



# Cleveland Organists' & Choirmasters' Association



[www.co-ca.org](http://www.co-ca.org)

## News from Richard Hird, Durham Diocesan Organ Adviser MIDDLESBROUGH TOWN HALL ORGAN

“I was invited to a preliminary meeting of 4 "lobbyists" at Middlesbrough Town Hall with the aim of getting attention for the state of the organ and the need for a project to restore it properly now that the building itself has been revamped so well. I think the approach was not unexpected and was sympathetically received, but of course, its not as simple as wishing for things to happen. They next need to set up a procedure to assess what's needed for the good of the organ and the means to achieve and promote that, including probable grant-funding (and a public appeal?). I gathered there may be some form of steering group to be set up, and we recommended an approach to the [AIOA](#) for authoritative advice as a first step even before approaching organ-builders. It's early days only a few days from the meeting, so the ball is in the Town Hall's court for action.”

(Association members probably know that the Town Hall organ, last refurbished by Jacksons in the 1970s under then Borough Organist Eddie Dalby's direction, has been unplayable for a number of years. Steve Maltby tells me that efforts are being made to get the blower started—*B.L.*)

## Ushaw

### Edwin Bonney Organ Recital Series

[www.ushaw.org](http://www.ushaw.org)

**Roger Fisher**

**International Recitalist, Teacher and Organ Adviser**

**Saturday, 30 June 2018 at 2.30pm**

Roger Fisher took early retirement from Chester Cathedral in 1996 to concentrate on a career as a recitalist, teacher and adviser on organ construction. From January 1997 until the end of 2004 he was Features Editor of Organists' Review.

Born in Woodford, Essex, he was educated at Bancroft's School and studied at the Royal College of Music with Dr Harold Darke and Prof. Herbert Howells, gaining his ARCM, FRCO and CHM diplomas and winning the Geoffrey Tankard Prize for Organ playing. In 1959 he became Organ Scholar at Christ Church, Oxford and studied with Dr Sydney Watson, Dr Bernard Rose and Dr H. Kennedy Andrews. During his student years he was Organist of St Mark's, Regent's Park in London. He became Assistant Organist of Hereford Cathedral in 1962, and Assistant Lecturer in Music at Hereford College of Education in 1963.

He has frequently been asked to act as organ adviser to churches, chapels and cathedrals and has also advised on organ projects in colleges and concert halls. He tours frequently and extensively as a recitalist in Europe, Scandinavia and North America and has visited Australia and South Africa on several occasions.

Programme to include:-

- Prelude and Fugue in E flat major - J.S. Bach
- Divertimento - Percy Whitlock
- Sonata No. 1 in D minor - Alexandre Guilmant

*Retiring Collection*

*Cafe and Gift Shop open 11.00am - 4.00pm*

