



Press Release For News Editors

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THEAKSTON SPONSORS FAMOUS BRASS BAND COMPETITION Brewer backs Hardraw Scaur Brass Band Challenge in its 125th year

The Hardraw Scaur Brass Band Competition, one of the UK's oldest and most popular brass band competitions has won the backing of brewer T&R Theakston, best known for Old Peculier ale.

The world famous Hardraw Scaur Brass Band Contest takes place annually at the legendary Green Dragon Inn at Hardraw, Upper Wensleydale at England's highest single drop waterfall.

Theakston's decision to sponsor the competition, which attracts competing brass bands from across the UK and abroad, comes when the contest celebrates its 125th anniversary.

Organised by the Yorkshire & Humber Brass Band Association, the event is hosted by the Green Dragon Inn within a natural wooded amphitheatre to the rear of the Inn on Sunday, September 12. The contest was first held behind the Inn in 1884 and continues to draw enthusiastic crowds.

Colin Wormauld, Vice President of the Yorkshire & Humber Brass Band Association, said: "This competition is now one of the oldest in the country and still continues to attract some of the most talented musicians in the country.

"Given the traditions associated with brass band music we are particular delighted to welcome Theakston as the main sponsor of the Hardraw Scaur competition. Theakston, from its brewery in the heart of the Dales in Masham, is more than 170 years old and ideal partner in this event."

Simon Theakston, great great grandson of the founder Robert Theakston and a Director at the brewery, said: "The Hardraw Scaur Brass Band Contest is redolent of many of the traditions and values that we aim to champion in our beers and in that respect we are delighted to support this landmark music event."

Theakston employs 20 staff in Masham, responsible for brewing, sales and marketing. The company is one of the few brewers in the country that still employs a cooper crafting wooden casks in which the beers mature.

The brewery has a visitor centre where guests can witness beer being brewed by traditional methods and learn more about the history of brewing. Theakston beers include Best Bitter, XB, Old Peculier, Mild and Black Bull Bitter

PICTURE CAPTION: From left to right Simon Theakston, Green Dragon Inn Innkeeper D. Mark Thompson and Colin Wormauld, Vice President of the Yorkshire & Humber Brass Band Association