



THIS MAGAZINE AIMS TO BRING **ENCOURAGEMENT** TO BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL THROUGH THE **HEALING POWER OF FINE MUSIC**. john.bertalot@gmail.com/ **2021**



Readers will know what a thrill it is when we receive news of ambitious musical activities from afar which have been inspired and led by former musicians of **BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL**.

For example, we've recently received another letter from faithful cathedral member, **NEIL INKLEY**, (former choirmaster of Peterborough Cathedral under the legendary Dr. Stanley Vann) who wrote about some of the inspiring work being accomplished by Blackburn's former Director of Music, **RICHARD TANNER** who now directs the enormous music programme at **RUGBY SCHOOL**.

Neil writes:

"I wonder how much you heard of a splendid Sunday of music and liturgy in early July from **Rugby School Chapel**... **Morning Worship** was on Radio 4 at 8.10 a.m., and (as well as the music) drew an interesting and cleverly conceived parallel between Old Testament exile and the current pandemic.

"Radio 3 at 3.00pm had a repeat of the previous Wednesday's **CHORAL EVENSONG** from **Rugby School Chapel**. I thought the whole thing a feast and the psalm singing was up there with the very best."



Richard Tanner & Justin Miller

Similarly we keep hearing great things that Blackburn's former organ scholar, **JUSTIN MILLER**, is achieving as Director of Music of **St. Matthew's Church, Northampton**. Justin recently was at the centre of a large regional gathering of musicians who came to hear, and to play, the St. Matthew's organ – which has been rated as the finest parish Church organ in this country.

Everything that Justin touches musically seems to flourish.

For example, Justin seems to have no problems recruiting young singers for St. Matthew's choir – not least because he visits local schools regularly to lead their singing.

Which **segues** to the continuing fine work being achieved by Blackburn Cathedral's former creative music secretary,

GILL FOURIE. Many readers will remember the amazing concerts in **King George's Hall**, Blackburn, which Gill and her colleagues arranged – when literally thousands of Lancashire junior school children over the course of a busy week, (different children each day!) sang so skilfully and enthusiastically to a packed audience of proud parents (also different each day).



Even though Gill is not with us at present, she is continuing her inspiring work with the help of former Blackburn organ scholar, **DAVID SCOTT-THOMAS**, who composes much of the rhythmic music which the children sing so enthusiastically.



Gill Fourie recently wrote:

"I have been busy with a teachers' on-line choir which has produced some lovely singers and we have made recordings and also created a video. We then had a bbq on Friday night and sang to each other in person! It was marvellous!!!

"We also have produced a **Let's Go Sing Online virtual concert**. 45 schools recorded themselves singing and have sent it to us for compilation."

HERE IT IS!!

<https://www.letsgosing.co.uk>



Such inspirational singing **MUST** enthuse children to want more: **and BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL can supply that 'want'**, for the **musical training** that our Cathedral's choirs provides, plus the experience of **creative teamwork** and

the privilege of singing regularly in Blackburn's exceptionally **inspiring architecture** does indeed change many lives.



So, parents, contact Blackburn Cathedral's Director of Music, **JOHN ROBINSON**, for full details – without obligation.



John.Robinson@blackburncathedral.co.uk

Our CATHEDRAL CHOIRS are starting up again:

The Dean's "**BACK TO THE CATHEDRAL**" after the pandemic is aiming for **Sunday 12th September**.

NB Sunday afternoon 12 September, A REUNION OF FORMER CHORISTERS.

- 1.45 **Our former Cathedral Choristers** assemble to chat in the Temple Gallery (Cloister)
- 2.00 The Dean chairs our **BCCA Annual General Meeting**, including the election of Committee.
- 3.00 Light Refreshments and 'catching up' with former choristers and other friends
- 4.00 **CHORAL EVENSONG** sung by our boy & girl choristers and ATBs
- 5.00 **RECEPTION** for Choir, Congregation and Alums

with advance celebration of John Bertalot's **90th birthday** (on Sept 15th) *No presents please!*

Please let Graham Chapelhow know if you can be with us grahamchapelhow@hotmail.co.uk

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS ARE BEGINNING AGAIN!

12.15PM followed by optional lunch in the Cathedral Café

Suggested offering for each recital: £4.

Wednesday 1st September, 12.15pm



HARVEY STANSFIELD – our 2019 organ scholar with **CORMAC THOMPSON** –

UK's outstanding treble soloist



Wednesday 8th September, 12.15pm

GEORGE INSCOE (Organ)

George Inscoe is the Assistant Organist at **Norwich Cathedral**, having previously held the cathedral's organ scholarship. His musical career began as a chorister at Canterbury Cathedral where our JOHN ROBINSON was Assistant Organist.



Wednesday 15th September, 12.15pm

SIMON MERCER (Organ)

Royal Northern College of Music.



Wednesday 22nd September, 12.15pm

JOHN ROBINSON (Organ)

our own most talented Director of Music

So stand by for musical fireworks!!



Wednesday 29th September, 12.15pm

SEBASTIAN THOMSON (Organ)

Former Director of Music, **St. Matthew's Northampton**. His recent recitals include Westminster Abbey, King's College, Cambridge, St Paul's Cathedral and Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris.

Wednesday 6th October, 12.15pm **ANTHONY GRITTEN** (Organ)



A NEW MUSICIAN FOR BLACKBURN!

Former chorister **Graham Chapelhow** – who is the dedicated Secretary of the **Blackburn Cathedral Choirs' Association** – wrote:

“Following her Master’s graduation in Music from Huddersfield University, our daughter **Claudia** is due to start her first post teaching Music at Our Lady & St John Catholic College here in Blackburn.

“We are very proud of her, for her playing of woodwind instruments is world class !

“Regards, **Graham & Beverley Chapelhow**”

Heartiest congratulations, Graham & Bev. Claudia will make a most valuable addition to Blackburn’s fine musicians. JB



You can enjoy Claudia’s exquisite playing for her Master’s degree on this video [Claudia’s Masters Performance on You Tube](#)



We heard, from Wells Cathedral,
that our former ebullient priest, **DR MIKE KIRBY** will be preaching there:

“Wells Cathedral is pleased to welcome the **Rev. Canon Dr. Mike Kirby** as preacher at the Eucharist on Sunday 24th October. Dr. Kirby is both a lecturer in Physics at the University of Liverpool and Canon Scientist at Liverpool Cathedral. After the service, he will be offering a seminar entitled “**Science and Faith – Life’s Work, Life’s Calling**” after which he will open the floor to questions and discussion.”

Many of us will remember that, when Dr Kirby was a member of our cathedral’s staff, the cathedral was frequently *buzzing with creative activity* thanks to the fascinatingly varied evening lectures he promoted

Well done, WELLS! – stand by for a terrific visit from Canon Mike.



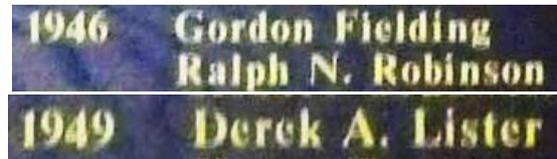
HISTORICAL PUZZLE SOLVED!

Careful readers of our August **MUSIC & MORE** will remember reading about our revered **NEIL INKLEY** (when he was only 16) singing with 2000 fellow choristers from choirs all over the UK at a special service in Westminster Abbey in **1947**

to celebrate the **20th anniversary of the Royal School of Church Music...** and that the choir of **BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL** was amongst those represented.

Neil asked: "Who were those Blackburn Choristers?"

Well, we've discovered who they were: 2 prefects and a future prefect:



Both Gordon and Ralph are well-known members of our Choirs' Association – who have attended our Annual Reunions faithfully for many years:



Ralph

Here's **Gordon Fielding** (on the far right) standing next to his younger brother **Paul**, (who has sung alto in the cathedral choir for many years and who is the father of organist virtuoso, **William Fielding**)... and, left, **Ralph Robinson**. (Alas we have no up to date photo of Derek Lister.)



Paul

Gordon

Gordon Fielding wrote:

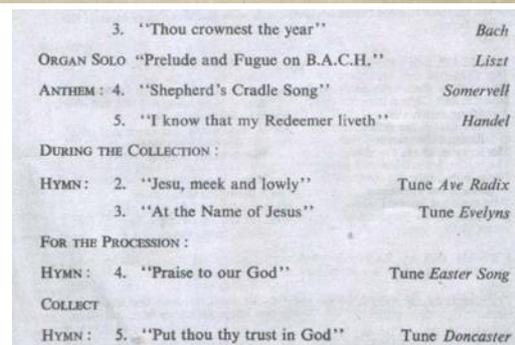
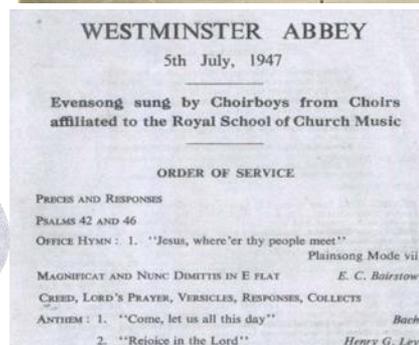
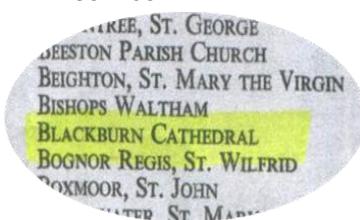
I remember going to Westminster Abbey with **Ralph Robinson** and **Derek Lister** when Ralph and I were 14 years old. We stayed for the weekend with an ex member of the Cathedral Clergy and stayed an extra day for sightseeing.

Mr Duerden, our choirmaster, didn't approve of our taking that extra day!

Here's a black and white photo of the three of us standing outside the gates of Buckingham Palace.



And here's the order of service!



And here are **RALPH ROBINSON'S** memories of that **Abbey Experience**



It was a memorable trip at the time, but now, more than 70 years later, it seems just as significant, though some details are becoming rather hazy.

There were three of us – **Gordon Fielding, Derek Lister and me** – I was 15 and the others probably a year younger. We were all members of Blackburn Cathedral Choir and pupils of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. It was a great honour to be selected for this huge performance featuring scores of choristers. What's more we were high on the pecking order. Every singer had a number and ours were single figures. And here we were in Westminster Abbey – the home of Poets' Corner and the Unknown Warrior – occupying places where eminent and distinguished people had sat on great occasions of State.

It was a big deal for me because it was the first time I'd been to London, and here, standing proud and tall before our very eyes, were not only the Abbey, but also Buckingham Palace (see Gordon's photo page 5), the Palace of Westminster, Tower of London, Nelson's Column and other great landmarks. **There were also signs of bombing** here and there, but also post-war signs of a new spirit and sense of drive.



We were lucky, too, with our accommodation. We stayed with a former Succentor of Blackburn Cathedral, the Rev A.C.F Davies, who was then vicar of a parish in Croydon. He invited us to stay with him and went out of his way to help us see as much of the London scene as possible.

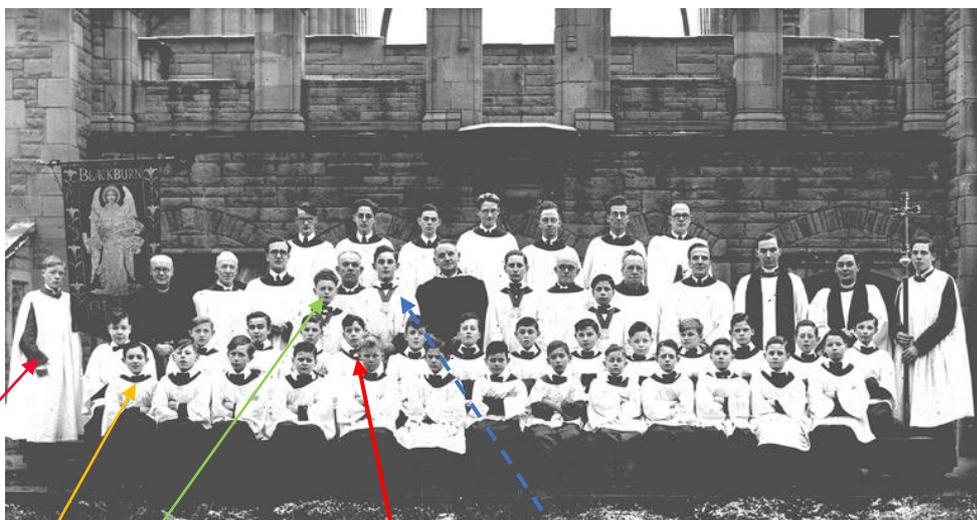
One evening, he persuaded a parishioner to show us the miracle of television which didn't arrive in our neck of the woods in any numbers for another five or six years. That night we watched table tennis...not the most riveting entertainment, but it was a huge first for us.

After the weekend it was time to go back to Blackburn. But not quite. Our host had spotted a big event in Central London that would be invaluable to our education and suggested we extend our stay by a couple of days. My memory tells me it was the State Opening of Parliament [by King George VI] - or something approaching that magnitude.

Our host, with a conspiratorial grin, proposed asking the Master of Choristers in Blackburn [T.L. Duerden] about a two-day extension so that we could see it. He sent a telegram to Blackburn proposing this and rapidly got one back vetoing the idea, saying "Headmaster adamant". Whereupon the former Succentor in Croydon got on the phone to the Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School pleading with him to allow us to stay on for a couple of days for educational reasons. The Headmaster willingly agreed. The response [from TLD] was not happy. 'Oh you've done that have you,' he said.

Later in life, Gordon and I were able to have our fill of London. We both worked there for several years, Gordon as a banker, I as a journalist. Derek joined the Merchant Navy and sailed the seven seas.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL CHOIR 1944 with T.L. Duerden, showing the incomplete South Transept.



Bryan Lamb **Ralph Robinson** **Allan Holden** (see p. 7) **Gordon Fielding**. **David Robinson** who was to become Archdeacon of Lancaster. See our August issue for **Bryan's** memorable article:- <https://www.fcoca.org.uk/members-news.html>



MORE MEMORIES OF LONG AGO!

From former chorister **ALLAN HOLDEN**

“When I was admitted into Blackburn Cathedral choir as a probationer in **1940** by **Mr T. L. Duerden**, Organist and Master of the Choristers (with my parents’ encouragement), I never anticipated that 81 years later I would still be associated with the cathedral and its choirs. I feel so honoured still to be involved.



“I recall rushing down to the Cathedral from school to attend the 4.30 Evensong services, which in the winter months were held in virtual darkness due to the blackout and usually lead by the Provost, **William Kay**. The boys on Decani would sing on Monday and Wednesday, and the Cantoris choristers Tuesday

and Thursday, this procedure would reverse every week. There was always a rehearsal following the service which lasted approximately one hour.

“During the war years (when the cathedral’s ambitious extensions had virtually ground to a halt) I was privileged to be chosen to attend RSCM courses at Durham, Norwich and Chester Cathedrals with my dear friend **Ralph Robinson**, (see p.6) a friendship that has now lasted over 80 years.



“My personal relationship with **TLD** helped my lifestyle as I tended to have a shy personality, and lack of confidence, especially during exams. He helped me overcome it by promoting me to a position of head boy, alongside **Ralph Robinson**, selecting me to read at two

annual Christmas Nine Lessons and Carols services during the war years. I am very grateful to TLD for his pastoral concern for me.



“Leaping ahead to 1981, I was honoured to be appointed the Senior Old Chorister of the Choirs’ Association which Dr John Bertalot founded in 1965 and which is still thriving, chiefly due

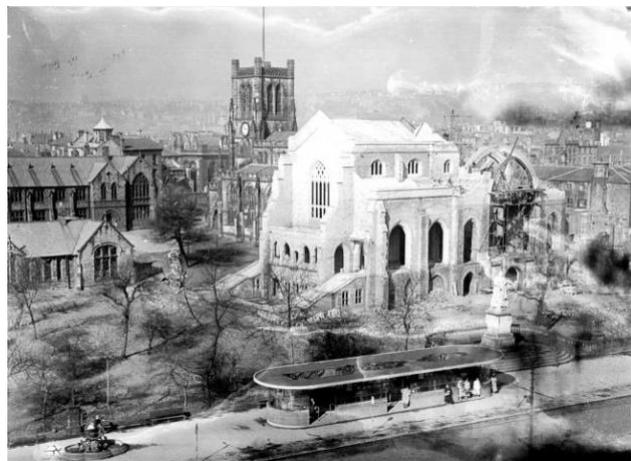
to John’s continuing enthusiasm and zest.

“John has asked me to comment on my activities, or lack of them, during this pandemic episode. **Because TLD helped me in my life, I now try to help others who have problems.** My voluntary duties have been halted over the past 18 months due to the pandemic, but I visit St. Ann’s Hospice, Little Hulton, which helps those over the age of 18 who are affected by life-limiting illnesses ... where I had the honour of meeting **HRH the Duke of Gloucester**.



“I also help slow readers, am involved with Horwich Parish Church’s luncheon club, where I am Deputy Warden, all of which I hope to resume shortly after the pandemic.

“I have given quite an abundance of time to reflect on other aspects of my life, some of which are associated with our Cathedral. (I was for several years an active committee member of the Blackburn Cathedral’s Choirs’ Association and was known to express myself pretty strongly at times!)



“My garden is showing that it is benefitting from my diligence, my dog is enjoying longer walks, I enjoy house decorating, arising later in the morning and catching up on my reading, including the Bible.

“I have been able to meditate more often, embracing many recollections of happy occasions, not least my affinity with **Blackburn Cathedral and our Choirs’ Association.**

Yes, I have been very fortunate in my life starting with my introduction to our Cathedral all those years ago”.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR EXPERIENCES

Andrew Orr – Alto



I was actually raised as an Irish Presbyterian and a son of the manse as well, so how did I end up singing at Blackburn Cathedral?

Well, obviously church always played a big part in my life. Even as a young boy, I was drawn to the organ (if I'm honest it was a fascination with all the buttons and switches that did it for me), but my interest in it as a musical instrument was really fired by an old LP of my dad's called 'Organ Favourites from Guildford Cathedral'. It was recorded by **Barry Rose**, and ended with the famous Toccata by Widor which I begged my dad to play over and over again. I was hooked!



Later I learned to play the cello and piano, but it was still the organ that I really wanted to get my hands on. I got the opportunity when I went to **Belfast Methodist College** (a large grammar school in Belfast, more commonly known locally as 'Methody'). Methody has its own chapel, which houses an organ I believe John Bertalot was very familiar with [*True! JB*] as it was formerly the chapel organ at Corpus Christi College in Cambridge before they installed their present instrument.

The posts of organ teacher at Methody and Director of Music at St George's Church in

the city centre were combined, and so it was that I first came into contact with the Anglican choral tradition as **St George's retained its very fine choir of boys and men** singing much of the standard cathedral repertoire. Under first Andrew Cantrill and then Nigel McClintock I would occasionally play before services, and then became a regular page turner for the Assistant Organist – an extremely talented schoolboy called



Christopher Gray (now better known as Director of Music at Truro Cathedral). After leaving Methody, I went to Queen's University



and became much more involved in the music at St George's, which was a very exciting place to be for an impressionable student. Before coming to St George's, **Nigel McClintock** had succeeded **Richard Tanner** as Organ Scholar at St Albans Cathedral, where he had worked under **Barry Rose** and really honed his own choir training skill.

It's no exaggeration to say that St George's had the finest boys' choir in Ireland at that time (although I may be slightly biased). Nigel also had a real gift as a teacher for spotting other people's potential and nurturing their talent. Many of my contemporaries there went on to bigger and better things.



They included **Ian Keatley** (now Director of Music at Southwark Cathedral) and a probationer called **Ed McMullan** (who is now a member of **The Sixteen**, and engaged to Blackburn Cathedral's very own **Emily Crewe**. It's a small world!)

I always struggled with score reading, transposition and the like which somewhat hampered my own career prospects as a musician. After leaving Queen's, I spent a year as a practise assistant at Dunhurst (Bedales Junior School) in Hampshire which taught me many things – the most important one of all being that I didn't want to be a teacher! I then decided (as much out of desperation as anything else) to get **a formal qualification as a librarian**, so I spent the following year at Aberystwyth doing just that. Why Aberystwyth people may ask? Well, it had a reputation as being a good place to study librarianship, it was the location of the **National Library of Wales** – and most crucially of all it was the first university/college to offer me a place!



After getting my diploma, I returned to Belfast for a few months while endlessly filling out job applications. **The trouble was that everyone was looking for experience**, so how to get this?



Eventually a temporary post covering a secondment somewhere called Blackburn was advertised. Beyond a vague knowledge that Blackburn had a cathedral, I really knew nothing about the place. I didn't even know where it was! Nevertheless, I jumped on a cheap flight to Liverpool and arrived in Blackburn for an interview which took place on 5th November (afterwards I went to the Girls' Evensong at the cathedral, then listened to all the fireworks from my hotel room).

I got the job, and then fate intervened once again. **My dad** had recently been appointed as an Assistant Chaplain to the St John Ambulance, and attended a conference in London the week after my interview where he got chatting to the person sitting next to him. This turned out to be another Assistant Chaplain called **Christopher Armstrong** – then Dean of Blackburn Cathedral! Given my interest in cathedral music, it is highly likely that I would have found myself involved in cathedral life to some extent one way or another, but the Dean very kindly offered to put me up for a night or two while I was looking for accommodation in Blackburn.

Just a fortnight after my interview I was back again staying at the Deanery and meeting people like Canon **Andrew Hindley** and **Richard Tanner**. I also remember **David Briggs** was here making a CD at the time, so it became clear to me that again, *this was going to be a very exciting place to be around* even if only as a 'hanger on'. It didn't particularly occur to me that I should audition for the cathedral choir. I had never had a formal singing lesson in my life – all I'd learned about singing had been picked up from attending Nigel's choir practises in St George's although I rarely sang in services there. I arrived 'properly' in Blackburn on 28th December when the choir was on holiday, but I remember bumping into **Richard Tanner** over coffee after the first men's voices service of the New Year and the conversation went something along the lines of:

"Why didn't you sing with the choir this morning?"

"You didn't ask me to."

"Oh. OK, well come and sing Evensong with us this afternoon."

I'm paraphrasing a bit, but I did sing Evensong that day and more than **18 years later** (I can hardly believe it's been so long) **I'm still singing at Blackburn Cathedral** (thankfully the temporary job at the library quickly became a more permanent one!)



It was quite daunting at first as an outsider to join a choir with such a proud history – **especially one where so many of the back row had been singing here since they were trebles themselves.** It took quite a



while to stop feeling like the 'new kid on the block', with invisible 'L' plates on my surplice. The warmth of the welcome from the cathedral community at large quickly made me feel at home though.



I've always felt that Blackburn Cathedral is big enough to feel like a proper cathedral (especially with such a magnificent organ, and brilliant acoustic) while being small enough to retain the best bits of being a parish church too (the feeling of community, and the approachability of the clergy and other staff). The commitment and enthusiasm of the voluntary singers is truly inspiring, as is (in the case of the boys and girls) that of the parents who act as taxi drivers several times a week.

There have been too many highlights over the last 18 years to do more than scratch the surface, but I have particularly enjoyed the many **international tours** that the choir has been on in that time. I never thought that I would be able to say I'd sung at **Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris**, or **Berlin Cathedral** – but I have. Alongside the high profile concerts and services, there have been other profoundly moving experiences too. When we went with the girls' choir to **Prague**, I remember being driven miles into the Czech countryside to sing a

concert in a small village church which had suffered badly during the years of Communism. Poor Greg Morris had to accompany us using the half of the organ (or less) which was actually working – which he did brilliantly of course! The appreciation of the villagers who turned out in their droves to provide refreshments between the rehearsal and concert, and then came to the concert itself was truly humbling. They all lined the streets to wave our bus off afterwards too.



I've also greatly enjoyed the chance to take part in several live Radio 3 broadcasts, as well as appearing occasionally on Songs of Praise, but the ongoing highlight for me is to be able to observe so many phenomenal musicians at work. So far, I've sung with three Directors of Music (**Richard Tanner, Sam Hudson and John Robinson**), and three Assistant Directors of Music (**Greg Morris, James Davy and Shaun Turnbull**) plus Organ Scholars and Choral Scholars; too many to mention them all by name, and of course our hugely supportive and dedicated Cathedral Organist Emeritus, **John Bertalot** himself. Many have become good friends over the years, and I've benefitted from all their expertise, advice and general companionship in one way or another. I'm very grateful.

Sadly the events of the last 18 months or so have put a huge strain on the choir, as with all aspects of life. It would have been a challenging period for anyone, let alone **John Robinson** who'd only recently arrived in post. However, having seen the way the boys and girls interacted and responded to him in those few short months of 'normality', I was confident that if anyone could get us through this period John could. It certainly felt very strange to be back in harness in April of this year after more than a year of online services, not to mention the changes to processions and restrictions that remained in place through the tail end of the pandemic. We have (of course) moved physically further away from the congregation as well, which I was initially hesitant about but am assured sounds OK. Of course, if the cathedral had been finished to its original plan then we'd probably have sung from even further away all along.

It's sad that we've said goodbye to so many long-time serving members of the back row for various reasons, but great to see one or two familiar faces popping up in the congregation from time



to time. Blackburn can be rightly proud of what it's achieved with unpaid singers for so long, but as social patterns change and many younger people move away to pursue careers elsewhere, the voluntary model looked increasingly unsustainable in the long term. A greater proportion of professional singers in the mix was probably inevitable sooner or later. Combined with the continued road to recovery from the various lockdowns this still feels a bit strange, but with **John Robinson** at the helm I feel we have at least a fighting chance of steadying the ship and making it to the other side!



Andrew Orr, Senior Librarian: Literacy Development, Library & Information Service, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

From our former Head Chorister, now budding ORGAN VIRTUOSO studying in Toulouse, WILLIAM FIELDING:

Hello all,

"I am delighted to invite you to an online programme of French organ pieces (+Bach!) as part of an online crowdfunding concert on Sunday September 5th. (See below how to hear it)

"This will be streamed from the famous Cavallé-Coll organ of the Basilica St. Sernin, Toulouse.

"Things have been a little challenging here in France in terms of finding work and concerts, and I thought a good way to raise some money for my studies would be to perform on the very instrument on which I am studying. I am dedicating my life to becoming an international concert organist, but am increasingly concerned about financing my studies as I continue here in Toulouse, and possibly Paris or Germany in the more distant



future. I would be most incredibly grateful for any donation towards my studies, please.

"The link for donations is as follows:

"Donation link: <https://gofund.me/d8b70256>

"However, if you simply wish to hear this magnificent organ, the concert is free of charge, so please feel very welcome.

"I will unfortunately be unable to stream this concert publicly online so, if you wish to hear this concert, please SIGN UP HERE:

<https://signup.com/go/FOxJeKN>

"This is only a sign up, please leave your email and I will send a link for the concert directly to you.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my dear teacher and the titulaire of the Cavallé-Coll at St Sernin, Michel Bouvard, whose unending kindness and staggering musicianship have been most inspiring to me throughout my first year here in Toulouse. I wish him and his wife, Yasuko Bouvard a well-deserved and happy retirement.

"Please find the concert programme below.

Marcel Dupré - Placere Christe Servulis
Maurice Duruflé - Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain
Louis Vierne - Clair de Lune
J.S. Bach - Prelude and Fugue in G major (BWV 541)
Maurice Duruflé - Méditation
Louis Vierne - Toccata
César Franck - Chorale II



"Wishing everyone a fantastic end to the summer, and MY THANKS for your help".
William

[See More from will fielding](#)

OUR CHOIRS ARE SINGING AGAIN !!!

Our trebles sing midweek
CHORAL EVENSONGS on
**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays &
Fridays at 5.00pm**

Girls / Boys on alternate days



FULL SUNDAY WORSHIP begins on September 12th

9.00am Parish Communion with our YOUTH CHOIR

10.30am Eucharist with our GIRLS & ATBs: Ireland in C

4.00pm FULL CHORAL EVENSONG

to help celebrate our **past & present Choristers' Annual Reunion**
Girls & Boys sing with our ATBs

Responses: Bertalot

Canticles: Wood in D

Anthem: *Let all the world in every corner sing.* Vaughan Williams
with photographs taken of Clergy, Choir and Alums immediately afterwards



ALUMS: Please let Graham Chapelhow know

**if you can be with us for our Choristers' Reunion
SUNDAY afternoon 12th September:**

**See page 2 for the full programme,
for we need you here with us**

grahamchapelhow@hotmail.co.uk

MORE CHORAL MUSIC:

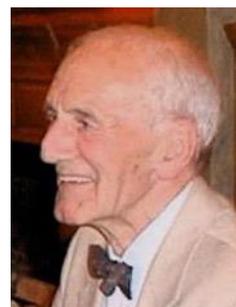
The following Sunday morning at 10.30, **Sept 19th** our Boys sing with our ATBs the setting by **Dr. Francis Jackson** who will be celebrating his **104th Birthday on 2nd October.**

Dr. Jackson, who was Director of Music of YORK MINSTER for 36 years, was the Consultant for our brand new organ in 1969. **Thank you, Dr. J!**

4.00pm Choral Evensong on **Sept. 19th** sung by our Girls and ATBs.

Mag & Nunc: **Stanford in C** – which has plenty of loud choir and loud organ which will sound thrilling in our most resonant acoustic.

The anthem at that Evensong is by **our former organ scholar, Dr. Ed Jones: 'Lighten our darkness'**. John Robinson commented that 'this is an unusual piece with the key signature of 'one sharp, one flat!' Dr. Jones has recently begun his appointment as Director of Music of Wakefield Cathedral.



And on Sunday **September 28th** the setting of the 10.30 Eucharist is by **Dr. Harold Darke in F**, composed 95 years ago and which was a favourite of most Cathedral choirs, but written in minim beats, as was the custom in those days. His subsequent settings are in crotchet beats. *The crotchet has been the basic beat for church music for nearly a century!* But **Chants** are still written in minims... except in the 1971 Blackburn chant book which broke new ground, written in crotchets *which are easier to see!*

Our Boys & ATBs sing **Darke in A minor** (in crotchet beats) at **10.30am on October 1st**
Photo of Dr. Darke taken in the Royal College of Music in 1953 by JB – using his Dad's squeeze-box camera! Dr. Darke gave one of the opening recitals on our brand new organ in 1970, at the age of 81. He was brilliant, and so very musical.

