



EAGLEY BRASS BAND
ESTABLISHED 1850





VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.eagleyband.co.uk

Welcome to Eagley Brass Band. Please take time to find out all about our band and why we feel any organisation would benefit from an association with us. If you have any questions at all, please get in touch.

Deb Lyons

CHAIRPERSON, EAGLEY BRASS BAND

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History



Eagley Brass Band was formed in the winter of 1850, initially as the Eagley Sunday School Band, attached to the Eagley Mills, a group of textile mills sited to the north of Bolton, Lancashire. The band entered their first contest in 1885, which was held at Kearsley Moor and managed to win third prize (and the princely sum of £6) under its conductor, Edwin Swift.

The first surviving photograph of the band was taken in 1898 and depicts the members in ordinary suits and "billy cock hats", the first uniform being purchased in 1905. The band continued to enter competitions and with the dedication of its members became one of the premier bands in the country, notable successes included appearances as far afield as Kirkcaldy and also the famous Belle Vue contest (now known as The Grand Shield) and British Open Championships.

The dawning of the First World War reduced the band's activities to virtually nothing with many musicians leaving for the front line, and yet Eagley was fortunate to have a fresh pool of talent to draw on from the mills. It was not until late 1919 that the band resumed playing in full, the only contribution during the War being a lone member who performed the Last Post daily at a memorial service to the fallen. The Second World War also took its toll on the band, although a Youth Band was formed during this time, ensuring the continuation of the band.

Contest success followed the Wars, which in turn led to Radio broadcasts and, in 1956, a television appearance. However, 1971 brought grave news - Eagley Mills were to close, bringing the 120 year old association with the band to an end. Despite this the band continued to be successful, thanks in part to the support of local schools from which a nucleus of players joined in the early seventies, some of whom are still in the band today.



About Us

Eagley today

Eagley Brass Band regularly competes at competitions both regionally and nationally and we continue to be placed among the top bands in our section. In addition to successes on the contest stage, the band is well-known for its prowess in the concert hall and its innovative, challenging and exciting programmes which prove very popular with audiences. Eagley Band plays an important role in the community by providing entertainment at a wide variety of local events. These include performing at remembrance services and concerts, leading the parade at the switch-on of Bolton's Christmas Lights, and playing at a number of civic functions.



Charity



Eagley playing at
Manchester Royal
Infirmary

Eagley Band takes an active role in supporting local charities. With one of our longest serving players being a local hospital Renal Medicine specialist, a charity particularly close to the band is Kidneys for Life. Kidneys for Life is based at Manchester Royal Infirmary and aims to raise funds for research into kidney disease, dialysis and transplantation. Our most recent fund-raising event for Kidneys for Life was playing at Manchester Royal Infirmary to raise money for the MRI Transplant wards. We have also helped to raise money for Bolton Hospice, Derian House Children's Hospice and performed as part of charity concert in aid of Muscular Dystrophy.

Musical Director

Musical Director Chris Wormald has conducted, adjudicated and arranged for brass bands professionally since 1983 and has been a member of both the National Association of Brass Band Conductors and National Association of Brass Band Adjudicators since that time. He was horn soloist with James Shepherd Versatile Brass (1990-1995), awarded the Mortimer Medal in 1998, became Classic FM Music Teacher of The Year in 2001, adjudicates at numerous major contests such as the Swiss, French and English National Championships and many more besides, guest conducts bands including Grimethorpe and Brighouse & Rastrick and has ninety published brass band arrangements to date for Obrasso, Wright & Round, Kirklees and Studio Music. He has played the French Horn professionally in many major orchestras such as the Philharmonia in London and many of his former pupils play and conduct professionally all over the world.

Conducted by Harry Mortimer at Belle Vue in 1978 whilst a member of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain alongside Nicholas Childs, Steven Mead and many leading brass band names of today, Chris was appointed Head of Brass for Bolton LA (1983-1990) and during that time also taught at the RNCM in Manchester. Chris was MD of Eagley Band for nine happy and successful years (1989-1997), Wingates (1998-2000) and Hoover (2002-2005), with whom they became National Champions in 2004. Chris has amassed numerous contest victories, concert highlights, BBC television and radio broadcasts and CD recordings and formed his multiple world and national champion Smithills School Senior Brass Band in 1991. Together, Chris and his Smithills flagship band won over fifty major national and international competitions in twenty years and performed in Japan, Norway, New Zealand, America (five tours), at the Royal Albert Hall in London eight times and on dozens of occasions in London's Royal Festival Hall, Birmingham's Symphony Hall and Manchester's Bridgewater Hall.

Chris is delighted to return to Eagley as MD and hopes to achieve great success once again in contests, concerts and CD recordings.



Chris Wormald, Eagley's
Musical Director

Sponsorship

It is almost 170 years since Eagley Brass Band was formed and to ensure that the band will exist and thrive for many more years to come, we need to make certain the band is financially stable. Until its closure in 1970, Eagley Mills provided rehearsal space, funding and supplied the band's instruments. However, since then we have relied on a mixture of sponsorship, private funding and income from concerts to keep the band going. The difficulty of this task is highlighted by the fact the UK Arts Council currently provide £142,000 per year for brass bands - significantly lower than the £30m and £15m that opera and ballet receive respectively. As you can see, even though brass bands play an important role in local communities, there is very little public funding allocated to be shared amongst the 800 or so bands in the country.

Current Expenditure

This year we expect our expenditure to include

- Instrument Upkeep £1,500
- Travel £1,000
- Music £1,000
- Insurance £1,000
- Brass Band Registration fees £200
- Uniform upkeep £500



A Worthy Cause

Since brass bands were first formed they have forged close relationships with their audience and close ties to their communities - there are not many places where you will find students working together with company directors, OAPs, school teachers, hairdressers, doctors and postmen, all with a common aim - to make music!

Brass bands also encourage young people to take up musical instruments and then develop their musical ability and transferable skills. They can help youngsters to achieve a sense of community and self-worth, improve their self-confidence and give them a constructive activity to do in their spare time. It is important that we encourage young people to take up positions in our band as they are the future of Eagley Brass Band. Much has been written in the press about the anti-social behaviour of young people and what can be done about it. We are doing our bit and perhaps you could help us with this.

What We Can Do For You

Sponsoring a brass band can be an excellent way to market a local business or national company. We play many concerts each year, regularly attracting large audiences of local people, providing a perfect opportunity to promote local business. We are also very active on social media with many followers across Twitter and Facebook. In addition to this, our website attracts many visitors. Our close ties to our community can provide a unique way to reach a wider audience and thereby increase the exposure and awareness of local business. It also shows any prospective client that you care about the community in which you operate.

We have put into place a choice of very reasonable, hopefully attractive sponsorship packages to suit all budgets and requirements. From small donations to corporate sponsorships, we aim to provide packages which offer value for money from an association with our historic brass band. We proudly endorse the names of our sponsors in our concert programmes and publicity and will provide a professional association with any company.

Sponsorship Packages

FRIENDS OF EAGLEY BAND - £100 PER YEAR

Website advertising including links to your website

Social media advertising

Tickets to an Eagley concert of your choice

BRONZE PACKAGE - £200 PER YEAR

Includes the 'Friends of Eagley Band' package

Advertising on all promotional material (e.g. posters, programmes and tickets)

SILVER PACKAGE - £500 PER YEAR

Includes the 'Bronze Package'

A complimentary performance by Eagley Brass Band at an event of your choice, subject to distance from Bolton

GOLD PACKAGE - £2500 PER YEAR

Includes the 'Silver Package'

Page on our website dedicated to your company

Band name change to incorporate sponsor's business

Contact Us

If you would like to speak to us about possible sponsorship or have any further questions, please get in touch with our sponsorship co-ordinator Deb Lyons using the details below.

Phone: 07731 996925

Email: deblyons123@hotmail.co.uk

For more general information about the band, please visit our website at www.eagleyband.co.uk.

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