

R S  M

WestNews

Vol. 27 No. 2

APRIL, 2018

Royal School of Church Music, WA Branch

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends,

There has been some sadness since the last edition of WestNews with the deaths firstly of Dudley Bastian and then Gordon Appleton. Dudley's funeral at St Edmund's, Wembley was a great occasion with memorable participation in the singing by the large congregation that gathered. It was my privilege to play the organ, accompanying the hymns and, in accordance with Dudley's instructions, playing 'Nimrod' from Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and the opening of movement of Rheinberger's Second Organ Sonata, which I needed to learn for the occasion. It was good to have Rev. Stuart Good, another former Chairman of our Branch, present one of the readings during the service, and there were many RSCM people present.

While we had known of Dudley's declining health for some time, the news of Gordon's death was quite unexpected. Some of us had enjoyed the pleasure of his company in Perth only a matter of weeks earlier, and we now know that only on his return to the UK did Gordon become aware that anything was wrong. The manner of his passing was quite extraordinary, and I am sure that Stuart Good has covered that in what he has written for this WestNews. I was in Leipzig for the Easter weekend and had seen Gordon's 'Christ is risen' message on Facebook on Easter morning. Although Facebook has had some hard questions to answer in recent times, it was only because I am a member of RSCM NSW's page that I became aware early on Easter Monday of what had happened.

We are right to grieve that these two wonderful men are no longer with us, and we may even find ourselves asking some hard questions of God; the psalms and many other parts of our scriptures tell us this is a valid response. Both these friends of ours showed forth their love of God in their lives as through encouraging us to sing with our lips they helped many to believe in their hearts, and I hope that you have found the opportunity to give thanks to God for all that they have meant to so many people over so many years.

Our Branch is supporting a Festival of Hymns at St George's Cathedral on Sunday, 20 May at 4.00pm, which will be followed by Evensong at 5.00pm. It is good to have this festival restarting after a year's break, although we did not know in sufficient time to be able to organise rehearsals beforehand. I expect that Gordon and Dudley – both former Director of Music at the Cathedral – will be remembered during the service, and they will certainly be a focus of our Festival Evensong on 29 July.

We also have the Gospel Music Workshop on 6 May at St Barnabas', Leederville and the Cantor Workshop on 19 May at St Mary's Cathedral, details of which are in this WestNews. So there are a number of occasions during May when we will be able to meet up and perhaps share memories. Slightly further ahead, but coming up quickly, is the concert in support of this year's Singing Camp at St Michael's, Mount Pleasant. This year it takes place on a Saturday afternoon – 9 June. Please spread the word among your friends, as they will have the double joy of an afternoon of quality music performance and being able to support Singing Camp.

I look forward to seeing many of our members at these events over the next couple of months.

John Beaverstock

CHAIRMAN

PLEASE NOTE DATES FOR UP-COMING RSCM EVENTS ON PAGE 8. Ed.

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for Year 2018-2019**

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CONTENTS The sources of any imported material contained in WestNews are acknowledged wherever this is possible. Apologies are offered to sources of material that for one reason or another may not have been properly acknowledged.

LIBRARY The library is now situated at St.Patrick’s Anglican Church, Mt Lawley. Please contact Sheila Byfield to gain access.

WEBSITE The website of RSCM Australia is **www.rscmaustralia.org.au**. This website includes WA Branch events, as well as details of the interstate branches. Please send details of items for inclusion on the website to the W.A. Secretary at **ken@taylor.org.au**

FACEBOOK The RSCM Australia Facebook page is **www.facebook.com/RSCMAustralia**



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT OF NEW RSCM DIRECTOR

Following the retirement of Andrew Reid as Director of RSCM in 2017, it has been announced that Hugh Morris has been appointed as the new Director, taking up his post in the summer of 2018. Hugh has held a number of prestigious positions, most recently as Director of Music at Derby Cathedral. He studied music at Cambridge University and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. Speaking about his new appointment, Hugh expands “I am really excited to be leading the RSCM into their next important chapter. I want to celebrate all that is best in church music while at the same time having a vision for an exciting future ahead.”

excerpt from RSCM UK

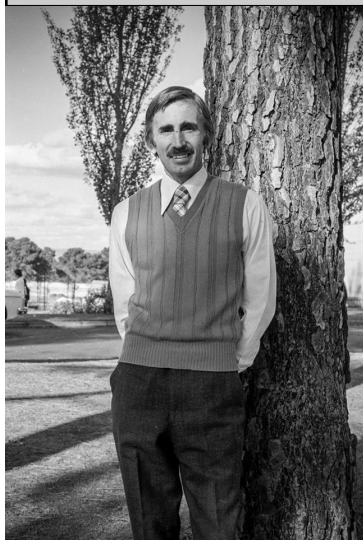


We trust that your Holy Week and Easter Services were well attended and meaningful.

Although there will not be any rehearsals for the Hymnfest at St. George’s Cathedral on 20th May, we hope that we will be able to provide members with the music, so that we can sing in harmony.

Don’t forget that membership fees are due for 2018!

Moya and Sheila.



The death occurred on 27th February 2018 in Perth, Western Australia, of Dudley Bastian, foundation member in 1966 of the Organ Society of Western Australia (OSWA) and Chairman of the WA Branch of RSCM (Royal School of Church Music), from 1974 to 1983.

Dudley's musical studies began around age 7. He was allowed one day to play the first page of the Wedding March on the then organ in St. George's Cathedral, and always said he was 'hooked' from then on. His first appointment—organist at St. Hilda's Church, North Perth—was at age 16. From then on he played many of Perth's main organs, either as organist or deputy organist.

It was largely through Dudley's initiative and energy that OSWA came into being in August 1966—and always a worker, never a figurehead—unsurprisingly he was elected the Society's first Secretary and Treasurer. On his return from overseas studies in 1972 he received the Society's first Life Membership.

He is particularly honoured in the RSCM Branch for establishing the Junior Choristers' Course.

The first of these took place in the regional centre of Northam in 1975, and the 44th will take place in the Swan Valley just north of Perth this July. All were delighted that Dudley was present at the gala dinner on the 40th such camp at Guildford Grammar School, where he cut the celebratory cake.

Educated at the famed Perth Modern School, Dudley studied Music part time at the University of Western Australia, graduating with a Bachelor of Music in 1967 and a Diploma of Education the following year. He travelled with his new wife, Beverley, to England in 1968, where he successfully sat the FRCO (Fellow of the Royal College of Organists) and won the John Brook Prize for the highest mark in the Choir Master's Diploma examination. During this time he made contact with the RSCM at Addington Palace and attended a number of courses there. Dr. Gerald Knight, Director of RSCM, had travelled to Australia and understood the particular difficulties facing Western Australia. He and Martin How encouraged Dudley to consider how to further the cause on his return home.

Dudley, Beverley and their two children (there were to be four), returned to Perth in 1972. He took up the post of Director of Music at Christchurch Grammar School. Western Australia was to host the national RSCM school for the first time the following year. The resignation and death of the organist of St. George's Cathedral had left a major gap in the organisation of the summer school, which Dudley filled with great energy, including dealing with the sudden withdrawal of the designated conductor who was replaced with the ebullient John Bertalot. The school was a success, and Dudley, who became State Chairman the following year, used the experience to develop the local Junior Choristers' Course.

He was appointed Director of Music of St. George's Cathedral, Perth, in 1976, relinquishing this to become Director of Music at Penrhos College in the Perth suburb of Como. A position he held for over 13 years, during which time music flourished in the school—a tradition that continues to the present day. He conducted all the Choristers' Courses up to 1980, when Perth next hosted the National School, for which he chaired the committee. This time the Course Director was Dr. Lionel Dakers, Director of RSCM, the Course Organist was Mr. David O'Neill, Dudley's successor at the Cathedral, and Mrs. Judy Reynolds from Northam directed the Junior Course. It was another resounding success.

In 1983 Dudley handed the Chair to Rev. Stuart Good. He focussed more on the organ, although he conducted one last Junior Course in Geraldton in 1987, the year he retired from Penrhos College. He was a consultant for the new pipe organ for the magnificent St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Geraldton, some 400 kms north of Perth, which came to be regarded as Perth builder, the late John Larnier's, finest opus. Dudley had good practical experience of organ building, as he had brought an instrument originally in a Nottingham church, back with him in 1972. This was erected in his home in Highgate, and a later home in Mount Lawley. He gifted the instrument to Penrhos College, and, revoiced for a much larger room and with a new Mixture on the Great Organ, it now stands in the gallery of the College Chapel.

He was also responsible for bringing an organ dating from the 1750's from Kent to WA, which finished up in St. Mary in the Valley Anglican Church in Kelmscott. Now restored to original condition, this instrument is most likely the oldest pipe organ in Australia. Organ heritage was always a keen interest for Dudley. The threatened loss of the 1893 organ in the Johnston Memorial Congregational Church, Fremantle, galvanised Dudley into action in 1966, and resulted in its relocation to St. Patrick's Anglican Church, Mount Lawley. In 1999 on behalf of OSWA he made a presentation to the first State Heritage Convention on the state of organ preservation and weaknesses in the WA State Heritage Act as it then applied to organs.

Dudley was a great encourager and enabler of others, helping many church musicians achieve the Guild of Church Musicians' Archbishop's Certificate in Church Music. For some years, starting in 1991, he led a 'Discover the Organ' day each year, bringing

together OSWA and RSCM in fostering and encouraging new organists. Participants—usually pianists with no experience of the organ—would gather at his house and, after playing on his house organ, move to other instruments in the area. He gave some of the more promising players a series of lessons without charge, and there are many organists in Perth who started out in this way.

It was especially pleasing for OSWA that Dudley in 2016, despite his declining health, was able to be present at a number of the events organised to celebrate its Golden Jubilee.

Dudley encouraged the congregation of St. Edmund's Anglican Church, Wembley, to import an organ from a redundant church in Great Yarmouth, and this project was achieved in 1993, with some work by Pipe Organs W.A. in 2008, bringing the instrument back to good condition. St. Edmund's was a fitting setting for his funeral, the organ music for which included two movements special to him from Rheinberger's Sonata No. 2. Both the WA Branch of RSCM and OSWA were immeasurably enriched by the energy and love of music which radiated from Dudley Bastian. His wife Beverley died some years ago. He leaves behind one daughter and three sons.

John Beaverstock is Chairman of the WA Branch of RSCM Australia

Professor Bill Loneragan is a former Secretary of the Organ Society of Western Australia.

MEMORIES OF DUDLEY BASTIAN by CAROL CRASS

I first met Dudley at Penrhos College in 1977, when I was in the Junior School, but was allowed, with a few other students, to experience music in the Senior School occasionally.

I really got to know him from the next year when I entered the Senior School, took music as an option, and joined the choir. My year group was the first to have so many students involved in Music for the entire 5 years of high school.

Dudley strongly encouraged his choir members to pursue the 3 levels of the RSCM ribbon training scheme. Most of the choir achieved the light blue standard, and many (including myself) went on to gain both dark blue and red standard. From my year, 3 of us went on to successfully complete the St. Augustine's award, examined by Gordon Appleton and Rev. Stuart Good, in its inaugural year, 1982. He may have had high standards but he was a fabulous mentor even if a bit daunting at times. He only wanted to get the best out of everyone and his standards were uncompromisingly high. During those years, we won many state eisteddfod awards under Dudley's leadership. I became his unpaid music librarian, both at school and for Choristers' Camps.

My first RSCM Choristers' Camp was in Bunbury in 1978. Penrhos students were encouraged by Dudley to go to the camp, and it was there that I was informed that I was to join the Penrhos School Orchestra, as a percussion player! I played tuned percussion and timpani for the rest of my school days, and this enabled me to join the Southern Districts Brass Band and play until about 1990.

Many of my year group are still involved in Music, and this is thanks to Dudley's enthusiasm.

Carol Crass. Former editor of WestNews.

CHORISTERS' CAMP 2018

Singing Camp 2018 is well underway, and application forms are available from Lucas (llalphillips@inet.net.au) or from <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=354121&>

Camp is residing at the **Swan Valley Adventure Centre** (formerly the Swanleigh Residential College) in Middle Swan from the **3rd to the 8th of July**.

Our Musical Director this year is Sarah Mills Menogue, and our Accompanist is Holly Broadbent.

We will be leading an **Evensong service at St. Matthew's Anglican Church** in Guildford on Saturday, **7th July at 5.00pm** and we will be leading the singing at the **9.30am Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church** in Maida Vale on Sunday, the **8th of July**. **(RSCM members, Families and Friends are invited to join us at either or both of these services.)**

Please remember us in your prayers for the success of Camp, and your donations at the Fundraising Concert. (See page 8)

Fundraising Garage Sale.

A garage sale was organized to raise funds for camp earlier in the year, and raised almost \$700 towards Camp. Well done, and a big 'thank you' to Louise Bell and her many helpers and to donors who contributed to this event.

Lucas Phillips, Camp Administrator.

GORDON APPLETON

13/6/1947 to 1/4/2018

A tribute by the Revd Stuart Good, Branch Chairman 1983-1988*Deirdre Russell with Gordon**Photo by Brad Wake, 27/2/2018*

The sad news of Gordon's sudden death at the organ in a church near his home in Ripon (N. Yorkshire) on Easter Day was an enormous shock to all who knew and loved him in various parts of the world, not least here in W.A. In the previous five weeks Gordon had spent two short periods in W.A., on his way to and from Tasmania, meeting friends of the RSCM and Organ Society and others. On Sunday 25th February he attended Sung Eucharist at St. George's Cathedral, reading the first lesson and inspecting the new Cadogan Song School there.

Gordon grew up in Stockton (UK) where he attended the Grammar School becoming Head Boy, and he was confirmed in Stockton Parish Church where he had his first organ lessons. His tertiary studies were undertaken at London University in association with Christ Church College, Canterbury, obtaining a Teacher's Certificate with distinctions in Education and Divinity and merit in Contemporary Studies, then graduating B.Ed with honours. His musical qualifications were L.R.S.M., A.T.C.L., A. Cert.C.M., and years later whilst in Perth he was awarded the F.T.C.L.

Prior to coming to W.A. in 1976 to be Organist & Choirmaster & Assistant Director of Music at Guildford Grammar School, Gordon had held teaching and musical positions in schools and churches in various parts of England and in Jamaica. For a short time he was on the staff of Christ Church Grammar School, Claremont. He was Director of Music at St. George's Cathedral, Perth 1986-1993, founding Perth Diocesan Choir, the Cathedral Occasional Choir and the St. George's Sinfonia, and he served on the Anglican Archbishop's Liturgy & Music Committee. Throughout his sixteen years in W.A. Gordon was an enthusiastic member of the R.S.C.M. Serving at various times as Secretary, Chairman and Special Commissioner. He directed many R.S.C.M. Functions such as choir festivals and Junior Choristers' Courses, bringing inspiration to many lives and young people especially.

Gordon's other commitments are too numerous to list here, only to say he served in various capacities for the combined universities choirs, the .W.A.Collegium Musicum, the W.A. Symphony Orchestra & Choral Society, the A.B.C. Chorus and the Perth Oratorio Choir. He lectured for one term on Church Music at Wollaston Theological College and was an examiner for A.M.E.B.

Although Gordon left Perth for the U.K. 25 years ago when appointed Regional Director for the North (Northern England, Scotland, North Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire) he never lost his love for W.A. and was a regular visitor, conducting R.S.C.M. Functions on several occasions. Warm friendships were thus maintained. His work in the Northern Hemisphere necessitated much travel and lengthy periods away from home and he often directed choral workshops and festivals in the U.S.A. and countries of Europe and Africa, some even planned for later this year. In recent years he had been President of the Leeds Organists' Association.

What I have written so far may seem rather formal, but all who knew Gordon were aware of the love and expertise he put into every aspect of his work and the quality of his numerous friendships. I could make a list of the contacts I had with Gordon for well over half a life-time and like a number of our readers I enjoyed his hospitality in his home at Ripon. Barbara and I also remember the home he built for himself and his mother, Sarah, at Boya, which I had the honour of blessing in 1982. Throughout the years we corresponded regularly. Another honour I had was to write a testimonial to support his application for the position as RSCM Director for the North. Although written 25 years ago I conclude by quoting an excerpt as it epitomizes the Gordon we knew and loved and have now entrusted to our Heavenly Father.

....Gordon Appleton has a keen sense of responsibility and duty, and is an able leader of people in all age groups of both sexes, dealing with them amicably yet effectively. His administrative acumen has been demonstrated in the management of large music productions and RSCM courses. He has a wide knowledge and experience of music—organ, orchestral, choral—not least sacred and liturgical music, and is creative, imaginative and entrepreneurial. (Contd. Page 6)

Whilst achieving excellence among professionals and in a cathedral situation, he excels at encouraging people in parishes with limited musical resources and skills. To the best of my knowledge he has always enjoyed cordial relationships with the clergy with whom he has worked in both school and cathedral. He is well acquainted with the ecumenical and international elements of contemporary church life, and has travelled widely which is something he enjoys. All the foregoing is undergirded by a deep Christian commitment, a good grasp of theology and a caring nature

Dr. Andrew Gardner arranged a Eucharist at St. Andrew's, Subiaco, conducted by the Rector, Fr. Peter Manuel, on Monday 9th April to give thanks for the life of Gordon. At least 40 people attended a very inspiring service.

Gordon's funeral will be held on Friday 27th April at 12 noon at Ripon Cathedral.

INTRODUCING the ORGAN

On 24th February, St. Cuthbert's Anglican Parish, Darlington, hosted a workshop for 'Reluctant Organists', led by John Beaverstock. Music is important to parishioners and accompanies all services. In recent years, the parish has bought a new Allen organ and is lucky to have several 'reluctant organists' - with varying backgrounds and degrees of skill—who have nevertheless been willing to step up and 'have a go'. We were particularly keen to learn a bit more about how to get the best from the Allen organ.

We had sent invitations to all our neighbouring parishes, so on the day five of us met up for morning tea with John, followed by the workshop. Three of us were already members of the team at St. Cuthbert's, while the other two were interested, but had yet to dip their toes in the water.

John started out with the question 'What do I do with one of these things?' He took us through the basic parts of the instrument, with some fascinating historical background, and then introduced us to the mysteries and complexities of the organ stops. Then we talked about the difference between piano and organ touch and had the chance to ask some practical questions about how to approach playing hymns and how to choose stops—all demonstrated for us on the organ. Finally, John gave us some ideas about where to find suitable music for 'reluctant organists' - helpfully providing some references in the printed hand out summarising the workshop.

The workshop was packed full of information for an hour and a half—until we all thought our heads would explode! - though we are sure we only got the tip of the iceberg as far as John's knowledge and skills were concerned. We definitely want him to come back later in the year, once we have all had a chance to absorb what he had told us. In the meantime, we can explore the registrations that John kindly set up for us in one of the organ memories—and now safely locked!

Thanks, John, for a great morning!

Caroline Bird.



Norman Duff, Caroline Bird and Megan Broad.

Photograph by John Beaverstock.



UNITING CHURCH IN THE CITY

Wesley Recitals at One

1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 1pm.

For more information contact
Director of Music, Angela Currie at angelic@ucic.org.au
or the Church Office on 6103 4222.

St. MARY’S CATHEDRAL

2018 Cathedral Concert Series: Concert 1

Gloria! Lux aeternal.

Sunday 29th April 2.15pm. Admission: \$35 (\$28 concession)

Our Concert Series 2018 kicks off with a joint concert between the Cathedral Choir and the students from the UWA School of Music—this is a programme combining both exuberance and reflection with a wide variety of repertoire ranging from Vivaldi’s ‘Gloria’, an evergreen classic, to the ‘Lux Aeterna’ of Ligeti, a modern masterpiece.

Complimentary, light Miss Maud refreshments served during interval in the Parish Centre and courtyard.

Community Singing 1

Sunday 24th June 2—4pm Admission: \$15 (\$12 concession)

The usual fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon—singing, socialising and some light Miss Maud refreshments to enjoy during interval. Door prize, raffle as per usual, too!!

ST. GEORGE’S CATHEDRAL

2018 Concert Series: Concert 2

Lieder to Cabaret

Friday 18th May at St. George’s Cathedral 7.30pm

Andrew Foote—Baritone Mark Coughlan—Piano

Concerts at One. *Entry is free, with a retiring collection taken.*

- Wednesday 2nd May Pianists from Yoon Sen Lee Music School
- Wednesday 16th May Christ Church Grammar School
- Wednesday 30th May Pianists from Yoon Sen Lee Music School
- Wednesday 6th June UWA Music Students’ Society

PIPE ORGAN PLUS Concert 2 Fantasie (In association with the Fremantle Heritage Festival.)

Monday 4th June, 2.30pm Admission \$40- \$35 concession \$20 under 18.

Enjoy the June WA Day public holiday with an afternoon in Fremantle’s beautiful Basilica, with some favourite organ works drawn from the 18 years of Pipe Organ Plus concerts. J. Stanley, G.F.Handel, A. Hollins, L. Boëllman, J.S.Bach, L.Vierne, C.Ives and others.

Dominic Perissinotto, organist.

DIARY DATES FOR COMING EVENTS

Sunday, **May 6th 2pm—3.30pm Gospel Workshop**, conducted by Louise Bell and Sarah Mills Menogue, at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 104 Woolwich Street, West Leederville.

Saturday, **May 19th 2.30pm Cantor Workshop**, St. Mary's Cathedral conducted by Jacinta Jakovecic. This is a wonderful opportunity to :
have a go if you have never tried previously; hone your skills (for more experienced cantors); chat with other cantors about this very special art; make new friends.

Sunday, **May 20th 4pm Festival of Hymns**, St. George's Cathedral, Perth led by Rev. Stuart Good, followed by **Evensong at 5.00pm**.

Saturday, **June 9th 2pm—3.30pm Singing Camp Fundraising Concert**. St. Michael's Anglican Church, Gunbower Street, Mt. Pleasant. Admission \$20, \$15 concession. Please ask your friends to come along and enjoy an afternoon of vocal and instrumental items, followed by St. Michael's usual sumptuous afternoon tea.

Singing Camp July 3rd—8th Swan Valley Adventure Centre, Middle Swan.

Sunday, **July 29th 5.00pm Choral Festival**, St. George's Cathedral. Rehearsal dates tbc.

Saturday, **October 6th** Visit of Stephen Darlington. St. Mary's Cathedral. Date and time tbc.

Sunday, **October 28th 2pm—3.30pm Hymnfest** based on hymns by Bishop Timothy Dudley-Smith. St. John's Anglican Church, Fremantle. Followed by afternoon tea.

2018 Fremantle Eisteddfod

Wednesday 16th May—Wednesday 23rd May

Venue: Fremantle Town Hall

All enquiries: email: info@fremantleeisteddfod.org.au