



Supporting Christian Artists Internationally

## NEWSLETTER, CHRISTMAS 2019



### **A message from the Chairman:**

Dear Coverdale Friends and Supporters

It is with great pleasure to be able to update you on the work of the Trust and of course the artists we support. At our Trustee meetings we are constantly reminded of the fantastic work that these artists carry out and, most humbling in that in a small way, we enable this to happen.

My thanks go out to all the artists we support but let's not forget the trustees that give of their time so freely and with immense passion and commitment. To this end I am pleased to inform you that we are delighted that Charles Curnock has recently joined us as a trustee. Charles is a very experienced trustee and brings a wealth of knowledge and breadth of thinking to our meetings. However let's not forget the most important members of the Coverdale Team, '**you**' our supporters, who, without your financial support and prayers, Coverdale would not exist. A very big 'thank you' to you all from everyone.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and that it will inspire you to support us in any way you can.

With very best wishes,  
John Pettifor  
Chairman

## ADRIAN'S ACTIVITIES:

Amazingly, this year's visit to Korce, Albania was my sixteenth...in sixteen years! It's a well-worn cliché to say 'how time flies', but honestly I'm amazed that my first 'exploratory' visit, with my wife Sue, was back in 2003. During our week there, it quickly became clear that there were a variety of places and projects I could bring something to as a performing musician and music therapist. But I couldn't have imagined then that this would mark the beginning of a very different context for my work and music, and that I'd still be visiting this wonderful, inspiring place sixteen years later!



Of course, in the end, these visits, and the reason behind them, is completely about relationships. As far as possible guiding my friends with special and additional needs towards alternative ways of expressing themselves - who they really are beyond the 'need'. Working with staff, carers and volunteers to offer simple training in the principles behind the Creative Arts Therapies. All this leading to a continuation of different approaches when working with this, and other, special and challenging communities. Most importantly, and starting with the local churches, offering genuine 'inclusion' for all of these people, welcoming them into the Christian and church family.



In many respects I feel that this year's visit was amongst the very most productive of all the previous fifteen visits. This had much to do with Caralee Loring's excellent, careful planning around the best use of our time there. It was such a personal delight to have my daughter Carla with me again after a two year absence! And as we met with the local team on day one, it was clear

that the programme would be full, inspiring and provide many opportunities for renewing relationships, and establishing new ones.

There was also a significant concert in the nearby town of 'Maliq' attended by local politicians, and the mayor, as well as the general public from this town and surrounding villages. It was a wonderful success.

But perhaps the most valuable ingredient in all of this was the presence, throughout the visit, of Elena and Erfiola. These were the two women who were to fly back to the UK with us at the end of the visit, and then, under my supervision, receive lots of valuable training at Three Ways School, my primary place of work as Music Therapist and Arts Therapy Consultant. Elena and Erfiola both have a wonderful affinity with, and vocation towards, working with the special needs communities in Korce and the surrounding villages. So, a full year in preparation, it was decided to use this visit as part of their 'hands on' training in this work, to be followed by two weeks in Bath during which they would meet, and learn from, a wide range of specialists.

All of this happened!! And it brought such joy and gratitude to my heart when just days ago I received a message from Caralee reporting on the wonderful work, and results, already taking place 'back home'.

Once again, with all my heart, I want to thank you for your support through prayer and finance and for your commitment to this special work. Neither you or I can possibly know what this sixteen years of engagement with so many very, very special people has fully achieved... But, I have total assurance that it is much...and, most importantly, that what has taken place in, changed in, the lives of many, is...forever...

With love, Adrian

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## **NEWS FROM PAUL:**

### *Introduction*

During the last couple of years I have continued my exhibiting and speaking at one week shows in 5 churches and 3 schools; I have taken part in 3 other community exhibitions, and have run workshops in 4 schools and churches; I have helped an arts advisory group in Gloucester Diocese, and spoken at Trinity Theological College, Bristol and Exeter Cathedral. Alongside this I have researched and developed a series of icons about contemporary persecution, and designed a logo for a Church of England Primary School!



### *Icons for the Persecuted*

I have worked very intensively on a series of icons to form a modern iconostasis about the persecution of Christians today. I have been helped by the charity Open Doors to source material for this project, and they will use six of these icons for a presentation to Parliament next January about the places of most serious persecution for Christians. So far I have made images about India, Iran, Nigeria, North Korea, Pakistan, and Syria, and will continue to make 6 others including China, Turkey and Sri Lanka. At the centre will be an icon for the Unknown Martyr. These images are profoundly challenging about what it means to believe in Jesus Christ today and are a memorial to those who have stood firm under great pressure.



### *Churches*

Shows were held in St Mary's, Bibury; St Mary's, Maidenhead; St Michael and All Angels, Lancing; Chalfont St Peter, Bucks; and Danbury Mission, Essex. The venues varied from a small village church with plentiful tourists, to evangelical town churches used to confident outreach, from a more formal high church setting, to a high street Baptist coffee shop. All embraced the use of the artwork to explore the gospel story and consider how Jesus is relevant to our life today.

One visitor at Lancing commented, "We want to thank you for your inspiring exhibition. Your work, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is deeply felt and thought through and drew us in to a way of 'seeing the invisible'."

### Schools

Shows were held in Cranleigh School, Surrey; Cooper's Edge Primary School, Gloucester; Westminster School; and Luckley House School, Wokingham. It has been a privilege and a delight to exhibit my artwork, and speak about the Christian faith as I led classes around the exhibition or spoke in assemblies. Many pupils clearly had their cynicism to the gospel challenged, whilst believing children found encouragement from seeing their faith externalised in imagery and expressed confidently before their friends.

A Cranleigh pupil wrote, "I think the art is a stunning physical representation of Christianity made with much power and love."

If you would like to be on my mailing list to learn of future shows in your area, please contact me on [paul@arthobbs.com](mailto:paul@arthobbs.com) or via the website [www.arthobbs.com](http://www.arthobbs.com).

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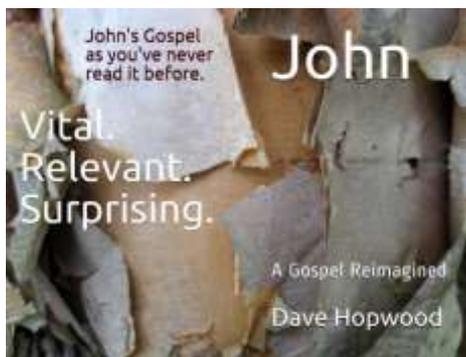
### DAVE'S UPDATE:

Hi again.

I have started writing a film page for *Sorted* magazine. *Sorted* is a Christian men's magazine. I'll be describing recently released movies and hopefully dropping in one or two thoughts about life and faith.



I continue with my daily and weekly blog posts. All based on biblical themes. You can pick them up via me on Twitter - @DaveHoppy - or look them up my website - [davehopwood.com](http://davehopwood.com). You can sign up for a weekly emailing on my site too.



I have recently finished an easy read rewrite of John's gospel, simply called *John*. Last year I worked on Mark's gospel. Both *Mark* and *John* can be found on Amazon if you look up my name, or on my website. Also on the book front, my book *The Bloke's Bible* has been republished this year. A fresh take on various Bible stories, told particularly with men in mind.

I continue speaking at church events, weekends away and Sunday services. Please pray for these opportunities to continue to come in and that my teaching and sharing might be helpful and effective for folks. I always try and earth the Bible in reality, to help folks connect with it.

I have also started sending out a bi-monthly short email for prayer support, if you would like to receive it please message me via my website.

A big thank you for all your support.



## STEVEN FAUX – THE PSALMS PROJECT

2019 has been blessed, but full, since Redland Parish Church in Bristol where I am Associate Vicar, has been without a full-time incumbent. Mine is a part-time ministry post, to allow me to follow my parallel calling as a composer, but this year has not always been part-time!

The year brought some surprises with the Psalms Project. I wrote the latest album of Psalms (based on Book IV, Psalms 90-106) with my son Clem. Clem has

also had a full year, marrying Bethany in the Summer, but has still found time to work on our project, mainly looking to future plans. We have at least one church-based concert in 2020, but are beginning to 'gig' the music in mainstream music pubs. These are currently in London (10th Jan - The Fiddler's Elbow, Camden and 8th February - The Bedford, Balham) but would like to take the performance further afield. This is very exciting: Psalms that are thousands of years old being sung in rock music venues!

Clem and I were invited to talk about faith and the Psalms on Radio Bristol several times this year. Perhaps it's not surprising to be asked onto Sunday Breakfast, which is billed as a show reflecting faith and belief, but we also joined Adam Crowther for his weekday evening 'Upload' show. Adam was genuinely amazed by the Psalms, a part of the Bible he'd never really come across before, and was surprised by their relevance to life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. He completely understood what Clem and I are hoping to achieve by performing them in the currently popular folk-influenced style.

In other news related to the Psalms Project, I spoke at Lee Abbey, Devon in February – a privilege to work with Warden Simon Holland and wife Anne, before they moved on – and at Scargill House, in the Yorkshire Dales. And turning to my television and media music composition, a highlight was writing the score for 'Dragons and Damsels' – a film not connected to 'Game of Thrones', but about the insect variety of dragons and damsels! This was for Red Bull (as in soft drinks and Formula 1 racing), who run their own cable network and production house, Terra Mater Factual Studios, in Vienna, but also sell their films around the world. I have sometimes re-used my media music in the Psalms Project (J.S. Bach did that kind of thing, after all) – and there are several cues in the Dragons score that could be adapted for future Psalms Project use...

For more information, visit the Facebook page: Steven Faux Music, or website [stevenfaux.com](http://stevenfaux.com)

Steven

## WEST END HAS FAITH:

“By sharing Jesus and nurturing a Christian community we seek to support industry professionals within theatre, music and dance.”

West End has Faith has gone from strength to strength over the last 6 years since its birth. Co-founders Katy Treharne and David Birch have seen it flourish with an established



core team of 6 people and well attended social groups meeting in London's West End. We meet every two weeks for fellowship with other Christians to pray, have advice and get that emotional support within an industry that can leave you feeling lonely, isolated and doubting when jobs are scarce or having periods of time out of work. West End Has Faith has been a huge lifeline to many and we have nearly 100 people on our mailing list, although our meetings are usually between 8-15 people.

We also love to offer our performing gifts to different charities including Tearfund and International Justice Mission this year, with Katy and Daniel Jarvis, our main musical director, taking a trip to Uganda.

We pray that God helps us grow in his timing and opens new doors for us in 2020!

### Keep up to date:

For further information on the artists supported by the Coverdale Trust visit our website: [www.thecoverdaletrust.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.thecoverdaletrust.org)**

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