

A warm & somewhat relieved welcome to our Christmas Concert - thanks for coming along tonight at this busy time of year and with all the worries & uncertainty at the moment. We're very much looking forward to an enjoyable evening of wonderful festive music to get us and you in the Christmas spirit, especially as we were only able to have a virtual Christmas Concert last year, exactly a year ago tonight.



Including last year's virtual one, tonight is my 40th consecutive Christmas Concert with the band, and the 26th I've conducted...literally half of my life. Christmas is always a concert that triggers a look back at the band's history as 1989's Christmas Concert was the last time Sid conducted the band - I can't believe that was 32 years ago already. I still remember the

discussions in January 1990 around ending the band, and other discussions around totally changing it, but with the support of everyone who played in the band then, and has played in it since, plus a hefty dose of determination & stubbornness, I am immensely proud (& emotional) to stand in front of a band that is as large as it was in Sid's time, as full of fabulous musicians, and remaining inclusive of all ages and abilities.



The Christmas concerts after Sid's passing remained in the school, which was a very tight squeeze. Around the time I took over we moved to West Bergholt Church with the band squeezing in between the organ, altar and pews, the latter being crammed full of people until no-one could move. The popularity of the concert meant 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 most of our Christmas Concerts here, and we're delighted to be back again this year.



As always, our Christmas Concert is a fun & relaxed evening, where we wear daft hats and festive jumpers, and hope that you'll join in with our Christmas spirit. Clap along if you feel it, sing along if you're allowed to, and let's see how many sets of keys we can get jingling into a decent sleigh bells impression.

Everything you need to know about the band, including our 2022 concerts, open rehearsals and schools events, plus how to join us (and we'd really like you to !) is on the band's website (www.wbcb.org), or you can call me on 07941 947541. Finally - thanks again for coming - and we hope you enjoy the concert.

Christmas Concert



Saturday 18th December 2021

Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall



In aid of :

**THE
BRAIN
TUMOUR
CHARITY**





West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-2021)



Concert Band

1. Happy Holiday / White Christmas Irving Berlin arr Ted Ricketts
2. A Vaughan Williams Christmas arr Douglas E. Wagner
3. **Once In Royal David's City** arr Colin Evans
4. Christmas on Broadway arr John Higgins
5. Merry Christmas Everybody J. Lea & N. Holder arr F. Bernaerts

Training Band

1. Over The River Traditional arr John Moss
2. Santa Baby Javits, T & P Springer arr M. Brown
3. Let It Snow ! / Winter Wonderland Cahn/Styne, Smith/Bernard arr Ralph Ford
4. Carol Of The Drum Traditional arr Paul Lavender
5. Christmas Island Lyle Moraine arr James Kazik
6. Rockin' Robin Jimmie Thomas arr Eric Osterling

Interval

Concert Band

1. Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson
2. The Nightmare Before Christmas Danny Elfman arr Michael Brown
3. Mary's Boy Child Traditional arr Philip Sparke
4. **Away In A Manger** 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

West Bergholt Concert Band – 2022 Concerts

- Sunday 20th March - 3pm - West Cliff Theatre Clacton
- Sunday 12th June - 230pm - Venue TBC
- Saturday 16th July - 730pm - Venue TBC
- Saturday 19th November - 730pm - Venue TBC
- Saturday 17th December - 730pm - Venue TBC

See wbc.org for dates & details...I will confirm venues as soon as I can.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Covid-free 2022.

Band re-starts on Friday 7th January at Heathlands School.