

Development Officer – Progress Report

27 March – 22 May 2011

Bands

Galashiels Youth – Attended the final parents evening for the recruitment project which has now seen over 20 new youngsters join the band. The youth band gave their first public performance on 20 May and are progressing well, with hopefully an attendance at this year's Scottish Youth Championships the end of year target.

Dalmellington Youth – A new recruitment and development project has been started with workshops in local schools planned for 31 May.

Melrose – Along with Stuart Black and some young Borders brass players, delivered a brass workshop at St. Mary's Primary. It is hoped that some of the new youngsters that are recruited will also have the opportunity to join the local Galashiels Youth set-up.

External Liaison

NYBBS/SAMA – Preparations are being made for the official handover from SAMA to SBBA on 31 May. NYBBS are looking for some assistance to bring American trumpeter Rex Richardson to this year's course so discussions have taken place with Yamaha UK to see if this is possible.

UKBBA – Attended a meeting in Blackpool. A full report will be given to the executive by George Burt and me regarding recent developments.

BFBB – Attended the historic AGM in Manchester where it was ratified that the organisation will be known as the English Federation of Brass Bands. This change will now be submitted formally to the Charities Commission for Acceptance. A full report will be delivered to the SBBA Executive regarding other discussions at the AGM.

EBBA – Attended this year's European Championships in Montreux as the SBBA Delegate and also as the President of the EBBA Music Commission. This was a lengthy appointment of 10 days which allowed me a unique insight into the internal workings of EBBA at this major contest. A full report will be given at the Executive meeting.

Creative Scotland – A meeting has been organised with Petrea Cooney for Monday 23 May to look at ongoing funding options for SBBA in year 2012/13.

Area Associations

NCBBA – Attended a meeting in Aberdeen to organise the next youth development workshop to be held in Aberdeen in October/November. Several venues and top name artistes have been discussed and it is hoped that these can be confirmed in the very near future.

Sub-Committees - Attended numerous Education, Development and Event Committee meetings which will be covered by separate reports at the Executive meeting.

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

Midlothian Music Forum – Attended the launch of the Forum in Loanhead which is aimed at bringing together local youth music projects to enhance opportunities for young musicians in the area. It was pleasing to note that 3 of our member bands attended the launch event.

Creative Scotland – A further meeting has been scheduled for 10 June to plan the Scottish launch concert of the Music For Youth scheme.

West Lothian Council – Represented SBBA at the leaving party for Susan Thores and presented Susan with a SBBA salver, flowers and vouchers in recognition of her support to SBBA in the previous 10 years.

HITS – The HITS AGM scheduled for 11 May has been postponed and will now be held as part of the HITS biennial conference on 8 and 9 June in Polmont.

Events

British Youth Championship – Attended the contest in Manchester in support of the three Scottish youth bands who were participating. All three bands performed extremely well, but special mention should go to Carnoustie and District Youth who won the Premier Section and Eoin Tonner who won the Best Instrumentalist prize.

Alan Edmond
Development Officer
Scottish Brass Band Association