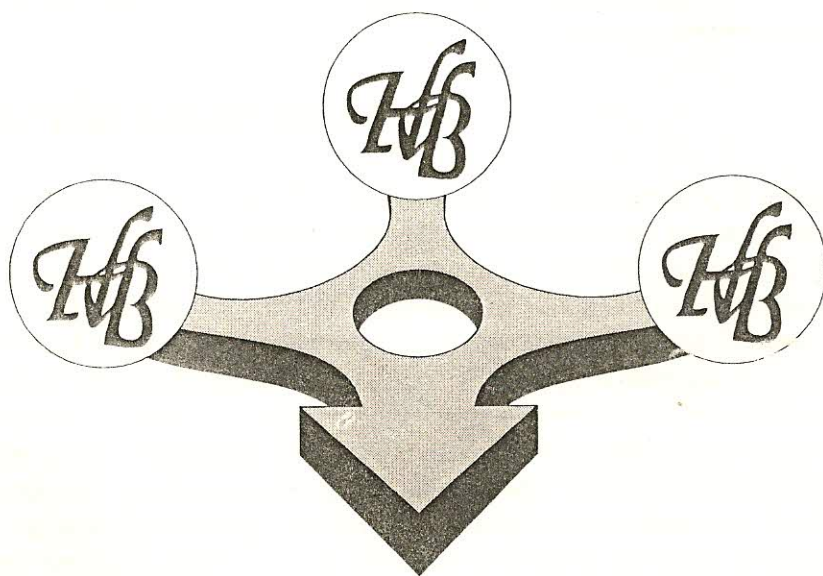


The Harrogate Band on the Internet

www.harrogate.co.uk/harrogate-band/



THE HARROGATE BAND

The premier brass band in the Harrogate District



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NEWS Latest news from the Bandroom


The Harrogate Band has heaped success on success recently. Starting with 2nd placing in the Northern Region Brass Band Championships (3rd Section) - this ensured a place at the National Brass Band Championships Finals in Cardiff in September. This was followed by a hugely enjoyable and successful tour to Prague in the Czech Republic. Then, the Band took two 1st prizes and one 2nd prize in the 1st Section at the annual contest of the Yorkshire & Humberside Brass Band Association in Scarborough. Most recently, the band won first place at the Ripon Festival Tetley Bitter Brass Band Contest

History of The Harrogate Band

The Harrogate Band was formed in April 1970 from a nucleus of former school pupils who wanted to continue their playing after leaving the school. It was the first brass band in Harrogate since the Harrogate Borough Band folded in the 1930's. The Band's first conductor, Neil Richmond, led it to success at its first contest in November 1970 at York - the first of many contest successes over the last 26 years. By September 1971 there was a full Band of over 25 players, and it had started to purchase its own instruments. Concerts that first year included the first of a regular series of concerts in the Valley Gardens in Harrogate.

The Band has, over the years, established itself as the premier brass band in the local area. It performs over 30 concert engagements each year and enters around 6 contests. The Band has been involved in a wide range of engagements over the years, including joint concerts with choirs, commercial functions, garden parties, fetes, weddings, church services, carol concerts and carol playing in the town, small groups of players, fanfare trumpets, sporting events, agricultural shows, radio broadcasts, marches and processions, charity concerts, massed band concerts and many others! It currently has over 650 sets of music in its library. Our printed stationery, quite aptly we think, includes the caption "Brass music for any occasion".

Since 1970 the membership of the Band has changed considerably, but one of the the original members, Andrew Jackson, still plays with the Band, and another founder member is the Band Librarian, Les Mackown.

The Band has undertaken five overseas concert tours. It has travelled to Bergen in Norway  as the guests of Sandvikens Ungdomskorps Band in 1977 and 1984, hosting their trip to Harrogate in 1975. It has also

