

THE ROMFORD DRUM & TRUMPET CORPS

Under the direction of

Band Director - Paul Binder

&

Musical Director - Samantha Barrand MMus, BA Music, AVCM (Hons)

The Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps is a youth military style band, based in the London Borough of Havering. As one of the oldest independent youth marching bands in the country, it has a proud history, with performances throughout the UK. In recent years the band has traveled further and performed in France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Gibraltar and the USA.

Its uniforms, instrumentation and style is closely based upon that of the Armed Forces Military Bands. The band has performed at prestigious venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Wembley Stadium, St Paul's Cathedral and The London Palladium. It has also had the honour of performing in the presence of every member of the Royal Family including a performance at Buckingham Palace for HM the Queen. As a registered charity, the band has for nearly sixty years provided the young people of Romford with a rewarding activity. Despite the band receiving no funding, as an organisation, it manages to give a good foundation to youngsters and has continued the ethos of its founder where membership to the band is free of charge. The band has been recognised for its contribution to the young people of Havering with awards such as "The Mayors Civic Award" "The Havering Business Award for Community Projects" and is one of only a few youth groups nationally to achieve a Gold status kite mark from the Assured Quality Youth Project.

On the competition field the Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps has an impressive record of success. It has won the National Championships on seven occasions, including a hat-trick from 1987-89. In November 2003 & 2004 the band achieved the "Double" as the National Champions and National Class League Winners. It remains undefeated in marching competitions since then. In 2006 & 2008 the band entered European competitions and on both occasions were triple gold medalist in both marching and concert performance. In 2012 the band were awarded the "Best Band Overall" in the world famous St Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin against an international field of marching bands. This year the band returned to Ireland to the Limerick St Patricks Day Parade and were awarded to prize for the best musical performance.

The band has become increasingly more diverse and has attracted numerous high profile engagements. In recent years the band has performed the National Anthem at Twickenham for an England Rugby international, the FA Cup final and recorded a charity single with Roger Daltrey from THE WHO, and appeared on TV for the MTV awards. It was also invited to produce a "Band in the Stand" at rugby internationals to get the crowd singing. In 2012 the band were delighted to be asked to perform in the Olympic park on the opening day of the Olympics Games.



In 2013, the band were honoured to play on Horseguards Parade for the Household Division's Beating Retreat. They were delighted to be invited to return again in 2015.

For further details on the band please visit our website or Facebook page

www.rdtc.org

www.facebook.com/romforddrumandtrumpetcorps

BAND DIRECTOR-PAUL BINDER

Paul Binder joined the Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps in 1981 at the age of 11 as a drummer. In November 1985 he was promoted to the rank of Drum Major. In this role he won 17 of the 19 competitions he entered including winning the title of National Youth Marching Champion Drum Major for four consecutive years from 1986-89. In 1988 he received the Mayor's Civic award from the Mayor of Havering for services to Havering.

In 1989 he left the band to advance his skills as a Drum Major and competed in the Adult section of the Scottish Pipe Band Association. In his first year he won the English Championships, All England Masters Title and reached the top 6 at the World Drum Major Championships.

For the next few years he coached several other local youth bands and played Tuba with the Tilbury Brass Band. He was invited back to the Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps in 1998, in the role of Bandmaster.

In a desire to improve the professionalism of the band he arranged regular projects to give the band members the opportunity of performing with professional and high quality ensemble musicians. To date the band has now worked with numerous professional military and civilian bands. These changes have seen a marked improvement in the band. He has built a team of instructors and staff that are former musicians of the armed services. In recent years he launched a junior training band called the "Academy" and has set up a Saturday morning music school, where young pupils are taken through ABRSM music grades.

In March 2004 he arranged the band's first ever trip to the United States, where the band had the honour of being the first English band to take part in the prestigious St Patrick's Day Parade in Chicago. He has organised subsequent tours to France, Germany, Ireland and to a 4th of July parade in the USA.

In May 2004, he received the Mayor's Civic Award for the second time, for Services to youth in the London Borough of Havering

In 2009 the band gave Paul the new title and role as Band Director.

In 2012 the London Borough of Havering awarded him the "Freedom of the Borough" for his services to music and young people.

