

Concert set to raise the roof

By Lauren Birch

It will be a sea of red, white and blue when the Manningham Concert Band performs *The Last Night of the Proms* — the theme for this year's gala concert.

"We'd expect to fill the house for this concert," said MCB musical director Andrew van Gemert.

"We'd probably have 350 to 400 people there... It's certainly a big night for us.

"This series is world famous... It promotes the best of British music. People travel the world to see this concert."

The performance will feature music from countries across the Commonwealth including England, Wales, Scotland and Australia. Pieces such as *Land of Hope and*

Glory, The Man from Snowy River and *Jerusalem* are tipped to be crowd favourites. Mr van Gemert encouraged audience members to get into the spirit of the occasion by dressing in red, white and blue.

"This is a little different from an ordinary concert in that the emphasis is on audience participation in the second half... People throw streamers, wave flags and do all those sorts of things."

The concert includes guest performances by singer Richard Thomas and members of the Ringwood Highland Pipe Band.

The Last Night of the Proms concert will be held at the Doncaster Secondary College theatre on Saturday, August 13 at 7.45pm. Tickets \$12, \$8. Details: Elizabeth, 98786692.



Prom night: Andrew van Gemert, centre, with Manningham Concert Band members Jo Ridgeway and John Mundell. The MCB is preparing for its gala concert next month.

Picture: Robert Carow