

Short Biography of the Hammonds Saltaire Band



Hammonds Saltaire Band has an impressive pedigree, with an unbroken sequence of 73 years under various names, and roots going back 150 years to when, in 1855, a brass band was formed as one of the amenities for the people of Saltaire. This was one of the famous 'model villages' built during the first half of the 19th century by wealthy industrialists and was the brainchild of Sir Titus Salt, a philanthropic mill-owner and one-time Mayor of Bradford.

In recent years the band has contested throughout Europe, recorded numerous CDs and performed at some of the best concert venues in the world as the Yorkshire Building Society Band. Prior to that the band (as Hammonds Sauce Works) enjoyed contest and concert success under the baton of Geoffrey Whitham for nearly 30 years.

Hammonds Saltaire Band have enjoyed great success on the contest platform. As the Yorkshire Building Society band they were European Champions 8 times in 9 years (1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004) and have won the British Open and All England Masters on several occasions. Being a Yorkshire band they were proud to be crowned Yorkshire Champions in 1994, 1999 & 2004. In March 2011 they were delighted to yet again be crowned Champions of Yorkshire for the fourth time in their history and the first time with their current name, Hammonds Saltaire.

Under the guidance of their musical director Morgan Griffiths the band are looking forward to a successful future which builds upon the rich heritage of their past. The current name taps into that heritage by incorporating the two names (Hammonds and Saltaire) that have had long associations with the band. Both have strong links to the band's original home city of Bradford and show their origins within the industrial heritage of the area.