



February 2025

The band has been very active since the last edition of Upbeat! back in September

SCWB's October concert featured Alastair Penman as guest soloist. He performed three pieces with the band, demonstrating his extraordinary versatility on both alto saxophone and clarinet. Earlier in the day he had led a workshop organised by SCWB at which 30 local saxophonists had the chance to play as an ensemble under the direction of Alastair and collect innumerable pearls of wisdom.

In November the band participated in a National Concert Band Festival regional event staged in Barton Peveril Sixth Form College. We performed three pieces: *Rising Remixed* (Davoren), *My Bonny Boy* (Vaughan Williams) and *Music for a Festival* (Sparke). To our delight the adjudicators agreed that our performance merited a Platinum Award!

In December we visited Chandler's Ford Methodist Church to perform our Christmas concert, once again sharing the stage with the Choir of Hiltingbury Junior School. There really is no substitute for involving children in a Christmas concert. Their smiles, enthusiastic singing and no little sense of mischief added enormously to the festive cheer of the occasion.



On Sunday 2nd February the band visited The Mountbatten School in Romsey where it hosted its eighth Banding Together event. The principle behind the event is that SCWB is joined by local musicians for a day of music-making under the direction of an eminent guest conductor. This time, our conductor was the band's Associate Artist Brett Baker, until last year long-time

principal trombone of the Black Dyke Band, recently taking up the same role at the Cory Band. As well as conducting, Brett performed an agile, humorous trombone solo – Arthur Pryor's *Fantastic Polka* – much to the delight of the 75 performers.



And now we look forward to our next public performance, a concert in the Rose Theatre, Barton Peveril Sixth Form College at 3pm on Sunday 30th March. We are already working hard on bringing the programme up to performance standard. We are also looking forward very much to welcoming our guest conductor, the band's Patron, Rob Wiffin, who will be leading the band in three pieces.

So, as you can see, SCWB continues to be at the forefront of high-quality community music-making. We would very much welcome your support at our concert in March and hope to see you then.

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/scwb or on the door

Southampton Concert Wind Band dates for your diary

2025

Thornden Hall, Chandler's Ford **March 30th** **3.00pm**

With guest conductor Rob Wiffin

Thornden Hall, Chandler's Ford **June 27th** **7.30pm**

Concert combined with Thornden Community Wind Band

War Memorial Park Bandstand, Romsey **Aug 10th** **2.30pm**

Rose Theatre, Barton Peveril College **Oct 11th** **7.30pm**

With guest soloist Chris Avison, Trumpet

If you know of other people who would like to hear our news, do please forward this to them. They can sign up to receive their own copy in the next distribution by dropping an email to us at

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