

Local Brass Band celebrates a 200 year history with a commemorative book

2015 has been a truly memorable year for the Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band. The band has traced its roots back 200 years to a Parish archive where it is recorded that on the 10th of July 1815, 22 days after the battle of Waterloo, the town purchased “...5 instruments, a Serpent, two Bassoons, and two Horns for the band, to be the property of the inhabitants at large of the town of Kirkbymoorside...”

At the end of an extremely busy year of bi-centennial events the band is delighted to launch its commemorative book to finish its yearlong celebrations in style. The Band commissioned renowned local historian Martin Watts to capture the spirit of the band in this remote rural community on the southern edge of the North Yorkshire Moors National Park. Martin’s light and witty anecdotes, amply supported by historic extracts and photographs, have delighted bandsmen and local townsfolk alike and captured the essence of this immensely proud local community band.

The book’s opening tribute from the Halle Orchestra’s Ewan Easton MBE sets the tone for a riveting, heart-warming, fascinating read: “If Brass Bands were judged on their ability to make the highest quality music, for their community, using musicians from their community, the Kirkbymoorside Band would be one of the finest in the world”

The book is not only a tribute to the town of Kirkbymoorside, appealing to anyone interested in the history of the town, but is a truly inspirational story for the international brass banding community.

Priced at £10 (plus £2:00 p&p) the soft covered book can be obtained from John Woodward 01751 431886 or by emailing

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Notes

Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band is the current North or England 1st Section Champions with a recent grading to the highest Championship Section level within the National Brass Band Championships.

Senior band members, all of whom volunteer their time for no financial reward, provide free tuition both in the bandroom and through local primary schools. The band can boast around 120 musicians who progress through a beginner band to a learner band and then eventually into a junior band, which becomes the vehicle for elevation into the senior band. In addition an adult community band also meets and provides further variety to the band's musical output.

The band receives no commercial sponsorship and derives all of its income through its own enterprise, encouraged by the financial support that is generously provided by the local community that the band serves. The band has its own tailor made bandroom next to which there are ambitious plans to build a 200 seat concert hall, which can also be shared with the local Scout Group.