



8 May 2024

Dear CMS Member,

It gives me great pleasure to enclose the Society's latest publications, which I hope you will enjoy and also bring to the attention of church musicians who ought to know about them and buy them for their choirs!

Homo quidam continues our series of great 16th century Responds by Sheppard and Tallis edited by Sally Dunkley. This Corpus Christi respond, with its clear and concise formal outlines and magnificent handling of choral sonority, is suitable for any Eucharistic service or for general use.

Much admired as a scholar and choral conductor, the late David Trendell composed his *Preces & Responses* when he was Organ Scholar of Exeter College, Oxford, c.1985. Recently rediscovered, they reflect his consummate musicianship and liturgical sensitivity, and deserve a place amongst the most frequently performed modern settings. They have been broadcast twice recently on Radio 3's *Choral Evensong*. The CMS is delighted to be able to make them generally available now.

Martindale Sidwell was for more than 35 years the legendary Director Music at Hampstead Parish Church and St Clement Danes Church in London's Strand until 1992. His carol arrangements are direct and highly effective, respecting the charm of the original melodies and texts, without overloading them with harmonic and rhythmic elaboration (as is the case with some modern arrangements).

Our website continues to expand as a major – and free – resource of music and research, thanks to our indefatigable General Editor, Dr Geoffrey Webber. On the 'Music Downloads' page, two settings of the Evening Canticles have recently been added – a new reconstruction of the magnificent *Sixth Service* by Thomas Weelkes, and a setting in E major from 1812 by Exeter-based composer, Lucy Moseley – together with a collection of several 16th-century settings of The Lord's Prayer, supplementing those already available in our two printed volumes of early *Preces & Responses*.

On the 'Lecture and Papers' page, the two most recent additions are a study of 19th-century liturgical music by women composers sung at St George's Chapel, Windsor and at Canterbury Cathedral (which ties in with the recent publication of the anthem *If we believe that Jesus died* by Louisa Bagot), and a paper on the 'royal' anthems of Thomas Weelkes, marking the 400th anniversary of his death in 1623, based on the CMS lecture delivered by Dr Webber at the Southern Cathedrals Festival in July.

CMS on Facebook: do follow our posts there. Members can greatly assist our social media presence by 'sharing' our posts, rather than just 'liking'.

This year's AGM will be in St Wilfrid's Hall at the London Oratory, Brompton Road SW7 2RP on **Saturday, 19th October at 4.00pm** and will also include a presentation to our Vice-President, and former Secretary, Dr Simon Lindley, in thanks for his long service to the CMS. CMS member Thomas Coxhead will also give a talk on his research into the early works of Kenneth Leighton. Full details will be on the website in due course. Members intending to be present are asked to inform the Administrator. I hope to be able to talk to many of you there.

With all good wishes,

Professor Patrick Russill
Chairman