

MORLAND CHORISTERS CAMP STAFF : SEPTEMBER 2017



Sophie Baird attended nine Morland camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2011. Gaining a music scholarship at school, she achieved Grade 8 singing at the age of 14 and was in the Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year in 2005. More recently she was part of the winning choir of Choir of the Year (Voices of Hope) with whom she will be competing at Let the Peoples Sing in Helsinki in October. Outside of singing Sophie works in Public Health, plays the harp and enjoys all sports, particularly lacrosse.



Benjy Clarke graduated last summer from Royal Holloway with a BA Hons French and Drama and has just completed a Masters in EU External Relations at the Brussels School of International Studies. He enjoys foreign languages and cultures, having spent a year in La Réunion as well as his year in Brussels, has sung in a range of choirs and performed in a wide variety of plays and musicals, from Tartuffe and Mercury Fur to Guys and Dolls and The Gondoliers. Benjy attended eleven Morland camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2017.



Letty Cornwell graduated from Leeds University in 2015 with a BA in Theatre & Performance, specialising in applied theatre, and now works in Events Management for The Hoxton in London. She has Grade 8 voice, and has a keen interest in both musical theatre and conducting. Her other interests include beauty, fitness, and baking in every spare hour of the day in the hope that one day she can bring out a cookbook! Letty attended ten camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2017.



Ruth Evans read Earth Sciences at Oxford University, with a Choral Scholarship, then gained a Masters in Editorial Musicology from Bangor University, and is now a Producer at Welsh National Opera and is responsible for the company's community opera and North Wales programmes. She is the conductor of Canu Conwy, Côr Dewi Sant, Sêr Caerdydd (John Lewis Partnership Cardiff choir) and is part of the tutor team at Sing for Pleasure and CânSing. Ruth is a Welsh rugby supporter, Westie lover and weekend hockey player. She attended five Morland Camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2007.



Don Gillthorpe is Director of Music & Performing Arts at Ripley St Thomas C of E Academy in Lancaster (which was named as 'Best Music Department, 2017' in this year's Music Teacher awards), and Director of Music at Lancaster Priory. He is also a Specialist Leader in Music Education, supporting music departments in other schools, a conducting tutor and Head of Publications for Sing for Pleasure, directs Vox Boys' Choir (an auditioned consort for boys aged 14-19) and is in demand as a choral workshop leader and singing teacher specialising in boys' changing voices. Don attended 9 Camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2007.



Simon Gordon read Music at Lancaster and completed a PGCE there. He teaches Music and ICT at Appleby Grammar School and Music at Ullswater Community College in Penrith. He plays Synths and Hammond Organ with a Ska/Punk/Techno fusion band, he also plays Bass Clarinet and Air Guitar. He sang for 13 years in Appleby Parish Church choir, and now sings with Morland Church choir, made his debut as an organist there earlier this year, and directs the Crown Inn Singers, a community choir based in Morland which is fast becoming a fixture at all village events. Simon attended 11 Camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2003.



Emma Hall attended 14 Morland camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2017. She completed an MPhil in Egyptian and Mesopotamian Archaeology at Cambridge University in 2016, following her undergraduate degree in Archaeology at Durham University. Emma sang with multiple choirs in Cumbria and Durham, and has achieved Grade 8 clarinet and Grade 5 piano as well as representing Cambridge University at water polo. She is looking forward to starting work as a Museum Collection's Manager at the National Museum of Ras al-Khaimah, UAE, in October.



Naomi Hanley has attended eleven camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2012. After a degree in English Literature with Philosophy from Newcastle University, she gained her Primary PGCE at the University of Cambridge and went on to teach at Kimbolton School in Cambridgeshire, later moving to Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall in Lancashire where she now teaches Year 4. In her free time she enjoys hockey, reading and painting. Naomi was a music scholar at school and achieved Grade 7 oboe.



Andrew Hayman is a versatile musician, combining roles as a singer, accompanist, conductor, and teacher. He moved to Hampshire for a Lay Clerkship at Winchester Cathedral, having studied music at Oxford University and sung with the choirs of Magdalen College and Christ Church Cathedral. He runs a professional chamber choir, Nos Miseri Homines, specialising in sacred choral music from the past 600 years, is in demand as an accompanist all over Hampshire, and is about to take up the roles of Musical Director for the Hampshire County Youth Choirs and accompanist for Southampton Choral Society.



David Jones came to Morland in 1976, became Church Organist, and has served the Camp as accompanist, House Father, Trustee and in many other capacities. His wife Jenny and 4 children/stepchildren have all taken part. After an Economics degree and 10 years in industrial market research, he now does what he really wanted to do all along: teaches flute and piano; maintains/hires out pianos; has a camping site; runs Folk Dance and Scottish Country Dancing weeks and the *Taste of Morland* weekend event for younger choristers. He is also a Reader in the Church of England.



Stephen Keogh first attended camp as a chorister aged eleven in 1992. He joined the staff in 2003 and the 2017 camp was his twenty fifth. He met his wife Helen at camp and they were married in Morland Church in 2013. They moved to the village in 2014 and this year welcomed their first child Emma to the world. Away from his current job in the family business, which makes and sells home-made produce, he enjoys football, cricket and golf. Stephen read physical geography at Lancaster, has performed with his own rock band, and sings with Levens Choir and the Crown Inn Singers.



Cathy Martin gained a First Class Honours Degree in Music from Cardiff University, and is currently the Music and Worship Coordinator at St Martin-in-the-Fields. She was a member of Carlisle Cathedral Youth Choir, then of the Royal Northern Sinfonia Chorus during her gap year. In Cardiff she sang with the BBC National Chorus of Wales alongside many university choirs and ensembles, and was choir manager of the Palestrina Singers. Cathy has Grade 8 singing, Grade 7 violin and piano. She attended 12 camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2015.



Dave Mottershead gained a degree in Education Studies and a PGCE from Worcester University, and is now teaching Year 4 at a school in Kidderminster. He achieved Grade 6 piano and plays regularly in his current school, played the violin in the Cumbria Youth Orchestra, and as a long serving member in the Carlisle Youth Choir took part in tours in the UK and abroad. He plays hockey for his local first team and completed a local mud run which he highly recommends! Dave attended 9 Morland camps as a chorister, and before that was part of Taste of Morland for several years, and he joined the staff in 2017.



Margaret Parry trained as a general nurse at St George's Hospital, London. She specialised in Ear Nose & Throat and Neurosurgery before becoming a midwife. After getting married and living abroad for some years she went back to general nursing and became a district nurse before specialising again, this time as a palliative care clinical nurse specialist. For some 20 years Margaret sang with church choirs in Streatham (St Peter's and St Leonard's). Now retired and enjoying life in Cumbria, she sings sometimes with the Morland Parish Church choir.



Sarah Parry studied Politics and Economics at the University of York and, after a brief spell teaching English as a Foreign Language in South Korea, worked in the Civil Service in London for five years. When her department was shut down she decided to return to teaching and gained her PGCE in 2013 from London South Bank University, then took up a post in Moscow for three years, teaching in an international primary school and singing in the Moscow International Choir. Then, after a year as a primary school supply teacher around Cumbria, she returned to Moscow in 2017.



Henry Pearce gained a BSc in Music Technology from Birmingham Conservatoire and now has a busy career as a freelance sound engineer and live event technician, working at events all over the UK, Europe and the Middle East, with artists that include Nigel Kennedy, Rick Wakeman, The Fratellis, Lee Evans, Alexander Armstrong, Ross Noble, Beardyman and Darcey Bussell. He has just spent three weeks in Cannes working on the Lions Festival for Oracle the IT company. Henry's hobbies include travel, playing bass, snowboarding and sleeping. He attended 11 camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2016.



Emily Prescott trained as a teacher specialising in Special Educational Needs at St Martin's College, and is Head of Music & Performing Arts at a special school for children aged 3-16 in Morecambe, running a variety of music and performing arts clubs and singing groups across the school - including a recent 'whole school' production of Bugsy Malone with 120 SEN pupils all dancing/singing/acting! She met Richard when playing lead roles in amateur dramatic productions, and has just won the NODA award of 'Best Leading Female in a Musical' for her role as Mrs Lovett in Sweeney Todd. Emily joined the camp staff in 2016.



Richard Prescott's first camp was in 1995 and, despite being very home-sick at first, he hasn't missed a year since and joined the staff in 2010. He runs a company providing IT and Audio Visual services for schools, homes and businesses in Lancashire. In his spare time he enjoys running and technical theatre production. He has taken lead roles in musicals and sacred choral works, from West Side Story to Handel's Messiah, and is currently designing the lighting for Legally Blonde and Peter Pan.



Jamal Sutton is Assistant Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College. He plays for services and concerts, helps train and conduct the Quiristers and Chapel Choir, teaches piano, organ, composition and academic music, and directs *Cantores Episcopi*, the College's highly successful close harmony group. Previously Organ Scholar at Sidney Sussex College Cambridge, he now plays for many groups in Hampshire including Winchester Music Club and Winchester College Glee Club, is organist and harpsichordist for the St Endellion Easter Festival and deputises regularly as player and singer at Winchester Cathedral.



Oli Tarney (b. 1984) read music at Manchester University, where he completed a Masters' in composition. He is Head of Composition and Singing at Winchester College in Hampshire, where he conducts St Michael's Church choir, sings with the College's Chapel Choir, and at times with Winchester Cathedral choir. Several recent compositions have been published by OUP, his commission for Suzi Digby's *Ora Singers* is being recorded in the next few days, and future commissions include a St Mark Passion for St Endellion Easter Festival 2019. Oli has attended 10 Camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2008.



Carrie Thompson attended seven Camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 1998. She read Theology at Oxford (twice) and worked as a Learning Mentor in a primary school before being ordained in 2004. After a Curacy in Camberwell, she is now the Vicar of St John the Evangelist, Forton (Gosport) and Chair of Governors at St John's (C of E) Primary School. Despite being involved with choirs all her life, her greatest musical accomplishment is still Grade 1 descant recorder. Carrie shares her vicarage with her adoptive daughter Kay and a growing collection of animals.



Alice Toynton studied Natural sciences at Durham, completed a PGCE in secondary science at Cambridge and now teaches Science at Amesbury Prep school in Surrey. She has represented England under-18 at hockey, played hockey and cricket for the Durham University first teams, and at Cambridge played Hockey and Real Tennis in the Varsity Matches. Alice has Grade 8 singing and Grade 6 trumpet, plays the piano and is trying to teach herself the guitar, enjoys cooking and travelling, attended 11 camps as a chorister and joined the staff in 2016.



Nick Willmer joined the pastoral staff of Camp in 1978, later spent several years on the music staff, and since appointment as Trustee Secretary in the mid-1990s has fulfilled admin roles. He studied the organ, piano and singing at the Royal Academy of Music, and has directed church and school choirs, taught stringed and brass instruments, fallen asleep playing the piano for a recorder class, worked in banking and IT, and run courses on financial information and personal development, and was for many years an examiner for RSCM silver and bronze chorister awards.