

# Wingates Band



## October 2019 Update

The band competed on Saturday 7th September at the 167th annual British Open Brass Band Championships held at the Birmingham Symphony Hall. This is the third year in succession the band has had the pleasure and honour of competing against the very elite bands of the brass band world in what is considered the most prestigious contest to ever be a part of.

After a busy schedule of rehearsals, a valiant effort by the band and a sterling performance by our Musical Director, Mr. Paul Andrews on contest day, it was disappointing for the players, our MD and the band's supporters to learn that we had finished 16th out of 18 and were headed back down to the Grand Shield competition to be held in May 2020 at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool.

We now need to galvanise ourselves against this disappointment, rebuild, introduce new players to the band and improve our finances once again to enable us to aim to return back to the British Open next year. This can only be achieved with a top two result in Blackpool in May, but the band is committed to returning as fast as possible.

Looking ahead, the band now has a busy concert schedule to look forward to. We performed to a sell-out crowd in Clitheroe on Saturday 21st September. This was closely followed by what is now becoming an annual concert in Christ Church, Station Road, Padgate, Warrington, WA2 0QJ. This year's theme was Musicals and finished with a rousing Proms Finale.

The band is then embarking on something a little different and have been hired privately to perform as a Bavarian 10-piece ensemble in Bramhall. Who knows, if this is a success it may be something we decide to add to our ever growing repertoire.

Our final concert of the Autumn season is one with a difference, and much closer to the home of Wingates Band being held on Sunday 27th October at St. Bartholomew's Church, Westhoughton, entitled 'An Audience With Richard Evans.' This sees the band go back to a much more traditional brass band programme content and features stories from the world renowned, charismatic conductor Mr. Richard Evans, famous for his flamboyant and vibrant conducting style. Mr. Evans will read anecdotes from his latest book "Still Beating" which can be purchased on the day and also highlights some stylish playing from Wingates Band. Tickets are priced £10.00 and are available on our website to purchase or by contacting Melanie on 07770 587227. HOWEVER..... As a treat to all our supporters, friends, relatives and anyone who has helped the band in any way over the last few years we are offering this concert for you FREE OF CHARGE to thank you for all your efforts. Contact myself on the above number to reserve your seat!!!!

Melanie McFarland  
Marketing Manager  
Wingates Band