

"Am sailing to westward"

The last flag signals flown by HMS Trinidad, May 1942, before she was abandoned and scuttled by torpedo, off the North Cape.

The music of George Lloyd is to be the subject of doctoral thesis by former Royal Marines Director of Music

Richard Harvey, a former Royal Marines Director of Music, has been appointed principal lecturer in Classical Performance and Conducting at the University of Salford. Richard retired after 25 years' service in 2013. During his time in the Royal Marines Band Service, Richard composed 'Am Sailing to Westward' which was premiered at the 2012 Mountbatten Festival of Music at the Royal Albert Hall. The piece depicts in words and music the story of George Lloyd's experiences on HMS Trinidad during the Arctic convoys of WW2 and was inspired by the melodic material of the Adagio from Lloyd's Symphony No. 6.

On leaving the Service, Richard embarked on a career in education, and after 3 years as the Bandmaster at a Naval boarding school, he assumed his current position as principal lecturer of Classical Performance and Conducting at the University of Salford - the very institution that bestowed an Honorary Doctorate on George Lloyd in 1992.

Alongside his teaching duties at the university, Richard continues his research into the life and work of George Lloyd for his own doctoral studies, the primary goal of which will be to raise the awareness and enjoyment of George's music through transcriptions, arrangements and new works based on symphonic material.

Richard Harvey says:

"I feel a real affinity with George Lloyd, both as a man and musician, and my time as a military musician serving on operations in Afghanistan has helped me to appreciate in a very small way what his experiences as a musician under fire must have been like. More importantly, I find his music fascinating and I am sure that one day he will be recognised as one of the most important English composers of the Twentieth Century.

I am currently engaged in discussions with a view to arranging the relocation of George Lloyd's archives to a new permanent home at the University of Salford. Most of Lloyd's original manuscripts and sketches were purchased by the British Library in London, but the George Lloyd Society retains a wealth of annotated scores, correspondence, photographs, and all the fine detail of his musical and business life, in the care of his nephew William. This will be a valuable resource for my own Doctoral thesis and for the students of the future ."

Richard and William Lloyd met in December 2019 and have formed a friendship which they hope will lead to several exciting projects in the not-too-distant future. They are currently planning performances of George Lloyds's music and Richard's composition 'Am Sailing to Westward' at events and festivals all over the country. Watch this space.





