

Application Pack

Dear Candidate

Role: Musical Director, The City of Lichfield Concert Band

Thank you for your interest in the role of Musical Director at The City of Lichfield Concert Band.

Our candidate pack includes:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Rehearsals and Members
- 3. Concert Schedule
- 4. Repertoire
- 5. Role Description
- 6. Recruitment Process

Should you have any questions please email <u>lichfieldconcertband@gmail.com</u>

We look forward to hearing from you!

Kind regards

The City of Lichfield Concert Band Committee

1. Introduction

The City of Lichfield Concert Band is a registered charity based in the cathedral city of Lichfield.

The Band is one of the best community bands in the country. As recently as 2023, the band achieved a Platinum Award at the National Concert Band Festival finals in Manchester.

Records show that prior to 1908 a concert band had existed in Lichfield consisting of volunteer military members. However, they didn't need to have been enrolled in the forces. In 1908 the law changed and military bands were no longer permitted to have civilian members. According to a newspaper article from 1912, Captain CL Longstaff was responsible for relaunching the band as the Lichfield City Band and was gifted the use of the instruments from the previous volunteer band.

The band was very active performing many concerts including weekly performances in Beacon Park until 1932 when evidence of financial difficulties emerged with an unsuccessful Guildhall concert being performed to settle debts. Sadly, the band folded in around 1935.

Jump forward 50 years and in 1985 The City of Lichfield Concert Band was successfully resurrected by a group of 20 local musicians under the guidance of Richard Murphy. Over the last 40 years the band has grown and flourished under various conductors performing hundreds of concerts in Lichfield and the surrounding areas. The band has been successful at various National Concert Band Festivals dating back to 1990 when the band won a silver award and, most recently, in April 2023 when the band won a prestigious platinum award.

Today we are a band of 50 members from Lichfield and the surrounding area, still with a representation of all ages reflecting the original composition of the 1985 band.

We have an impressive following on Facebook thanks to our weekly rehearsal blog and our YouTube channel contains videos of many of our performances.

Lichfield Concert Band - YouTube

Lichfield Concert Band | Facebook

2. Rehearsals and Members

Rehearsals currently take place every Monday evening during term time from 7.30pm – 9.30pm including a 15 minute tea break at 8.30pm. Rehearsal venues are mainly Wade Street Church Hall and The Guildhall Lichfield on the first Monday of each month.

The band currently has 50 members as follows:-

1st Clarinet: 4 2nd Clarinet: 4 3rd Clarinet: 4 Bass Clarinet: 2 1st Flute/Piccolo: 4 2nd Flute: 4 Oboe: 1 Bassoon: 1 1st Alto Sax: 2 2nd Alto Sax: 3 Tenor Tax: 2 Baritone Sax: 1 1st Trombone: 1 2nd Trombone: 1 Bass Trombone: 1 Euphonium: 2 French Horn: 4 1st Trumpet: 2 2nd Trumpet: 2 3rd Trumpet: 2 Drum kit: 1 Percussion: 1 String Bass: 1

The band is currently at full capacity and we operate a waiting list.

We are lucky enough to have some very talented players in the band. Anyone joining the band is expected to be at Grade 7 standard or above.

3. Previous Concert Schedules

We have around 9 – 11 performances each year. The past three years' schedules are below for information.

	2023	2024	2025
Spring Term 1			
Spring Term 2	 Saturday 18 March 2023, Coton Centre, Tamworth, joint concert with Everybody Sings Saturday 16 April 2023, National Concert Band Finals, Manchester 	1. 9th March 2024, Coton Centre, Tamworth, 7.30pm, joint concert with Everybody Sings	1. Saturday 29 th March 2025, Lichfield Guildhall 40 th Anniversary Concert
Summer Term 1	3. Sunday 21 May 2023, Lichfield Garrick Theatre, 2pm	2. 12th May 2024, Lichfield Garrick Theatre, 2pm	2. Sunday 18th May 2025, 2pm Outdoor concert at Beacon Park
Summer Term 2	4. Saturday 17 June 2023 Pheasey School, 7pm	3. Sunday 9 th June, 2024, 2pm Outdoor concert at Beacon Park	3. Sunday 8 th June 2025, Outdoor concert at Beacon Park
	5. Sunday 25 June 2023, Beacon Park, 2pm	4. 22nd June 2024, Holy Trinity Church, Sutton Coldfield	4. Saturday 21 st June 2025 – evening concert at Pheasey Primary School
	6. Sunday 16 July 2023, Beacon Park, 2pm 5. Sunday 30 th June, 2024, 2pm	5. Friday 4 th / Saturday 5 th July 2025 – Band Weekend Away, Morecambe	
		Outdoor concert at Beacon Park	6. Monday 14 th July 2025 – Lichfield Festival evening performance at Guildhall
Autumn Term 1	7. Saturday 2 September 2023, Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park, 6pm	6. Saturday 7th September 2024, Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park, 6pm	7. Saturday 6 th September 2025, Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park, 6pm
	8. Saturday 23 September 2023, Samuel Johnson Celebs, 2pm Lichfield City Centre	7. Saturday 21 st September, Lichfield Heritage Weekend, 2pm Lichfield City Centre	8. Saturday 23rd September 2025, Lichfield Heritage Weekend, Lichfield City Centre.
	9. Sunday 22 October 2023, Lichfield Cathedral, 7pm	8. Sunday 20 th October, Lichfield Cathedral Proms event, 7pm	9. Saturday 4 th October 2025 – Coton Centre with Everybody Sings.
Autumn Term 2	10 & 11. Sat 16 & Sun 17 December 2023, Lichfield Guildhall, Christmas Concerts	9. Sunday 8 th December, Christmas Concert, Lichfield Cathedral 7pm.	10. Sunday 7 th December 2025 – Christmas concert at Lichfield Cathedral
			11. Sun 14 th December 2025, family concert at Guildhall

4. Current Repertoire

We enjoy a varied repertoire – from pop medleys to jazz, classical and films. We have a music library of our own with over 700 pieces of music and have a budget to purchase new music.

The repertoire is available on request.

5. Role Description

Role Title:	Musical Director	
Location:	City of Lichfield Concert Band	
Hours:	2-hour rehearsal every Monday evening plus up to 11 concerts per year – please see previous years' concert schedule.	
Honorarium:	dependent on experience	

Role Purpose

To lead and inspire the committed and successful City of Lichfield Concert Band, a community band that brings people together through music, promotes inclusion, and enhances community spirit.

Key Responsibilities

The Band Leader will be required to

- provide musical direction
- plan and conduct weekly rehearsals and public performances (term time only)
- attend committee meetings three times per year
- select music appropriate to the ensemble's ability and performance goals.
- support with recruitment of new band members as necessary
- coordinate concert schedules, venues, and repertoire with the committee
- communicate clearly with musicians regarding rehearsals, expectations, and events
- liaise effectively with the band librarian to ensure rehearsal materials are available
- effectively engage with audience during performances
- assist with or oversee budgeting for music purchases, equipment, and other expenses.
- uphold a safe, welcoming, respectful and positive environment for all participants.

Person Specification

- strong musical ability and experience conducting or leading musical ensembles
- familiarity with a wide range of concert band literature and genres
- excellent leadership, communication, time management and interpersonal skills

- warm personality and ability to engage effectively with various audiences throughout performances
- ability to cope under pressure
- reliable, organised and self-motivated

Additional Information

- Rehearsals take place on Mondays at 7.30pm 9.30pm during term time.
- The role will involve weekend performances.
- A DBS check will be required before appointment (if in the UK or equivalent elsewhere).

6. Band Administration

The band has a constitution which is overseen by 7 trustees who meet approximately 3 times per year.

The Band is financially stable and operations are carried out by an effective and energetic committee.

Trustees

Sylvia Barratt Kit Benham Sharon Guy (Chair of Trustees) Natalie Foster-Langford Tony Orbell Carole Share Lisa Wilson

Working Committee

Liz Athey (Secretary) Kate Harrison Lisa Riley Carol Terry Sam Tranchant (Chair of Committee) John Wharton (Treasurer) Anna Zaccaria

The working committee meets approximately 3 times per year.

7. Recruitment Process

1. Please express your interest with an accompanying CV to lichfieldconcertband@gmail.com

The closing date is Friday 26th September 2025.

- 2. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview with the Committee. The interview will take place during October
- 3. There will be an opportunity to discreetly observe a rehearsal during October and a trial conducting session will take place on Wednesday 12th November.
- 4. A decision will be made by 1st December 2025 for the role to start in January 2026 or as close as possible to this date. There will be a mutual 6 month assessment period.