



# Newsletter

*Cherubim's  
XX<sup>th</sup> anniversary –  
the year of  
the harps*





# Welcome



## Cherubim's 'XX<sup>th</sup> Anniversary' harp – Our third concert harp.

Two years ago even one new harp would have seemed an almost impossible dream. The decision to buy it was a result of Professor Gabriella Dall'Olio's enthusiasm after our 2020 harp competition to award our two existing harps. She felt that the runner up Zoë McNamee deserved our help, and by good fortune one of Professor Dall'Olio's students was selling a nearly new Salvi Aurora at an advantageous price.

Using part of the Boyes Bequest to meet half the £18,000 we announced an appeal for the balance. And our generous supporters met this target in the first six months of 2021. The donors are all listed on the back page and we thank them all wholeheartedly, but there were two who contributed the lion's share, and on behalf of future generations of harpists we really have to say a special thank you to them in particular.

Professor Dall'Olio of Trinity-Laban Conservatoire says: 'What a wonderful way to foster tomorrow's star performers. Now with three instruments Cherubim can help bridge the gap between young hopeful and passionate professional.'

The XX<sup>th</sup> Anniversary harp makes its debut at Semley Summer Music in August under the fingers of harpist sisters **Maria & Zoë McNamee**. Zoë, a student at the RNCM, is the designated recipient, but Maria, a graduate of Trinity-Laban, has been pro-actively helpful and we could not have reached this point without her.

We had the pleasure of welcoming **Fritz Curzon** to the official debut of the Lady Lucille Wallace Curzon harp in Wardour Chapel [see centre spread] with performance on it by **Clara Gatti-Comini** and on the Charles Steer – Promenaders harp by **Aisha Palmer**. In winding up their family trust Fritz and his brother Peter have also donated a Steinway D to the Yehudi Menuhin school in memory of Sir Clifford Curzon.

Here is a delightful photo of the family together in the mid 1950s. Fritz writes "My brother Peter and I are delighted that our adopted mother's name will live on in this instrument, assisting future generations of harpists to achieve professional goals that she herself did on the harpsichord. We shall watch the future developments of Lady Lucille Wallace Curzon harpists with interest, pride and awe."



# Still to come in 2021



## Semley Summer Music – 12-15 August

**Maria & Zoë McNamee** are performing 'A Concert with Wings' with flautist **Isabelle Ashton** on Thu 12th; and on Sun 15th Cherubim musician **Octavia Lamb's EOS Flutes** are giving a sparkling 'Whirlwind of Flutes' programme.

<https://www.iunocconnolly.com/semleysummermusic>

## Purcell Choral Weekend @ St John's Tisbury – 2-3 October

We're re-presenting the third of our successful choral weekends under conductor **Greg Skidmore** on the first weekend of October at St John's Tisbury. More excitingly, the Cherubim Chamber Singers will be accompanied for the first time by Cherubim musicians led by **Gabriella Jones**, thanks to a donation by the Curzon Trust. The music will include a selection of Purcell's most beautiful music, from *Dido & Æneas* to the *Fairy Queen*, including *Rejoice in the Lord Always*.

Book to sing or listen <http://cherubimtrust.org/purcell>



## Trevor Pinnock @ Wardour Chapel – 23 October

After being forced to cancel the visit of our patron, the legendary harpsichordist **Trevor Pinnock** with flautist **Anna Kondrashina** in April, we are delighted to announce they have now rescheduled their benefit performance of Bach Flute Sonatas for Sat 23 Oct at 5pm.

After the great success of our 'Two Harps at Wardour' programme in July we are sure that everyone will enjoy revisiting the Chapel without restrictions in October.

Tickets £18-44 <http://cherubimtrust.org/tkts/pinnock>







## Short cuts



**Miriam Nohl –**  
*John Corsby 1828 cello*

We're delighted to welcome Miriam in succession to Josh Salter. She plays with Eboracum Baroque and has been filming at the National Centre for Early Music.

With the Canario Ensemble she is giving streamed concerts for Live Music Now.

On a visit to Northumberland Miriam had the pleasure of a visit with Douglas Spence, the donor of the Corsby cello.

**Aled Meredith-Barret –**  
*B&S 'Charles Steer' tuba*

Aled writes: This instrument will help me greatly with my quintet, Connaught Brass. This year we've had concerts at Barnes Music Festival, a tour to the Dordogne, Ferrandou Musique and Lucerne Festival. Having already competed at the Geneva International Tuba Competition on an Eb tuba, the F will greatly improve my chances.'



**Carolina Lopez del Nero –**  
*Smillie 'McNeill' cello*

Another new Cherubim Musician is Carolina, a Spaniard who has arrived as a postgrad at the Guildhall via Aberdeen University. She is greatly

enjoying taking full advantage of the chamber music opportunities on offer.

**Emily Ambrose –**  
*Fox bassoon*

Emily performed at Exeter Cathedral with the Amadeus Orchestra, her first time with a full orchestra since 2019. She has been awarded a Drake Calleja Trust



scholarship for the coming year at Junior RAM. In December Emily is giving a Savile Club Aperitif concert on basson and contrabassoon.

**Alfie Weinberg –** *Krutz 'Brodrick-Barker' violin*

Alfie achieved 'Highly Commended' in the Haselmere International Online String Competition and Abingdon Music Festival. In October he performs Malcolm Arnold's Five Pieces in a concert at the Savile Club celebrating the composer's centenary.



**Casey-Joan Whyte –**  
*Weichold 'Richard Barker' violin bow*

CJ gave a solo Cherubim livestream playing jazz and classical in June. Having won the Chetham's concerto competition she plays Saint Saëns' third Violin Concerto with the Sinfonia orchestra in October.

**Diogo Gomes –**  
*former Cherubim vibraphonist*

Good to hear from an old friend. 'Things have been tough during Covid; but I'm now teaching percussion at TESIS International School—in the top 5 schools of Portugal—and have been appointed 'socio-cultural producer' for my city's application to the 2027 European Capital of Culture.



## Ringing the changes



**Rebekah Reid - New Trustee**

We welcome Rebekah to our board of trustees. She is a vibrant and versatile violinist and loop pedal artist specialising in classical and jazz repertoire, improvisation and composition, who is becoming well-known as a jazz string arranger.

A graduate of the RNCM, it was for Rebekah that Cherubim bought the Krutz violin in 2012, on which she performed Vivaldi's Primavera concerto in our first Cherubim Mozart Festival. She now plays on a 1786 JK Klotz violin loaned by the Harrison-Frank Family Foundation, and recently released an album with her band Tapp Collective which

is available online and has been featured on BBC Introducing & BBC1Xtra.

We look forward to the new perspective Rebekah brings to Cherubim, and hope to see it reflected in our future initiatives.

**Juliet Brain - Administrative Director**

Having been a trustee for a couple of years, Juliet has stepped down from the board to become our new part-time Social Mediator and Administrative Director.

In addition to her many and versatile skills Juliet is a professional photographer, and shot the splendid new set of Zoe McNamee and the XX<sup>th</sup> Anniversary harp seen herein.

Here is Juliet's atmospheric shot of our Smillie 'McNeill' cello in Sands Films Music Room.



**New viola donated by Eckhard Kropfreiter**

Our revered string adviser Eckhard has generously donated a 403mm (16 1/2") early 20thC viola to our instrument bank. This is our third viola, which half an inch larger than our other modern WH Lee (Chicago) instrument. We intend to buy both dedicated bows. If you know viola players in need of a good instrument, please draw their attention to these violas, and encourage them to apply online.



## Gift Aid

I enclose a donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount in words \_\_\_\_\_

*I am a UK taxpayer & intend that the appropriate tax be reclaimed on the above donation under the GiftAid scheme.*

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**CHERUBIM  
MUSIC TRUST**

(CHARITY No. 1088403)

## Donating to Cherubim

The Trust relies entirely on public support. Apart from money, we welcome the donation of professional quality instruments, whether as a gift or as a loan, but ask donors to be aware that we can only accept instruments that are in top playing condition.

We are grateful to Tony Fry of PBF Partners of Helston for our audit - accounts available on the website - and to Ros Russell for keeping our website up-to-date. And to Eckhard Kropfreiter for his maintenance of, and advice on, our string collection

We acknowledge donations towards the Anniversary Harp from Tim Smith, Selina Elwell, Trevor Pinnock, John Manser, Mark & Amanda Gidney, MJ Gibbons, Morag McLaren, Julia Cumberlege, Pat & Arthur Simmonds, Ian & Marian Kendrick, Eckhard Kropfreiter, Alex Adams, Anne Davies, Juliet Brain, Kate Atchley, Katie & Steve Harrod, Lucy & Gustavo Montes de Oca, Mary Morrison, Michael Ross, Peter Cressall, Ruth Barlow, Sarah Ward, George Cruddas, Anne Ralphs, Andrew Probert.

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## Donations:

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