



Change Bandits The Journey

The journey began on 14 Nov 2017... when I founded and created Change Bandits



Built on one single message platform...

BRING YOUR TRUE SELF TO WORK

We think there's a bigger meaning behind diversity and inclusion.

It's about what you can offer and how you think.

And feeling like you can step up and speak up.



Change Bandits – The Making of "Behind the Scenes"

Christina Chan (founder and band manager)

"In M&PS, we have been pushing hard on the Diversity & Inclusion agenda in the recent months. On deeper reflection, we realised that we have actually kicked this off when Change Bandits was formed in Nov last year where we came together to compete in the Battle of the Bands.

Change Bandits is truly a real live case study and one that proves Diversity & Inclusion is not a myth or merely a concept or a HR checklist. We have made this happen - we can see the amazing things that we are able to create together when we have a common goal, regardless of who we are within the organisational structure. We went back to basics - as how children first learned how to play in the sandbox or in the playground with other children.

We put away all the doubts and fears – and truly just focus on being present, being ourselves, being honest about who we are – rather than focusing on what we can or cannot do. We were proud to share our talents – not to show off against each other, but merely to see how we can use it to complement each other to create something much bigger. We were focused and had only one goal – win the GS contest.

We broke down the barriers of organisational hierarchy and cross departments politics. We let our guards down, we strip off our titles when we step into the studio. We truly "listened" to each other – everyone involved has a role to play, a voice within the band.

We made real connections with each other. We learnt how to appreciate each other – not out of obligations, but because we learnt how to accept and respect each other.

We became friends. We introduced our families to each other. We started sharing our lives outside of work.

Before 14 Nov 2017 - we have never sat together in one room or in one meeting ever. On 23 Nov - we agreed on a band name and a logo. On 6 Dec - we stepped into the studio for the first time as talented individuals. By the end of the session, we came out as a band, a team of like-minded individuals. Change Bandits was born. We brought our true selves to work."





<u>Change Bandits - Interview wth David</u> Furniss - YouTube

David Furniss (lead guitar and lead vocals)

"To me personally bringing my true self to work means two things. Firstly it means me doing things at work with the same commitment, openness, respect for others and accountability as things wedo outside work with my family and friends.

Secondly, it means not feeling pressured at work to "not be myself". The positive mind-set and good intentions each of us have, can often be wiped out by expectations in the workplace that employees should conform to some kind of stereotype. It's important that we manage to discard those ingrained expectations that become perceived as the "RIGHT" behaviour — crazy hours, bad work/life balance are just a couple of examples.

You might say, how does this have anything to do with the Change Bandits? Well, being in a band is something I've done for more than 40 years outside work, so that's not a new experience but it has absolutely allowed me an opportunity to "just be me" at work and with my work colleagues.

Pretty soon after you form a band you always find yourselves standing in a rehearsal room, working to a deadline such as your first gig, so the pressure is on to come up with the goods. Getting this group of musicians together examples a D&wechallenge, if you consider the difference in ages, the very diverse musical backgrounds and experience, plus the fact that the essence of a band is everyone playing together, you get to know whether it's working or not very guickly.

We made it work, through listening to and respecting everyone's contribution, making collective decisions and appreciating the strengths of what each member brings to the band. It's a small example of D&wein action, and of course we've had a lot of fun along the way".

Kate Ward (vocals)

"For me, being part of Change Bandits has allowed me to bring my true self to work.

Prior to working at BT we kept my work life and outside interests quite separate. We have always been concerned that my vocational training and brief acting / singing career would in some way lessen peoples respect for me as an HR Professional.

What we have loved since the beginning of Change Bandits is that people have taken a real interest in us for the differences we have brought to the table, the unexpected elements about ourselves rather than what they see in our working life and that has been really refreshing.

People have been interested and supportive and it has led to a fantastic charity drive which we are really proud of. To make a difference whilst doing what you love, and no longer being concerned about the respect element – that makes me feel included."



<u>Change Bandits - Interview with Kate Ward -</u> YouTube



Phil Baulch (drums)

"For many people Change Bandits have set off a spark. We have such talent across MPS – and not just music – really broad talent. It would be fantastic to release that energy and passion to make people feel they can be themselves and genuine – the same person at home and at work.

We think we are well on the way. Our customers love integrity and passion – it's what lands every "quality" customer conversation in my view.

We also have to say that everyone involved in the Change Bandits has really inspired me. It has quite frankly been an honour to be a part of it"



<u>Change Bandits - Interview with Phil Baulch -</u> YouTube





YouTube

Richard Hall (bass guitar)

"One of my friends used to have a saying "be what you came here for". To that end my preferred option has mostly been to bring as much of myself into whatever situation we find myself as possible. Being yourself is a choice.

For me, being myself has added up to a richer and more rewarding human experience. What does that mean for the workplace? Well not having the stress of pretending to be what you're not is obvious, but we also think that openness and inclusion breeds trust and empowers people to bring more of themselves to the table, feeling a confidence in who you are and therefore being ready to play an increasingly dynamic role in the business.

Being in the Change Bandits is an example of trust and openness, non-likeminded individuals come together and form a team for the purpose of raising money for charity, as a result reveal just a little bit to each other than in Change Bandits - Interview with Richard Hall - everyday work. This increases effectiveness in work which improves the band such that we are content to stand on stage naked (figuratively) with a few props (guitars, mic stands) happy that people enjoy it or not, all of us actually hoping that someone taps us on the shoulder and says do you mind if we join you or could you play this or could we stand in for this one....why not join in?

> My one wish for D&I is that every individual chances their arm and shows a bit more of themselves, we get that we are not all extroverts and we don't have to be. If we all came up with a mental plan for building our self-confidence and enacted it, the buzz that the organisation would get would be amazing, we would be unstoppable."

Simon Godfrey (rhythm guitar)

"For me it means being able to express my creative side, be a little rebellious, challenge the status quo and put energy into something over and above work.

Change Bandits is about the oldies and the young ones (like me - haha) utilising a myriad of different skills and approaches to achieve a common good.

My one wish to drive diversity and inclusion at work, would be for everyone to be as authentic as they possibly can, be unafraid to make mistakes and to accept help from others when it's needed."



<u>Change Bandits - Interview with Simon Godfrey</u> - YouTube



Olivia Cork (head groupie)

"Change Bandits has shown that it is possible to take a group of very different individuals, who work in different areas, with different specialities and backgrounds, and that they can come together to create something so joined up and achieve something so incredible. It's not just about the music, it shows that if you are working towards a shared goal, and working towards it together, it doesn't matter who you are, you can achieve it."





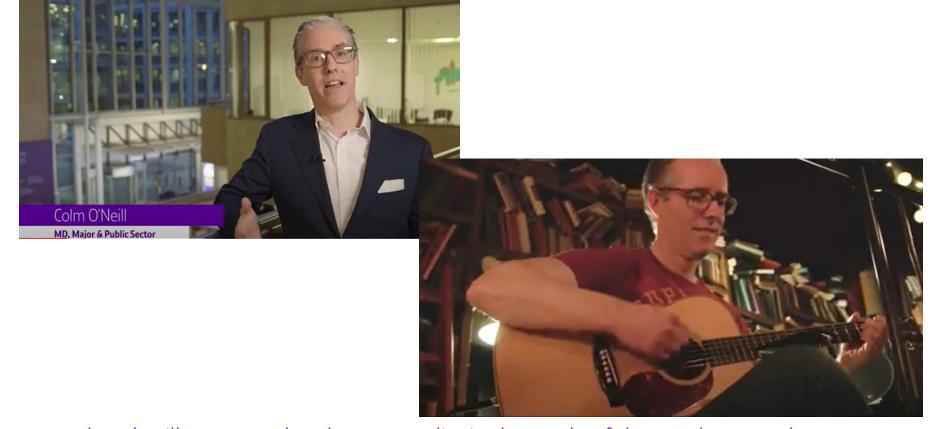
"Mustang Sally" by Change Bandits - GS Battle of the Band 2018 - YouTube

Change Bandits playing "HOUSE OF THE RISING SUN" - YouTube

Change Bandits playing "VALERIE" - YouTube

Change Bandits playing "BROWN EYED GIRL" - YouTube





Colm O'Neill supports the Change Bandits in the Battle of the Bands - YouTube





We competed in the GS Battle of the Band with "Mustang Sally"



And on...
7 Dec 2017,
we won
Best UK Band



Change Bandits - Winners Video

BT Today, 7 Dec 2018

https://intra.bt.com/news2/Pages/Can-you-win-our-Battle-of-the-Bands.aspx

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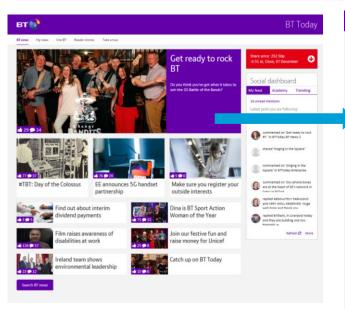
"Shooting film is not my job," he says. "But it is my passion.

It was this creativity and Lugetti's self-taught camera skills, however, that ensured Digital

BeaT caught the attention of people voting in the GS Battle of the Bands in February this

year. In fact, the group would go on to win Best Global Band in the competition. And, like

Lugetti, the band's musicians are all BT colleagues who originally took part just to have





who explains that the band then pulled together a marketing

campaign to promote the band and

their video entry, encouraging votes

and donations for Cancer Research

UK. Within six months they had

BT Today

director. "I had to use drone-shot footage to get the results I wanted, but I really think it sets the scene for story I'm trying to tell." Despite his ambitious vision. Lugetti is not a

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Show us your talent

Having tasted success in 2018, Digital BeaT are already registered for the 2019 competition. Now its second year, the GS Battle of the Bands is organised by Global Services but open to everyone across the company. Registered bands will be required to submit their own music video and BT colleagues will be able to vote for their favourite in March. Embracing the global nature of the company, your fellow musicians don't have to be in the same office or department as you - they may be in another city, or even on the other side of the world.

According to Christina Chan, manager of the Change Bandits, winner of this year's Best UK Band, the competition helped all those who took part to recognise what she calls: 'the art of possibilities'.

"We stepped into the studio as five colleagues who are great musicians," she says. "One year later we work as a band and more importantly as friends – a family." Chan, whose day job is Head of Marketing, Major Corporate & Public Sector says that the key to success in the competition is to have a clear idea about the brand you want for your band and to stand for something. "Make it personal and show everyone where your true passions lie," she says.

The Change Bandits are also registered to take part in 2019's GS Battle of the Bands and are looking forward to facing fresh competition. If you think you've got what it takes, you have until 20th December to register.

"This is a competition," says Chan. "So be bold, and make it a brilliant show and tell."

Have you got what it takes?

Band registration is open until Thursday 20th December

Change Bandits: a story of success

"Choosing a winning song was easy. as we had very distinctive and powerful lead vocals," says Christina who explains that the band then pulled together a marketing campaign to promote the band and their video entry, encouraging votes and donations for Cancer Research UK. Within six months they had raised more than £16,000 for the charity.

In this story



Christina Chan Head of Marketing, Major Corporate & Public Sector



Alberto Lugetti Head of Global Portfolio



April 2018... We performed at the M&PS Business FY2018 Kick-Off Event









SELF TO WORK

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GENUINE—THE SAME PERSON AT HOME AND AT WORK." PHIL BAUL

LIVE GIG

BETSEY TROTWOOD-18TH SEPTEMPER

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM-MUSIC FROM 6.30PM TIL LATE

56 FARRINGDON ROAD, LONDON, ECIR SEL



BRING YOUR TO WORK

VISIT: MYDONATE.BT.COM/FUNDRAISERS/CHANGEBANDITS2



18 Sept 2018... we did our 1st live gig in Betsey Trotwood, London



Change Bandits Live at Betsy Trotwood London - Valerie - YouTube

Change Bandits - "Danny" be Good - YouTube

Change Bandits La Bamba and Twist & Shout - YouTube



Change Bandits YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-

XNHo FoyEMWeFEWH2F2rw/videos?sort=dd&view=0&shelf id=0





It didn't stop there... from 26 Sept until 10 Oct, I led the awareness campaign on Mental Health. We launched a powerful call-to-action message...

10mins @3pm for 10 days, take the time to know the person next to you.

Video: Change Bandits & Friends – "Lean on Me"



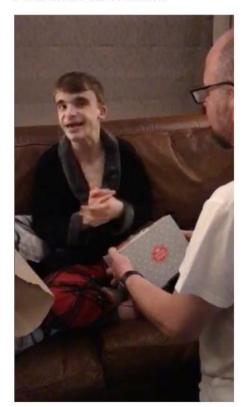
<u>Change Bandits and Friends - Lean on Me - YouTube</u>

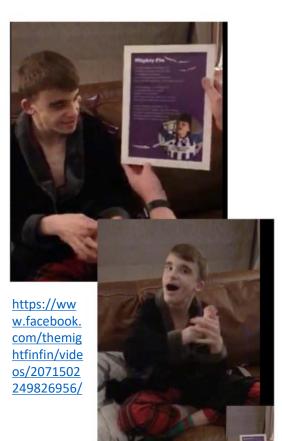


"That is such a lovely thought by all of you. We're touched by the thought and effort. Thanks so very much. We appreciate it xxxx"

Original poem, by Olivia

Paul and Mel Williams





Mighty Fin

Just how mighty is the Mighty Fin?
I heard he's stronger than the Hulk,
I heard Batman is his twin
There is no other hero quite like him
Brave and bold and strong, with a great big grin!

Just how mighty is the Mighty Fin?
Soaring high with the seagulls
Brighton FC is in his skin
With cheers and roars and shouts so loud
How could any other team expect to win?



A year on, Change Bandits went to battle for their title again in Battle of the Bands 2019. But this year, I wanted our video entry to focus on the importance of mental health and champion #DisabilityConfident "Hand to Hold"



This video was inspired by Felix Baulch and all our wonderful friends and family



Change BANDITS





and become family & friends oporting each other with a hand to hold.

Change Bandits - Hand to Hold Battle of the Bands 2019 - YouTube

The video concept for "Hand to Hold"

was based on the real story of our drummer, Phil Baulch and his blind son, Felix Baulch. Phil was also our BT Supermen, June.



Change Bandits also took part in the International Men's Day... BT Supermen 2019 Calendar

"If you are a **superhero**, who would you be?"



TO WORK



























for Cancer for Research UK

Brave Felix

At the start of December, on a cold Christmas night Further up North where the ground is all white. "It's time to see who's nice and who should be miss

To see who has earned some presents and toys.

He realised with a start "I know a boy who's nice!" "He lives down in Essex - so I better take flight,

"The boy's name is Felix" he told Mrs Claus, "He's rather important" Santa said with a pause.

"But what can I give him?" Santa wondered aloud, As he sat in his sleigh, and flew through a cloud,

To Felix he gifts, the best Christmas ever!

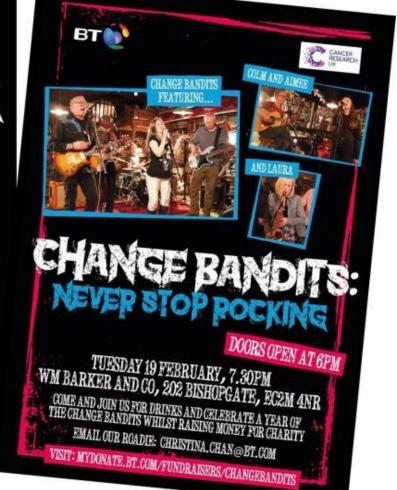




Phil + Louise Baulch p/s He likes the chocolates too!

And on a very memorable day, 19 Feb 2019 @VM Barker & Co Change Bandits put on their 1st year anniversary gig, with guest stars and new members -Colm O'Neill (MD of Major Corporate and Public Sector) and his daughter Aimee









On 13 March, we received news that Change Bandits won the BEST UK BAND 2019! And runner-up to Best Overall Band. 2nd year in a row.





















And we raised – in total... £17,292.87 – Cancer for Research UK £140.60 – Comic for Relief

Donate to charity



Change Bandits are back !!!





Christina Chan

The reigning champion, Best UK Band, Change Bandits will be entering the Battle of the Band 2019 - with new band members - Colm O'Neill, Laura...



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About

The Change Bandits stormed their way to victory in last year's Battle of the Bands 2018 competition with their entry Mustang Sally! This year, they are back with a new song entry called "Hand to Hold" for their 2019 entry. And the bigger news for 2019 is they have 2 new band members — Colm O'Neill (our Managing Director, Major Business and Public Sectory) on acoustic guitar and Laura Tressler (our sales lead on Universities, Housing Universities) on saxophone.













Sponsor a fundraiser

Bring your true self to work with Change Bandits

We're closing MyDonate on 30 June 2019. For more information about the closure please click here

MyDonate

Start fundraising

MyDonate is closing



For charities

Change Bandits is taking the diversity and inclusion conversation to a whole new tune and raise money for Comic Relief





Hello Christina Chan

Help

Share this page



About

The Change Bandits stormed their way to victory in this year's Battle of the Bands competition with their entry Mustang Sally - we won the Best UK Band!

Stephen Hall (sponsor): "As a leader - be it Bas, be it Mick Jagger, or be it Change Bandits, it's all about being visible, being out there, and being confident. Putting up a good performance is critical for any team - be it a hand or business at work."

Gallery

















