

# Christmas Concert



**with**

**Heathlands School Choir**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2022

St Botolph's Colchester

A warm welcome to our Christmas Concert - thanks for coming along tonight at this busy time of year, and a special thanks to Sarah White & the Heathlands School Choir for joining us. Sarah & I had this concert planned for December 2020 but Covid got in the way, so we're delighted to finally be here to perform it for you.

In order for our younger musicians to get home in time for bed (or Strictly), the first half includes the choir's "solo" pieces and as many combined pieces with our Concert Band & Training Band that we could fit in. Not being as old as I am or as steeped in Christmas albums, the choir weren't familiar with a number of the songs, so they've done brilliantly to learn them. As some of you hopefully know these classic Christmas songs, and even more hopefully are wonderful singers, we invite you to join in on the pieces for which we have provided words. If you'd also like to join in with the pieces for which words haven't been provided, you are more than welcome.

On the theme of being old, tonight is the end of my 40th year with the band, and this is my 41st consecutive Christmas Concert with the band (including a virtual one).

When I joined the band our Christmas Concerts were in Heathlands School (before it was extended), with 60+ musicians and 100+ audience making it a very tight squeeze. Anyone arriving late had to sit at the front on the smallest primary school chairs and be subject to the full force of the band's volume. Shortly after 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, and since then we've performed our

Christmas Concerts either here, at St Peter ad Vincula in Coggeshall, or at Clacton's West Cliff Theatre. St Botolph's is without a doubt the finest venue to perform in in Colchester, so tonight is a real treat for us.



As you'll see from our attire tonight, our Christmas Concert is always a fun & relaxed evening and we hope that you'll join in with us - sing along, clap along, jingle your keys (they make passable sleigh bells), and feel free to dance - there's plenty of room. Finally - thanks again for coming - and we hope you enjoy the concert.

*Everything you need to know about the band - including how to join us - is on our website ([www.wbc.org](http://www.wbc.org)), or you can call me on 07941 947541 or email me at [Conductor@wbc.org](mailto:Conductor@wbc.org).*

# West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

*Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-2022)*

## Concert Band

1. Wassail Rodney Bashford
2. Christmas from the 50s arr Douglas E. Wagner
3. Walking In The Air Howard Blake arr Stephen Barnwell
4. Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson

## Heathlands School Choir

1. Christmas (W)rap
2. Silent Night
3. Away In A Manger
4. Here We Come A Wassailing
5. Mary Had A Baby

## Training Band

1. Sleigh Bells Jingling John Moss
2. Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town H. Gillespie & J. F. Coots arr J. Vinson
3. Silver Bells Jay Livingston & Ray Evans arr J. Vinson
4. Once In Royal David's City arr Colin Evans
5. Mary Did You Know Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene arr D. Wagner
6. Our Winter Wonderland arr Paul Murtha

# West Bergholt Concert Band

(Founded in 1978 by Mr Sid Cooper)

*Graham Wilson – Musical Director (1994-2022)*

## Concert Band

1. A Cambridge Carol arr Vince Gassi
2. Blue Christmas (\*) Billy Hayes & Jay Johnson arr Jay Dawson
3. Oh Little Town Of Bethlehem arr Colin Evans
4. Roses de Noel Emile Waldteufel arr Jerry Brubaker
5. Christmas Pipes Brendan Graham arr Michael Brown
6. Christmas Favorites arr James Swearingen
7. Dixie Patrol Harold L. Walters

(\*) Premiere performance

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

**Band starts back on Friday 6th  
January at Heathlands School.**

**2023 promises to be an exciting one for the band as  
we celebrate our 45th anniversary.**

# West Bergholt Concert Band

## 2023 Diary Dates

For up to date information on all things wbcB including rehearsal dates & concert dates please visit [www.wbcB.org](http://www.wbcB.org).

## Rehearsal Dates

Term	First Rehearsal	No Rehearsal (Half Term)	Last Rehearsal	Open Rehearsals
Spring	Friday 6th Jan	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Summer	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 5 <sup>th</sup> May, 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Autumn	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept

## Concert Dates

Date	Time	Venue
Sunday 5th March 2023	3:00pm	West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
Friday 24th March 2023 (TBC)	7:30pm	Gilberd School
Sunday 11th June	2:00pm	Outdoors Concert - Venue TBC
Friday 14th July or Saturday 15th July	7:30pm	TBC. Possibly Colchester Royal Grammar School.
Sunday 12th November	10:30am	West Bergholt Remembrance Service
Friday 17th November or Saturday 18th November	7:30pm	Schools Concert
Saturday 16th December	7:30pm	TBC. St Peter Ad Vincula or St Botolph's
Sunday 24th March 2024	3:00pm	West Cliff Theatre, Clacton

