

A warm welcome to our Christmas Concert ! We're delighted to be back at this beautiful church, especially after an enjoyable concert here in July and a wonderful Christmas concert here in 2012, so thanks for coming along tonight.

The Christmas Concert is one of the band's favourite events of the year...it's always a fun & relaxed evening where we celebrate another busy & successful year for the band, as well as the wonderful diversity of festive music. It's also traditional that we wear daft hats, and play a couple of pieces where you can officially join in, but don't let this stop you joining in unofficially...not that it ever has. If it helps...a set of keys can manage a pretty good sleigh bells impression if shaken firmly enough.

Christmas is also the point in the year where I tend to reflect on the last 12 months and say my personal thanks to everyone who's helped with the band over that period. First & foremost is an enormous thank-you to the band for giving up their Friday nights and for their hard work & commitment at rehearsals, workshops & concerts. This year we've performed 5 concerts, 3 open rehearsals, 2 primary school workshops, a secondary school workshop, and a remembrance service...so special thanks to the players who've attended all or almost all of those, as well as all or almost all of the rehearsals.

This year's primary school workshops have been some of the most successful & enjoyable we've performed, and this type of event continues to be the prime method of engaging with and recruiting young musicians into the band. The band has always had a balance of young & used-to-be-young members, and it's important that we maintain that balance to keep the band's atmosphere and approach consistent with Sid's original vision. We're finalising the details of the primary school events next year, so please check our website for more details. Our open rehearsals have also been a success this year, with some of the people you see in front of you joining us directly from those. Our 2015 concerts have helped increase the amount we've raised for charity in recent years to almost £33,000, and have seen us perform everything from William Walton to Lady Gaga with aplomb. Those concerts also wouldn't have been as successful without the "deps" who help out by filling parts that otherwise wouldn't be heard, so thanks to them and to all of our ex-members who keep coming back – it's always good to see (& hear) you.

As I'm sure everyone's aware, operating any group like this takes a substantial amount of time & effort behind the scenes, so I'm very grateful to everyone who has helped out during 2015 (all for free of course), including **Alison, Ed, Gillian, Ian, Karen, Ian & Lynn, Matt, Michael P, Moira, Paul, Phil, Ralph**...and anyone I've forgotten. Myself, Alison & Karen still handle the majority of the band workload, so as always any volunteers to help out with any of the administration or organisation would be very welcome. We also have some challenges with storing & transporting band equipment now that there's no room at Heathlands school, so if anyone has space at home or in a large vehicle, please shout.

As ever - please come and talk to me, or email me (Conductor@wbc.org), or phone me (07941 947541) if you'd like additional information on the band, or even better would like to join or help out. The band's website (www.wbc.org) also has everything you need to know, as does our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/WestBergholtConcertBand)

Finally – thanks for coming tonight and for supporting our concerts during 2015

and we hope you enjoy the concert ! **Happy Christmas !**



Saturday 12th December 2015

Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall

**In aid of : WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**





West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-2015)



Concert Band

1. Santa's Journey (*) Roy W. Kaighin
2. Sounds of Christmas (*) arr John Wasson
3. Carol : Oh Little Town Of Bethlehem arr Colin Evans
4. Christmas Day (*) Gustav Holst arr Robert van Beringen
5. Yuletide Galop (*) arr Alan Beaumont after Herman Koenig
Soloist : Phil Sweeting

Training Band

1. Sleigh Bells Jingling (*) John Moss
2. The Kings of Swing (*) John Henry Hoplins Jr arr Michael Story
3. Carol : The First Noel arr Colin Evans
4. Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer (*) Randy Brooks arr Eric Osterling
5. Parade of the Wooden Soldiers (*) B. MacDonald & L. Jessel arr Osterling
6. Let It Snow!/Winter Wonderland (*) Styne & Cahn / Bernard & Smith arr Ford

Interval

Concert Band

1. A Cambridge Carol arr Vince Gassi
 2. Irving Berlin's Christmas Irving Berlin arr Michael Brown
 3. Christmas Lullaby (*) John M. Rutter arr Jay Dawson
 4. Carol : Once In Royal David's City arr Colin Evans
 5. The Christmas Waltz Sammy Cahn & Jule Styne arr J. Bullock
 6. A Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson
 7. All I Want For Christmas Is You (*) M. Carey & W.Afanasiieff arr L. Kerchner
 8. Christmas Favorites arr James Swearingen
 9. Dixie Patrol Harold L. Walters
- (*) Premiere performance

West Bergholt Concert Band – 2016 Concerts (see wbcband.org for details)

- Sunday 13th March 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
- Sunday 12th June 3:00pm – Venue tbc (hopefully Castle Park)
- Saturday 16th July 7:30pm – St Luke's Tiptree
- Saturday 19th November 7:30pm – Schools Concert (venue tbc)
- Saturday 10th December 7:30pm / Sunday 11th December 3:00pm

**We wish you all a very merry Christmas
and a wonderful 2016.**

Band starts again on Friday 8th January at Heathlands.