Capital Concert Band Newsletter

Autumn 2026

Message from the Chair



Hi Everyone,

Hope you all had a great summer and are ready to get stuck into the new programme. Dean's picked some cracking music, and a big thank you to Riona and the Library team for pulling everything together.
Our next concert is *Chillers and Thrillers* on 24th October. Even if you are not playing in this one, please try to come along to rehearsals until just before the concert - it really helps keep everyone familiar with the pieces, especially if they come back later in the year.
We're also starting to gather ideas for concerts in 2027 (and beyond), so if you have any concert theme suggestions or favourite pieces, send them our way.
And yes, Players' Choice is returning in 2027. We'll be asking for your top picks later in the year, so get thinking!
Let's enjoy the new session.

Colin

Band News!

This has been a busy few months, with plenty of happy news bouncing round the band.

First of all, CCB would like to send huge congratulations to Karyn, Sam, and Kat and Will on their new additions. We are glad to hear that babies [redacted] and [redacted] are all doing well, and we look forward to welcoming them to CCB soon.

We also have a host of new faces who have joined us in recent weeks. A huge welcome to Mireia, Soyoung, Emily and Amelia on flute, Dee and Ellen on clarinet, Jess on bass clarinet, Bryan and Simon on trumpet, Benjamin on trombone, Stuart on tuba, and Leanne on percussion! We are also delighted to welcome back Paula on alto sax after a few years away from the band.
So many new faces, but the band could still use another trombone and another euphonium if anyone knows anyone who may be interested in joining us.

Upcoming Events

- *Chillers and Thrillers* concert, Saturday 24th October 7pm
- Christmas carolling at Canonmills Tesco, Wednesdays 2nd, 9th and 16th December.
- Christmas social, Thursday 17th December, *venue TBC*

Leith St Andrews Trust Update

Thank you to everyone who signed up to become a member of the Leith St Andrews Trust. LSAT are working tirelessly to ensure the church stays in community hands and recently submitted the final funding application. Keep all your fingers crossed, we will keep you well updated on their progress as and when we can.



Charity Partnership

Earlier this year, the band voted for *Social Bite* as our charity to support using funds raised by the band in 2025. *Social Bite* is a leading homelessness charity and social business driving change across the UK. Edinburgh based, this charity starts close to home - and CCB are delighted to be supporting their work this year.

We are still searching for a charity to support with this year's Christmas carolling campaign. A poll/survey has just been sent out by Maili, so please check your inbox and vote!

Health and Safety Update

The committee have been working on a number of health and safety initiatives as requested by members of the band and as seen ourselves. Some updates below:

1. **Stage Platforms**
   With the success of the two mobile platforms used by the trumpet section - and the recent addition of two new members - a further platform has now been ordered to ensure everyone has adequate space and safe positioning. This should be with the band soon.

2. **Hearing Protection**
   Hearing loss becomes more common as we get older, and musicians are especially exposed to sudden changes in volume that can be harmful. Ear protection is strongly recommended whenever you are exposed to loud sounds, whether in rehearsal or performances.
   Do let a member of the committee know if you need advice or help with appropriate hearing protection - we will do what we can to help.

3. **Percussion Shielding**
   We are currently researching sound protection shields for the percussion area to help manage volume levels and improve comfort for nearby players. More on this to come.



Notes from the Director of Music

Hi everyone, it has been an excellent year of music making, with some fantastic concert performances. Thanks to you all for your hard work to make this possible. I am really looking forward to the “Chillers and Thrillers” concert with what I believe is an excellent programme of music, so, thank you to all who offered suggestions to the programme. Christmas is already creeping up on us, and I am looking forwards to the usual blend of new and traditional music, and of course, some “sing-alongs” as well! Looking to next year, the Spring concert will be a “Band Choice”, so please get your suggestions in as soon as possible to Maili, so we can start to compile a list (thanks Maili). Thanks as ever to Colin and the committee for their tireless efforts in making it all work, and to you all for turning up each week. Finally, a big welcome to all our new players, you are all very welcome to the CCB family.



If you have anything you would like to see included in our next newsletter, please get in touch with any of the committee members, or drop the band an email at secretary@captialconcertband.co.uk.