

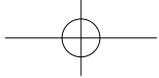
# Wharfedale

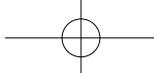
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BRITAIN'S MOST FAMOUS LOUDSPEAKERS



*Britain has long been recognised throughout the world as being the home of loudspeaker technology in terms of innovation and quality. This reputation has been built up over many years by some of the world's most famous loudspeaker manufacturers. Wharfedale, established over eighty years ago, has always been at the forefront of maintaining this reputation.*





*'One of Britain's fastest growing hi-fi companies, Wharfedale continues to win awards for acoustic excellence by staying true to the original legacy and philosophy of Gilbert Briggs. Wharfedale plans to continue revitalizing and maintaining its product quality making sure it remains one of Britain's oldest and most famous loudspeaker brands of all time.'*



# FOREWORD

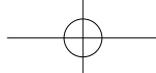


Gilbert A. Briggs, (1890 - 1978)

'Gilbert Brigg's dedication to quality hi-fi reproduction stemmed from his love of music. At the age of 18 he saved for 3 years to buy his first piano, one of the first of 40 pianos that he owned in his quest for ever better performance. He settled into old age with a 'Steinway Grand'. He was very lucky in being able to make a business out of his hobby; he worked hard long into the evenings and believed in treating his workforce well. His early experiments with the manufacture of loudspeakers were successful enough upon which to build a world class company. He was proud to be a Yorkshireman and travelled the world promoting what he truly believed in. He spoke in front of thousands and was informative in speech and in print. To know that the name Wharfedale is still at the forefront of hi-fi design and that Wharfedale speakers are still winning prizes for excellence would be a great pleasure to him.'

*Ruth Theobald - Granddaughter of Gilbert Briggs*





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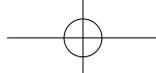
It was in 1932 that Gilbert Briggs built his first loudspeaker in the cellar of his home in Ilkley, Yorkshire. This sleepy little market town was located in the valley of the river 'Wharfe' - an area known to this day as 'Wharfedale'. This unlikely location would see the birth of a brand that was to become recognised all over the world.

Briggs interest in quality sound reproduction stemmed from his great love of music; he was himself an adept pianist, and had a keen ear for the makings of a good loudspeaker. Indeed two of the first drive units he assembled in the cellar of his home won first and second prize in a loudspeaker test run by the Bradford Radio Society.

Gilbert Briggs is still much admired and respected throughout the world for his pioneering work in hi-fi reproduction and his endless pursuit of better sound quality - driven by his love of live music.

Airedale  
Heritage Classic ▶





The Wharfedale 'Bronze' won first prize in the Bradford Radio Society's 1933 competition



The premises where it first began (apart from Gilbert Briggs' cellar)

Gilbert Briggs founded Wharfedale in 1932. His interest in hi-fi directly stemmed from his great love for music. Britain has always been a leader in the hi-fi industry and Wharfedale has successfully led the way for 80 years.

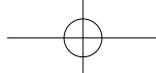
The first ever Wharfedale loudspeaker was built in the cellar of Gilbert Briggs' home in 1932. From the very first speaker until today the brand's main goal has always been an endless pursuit for better sound and quality.

In 1933 Gilbert started a small factory near Bradford to manufacture loudspeaker units. At the time radio was an exciting new technology and the home constructor was looking for quality speakers. Demand grew quickly for Wharfedale's products and the small factory barely proved big enough to accommodate the production of Gilbert's popular loudspeakers.

By 1936, Wharfedale had outgrown the small premises and moved to a larger location in Bradford. Even during the Second World War, production still continued in the factory and, during the latter stages of the war, Wharfedale Wireless Works were commissioned to make transformers for Marconi.



Winding coils for Marconi transformers kept the 20 staff busy throughout the war.

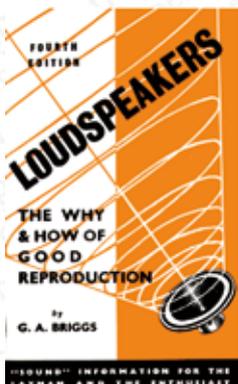


Technological advances were made during the war which had a heavy impact on the audio market during the 1940's. In the UK and America, listeners began to seek better music reproduction and Wharfedale provided the optimum quality for this growing market. By 1945, Wharfedale had already developed the first two-way loudspeaker - a prototype for the modern hi-fi loudspeaker.

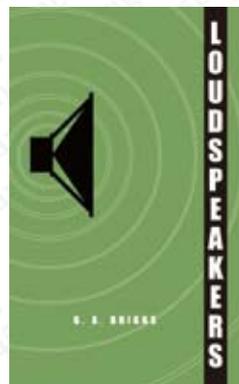


A 1947 crossover unit

In 1948, Gilbert Briggs began a new venture with the publication of his book "Loudspeakers - The Why & How of Good Reproduction." The first edition sold out within 5 months and has since been updated and reprinted in five editions.



Gilbert's first book, published in May, 1948.



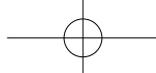
Enlarged Fifth Edition published in May, 1948.



Speakers with die-cast chassis, 1947 catalogue



Gilbert Briggs (top right) with Acoustics Engineers



An early 2-way loudspeaker design - 1950s

Thanks to the popularity of his books, throughout the 1950s Gilbert began to be seen as the leading light in the hi-fi industry. At this time he decided to take a step forward, by comparing live with recorded music at specially arranged public concerts.

These demonstrations continued into the late 1950s, with sell-out concerts in the Royal Festival Hall, London and Carnegie Hall, New York as well as in such exotic locations as Portugal, Canada and Hong Kong. A live band, or orchestral group of instruments would play first, being recorded as it happened on to an acetate LP. The acetate would then be played back to the assembled audience to impress upon them the similarity of the recorded music.

These demonstrations became very famous, with Wharfedale speakers being partnered with either Quad or Leak amplification. Gilbert worked closely with Peter Walker, founder of Quad, and built a strong relationship between the two brands, which is maintained today under the umbrella company of the International Audio Group.

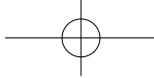


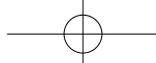
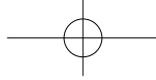
SFB/3-way baffle system - 1956

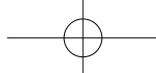


The stage is set for one of Gilbert Briggs' 'Live vs. Recorded' concerts at the Royal Festival Hall

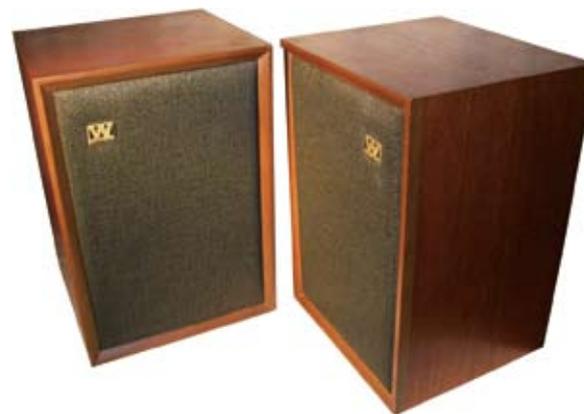








◀ Dovedale III



Denton - 1967



Record Player 1960s

In 1958, Wharfedale Wireless Works became part of the Rank Organisation. During this period Gilbert still continued with the day to day running of the company until his retirement in 1965 at the age of 75! The first four years of the Rank era brought two breakthroughs. Wharfedale pioneered the use of the famous "roll surround" on cones and in 1962 ceramic magnets were fitted to its speakers for the first time.

Rank Wharfedale, as the company was then called, expanded the brand by introducing amplifiers, receivers and turntables to complement the loudspeakers during the 1960s. Fashion was beginning to play an important part in home furnishing and the ability of Wharfedale to provide good looking, complete systems increased the brand's popularity, especially with the youth market.



Electric Organ 1970s

By 1967 demand for Wharfedale products outstripped production and, over the next 7 years, a new, more efficient, factory was built comprising of over 170,000 sq.ft. of production, office space and large scale Research and Development facilities.

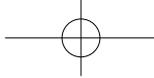
Production growth continued to soar and classic models such as the Denton and Linton were introduced. By 1977 the new factory had reached an output of 800,000 drive units.

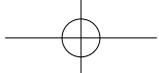


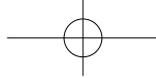
Demonstration Room  
Largs of Holborn, London

Production in the new factory increased rapidly. By 1977, the factory was producing over 800,000 drive units per year. for both hi-fi and PA speakers









◀ E70

## BLOW UP YOUR AMPLIFIER WITH REMARKABLE E's.



New Wharfedale E's will amplify your amplifiers. They make 20 watts sound like 200. Because they're up to 30 times more efficient than ordinary speakers, but their fidelity's a lot. It's as high as your music can take yours.

Even when the sound processor's on, there's always power in reserve. They're a revolutionary development from Wharfedale, the only UK manufacturer to use computer optimisation techniques. So only Wharfedale is together enough to give it together: realistic volume levels that really sound on the level.

Wharfedale E's need so little power, they let your old amp get on top of any peak.

They'll never clip you round the ears. Even though they'll hit you between the eyes.

Wharfedale E's look loud on their size through fishnet grilles. Which expose their brushed aluminium rings. And their controls. The controls accommodate the speakers to your own reproduction.

If you'd like to hear them, drop us a line.

We'll send you the (short) list of selected E-shops.

Finally, a couple of quiet words of warning: You've heard nothing like them. They'll fill your head, but they'll empty your pocket. And they'll blow your mind through your ears.

**FROM THE BIGGEST NOISE IN SPEAKERS, THE BIGGEST NOISE IN SPEAKERS.**



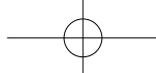
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The 1980s brought in an age of technology and analysis and Wharfedale quickly invested in cutting-edge equipment such as Laser Holography for loudspeaker evaluation. The R&D division created advanced techniques such as SCALP (Scanned Laser Probe) and FRESP (Frequency Slice Plot) to better understand the physics of loudspeakers.

The results of this technology were seen in the Laser Series, introducing new diaphragm materials and crossover techniques. An in-depth understanding of

materials and their limitations led to work towards finding the ideal speaker construction, a quest that still continues today.

More recently it is accepted by the majority of acousticians that while measurement and analysis are important in producing accurate and efficient loudspeakers, the 'perfect frequency response' is far from the Holy Grail it was once thought to be. Loudspeaker design is akin to a black art, requiring immense skill and experience to match together multiple drivers in a totally integrated way.



**WHAT HI-FI?** ★★★★★

Diamond 8.1-April 2001

1982 saw the birth of a revolutionary loudspeaker – the Wharfedale Diamond.

In a rear-ported cabinet of just over 5 litres were fitted a 19mm dome tweeter and 120mm long throw, polypropylene bass/mid driver. The crossover was simple but highly effective. This product took the industry by storm. The small cabinet and impeccable stereo image meant the Diamond quickly became a best-seller and a permanent fixture in the Wharfedale product range.

The Diamond II was created within a year of the original Diamond launch and since then each Diamond Series has continued to be an incredibly popular speaker range. Wharfedale Diamond exemplifies the marriage of technology and sound quality making it an unbeatable product in the competitive hi-fi industry.

Wharfedale's popularity continued to grow and by the late 1980s over 40% of all the public houses in England were using Wharfedale loudspeakers.



Diamond 8

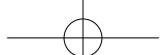


Diamond 9



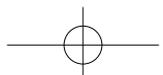
Diamond 10

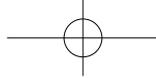
Diamond 9 ►



Wharfedale's Diamond range of loudspeakers need little introduction. With nearly three decades of supremacy within the hi-fi market, winning numerous international awards and selling over 1 million pairs worldwide, Diamond has become the most recognizable name in hi-fi loudspeakers.

Diamond 9 series was launched in 2003 and carried the Diamond banner to exceptional heights. Years later Wharfedale's famous Diamond Series is still favored by many Hi-Fi enthusiasts. However the principals of innovation and quality always keep our appetite wet for something better...





Diamond 10.3-January 2010



Diamond 10.1-September 2009



Diamond 10.1-February 2010



Diamond 10.1-October 2009



Diamond 10.1-December 2009



Diamond 10.3-May 2011

Just when it was assumed that the Diamond Series had reached the pinnacle of its achievements, Wharfedale Engineers proved that drive and determination have no limits, and that the best can always be made a 'wee bit better'. Diamond 10 was launched in 2009 and quickly set the stage for a new era of Diamond Series.

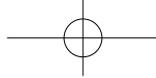
The product was welcomed with outstanding reviews and awards, reinstating Wharfedale and the International Audio Group at the forefront of domestic hi-fi.

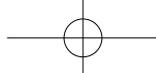
Diamond 10 HCP



Diamond 10 ▶

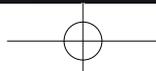


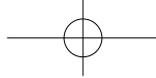




*Denton*

*80th Anniversary Limited Edition*





Today Wharfedale is proud to present the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of one of the brand's most famous and popular loudspeakers - the Denton.

Gilbert Briggs, who founded Wharfedale in 1932, turned the company into one of the most famous loudspeaker manufacturers in the world by concentrating on quality and value for money. The Wharfedale Denton exemplified these two edicts, balancing fine craftsmanship, natural sound quality and affordability inside a compact loudspeaker that was bought in its millions right across the globe.

The original Denton went on to father other models based on its highly popular formula, the Denton 3 being the last of the line...

...until now!

To mark Wharfedale's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the brand is presenting an anniversary addition of one of its most

popular loudspeakers, the Denton. The Denton 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is a classic, bookshelf two-way speaker. Beautifully crafted with hand veneered mahogany, an inset front baffle and traditional Tungsten cloth grille, the updated Denton is a classic update of the original speaker.

Underneath the exterior the Anniversary Edition is a perfect mixture of traditional and advanced technology. The bass unit features Wharfedale's innovative woven Kevlar cone mounted on a rigid die cast chassis. The drive units are combined with a highly researched crossover that blends the drivers perfectly.

The original Denton was known for its warm, rich sound and the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition manages to retain the original character while giving a more detailed, seamless performance. Wharfedale successfully combines its strong history and modern technology in perfect fusion in this Denton 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition.

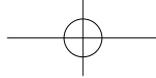
Veritabily a modern classic!

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Description/Format	2-Way Vented-box/Standmount
Drive Units	1 x 1"(25mm) High Frequency Textile Dome 1 x 5"(125mm) Woven Kevlar Bass Cone
Frequency Response ( $\pm 3$ dB)	44Hz - 24kHz
Sensitivity (1W@1m)	86dB
A/V Shielded	No
Crossover Frequency	2.3kHz
Nominal Impedance	6 $\Omega$
Recommended Amplifier Power (RMS)	20 - 100W
Dimensions (H x W x D)	320 x 200 x 305 (mm)
Net Weight	7.9kg/pc



\* The right is reserved to alter all performance, specification and appearance as required.



Today, Wharfedale remains one of the fastest growing hi-fi companies in the world. The products still continue to win awards for acoustic excellence and stay true to the original legacy and philosophy of Gilbert Briggs.

Whilst giving the best quality of sound reproduction Wharfedale will always concentrate on excellent value for money. World recession and market fluctuations have had their influence but Wharfedale has adapted to meet new challenges and tough market conditions, continuously revitalising the brand by pursuing product excellence.

Wharfedale's plans are to lead the market through innovative ideas and maintain its product excellence making sure Wharfedale remains one of Britain's oldest and most famous loudspeaker brands for many years to come. Today we celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and look to the future with more optimism and confidence than ever.

**WHAT HI-FI?**  
SOUND AND VISION



DX-1 HCP - 2011



Obsidian



Vardus



Achromatic



Crystal



Diamond



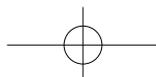
Onyx

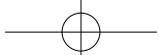
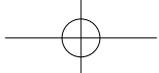


Evo-S



Jade







*Wharfedale*

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