

Sunday 16 June 2024

The Chapel of St Mary the Virgin and St Nicholas
Royal Hospital School

Grand Chœur in D major Op. 18	Guilmant 1837 – 1911
Meditation	Durufilé 1902 – 1986
Litanies JA 119	Alain 1911 – 1940
The Lost Chord	Sullivan 1842 – 1900
The Humming Chorus (<i>from</i> Madame Butterfly)	Puccini 1858 - 1924 arr. Crompton
War March of the Priests	Mendelssohn 1809 – 1847
Variations on an English Air	Archer b. 1952
Processional Op. 63 No. 2	Mathias 1934 – 1992
Carillon (<i>from</i> 24 Pièces en style libre) Op. 31	Vierne 1870 – 1937
IV. Toccata (<i>from</i> Dix pieces pour orgue)	Gigout 1844 – 1925
Elfes Op. 7 No. 4	Bonnet 1884 – 1944
Toccata in D Major	Lanquetuit 1894 – 1985

Next RCO Study Day and Organ Recital: Saturday 21 September 2024

Nicholas Danks (Director of Studies and Director of Music at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge)



Peter Crompton studied at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, where he graduated with a prize for organ performance. He continued his studies with the late Dr Noel Rawsthorne, formerly organist of Liverpool Cathedral and a celebrated recitalist. Peter received the honorary title of Organist Emeritus on

his retirement as Director of Music at the Royal Hospital School where he presided over the magnificent four-manual organ of the cavernous school chapel for nearly forty years. During his tenure at the school as Director of Music, he greatly enhanced the reputation of music within the school, culminating in a new multimillion pound state-of-the-art music school which was opened by composer John Rutter. The school chapel choir under Peter's direction performed at many prestigious venues throughout the country and abroad and John Rutter chose them to sing alongside the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in the composer's famous Christmas Celebration Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall.

As organist, Peter has performed in many major venues including St Paul's Cathedral, where he has had the honour of giving two recitals. He has also performed at Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and Liverpool Cathedral and the Royal Albert Hall, where he has played for the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, broadcast on BBC Television and Radio, since 1997! 2020 was the only year in which Peter was unable to play the organ for this moving and prestigious event in twenty five years, owing to the restrictions caused by the pandemic. He has also performed at many other cathedrals and concert venues throughout the country and abroad. Recent recitals have included St Edmundsbury Cathedral, the Moot Hall, Colchester, the Victoria Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, Cartmel Priory, Westminster Cathedral, St Mary's Parish Church, Saffron Walden, Leeds Minster, Bath Abbey and Bridlington Priory and he has continued to give an annual recital at the Royal Hospital School since his retirement. Peter has broadcast on BBC Radio 2 & 3 and American radio stations as well as BBC & ITV television. He has also made several CD recordings which have received much critical praise. The latest, entitled 'Encore', is on the Regent label.