

Dobcross Contest

Church Fields, Dobcross

The contest takes place in the heart of the Dobcross conservation area.



There is disabled parking at the new vicarage on Woods Lane. The vicarage is about half-way up Woods Lane on the right. There is still a good 50 to 100 yards up-hill walk to Church Fields, but it is the nearest flat parking that is available.

Each band plays in on Platt Lane before marching down to the contest arena on Church Fields.

Times: 4.00 - 10.00

Dobcross is the one village that seeks to stay faithful to all the traditional Whit Friday activities, of which the band contest is just a part. So the Dobcross Whit Friday United Effort programme (on sale at Dobcross Band Club and in the village) covers all these activities:

Whit Friday in Dobcross - the day's events

9.45 The Dobcross Silver Band and The Dobcross Youth Band
am strike up and play. Down they march from Dobcross Band
Club on Platt Lane into the Square. The Silver Band

wheels left up the steep incline of Sandy Lane towards the Community Church where the main procession is gathered. The traditional tune "Hail Smiling Morn" rings out from the shining instruments as they proceed up the hill.

- 10.00 am The joint procession walks down into the square where the main service is conducted.
- 11.00 am We join with other Saddleworth Churches in King George V Playing Fields in Uppermill for the joint Whit Friday Songs of praise.
- 12.50 pm The children's lunch is held in Dobcross School Hall. This is for children who have attended Sunday School or Dobcross School, or who have walked with the Dobcross procession.
- 2.00 pm The sports afternoon takes place on the Woolpack Playing Fields.
- 4.00 pm The Band Contest begins. Each band books in on Platt Lane opposite the Band Club gate before marching down Platt Lane to the Square. The bands stop playing just before the end of Platt Lane so that the noise doesn't carry down on to Church Fields. There is a barbecue at Dobcross Band Club and food outlets adjacent to Church Fields
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- 10.00 pm The last entry is accepted into the Band Contest. The last band on will be asked to play the hymn "The Day Thou Gavest". Words can be found in the back of the Dobcross Whit Friday United Effort programme.
- After the contest, the results will be announced in Dobcross Band Club as soon as the adjudicator makes them available.

There is a special Henry Livings prize for bands who have participated in the morning's Whit Walks.

Please note: Exact details may change.

The Dobcross organising committee is extremely grateful to all those volunteers who make this day possible. But additional helpers are still needed, especially at the sports and band contest. No experience is necessary and no knowledge of brass bands is needed. If you think you can help on the day or with the preparations the day before, then please make contact.

Twitter: @DobcrossWhitFri

The prize presentation evening will be held at Dobcross Band Club approximately 4 weeks after Whit Friday.