



RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

PLACES

Graham Muncy

CAMBRIDGE



Trinity College – Cambridge

- RVW took his main degrees in music 1894, history in 1895 & also his D.Mus. later.
- He gained performance experience as choral conductor & several early smaller pieces were performed by Cambridge University Music Society.
- *The Wasps* incidental music commissioned by the University Greek Play Committee & first performed at New Theatre, 26/11/1909.
- *Old King Cole* first performed at Neville's Court,

CUMBRIA



Seatoller, Borrowdale

- RVW along with George Macaulay Trevelyan, George E. Moore and Mauric Amos held reading parties in 1895.

DORSET



Pokesdown Technical School – Christchurch Road – Bournemouth

- In the winter of 1902, RVW lectured on Folk & National Song.



Winter Gardens – Bournemouth

- (Old Winter Gardens demolished 1935).
- Several of RVW's early orchestral works were first performed here by the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, under Dan Godfrey:
- *Serenade in A minor*. 1898. (4/4/1901)
- *Bucolic Suite*. 1900. (10/3/1902)
- *Symphonic Rhapsody*. 1904. (7/3/1904)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE



The Vicarage – Down Ampney

- Ralph Vaughan Williams was born here (now a private residence) 12/10/1872.



All Saint's Church – Down Ampney

- RVW's father, Rev. Arthur Vaughan Williams, was Vicar here from 1868 until his death, 9/2/1875 & is buried in the churchyard.
- There is a permanent display (provided by RVW Society) at the base of church tower.



Gloucester Cathedral

- Main venue for Three Choirs Festival (one year in three).
- *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* famously premiered here 6/9/1910.
- Also premiers of *Introduction & Scene – Poisoned Kiss* (County Hall 1937) & *Fantasia on the Old 104th*. – 1950.
- RVW attended the Festival most years.

SURREY



Charterhouse School – Godalming

- RVW was a pupil here 1887 – 1890.
- The school has a 'Vaughan Williams' Music Centre
- Bronze relief copy of the composer by David McFall.



Christ Church – Coldharbour (nr Dorking)

- RVW's parents (Arthur Vaughan Williams & Margaret Wedgwood) married here (22/2/1868)
- Various family graves in churchyard.



Dorking Halls – Dorking

- RVW was a prime mover in the provision of this venue with the Leith Hill Musical Festival moving here in 1931 when it opened.
- Bronze relief of RVW by David McFall (1961) in foyer & fine statue of composer outside by William Fawke, unveiled by Ursula Vaughan Williams (19/4/2001).
- www.dorkinghalls.co.uk
- Leith Hill Musical Festival held annually in March / April – "A living memorial" to the composer.



Drill Hall, Drill Hall Road – Dorking

- Home of the Leith Hill Musical Festival (conducted by RVW), between 1922 & 1930. Important for housing premieres of three RVW works at the 1930 festival – *Benedicite*, *Three Choral Hymns* & *The Hundredth Psalm*.



Leith Hill Place – Coldharbour (nr Dorking)

- Home of the Wedgwood family.
- RVW lived here with his mother & siblings from 1874 until he first settled in London.
- He was a frequent visitor throughout his life.
- After inheriting the house in 1944, he quickly passed ownership to The National Trust.
- No current public access to interior but exterior may be viewed from public footpaths.



St. Martin's Church – Dorking

- Designed by Henry Woodyer & completed in 1877, RVW directed many concerts here during World War 2, including performances of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*.
- Copy of McFall bronze relief of composer in porch & interesting collection of hassocks inspired by RVW's compositions in Lady Chapel.



Public Hall, West Street – Dorking

- Built originally 1871-2, this was the original home of the Leith Hill Musical Festival, (10/5/1905) & conducted by RVW.
- Building currently under re-development



Surrey Performing Arts Library (Denbies Wine Estate – Dorking)

- Contains permanent display on RVW – life & works plus other changing displays. Major collections of RVW scores, books, recordings other materials & information.



Tanhurst, Coldharbour (nr Dorking)

- Former home of Vaughan Williams' paternal family.
- Close to Leith Hill Place



White Gates, Nutcombe Lane. (Site of only) – Dorking

- Apart from the views & general location, there is regretfully now nothing to see of RVW's former home (1929 – 1953). The large bungalow in its own extensive grounds was demolished in 1964. Among works composed here were *Symphonies 4 – 7*, *Serenade to Music*, *Five Tudor Portraits*, the film music & much of *The Pilgrim's Progress*.



White Horse, – Dorking

- VV rehearsed the Leith Hill Music Festival here during WW2.

EAST SUSSEX



Rottingdean – Brighton

- RVW attended prep. School, Field House (now St. Aubyn's) High St. (1883-1886)



Hove – Brighton

- All Saints Parish Church.
- RVW married Adeline Fisher here, 9/10/1897.

WEST SUSSEX



The Plough Inn – Rusper, Horsham

- VW collected folk songs from here 1907-08.
- He heard the landlord, Mr. Penfold, sing *What Hurricane Wind*, *Green Broom*, *The Miller of the Dee*, *The Turtle Dove* and *The trees they do grow high*.

LINCOLNSHIRE



Gunby Hall – Nr.Spilsby (National Trust)

- Home of Ralph's cousin, Diana Montgomery-Massingberd.
- Ralph composed *Happy Day at Gumby* for performance here in 1892.

HEREFORD



Hereford Cathedral

- Venue for Three Choirs Festival (one year in three).
- *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* premiered 12/9/1912
- RVW attended most years.

ESSEX



Ingrave – (nr Brentwood)

- RVW collected his first folk songs (including *Bushes & Briars*) here from labourer, Charles Pottipher – 4/12/1903, & returned on later collecting visits.

NORFOLK



King's Lynn

- In early 1905, RVW stayed in the town & collected many songs from sailors & fishermen, including *Spanish Ladies*, *On Board the Ninety-Eight* & *The Captain's Apprentice*.

YORKSHIRE



Leeds Town Hall

- The Leeds Festival Chorus premiered 2 important RVW choral works as part of the Leeds Festival:
- *Toward the Unknown Region* (10/10/1907) & *The Sea Symphony* (12/10/1910)

LONDON



10 Barton Street – Westminster

- Ralph & Adeline moved here after their marriage in 1899, moving out in 1905 to Cheyne Walk, Chelsea.
- *English Hymnal*



The British Library – Euston Road

- Ursula Vaughan Williams donated most of Ralph's manuscripts, papers & letters to the music collections.



13 Cheyne Walk – Chelsea

- Main home for Ralph & Adeline between 1905 & 1929.
- Many major works composed here: *On Wenlock Edge*, *'Tallis' Fantasia*, *London Symphony*, *Hugh the Drover*, etc.



English Folk Dance & Song Society (EFDSS) 2 Regent's Park Road – London, NW1 7AY

- RVW was a member from early on, contributing to the Journal & later becoming President.
- The Vaughan Williams Memorial Library is a treasure-trove of documentation with manuscripts & recordings covering RVW's collecting activities.
- www.efdss.org.uk



10 Hanover Terrace (Regent's Park)

- Ralph & Ursula moved here on their marriage in 1953 & Ralph died here 26/8/1958. Blue plaque.
- Major works composed here: *Hodie*, *Symphonies 8 & 9*.



Queen's Hall, Langham Place. (site of, now St.George's Hotel).

- London's premier concert hall, opened 1893 & original home of the Proms, destroyed by bombing in 1941
- Many RVW works were premiered here:
1st. Norfolk Rhapsody (1906) *London Symphony* (1914) *Pastoral Symphony* (1922) *Flos Campi* (1925) *Piano Concerto* (1933) *Suite for Viola & Orchestra* (1934) *Symphony No. 4* (1935) *Flourish for a Coronation* (1937)



Royal College of Music (South Kensington)

- RVW had two periods of study here 1890-1892 / 1894-1895. He taught composition here in 1920s – 1940s & 2 of his operas were first produced here – *Hugh the Drover* & *Sir John In Love*.



Royal College of Organists (South Kensington)

- This was the original building of the Royal College of Music and where VW first met Gustav Holst.



Royal Festival Hall (South Bank Centre)

- Major London concert venue built as part of the 1951 Festival of Britain.
- Ralph's 85th. birthday celebrations & concert held here + premiere of *9th. Symphony* (2/4/1958)



Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

- Premiere of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, conducted by Leonard Hancock, 26/4/1951.



St. Barnabas Church, South Lambeth.

- RVW's only paid post was as Organist & Choirmaster here between 1895 & 1898. He had rooms in the nearby St. Barnabas Villas.



Westminster Abbey

- For the 1937 Coronation, RVW composed the *Festival Te Deum in F Major*.
- For the 1953 Coronation, he produced his arrangement of the *Old Hundredth Psalm Tune (All People That On Earth Do Dwell)*.
- On 17th September 1958, his ashes were buried in the Abbey during a special memorial service. Those of Ursula joined her husband's in 2008.

MANCHESTER



Free Trade Hall

- Earlier home of the Halle Orchestra. Hall sold in 1977 & developed as an hotel but retaining many original features including original façade. Now Radisson Edwardian Hotel.
- Premiere of RVW's *Symphony No.8 in D Minor*, conducted by Sir John Barbirolli – (2/5/1956)

OXFORD



Sheldonian Theatre

- Premiere of the Oratorio, *Sancta Civitas* by Oxford Bach Choir, soloists & orchestra, conducted by Hugh Allen, 7/5/1926.



Queen's College

- First public performance of *An Oxford Elegy* directed by Bernard Rose, 19/6/1952.

SURREY



Reigate Priory

- Premiere of Music for '*The Pilgrim's Progress*' (as part of dramatization) directed by RVW, 1/12/1906.

NORFOLK



Sheringham

- Ralph & Adeline rented a house here 1919-21 where much of *A Pastoral Symphony* was composed. Plaque on house.

SUFFOLK



Southwold – Suffolk

- RVW visited Southwold & surrounding areas on a folk song collecting expedition with George Butterworth in October 1910. Songs collected included *The Royal George*.

WARWICKSHIRE



Stratford-upon-Avon

- RVW was musical director for Sir. Frank Benson's Shakespeare season 1913.
- *Pan's Anniversary* – A masque by Ben Jonson with music arranged by RVW & Holst was first performed here 24/4/1905. (Probably its only performance).

HEREFORDSHIRE



Weobley

- RVW visited in 1909 to assist local folklorist, Ella Leather to collect & notate songs & carols from the local area. Notable results were such songs as *The Truth Sent From Above* & *The Unquiet Grave*.

WORCESTER



Worcester Cathedral

- Main venue for 'Three Choirs Festival' (one year in three).
- Premiers of *Five Mystical Songs*, 14/9/1911; *Magnificat*, 8/9/1932 & *Hodie*, 8/9/1954, all conducted by RVW.
- RVW attended most years.



the RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS SOCIETY

www.rvwsociety.com

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