

HARROGATE BAND



A photographic tour of 55 years
1970 - 2025

Autumn 1969



Granby School Band – Neil Richmond conducting

April 1970



Formation of
Harrogate Band

Conductor – Neil
Richmond

1970



First trophy – 1st place march contest at York

1971



Harrogate Band – the first members

1971



Harrogate Band – the first members

1972

**HARROGATE AND DISTRICT BRASS BAND ASSOCIATION
BRASS BAND CONTEST**

This is to Certify

That the Harrogate Band
was Awarded First Prize
Third Section Selection Contest
On 29th October 1972 At Yeadon Town Hall.

SIGNED

Harold Laycock P. Oldham A.W. McPhee
Adjudicator Chairman Secretary



First place at Yeadon contest

1973



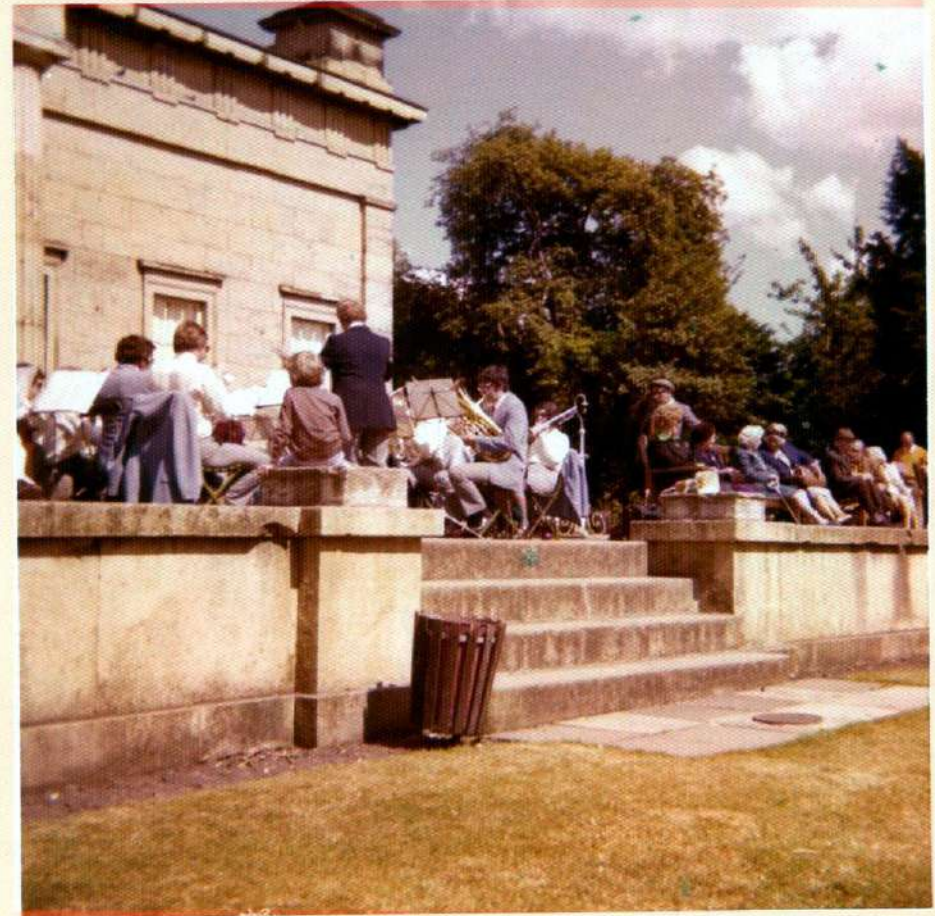
Bilton Gala

1974



Yorkshire Showjumping Grand Prix

1975



York Museum Gardens

1975



Les Mackown – Band Secretary 1975-1993

1977



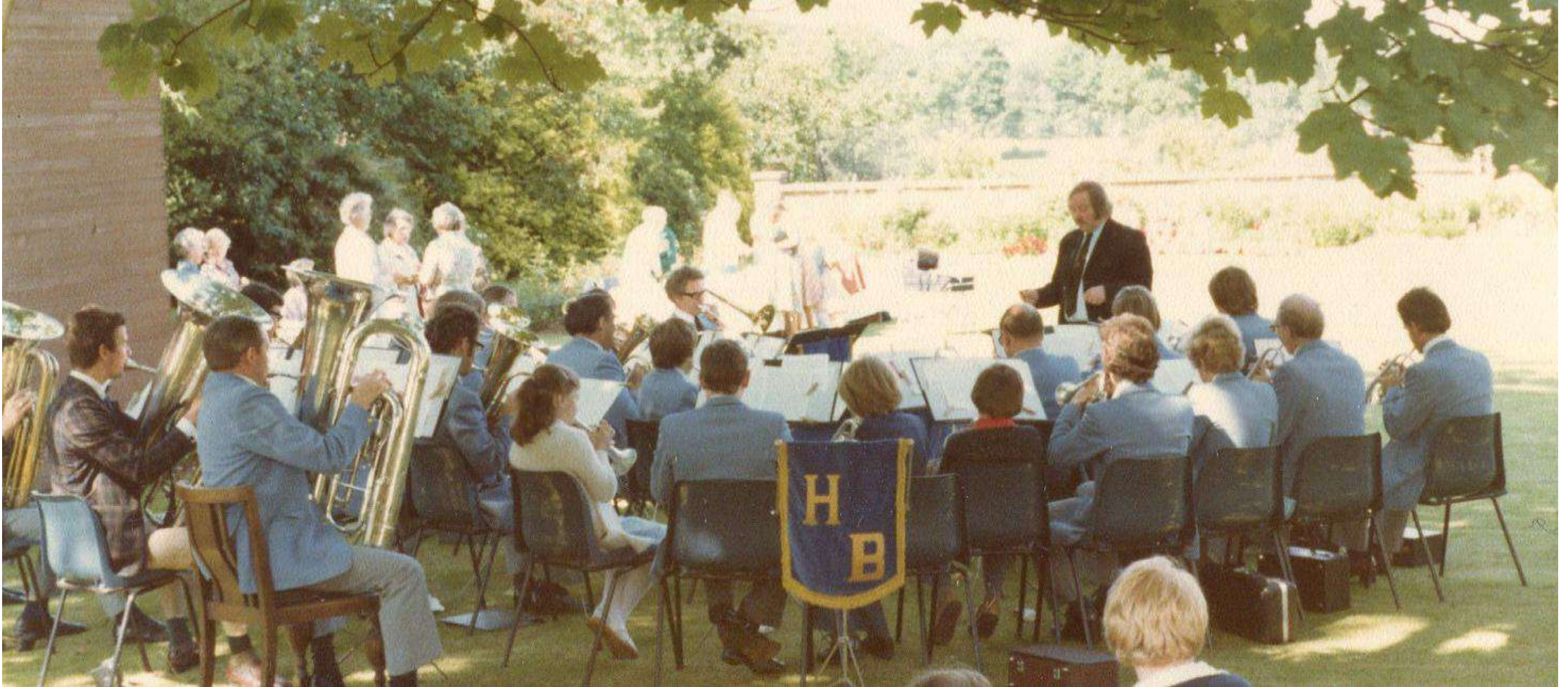
First overseas concert tour – Bergen, Norway

1977



First overseas concert tour – Bergen, Norway

1978



Aldborough Gala

1979



John Higginson – new Musical Director

1979



With Miss World at meat traders' conference

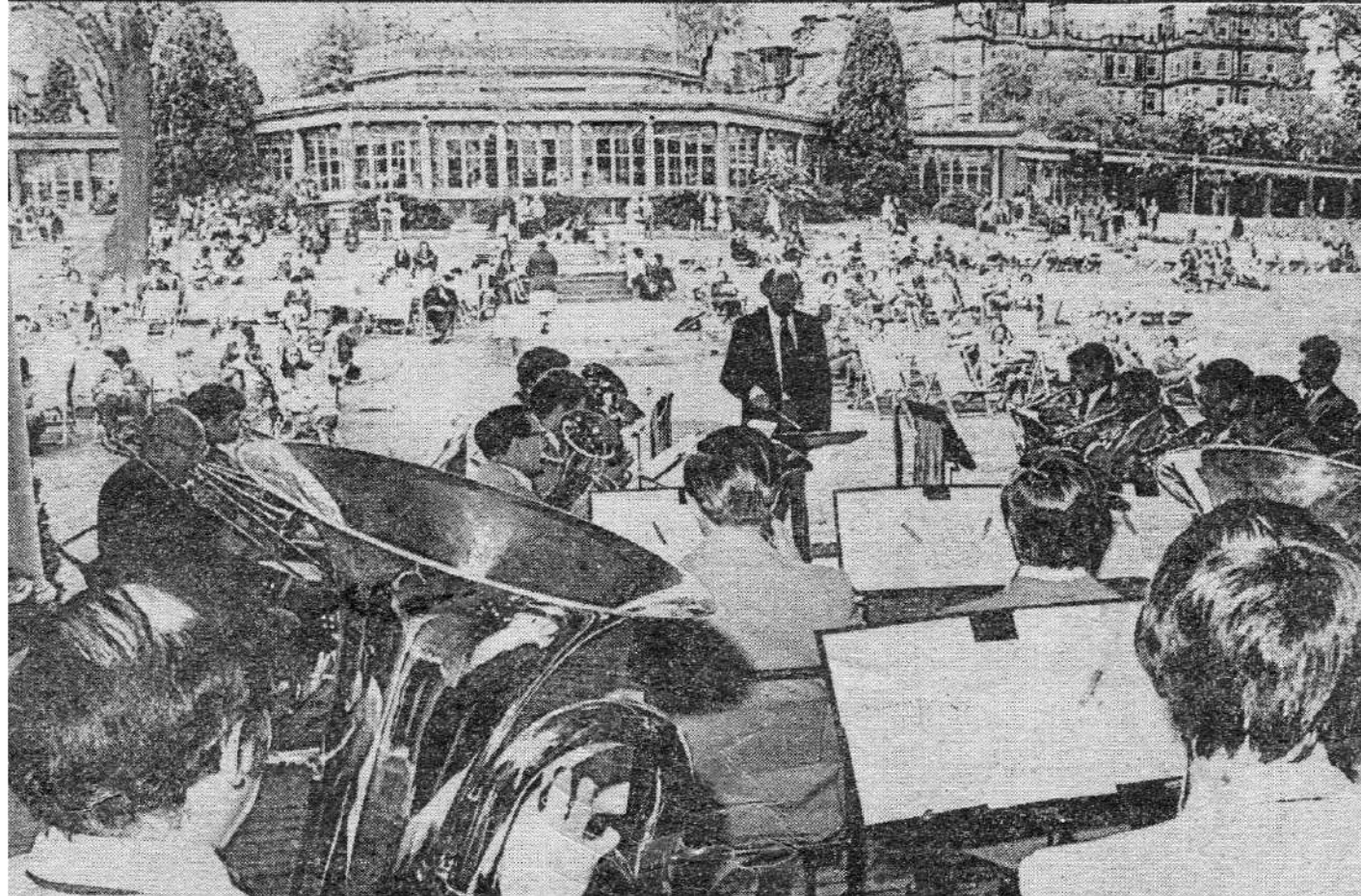
1979



Burton Leonard Feast Day

1980

What the bandsmen saw —



View from the Valley Gardens bandstand

1981



Valley Gardens, Harrogate

1981



Overseas tour to Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1982



Visit of Sport-Musikverein Bad Hersfeld to Harrogate

1982



Peter Littlewood – new Musical Director

1983

A FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

PRESENTED JOINTLY BY

THE HARROGATE BAND

CONDUCTOR P. LITTLEWOOD

AND

THE NIDDERDALE SINGERS

CONDUCTOR H.GIBSON

ACCOMPANIST DIANA ABRA

LOUNGE HALL HARROGATE

THURSDAY 15th DECEMBER 1983

Joint concert with the Nidderdale Singers

1984



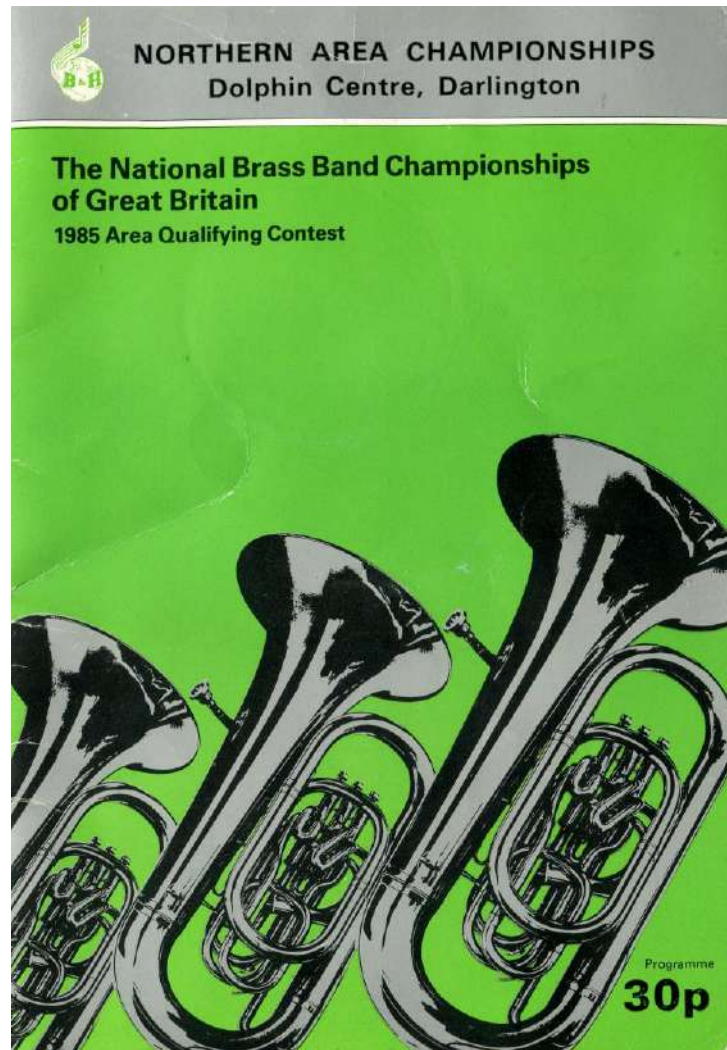
Wedding of Gavin & Kay Holman – Hotel St George

1984



Overseas tour to Bergen, Norway

1985



FOURTH SECTION

Test Piece: A Malvern Suite by P. Sparke
First Prize: £200 plus Northern Region Challenge Tribute
Second Prize: £100
Third Prize: £50

Adjudicator: JAMES SCOTT

No.	Name of Band	Conductor	Draw	Pts.	Pos.
1	Aycliffe Brass	S. Morris	2		
2	Backworth Colliery	A. Bullock	9		
3	Bearpark and Esh Colliery	D. Young	6	182	4
4	Brancepeth Welfare	S. E. Middleton	17		
5	Dearham	J. D. Place	16		
6	Felling Silver	R. Poole	14		
7	Giggleswick and Settle	P. Dalton	8		
8	Harrogate Brass	P. Littlewood	11	184	2
9	Haverton Hill Silver	A. Morrison	2		
10	Houghton Brass	T. Gibson	1		
11	Lanchester	D. J. Dye	5	187	1
12	Langley Park	J. Weirs	W		
13	Lynemouth Colliery	A. G. Griffiths	10		
14	Monkwearmouth Colliery	D. Long	15		
15	Murton Colliery	K. MacDonald	13	83	3
16	Pegswood	L. Wills	4		
17	Peterlee	S. MacDonald	12		
18	York Railway Inst. (Golden Rail)	J. Warley	7		

Admission to the Hall is not permitted during a performance

The red numbers displayed on the platform represent the number printed in the programme and the black numbers represent the order of play

Draw 2-15 pm Section to commence playing at Approx. 3-30 pm Saturday

5

2nd place in area contest – qualifying for National Finals

1985



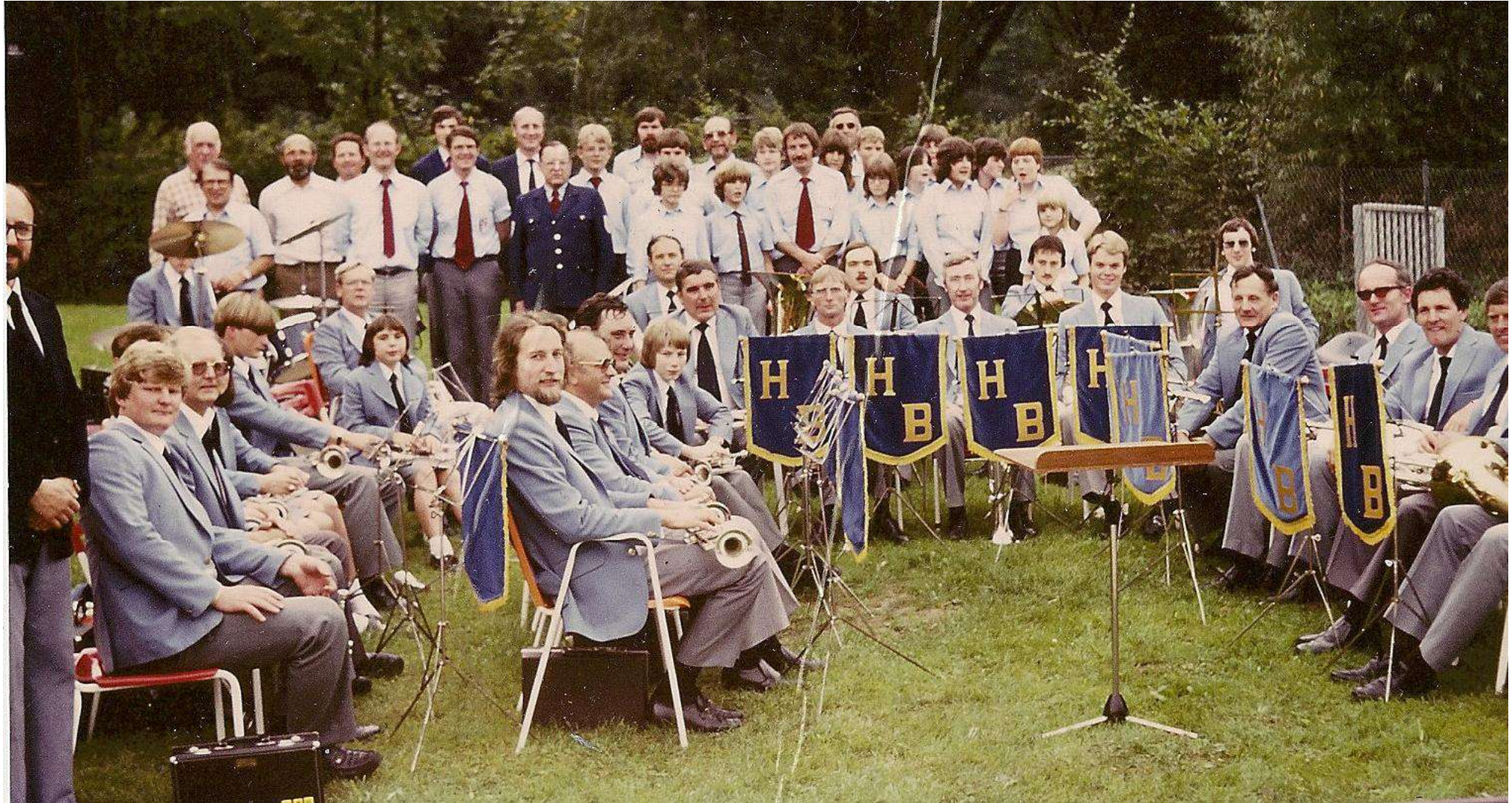
Off to the Royal Albert Hall for the Finals – drawn #1

1986



Overseas tour to Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1986



Overseas tour to Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1986



Valley Gardens – new uniforms

1987



● The Mayor, coun. Ken Fraser reviews the parade.

St George's Day Parade, Harrogate

1987



New bandroom – basement of Harcourt Road – “before”

1987



New bandroom – Harcourt Road – “after”

1987



Visit of Sport-Musikverein Bad Hersfeld to Harrogate

1988



Peter Wells - new Musical Director

1989



Allerton Park

1989

SPLIT NOTES

Number 24

News from The Harrogate Band

November 2002



Festive Brass & Voices

Ripon Cathedral is the venue for our Gala Concert this year. Our guests include the York St John Chamber Choir and guest soloist Lucy Rhodes, who recently won the BBC Radio 2 Young Chorister 2002 competition.

Saturday 7 December, 7.30pm. Tickets £6, £4 (concessions) from Ripon Tourist Information (01765 604625) or 01423 522643/887996. Interval refreshments will include "Ripon Jewel" beer tasting sponsored by Daleside Brewery. A splendid evening's entertainment is assured!

Malton Success

The annual Entertainment Contest at Malton, won by the Yorkshire & Humberside Brass

a mainstay of Tewit, rehearsing with both bands on a Wednesday evening!

Jo Campbell, another (ex) Tewit Band member has joined us on what is perhaps the most challenging seat in the band - that of soprano cornet, an instrument renowned for its difficulty. Andrew Jackson, the Band's Eb soprano cornet player for many years, is now playing Bb cornet.

Also, welcome back to Neil Davidson, cornet, who has returned to the area following the conclusion of his university course.

Made in Harrogate

The long-awaited new CD is almost ready. We apologise to all those who have been anticipating its arrival. It contains a selection of music from Harrogate composers and

“Split Notes” newsletter published from 1989 to 2003

1989



Harrogate Valley Gardens

1990



Harrogate International Centre

1990



John Hallums' Garden Party

1990



Overseas tour to Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1990



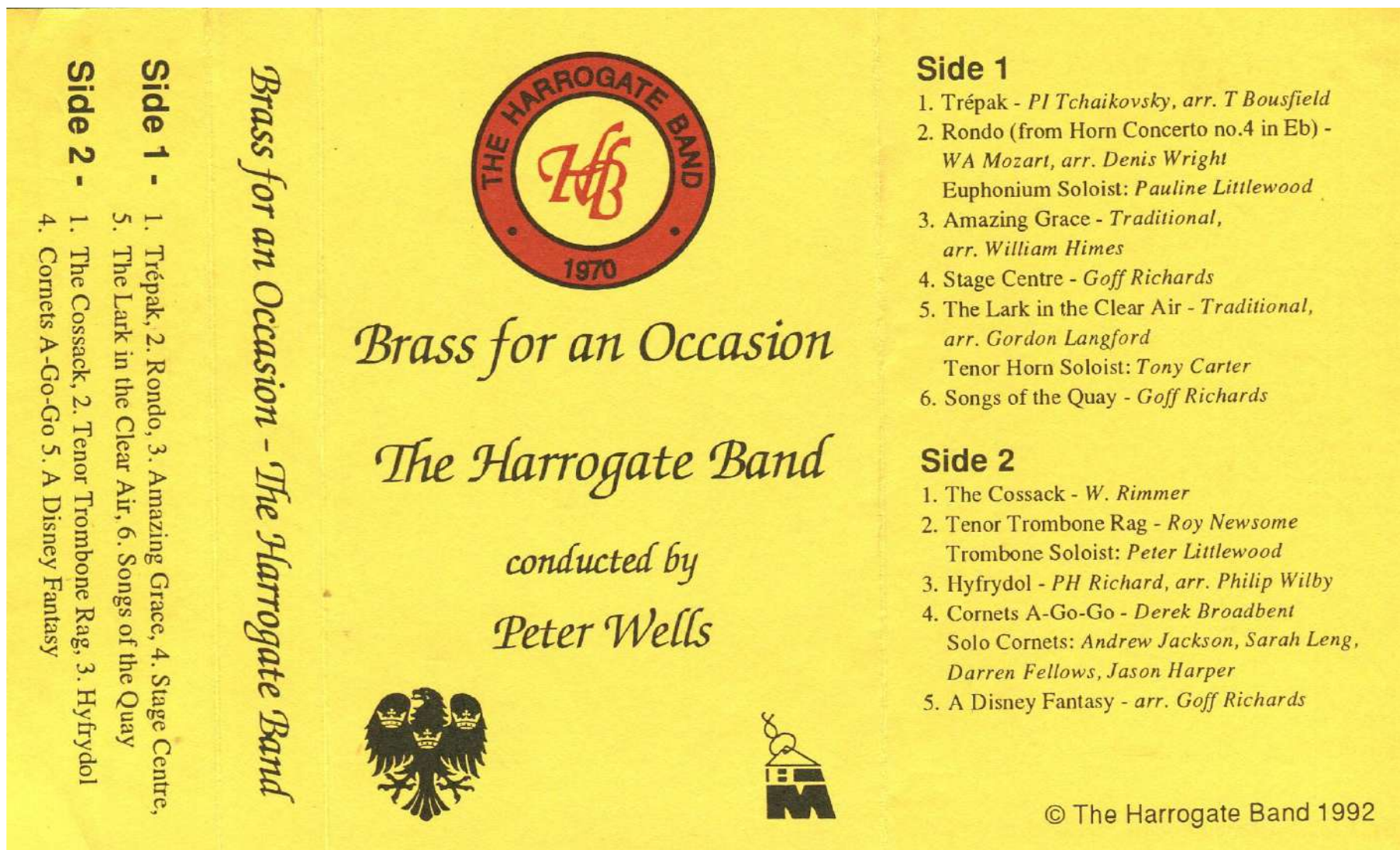
Overseas tour to Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1991



Carol playing in Harrogate market place

1992



Band's first recording – audio cassette

1993



Hardraw Scar contest

1994



Easingwold march contest

1994



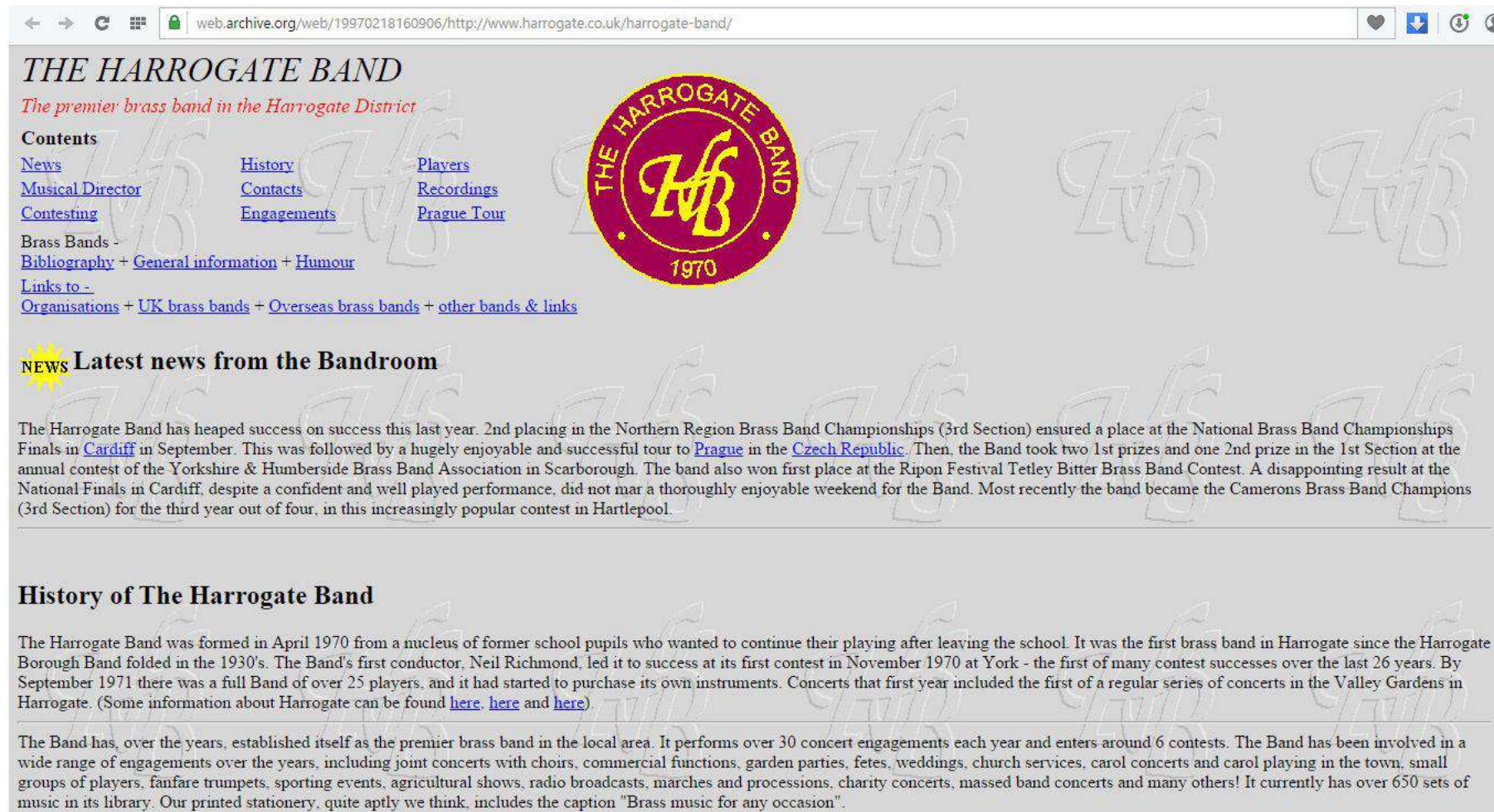
David Lancaster – new musical director

1994



Malton Brass contest

1996



Band website launched – one of the first bands on the internet

1996



THE HARROGATE BAND

PRAGUE TOUR 1996



1996



Overseas tour to Prague, Czech Republic – Skoda museum

1996



Hardraw Scar contest

1997



Hardraw Scar contest

1997



The band's first CD recording

1998



Henry Moore Foundation – Much Hadham, Herts

1998



Cookridge Hospital, Leeds

1999



Royal Hall, Harrogate

2000



Portrayed in the Millennium Dome as one of the “British Icons”

2000



North of England contest, Darlington – 2nd Section Champions

2000



Overseas tour to the Netherlands

2000



Dales Tour

2000



National Finals – Royal Albert Hall, London

2001



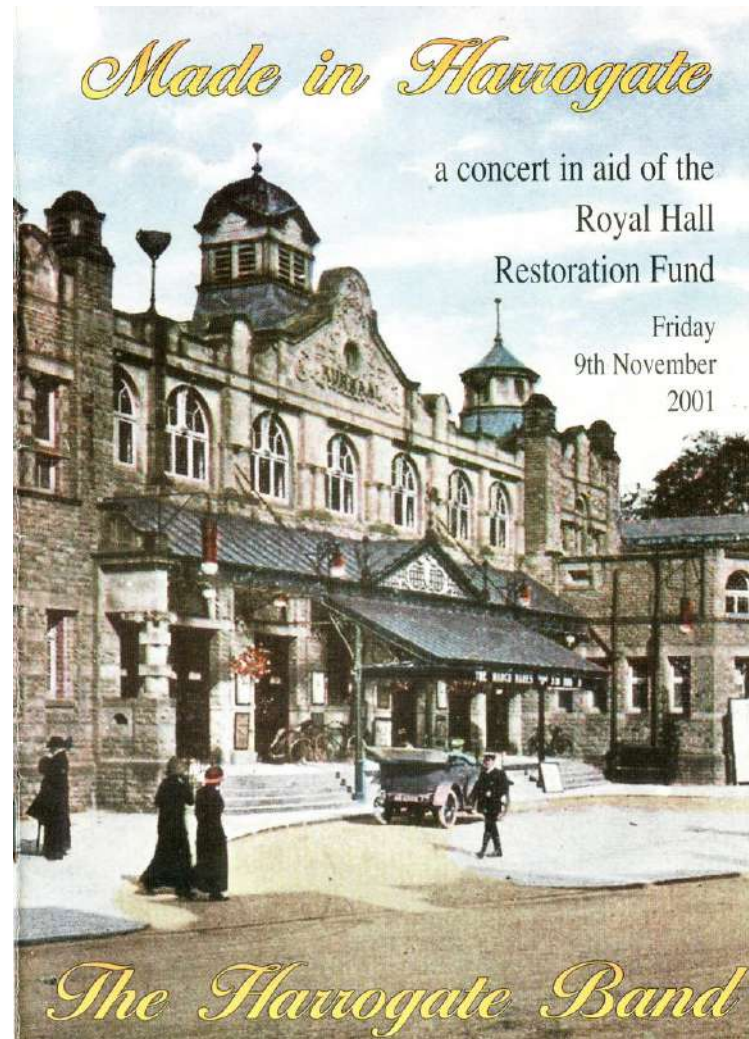
Fountains Abbey

2001



Fountains Abbey – promotional photograph

2001



“Made in Harrogate” concert

2001



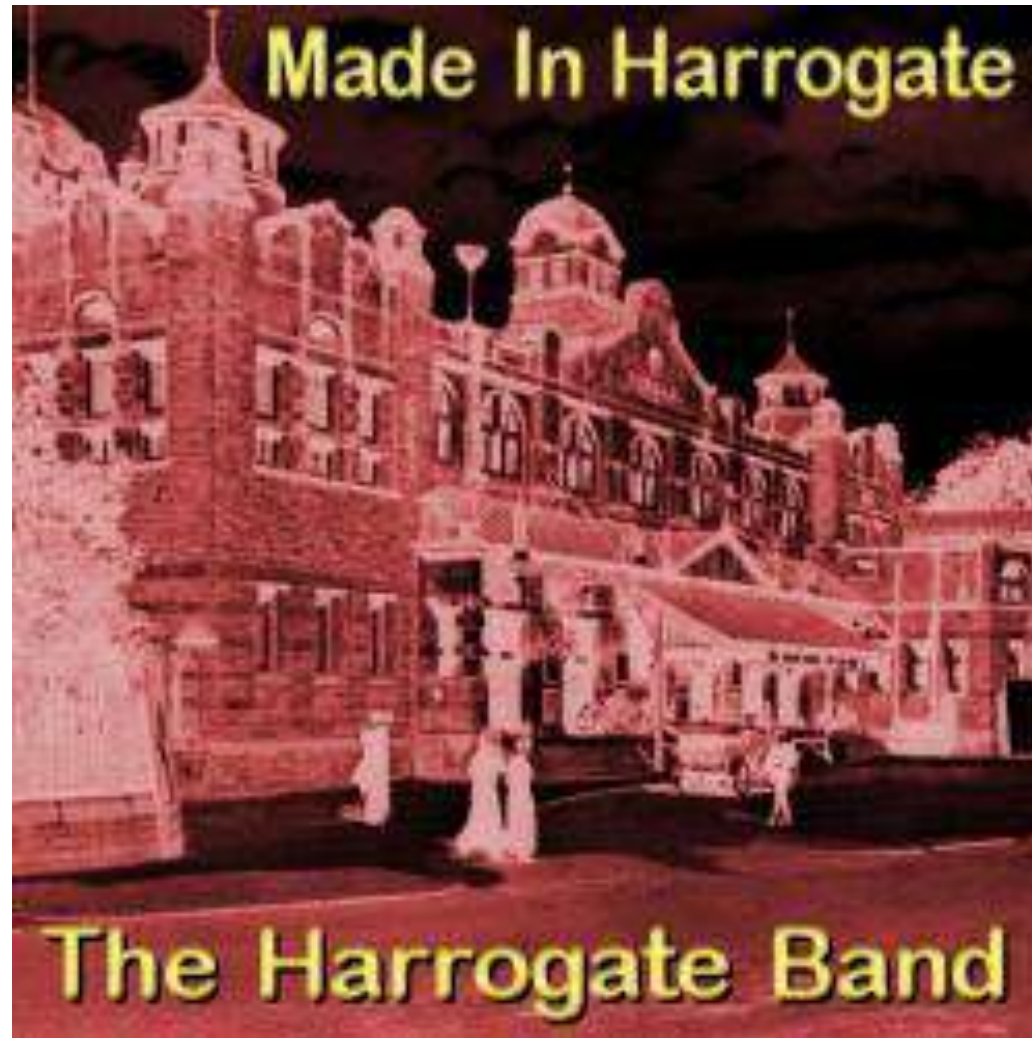
Filming for TV show "Heartbeat"

2002




National Championship Finals – Torquay “Symphony”

2002



The band's second CD recording

2002




The Harrogate Band
Presents

**FESTIVE
BRASS & VOICES**

with Guests
Lucy Rhodes
2002 BBC Radio 2 Choir Girl of the Year

&
**The York St John
Chamber Choir**
Ripon Cathedral

**Saturday
7th December 2002
7.30pm**



**The
Band
JUKEBOX**

... MAKE SELECTION ...	tick
The Dambusters March	<input type="checkbox"/>
March from 'The Great Escape'	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nimrod from 'Enigma Variations'	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post Horn Galop	<input type="checkbox"/>

Christmas concert – with “jukebox” audience selection

2003

THE HARROGATE BAND



Rheinland Tour 2003



www.harrogateband.org

2003

Englische Band bot flotte Musik in Roes

Musik überbrückt alle Sprachbarrieren



*The Harrogate - Band präsentierte sich mit Solistin Elizabeth Rochester
musikalisch im Bürgerhaus*

Foto: hf

Overseas tour to Germany - Rhineland

2003



Filming for "Brides in the Bath"

2003



The band's third CD recording

2003



Carols in Victoria Centre, Harrogate

2004



Ripon Cathedral

2004



The band

2004



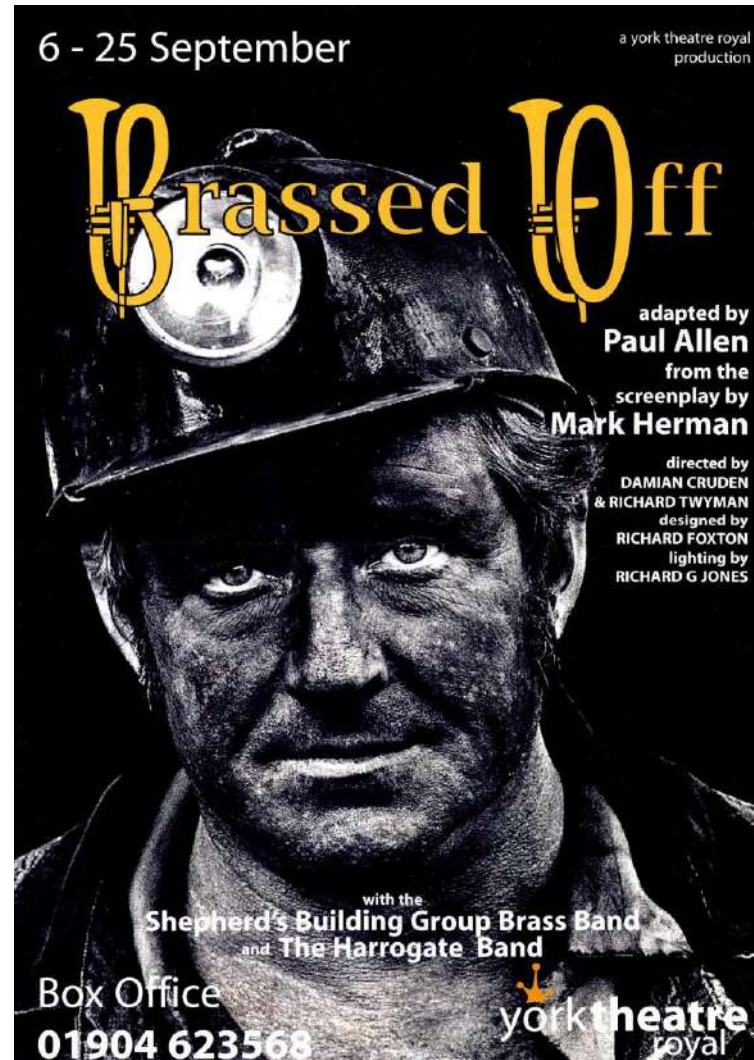
Wetherby Races

2004



Nidd Hall

2004



“Brassed Off” – York Theatre Royal

2004



“Brassed Off” – York Theatre Royal

2005



York St John University

2005



Whit Friday - Delph

2005



First appearance – Durham Miners' Gala – Trimdon Grange

2005



The band's fourth CD recording

2005



Carols – Harrogate market place

2006



Wedding of Dan & George Dickinson

2006



Holy Trinity Church, Ripon

2006



Whit Friday - Greenfield

2006



Whit Friday - Denshaw

2007



Overseas tour to Belgium & the Netherlands

2007



Wedding of Mary Hymas

2007



Durham Miners' Gala

2008



Re-opening of the Royal Hall – with Prince Charles

2008



Filming for “The One Show” on Ilkley Moor – with Myleene Klass

2008



Joel Graham – Worth Valley Railway

2008



Canal Gardens, Leeds

2008



Valley Gardens, Harrogate

2008



Trophies won at Hardraw Scar

2008



2008



Harrogate Band Christmas Card

2009



Starbeck Methodist Church

2009



Area contest - Darlington

2009



“Brassed Off” – Harrogate Theatre

2009



Durham Miners' Gala – Trimdon Grange

2009



Hardraw Scar contest

2010



Whit Friday - Denton

2010



Filming for "Escape to the Country" with Aled Jones

2010



Fanfare for the Royal Hall – on its roof

2010



Wedding – Army Foundation College, Harrogate

2010



Craig Ratcliffe – new Musical Director

2010



Wedding – Allerton Castle

2011



Area contest - Darlington

2011



Area contest - Darlington

2011



Whit Friday - Lydgate

2011



Whit Friday - Diggle

2011



Filming for PlusNet adverts – with Knaresborough Band

2011



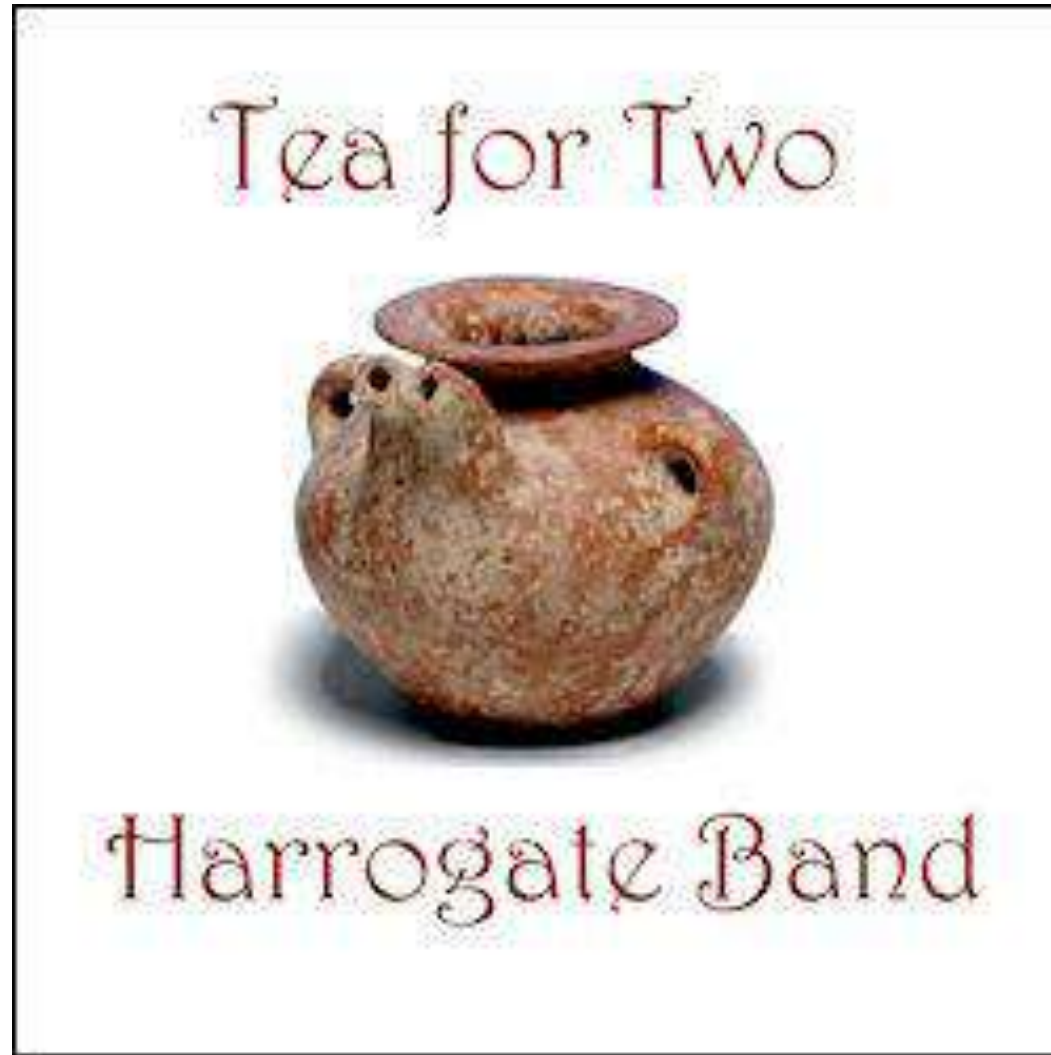
Last Night of the Proms – Menwith Hill

2011



Recording the band's CD

2011



The band's fifth CD recording

2011



Harddraw Scar – rehearsing in cattle pens

2011



Hardraw Scar

2011



“Dad’s Army” – Harrogate Theatre

2011



Remembrance Service – Commonwealth War Graves

2012



Harrogate Beer Festival

2012



“Overworlds & Underworlds” event - Leeds

2012



Marching practice at Menwith Hill

2012



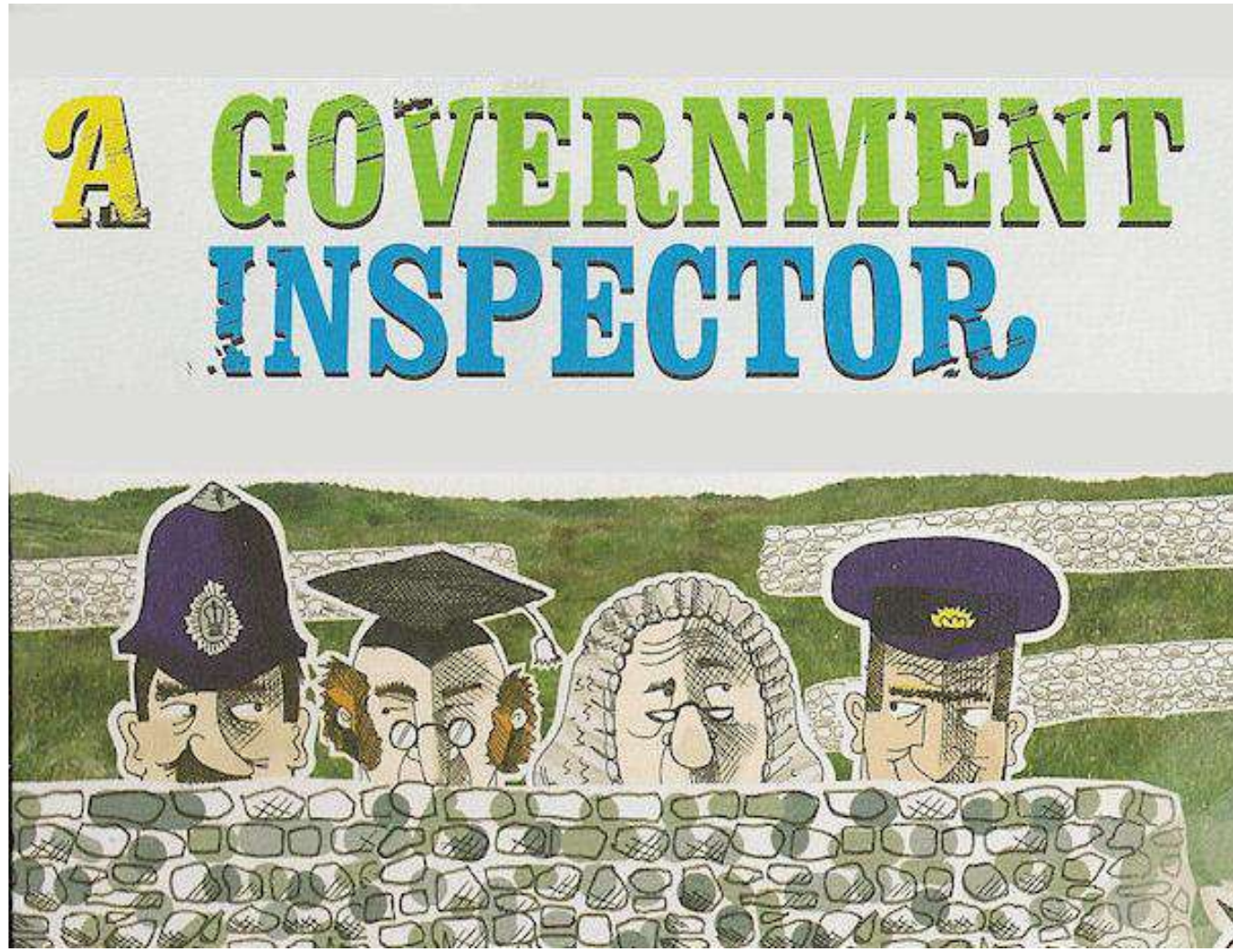
Durham Miners' Gala

2012



Last Night of the Proms – Menwith Hill

2012



Music for Northern Broadsides play – Harrogate Theatre

2013



Wetherby Bandstand

2013



National Finals - Cheltenham

2013



“Last Night of the Proms” - Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate

2013



Filming for “Old Jack’s Boat” with Bernard Cribbins

2014



Craig Buchan – interim Musical Director

2014



Barwick Maypole Festival

2014



Durham Miners' Gala – on “The Steps”

2014



Overseas tour to Luchon, France

2014



Overseas tour to Luchon, France

2014



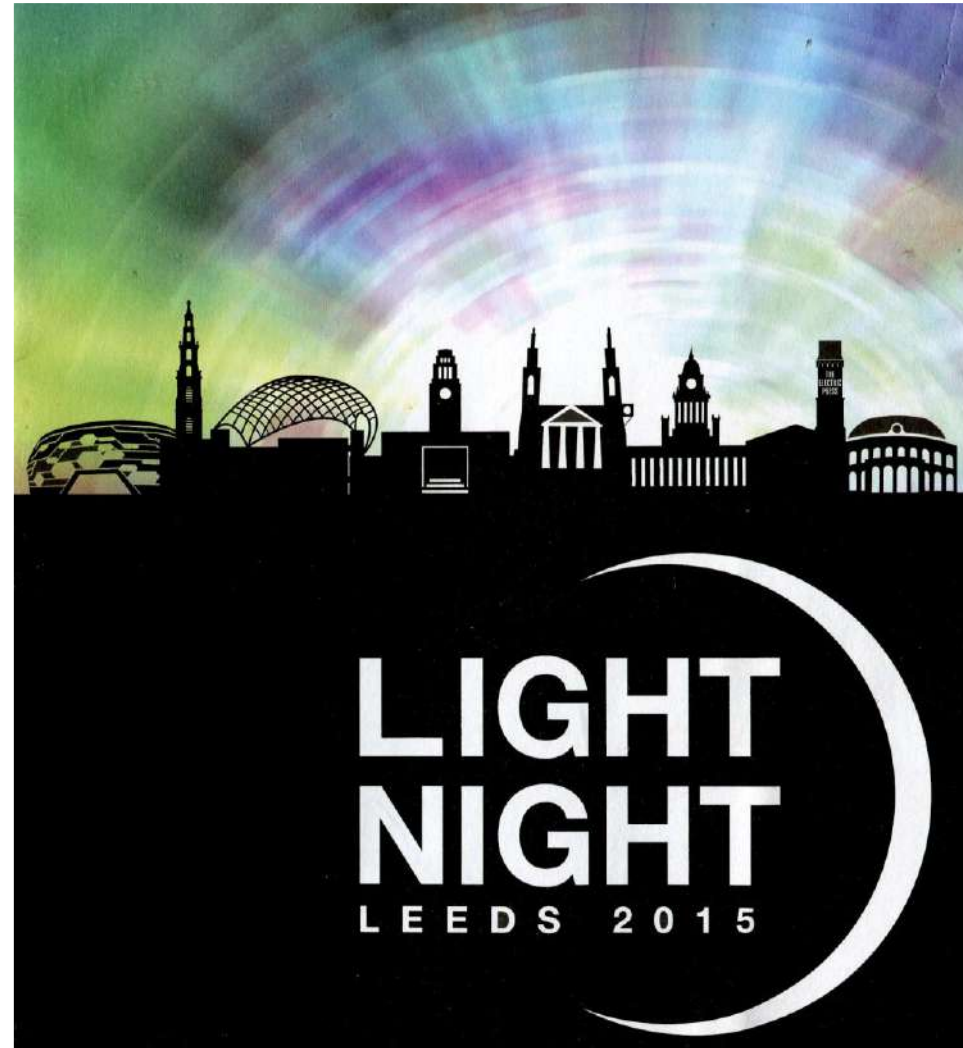
“A Night of Musicals” with Harrogate Operatic Players

2015



Wetherby Bandstand

2015



“Light Night” – Leeds city centre

2015



“Light Night” – Leeds city centre

2015



Gavin Holman with one of the items of Harrogate bands' history

2016



Dean Jones – new Musical Director

2016



Wetherby Bandstand

2016



Filming with Grayson Perry – Durham Miners' Gala

2016



Gareth Gibbs - Durham Miners' Gala

2016



Holy Trinity Church, Ripon

2016



Firecracker Ball – Rudding Park

2016



Trinity Methodist Church, Harrogate

2017



New (temporary bandroom) – old register office, Harrogate

2017

Harrogate Band's campaign to increase representation of female composers



Members of the Harrogate Band at the Happygate festival.

Women Make Music campaign – showcasing female composers

2017



Wedding – Nicky Godfrey, Harrogate

2017



“Happygate” – Valley Gardens, Harrogate

2017



Wedding – Matthew Brunt

2018



Area contest – Durham – 1st section champions

2018



Songs from Stage & Screen – Old Swan Hotel

2018

Top Harrogate band saved from homeless threat



The band in rehearsals at their new base

New bandroom at Hornbeam Park

2018



National Finals - Cheltenham

2018



New bandroom at Hornbeam Park

2018



Harrogate Remembrance Day parade & service

2019



Leigh Baker – new Musical Director

2019



Wedding – Valley Gardens

2019



In the bandstand – Valley Gardens

2019



Durham Miners' Gala – “party piece” at the County Hotel

2019



Harrogate Carnival parade – very wet!

2019



Harrogate Carnival parade – very wet!

2019



Amy Hiles and Keri Graham at Wetherby Bandstand

2019



Joint concert with Black Dyke Band - St Wilfrid's Church

2019



Bolsover Festival of Brass

2019



Country Living Christmas Fair, Harrogate

2019



Brass bands are for life, not just Xmas – M&S Harrogate

2020



Empty bandroom during Covid lockdown

2021



First rehearsal back after lockdown – 19th May

2021



Andrew Baker – new Musical Director

2022



Barwick Maypole Festival

2022



Brass Bands England – conductors' workshop, Stamford Bridge

2022



Wetherby bandstand

2022



Country Living Christmas Fair, Harrogate

2023



Craig Ratcliffe – new Musical Director

2023



In the bandroom

2023



Area contest - Durham

2023



Wetherby bandstand

2023



Matthew Brunt – Durham Miners' Gala

2023



Flashmob & “Eclipse” for Harrogate International Festival

2023



Rob Illsley – principal cornet – National Finals, Cheltenham

2023



Wedding – Rob McNicol - Harrogate

2024



Area contest - Durham

2024



ANZAC service – Commonwealth War Graves, Harrogate

2024



“Washboard” Ed Dennis and Tony Malone – Wetherby bandstand

2024



Harlow Carr Gardens

2024



Harrogate Festival of Remembrance

2024



The Brass Brigade – an initiative to get children playing brass

2024

**LOVE
POP 
CHOIR**
Sing your heart out!

Christmas Concert
The Harrogate Band and Love Pop Choir
Thursday 19th December
7.30pm



The poster features a black background with gold and red text and graphics. It includes silhouettes of three reindeer, a star, and a Christmas ornament. The bottom half of the poster shows a photograph of the Harrogate Band playing brass instruments and the Love Pop Choir singing from sheet music.

Christmas concert

2024



Carols at the Roosters' Taproom

2025

BRASS SPECTACULAR



YORK RAILWAY INSTITUTE BAND
Musical Director Dr David Lancaster



HARROGATE BAND
Musical Director Craig Ratcliffe

Joint concert at York St John University

2025



Harrogate Band's
50th (55th) Anniversary Concert
featuring the world première of
“FOX”

by David Lancaster
(postponed from 2020)

2025 onward

April	ANZAC Day
May	Wetherby Bandstand; Kippax Band Club; Barwick Maypole Festival
June	Morley March Contest; Wetherby March Contest
July	Durham Miners' Gala
August	Harlow Carr; Concert with Black Dyke
September	Chorley Contest
October	Rochdale Contest
November	NEMBBA Contest, Festival of Remembrance; Remembrance Services

Harrogate Band Overseas Tours

- 1977 - Bergen, Norway
- 1981 - Bad Hersfeld, Germany
- 1984 - Bergen, Norway
- 1986 - Bad Hersfeld, Germany
- 1990 - Bad Hersfeld, Germany
- 1996 - Prague, Czech Republic
- 2000 - The Netherlands
- 2003 - Rhineland, Germany
- 2007 - Belgium & The Netherlands
- 2014 - Luchon, France

Harrogate Band National Gradings

2023 - 1st Section

2019 - 2022 Championship Section

2016 - 2018 1st Section

2014 - 2015 Championship Section

2008 - 2013 1st Section

2003 - 2008 Championship Section

2001 - 2002 1st Section

1998 - 2000 2nd Section

1992 - 1997 3rd Section

1970 - 1991 4th Section

Harrogate Band at the National Finals

2023 - 1st Section - Cheltenham

2018 - 1st Section - Cheltenham

2013 - 1st Section - Cheltenham

2011 - 1st Section - Cheltenham

2002 - 1st Section - Torquay

2001 - 1st Section - Preston

2000 - 2nd Section - RAH London

1996 - 3rd Section - Cardiff

1992 - 3rd Section - Wembley

1991 - 4th Section - Wembley

1990 - 4th Section - Westminster

1985 - 4th Section - RAH London

Harrogate Band on screen

- 2016 - Channel 4 - Grayson Perry: All Man (Hard Man)
- 2013 - CBeebies - Old Jack's Boat Christmas Special
- 2012 - Plusnet adverts 3 & 4
- 2011 - BBC1 - The Great British Countryside
- 2011 - Plusnet adverts 1 & 2
- 2011 - BBC1 Look North - Harrogate International Beer Festival
- 2011 - BBC1 - Escape to the Country
- 2008 - BBC1 - The One Show
- 2003 - ITV - Brides in the Bath
- 2002 - ITV - Big Night - documentary on the Band
- 2002 - ITV - Emmerdale Farm
- 2002 - ITV – Heartbeat

Harrogate Band playing at member's weddings

2023 - Rob McNicol
2018 - Rebecca Warrior
2017 - Matthew Brunt
2017 - Nicky Godfrey
2007 - Mary Hymas
2006 - Dan Dickinson
2005 - Iain Wilson
2002 - Nick Garrett & Helen
Worley

2001 - Lynn Stockdale
2000 - Peter Andrews
2000 - Ian Bristow
1996 - Steve Morland &
Catherine Worley
1994 - Edward Prince
1985 - Catherine Hallums
1984 - Gavin Holman
1977 - Andrew Jackson

Musical Directors of Harrogate Band

Neil Richmond (1970-1978)

John Kendrew (1978-1979)

John Higginson (1979-1982)

Peter Littlewood (1982-1987)

Peter Wells (1988-1994)

David Lancaster (1994-2008)

Steve Morland (2008-2009)

Roy Waite (2009-2010)

Craig Ratcliffe (2010-2014)

Craig Buchan (2014-2015)

Nathan Wake (2015)

Leigh Baker (2016)

David Smith (2016)

David Lancaster (2016)

Dean Jones (2016-2018)

Leigh Baker (2019-2020)

Craig Ratcliffe (2021)

Andrew Baker (2021-2022)

Craig Ratcliffe (2023-)

Chairpersons of Harrogate Band

A.J. Gwynn (1970-1974)

Howard Bancroft (1975-1976)

John Hallums (1977-1986)

Gavin Holman (1987-1993)

Steve Morland (1994-1998)

Peter Andrews (1999)

Steve Morland (2000-2005)

Keith Graham (2006-2014)

Catherine Morland [2014-2016]

James Shepherd [2017-2020]

Ed Dennis [2020-2023]

Simon Lancaster-Brown [2023-]

Secretaries of Harrogate Band

John Button (1970-1974)

Les Mackown (1975-1993)

Sue Morland (1994-2001)

Liz Lancaster (2002-)

Daniel Dickinson

Helen Garrett

Nick Garrett [-2017]

Joel Graham [2017-2018]

Keri Graham [2018-2023]

Matthew Brunt [2023-]

HARROGATE BAND



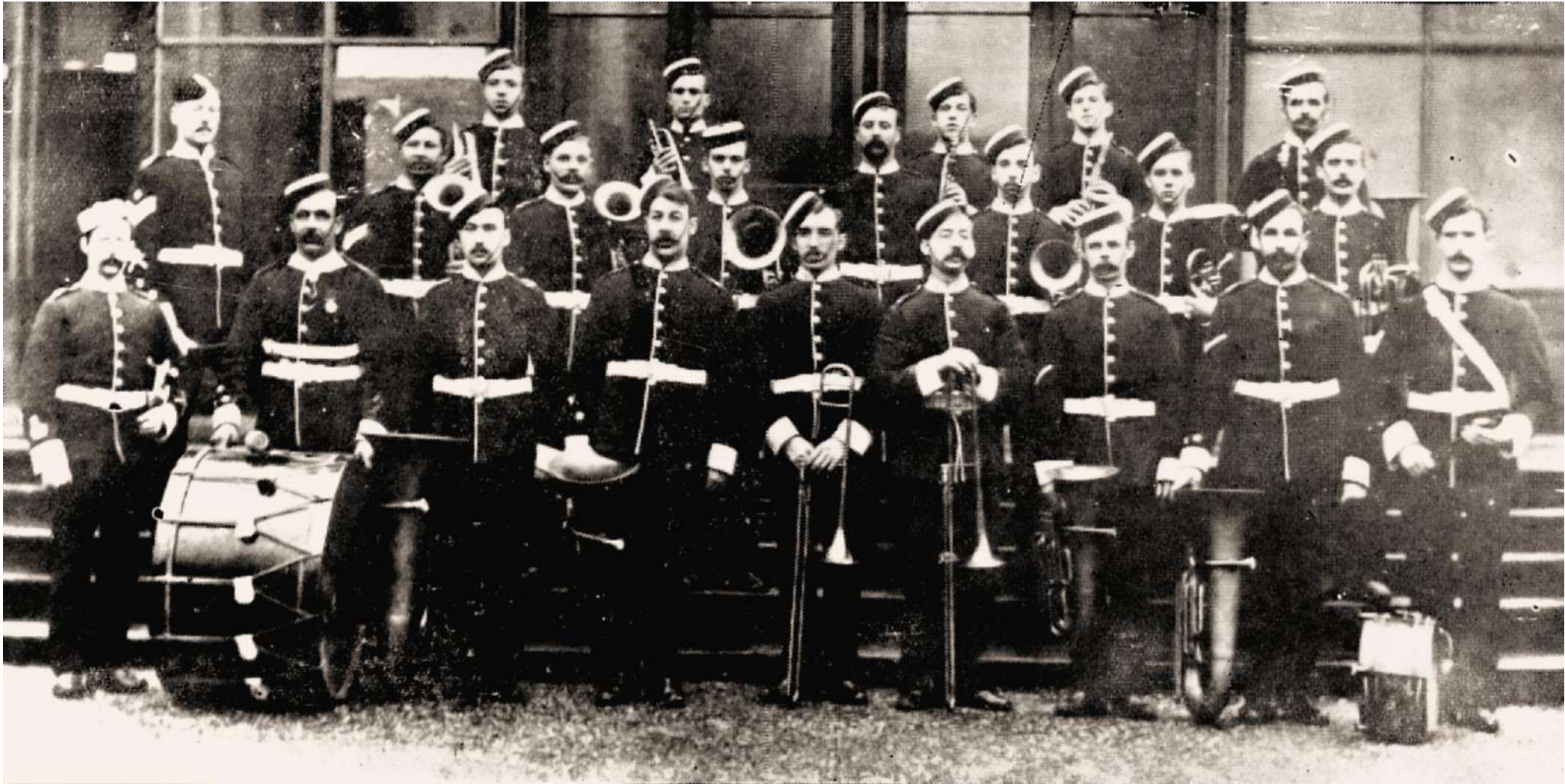
www.harrogateband.org

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Brass Band (1842-1861)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Rifle Volunteers Band (1862-1907)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Bilton With Harrogate Fife and Drum Band (1887-1913)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Subscription Band (1888-1889)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Town Band (1890-1902)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Temperance Band (1890-1926)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Borough Band (1901-1939)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Starbeck Brass Band (1904-?)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Postmen's Band (1910-1915)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Salvation Army Band (1920-1950)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Silver Prize Band (1927-1956)

Precursors of Harrogate Band



Harrogate Silver Prize Band (1927-1956)

Precursors of Harrogate Band

Spa Brass

A history of brass bands in
Harrogate



Harrogate Borough Brass Band – c. 1901

Gavin Holman

May 2021

available from Gavin Holman