

Development Officer – Progress Report

14 February – 26 March 2011

Bands

Coatbridge Concert Brass – The launch of Scotland’s newest band took place on Thursday 24 March in the Kirkshaws Centre, Coatbridge. This is one of SBBA’s unique projects that has started a brand new community youth band from scratch without an existing adult band. Almost 30 young recruits and their parents attended an informal night of music and presentations detailing the plans for the band. The first official rehearsal will be on Thursday 21 April where it is expected that at least another 19 youngsters will join the band!

Kingdom Brass Youth Initiative – Held another two brass recruitment workshops in the Crossgates/Hill of Beith area to start the third wave of new players. A parents evening will be held in the band hall within two weeks.

Galashiels Youth – Another school workshop was held with a parents night scheduled for Tuesday 29 March. This will complete the three recruitment workshops for beginners, however, it is hoped that recruitment events will be held for existing brass players, in other schools, after the summer holidays

Kinlochleven – Further meetings have taken place with local schools that are keen to part of the new band project.

Clyde Brass – Attended the inaugural concert of one of Scotland’s newest bands in Glasgow. Clyde Brass is aimed at students who move to the Glasgow area to study but who don’t have time to commit to a contest band that rehearses twice a week. The standard was exceptionally high and kept to the principles of their conductor and founder, Mark Good, who set up the band to give players the opportunity to continue playing good quality repertoire.

Campbeltown Brass – Have discussed with band representatives the prospect of organising youth brass workshops with Besson clinicians. Suitable dates to be found before a meeting to organise the workshops.

External Liaison

NYBBS/SAMA – A full report of all developments will be given to the Executive Committee at the meeting.

UKBBA – Attended a meeting in Bradford to develop a strategy to promote the aims and objectives of the Alliance before Summit III in July. A further meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 12 May in Blackpool.

Event Scotland – Attended the conference “Road to 2014” to develop ideas and strategies to maximise our exposure in the run-up to this important sporting and cultural year for Scotland.

Yorkshire Regional Championship – Attended the contest in Bradford run by Peggy Tomlinson. Peggy is looking forward to returning to the Scottish Open this year after missing last year’s event due to it clashing with Brass in Concert.

Besson – Finally accepted a long standing invitation from Besson to meet with their marketing department in Mants-la-Ville. I delivered a presentation detailing the progress and development made with the Scottish Youth Championships. I also advised them on how the SBBA YDP operated and seen plans for their new Education programme.

West Lothian Council – Attended a meeting with Susan Thores to discuss the organisation of the West Lothian Festival of Brass. As Susan will be leaving for pastures new, I met the new team who will be taking over from her to run the festival.

Local Education Authorities & Heads of Instrumental Teaching Scotland (HITS)

Music Learning Live – Attended the two day Music Learning Live conference at the RSAMD. This is the first time that this event has been held in Scotland and offered a new set of networking opportunities.

Creative Scotland – The next meeting with Music For Youth has been set for 30 March which will be attended by their London based Chief Executive, Lincoln Abbotts.

Area Associations

Midlothian Music Forum – The first meeting of the new Forum has been scheduled for 6.00pm on 30 March in Loanhead. I will attend and have sent details to ESBBA to circulate to member bands in the area.

Events

Scottish Youth Championships – There is interest from an outside agency on showcasing the Scottish Youth Championships. A full report will be given to the Executive Committee.

RSAMD – Meeting with John Wallace to look at closer links between SBBA and RSAMD and the possibility of future events at the Academy.

Alan Edmond
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Scottish Brass Band Association