

Christmas Concert & Carols

White Christmas, Last Christmas, Polar Express,
Stop the Cavalry, Merry Christmas Everyone,
Rudolph, Sleigh Ride, Carols to Sing & more !

Saturday 13th December 7:30pm
St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall

Tickets on the Door
(Cash or Card)

£6 Adults, £5 Concessions, Under 18s Free

**In aid of East Anglian
Children's Hospices**



**WEST BERGHOLT
CONCERT BAND &
TRAINING BAND**
Music for all since 1978

See wbcb.org for details

West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-...)

Concert Band

1. Santa's Journey Roy W. Kaigin
2. Sounds of Christmas arr John Wasson
3. Christmas Lullaby John M. Rutter arr Jay Dawson
4. Merry Christmas Everyone (*) Bob Heatlie arr Filip Sandras

Training Band

1. Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson arr John Ford
2. Last Christmas (*) George Michael arr Chris M. Bernotas
3. The Partridge and the Pear John Moss
4. O Little Town Of Bethlehem arr Colin Evans
5. Santa Baby J Javits, P & T Springer arr M. Brown
6. All I Want for Christmas Is You M. Carey & W. Afanasieff arr M. Brown
7. Have A Ragtime Jazzy Christmas (*) arr Ed Huckeby

() Premiere Performance*

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1. Scherzo from A Christmas Suite David Barker
2. White Christmas Irving Berlin arr Robert Russell Bennett
3. Once In Royal David's City arr Colin Evans
4. Concert Suite From The Polar Express A. Silvestri & G. Ballard arr J. Brubaker
5. Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer (*) Johnny Marks arr Henderson & Brown
6. A Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson
7. Stop The Cavalry (*) Jona Lewie arr Stefan Schwalgin
8. Christmas Recollections arr John Edmonson
9. Dixie Patrol Harold L. Walters

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Band starts back on Friday 9th January at Heathlands School.

2026 Concerts

Sunday 22nd March	3:00pm	West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
Saturday 11th July	7:30pm	St Peter's Arts Centre, Sudbury
Saturday 12th December	7:30pm	Christmas Concert with Heathlands School Choir- St Botolph's Colchester
Additional 2026 dates coming soon - please check our website (www.wbcb.org.uk) for dates.		

A warm welcome to our Christmas Concert - and thanks for coming along tonight at this busy time of year. We're really looking forward to an enjoyable evening of wonderful festive music to get us & you in the Christmas spirit, and to hear you singing along even on the pieces we've not provided words to.

As well as being our favourite concert of the year, our Christmas Concert is also one at which I find myself reflecting back to the past year (which went way too quickly) and beyond. My first concert with the band was Christmas 1982, the year that Stop The Cavalry was released, and I have many happy memories of the 1980s Christmas Concerts at Heathlands school, which saw 60 players & 100+ audience squeezed into the school hall before it was enlarged. Our last Christmas Concert of the 1980s was also the last concert our founder Sid Cooper conducted, as he passed away suddenly in January 1990.



My brother kept the band going through the early 1990s and I then took over baton duties in 1994, with Christmas 1995 being the first Christmas Concert I solely conducted. Shortly afterwards I moved the Christmas Concerts to West Bergholt Church, with 50+ players just about fitting into the area between the organ, the altar and the pews...the latter holding as many people as we could squeeze in. Space was so tight I ended up conducting from the middle of the audience.



Eventually the Christmas 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 the majority of our Christmas Concerts here, other than our most recent Christmas Concerts with school choirs at St Botolph's Colchester, so we're delighted to be back here again this year.



As always, our 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 2026 concerts (more dates coming soon), 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 Graham on 07941 947541 or eMail conductor@wbcb.org.

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