



# South West Early Music Forum

registered charity no. 291319

## Workshop for Voices with Bruce Saunders

### The Western Wind

St Peters Church, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4LD

Saturday 31 January 2026 | 10am (10.30 start) - 5pm

£25 (non-members); £20 (EMF members); £5 (18-25's)

Organiser: Dr Chris Lovell / [chrislovell805@gmail.com](mailto:chrislovell805@gmail.com)

### The Workshop

From the early 15th Century, composers had built Mass setting around well-known liturgical chants, familiar from the feasts of favourite saints or popular festivals. But, knowing a good tune when they heard one, they also used secular songs in what were called 'parody masses'. Many composers across Europe used the tune of the secular song *L'homme armé*. Three English composers, John Taverner, Christopher Tye and John Sheppard, chose the other popular song of the day for their *Western Wind* masses.

In this workshop we'll be working on Taverner's exuberant *Gloria*, Tye's angelic *Sanctus* and Sheppard's luminous *Agnus Dei*. All three settings are for standard SATB vocal ranges. To make the most of the day, singers need to be competent sight-readers who enjoy the challenge of singing a cappella.

### The Tutor

Bruce Saunders was a choral scholar at Cambridge and a semi-professional oratorio and recital singer. He was a founder member of The Westron Wind, the Bristol based group responsible for some of the first early -instrument- performances of Schutz, Monteverdi and Bach in the country. In London he founded and for more than twenty years directed New Renaissance Voices, an early music vocal ensemble. Returning to Bristol in 2014, he founded and for the last ten years directed Nova, Bristol's specialist early music vocal ensemble.

### The Venue

St Peter's Church has a car park and street parking is available nearby.

### How to get there

Travelling by car from M5; leave at Junction 16 on A38 to Bristol, via Patchway and Filton. At Filton roundabout follow B4056 towards Henleaze and Westbury on Trym, passing Southmead Hospital. Just past Henleaze Garden Centre and an Esso garage turn left on The Drive. The church is on your left after about 200 yards.

Several buses run from the City Centre, including 2, 2a, Y6 and 77, serve Henleaze Road (B4056); service 2 connects with Temple Meads Station and Bristol Bus Station. It is a short walk from Henleaze Road along The Drive to the church.

## **Catering**

Tea and coffee will be available from 9.45 am and during the breaks. If possible, please bring your own mug/cup.

Lunch is not provided. By all means bring a packed lunch. Failing that, there are several shops on Henleaze Road. There are also several eating places. Chandos Deli is good, serving light lunches (on Henleaze Road, opposite the turning to The Drive). Eastfield Inn is also on Henleaze Road, about 1/3 mile to the right on leaving The Drive.

## **St Peter's Church details**

The Drive, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4LD

0117 962 4524

info@stpetershenleaze.com

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Booking forms available on the SWEMF website: [swemf.org.uk/event/13069/](http://swemf.org.uk/event/13069/)

Bookings close: Saturday 24 January.