

The Right Notes

The Newsletter of the Balerno Music Festival Society

Festival 9
23 Sept to 9 Oct 2016

Issue 14

Sept 2016

It's BIG BAND time again!

Chris Achenbach and the Borders Big Band make their second visit to Balerno Music Festival following the stunning success of their debut Festival concert in 2015, but this time they're the Gala Concert stars.

Big Bands harks back to the swing era of the '30s and '40, which in turn was rooted in the popularity of jazz in the '20's. The danceable swing style of **big bands** and **bandleaders** such as **Benny Goodman** was the dominant form of American popular music from 1935 to 1946, a period known as the **swing era**.

Originally formed in 1978 by enthusiastic amateur musicians who wanted to revive and promote the swing classics of the 1930s and 40s big band era, Borders Big Band is a high energy 15 piece ensemble which performs all over the Borders, Edinburgh and the Lothians, Fife and the North of England. It draws its repertoire from the libraries of the 'greats' including Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Bufddy Rich and many more.

Chris Achenbach has been Musical Director of the Band since 1983, and as well as being classically trained in piano, he is a jazz pianist and also Director of Music at Holy Trinity Church, Melrose. As the day job he is principal of Millside Music, a leading provider of Music Therapy, and he will be talking at the Festival about that aspect of his work at the Dinner Discussion on 28 September.

Last year's Borders Big Band concert was such a success that we had to have the Band back for a return visit, and we know that this year's will be a memorable Balerno Music Festival Gala Concert.

Saturday 8 October, 7.30pm at Balerno Parish Church.

Music @ The Mill runs from Tuesday 4th to Friday 7th October between 12.30 and 1.30pm. It features students from local schools and colleges, while on Friday 7th we welcome back 'A little light jazz at lunchtime' with Roger Cull and TOG.
Admission is free but donations are very much appreciated.

BOX OFFICE NEWS - You can get hold of Festival tickets on-line, by posting an order to Balerno Parish Church Office, calling in at the office, calling at the Box Office at Balerno Farmers Market (10 September & 8 October), at Currie Fair, (3 Sept), Art in the Park (4 Sept) or at Balerno Scotmid 13 and 14 September in the morning, and 15, 16 and 19 September in the afternoon.

The 9th Balerno Music Festival
Gala Concert

Chris Achenbach

&

The Borders Big Band



BALERNO PARISH CHURCH
SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER AT 7.30PM
ADULTS £12 - UNDER 16 £7

for details and how to book tickets go to Festival website
at www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk

Are you a friend of the Balerno Music Festival?

Earlier this year the Chair of Balerno Music Festival handed over cheques to each of our three local schools, Balerno High, Dean Park Primary and Harmeny to help and encourage music making and learning.

Fiona Gilroy, Chair of the Festival Society, said of the donations;

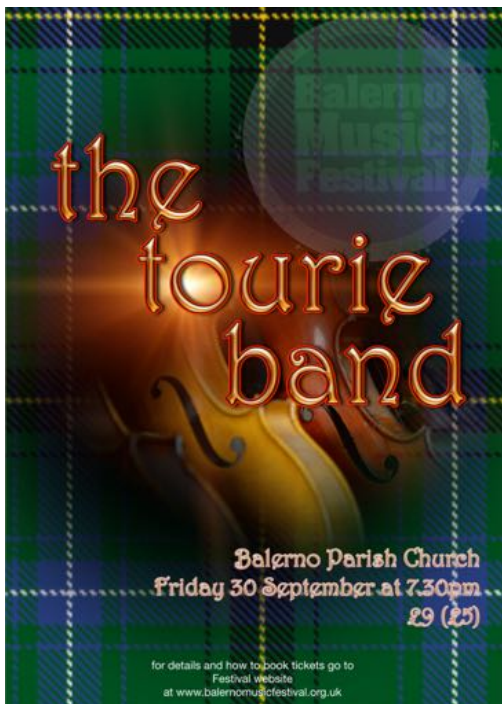
'Helping and encouraging the next generation of musicians is just about the most important thing that the Festival Society can do, and we know that the Society's assistance is hugely appreciated. Being a Friend of the Balerno Music Festival is one way you can help the Society to continue to support young people as they start out on what may become a career in music. And another way is to come to all the concerts and events! The 2016 Festival is going to be just great and I'm looking forward to welcoming you to it. See you there!



Like to get involved with BMF?

If you'd like to help with the organisation of the 10th Balerno Music Festival then please do get in touch with the Balerno Music Festival Society via Contact Us on balernomusicfestival.org.uk. Balerno Music Festival is entirely community run and relies completely on volunteers

TOURIE BAND nights!



The Tourie Band has developed a real following over the years that it has been coming to the Festival, and we're confident that this year their fanbase will expand even further.

The Band made their first visit 'way back' in 2011 at the 4th Festival, and the audience was spellbound, applauding a performance which not only demonstrated the fullest range of Scottish fiddle music but also included the world premiere of 'The Tourie Band's Visit to Balerno'.

It is real privilege for Balerno to have been able to host the Band over so many concerts since those early days

of the Festival, and with members coming from as far afield as Buckie and Newton Stewart to play for us we think they must enjoy it also.

This will be the Band's 5th visit and we hope that Balerno will not only give them a resounding welcome but also encourage their Leader Bill Cook, who also composes pieces including the Visit and the 'Tourie Band's Return to Balerno', to agree to a 6th visit. Who knows we may even have another world premiere for the Band's concert! You can see and hear the Tourie Band on

Friday 30 September at 7.30pm at Balerno Parish Church.

A Night on Broadway Balerno Theatre Company

In this issue of Right Notes we feature the 'bookend' events of the Festival. The Festival starts with Balerno Theatre Company (23rd Sept) and closes with the Jazz Party (9th Oct), so it's right to look at them side by side.

Formerly Balerno Community Songsters, the group became Balerno Theatre Company in 1999 and has been going strong ever since. So this year the Company celebrates its 15th anniversary, and Right Notes would like to congratulate BTC not only for the very high quality of their productions but also the amazing work they do to stimulate and encourage musical excellence in the community. The Balerno Music Festival is delighted to be able to number BTC as a partner body.

As BTC emphasise on their website their focus is on fun and professionalism. All their productions demonstrate that and their record - Hello Dolly!, Annie, King and I, not to mention their tremendous and renowned annual 'made in Balerno' pantomimes - bear witness to an excellent night out. So don't miss out on their concert at the 9th Balerno Music Festival

BTC are at Balerno Parish Church on Friday 23 September at 7.30pm

and all that Jazz

The Jazz Party is just what it says it is; light jazz in a party atmosphere. And since this is the ninth year in which it has been part of the Festival - right from the start - it really is fair to say that it is a real institution.

Once again Roger Cull is on keyboard with his regular trio, and once again Ian Ewing will be joining him as guest vocalist.

Ian is one of Scotland's foremost big band and swing singers. He has performed at many major venues across the UK including the London Palladium and Her Majesty's Theatre in London's West End. And he's told us in the past that Balerno is his favourite venue; and since this is at least his fourth visit who are we to say it couldn't be. So if you are looking for a way to relax at the end of Festival 9 - and the crew certainly will be by then along with Roger, Ian and the Band - then make sure of your ticket for the Roger Cull Quartet with Ian Ewing - and just wait for their Mack the Knife - best I've heard!

That's at St Joseph's Hall on Sunday 9th Oct - 7.30pm til late

notes on RIGHT NOTES

Watch out for the Festival issue of *Right Notes* when we'll have some reflections from the folk who've put the Festival together, and we'll have copies of all the posters. If you'd like a copy of any of the posters - A3, A4, or A5 then let us know.

And remember the action starts in mid September; so it's time to get your tickets and make sure of your seats!

Many thanks to our Sponsors!

