

CHAIR REPORT – PERTSHIRE BRASS FOR YEAR 2025

(AGM held on 25th January 2026)

Jim welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance.

2025 was another successful year with the highlight being announced Scottish second section winners at the Scottish Championships in March, this on the back of promotion from the third section in 2024. The band won the 2nd section playing the test piece 'Friendly Takeover' and received an invitation to compete at the British National Finals in Cheltenham. Huge thanks to contest conductor Willie McMullin for guiding the band to success. We are now a 1st Section band going into 2026, the highest grading ever in the bands history. We were also named Scottish 2nd Section band of the Year for 2025.

The band entered 3 contests in 2025,

The Scottish 2nd Section Championships in March (1st place). Test piece – Friendly Takeover
British National Finals at Cheltenham in September (6th place). Test piece – Suite from Adam Zero
The Scottish Challenge in November (12th place, but best 2nd section band). Test piece – Royal Parks
Unfortunately, the Northern Counties Contest was cancelled.

A big thank you goes to our band conductor Willie McMullin, and musical director George Annan for getting the best out of the band on each occasion. Thanks also to Contest Secretary Linda Croft and of course the players and Committee members for all their hard work throughout the year.

The Youth band had also tasted success at the Scottish Youth Band Championships in November, achieving a Silver Award with the piece 'Mission Impossible'. They continue to flourish and the youngsters are coming on really well. Thanks again to Willie and George, and the other players who give up their time to assist

Away from contesting, the band have been keeping busy with regular concerts, some new, some longstanding. These included our Annual concert in September, Perth 125 live celebrations, St Pauls Plaza, Perth salute and of course our usual flurry of Christmas jobs.

Some of our players were out and about at different locations playing Reveille for VE80 Day, so thanks to Dave Annan, Andrew Brennan, Clair Annan, Lorna Mackie, Rachel Whiteman and Bethany Rabet. The band held a special Life membership awards concert in June and the following 5 members received their award medal from the SBBA representative.

Sandra Smith, Gillian Brailsford & Lindsay Kettles – 40 years service.

Harry Cooper & Jim Annan – 50 years service.

Sadly Harry Cooper passed away in August. Harry had been a member of Perthshire Brass since April 2019 and will be dearly missed by all associated with the band and the wider banding community.

The band are now looking forward to competing as a First Section band and are also gearing up and preparing for our tour to Aschaffenburg, Germany in 2026.

And finally, I would like to thank everyone involved with Perthshire Brass, players, parents, Committee, friends of the band for all the work you do to maintain the smooth running of the band.

Thanks,
Jim Annan
Chair

