

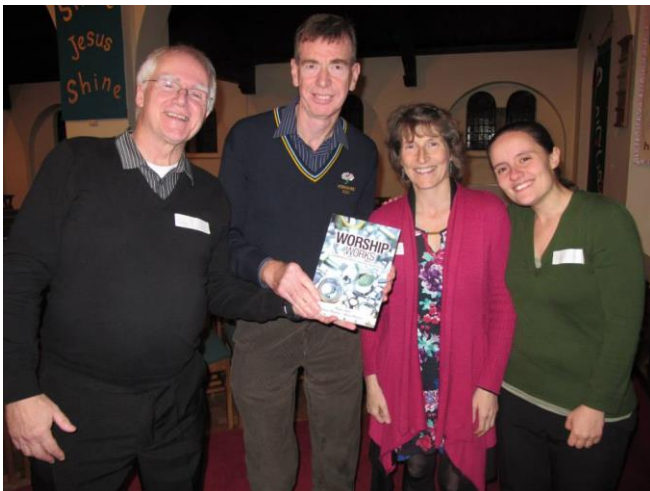


God bless you this Christmas 2018

Annie's news

Christian Music Ministries

It's been another full and creative year with CMM. We had the joy of Roger's 70th birthday celebrations in May - with my biggest-ever orchestra for **ROCK – the story of Simon Peter** - and the shock and sadness at the sudden death of our dear friend Barrie Renwick.



Our diary was filled with music weeks, weekends, *Worship Works*, *Spirit Works* and *Musical Man* events, and I had the opportunity to conduct musicals-in-a-day in Nuneaton, Ottery St Mary, Wakefield, Weston-super-Mare, Eccleshall, Cricklade, Welshpool and Tamworth.

Musical-in-a-day

If your church, group of churches, or community centre would like to host a Roger Jones musical-in-a-day, please do contact us: office@cmm.org.uk 01527 576 440. Hosting a CMM musical-in-a-day is a great way of enjoying fellowship and music-making together, encouraging local folk in their faith in Christ and building community. There is minimal

admin required beforehand (just publicity and liaison with CMM) and the day can pay for itself if a small charge is made to each person taking part, and a freewill offering taken up at the performance. We have free dates in the diary for 2019 if you get in quick!

CMM Choir

It's been another very good year with CMM's community choir, with 5 Epiphany performances of **Stargazers**, 5 exciting productions of **ROCK**, and we are currently performing **While Shepherds Watched** in 4 local churches leading up to Christmas.

Last year I wrote *Carol of the Wise Men* for CMM Choir (available on YouTube). This year they asked me for another. *Glory to God on high* is extremely easy to learn and sing and makes a very joyous addition to a carol service. As it uses words from the traditional *While Shepherds* carol, the congregation can join in too. You can listen to it on CMM Choir's Facebook page. For free sheet music and backing track, please contact annie@cmm.org.uk





Personal news

The Peoples' Orchestra

It's been another exciting year for me with TPO, playing viola and writing string and saxophone parts. We celebrated our 6th birthday in April; as a founder member, it's been amazing to see everything grow year on year. This year, as well as our signature movie-music spectaculars, we collaborated with BCMG (Birmingham Contemporary Music Group) in playing four new compositions, including a very moving one called *I am swimming* written by Nigel Osborne, inspired by his work across the globe with refugee children – helping them to express their pain and longings through creative projects.

Here is TPO's Christmas poster ...



The dress was absolutely beautiful – a boned lace-up bodice and many yards of satin, tulle, net and petticoats.

Ballet

I am still loving my twice-weekly ballet classes – though I live constantly with the frustration of not being very good at it! Learning new steps as an adult beginner is very challenging as I don't have a life-long muscle-memory of the ballet basics. But it gives me great joy when I do practise something until it comes fluently.

Exeter

In September our *Old Tiv Road* gang got together at Exeter University to celebrate our 40th Alumni. The friendships we forged over those three years have remained strong, and it was a joy to be together again sharing long walks and meals. When we went to see our old house in Old Tiverton Road, I was delighted to see that the cinema where we saw **Star Wars** in 1977 is still showing movies!

Christmas

I will be staying with the Sisters at St John's House again this year to play keyboard for their Christmas Eve service. All of us are looking forward to the *Call the Midwife* Christmas special, as these are the real Sisters who lived and worked in Poplar in London's East End back in the 1950s and 60s.

I will be spending Christmas day with John and other friends, and on Boxing Day I will be going to Dunster to stay with Dad and Gay for a few days; we will be joined by my brother Ian and his fiancée Kae for the usual family quizzes and games.

Whatever you are doing, I wish you a Happy Christmas and a fulfilling new year.

Annie x

Christian Music Ministries

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