



May
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Immanuel's GROUND

Warwick's West Gallery Quire

NEWSLETTER 17

OUR NEXT **CONCERT** WILL BE AT
THE CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE
CROOME PARK, CROOME D'ABITOT,
WORCESTER WR8 9DW



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

SATURDAY 15 JULY 2017, 5.00 — 6.00 PM

The church, now the responsibility of the Churches Conservation Trust, stands in a prominent position just inside the Park designed by Capability Brown, was built to replace an earlier church built

Tickets
£5 & £3.
Tel: Blair
Chadwick
on 011799-
291766 or
at door.



before 1280. The interiors of both House and Church are attributed to Robert Adam and were completed in 1763. Built by some of the finest craftsmen in England, every detail has been considered, from plaster mouldings to handsome carved pews - the church is a perfect fantasy of the period, with elegant Gothic windows and plasterwork, pulpit, communion rails, commandments and creed boards . . .

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You have received this occasional Newsletter from Immanuel's Ground in order to keep you abreast of the Quire's activities, and because you have given us your email address for contact purposes. If, however, you now no longer wish to be kept informed in this way, please email the Quire's Webmaster at edwin@immanuelsground.com and your address will be removed from our list.



Croome Park and the mansion house is now owned by the National Trust, and St Mary Magdalene is open whenever Croome Park is open, which currently is every day.

The concert, however, for those who do not also wish to visit the rest of the Estate, starts at 5.00 pm and lasts approx. one hour; the cost is £5, with concessions of £3 for children of primary school age, and because of the time of the concert there will be no further entrance charge made by the National Trust. The on-line URL for the concert is <https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/what-s-on/immanuel-s-ground-concert-croome-d-abitot.html> . If you are reading this Newsletter on your computer, this URL should be a clickable link, and details of how to pre-purchase your tickets can be found on that page. Or, contact Blair Chadwick on (tel) 01179 291766, (e-mail) bchadwick@theccct.org.uk. Admission will also be available at the door.

**St Peter and St Paul,
Chipping Warden, Northamptonshire
Choral Evensong
for St Peter and St Paul's Day
Sunday 25 June 2017 at 6.00 pm.**

The Quire will be in late 18th— early 19th C. costume, and the congregation is invited to dress in any costume suitable for church!



Come in whatever costume suitable for church service that you fancy, Spiderman included!

In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of Sts. Peter and Paul: *“Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles’ blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labours, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith.”*



Mid-Shires' Quires' Day has become an established day of music, led by Immanuel's Ground, this year under the batons of Sheila and Edwin Macadam, together with Ken Baddley, Director of the Bedford Gallery Quire, Tony Singleton, Director of the Marsh Warblers in Kent, and Rachel Jordan, Director of Sussex Harmony, East Sussex.

Held on 29th April in the Village Hall at Byfield, Northants, this thirteenth such Day included music from Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Huntingdonshire, and Hertfordshire, and such church composers as Michael Beesly, William Beasley (no relative!), Caleb Ashworth, John Munden, Joseph Key, John Valentine and William J. White of Watford and St Albans.

Not to mention of course Thomas Jarman of Clipston, Northants, without whom we are frequently reminded that the Day would not be complete without including at least one of his tunes—so, this year a piece called 'Prophecy', taken from his publication of 1835 entitled *Northamptonshire Harmony*. (See page 4 📖)

65 people attended, the assorted band of some 13 instruments including fiddle, concertina, bassoons, recorders, alto saxophone, serpent, tenor horn, clarinet and oboe; mostly the usual sort of instruments you might find in a 19th C. village church band.

The 2018 Mid-Shires' Quires' Day is April 28th, the fourth Saturday in April — so please put this date in your diaries NOW!

!! SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS WANTED !!

We are hoping to find additional singers and players to swell our numbers from amongst those who like coming to our events, either as singers or as instrumentalists (and, yes, string players can – and do – manage both simultaneously!)

As to instruments, we try to keep within the bounds set by historical records, namely strings and woodwind (including serpents, curtals and light brass etc., but not heavy Eb instruments which tend to overpower the others!) Singers are all very welcome, whatever age or ability; much of the music can be learned by ear, although of course the ability to read music is an advantage. As in many quires, tenors are especially welcome!

We hope that some of you may be interested in learning more of what we do as a Quire. We practice most Wednesday evenings at Northgate Church, or Hall, in Warwick, from 8pm to about 10 pm. If you can phone 01926 492945 and speak to Ian Meddoms beforehand, it would be helpful to know when extra copies of music are necessary !!



MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES
in addition to those on earlier pages.

Saturday 29 July 2017—Unitarian Chapel—Warwick
West Gallery Carols in Summertime !!

Saturday 4 November 2017—St Nicolas, Kings Norton, Birmingham
Sing Birmingham 2017: All-day Workshop for singers and instrumentalists

CAROL CONCERTS

Saturday 9 December 2017—at either Wellesbourne or Walton d'Eivile
Wednesday 13 December 2017—Leamington Spa

2018

Saturday 28 April 2018

Mid-Shires' Quires' Day at Byfield, Northants (between Banbury and Daventry).

Thomas Jarman (1776 - 1861)

The following is adapted from *Hymn Tunes and their Story* by James T Lightwood, and amended by reference to Stephen J Weston's preface to a booklet of music containing his edited versions of two anthems by Thomas Jarman :

The man and his background

Thomas Jarman was born on 21st December 1776 in Clipston, a small village near the northern border of the County of Northampton. His father was not only a Baptist lay preacher, but also a tailor, and Thomas was brought up in the same trade, although his brother, John, followed his father's calling to become a minister.

His natural taste for music, however, considerably interfered with his work, and he was frequently reduced to dire straits, from which only the extreme liberality of his publishers relieved him. He was a man of fine, commanding presence, but self-willed, and endowed with a considerable gift of irony, as choirs frequently found to their cost. Weston quotes from Kant that Jarman neglected his work and 'this kept him poor and soured his temper'.

He joined the choir of the Baptist chapel in his native village when quite a youth, and soon became the choirmaster there. He adopted music as a profession (with occasional returns to his old trade), and was engaged as teacher of harmony and singing in many of the neighbouring villages. He was a successful choir-trainer, spending several years at Leamington, and conducted concerts as well as services, for which he was 'constantly composing works'. The village choir festival held under his direction at Naseby, in 1837, is said to have been the talk of the district for long after. He spent some six or seven years at Leamington, during which time he enjoyed the friendship of C. Rider, a wealthy Methodist who did much good for the psalmody of Lancashire and elsewhere some fifty or sixty years ago.

Thomas Jarman lived to the good old age of eighty-five, dying in 1861, and lies buried in the graveyard attached to the Baptist chapel at Clipston in Northants. His grave is marked by a stone, and there is a memorial to him on the front wall of the chapel where he was choirmaster.