



Newsletter, Summer 2017

A message from the Chairman:

Dear Coverdale Friends and Supporters

The Trust is pleased to be supporting more and more Christian artists in line with its stated objectives and you will hear later in this newsletter more of what they have been doing.

At our trustee meetings, held on average three times a year, it is humbling to hear of their activities and stories of the many people's lives they have touched and really brings to a realization the important work of the Trust. The feedback we receive from the artists is also very encouraging and uplifting.

"I really appreciate being part of Coverdale – the financial support and the wisdom and inspiration shared. Having the Coverdale 'umbrella' also assures me I have someone to contact, I'm quite a private person so 'sharing' things does not always come easy to me."
Dave Hopwood

I am also pleased to announce that David Rowe has kindly agreed to join us as a trustee. David brings a wealth of experience and a fantastic network to the Trust, his insight and personal experience of the charity and arts sectors will provide a valuable contribution to the future growth of the Trust.

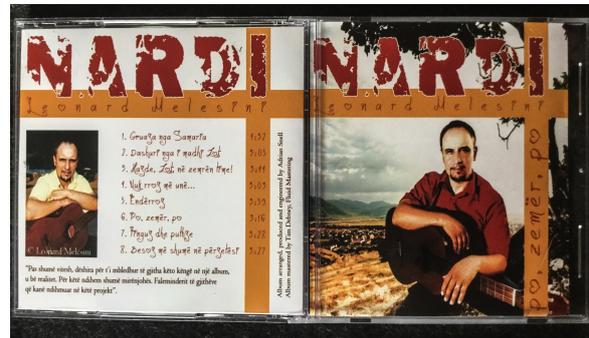
As always we really do appreciate everyone that supports the work of the Trust both financially and in prayer. The opportunity to make a difference in what we do is only restricted by the funds we have. If you would like to make a contribution please respond by contacting us on info@thecovertrust.org

John Pettifor,
Chairman

Adrian's Activities:

What an extraordinary, inspiring, and immensely encouraging period since my last report. I'm under strict instructions from our chairman to be brief and concise! So here goes, with very edited 'highlights of my current activities'.

Nardi's First Album: Imagine the joy, the excitement of attending the launch party for Nardi's first ever recorded album, the day after I arrived in Korçe, Albania last August. As you will remember, this was the fulfillment of, firstly a dream, then a commitment, that I would help Nardi to produce a CD of his wonderful songs in Albania for his Albanian audience.



And there it was! On my arrival I was presented with the (almost!) first copy. And then had the privilege of hosting 30 or so of Nardi's friends, colleagues and significant others, at a special dinner, including live performances by Nardi, a playback of the album, and a true celebration of this wonderful project, sponsored and funded by The Coverdale Trust, and so completely fulfilling the Trust's aims and 'reason for being' in the process.

On behalf of Nardi, The Coverdale Trust, and yes, literally thousands of Albanian people who will now be listening to these beautiful songs that so eloquently explore Nardi's journey of faith, his love of God, and joy in serving The Lord Jesus, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Alpha and Omega, Thirtieth Anniversary Recording: Believe it or not, The Coverdale Trust actually came into being in 1988! Yes, a staggering 28 years ago! If, by any chance, you are one of those who joined us at the beginning, you may remember that for many years the Trust was actually called 'Alpha International Ministries'!

Some years ago, the Alpha Course people contacted us to ask if they could purchase the name, thereby allowing them to develop their website and materials in general under that heading. We agreed! And 'The Coverdale Trust' was born.

Importantly though, the original name given to the Trust had everything to do with my work 'Alpha and Omega' which had its first performance in Jerusalem, April 1986. The album was released a few months later, and then began an extraordinary period of years of touring with this work, all over the world, meeting what was for me a truly unexpected demand to experience a concert performance of Alpha and Omega.

Well, equally unexpected for me, in the last couple of years there grew an increasing number of requests, challenges, and invitations to perform Alpha and Omega again. And the more time I spent revisiting the songs, the more clear I became that its message was just as relevant and timely in 2017 as it had been in 1986. And so it was that we committed to a series of Alpha and Omega concerts, initially in Holland, to be performed in October 2016. And most importantly, I was in no doubt that we needed to 'renew' the work musically too. And this led to the decision to make a completely new recording, based on the live concerts, and then completed in the studio under the skilled production hands of Dave Bainbridge (co-founder of the band IONA) who was also a co-producer of the original album. And believe it

or not, it was only once we'd made the decision to do this that it occurred to me that the recording would be made exactly 30 years and 6 months since its premiere in Jerusalem.

My friends, I'm just so excited about this. The recording is nearly complete....we hope to have it ready for release over the next few months and I genuinely believe it's sounding better than ever!



So, there you have it for now!

I shall be back in Korce this coming August. Again, and as always, from the heart 'Thank You' for making this possible. It really would be impossible to put into words the full impact these visits over the last 14 years have made upon many vulnerable and beautiful people in Korce and the surrounding villages, and....upon me.

Shalom,
Adrian

Dave's Update:

I continue to publish books and material which get the Bible off the page in a contemporary fashion. Each week I put out a reflection on a current film; a poem for use in worship and reflection, and a creative piece. All these appear on my website (www.davehopwood.com) and go out via Facebook and Twitter. To find me on Twitter look for @DaveHoppy.

I also continue to go out speaking in church services, church weekends, men's dos and other events. Lately I have found myself up in Yorkshire, down in Devon, over in London and somewhere in Somerset. I try and tailor my material to the various churches and groups I go to, often using modern stories and visual media. I am also currently working on a *Silly Sounds Bible Story* book for little ones.

I'd appreciate your prayers for ongoing inspiration to find fresh, engaging and accessible ways of lifting the Bible off the page, and also for my family, Lynn, Amy and Lucy, and for those times when I am away speaking.

**dave
HOPWOOD**
Author and speaker

West End Has Faith:

We are grateful to The Coverdale Trust for supporting us at the Edinburgh Fringe which was a great success.



On Saturday 10th December 2016, 10 singers were invited to take part in *Christmas Praise* at the All Soul's Langham Place, London. There were two concerts on the day, which told the story of Christmas through much-loved carols, Christmas songs and musical theatre including featuring two new songs from the Christian musical *Love Beyond* written by West End Has Faith regular Tabitha Webb (<http://www.lovebeyondmusical.com>). These concerts were recorded live on the day, and broadcast over the Christmas period on Premier Christian radio.

The general consensus is that *Christmas Praise* was a great opportunity for all to perform together in a Christian environment. The event was centered on prayer and the time spent together allowed for the building of friendships and relationships within the group.

West End Has Faith's leaders, Katy Treharne and Anna McGarahan, felt that, having spent the last two years partnering with the All Soul's for *Christmas Praise*, we should consider the possibility of an event which would be intended to promote West End Has Faith and The Coverdale Trust and be more in line with our own mission.

Anna McGarahan has taken over our social media accounts and has been proactive and regular in posts. Our online presence on Twitter and Facebook has a reach of around 1000 and we have nearly 800 followers on Twitter alone. Many people share our content and open up dialogue with us online. We believe that social media is key to our mission and allows us to connect with others in the performing industry.

Our current focus is to increase the sense of community and friendship within the informal 'membership' of West End Has Faith, rather than just performing together. Our vision is to set up a small group of actors who meet regularly to pray and worship together, somewhere in the West End/Soho area. We have yet to find a location, or commit to a start date, but we trust in God's provision and timing and would value your prayers and support in this venture.

Katy and Anna have met with Steven Faux to discuss the possibility of future collaboration. We spoke about potential ways to perform his music at forthcoming events, both at a Coverdale event/fundraiser or at our next West End Has Faith concert.

We are really excited about what the future holds.



Steven's News:

I am continuing to work on my Psalms Project and rather than spend yet more money on another CD at this point, I'm working on ways on getting what I've already completed to a broader constituency. David Ogden, a conductor who runs a number of choirs in Bristol, and regularly works for the BBC, is to get his very accomplished choir, Exultate Singers to perform a few of my Psalms settings at a concert celebrating the opening of the new halls at a church in Bristol.

I'm also re-arranging pieces for a choir who expect to perform quite challenging material, and following David's advice, he will be making this part of a collection of my settings aimed at the huge national (and international) choral society circuit. I will be getting some assistance from specialists in choral music, and will look to produce a good quality bound score, as well as getting a top choir to record some of the pieces as demos. I will be taking this material to music publishers as well as approaching choirs directly.

All in all a very exciting time for me! steven@stevenfaux.com <http://stevenfaux.com>

News from Paul:

Paul Hobbs writes of exhibiting his artwork in schools and churches and engaging a great many people in conversation about the faith in Jesus that fills his images.

Churches

I had a terrific week at **St Stephen's Church, Selly Park, Birmingham** last spring; more than 800 people visited my exhibition, half of whom were from outside the church. I also had very successful exhibitions at **St Matthew's in Cheltenham** and **St Mary's in Marlborough**. As always I had visitors from a range of religious and non-religious backgrounds and I enjoyed discussing each individual's issues and questions arising from the work. One church leader wrote to thank me "for the depth of your engagement with both visitors and church family". It is of course those special conversations that motivate and encourage me too, remembering that each person is precious and significant to God.



Most recently I completed a show at **Christ Church in Cambridge** which was wonderfully supported by the church who brought in hundreds of visitors from schools and friends. It was a great way to chat the gospel in an enquiring, safe environment, where people could ask questions freely.

Schools

St Faith's School in Cambridge was an unusual booking, being a prep school. I spoke to 32 classes of children ranging in age from 5-13. Not surprisingly, my more interactive exhibits proved most popular, particularly my two live goldfish, however, the children asked important questions about all the artworks and learnt a lot.

You can see a short film of me at the school on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcTMziEbUk&feature=youtu.be>

I have also been to **Radley College** where I had a lovely showing space in the Theatre Foyer and the privilege of speaking in chapel three times on themes of suffering and faith, betrayal and forgiveness, and the Beatitudes, using a different artwork each time.

Since then I have also exhibited at **Queen Margaret's School in York, Shrewsbury School** and **Pangbourne College**. One highlight was leading an assembly at Queen Margaret's the day before Valentine's Day using three of my artworks to address the issues of "Desire, Beauty and Love". Another was preaching from my exhibits before the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army who was visiting Pangbourne.

Abstract Artwork

I was able to show my abstract artwork at **Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park** throughout last summer. There are still a few originals and many prints for sale – see my website – www.arthobbs.com

If you would like to be on my mailing list please contact me on paul@arthobbs.com or via the website arthobbs.com

New Trustee, David Rowe

David is currently Vicar of Christ Church in Winchester, where he was licensed in November 2015. Prior to that he served as Warden of the Lee Abbey Community in North Devon for seven years. He has been a member of Breadrock Theatre Company in the past and has led a variety of community theatre projects in local churches and parishes. He has worked alongside Adrian, Steven, and Dave Hopwood in a variety of ministry opportunities through Lee Abbey. He is a passionate storyteller and speaker.



Keep up to date:

For further information on the artists supported by the Coverdale Trust visit our website: www.thecoverdaletrust.org which has a link to all our artists.

Gift Aid and Standing Orders:

If you pay tax and would like to Gift Aid your donation, please let Robin Windsor know: info@thecoverdaletrust.org

Standing Orders are also a very helpful way of giving regularly so please email us if you are interested at info@thecoverdaletrust.org

Donations can be made directly to the Trust account using the following HSBC 40 09 19 acc: 11731157 (please ref with your name and if applicable the name of the artist/s you wish to support)

The Coverdale Trust, c/o Treetops, 47 Caxton End, Eltisley, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 6TJ, Tel 07766 248437, www.thecoverdaletrust.org

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