

# **Pictures of Youth – a look at some early views of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain**

*Gavin Holman, 16 June 2020*

The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain was founded in 1952, following two earlier massed children's concerts arranged in 1947 and 1950, both of which were conducted by Denis Wright who went on to become the first Music Advisor of the Band.

The Band, for children aged 14 to 19, usually holds two residential courses each year, at Easter and in the early summer holidays, during which there is intensive musical tuition from leading instrumentalists and guest conductors, a final concert and a lot of fun. There have also been a number of overseas tours over the years. It has helped shape the musical careers of thousands of young players and significantly enriched the brass band movement in Britain. In 2004 the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain was formed, for children aged 8 to 14, extending the good work of the organisation and offering further opportunities to the young brass and percussion stars of the future.

It has only had six Music Advisors since its formation: Denis Wright (1952-1967), Geoffrey Brand (1967-1975), Arthur Butterworth (1975-1984), Roy Newsome (1984-2001), Elgar Howarth (2001-2006), Bramwell Tovey (2006-). Nicholas Childs is the Music Director NCBB.

The following photographs are some early examples of those taken at each course as a record of the band and its members.



*NYBB inaugural course, Easter 1952, Bradford, conductor Denis Wright*



*NYBB Easter course 1957, Wallasey, conductor Denis Wright*



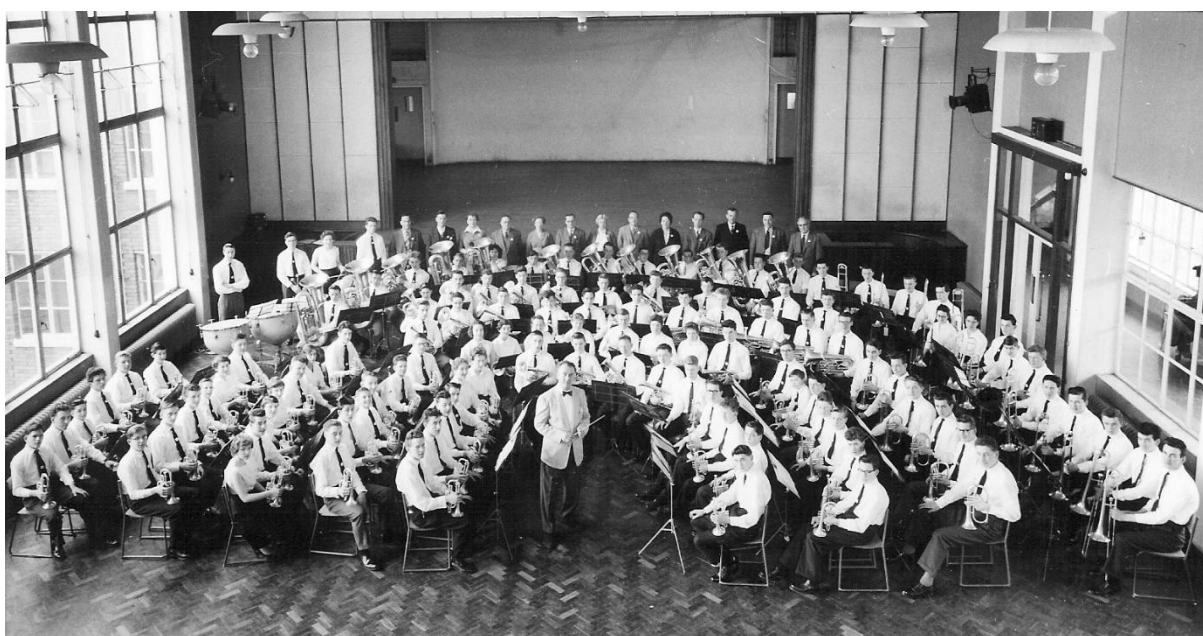
*NYBB Summer course 1957, Weston-Super-Mare, conductor Eric Ball*



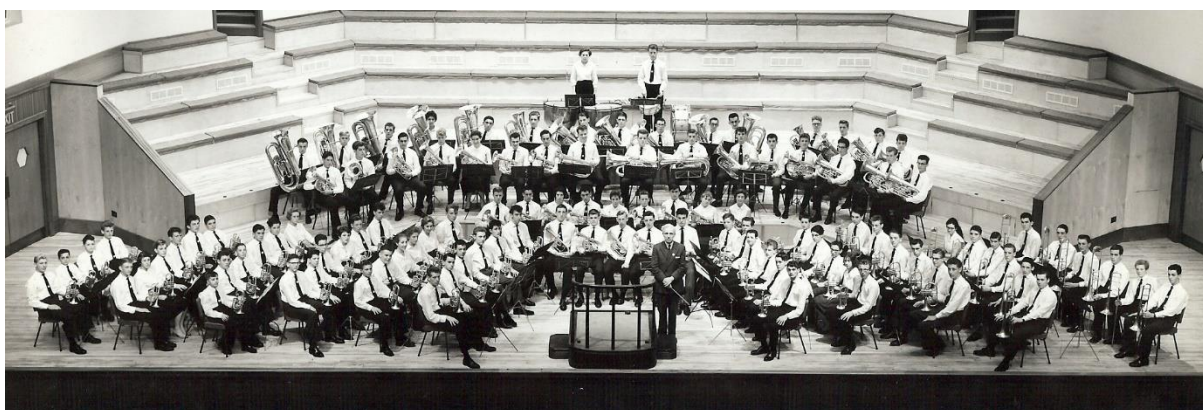
*NYBB Easter course 1958, Cranleigh, conductor Sir Adrian Boult*



*NYBB Summer course 1958, conductor Leonard Davies*



*NYBB Easter course 1959, Birmingham, conductor Harry Mortimer*



*NYBB Summer course 1959, Portsmouth, conductor Eric Ball*



*NYBB Easter course 1960, conductor Denis Wright*



*NYBB Summer course 1960, Brighton, conductor Tom (T.J.) Powell*



*NYBB Easter course 1961, Preston, conductor Leonard Davies*



*NYBB Summer course 1961, Weymouth, conductor Eric Ball*



*NYBB Easter course 1962, conductor Sir Adrian Boult*

### **Further information:**

The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain website

<https://www.nybbgb.com>

- Maines, John - The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain celebrates its Diamond Jubilee - Part 1 - *The Brass Herald* - (42) February 2012, pp. 58-61
- Maines, John - The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain celebrates its Diamond Jubilee - Part 2 - *The Brass Herald* - (43) May 2012, pp. 32-35
- Maines, John - The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain celebrates its Diamond Jubilee - Part 3 - *The Brass Herald* - (44) August-September 2012, pp. 12-15
- Thomson, Maud - The National Youth Brass Band - *The Musical Times* - Vol. 77 (1936), pp. 936-937
- Thomson, Maud - The National Youth Brass Band - *The Musical Times* - Vol. 93, No. 1317 (Nov., 1952), pp. 493-495