



Christmas 2012

**HITCHIN YOUTH BAND**

**NEWSLETTER!**

### **Festival Success!**

Huge congratulations to every member of the band on our win at the Hitchin Youth Music Festival on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November. This was the first year the event was held and a great opportunity to see other young local musical talent.

In our Mixed Age category we were up against Kingshott Brass, who proved tough competition (largely because our very own Moye family were at their core!) and, like us, were awarded a Distinction. However, after careful consideration, the adjudicators gave us the Best Performance trophy, as well as presenting our euphonium player, Robert Moye with the certificate for Best Soloist. All in all, a cracking result!

The adjudicators' comments were all very positive and made particular mention of our confident presence on stage, excellent soloists, and good balanced sound around the band.

Thank you to all the performers, not only for the performance on the day, but also for your hard work in rehearsals leading up to the festival. Parents and volunteers are very proud.

### **Senior Band Success!**

Following the Senior Band's win at the South East Regional Area Contest back in March, they went on to win the National Finals (Third Section) at Cheltenham on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. This is a phenomenal achievement, of which we are all very proud. The band beat 14 other bands from all over the country to secure its win and a promotion to the Second Section in 2013. Well Done Seniors!

### **New Members**

On October 15<sup>th</sup> we held a successful 'Open Rehearsal' which has resulted in us gaining quite a few keen players. A warm welcome to Frank, Freddie, Eleanor, Charlott, William and Sienna. It is great to have you all with us. Our beginners often join the main youth band during the second half of rehearsal. Even if they can't play all of the notes yet, the experience of trying to follow their part in a larger ensemble is great training for the future. Well done!

Special thanks go to Sam, Dinah, Keith and Hannah for all their hard work in helping our newest members to progress each week.

### **Christmas Concert**

We are now busy preparing for our Christmas Concert at Christchurch, Bedford Road, Hitchin, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm. This is a lovely family event, featuring both senior and youth bands, plus a singing group this year. It is also the occasion when I present the annual achievement awards for particular commitment or progress in the youth band.

I hope lots of family and friends will join us for this festive celebration. With both bands having won trophies this year, I'm sure it will be particularly special. Tickets are available from Henderson's Newsagents, Churchgate, Hitchin, through [www.hitchinband.co.uk](http://www.hitchinband.co.uk), or on the door, priced £6/£4 concessions.

### **Holiday Rehearsal Dates**

The last rehearsal of 2012 will be Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

We begin again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

### **Previous Jobs**

A big thank you to Hannah for leading the band at the 'Relay 4 Life' event in Luton back on September 8th. I was very sorry to have missed it but hear it all went very well and that the massive stage was particularly awesome!

Also, well done at the Hitchin TASTE event on October 6<sup>th</sup>. It is always lovely to perform in the heart of Hitchin, where we can promote the band to local people.

### **Band Social Event**

Let's kick off 2013 with another Social! Ideas please! Or if anyone fancies organising something.....

### **Staff & Contacts**

All of our staff are volunteers from the senior band. Please feel free to approach any of the team if you have any queries or concerns. Also, we do have our own youth band page on the band website [www.hitchinband.co.uk](http://www.hitchinband.co.uk) [youthband@hitchinband.co.uk](mailto:youthband@hitchinband.co.uk)

Alice Bailey (band leader) 01462 423534

Dinah Birch (welfare officer) - cornet

Keith Birch - euphonium/lower brass

Hannah Prince - cornet

Emily Prince - percussion

Adrian McCann - cornet

Sam Huckle (1<sup>st</sup> aider) - horn

Ian Miles - Eb bass

Jane Miles - parent rep.

### **Dates for the Diary**

DATE	VENUE	DETAILS
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm	Christchurch, Bedford Road, Hitchin	Joint Xmas concert with Senior Band. Come along and enjoy some festive fun!
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April, time TBC	Hitchin Market Square	Hitchin Primary Schools Fair
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May, 11-11.50am	Woolgrove Road, Hitchin	Walsworth Festival

**Alice x**