



November 2023

**PLATINUM AWARD! – National Concert Band Festival Regional Event**

SCWB has entered the National Concert Band Festival regional events almost every two years since 2012. A twenty minute performance is closely adjudicated across seven aspects of ensemble playing. They entered for the sixth time on October 29<sup>th</sup>, and were awarded their sixth Platinum Award!

Here are just a few of the adjudicators' comments:

*It is very good to hear the inner detail of the score. You present it very, very, well, very musical.*

*These endings are so delicate, they can be treacherous, but you are handling it with great aplomb, great security, no wavering. Bravo.*

*Overall a most enjoyable and well crafted performance, well directed with much musicality and style.*

The preparations for playing these pieces are meticulous and intense. It develops us as a band as well as give us a boost to our confidence.

Here are some thoughts from Tabitha, our newest member, who was catapulted straight into these preparations.

Hello Upbeat! As the newest member of SCWB, I have been asked to share my experience of my first couple of months as a second flute – and I've been loving it as I have missed the ability to play as part of a talented musical company. Since leaving university, it has been hard to find a local music group



with a welcoming community and marvellous skillset. On my initial trial rehearsal I was overwhelmed with the gift of each individual musician and of our Music Director, Calum – digging into details and clearly bringing out the best in everyone.



Having joined at the end of September, there was a fast turnaround for the NCBF concert, 29<sup>th</sup> October – and extra pressure upon finding out there were grades and certificates to be awarded! Personally, I am not picky about repertoires; I'm easy to please in that respect but the diverse range of the music selected was joyful. A slice of cake for everyone, evidenced by the adjudicator's comments. SCWB truly puts on a show, the energy was high during our performance, and it was thrilling to perform for an engaged audience once again. It was the best performance ever from SCWB (at least in my experience of one performance... which also makes it the worst, but we ignore that!). I'd like to be humble and say

it was a surprise that we won Platinum, but we'd put in the hours, and it was worth it.

Which leads us to now, already prepping for our Autumn Concert, 11<sup>th</sup> November, starring trombonist Brett Baker and entering the festive season. Time is certainly flying and so is the improvement of the trombone concerto each week. It astounds me how quickly SCWB moves on and picks up new pieces with gusto – I love it! Even better, with Christmas season around the corner, I can't wait to get stuck in, and whilst sadly I can't make the Christmas concert, there is nothing better than a festive band rehearsal and I am glad to be a part of SCWB this year.

Tabitha Chapman (flute), November 2023

## More about our two concerts coming in the next few weeks....

by Calum Gray MD of SCWB

### Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, 7.30pm, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023

For our Autumn Concert, SCWB is privileged to welcome as guest soloist Brett Baker, long-time principal trombone of the world-famous Black Dyke Band. This will be the third time SCWB has accompanied Brett, who accepted SCWB's invitation to become our Associate Artist.

**SOUTHAMPTON CONCERT WIND BAND**  
*Trip the*  
**LIGHT FANTASTIC**  
*With special guest soloist*  
*Brett Baker, trombone*  
Conductor  
Calum Gray

**World Premiere**  
**Light Fantastic** – Philip Wilby  
Concerto for Trombone and  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble

**Programme includes**  
Morceau Symphonique  
Dance with the Devil  
Nimrod

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 7.30pm**  
**Chandler's Ford Methodist Church**  
Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2GJ  
£10 adults / £1 under 16s  
Tickets on the door - for advanced, scan QR code

**SCWB**

The focal point of Brett's participation in the concert will be his performance of the concerto *Light Fantastic* by the renowned British composer Philip Wilby. This will be the world premiere of the concerto featuring wind band accompaniment; it was originally composed for trombone soloist accompanied by piano. It is a huge privilege for SCWB not only to be performing alongside Brett once again but also to be giving the first wind band performance of this major work.

Brett will also perform a pillar of the trombone repertoire, the wonderfully lyrical *Morceau Symphonique* by Alexandre Guilmant.

As this concert will take place on Armistice Day, this will be reflected in the programme with performances of *Nimrod* and *Evening Hymn and Sunset*.

Tickets - [www.ticketsource.co.uk/scwb](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/scwb)

**Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, 3.00pm, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Looking a little further ahead, SCWB will perform its Christmas concert in Chandler's Ford for the first time. We are delighted to announce that we will be joined on stage by the Choir of Hiltingbury Junior School. No Christmas concert is complete without a children's choir and we can't wait to meet them! SCWB's Christmas concert is always one of the happiest, joyful events of our musical year so we strongly encourage you to get this date in your diary and to buy your tickets.

Available from 11<sup>th</sup> November at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/scwb](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/scwb)

**SOUTHAMPTON CONCERT WIND BAND**  
and The Choir of Hiltingbury Junior School

**A Christmas Festival**

Including  
The Proclamation of Christmasc  
Coventry Carol  
Frozen

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 3.00pm**  
Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, Winchester Road, SO53 2GJ

£10 adults / £3 children (5-16 years) / under 5s free  
(incl interval refreshment) but MUST have a ticket

Tickets – scan QR code: From 11<sup>th</sup> November – or see [scwb.org.uk](http://scwb.org.uk) for information



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 [FriendsofSCWB@scwb.org.uk](mailto:FriendsofSCWB@scwb.org.uk)

[www.scwb.org.uk](http://www.scwb.org.uk)

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<sup>i</sup> The seven aspects that are judged in NCBF are - tone, tuning, balance and blend, dynamics, rhythmic accuracy and ensemble, articulation and phrasing, style and interpretation.