



Supporting Christian Artists Internationally



NEWSLETTER 2023

A message from the Chairman:

We hope you enjoy reading our latest Newsletter and that the input from the artists you support will inspire and reinforce your thoughts as to the great work they do. As Trustees we are amazed and humbled by their activities, the energy and motivation they apply to their ministry is truly awesome.

The Trust is always looking for new Trustees to expand our network and we therefore welcome input from anyone who can either offer themselves as Trustees or know of artists that require support.

As always, we are extremely grateful to everyone who supports the Trust both in giving and in prayer. Please do tell your friends about us.

With very best wishes from the Chairman, the Trustees and the Artists.

NEWS FROM ADRIAN:

Dear Friends

Perhaps the greatest encouragement available to a composer and performing musician is to know that his, or her, work has stood the test of time. To know that their music continues to be listened to, and performed, literally all over the world. And, in my case, to still be invited to participate in performances more than 40 years after the original recording was released!

In the course of this year, this has been true of two of my most significant compositions and album releases.

THE PASSION: during March I went to Holland for three performances of "The Passion". As well as being 'sell out' events, these generated plenty of excitement towards what is coming early next year! Namely, a completely re-mixed version of the original recording, released in 1980! My dear, gifted, professional mixer son, Jamie, has skillfully, lovingly, worked with all the original recordings, having transferred them from analogue to digital, to reconstruct, and remix the full album. I'm absolutely thrilled with the result and can't wait for you to hear it! It will be released as an LP and CD on February 2nd 2024. We will then perform the work, with band, orchestra and choir, initially in Holland, towards the end of March, and then hopefully in the UK and elsewhere later in the year / early 2025 as and when we can find the promoters willing to co-operate in this significant venture!

ALPHA AND OMEGA: most recently, this October, I returned to Holland, once again, for three pretty much 'sold out' performances of Alpha and Omega. These were also with full band and 'mass' choir and were received with great commitment and enthusiasm. Somehow the message of this work, and the hope and joy we are able to share as it reaches its climax, had an enormous resonance with everyone in the venues - audience and performers alike. The atmosphere was very powerful and poignant as we reflected on current world events -

particularly in Israel. I am greatly humbled - and count it as a profound privilege - to be entrusted with this message at such a time as this..

You may remember, a few years back, with The Coverdale Trust's support, we were able to record a special 30th Anniversary version of the work. I'm still delighted with the quality of this recording, and hopefully this will continue to keep Alpha and Omega in the hearts of original and new listeners....

MUSIC THERAPY: I continue to practice as a Music Therapist and have agreed a contract for the next school year with Three Ways School here in Bath. I have decided to let go of two' half day 'commitments to allow more freedom for my other artistic endeavours, and to allow for extended weekend breaks from time to time!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: over many years, because of YOU, my friends through Coverdale, SO much has been made possible through your generosity. Sometimes I just wish you could be present - in the venue, the country, the studio - to experience directly some of the music making you have enabled. The need for support is, of course, ongoing. I suppose, right now, the project most in need of financial help is The (new) Passion.

There are obviously very significant costs related to getting the finished 'Passion' product ready for release next February, as well as all the costs involved in promotion, marketing and then the concerts themselves. Of course, the hope is that we will find excellent partners for distribution and sales, and for the staging of concerts. But the reality remains that these days many people access their music either for free, or in a format that pays the artist very little compared with the sale of a CD or LP. To that extent it really is true to say that this re-release of The Passion is a 'work of love', and we are all confident that it is absolutely the right project to be investing all this time, energy and finance in.

BUT, simply put, of course whatever you felt able to donate to the Trust, whether towards the album production or the staging of concerts, anything would be greatly appreciated...

Once again, for also you have given, and continue to give, THANK YOU!

Adrian

Paul Hobbs' writes:

Exhibitions

My highlight of the year was showing again at **Bibury** village church in Gloucestershire, a tourist stop between Oxford and Bath. 1600 visitors from more than 32 countries, including Yemen, Moldova, Armenia, as well as many Europeans and North Americans, attended my show 'Knowing That All Was Now' at St Mary's during eight days in May. The artwork 'about the Christian faith and contemporary life', might equally well have been introduced as being 'about you, the viewer, and who you think Jesus is'.

The arrangement of the show led the viewer around the gospel themes in a coherent but stylistically varied way, leading them deeper in, to think through the issues of faith and relationship with the Lord God. Many described the show as very thought-provoking and challenging, but also beautiful and intensely engaging. A lot of South Asians attended and I had profound conversations with several individuals and their families, who asked probing questions from other faith backgrounds.

Vicar Tim Hastie-Smith said, 'The exhibition far exceeded our wildest expectations'.





I also took part in the ‘Gospel’ show with other Christian artists in Cheltenham just before Easter. It was very well attended, and many were touched by the artwork and drawn into conversations about Jesus. A school exhibition planned for Lent 2023 had to be cancelled for financial constraints, a sign of the times with some organisations carefully counting costs.

New Work

New exhibits included: three panels called ‘Health Check’ about hearing, sight and heart health based on Jesus’ quoting Isaiah in response to why he speaks in parables; and ‘Stations’ (of the Cross) that uses text taken

from chapters 19 and 20 of John’s gospel to explore the passion and resurrection of Christ. The texts are phrases of between four and seven words, printed onto British road signs, making the narrative enigmatic and intriguing, prompting who, what, why, when, where questions. The phrases’ meanings seem to expand, whilst still remaining anchored to their context, as one focuses on particular moments of the story in new ways.

Workshops and Talks

I led school workshops in Hereford and Birmingham, introducing my artwork and faith, before helping the pupils make their own projects. All Nations Christian College had me back to work with their Arts module. I enjoyed leading a workshop with UCCF for Oxford students and speaking at a local Mother’s Union group in Gloucester. Best of all was speaking at Barnby Dun Church, near Doncaster, giving an evangelistic talk based on my artwork, showing slides and originals.

Future Events:

I will be showing at Bath Abbey twice in 2024 with the Unknown Martyrs work and the Holy Ground installation. Other opportunities are emerging, but please pray for me as I approach different people about shows and talks. May the Lord bring about the right connections to share the gospel through this work.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support.

For further information or bookings please contact me via paul@arthobbs.com or www.arthobbs.com

Pictures: ‘Exhibition at Bibury’ and ‘Stations’.

DAVE HOPWOOD’S NEWS:

I have continued sharing creative pieces via my website and social media, and have also produced a couple more books recently. *Pants, Dung and Wailing Jackals* (communicating the Bible creatively), *This* (a short book about Jesus) and *The Wacky Rhyming Bible* (fun Bible stories for children). I am currently working on a sequel to my collection of rewritten psalms – *More Songs of Faith and Feeling*. I hope to have this out for Christmas. The first collection has proved quite popular.

I have also continued speaking at various local churches here in North Devon, and also at Scargill House in Yorkshire, Launde Abbey in Leicester, and Lee Abbey here in Devon. I do my best to communicate the Bible using language and illustrations, ideas and stories which relate to life now, and help folks to connect their faith with daily living. I try and offer an experience as much as a talk, something that will help folk hold onto the God who is with them in all situations. As well as speaking, showing visuals and clips, and offering discussion starters, I give out jigsaw pieces, stones, and encouragement cards. I’m inspired by the Old Testament prophets who did the unexpected as they offered the unforgettable.



I'd appreciate your prayers that I'll be able to encourage folk and offer them usable resources through my writing and speaking.

It has been a busy season for **West End has Faith** with planning our upcoming Christmas

tour. We have a 5 date church tour to bring, "West End Has Faith at Christmas," a show that will bring songs from musical theatre, Christmas favourites and personal testimonies of our performers to share our faith in Jesus. Our dates can be found on our website: www.westendhasfaith.com

For those outside London we will be in Chippenham on Saturday 16th November. We will also be collaborating with the All Souls Orchestra again this year for their annual Christmas orchestra concert, "Christmas at the Movies," with a cast of 10 from West End Has Faith. We are very grateful for these opportunities to share the gospel and reach audiences at such an important time of year.



PAT MARSH – Writer and Retreat Leader:

I never imagined, when God called me to write a book on Inner Healing, that it would take me so long to bring it to birth. It has been a long journey of research, prayer, and discernment. How to write this book in such a way that it not only helps people to find peace but also leads them to the Jesus they may never have known? That has been the challenge.



So, in summarizing, my ministry of the last year, it has been primarily a year marked by extended periods of further writing. The first draft of the manuscript was sent out both for peer reviews and for an editorial evaluation report. The resulting feedback gave me clarity on further changes that needed to be made, and the third incarnation of the book got underway, culminating in a recent offer of publication.

Other aspects of my ministry took something of a backseat during this period. I led fewer retreats than usual, primarily due to the post-covid financial struggles being experienced by retreat houses. But, alongside the writing, my ongoing spiritual listening continued and, unexpectedly, a cafe ministry began to flourish. God is nothing if not a God of surprises!

I am indebted to the Coverdale Trust for their support in helping me to fund dedicated writing space in a prayerful environment, and I look forward to sharing news that 'Healing Life's Wounds: Beyond Feeling Broken' is finally in print. I also look forward to responding to God's call to do further writing. For the immediate future though, on God's prompting, I am planning to take a sabbatical.

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.