

A warm welcome to our Christmas Concert - and thanks for coming along tonight at this busy time of year. We're very much looking forward to an enjoyable evening of wonderful festive music to get us and you in the Christmas spirit.

I realised whilst producing this programme that this is my 35th Christmas Concert with the band...so I thought I'd fill this page with a potted history of our Christmas Concerts...with the added bonus that you can play "where's wally" with the top two photos.



The Christmas Concert has always been one of my and the band's favourite events of the year, with our earliest Christmas Concerts at Heathlands school under Sid's baton remembered very fondly by those of us old enough to have been there. Sid's last concert with the band was Christmas 1989, which makes the Christmas concert even more special for us, and it's always poignant to think that some pieces, such as Troika & Christmas Recollections, span the band's history from those early concerts right up to this year's concert. Shortly after I took over the baton in the mid 1990s we were invited to

play our Christmas Concert in West Bergholt Church, with the 50+ players just about fitting into the area between the organ, the altar and the pews...with the latter holding as many people as we could squeeze in. I recall those concerts equally fondly - the band and audience in such close proximity generated a wonderful warm &

convivial atmosphere. Eventually the concert became so popular that we had to find a bigger venue...which led us to discover this gem of a church for our first concert here in Christmas 2012. Since then we've played a memorable Christmas Concert at the West Cliff Theatre with the Cavender Singers, returned to West Bergholt Church for a Christmas Concert (sans altar, organ & pews), and last year came back here...and enjoyed it so much, we're here again.



As always, this year's Christmas Concert is a fun & relaxed evening where we celebrate another busy & successful year for the band by wearing daft hats and festive jumpers. You are of course welcome to join in with that, as well as with any of the pieces we play tonight...and remember, a set of keys can manage a pretty good sleigh bells impression if shaken firmly enough.

Everything you need to know about the band, including our 2017 concerts, open rehearsals and schools events, plus how to join us, is on the band's website (www.wbcb.org), or you can call Graham on 07941 947541.

Finally - thanks again for coming - and we hope you enjoy the concert.

Christmas Concert



Saturday 10th December 2016

Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall

In aid of :



J **THE J's**
HOSPICE





West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-2016)



Concert Band

1. Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson
2. A Vaughan Williams Christmas arr Douglas E. Wagner
3. Away In A Manger arr Colin Evans
4. Happy Xmas (War Is Over) John Lennon & Yoko Ono arr T. Wallace
5. Christmas on Broadway arr John Higgins

Training Band

1. Little Saint Nick Brian Wilson & Mike Love arr E. Osterling
2. Christmas Island (*) Lyle Moraine arr James Kazik
3. Midnight Carols (*) arr Jerry Davis
4. A Rockin' Christmas arr Paul Murtha
5. All I Want For Christmas Is You (*) M. Carey & W.Afanasieff arr M. Brown

Interval

Concert Band

1. Troika Sergei Prokofiev arr Harold L. Walters
2. An Irving Berlin Christmas arr Warren Barker
3. Grown Up Christmas List D. Foster & L. Thompson-Jenner arr M. Brown
4. Once In Royal David's City arr Colin Evans
5. A Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson
6. Fairytale of New York (*) J.Finer & S. MacGowan arr S. O'Loughlin
7. Christmas Recollections arr John Edmonson
8. Dixie Patrol Harold L. Walters

(*) **Premiere performance**

West Bergholt Concert Band – 2017 Concerts (see wbcband.org for details)

- Sunday 12th March 3:00pm - West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
- Sunday 11th June 2:30pm - Valley Farm, Flatford
- Saturday 15th July 7:30pm - St Luke's Tiptree
- Saturday 18th November 7:30pm - Thurstable School
- Saturday 16th December 7:30pm - St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall

**We wish you all a very merry Christmas
and a wonderful 2017.**

Band starts again on Friday 6th January at Heathlands School.