 1, OCTOBER 2012



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Community Band Conducting Workshop

Written by Kevin Lamb

The music departments of our universities and conservatoires are, on the whole, less than interested in the fortunes of the Concert Band/Community Wind Band movement - or is that about to change?



In January of this year, Capital Concert Band were asked to participate in a new venture at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (formerly the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama) in Glasgow. The conservatoire had developed a course for Conductors of Community Bands and needed a group of 'musical guinea pigs' for the eager student conductors to practise on!! Needless to say Capital Concert Band jumped at the chance to aid in this new and exciting venture, and the WBA were pleased to offer their

support.

The course was guided by two distinguished conductors: Nigel Boddice MBE and Andrew Duncan. Nigel is the Conducting Coordinator at the Conservatoire and an exceedingly accomplished conductor of both wind bands and brass bands throughout the world. He was ably assisted by Andrew Duncan, who is gaining a fine reputation in Scotland for his musical direction.

The initial one-day course was held on Sunday 12th February and aimed at people with experience in amateur band conducting and also open to music teachers looking to gain some new skills in community band

conducting.

Nine aspiring conductors took to the stage to be guided by Nigel and Andrew. The music was varied and tested the Capital Concert Band as well as the students! By the end of the day the students had gained a valuable insight into conducting Concert Bands and Community Bands; enhanced their knowledge of the repertoire; and The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland had opened the door for Concert Bands and Community Bands to be taken seriously as a major force in the wind band movement.



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 Treasurer at 104 Boswall Terrace, Edinburgh EH5 2BW.

The subscriptions are £15 per year, payable on 1st April 2013. 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 half yearly newsletter; and a chat forum on the website. In the near future we hope to obtain discounts for members from various music publishers and shops.



Repertoire Day, Bristol 22 April 2012

Written by Kevin Lamb

The WBA held its first Repertoire Day in Bristol on Sunday 22nd April.



The day proved to be hugely enjoyable with a substantial number attending, resulting in a particularly high standard of playing! This was in no small way due to the conducting of Rainer Dolz from the Bristol Concert Wind Band, who guided players from the South-West of England through a wide variety of new music from some of the major UK

publishing houses.

Studio Music Ltd., R.Smith & Co., and Bandleader Publications provided the music to challenge the sight-reading skills of not only the musicians but also Rainer our



Conductor. A challenge the conductor and band met with great aplomb!!

The range of music covered all genres: from classical to jazz; big band to ballad; and original wind band music for all tastes.

Our special thanks must go to the

Bristol Concert Wind Band for hosting the event and their chair, Dr. Chris Chaloner for all their help in making the day so successful.

And of course, a really big thank you to everyone for making the day so special!

If you are interested, please contact the editor for a list of the repertoire covered.



Meet Your Regional Representative

You will all have received a flyer with information on the main members of the Wind Band Association committee, but what about your regional representative? I have therefore dedicated this part of the newsletter to meeting them.

East Of Scotland – Maili Konczak

I thought I would start this newsletter with myself! I am a flute and piccolo player and have been playing for 20 years. I played with Leith Community Concert Band for 7 years and now play with Rosyth Concert Band.



I am originally from Nottingham, but came to Scotland in 2000 to go to university to study Chemistry. I met my husband Alan and decided to stay. I now live in a small village in West Lothian with Alan

and our 11 month old baby Iain, who chose the last Wind Band Festival as a suitable date to come into the world! I used to work in IT for a pensions company, but decided to pack it in to pursue the difficult career of full time mum.

Letters to the Association

Anything music related you wish to ask, or anything you would like to share with the rest of the association?

New Wind Band Formed in Kelty

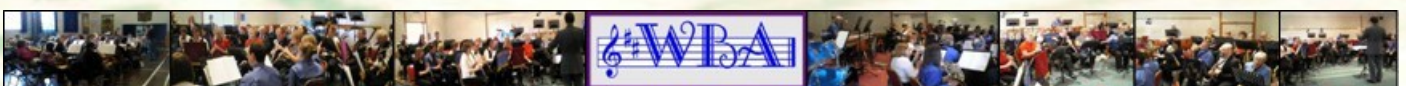
Written by Kevin Lamb

It's always pleasing to report the birth of a new wind band.

Following three months of help and advice from the WBA, the Kelty & Blairadam Concert Band was fully constituted and raring to go. And, on 4th September this year, the KBCB

held their first rehearsal in the Fife Kingdom in Scotland.

We wish them well for the future. If you know of any bands, fledgling or otherwise, that would like advice on setting up and running a band, please contact the Association.



Wind Band Festival 2012

Our Host Band, Taunton Concert Band

Written by Louise Price

As hosts for this year's Wind Band Festival, we thought you might like to know a bit about us...

The Taunton Concert Band, as the name suggests is based in Taunton, the County Town of Somerset, in the South West of England. The band can trace its roots back to 1892 when it was known as the Taunton Town Band. It originally started off as a Silver Band but over the years changed into a Concert Band with the addition of woodwind instruments.

The band has approximately 70 members in the main band and 35 in the training band. Some members of the main band have taken up additional instruments and joined the training band.

We are a community band and a registered Charity and have players from all walks of life. The ages range from Primary School children to those in their 80's.

We enjoy playing a wide variety of music under the baton of Martin Wills who has been our Musical Director since 1986. The band has taken part in the National Concert Band Festivals a number of times; receiv-

ing Gold and Silver Awards on many occasions.

The band performs in local parks during the summer and at The Tacchi Morris Arts Centre for our main concert in the spring and for two nights at Christmas. We also play in churches and other venues and on the West Somerset Railway steam train for their 'Carol Trains' in the lead up to Christmas.

In 1998 the band was fortunate to be awarded a Lottery Grant. This enabled us to buy some of the less common instruments including a Cor Anglais and an Alto Clarinet. We

also commissioned a piece of music by Roger May called The Three Towers Suite which can be heard on the band's CD which was recorded in 2006.

Every couple of years the band takes a trip abroad for a mix of playing, sightseeing and socialising. Countries visited so far include France, Germany, Czech Republic, Holland, Ireland and Belgium. The next trip is planned for 2013 with the destination yet to be decided.

We look forward to welcoming you to Somerset and hope you enjoy this year's festival.



What's On

October

19-21 Wind Band Festival

26 Rosyth Concert Band

November

02 Rosyth Concert Band

09 Taunton Concert Band

10 Band of the Black Watch Army Cadet Force

11 Bagshot Concert Band

24 Capital Concert Band

24 Malmesbury Concert Band

30 Dunedin Band

December

1 Taunton Concert Band

1 Rosyth Concert Band

4 Rosyth Concert Band

08 & 09 Stan Hacking Concert Band

9 Taunton Concert Band

10 Band of the Black Watch Army Cadet Force

15 Dunedin Band

15 Bagshot Concert Band

15 Band of the Black Watch Army Cadet Force

21 & 22 Taunton Concert Band

22 Rosyth Concert Band

Webbington Hotel, Loxton

Christ's Kirk, Glenrothes

Falkland Parish Church, Falkland

Wellsprings Leisure Centre, Taunton

Tulliallan and Kincardine Parish Church, Kincardine

Lightwater War Memorial, Lightwater

St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh

Malmesbury Town Hall, Malmesbury

Craigmillar Park Church, Edinburgh

West Somerset Railway Carol Train

Mercat Shopping Centre, Kirkcaldy

Rosyth Nativity, Rosyth

Barnfield Theatre, Exeter

Pickeridge Golf Club, Taunton

Tulliallan and Kincardine Parish Church, Kincardine

Old St. Paul's Church Hall, Edinburgh

All Saints Community Hall, Lightwater

St. Ninian's Cathedral, Perth

Tacchi Morris Arts Centre, Taunton

United Reform Church, Dunfermline

