



No 2 — 12 October 2020

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In this second edition of the revived online version of City Events we are reverting to the customary review of the listings within which there are items that 'catch the eye' and in this edition there are several of these. We begin with an online organ recital. At St Michael Cornhill on Monday 19 October at **St Michael Cornhill**, where the inimitable Monday organ recitals continue to be held online, we are told that Frederick Stocken will be playing the 'unjustly forgotten Sonata No 2 by Percy Buck'. Your editor has to confess that he had never heard of Percy Buck, or to give him his full title, Sir Percy Carter Buck, before now, and thus the Sonata is equally unknown. First a few words about Sir Percy. His dates are 1871 – 1947. He is described as an English music educator, writer, organist and composer. London-born he studied at Merchant Taylors' School and the Royal College of Music. Periods as organist at Worcester College Oxford, Wells Cathedral and Bristol Cathedral were followed by his appointment as director of music at Harrow School from 1901 until 1927. In 1925 he became King Edward Professor of Music in the University of London and he also taught at the Royal College of Music. He composed various pieces for piano and strings, a number of songs and in particular three organ sonatas. The one in question, No 2 is Opus 9, published in 1902. It consists of three movements, is classed as 'Romantic' and lasts a little under 30 minutes. Certainly this piece deserves a hearing and thus Frederick Stocken may perhaps render it unforgotten.

At **St Bride Fleet Street** on Tuesday 20 October at a public recital a number of interesting pieces will be performed on bagpipes. Again your editor has learned something new – that there are different types of bagpipes. The two instrumentalists in the duo bearing the name Walker Rowlands are Chris Walker who will be playing the Uilleann bagpipes and David Rowlands playing the Border bagpipes. The Uilleann bagpipes are the characteristic national bagpipe of Ireland. The instrument consists of a chanter which plays the melody and drones which play a constant unchanging harmony. The bag of these pipes is inflated by means of a small set of bellows strapped around the waist and the right or left arm of the player. Thus the player is relieved of the effort needed to physically blow into a bag to maintain pressure. David Rowlands plays the Border pipes which also consist of a chanter and drones. Air to blow the chanter and drones is supplied from a set of bellows strapped under the player's right arm. Thus the two kinds of bagpipes have similarity in that air from the bellows is dry which keeps the reeds drier, which keeps the instrument in tune as well as greatly extending the life of the reed.

The two players decided to use their surnames in the order Walker Rowlands as a cultural link to Walter Jackson, an old and revered Irish piper and publisher of an early book of tunes for pipes. They tell us that the music they are investigating and playing is largely from the eighteenth century, though the repertoire includes some nineteenth century pieces for balance, and because they like them (and they hope the audience will too).

At **St Mary at Hill** on Thursday 15 October there will be held an online Zoom performance of *Harvest of the Sea* in lieu of the traditional Fish Harvest Festival Service which cannot take place this year. The event will consist of two parts, *Space to Be* – 15 minutes of guided prayer reflecting on poetry and music and the opportunity for stillness and focus – followed by a 45 minute concert given by *Seraphim*, the St Mary at Hill choir. The event theme, 'Harvest of the Sea', will be marked with music specially written for the occasion. Herbert Sumsion's 'They that go down to the sea in ships' will be surrounded by music taken from commissions and festival composition competitions. The concert will end with a Question and Answer session with Robert Mingay-Smith (Director of Music), Andrew Wilson (composer) and Stella Davis (Poet-in-Residence, St Mary at Hill). Tickets need to be purchased to access the Zoom. Please visit <http://stml.org.uk/> and follow the links for details.

As before we hope this special version of City Events will provide a useful basic guide to what is currently taking place in City churches. Again we must stress the necessity for readers to check the arrangements for each church by visiting the website of that church. And finally it should be remembered that wearing a face covering in a church is **mandatory**. While some churches are providing hand sanitisers at the door, it is not incumbent on the church to provide facemasks. Thus it is important to take your own face covering. Further details of social distancing and other requirements should be made clear at each church.

The Friends of the City Churches, Church of St Mary Abchurch, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BA
Visit: www.london-city-churches.org.uk for more information and the location of the churches in the City

City of London Churches that are currently open or are accessible online

The information given below is that obtained from church websites at 9th October 2020. It is essential that readers visit each church's own website for the latest information regarding opening times and times and other details of services, as changes may occur at short notice. Each church may also have particular COVID-19 compliance requirements.

Details of forthcoming recitals are listed in a separate section at the end.

These may also change on short notice. Visitors are strongly advised to check before travelling.

Visitors and worshippers are required to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing in line with current regulations; for detailed guidelines and information sheets, please visit the Church of England's [Coronavirus Guidance for Churches](#).

All Hallows by the Tower (www.ahbtt.org.uk)

Open for private prayer seven days a week. Services on Sunday (Eucharist Public Service and online) and Wednesday (online). For online services login details must be obtained beforehand. Follow the links on the church website.

St Andrew by the Wardrobe (www.standrewbythewardrobe.org)

Open most days for private prayer. A monthly Monday Mass is held.

St Andrew Holborn (standrewholborn.org.uk)

Usually open Monday to Friday. Public Services are held on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

St Bartholomew the Great (greatstbarts.com) & St Bartholomew the Less

Open every day for private prayer except Thursday afternoon. Public and online services are held in the church on Sunday and the first Thursday of the month. It is essential to register in advance. This site also includes information on **St Bartholomew the Less** (www.greatstbarts.com/about/st-barts-the-less). This church is open daily for private prayer. Services are held on Sunday (Family Eucharist) and Tuesday (Said Eucharist). It is advisable to check these on the website.

St Botolph Aldersgate (www.stbotolphsaldersgate.org.uk)

The Aldersgate Tuesday Talks are held live online. For the programme up to December 2020 and how to obtain the Zoom link please visit the website and follow the link to [Aldersgate Talks](#).

St Botolph Aldgate (stbotolphs.org.uk)

Open Tuesday for private prayer. Eucharist is held on Sunday in the church. Other online events may be held on Sunday.

St Botolph Bishopsgate (botolph.org.uk)

Open Monday to Friday for private prayer and as a place of sanctuary. There is a Public Choral Mass on Wednesday and a Public Said Mass on Tuesday and Thursday.

City of London Churches currently open or accessible online – *continued*

St Bride Fleet Street (www.stbrides.com)

Open seven days a week with Morning Prayer Monday to Friday. There is a Public Choral Eucharist service on Sunday. Online services are also held on Sunday. There is a Said Holy Communion on Wednesday. Public recitals are held in the church on Tuesday and Friday (see the last two pages of this edition for details).

St Dunstan in the West (stdunstaninthewest.org)

Open Monday to Friday for private prayer and quiet reflection. There is a Public Service of Mass on Tuesday, which is also available via Zoom. Public Recitals have resumed and two of these are listed in the final pages of this edition.

St Edmund King & Martyr – The London Centre for Spiritual Direction (lcsd.org.uk)

For events, currently online, please visit the website.

St Ethelburga's Centre (stethelburgas.org)

A number of events are scheduled for the coming months. Please visit the website for details.

St Giles Cripplegate (stgilesnewsite.co.uk)

Open Monday to Friday for private prayer. A Public Parish Eucharist service is held on Sunday. This is also held online. A Public Service is held in the church Monday to Thursday.

Private prayer and reflection is held in the church on the first Thursday of the month.

A course entitled 'Our Father' is being held online. The website gives details of access to the course.

A Home Prayer Group – 'Lectio Divina' is being held on two Wednesdays in October. More details may be obtained from a link on the website

St Helen Bishopsgate (st-helens.org.uk)

Four Public Services are held in the church on Sunday. The services are also online. To attend a service, worshippers are requested to register online before visiting the church, and to bring their own Bibles, notebooks and pens. Weekday talks are held on Tuesday and Thursday.

St James Garlickhythe (stjamesgarlickhythe.org)

Open Monday to Thursday and Sunday. There is a Public Sung Eucharist Service on Sunday. Morning Prayer, Eucharist and Evening Prayer are held in the church for the public, Monday to Thursday. Live Sunday and recorded services are available through the church's own [YouTube channel](#).

St Katharine Cree (stkatharinecree.com)

All services are held online, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

St Lawrence Jewry (stlawrencejewry.org.uk)

Open Monday to Friday for personal prayer. Public Services of Holy Communion are held on Wednesday and Friday. The Friday Service is also held online.

St Magnus the Martyr (stmagnusmartyr.org.uk)

Open Sunday and Tuesday to Friday. Public Services are held in the church on Sunday (Solemn Mass), Tuesday to Friday (Low Mass).

City of London Churches currently open or accessible online – *continued*

St Margaret Lothbury (stml.org.uk)

Open Monday to Friday. Public Services are held on Tuesday (Holy Communion) and Wednesday (Informal Worship); both services are also held online.

From 12 October on Mondays, Prayers for the City and the Church will be held in the church and online. Please visit the website for details.

Public Organ Recitals are held on Thursday (see the last two pages of this edition for details).

St Mary Abchurch (www.london-city-churches.org.uk)

Open Monday to Thursday for private prayer from 11:00 until 15:00. A Public Service of Holy Communion is held on Wednesday at 12:30. There is a public organ recital on Tuesday (see the final pages of this section for details).

St Mary Aldermary (moot.uk.net)

Open Monday to Friday for private prayer.

St Mary at Hill (www.stmary-at-hill.org)

Open Monday to Thursday for private prayer.

There is an online service on Thursday – 'Listen, Read and Pray' – a short service based on Anglican readings and prayers of the day. This is held via Zoom. For information on how to join please visit the website and follow the links from Services.

On the second Thursday of the month (except October when the event will be on the 15th) there will be a concert in the 'Square Mile Squared' series given by *Seraphim* (the St Mary at Hill choir) on Zoom.

St Mary le Bow (www.stmarylebow.org.uk)

Open Monday to Friday, with public prayer services in the church, some of which are streamed live. A Public Service of Eucharist is held on Wednesday.

St Michael Cornhill (www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15372)

The church does not appear to be open on a regular basis. There is usually a service in Mandarin on Sundays. A Virtual Organ Recital is held online on Monday (see the pages at the end of this edition for details).

St Nicholas Cole Abbey (www.stnickchurch.org.uk)

The church does not appear to be open apart from services. There is a Public Service in the church on Sunday, and a public talk on Thursday (www.stnickstalks.org). Both are streamed via Zoom, and

St Olave Hart Street (saintolave.com)

Open Tuesday and Thursday for individual prayer. There is a Public Service in the church on Sunday, which is streamed via Zoom. Recitals have resumed (see the pages at the end of this edition for details).

St Sepulchre Newgate / Holy Sepulchre London (hsl.church)

The church does not appear to be open apart from services. There are Public Services in the church on Sunday and Tuesday, which are available online for a week thereafter. Alpha Online runs on Tuesday evenings via Zoom. There are more details on the website.

City of London Churches currently open or accessible online – *continued*

St Stephen Walbrook (ststephenwalbrook.net)

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Thursday's Public Service of Eucharist in the church is now without the choir, but it is preceded by a short separate performance Choral Classics.

Tuesday's 'Stop:Start' reflections are currently online. Wednesday's Morning Prayer is offered as a conference call. Details and recordings of previous services are on the website.

St Vedast alias Foster (vedast.org.uk)

Open Monday to Friday for prayer, contemplation and to light a candle.

Public Parish Mass on Sunday morning, mid-day Mass Monday to Friday, with Meditation on Monday.

Recorded services are available through the church's own [YouTube channel](#).

Temple Church (templechurch.com)

Open Monday to Friday for private prayer for those working/living in the Temple/Chambers only.

Public Services are held as follows:

Sunday – Holy Communion; Choral Mattins (Choral Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month ,

Wednesday – Choral Evensong; Thursday – Holy Communion.

Full information is on the website. Organ Recitals are held online. There are more details in the Events section at the end of this edition

The Dutch Church (www.dutchchurch.org.uk)

There is a Public Sunday Service in Dutch, with a recording of the most recent service on the home page of the website.

Private tours are available Monday to Thursday by appointment only (please call 020 7588 1684).

St Mary Moorfields (parish.rcdow.org.uk/moorfields)

Open for prayer Monday to Friday. Public Services of Mass on Sunday morning, and lunchtime daily,

Monday to Friday. Information concerning **St Joseph Bunhill Row** can also be found on this website:

Mass on Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday, private prayer on Friday.

**Events and Recitals:
Monday 12 October to Sunday 25 October 2020**

Monday 12 October

1300 St Michael Cornhill

Organ Recital: Ian Curror

Programme:

A celebration of Vaughan Williams's birthday and the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's voyage to America. Music will include works by Vaughan Williams, Percy Whitlock, (part of his *Plymouth Suite*), Herbert Howells and Ian Curror. "Ballad for Priscilla Mullins" from *Four Mayflower Portraits*, a new composition by the Plymothian, Clive Jenkins will also feature. Priscilla Mullins was a passenger on *Mayflower*.

For more information concerning the recital and a link to Zoom, please visit [Services and Events](#) on the church's website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15372

1300 St Stephen Walbrook [Online Choral Classics](#) –

Music and Readings with the Choral Scholars

Choral Classics at St Stephen Walbrook offer thirty minutes of sublime choral music from our Choral Scholars interspersed with readings on a theme.

Tuesday 13 October

1230 St Mary Abchurch

Organ Recital: Ian Shaw.

The recital will usually include an improvisation

1300 St Stephen Walbrook Lunchtime Recital

For more information please visit:

<https://ststephenwalbrook.net/events/>

and follow the link at the date of the recital

1315 St Bride Fleet Street

Public Recital: The Venner Quartet

Sam Kennedy – *violin* Charlie Morris – *violin*
Heather Bourne – *viola* Elisheba Stevens – *cello*

Programme:

Mendelssohn – String Quartet Op 44 No 1
i. Molto allegro vivace

Four Danish Folk Songs – (arranged by The Danish String Quartet)

For more information please visit:

<http://www.stbrides.com/music/recitals.php>

Free Admittance – Retiring Collection

1315 St Bride Fleet Street

Live recitals have now resumed in church each Tuesday & Friday at 1315 but we are continuing to offer recitals online for those who cannot attend.

We are delighted to present the cellist Nigel Blomiley.

This online recital has been created from a live recording of a recital at St Bride's Church on Friday 2 October 2020.

To access the recital, visit

<http://www.stbrides.com/music/recitals.php>

Programme:

J S Bach – Cello Suite no. 1 in G major BWV 1007
Cello Suite no. 3 in C major BWV 1009

Wednesday 14 October

1300 St Olave Hart Street

Public Recital: Eleanor Meynell – *piano*

Programme:

Schubert – *Moments Musicaux* Op 94 D 780

Mozart – Piano Sonata in A major K 351

For more information please visit: <http://saintolave.com/recitals/>

1315 St Dunstan in the West Public Recital

Sofia Gómez Alberto – *violin* Arthur di Francesco – *piano*

1315 Temple Church

Online Organ Recital

Periodically a link will be posted to fabulous organ music.

This opens with Roger Sayer, Director of Music at Temple Church performing the Finale of *Symphonie No 8* by Widor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6CG6qrnZw&feature=emb_logo

Thursday 15 October

1215 St Stephen Walbrook [Choral Classics Live](#)

Music and Readings with the Choral Scholars

Choral Classics at St Stephen Walbrook offer thirty minutes of sublime choral music from our Choral Scholars interspersed with readings on a theme.

For more information please visit:

<https://ststephenwalbrook.net/events/>

and follow the link at the date of the recital

1300 St Olave Hart Street Recital:

Ana Bursac – *piano*

For more information please visit: <http://saintolave.com/recitals/>

1310 St Margaret Lothbury Public Organ Recital:

Richard Townend plays "A European Organ Tour" (3)

It is essential to visit <http://stml.org.uk/> to ascertain details of social distancing and other requirements. It should be noted that there is a limit of 20 persons allowed to attend the recital.

1815 St Mary at Hill

Harvest of the Sea

Our Fish Harvest Festival Service cannot take place this year but you are invited to join us online on Zoom for two consecutive events:

1815 *Space to Be* – 15 minutes of guided prayer
and

1845 *A Fishery of Souls* – A 45 minute performance
by *Seraphim* the St Mary at Hill choir

The music to be performed will include

'They that go down to the sea in ships' by Herbert Sumsion

Tickets need to be purchased to access the Zoom

Please visit: <https://www.stmary-at-hill.org/> for details.

There is more about this event in the article on the front page of this edition of City Events

Friday 16 October

1315 St Bride Fleet Street

Public Recital: Alicia Juan – *piano*

Programme:

Grieg – Piano Sonata Op 7

M Glinka/ V Gryaznov – *Valse Fantasie*

Medtner – Two Fairy Tales Op 20

For more information please visit:

<http://www.stbrides.com/music/recitals.php>

Free Admittance – Retiring Collection

**Events and Recitals:
Monday 12 October to Sunday 25 October 2020
continued**

Monday 19 October

1300 **St Michael Cornhill**

Organ Recital: Frederick Stocken

Programme:

Percy Buck – Sonata No 2

Frederick Stocken – *Mysterium Fidei*

For more information concerning the recital and a link to Zoom, please visit [Services and Events](#) on the church's website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15372

1300 **St Stephen Walbrook** Online Choral Classics –

Music and Readings with the Choral Scholars

Choral Classics at St Stephen Walbrook offer thirty minutes of sublime choral music from our Choral Scholars interspersed with readings on a theme.

Tuesday 20 October

1230 **St Mary Abchurch**

Organ Recital: Ian Shaw.

The recital will usually include an improvisation

1300 **St Stephen Walbrook**

Lunchtime Recital

For more information please visit:

<https://ststephenwalbrook.net/events/>

and follow the link at the date of the recital

1315 **St Bride Fleet Street**

Public Recital: **Walker Rowlands**

Chris Walker – *Uilleann bagpipes* Dave Rowlands – *Border bagpipes*

Programme:

The very full list includes works by William Vickers (c 1770), Nicolas Chédeville (1739), Michelle Corrette (1707-1795), W P G Lopez, J B de Boismortier (1689-1755), and traditional pieces by unknown composers

The programme will include a Suite – 'The Bells'.

This is a compilation of works by John Parry (pre 1841),

William Felton (1786) and William Vickers (c 1770)

and a traditional (pre 1761) march by an unknown composer

For more information please visit:

<http://www.stbrides.com/music/recitals.php>

Free Admittance – Retiring Collection

There is more about this event in the article on the front page of this edition of City Events

Wednesday 21 October

1300 **St Olave Hart Street**

Public Recital: Constance Chow – *piano*

For more information please visit: <http://saintolave.com/recitals/>

Thursday 22 October

1215 **St Stephen Walbrook** Choral Classics Live

Music and Readings with the Choral Scholars

Choral Classics at St Stephen Walbrook offer thirty minutes of sublime choral music from our Choral Scholars interspersed with readings on a theme.

For more information please visit:

<https://ststephenwalbrook.net/events/>

and follow the link at the date of the recital

1300 **St Olave Hart Street** Public Recital:

Agata Daraškaitė – *violin* James Cheung – *piano*

For more information please visit: <http://saintolave.com/recitals/>

1310 **St Margaret Lothbury** Public Organ Recital:

Richard Townend plays "A European Organ Tour" (4)

It is essential to visit <http://stml.org.uk/> to ascertain details of social distancing and other requirements. It should be noted that there is a limit of 20 persons allowed to attend the recital.

Friday 23 October

1315 **St Bride Fleet Street** Public Recital:

Emily Owen – *soprano* James Bramley – *lute and theorbo*

Programme:

Works by Henry Purcell (1659-1695);

Thomas Campion (1567-1620);

Hieronymus Kapsberger (c 1580-1651);

Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)

(particularly for the theorbo);

John Bennett (c 1576-c 1614);

and Barbara Strozzi (1619-1671).

For more information please visit:

<http://www.stbrides.com/music/recitals.php>

Free Admittance – Retiring Collection

Additional information:

It is interesting to note that **Barbara Strozzi** (also called Barbara Valle) was an Italian virtuoso singer and composer (rare at that time for a woman) of vocal music of the Baroque Period. During her lifetime, Strozzi published eight volumes of her own music, thus having more music in print than any other composer of the era. She achieved this without any support from the customary patronage of the Church or the nobility.

1315 **St Dunstan in the West** Public Recital

Susanna Gilardoni Mirski – *soprano* David Smith – *piano*

Save the date:

The Wren Lecture at **St Bride Fleet Street** on Thursday 29 October

More details will be given in the next edition of City Events.

In the meantime more information may be made available on the church's website: www.stbrides.com