

Instructors

Neil Wright QTS



Neil started playing in a marching band at the age of six on cymbals, progressing from snare to tuned percussion and brass, notably trombone and trumpet. At 18 he became musical director of the Red and Greys Traditional Youth Marching Band. He founded

Trinity School Show Band and was director from 1998 until 2007. He has a degree in music and is a qualified teacher. For the last 22 years he has been teaching secondary school music and has been Head of Music for 10 years. He is BYBA Chairman, Musical Director for the National Scout & Guide Concert Band, Musical Director of Newark Young Sinfonia and Bandmaster of the Stapleford Citadel Band of the Salvation Army.

Lindsey Vincent



Lindsey is a percussionist and composer from Nashville, Tennessee. In 2014, she graduated with honours in music education (instrumental, vocal, and general). She recently graduated with a Master of Philosophy in

music composition from Trinity College Dublin and is currently pursuing a PhD in music composition. Lindsey has been participating in the marching band scene for over 14 years - marching, teaching, and composing. She marched throughout secondary school/college and was offered her first percussion instructing job at 17. She has been teaching frontline and battery for more than 10 years and is teaching this year with Beeches Performance Ensemble.

Carl Curtis



Carl started his marching band career with the 37th Kingswood Scouts before he started teaching and arranging for the percussion section, eventually going on to become Corps Director. Under Carl, the percussion section won numerous titles for both cadets and the senior corps including high percussion. He has also marched in America with the Colts for two years, ageing out as section leader, and has arranged for Vintage Percussion, Unik Star and Beeches Performance Ensemble, where he remains an instructor. Carl won BYBA young musician of the year in the early 2000s and is a Vic Firth education artist.

Jon Bilby QTS



Jon is a graduate of Goldsmiths College, University of London where he earned a degree in Design Education. He began his drum corps journey aged nine and had marched a full nine seasons before performing as a member of DCI corps Cadets of Bergen County

from 1996–98, ageing out as Cadet of the Year. He joined the instructional staff in 1999 and has remained an integral part of the team for over a decade, most recently as visual instructor and drill designer for Cadets2. Jon has continued to be involved in the marching arts as a designer and educator throughout Europe, Italy and Ireland, most recently for Mayflower A Winterguard.

Lynsey Mancini QTS



Lynsey has been involved in the marching band activity for over 25 years. She spent 24 years marching with Warwick Girls Marching Band, starting on cymbals then moving onto colourguard for five years, before finally settling on

percussion where she played bass drum, snare and tenors and for 13 years was caption head. She was Warwick's field commander for seven years and spent two years as drum major for The Company in 2013 and 2014. Lynsey is a qualified secondary school English teacher and has extensive experience in training, supporting and mentoring teachers during their training. She is currently completing her Masters in Psychology before going on to a PhD in Educational Psychology.

WO2 Bugler Russ Piner RM



Russ joined the Royal Marines Band Service in 1997 following which he was drafted to the Royal Marines Band Plymouth and the Royal Marines Band Scotland, seeing operational service in the second Gulf War and in Cyprus. He returned to the

Royal Marines Band Plymouth in 2009 as a Cpl Bugler and was soon promoted to Sgt Bugler, becoming an Instructor at the Royal Marines School of Music in Portsmouth. He has an ABRSM Diploma in Snare Drum and Natural Trumpet and is a member of the National Association of Rudimental Drummers (NARD). He was promoted to WO2 and in 2018 became Bugle Major Training at the Royal Marines School of Music. He also helped form the Society of International Rudimental Drummers (SIRD) for which he is currently a member of the education committee.

Drum Major Chris Mace



Drum Major Chris Mace joined the Royal Marines as a Bugler in 2001. He was first sent to Portsmouth Band, then to Dartmouth Band where he stayed until the band's closure in 2008, following which he was drafted to Plymouth Band and then Scotland Band, after which, in 2013, he returned to Portsmouth Band. Chris became a qualified Drum Major in 2013 and has since had the opportunity to lead Royal Marines Bands at a number of high profile events including Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, the Lord Mayor's Show, and the Unveiling of the Iraq & Afghanistan Memorial in London. In addition, throughout his career, Chris has had the opportunity to travel to many different countries including the USA, Trinidad & Tobago, Australia, New Zealand, the UAE, Bahrain and Russia.