



# Welcome to Hitchin Youth Band!

The Youth Band is a new addition to the long-established Hitchin Band; a brass band with a tradition of nearly one hundred years music making in Hitchin and the surrounding area.

## **Our Aims**

We aim to create a band of local youngsters who meet to develop their brass-playing skills and enjoy the opportunity to play together. We welcome all young brass players, from beginner to intermediate and do have a selection of instruments available to lend out. In time, we aim to perform in public, starting with an item at Hitchin Band's Christmas Concert on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December at Christchurch, Hitchin (definitely a date for the diary!). We also hope to arrange social events alongside our rehearsals.

## **The Team of Volunteers**

The band will be made up of players of varying abilities. With guidance from our team of volunteers we hope to support and encourage every member, whatever their level of skill.

Hitchin Youth Band will be led by Alice Bailey. Alice is a qualified secondary school music teacher, with nearly six years experience teaching in North London. She is joined by a committed team of helpers, who together offer their time and skills to help the Youth Band thrive. All the volunteers have many years experience of playing in brass bands.

## **Welfare Issues**

Hitchin Youth Band is a member of the British Federation of Brass Bands. This organisation has helped us to coordinate CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) checks for all adults who will be regularly involved with the Youth Band. We are currently awaiting the last of our certificates (not helped by the postal strikes) and will be sure to let you know when this process has been completed. In the meantime, we do of course welcome parents to stay at rehearsals with their child.

We have two qualified first aiders in our team; Ruth Lowe and Sam Huckle

If you have any concerns regarding Child Protection at any time, please do not hesitate to speak to our Welfare Officer, Dinah Birch.

### **Rehearsals**

We hope that players will quickly build up a folder of music which can be taken home to practice. Alongside the main band ensemble, it may be appropriate for some members to receive some smaller group or even individual guidance during part of a rehearsal. This is often useful in order to rehearse a particular part or section, or if a member is a beginner. We hope to use the adjoining rooms to accommodate this.

- It would be useful for each member to bring along the music book or piece that they are currently working on, in order for us to judge their standard and help guide them.

Rehearsal times: 6.30-7.30pm Mondays (excluding Band Holidays). First rehearsal 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Rehearsal venue: Hitchin Rugby Club, Old Hale Way, Hitchin, SG5 1XL.

### **Subscriptions**

The Rugby Club has kindly given us a rent free period for the use of the hall, but for the longer term we may introduce a small subscription charge to cover any costs incurred.

### **Spreading the Word!**

Please help us to spread the word about our exciting new band. The quicker we gain members, the quicker we can become an established brass band.

### **Contacts**

Youth band leader: Alice Bailey 01462 423534

Welfare officer & tutor: Dinah Birch 01582 539531

Volunteer tutors: Keith Birch, Dan Perrins, Sam Huckle, Ruth Lowe,  
Adrian McCann, Kenny Durbin

Volunteer helper: Tina Berwick

Website: [www.hitchinband.co.uk](http://www.hitchinband.co.uk)

Email: [youthband@hitchinband.co.uk](mailto:youthband@hitchinband.co.uk)

CONTACT FORM - please complete and return

NAME OF PLAYER.....

AGE.....

INSTRUMENT.....

APPROXIMATE STANDARD e.g. How many years playing, grades taken, or number of notes learnt?

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NAME/S OF PARENT/CARER.....

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ADDRESS.....

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EMAIL.....

PHONE NUMBER/S.....

RELEVANT MEDICAL DETAILS.....

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HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?.....