

ncbf
national concert band festival

..... the UK's largest Wind Band and Big Band Festival

Registered Charity No. 11111790

2024

ncbf National Festival

Saturday 16 March &
Sunday 17 March

in conjunction with

Warwick
Schools
Foundation



Enabling transformation through the power of education

featuring

The Band of the Royal Regiment
of Scotland



Warwick Hall &
King's Hall, Warwick



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Message from Wing Commander (rtd) Duncan Stubbs OBE, Chair, ncbf

A warm welcome to the *ncbf* 2024 National Festival, held this year courtesy of the Warwick Schools Foundation. We are delighted to host our festival in this exciting venue and thank them for their generous support. The Nationals are the culmination of our festival season, with bands initially participating in the 2023 Regional Festivals held around the UK. This year has seen 121 bands taking part, representing nearly 4,700 musicians of all ages. We are particularly delighted this year to have 20 bands joining us for the first time, a clear indication that our charity continues to flourish.

We are joined this year by The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland who will be adding their professionalism to the exciting performances of both Wind Band and Big Band in our packed programme over the two days. The bands performances will be assessed against a particular level of musical achievement (please take a look at the *ncbf* Criteria on page 19) rather than make comparisons between participating bands. Our adjudicators are the best musicians in our band community, thereby ensuring the charity continues to provide top level constructive musical feedback, enabling bands to enjoy their music making even more.

We are indebted to our long-standing partnership with Studio Music, plus sponsors Buffet Crampon and Next Step Films Ltd., and the on-going support from the Arts Council of England. Please visit the Trade Show in the Sixth Form Centre where you can purchase food and drink as well. As a small charity, run by a highly dedicated and hard-working team, we are proud to be able to say we are the UK's largest wind band and big band festival. Your participation and continued support of our charity is therefore, greatly appreciated. This inspires us to continue to work hard to provide quality musical feedback and information to further enrich your musical experience.

ncbf would of course, be nothing without the bands taking part. I hope you will join me in a special thank you to those dedicated individuals who manage and run the bands throughout the United Kingdom. They are the backbone of our organisation without whom our collective passion for music making would not be possible.

We hope you all have an enjoyable and productive weekend.

Chair: Wing Commander (rtd) Duncan Stubbs OBE

Trustees: Barrie Johnson (*Vice Chair*); Kevin Cooke (*Business Manager*); Jayne Rollason (*Partnership Co-ordinator*);

Olivia Wild (*Digital Co-ordinator*); Simon Plattford MBE; Keith Allen (*Ex Officio*)

Associates: Gerard Booth; Paul Davies; David Storer; Major (rtd) Ian Johnson; Nikki Iles; Maria McKenzie; Simone Rebello



 @ncbf_festival



ncbf Dates 2024/2025

Saturday 28 September wind band play-day: Taunton, Somerset

Regional Festivals

Sunday 03 November Crompton House Academy, Oldham

Sunday 10 November The Mountbatten School, Romsey

Sunday 17 November Cripps Hall Theatre, Northampton

Sunday 24 November Trinity School, Croydon, London

Sunday 01 December Warwick Hall, Warwick

Sunday 19 January Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow

National Festival 2025

Saturday 16 & 17 April Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester

ncbf wish to thank:

Sam Crane and colleagues @Warwick Schools Foundation

Music staff @Warwick School & King's High School

festival management: Kevin Cooke

administration: Grace Talbot; Sarah Cooke;

Sue Evans; Ruth Johnson

Charlotte Allen; Jayne Rollason

trade: Jayne Rollason

stage management: Paul Hart; Louis Allen; David Evans

recording: Aimie Blick, Matthew Cooke

percussion instruments: Warwick School; King's High School;

Northampton School for Boys; NCBF

Warwickshire Music Hub

big band PA equipment: Matthew Cooke

ncbf filming & photography: Olivia Wild



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Saturday 16 March

Warwick Hall

- 9.45 Wind Bands
- 11.40 Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
Presentation of Awards
- 12.45 Wind Bands
- 15.25 Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
Presentation of Awards
- 16.15 Wind Bands
- 18.20 Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
Presentation of Awards

King's Hall

- 09.35 Wind Bands
- 12.50 Wind Bands
- 16.20 Wind Bands

Café in Sixth Form Centre 08.30-18.00

Trade Show in Sixth Form Centre 10.00-17.00

Workshop session with James Rae in Sixth Form Centre first floor at 10.30; 13.30; 14.30; 16.00

Sunday 17 March

Warwick Hall

- 09.15 Wind Bands
- 11.50 Presentation of Awards
- 12.05 Wind Bands
- 13.35 Presentation of Awards
- 14.15 Wind Bands
- 15.50 Presentation of Awards
- 16.05 Wind Bands
- 18.40 Presentation of Awards

King's Hall

- 10.05 Big Bands
- 12.30 Presentation of Awards
- 13.15 Big Bands
- 16.15 Presentation of Awards
- 16.30 Big Bands
- 18.55 Presentation of Awards

Café in Sixth Form Centre 08.30-18.00

Trade Show in Sixth Form Centre 10.00-16.00

Workshop sessions with James Rae in Sixth Form Centre first floor at 10.00; 12.40; 13.15; 16.00



Saturday 10.00 - 17.00

Sunday 10.00 - 16.00

Grab a coffee and a bite to eat at the Sixth Form Centre and wander around the trade show - there's plenty to explore including trying out instruments, checking out new music, buying accessories, discovering education & career opportunities and finally getting that instrument repair looked at!

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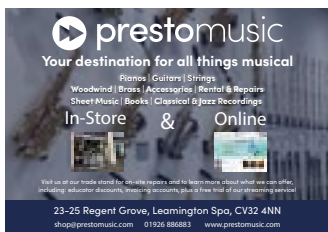
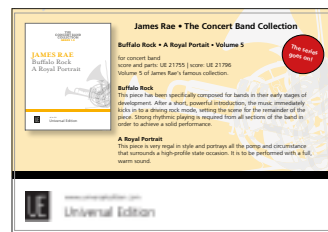
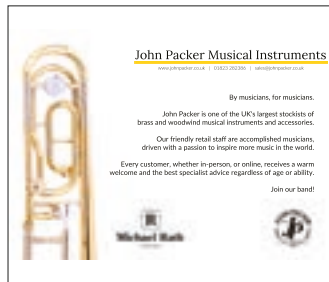
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WARWICK HALL - Wind Bands

Adjudicators: Kevin Gowland, Simon Hogg Compere: Paul Speed

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 09.45 | <p>Chiltern Concert Band (YWB)
 Conductor: Andy Rogers
 Exultation
 The Sun Will Rise Again
 The Falls</p> | <p>Philip Sparke
 Philip Sparke
 Rossano Galante</p> |
| 10.20 | <p>Blackwell Concert Band (CWB)
 Conductor: Jack Martin
 Into the Clouds
 The Banks of Green Willow
 Silver Celebration
 O Waly Waly (A Rhapsody for Band)</p> | <p>Richard L Saucedo
 George Butterworth arr. Longfield
 Alan Fernie
 Jay Bocook</p> |
| 10.55 | <p>Barnsley Town Concert Band (YWB)
 Conductor: James Roberts
 Highland Fantasy
 Pilatus: Mountain of Dragons</p> | <p>Bruce Fraser
 Steven Reineke</p> |
| 11.40 | <p>The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
 Conductor: Major Brenden Wheeler
 programme selected from:
 Carolean Jubilate
 Enigma Variations
 Second to None
 44 Scotland Street
 Elegy
 Alone with my Thoughts
 Molly on the Shore
 Crown Imperial</p> <p>Presentation of Awards</p> | <p>Craig Hallatt
 Edward Elgar
 Philip Sparke
 Peter Graham
 John Ireland
 Erik Spence
 Percy Grainger
 William Walton</p> |
| 12.50 | <p>London Youth Concert Band (YWB)
 Conductor: Fred Slide
 Winter Dances
 Whispers From Beyond
 A Little Salsa Music</p> | <p>Fergal Carroll
 Rossano Galante
 Adam Gorb</p> |
| 13.25 | <p>University of Warwick Wind Orchestra (CWB)
 Conductor: Tom Stoneman
 Windows of the World: Mvt. 1 Amazonia
 Variations on Laudate Dominum</p> | <p>Peter Graham
 Edward Gregson trans. Wiffin</p> |
| 14.00 | <p>Newark & Sherwood Concert Band (CWB)
 Conductor: Colum O'Shea
 A 'Silent Movie' Suite
 Wall of Sound</p> | <p>Martin Ellerby
 Paul Lovatt-Cooper</p> |
| 14.35 | <p>Oldham Youth Wind Band (YWB)
 Conductor: Duncan Byers
 Young Wizards
 Chorale and Shaker Dance</p> | <p>Bruce Fraser
 John Zdechlik</p> |
| 15.25 | <p>The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland
 Conductor: Major Breden Wheeler
 see programme as at 11.40</p> <p>Presentation of Awards</p> | |



- 16.20 Huddersfield Wind Band (CWB)**
Conductor: John Turnbull
 Concert Prelude Philip Sparke
 Baker Street Gerry Rafferty arr. Turnbull
 The Irish Blessing Joyce Eilers Bacak arr. Bradnum
 Prismatic Light Alan Fernie
- 16.55 Silver Spectrum (CWB)**
Conductor: Michael Cox
 Shining Sword Rob Wiffin
 Variations of Laudate Dominum Edward Gregson trans. Wiffin
- 17.30 Strathclyde University Concert Band (CWB)**
Conductor: Chis Mitchell
 Masque Kenneth Hesketh
 Machu Picchu Satoshi Yagisawa
- 18.20 The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland**
Conductor: Major Brenden Wheeler
 programme as at 11.40

Presentation of Awards

KING'S HALL - Wind Bands

Adjudicators: Simone Rebello, Paul Hornsby Compere: Barrie Johnson

- 09.35 Co-operative Community Wind Band (CWB)**
Conductor: Emma Clark
 Popov's Parade Duncan Stubbs
 How To Train Your Dragon John Powell arr. O'Loughlin
 Congolese William Owens
- 10.10 Amersham Music Centre Concert Band (YWB)**
Conductor: David Batsman
 Encanto Richard W Smith
 An Original Suite Gordon Jacob
 Three Trails Turning West Richard L. Saucedo
- 10.45 Co-operative Youth Wind Band (YWB)**
Conductor: Emma Clark
 Mexicana Thierry Deleruyelle
 Into the Clouds Richard L Saucedo
 A Quiet Moment Philip Sparke
 Riverdance Bill Whelan arr. Buitenhuis
- 11.40 The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland (in Warwick Hall)**
Conductor: Major Brenden Wheeler
- Presentation of Awards (in Warwick Hall)**
- 12.45 Bolton School Concert Band (SWB)**
Conductor: Isobel Archer
 An Irish Party in Third Class Trad. arr. Storm/Saucedo
 O Waly Waly Christopher M Nelson
 Guardians of the Waves Philip Sparke
- 13.20 Rochdale Community Wind Band (CWB)**
Conductor: Cathie Brooks
 Invicta Duncan Stubbs
 Canterbury Choral Jan Van der Roost
 To A New Dawn Philip Sparke
- 13.55 North Ayrshire Schools Senior Concert Band (YWB)**
Conductor: Steven Cowling
 Encanto Robert W Smith
 The Eagle and the Serpent Kit Turnbull
 The Great Locomotive Chase Robert Smith





THE BAND OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND is a full-time marching band and symphonic wind band within the British Army, based in Edinburgh, Scotland. The Band provides year-round musical support for many Scottish Regimental and British Army events, in addition to numerous State ceremonial occasions that occur in Scotland. This includes Gun Salutes, Garden Parties, State Banquets and Guards of Honour at The Palace of Holyrood House, and Edinburgh, Stirling and Balmoral Castles.

Despite the Scottish soldier being inextricably linked with the imagery of Pipes and Drums, there is a long tradition of marching military bands in Scotland. Scottish music tradition dates back many centuries to when Clan Chieftains would employ Seannachies (Bards) to record their triumphs in music and song. It is recorded as early as 1763 that there was a Band of the Royal Regiment of Foot, which would later become The Royal Scots, antecedents of the current First Battalion.

Whilst all members of the Band are full time musicians, they are also fully trained soldiers. In 2003, many members of the band served in Iraq, working in support of 33 and 202 Field Hospitals and were instrumental in the building of the British Military Hospital at Shaibah. The Band were also deployed to Afghanistan during Op Herrick 15 to boost troop morale by performing musical activities over the Remembrance, Christmas and New Year period.

The Band continues to assert itself as a leader within the world of military music, notably by routinely being featured as a mainstay of the world-renowned Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo occurring annually for a month over the Summer and playing to millions of people from across the world.

During the last two years the Band have performed at many high-profile events with the most notable being the Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II and the Coronation of King Charles III along with the presentation of the Honours of Scotland to HM the King. They have also travelled to France, Germany, Switzerland and England.

MAJ BRENDEN WHEELER (RCAM)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC OF THE BAND OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND



Brenden hails from Cairns, Australia where his passion for brass playing began in the tropical climate of Far North Queensland. With strong encouragement from his parents, he began playing the trombone and euphonium at the age of 9. At the age of 15, Brenden was selected to perform at the Opening Ceremony of the 2000 Olympic Games held in Sydney and later that year was

appointed Principal Trombone of the North Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra.

Brenden began his tertiary education at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane in 2003. During this time, he established his musical links with the Brisbane Excelsior Band and was part of the band's first historic victory at the Australian National Championships in which he went on to retain for three consecutive years. In September 2004, Brenden won a scholarship and moved to the UK to continue his studies at the University of Salford with leading brass educationalist and fellow Australian, Professor David King. He quickly established himself in the UK brass music scene and only six months after his arrival, won the prestigious 2005 BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Soloist title.

As a soloist, Brenden has won many awards; including the Grenland International Best Soloist Award in Norway; and has performed at the UK's premiere venues and toured extensively throughout Europe and Asia and featured as a soloist on many recordings.

Brenden joined the British Army in 2009 to become a professional musician within the Royal Corps of Army Music (RCAM). After completing training, he was posted to his first military band The Heavy Cavalry & Cambrai Band in Catterick, North Yorkshire. Three years later, Brenden attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and commissioned into RCAM. On completion of the Young Officers' Course at the Royal Military School of Music in Twickenham, 2Lt Wheeler was assigned as the Assistant Director of Music at The Band and Bugles of the Rifles. He was then subsequently assigned to the Army Foundation College in Harrogate as Officer Commanding 2 Platoon, where his platoon won the prestigious Mallon Trophy award for the best platoon in Waterloo Company. In 2017, Captain Wheeler was appointed as Director of Music at The Band of the Royal Armoured Corps and managed the transition to British Army Band Catterick under the Military Music Optimisation programme in 2019. In 2020, Major Wheeler attended the staff course in Shrivenham before being assigned as SO2 J35 within Permanent Joint Headquarters as part of the team responsible for the acceleration of the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy. In 2021, Major Wheeler was assigned to a J5 appointment at Joint Force Command Naples, Italy before returning to the UK as the Director of Music for the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland in August 2023.

Brenden lives with his wife Katrina and two daughters Gabriella and Eva along with their loyal Labrador Nero in Edinburgh. In their spare time, the family like to travel, ski, and spend the summer months wakeboarding.



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Sunday 17 March

WARWICK HALL - Wind Bands		Adjudicators: Simone Rebello Paul Hornsby Compere: Andy Rogers
09.15	Warwick School Supertones (JWB) Conductor: Anton Clarke-Butler Theme from Jurassic Park The Painted Desert Wallace & Gromit	John Williams arr. Sweeney Philip Sparke Julian Nott arr. Vinson
09.45	Abingdon Concert Band (CWB) Conductor: Neil Brownless Keep the Rhythm Going A Little Tango Music Concert Prelude Otter Point Holiday	Neil Brownless Adam Gorb Philip Sparke Robert Sheldon
10.15	Wrekin College Concert Band (SWB) Conductor: Simon Platford Skydance Pavanne Among The Clouds	Richard L Saucedo Rob Wiffin Brian Balmages
10.45	Northampton Concert Band (CWB) Conductor: Graham Tear Dublin Bay & The Lost Lady Found (<i>Lincolnshire Posy</i>) Sleep Variations on a Koren Folk Song	Percy Grainger Eric Whitacre John Barnes Chance
11.15	Woodley Concert Band (CWB) Conductor: Claire Lawrence March (<i>from Suite in Eb</i>) Amazing Grace Invictus	Gustav Holst arr. William Himes Philip Sparke
11.50	Presentation of Awards	
12.05	Altrincham Grammar School for Boys Concert Band (SWB) Conductor: Michael Monument Three Folk Songs A Quiet Moment America	Gustav Holst Philip Sparke Leonard Bernstein arr. Brown
12.35	Cardinal Vaughan Concert Band (SWB) Conductor: Tom Motley Encanto The Sun Will Rise Again The Blues Brothers Revue	Robert W Smith Philip Sparke arr. Bocock
13.05	Nottingham Trent University Concert Band (CWB) Conductor: Mattew Hopkins John Williams in Concert The Sun Will Rise Again Encanto	arr. Lavender Philip Sparke Robert W Smith
13.35	Presentation of Awards	
14.15	Durham University Concert Band (OWB) Conductors: Stephen Wilson & Henry Day Hymn of the Highlands Arabesque	Philip Sparke Samuel R Hazo
14.45	Reading Senior Wind Band (YWB) Conductors: Catherine Laney & John Watts Karman Line Rapture	Peter Meechan Brian Balmages
15.15	Derbyshire City & County Youth Wind Band (YWB) Conductor: Mark Heron Between the Lines Letter from Home States of Matter: iii 2 Degrees	Kit Turnbull Philip Sparke Jenni Watson
15.50	Presentation of Awards	



13.50	Altrincham Grammar School for Boys Big Band (SBB) Director: Michael Monument Birdland Paranoid Android Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger	J. Zawinul arr. Sweeney Radiohead arr. Schaphorst Daft Punk arr. Lally
14.25	Cardinal Vaughan Big Band (SBB) Director: Scott Price How High the Moon My Funny Valentine Spain Stay in your Lane	Hamilton/Lewis arr. Nestico Rodgers & Hart arr. Wolpe Chick Corea arr. Jennings Gordon Goodwin
15.00	Mountbatten Big Band (SBB) Director: Stuart Marchant Let the Good Times Roll Sing Sing Sing Galang	Thearde & Moore arr. Murtha Louis Prima arr. Cook Vijay Iyer arr. Mar-Molinero
15.35	Barry Graham Big Band (SBB) Director: Harry Brown Zebrano Best of Sly and the Family Stone Swamp Rock Stomp My Foolish Heart	Andrew Neu John Wasson William Isom Baylock
16.15	Presentation of Awards	
16.30	Shrewsbury School Jazz Band (SBB) Director: Katy Landon Havana Birdland OB-LA-DI, OB-LA-DA Boom Boom In the Midnight Hour	arr. White arr. Sweeney arr. Berry arr. Berry arr. Murtha
17.05	Northamptonshire County Youth Big Band (YBB) Director: Oliver Drucker Whodunnit? Afternoon Riverdance	Gordon Goodwin Pat Metheny arr. Curnow Bill Whelan arr. Curnow
17.40	Shrewsbury School Big Band (SBB) Director: Maria McKenzie Sir Duke Café Rio Haven't Met You Yet Feelin' the Funk	arr. Mossman arr. Tomaro trans. Payne Erik Morales
18.15	Stafford Grammar School Big Band (SBB) Director: Gavin Lamplough Leap Frog Gentle Rain Ballin' The Jack What Is This Thing Called Love	Paul Lavender Kris Berg Paul Severson Alan Baylock
18.55	Presentation of Awards	



ncbf 2024 adjudicators & comperes



KEVIN GOWLAND is Head of Wind, Brass and Percussion, Director of Woodwind and Senior Flute Tutor at the RNCM.

His career started at the age of 22, when he was appointed as Flute Section Leader with The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra by Sir Simon Rattle, a position he held for 17 years before moving to the Orchestra of Opera North as Principal Flute. He has appeared as Guest Principal Flute with the LSO, RPO, Academy of St. Martin

in the Fields, Philharmonia, Halle, RLPO, RSNO, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic and BBC NOW.

Kevin has appeared as a concerto soloist on many occasions, collaborating with Valery Gergiev, Sir Simon Rattle, Sakari Oramo,

Paavo Jarvi, Sir Mark Elder, Christian Gansch, Nicholas McGegan, Nicholas Kraemer and Richard Farnes, covering a wide spectrum of the flute concerto repertoire.

A busy recitalist, Kevin has broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and appeared at the Purcell Room; Symphony Hall, Birmingham; The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; The Cheltenham Festival; the NFA 2019 in Salt Lake City three times, with invitations to play at the Dallas and Washington Conventions and gave the first solo recital in the inaugural week of events at The Howard Assembly Room, Leeds.

Kevin has been an adjudicator for the televised Woodwind final of BBC Young Musician of the Year, the NFA Young Soloist Competition, The British Flute Society, Gregynog Young Musicians and has given Masterclasses at RCM, RBC, RWCMD, SOTA (Singapore) and University of Music, Trossingen.



SIMON HOGG A graduate of the National Youth Orchestra, the Royal Academy of Music, London and Birmingham University, Simon Hogg became a founder member of The Fine Arts Brass Ensemble in 1980. During this time the ensemble performed two thousand concerts, visited over sixty countries throughout the world, recorded 150 BBC radio/TV broadcasts and made 25

commercial recordings. Fine Arts Brass Ensemble commissioned seventy original works by leading British composers and performed at most major British and European music festivals.

In 1994 Simon founded Warwick Music, a specialist music publisher, commencing with an unknown work for Trombone & Organ (1894) by Gustav Holst which he discovered in the British Museum. It was Simon's original concept that led to the Warwick Music's manufacture of the world's first plastic trombone the pBone.

In 1996 Simon was made an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM), only awarded to alumni who have distinguished

themselves in the music profession.

Simon has performed, lectured and examined at conservatoires around the world. He taught at the Royal College of Music, Junior Department for ten years and adjudicated the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition. He has been a Senior External Examiner at: the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and Chetham's School of Music. In 2014 he was honoured with an award from the British Trombone Association and nominated for the Classic FM Music Teacher of the Year Award.

Simon has performed with orchestras throughout the world including: The City of Birmingham Orchestra (with Simon Rattle), The English Symphony Orchestra and The Czech Philharmonic Orchestra.

He was Director of Music at Warwick School, leading a staff of sixty music teachers and organising 750 music lessons every week. He is currently visiting professor at the Benedetto Marcello Conservatoire in Venice. When time permits he enjoys: reading, golf and all things Italian.



PAUL HORNSBY began his musical life studying flute with Stanley Gleave (BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra) in 1972 before gaining a place at Dartington Hall to study flute and composition. Whilst here he developed a keen interest in

electronic and experimental music making. Returning to Wales in 1978 he took up a position as an instrumental woodwind tutor and freelance musician. Studying the saxophone led to more diverse playing work. He joined the Welsh Jazz Orchestra during the mid 1980's performing with many international and UK based jazz musicians including Lew Tabakin (Flute/Saxophone), Bobby Shew (Trumpet/Flugal), Pete King (Alto Saxophone) and many others. Freelance work led to tours abroad (United Arab Emirates, Europe and the UK). Other work included television and recording contracts for the BBC, S4C and independent film producers. His own recording facility was created during the late 1980's and led to composition commissions for BBC 2, S4C and Sky Networks.

His work at Gwent Music Support Service gave him many opportunities to develop his directing skills. In recent years this has produced more than 35 National Awards (National Concert Band Festival and National Festival of Music for Youth) for a diverse range of ensembles as well as significant successes in the field of Orchestral Wind Orchestras and Contemporary Jazz Ensembles.

In both of these areas he's been responsible for commissioning and premiering major works by leading composers (including Tim Garland, Stan Sulzmann, Nikki Illes) as well as working alongside leading exponents in their fields (Gerard McChrystal, Hugh McDowell, Dave O'Higgins, Alan Barnes, Jim Mullen, Percy Pursglove and others) His music directing has led to his ensembles performing in some of the very best concert halls in the UK.

International tours have included New Zealand, Australia, California, Germany, France and Italy.

During the early 2000's he was invited to become an A Level examiner for EdExcel (Music Technology) prior to this his work at Gwent Music Support Service led him to become the Head of Woodwind Team and later to become Senior Assistant Head of Service and eventually Deputy Head of Service. Recently his work here allowed him to establish an elite team of Senior Instrumental Tutors to form the S.O.T.A.L team (Standards of Teaching and Learning). This team was responsible for quality assurance across all disciplines as well as providing support and mentoring to all instrumental and vocal tutors.

Additional work has given Paul the opportunity to provide Workshops and INSET training both locally (Wales) and further afield. Paul chaired the steering panel for National Youth Jazz Wales at Ty Cerdd.

In 2013, he retired from his work at GMSS to follow a freelance music career.



ncbf 2024 adjudicators & comperes



BARRIE JOHNSON was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, gaining early musical experiences through Salvation Army brass bands and choirs, his playing career included being principal euphonium with bands in Newcastle & Kettering.

He has also featured on tenor horn, tuba and trombone with bands in London, Kettering and Birmingham, including City of London

Brass. During this time he also took part in performance tours to Norway and Canada, featured on radio and LP recordings and performed in many major concert venues throughout the UK. Barrie has been conducting school, youth and community groups in all musical genres for many years.

As a school music teacher, he has taught in primary, middle and secondary schools, heading up very successful music and expressive arts departments for over 35 years, retiring as Director of Music at Northampton School for Boys in 2015 after 14 years in post.

Directing groups, including Wind Bands and Big Bands, from 3 different schools to regular top award-winning performances at the National Concert Band Festival and the National Festival of Music for Youth, programming challenging music, was key to

raising standards and student aspiration. It also allowed him to direct performances in some of the country's top performance venues including Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Royal Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall, London, and The Sage, Gateshead.

At NSB, he formed two community bands - Cripps Hall Jazz Orchestra and East Midlands Wind Orchestra - as exemplars to further raise aspirations in the school's top groups. Regular successful performance jazz tours for his Big Band and Jazz Vocal Group, to New York, Los Angeles and Florida were also organised to further raise standards by partnering with high performance American school groups and receiving coaching from such international stars as Gordon Goodwin, Eric Marienthal, Wayne Bergeron, Jeff Jarvis, Chuck Owen and Tom Brantley.

As well as school groups he has also conducted many area and county youth bands (both brass and wind), community bands and choirs, and has conducted groups, and acted as Musical Director, on a variety of residential holiday music courses.

He has also been involved with IAJE (International Association for Jazz Education), adjudicated regularly at various music festivals and, together with Keith Allen, is responsible for keeping NCBF Repertoire lists and the Criteria Sheet up-to-date and relevant.

Since retiring from full-time teaching he has continued to teach A-level, act as a freelance Music Education consultant, adjudicate, guest conduct, lead workshops/holiday courses and compose and arrange for Wind Band and Big Band.



ED PUDDICK is a full time lecturer in the jazz department of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Before taking up his current role, Ed taught jazz composition and arranging at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama for 14 years. He also sat on the IVORS Academy Jazz Committee for 6 years.

His compositions and arrangements have been performed by many ensembles, including the BBC Concert Orchestra (featuring Yazz Ahmed), Orquestra de Jazz do Algarve (Portugal), Sydney Jazz Orchestra (Australia), Bradfield College Big Band (featuring Alec Dankworth), and the London Jazz Orchestra. In 2021 Ed recorded the album CRAZY DAYS (ATS-Records) with the Upper Austrian Jazz Orchestra.

In 2018 Ed was awarded the Arranging Prize at the Barga International Jazz Festival with his arrangement of Dizzy

Gillespie's Con Alma, performed by US trumpeter Jeremy Pelt and the Festival Orchestra.

Ed has been commissioned to write music for large-scale projects including Back To The Blues (Paul Dunmall, 2023), Movement Inspired (Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games), Soultime Again (Paul Dunmall, 2019 - released on Stoney Lane Records, February 2024), One Universal Shout (Bridgewater Hall, 2019), Beyond Wigan Pier (Alan Gregory, 2018), Near Horizons (Joe Allard Commission, 2015) and Secret Music (Music For Youth, 2014).

Other significant works include Saratoga Springs (2011, featuring Australian multi-instrumentalist James Morrison), Only Thelonious Suite (Ed Puddick Big Band, 2017), The Twisted Wheel in 2016 (2016, featuring US saxophonist Eric Marienthal) and Guys & Dolls Suite (2005, Ed Puddick Big Band - released on Diving Duck Records, 2010).



ncbf 2024 adjudicators & compères



SIMONE REBELLO graduated with Distinction from the Royal Northern College of Music to embark on a career as a solo percussionist that has seen her recording several CDs (the latest with the BBC Singers), touring and broadcasting extensively nationally and internationally

and winning a collection of awards and prizes including Cosmopolitan Woman of the Year in the Performing Arts. She works frequently as a concerto soloist with wind orchestras and brass bands around the world and as a solo recitalist. Simone is a founder member of BackBeat Percussion Quartet who have won a number of chamber music competitions in the UK, Japan and USA and who continue to tour record and present concerts globally. Simone appears regularly as a guest performer with a number of ensembles including The Equivox Trio, Ex Cathedra, The Young Voices Band and in a duo with outstanding jazz pianist

Jason Rebello. She has worked with artists including Beverley Knight, Alexandra Burke, Tony Hadley and Mika. In September 2010 Simone was appointed as Director of Percussion at The Royal Northern College of Music, and is also Head of School of Wind, Brass and Percussion.

In addition to performing Simone is an experienced adjudicator of percussion events, wind and brass contests and general music competitions and has judged for such prestigious events as BBC Young Musician of the Year, National Brass Band Championships for New Zealand, Australia, USA, Europe and Switzerland and for the National Concert Band Festivals in UK and Norway.

Simone is frequently invited to present concerts and talks/lectures/workshops featuring all aspects of percussion and performance.

Simone works regularly as a presenter for events including the European Brass Band Finals, The Brass in Concert Championships from The Sage and the RNCM Festival of Brass including a concert for BBC Radio 2. She has also worked as a presenter for the National Brass Band Finals (Royal Albert Hall), The Great Northern Brass Arts Festival and European and national events for Yamaha. Simone is a solo artist and endorsee for Yamaha Music Europe, Mike Balter Mallets and Sabian Cymbals.



ANDY ROGERS is a music leader, conductor, teacher and composer based in Buckinghamshire. Since 2019, Andy has been a Director at Musica Europa – the specialist tour operator delivering performance opportunities for bands and choirs in Europe and around the world.

Andy grew up in High Wycombe, where he studied tuba and piano. His love of composition led to commissions for bands, orchestras and choirs with notable performances including the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican and by massed youth ensembles at the Royal Albert Hall on several occasions. Andy conducted the High Wycombe Music Centre Concert Band for more than 20 years, before taking up a role as Principal of Chiltern Music Academy, where he led their Concert Band to successes at the National Concert Band Festival as well as international performances in Austria, Germany, Italy and France.



PAUL SPEED started the trumpet when he was 10 years old and initially studied at the High Wycombe Music Centre. After completing a music degree at Goldsmiths' College Paul embarked on a

freelance trumpet career that has included orchestral experience with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, London Concert Orchestra and the Philharmonie der Nationen based in Germany. As a conductor, Paul is Musical Director of South Berks Concert Band and Trinity Concert Band, both bands based near Reading.

Both bands have performed at the NCBF regionals and finals. As well as playing and conducting, Paul enjoys teaching, and his schools include Wellington College, Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe and St Swithun's School in Winchester. Paul is a keen supporter of the music charity Brass for Africa and has been fortunate enough to spend time over in Kampala, Uganda to see the work that is going on there, changing lives for the better. Paul co-wrote a teaching syllabus to help the young adults of BfA embark on their teaching career. When Paul has not got a trumpet or baton in his hand he enjoys running, although maybe enjoy is not the right word!

Four New Initiatives to Widen Participation in NCBF



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NCBF Digital

- UK-wide scheme
- Submit a video of your band performing for a free assessment by an independent mentor
- All levels of band welcome
- Submit any time – no deadlines
- Opportunity for you to take a snapshot of your rehearsal/performance
- Perfect Post-Covid opportunity to rebuild your band with guidance and feedback
- Flexi-bands welcome, including any ensemble from within the band (e.g. saxophone/percussion/brass/woodwind)
- Your choice of repertoire – no restrictions
- Use the recording as a focus point for your band

Please note this is NOT an adjudication to take part in a NCBF regional festival. Please refer to Video Filming Guidelines & Requirements.

NCBF Youth Ambassadors

- UK-wide scheme
- Creation of a youth platform to input new ideas and feedback into the development of NCBF activities
- Regular meetings via ZOOM and a forum at the National Festival

More information on how to participate coming soon.

NCBF at Home

- UK-wide scheme
- Free workshop for your band led by an external specialist mentor
- Takes place in your own rehearsal venue
- Opportunity for external feedback, ideas & guidance
- Your choice of repertoire – no restrictions
- Create a focus for your band – encourage & give confidence to players
- Explore new repertoire & techniques
- Available throughout the year

NCBF Young Composers Scheme

- UK-wide scheme
- An opportunity for young composers (under the age of 30) to develop their skills writing for wind orchestra and big band
- Mentoring provided from an established wind band & big band composer
- Performance opportunities
- Publishing opportunity.

More information on how to participate coming soon.



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score and parts: UE 21755 | score: UE 21796

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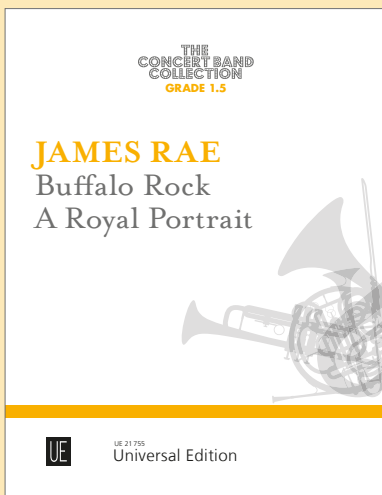
Buffalo Rock

This piece has been specifically composed for bands in their early stages of development. After a short, powerful introduction, the music immediately kicks in to a driving rock mode, setting the scene for the remainder of the piece. Strong rhythmic playing is required from all sections of the band in order to achieve a solid performance.

A Royal Portrait

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ncbf 2024 criteria

PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
TONE <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent tone quality <input type="checkbox"/> Sound always focussed <input type="checkbox"/> Wide range of tone colours	<input type="checkbox"/> Good tone quality <input type="checkbox"/> Sound generally focussed <input type="checkbox"/> Good range of tone colours	<input type="checkbox"/> Competent tone quality <input type="checkbox"/> Sound not always focussed <input type="checkbox"/> Reasonable range of tone colours	<input type="checkbox"/> Tone quality is limited <input type="checkbox"/> Sound occasionally focussed <input type="checkbox"/> Tone colours need further exploration
TUNING <input type="checkbox"/> A well tuned performance <input type="checkbox"/> Intonation is generally excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Majority of instruments well tuned <input type="checkbox"/> Intonation is generally good	<input type="checkbox"/> Some lack of control with tuning is evident <input type="checkbox"/> Intonation is generally competent	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuning is good in parts <input type="checkbox"/> Intonation is generally variable
BALANCE & BLEND <input type="checkbox"/> An excellent sense of balance is demonstrated <input type="checkbox"/> Soloists are accompanied sympathetically <input type="checkbox"/> Sections blend well together	<input type="checkbox"/> A good sense of balance is achieved <input type="checkbox"/> Soloist are accompanied well <input type="checkbox"/> Sections blend well together for the majority of the performance	<input type="checkbox"/> A competent sense of balance is achieved <input type="checkbox"/> Soloists are generally accompanied well <input type="checkbox"/> Sections blend well for a good portion of the performance	<input type="checkbox"/> Balance is adequate some of the time <input type="checkbox"/> Accompaniment requires a greater degree of sensitivity <input type="checkbox"/> Sections and individuals tend to dominate
DYNAMICS <input type="checkbox"/> Wide range of dynamic variation is evident <input type="checkbox"/> Dynamic contrast handled effectively	<input type="checkbox"/> Good range of dynamic variation is evident <input type="checkbox"/> Good control of dynamic contrast	<input type="checkbox"/> Competent range of dynamic variation is shown <input type="checkbox"/> Competent control of dynamic contrast	<input type="checkbox"/> Dynamic range tends to be limited <input type="checkbox"/> Some control of dynamic contrast is evident
RHYTHMIC ACCURACY & ENSEMBLE <input type="checkbox"/> Rhythmic accuracy is excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Pulse and tempo changes very well managed <input type="checkbox"/> Performance shows a high degree of cohesion	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhythmic accuracy is generally very good <input type="checkbox"/> Most pulse and tempo changes are managed effectively <input type="checkbox"/> Band and sections mostly well co-ordinated	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhythmic accuracy is generally good <input type="checkbox"/> Some pulse and tempo changes are managed well <input type="checkbox"/> Band shows reasonable co-ordination	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhythmic accuracy is inconsistent <input type="checkbox"/> Tempo and pulse changes disturb the musical flow <input type="checkbox"/> Co-ordination is shown only in the more straightforward passages
ARTICULATION / PHRASING <input type="checkbox"/> Articulation is excellent throughout <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent attention to detail <input type="checkbox"/> Phrasing shows a high degree of understanding and presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Articulation is generally good <input type="checkbox"/> A wide range of detail is portrayed <input type="checkbox"/> Phrasing is good and generally precise	<input type="checkbox"/> Articulation is competent <input type="checkbox"/> A reasonable range of detail is portrayed <input type="checkbox"/> Phrasing is competent	<input type="checkbox"/> A reasonable level of articulation is shown <input type="checkbox"/> Some detail is portrayed <input type="checkbox"/> Phrasing is in need of development
STYLE & INTERPRETATION <input type="checkbox"/> The band responds vigilantly to the conductor's directions <input type="checkbox"/> A mastery of style is evident throughout <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretation produces a highly musical performance	<input type="checkbox"/> The band responds well to the conductor's directions <input type="checkbox"/> A good range of styles is displayed <input type="checkbox"/> A musical interpretation enhanced a good performance	<input type="checkbox"/> The band respond well to the conductor's directions most of the time <input type="checkbox"/> Some awareness of the style of music is shown <input type="checkbox"/> The musicality displayed some of the time lifts the performance	<input type="checkbox"/> The band only responds to the conductor's directions for some of the time <input type="checkbox"/> The style of the music is not always well characterised <input type="checkbox"/> A basic understanding of musical interpretation is shown
IMPROVISATION <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent skills shown by the soloists	<input type="checkbox"/> Soloists display a good range of skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Soloists mainly use printed solos, but there is some attempt to free themselves from the copy; or display a basic range of skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Soloists only use printed copies; or no soloists used



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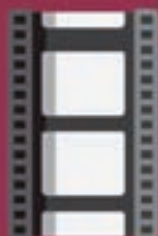
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