

Born in Newcastle in 1944, **Brian Varley** began playing the organ at the age of 14 under Jack Wolstenholme at Newcastle Royal Grammar School, followed by 4 years of lessons with John Webster, University Organist, whilst a chemistry student at Oxford. He was privileged to spend 2 years in Hamburg, working with Professor Rose Kirn, and 7 years playing the organ regularly in Southwell Minster. He became Organist and Choirmaster of St. Andrew's, Bishop Auckland in 1990, the largest parish church in Co. Durham with its fine 3 manual, 42 stop, organ, completely rebuilt by Harrison & Harrison in 1989. Having kept up his organ practice throughout a busy business career, Brian again took up serious organ study in 2000 as a pupil of James Lancelot (Durham Cathedral) and was awarded his ARCO in 2003. Recitals have included Newcastle Cathedral and Southwell Minster.

Since beginning the project in 2007, when he was invited to take part, Brian has enjoyed playing a key rôle in commissioning the new Kenneth Tickell organ for St. Mary's RC Cathedral, Newcastle, dedicated in February 2013.

**Mike Walton** was born in Derbyshire and played with Killamarsh, Eckington and Cresswell Colliery Brass Bands, before studying trumpet at the Northern School of Music, Manchester. After leaving college he freelanced with the D'Oyly Carte and London Festival Ballet Orchestras, eventually moving to the North East of England where he has continued his freelance career as a soloist, orchestral trumpet player, arranger and examiner. He still enjoys playing, composing/arranging and running his Music Publishing Company - "Sound The Trumpets".

**Brian Tanner** is a scientist by profession but a musician at heart. Since 1973, he has been a member of the academic staff of Durham University, where he is currently Professor of Physics and Dean of Knowledge Transfer. He first played the organ at the age of 9 on an instrument in the workshop of the family organ building firm founded by his great-grandfather in 1919 and surviving until the 1950s. While at Oxford, between 1965 and 1973, he had lessons first with John Webster at University College and then with the great recitalist Nicholas Danby. From 1971-3, he was organist and choirmaster at Wesley Memorial Church in Oxford. After a six year period as organist at St Cuthbert's Church Durham, he moved to Elvet Methodist Church, Durham where he is presently Organist and Choirmaster. He is also a double bassist, playing with the New Tyneside Orchestra.

#### Soloists

Andreas Ensemble: Julie McGrath (soprano) "Rejoice Christ is born!"

## "Music and Minee Pigs", an evening with the ANDREAS ENSEMBLE



The Andreas Ensemble, directed by Brian Varley.  
Prince Bishops Brass, directed by Mike Walton  
Brian Tanner (organ)

## PROGRAMME

St. Andrew's, South Church, Bishop Auckland,  
Friday, 6th December, 2012 at 7.30 pm

The **ANDREAS ENSEMBLE**, first formed in Spring 2005, provides a wonderful opportunity centred in Bishop Auckland for people to extend their singing skills and knowledge and to come together and perform music from our glorious heritage of church music, the music of the great cathedral choirs of England and of Europe, alongside secular items like madrigals and part-songs.

The Andreas Ensemble is an occasional choir, performing not only in St. Andrew's from time to time, but in other churches and locations around the region. It is by nature inter-church and inter-denominational (its members come from churches of all denominations, including Methodist, Roman Catholic, Anglican and others, but also individuals who are not currently associated with any particular religious organisation).

It therefore in no sense competes with parish choirs singing every Sunday in their own churches; indeed two of our members are Choirmasters in other churches some distance away. Its members are drawn from all over County Durham. If you might be interested in joining the Andreas Ensemble or finding out more, please contact Brian. We'd be pleased to hear from you.

The Andreas Ensemble is available to sing services in other churches by invitation, for weddings and to take part in concerts or other festivities.



Contact details:  
 Brian Varley, tel. 01388 606075  
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 Andreas Ensemble website:  
[http://bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/Andreas\\_Ensemble.html](http://bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/Andreas_Ensemble.html)



**Prince Bishops Brass** Ensemble was formed by a group of brass playing friends who would meet each other whilst playing at various locations around the North of England. During the countless bars rest they encountered while playing for Choral Societies, Operatic Companies, Symphony Orchestras, Brass Bands, Function Bands and Big Bands they decided to get together as a Brass Quintet to eliminate the need to count quite as much. The line up of instruments is 2 Trumpets (doubling Flugel Horn, Eb and Piccolo Trumpet) French Horn, Trombone and Tuba. Being based in County Durham the name Prince Bishops Brass Ensemble was the obvious choice.

Contact details:  
 Stuart Gray, tel. 0191 5251676  
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 Prince Bishops website: [www.princebishopsbrass.co.uk](http://www.princebishopsbrass.co.uk)



## PROGRAMME

Note: The programme is divided into sections. Should you wish to applaud, it is suggested that you might like to do so at the end of each section, rather than after each individual item. Many thanks.

O Come all ye faithful (with fanfare)	J.F. Wade arr. Willcocks	For All to sing
5-part motet "Jesu, meine Freude"	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	Choir & Organ continuo
Pastime With Good Company. attributed to Henry VIII. arr. Stephen Roberts	Henry VIII (1491-1547)	Brass
Adagio (arr. Stephen McNeff)	Samuel Barber (1910-1981)	Brass
Patapan (arr. Robert Willis)	Traditional	Brass
This is the Truth sent from above	Engl. traditional carol arr. RVW (1872-1958)	Choir
Hodie Christus natus est (à 8)	Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)	Choir & Brass
In dulci jubilo (à 8)	Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)	Choir & Brass
Rejoice, Christ is born!	Bruno Vlahek (1986-)	Choir & Organ
<b>INTERVAL</b>		
Psalm 100 "Sing and be joyful" (à 8)	Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)	Choir, Brass & Organ
Sussex Carol traditional (arr. Roger Harvey)	Traditional	Brass
Infant Holy. Polish carol (arr. Roger Harvey)	Polish carol	Brass
Coventry Carol (arr. Roger Harvey)	Old English	Brass
Past 3' O'clock (arr. Roger Harvey)	Traditional	Brass
As shepherds watched their fleecy care	Joseph Key (composed 1785)	Choir & Organ
Arise and hail the happy day	Thomas Clark (composed ca.1830)	Choir & Organ
Lift up your heads	Thomas Clark (composed ca.1830)	Choir & Organ
A great and mighty wonder	Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)	Choir
Hark the herald angels sing (with fanfare)	Mendelssohn (1809-1847) arr. Willcocks	For All to sing