

Triumphal Processional - **Owain Edwards**

Fidelis - **Percy Whitlock (1903-46)**

Prelude in Classic Style - **Gordon Young (1919-98)**

Sketches for Pedal Pianoforte No.2 - **Robert Schumann
(1810-56)**

Rhosymedre - **Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)**

Fanfare - **J. Lemmens (1823-81)**

Gabriel's Oboe - **Ennio Morricone (b.1928)**

Carrillon - **Herbert Murrill (1909-52)**

Deuxieme Meditation – 'La Fils' - **Jean Langlais (1907-91)**

Chorale Improvisation on 'Nun Danket' - **Siegfried Karg-
Elert (1877-1933)**

Biography

Born in London, I moved to Reading at the age of 2 where I was spent all my early years. My first experience of the organ and an enduring memory, was at the age of 5 being allowed to sit beside the organist at my local church (where I was a boat boy) whilst he played his voluntary. The scene was set, I became a choir boy and had piano lessons from the age of 7 and, encouraged by the assistant organist at the church, was allowed to play the organ after services from the age of 9. I then had organ lessons on the big four-manual Willis in St Mary's Minster, Reading and became assistant organist of Holy

Trinity, Reading at the age of 14. The organist there had at one time been organist of All Souls, South Ascot, and having been asked for help as their organist had left suddenly, I was duly dispatched to play for their Christmas services and then became the organist and choirmaster there at the age of 17.

I was lucky enough to be accepted into the Royal College of Music to study organ, piano and composition and studied under such great names as David Willcocks, Douglas Guest and Herbert Howells. I then went on to Teacher Training College and having gained a teaching diploma started my teaching career as, amusingly, Head of Music (I was the only music teacher) at Haymill School in Burnham, Slough.

Moving through life I have been Head of Music at various schools, taught and been Head of Drama and also Head of Year. I have directed, played for and conducted many shows and pantomimes and taught organ, piano and theory continuously. I returned to Holy Trinity in Reading as Organist for a short time before moving to All Saints, Reading where I spent a wonderful 20 years as their organist and choirmaster, only giving it up reluctantly as, having moved to Hampshire, I found the journeys to and from Reading twice a week to be a bit demanding.

I gave up teaching for a time in the mid-1990's to move to Hampshire, Itchen Abbas, and follow my other main interest where the opportunity came to work full time on the Mid-Hants Railway, the Watercress Line' where I have now been a volunteer signalman and guard for over 30 years. I then became a free-lance organist and found plenty of work, spending most of my time in the churches of the Itchen Valley where I eventually became their Director of Music. However, missing the eccentricities of the Anglo-Catholic church and its endless musical opportunities and also feeling the draw back to the classroom, I returned to teaching in 2010 with a nine month cover stint at Amery Hill, where I still work, and also taking up the post of Director of Music at Holy Trinity, Winchester, my current appointment.

[Forthcoming Events \(Lunchtime Organ Concerts by local organists\)](#)

20 June 2019 at 1.10 - Will Nisbet

18 July 2019 at 1.10 pm - Gerald marlow

15 August 2019 t 1.10 pm - Rob Goldfinch

19 September 2019 at 1.10 - Brian Cotterill

St Lawrence Church, Alton – THE ORGAN

Henry Speechly originally built the organ in 1866. This instrument was a fine example of that period and was probably unique in one respect in that every manual stop including the swell Voix Celeste had a complete set of 56 pipes. The original Speechly organ was completely rebuilt in 1966 by Wood, Wordsworth & Co Ltd, of Leeds. Francis Jackson gave a recital to celebrate this restoration and shortly afterwards the Society was founded by Cyril Diplock (organist St Lawrence 1961-2006). £45,000 was spent on the organ in a restoration by Martin Cross in 1993. No tonal changes were made and the majority of the pipework remains the 1866 Henry Speechly. The organ has 57 speaking stops, 12 couplers, 2 tremulants and a total of 2,722 pipes. The console has 71 stop-knobs and 38 thumb pistons. Harrison & Harrison tune and maintain the organ. The organ is due a major restoration and fund raising has started with the aim of work commencing late 2020.

ORGAN SOCIETY INFORMATION

Chairman - Peter Ashworth 01420 83613

Sec & Programmes - Tony Willman

01420 543628 - tony.willman@mac.com

Treasurer - Gerald Marlow - 01420 85698 gerald.marlow@talktalk.net

Publicity - Sue Hawkins - sea.as.therapy@gmail.com

Graham Howe - familyhowe@talktalk.net

Founder - Cyril Diplock (1933-2016)

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH ALTON



LUNCHTIME ORGAN CONCERTS

JOHN PURVER

THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019 AT 1.10 PM

**FREE ADMISSION
RETIRING COLLECTION TO COVER
EXPENSES AND TO DONATE TOWARDS
THE ORGAN RESTORATION FUND**

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FROM 12.30 PM

WWW.ALTONORGANSOCIETY.CO.UK

WWW.ORGANRECITALS.COM