

Friends of Brighouse Station

The Brighouse & Rastrick Band



Founded in 1881 the Brighouse & Rastrick Band first came to national prominence when winning two Championship titles at Belle Vue, Manchester in 1929. They were then victorious four more times in the 1930s to cement their reputation amongst the country's elite, a position they retain to this day.

In addition to a first class reputation for performing entertaining concerts of wide public appeal the band has countless triumphs in the highly competitive contesting field, matching themselves with other elite bands and raising their own playing standards and ambitions along the way. Crowned 'National Champions of G.B.' ten times to date is testimony to their outstanding talents and consistency as with their victories at the famous Saddleworth March contests.

Entertaining audiences with fine concerts occupies most of the band's time, however they relish performing to large and appreciative audiences locally, around the UK and overseas.

Always based close to Brighouse town centre, their firm local roots were re-established in 1995 with construction of their own purpose-built headquarters, 'West Ridings' in Finkil St, a home of which they are justly proud and a magnet for visitors .

Every decade has been etched with memories but more so the 1970s with not only victories in the British Open and National championships but the unique success in the 'pop charts' of its famous hit parade success, Derek Broadbent's 'The Floral Dance', which won both silver and gold discs for massive record sales and tremendous national and international acclaim.

Never content to rest on their laurels, more top trophy success came in the 1980s and another 'purple patch' in 1998 when, under conductor Allan Withington, the band claimed the 'Triple Championships' of the English Masters, National and European titles.

In 2009 they appointed Australian Prof. David King as Professional Conductor and to date have won three national titles under his inspired musical leadership.

Today the band still proudly maintains its unique independence and quest for musical excellence with no other 'public subscription' band holding such high status for as long as **Brighouse & Rastrick Band**.

