

WHEN
IN OUR
Music
GOD IS GLORIFIED

THE PRATT GREEN TRUST
FOUNDED 1984

*“We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.”*

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

INTRODUCTION

The Methodist hymnwriter Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) was a poet and hymnwriter in the tradition of Charles Wesley. The relevance and theological rigour of his work transcends the generations with hymns such as ‘When In Our Music God Is Glorified,’ ‘For The Fruits Of All Creation,’ and ‘Christ is the World’s Light.’ His hymn ‘The Church of Christ, in Every Age’ exemplifies his concern: the unity and renewal of Christ’s church, particularly through involvement in social justice.

Fred Pratt Green’s work is published widely by Stainer & Bell Ltd in the UK and by Hope Publishing Company in the USA. His hymns are well represented in hymnbooks across the world. *The Lutheran Book of Worship* (USA, 1978) included five of his hymns; *The Hymnal* 1982 (Episcopal Church of the USA), contained eight. *Hymns and Psalms* (Methodist Church, UK, 1983) contained 27 of his hymns and its successor *Singing the Faith* (2011) contains 24. His work continues to be widely chosen for new hymn collections. In 1984, in order to disburse his increasing royalty income, he established the trust that bears his name.

The Trust’s aim is to further the cause of hymnody. It seeks to achieve this by allocating grants to organisations and individuals whose work falls within that area. Over three decades the charity’s trustees have followed the hymnwriter’s wishes that they should concentrate on projects that are unlikely otherwise to be fulfilled, and to spend funds, rather than hoard them for undefined future needs. *HymnQuest* is a prime example which fulfils both these conditions. The bar-charts in this document give an indication of the way in which monies have been disbursed. They are presented in three sections, according to the purposes of the Trust listed below, and illustrated with examples.

PURPOSE OF THE TRUST

- 1 To advance public education in the field of church music and other music suitable for religious purposes and in the field of hymnody.
- 2 To provide prizes, scholarships, bursaries and other grants for church musicians concerned with the composition and rendering of religious music and for hymnwriters.
- 3 To make donations to (2) or otherwise further the objects of other charities carrying on in whole or in part objects similar to the objects set out in (1) and (2) above.

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PUBLIC EDUCATION



Pratt Green Collection, Durham University

In its early years the Trust helped to establish Durham University as the UK library specializing in archive material relating to hymnody. The *Pratt Green Collection* of hymnody was set up at the university in 1987. Dr Pratt Green provided a core by donating his own collection of hymnals and works on hymnody. He also ensured that his own original notebooks were photocopied, bound and retained by the university. The need for a 'Centre for the Study of Hymnody' had first been proposed by Professor J R Watson. The Trust later donated to the *Pratt Green Collection* a further 1,400 volumes left to them by Oxford University Press.

Part of the collection's purpose is to facilitate the study of the alterations made in standard hymnals from one edition to another, and the changes in taste, theology and liturgy that they represent. As referenced in S. Doyle's 'The Pratt Green Hymnology Collection in Durham University Library,' *Durham University Journal* 81, 307-8, most of the hymnals received are in English, with a sprinkling of other languages, including some non-European. Early items include William Tans'ur's Works (1737-38), William Knapp's Set of *New Psalms and Anthems* (1750), and various 18th and early 19th century hymnals printed in the provinces. There are proof copies of *The English Hymnal* (1906) annotated by Percy Dearmer, the joint compiler, and copies marked by him with his own and Vaughan Williams's proposals for a projected new edition. Most recently the collection includes documents relating to the composition of the latest Methodist collection, *Singing the Faith* (2011).

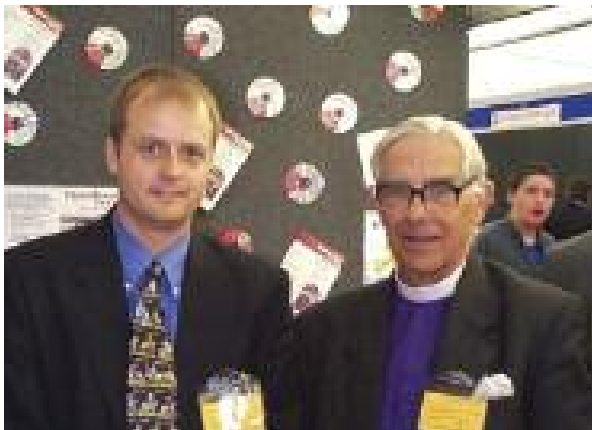
The collection continues to grow and includes both printed and manuscript material. Unrestricted by period or denomination, it now contains 3,000 printed volumes, reflecting changes in taste, theology and liturgy since the eighteenth century. Additions continue to be made by donation and purchase.

HymnQuest

A major part of the Trust's work since 2000 has been the production of *HymnQuest*, a software application containing over 30,000 hymns and worship songs (with full text and opening melody). This unique resource contains comprehensive biblical, thematic and lectionary indexes plus author and composer biographies and pictures. Search facilities locate texts and trace tunes by their opening notes. The software indexes the contents of almost 500 hymnals and allows subscribers (with the appropriate copyright licence) to print service sheets or produce PowerPoint presentations for worship services as well as to copy, play and transpose over 1,300 public domain full hymn tunes.

Launched at the Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park by Bishop Timothy Dudley-Smith on 17 May 2000, *HymnQuest* remains the most comprehensive catalogue of hymnody. Originally a CD-ROM published at the back of the printed volume *HymnQuest: A Dictionary of Hymnody*, (1997) the software version has been published annually on behalf of the Trust by Stainer & Bell since 2000.

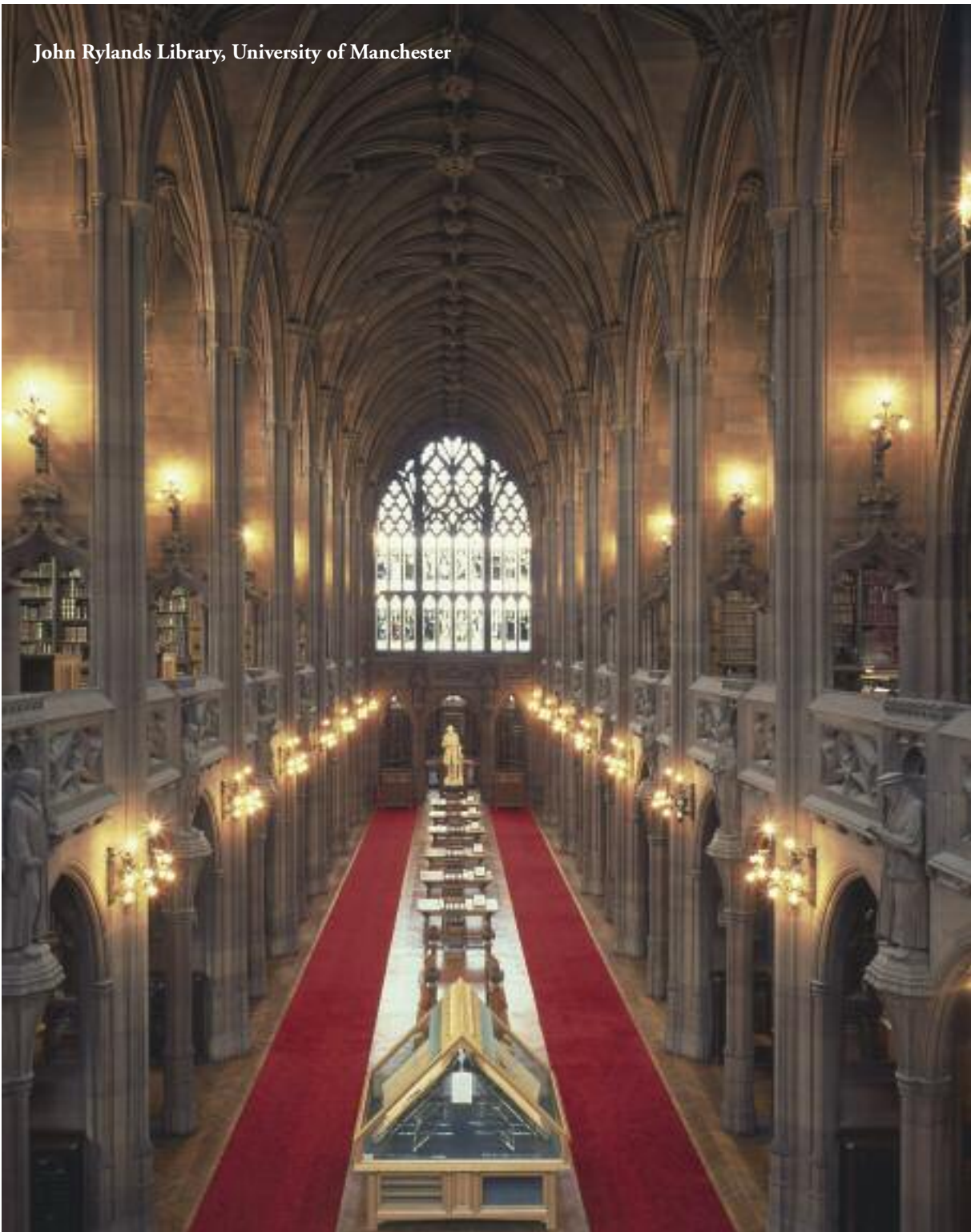
HymnQuest was the brainchild of Bernard Braley who initially co-edited the project with Canon Alan Luff before the Revd Brian Hoare and the Revd Don Pickard took over in 2006. Since the outset, Antony Kearns at Stainer & Bell has been responsible for the software design and development. As far back as 1989 the Trust commissioned Antony and Helen Kearns to produce a computer feasibility report on a dictionary of hymn tunes in 'shape order' based on initial research carried out by Revd Geoffrey Whitehead. Christine Donald now co-ordinates an industrious team of some fifteen people working on keying in, indexing, researching biographies and proof reading *HymnQuest* data. Antony Kearns has recently brought in Kieran Metcalfe of Ascent Creative to help develop the software for both Apple Mac computers and the latest generation of tablet and mobile devices. *HymnQuest* partnered with The Salvation Army for the production of the electronic edition of their 2015 International Song Book.



**Antony Kearns and Bishop Timothy Dudley-Smith
at the launch of HymnQuest**

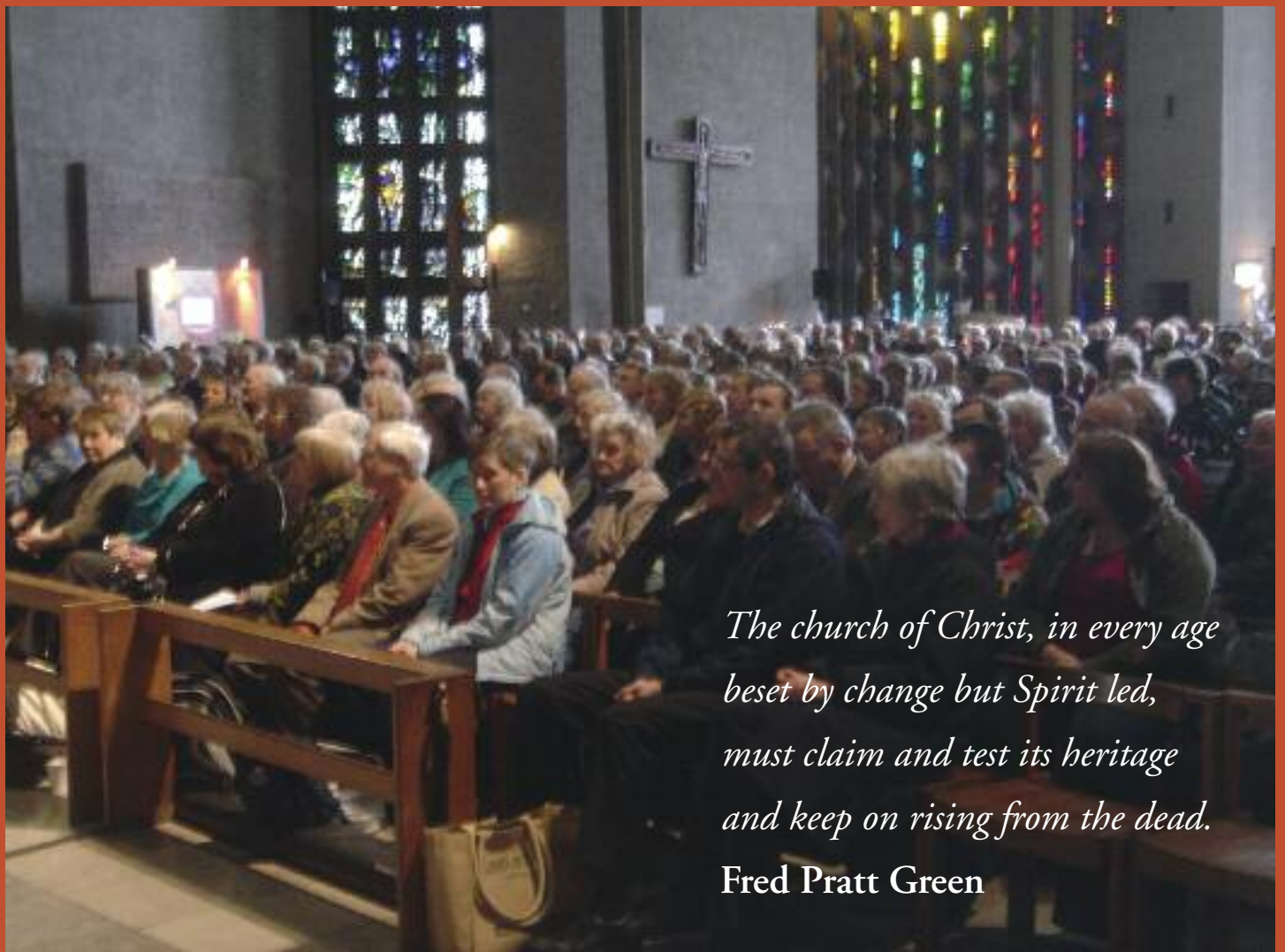


**Revd Alan Luff, Joyce Hoare and Revd Brian Hoare
at the launch of HymnQuest**



John Rylands Library, University of Manchester

As part of its investment in hymnody, the Trust enabled The John Rylands Library to digitise indices in its Hymn Collection. Digital images have been combined in manageable electronic files, freely available through the library's website. This project has enabled postgraduate students to work on topics related to hymnody. Built in the 1890s, The John Rylands Library is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful libraries in the world. Its magnificent Deansgate building, in the centre of Manchester, and its archive collections are both of great international significance. Its outstanding Methodist archives include the single surviving complete volume of John Wesley's first hymnal, *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns*, published in 1737.



*The church of Christ, in every age
beset by change but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.*

Fred Pratt Green

Charles Wesley Heritage Centre Bristol

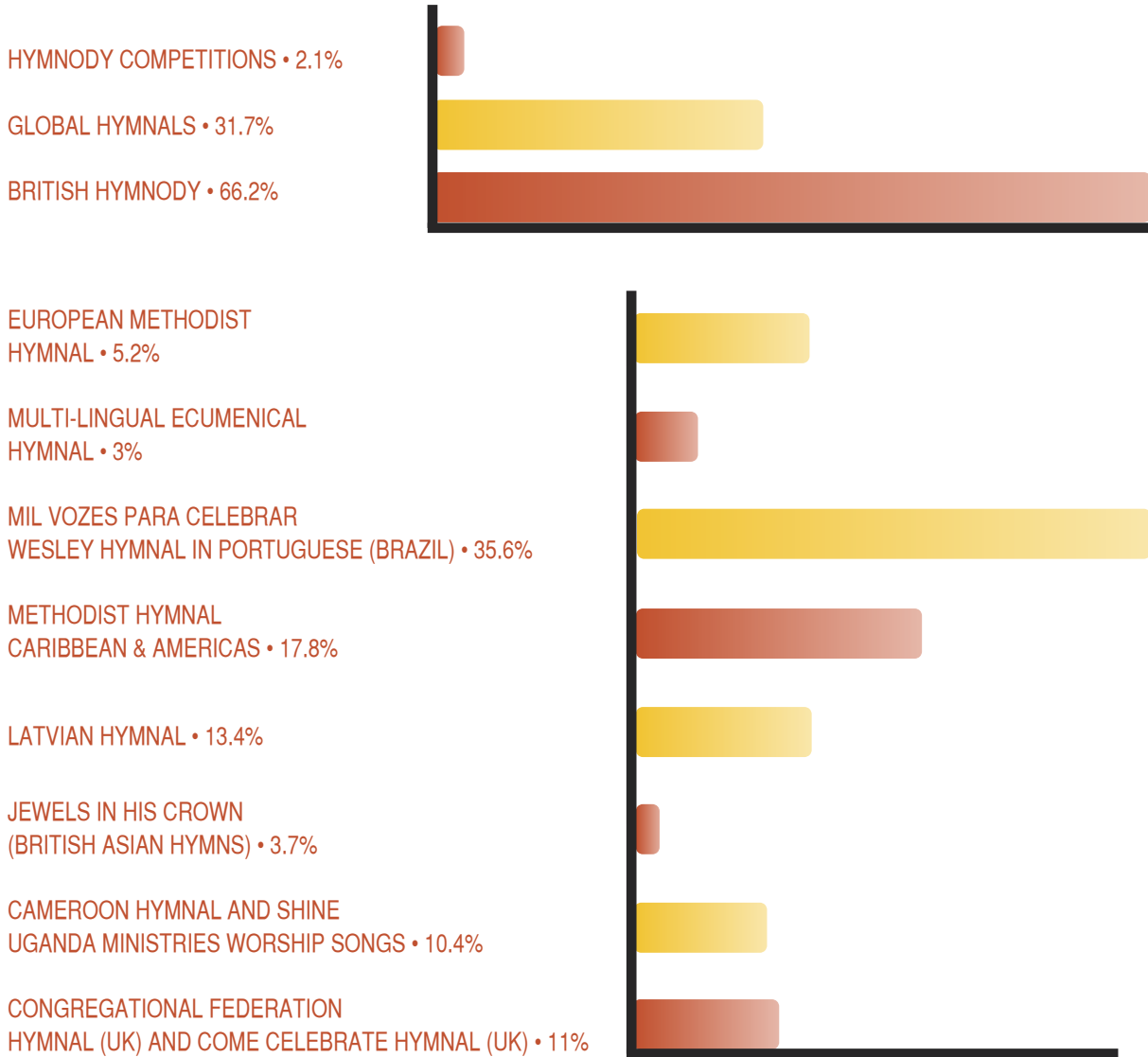
The Trust was proud to support *The Hymnody Project* at the 'New Room' Bristol, from its earliest stage. This enabled an exhibition on hymnody and the origins of hymns to be installed in Charles Wesley's house and eventually online. The 'New Room' is the oldest Methodist Chapel in the world (built in 1739) and the cradle of the early Methodist movement. It was built and used by John Wesley and the early Methodists as a meeting and preaching place and as the centre for supporting and educating the needy members of the community. John's younger brother, Charles, one of the world's greatest hymnwriters, lived in a house close to the New Room Chapel. Charles Wesley (1707-1788), his wife Sarah and their three children moved permanently to London in 1778 .

but Spirit led...



2

HYMNODY



Essay Competition

In the first decade of the life of the Trust an essay competition was held. This asked for a 20,000 word essay on a challenging subject related to hymnody. The title offered in 1993 was: ‘How have hymnwriters since 1945 used images and language which accurately represent the contemporary world, so that what Christians sing in church is recognisable as the world around?’ In 1994 the chosen essay title was: ‘A study of hymns and songs as they support Christians and Agnostics in times of stress such as overwork, redundancy, bereavement and despair.’

The competition ran for two years. In the first year it was won by Basil Bridge, a minister in the United Reformed Church. A second prize was awarded to Andrew Pratt. The following year these two people tied for first place. This competition had some, perhaps, unexpected consequences in kick-starting an academic career for Andrew Pratt who went on to do research in hymnody, achieving an MA and then a PhD and subsequently becoming a Trustee.

Worship Cloud

‘Worship Cloud,’ originally ‘Twelvebaskets,’ is a web-site begun by the Revd Wayne Grewcock, a Methodist Minister. While he was training for the Ministry Wayne recognised that people using photographic images in worship would be helped if a web-site could be set up to share such images. He realised that sustaining such a site would incur costs and so he set this up on a basis that would provide small royalties for contributors derived from charges for downloads. The intention was not to make large profits but to raise an income sufficient to sustain the site. The project expanded to include a wide variety of worship resources, including hymns. The site joined with the Leaders of Worship and Preachers’ Trust, being renamed ‘seedresources.’ Latterly it was re-launched under the name of Worshipcloud, at <http://www.theworshipcloud.com/>

Jewels In His Crown

A pioneer gathering of British Asian Christian groups initiated by the Christian mission organisation ‘Interserve’ met at Cliff College in the year 2000 with the aim of encouraging and resourcing ministry and worship among Asians living in Britain. In preparation for this the Trust funded a competition to find new worship songs in the different Asian languages and musical styles found in the UK, and invited Brian Hoare to serve as one of the adjudicators. The conference led to several mission agencies involved in work among South Asians in the UK joining together to form a movement called ‘Jewels in His Crown’ whose aim was to encourage and equip South Asian Christians in their ministry and outreach to other South Asians, and to challenge the wider church to recognise South Asian Christians in Britain as a significant community within the multi-cultural Body of Christ.



The Cameroon Hymnal Initiative



United Methodism is one of the newest denominations in the Republic of Cameroon on the central West coast of Africa. Developing local leadership is a high priority for the growing church. The Cameroon Mission Initiative is registered as a non-governmental organisation (NGO) and the lack of facilities makes it harder to hold worship services or organize clinics and schools. Healthcare quality is poor and life expectancy is extremely low.

In 2005 Dr Wesley Magruder, Director of the Cameroon Mission of The United Methodist Church, recognised the need for a hymnal to

support the development of Christian identity with Wesleyan emphasis. He approached the Executive Director of *A Ministry of Congregational Singing* in Dallas, Texas, for advice. The Revd John Thornburg became a strong supporter and consultant for the project, raising initial funds through partnership with Greenland Hills United Methodist Church. *The Cameroon Hymnal Initiative* got off the ground with gatherings in Yaounde and Douale, followed by a series of nationwide consultations in local areas. A four-strong Cameroonian editorial team was established in 2006. The Trust supported the project by providing grants over three years.

Since it was impossible to include all 250 local languages, the editorial team chose to produce a bilingual hymnal in French and English, with a set of blank pages for local praise songs to be added. The hymnal includes a pattern for Sunday worship, Eucharist and Baptismal services, psalms and prayers, and hymns, songs and choruses from around the world, printed in both languages. It features Cameroonian hymns (some by the editorial team), Charles Wesley hymns, Freedom songs from South Africa and praise choruses from South America. There are also 122 further songs in French or English to account for regional singing styles and ethnic diversity. The editors believed that communities should invest in their hymnal and therefore set a reasonable price for church members of 2000FCAs (or \$4USD), roughly 50% of production cost. Every pastor received a CD containing songs from the hymnal and as these were learned and absorbed (over the course of 12 months) further CDs were produced to continue the process.

3

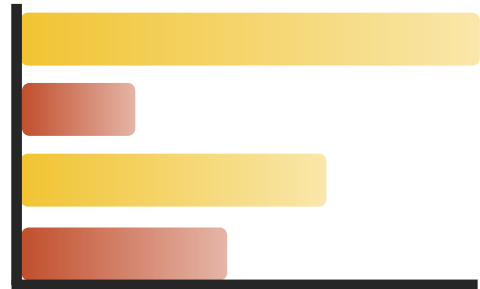
CHARITIES AND CONFERENCES

HYMN SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND • 40%

INTERNATIONAL HYMN SOCIETY CONFERENCES • 12.2%

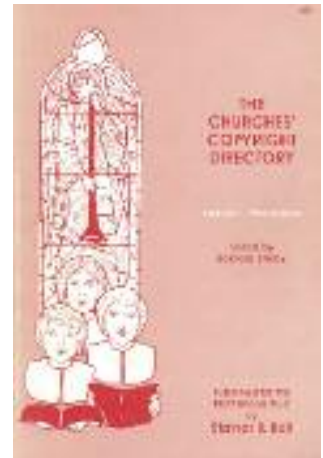
METHODIST CHURCH MUSIC SOCIETY (NOW ARTSERVE) • 27.6%

HYMNODY CHARITIES • 20.2%



Churches Copyright Conference

In 1990 the Trust agreed to continue the work done by the Revd Geoffrey Whitehead on a Musical Dictionary of British Hymn Tunes following his sad death in a car accident. Bernard Braley began work on the copyright status of hymn texts and thus laid the groundwork for the entire *HymnQuest* project. A 'Vision Paper' outlined his dream of producing a software resource which would include words, music, biblical and thematic indexes, links to the liturgical year, texts for all-age and children's worship and biographical details of authors in an easily-accessible format. The October 1992 publication of *The Churches Copyright Directory* for the Pratt Green Trust by Stainer & Bell was almost entirely Bernard Braley's work, with the technical assistance of Antony Kearns. Over 100 people attended a day conference on 'Copyright and the Local Church' organised by the Trust at Trinity Church, Golders Green on 24 October 1992.



Singing in the Millennium

350 people gathered at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, in October 2000, for a conference to mark the new millennium. Organised jointly through the Methodist Church Music Society and *Worship Live*, the event was funded through the Pratt Green Trust. Speakers included many well known figures of hymnody and hymnology, among them John Bell, who led a wonderful act of

worship, in which reflections on scripture passages on food and drink were earthed in the sharing of bread and honey. There were workshops led by *Worship Live* contributors, on subjects such as 'Hymns and Psalms of Lament,' 'All age worship,' 'Singing in the world Church' and 'New tunes for new words'; and everyone sang the winning entries to the *Worship Live* Millennium competition, one hymn and one song. A panel of 'prophets' led a session whose aim was to discern new directions for music in worship. As the conference drew to an end, news arrived that Fred Pratt Green had died, at the age of 97. He had been very much at the heart of the conference, and the Trust founded in his name had made the gathering possible. It was a strange, affecting and very moving ending to a most significant time together: a new millennium, and the passing of one of the giants of the age.

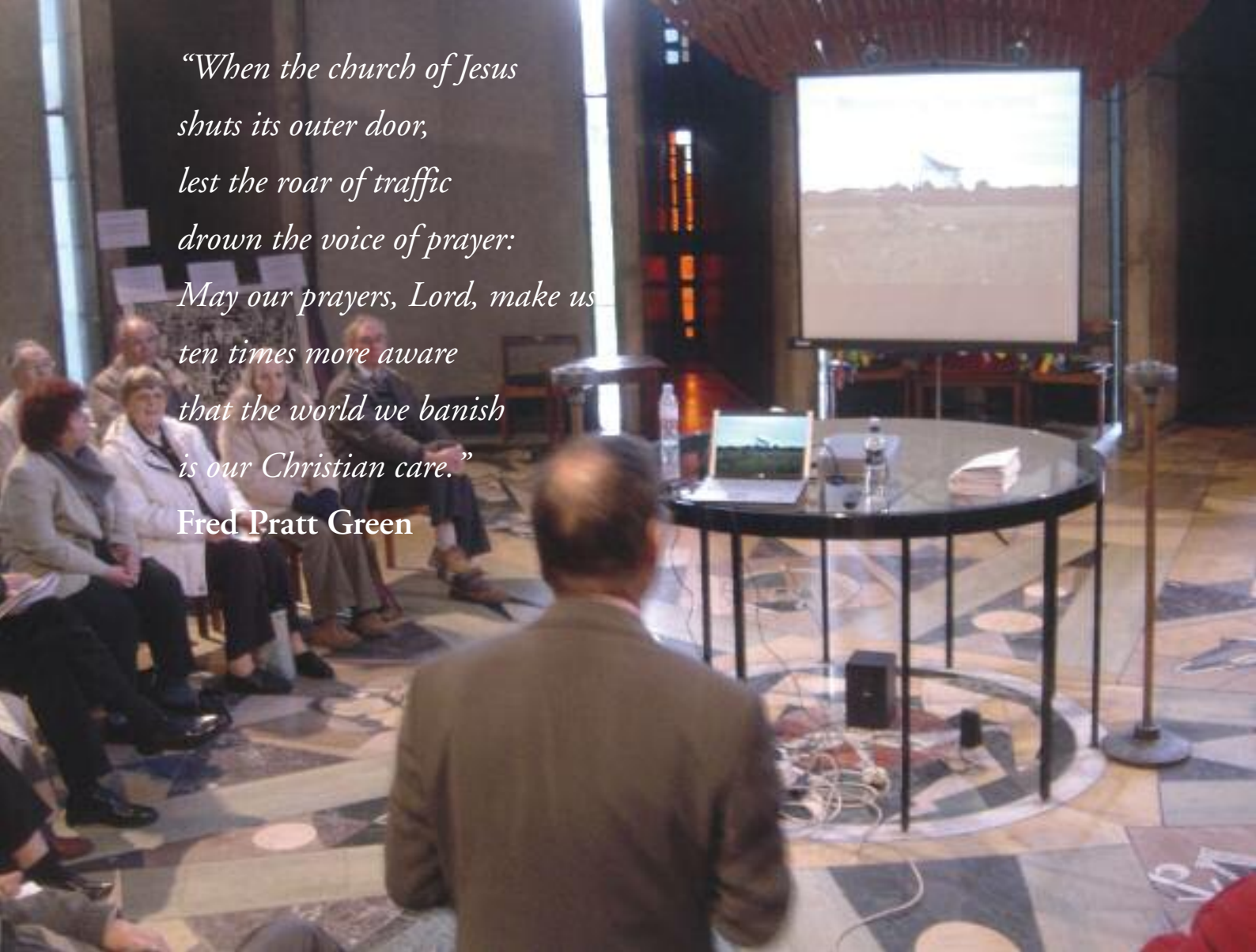
Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland

The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland was founded in 1936. Its purposes include encouraging study and research in hymnody, promoting good standards of hymn singing in local congregations, and encouraging the discerning use of hymns and songs in worship. The Society produces a quarterly publication (the Bulletin), as well as publishing 'Occasional Papers' which explore a wide range of hymn-related subjects in greater depth. All publications are maintained in print and offer an invaluable resource for research into hymnody. The Society organises an annual conference and seeks to respond to a wide range of national and international enquiries about hymns and hymnody.

Periodically The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland hosts an International Conference for other societies: HSUSC (The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada), IAH (Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Hymnologie), and The Welsh Hymn Society. Previously these have been held at Oxford in 1981 and York in 1997. The 2015 six-day conference, *Hymns in Liturgy and Life*, at Robinson College, Cambridge, was once again an international gathering. The composer, John Rutter, spoke at the inaugural dinner and the Honorary President of the Society, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon. Baron Williams of Oystermouth (formerly the Archbishop of Canterbury), delivered the opening lecture. Other lecturers from the UK were the Revd Dr June Boyce-Tillman, Canon Rosalind Brown and Professor E. Wyn James (The Welsh Hymn Society). Lecturers from overseas were Dr Britta Martini, Professor Kenneth Hull, Dr Tapani Innanen, Professor Robin Knowles-Wallace, Dr Stephan Reinke and Mr Geoffrey Moore. The conference included three Hymn Festivals in churches and colleges around Cambridge as well as an organ recital and historic exhibitions about hymnody. Since its inception, the Pratt Green Trust has supported the production of the Hymn Society's various publications, the provision of International Conferences, as well as many other important projects such as the indexing of Bulletins.

*“When the church of Jesus
shuts its outer door,
lest the roar of traffic
drown the voice of prayer:
May our prayers, Lord, make us
ten times more aware
that the world we banish
is our Christian care.”*

Fred Pratt Green



Pratt Green Trust • 25th Anniversary Celebrations at Coventry Cathedral

The Pratt Green Trust celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a hymn festival and seminar held in a packed Coventry Cathedral on 28th March 2009. Broadcast later on BBC Radio, the worship was led by the St Michael's Singers under the direction of Paul Ledington Wright. The hymns of trustees were well-represented. Speakers included Revd Dr Andrew Pratt, Bernadette Farrell, Graham

*our Christian
care...*



Kendrick and Revd Dr Janet Wootton. The keynote address, 'Hymns and Songs in Christian Worship,' was given by the Rt Revd Timothy Dudley-Smith. He concluded with these words:

'I remind you of Paul's address to the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch, where he spoke of how David 'served his own generation by the will of God.' Perhaps it is a reminder that our real business lies with the present; that the future is in better hands than our own; and that we should bend our best efforts, hymn-lovers that we are, to see that our own generation continues to enter fully into the treasures of their inheritance, to the glory and praise of God.'

Rt Revd Timothy Dudley-Smith, March 2009



LEADERSHIP OF THE PRATT GREEN TRUST



Bernard Braley
(Founding Chairman, 1985-1992)

Bernard Braley (1924-2003), a publisher and Methodist local preacher, was a leading figure in the renaissance of 20th-century British hymnody. As managing director of Galliard and Stainer & Bell (who acquired Galliard in 1972), he pioneered the works of Fred Pratt Green and other nonconformist writers whose work now forms an integral part of church and school worship. During the 1950s Braley's professional expertise was a support to Stainer & Bell, which had been in his family almost since its foundation in 1907. In 1968, through Galliard, he issued Sydney Carter's songs, including the contemporary classic 'Lord of the Dance.' Next followed Fred Kaan's collection, *Pilgrim Praise*, changing forever the face of British hymnody with its radical image of Christ in the modern city. In the 1980s Braley published the works of Fred Pratt Green, going on to establish the Pratt Green Trust. The encyclopedic digital database of hymnody, *HymnQuest*, was his brainchild. Throughout this period he also lobbied parliament during the drafting of the 1988 Copyright Act, in which some of his words were enshrined. Alongside Stainer & Bell's *Musica Britannica*, his legacy includes three volumes of meticulously researched biographies of Hymnwriters, and, most characteristically, the anthology collected in *Worship and Where We Work*.



Alan Luff
(Chairman, 1992-2006)

The Revd Canon Alan Luff (b.1928) is a clergyman of the Church of England. After reading Classics, and later Theology, at University College, Oxford, he studied for the Anglican Ministry at Westcott House, Cambridge. Ordained in 1957 he served in parish ministry until 1962, then as Precentor at Manchester Cathedral (1962-68). After meeting his bilingual wife, Enid, he became a fluent Welsh speaker, and later produced a unique and comprehensive book on Welsh hymnody, *Welsh Hymns and Their Tunes* (1990 Hope Publishing Co). He became vicar of the Dwygyfylchi (Penmaenmar) diocese of Bangor (1968-79); Precentor and Minor Canon of Westminster Abbey (1979-92), and Canon of Birmingham Cathedral (1992-96). He was the Anglican member of the editorial group for *Hymns and Songs* (1979-83), which includes one of his hymns, 'Lord, we your church are deaf and dumb' and several antiphons devised from biblical texts. A consultant to the Dunblane Music Consultations, he joined the British Hymn Society, first as its Secretary (1973-86), then as Chair (1986-95) and Honorary Vice-President (1996-). As Vice President of the International Fellowship for Hymnology (1999-2005) he fostered links between British hymnologists and the Hymn Societies in USA and Europe. As a trustee of the Pratt Green Trust from 1986, he was joint editor of *HymnQuest* with Bernard Braley and the longest serving Chair.



Brian Hoare

(Chairman, 2006-2015)

The Revd Brian Hoare (b.1935) entered the Methodist ministry in 1968. He first served as Chaplain to Hunmanby Hall School, near Filey (a position Fred Pratt Green had also held). Subsequent appointments included the Hull Mission Circuit, East Yorkshire; Cliff College, Derbyshire (as New Testament Tutor); Longton Central Hall, Stoke-on-Trent; Methodist Home Mission Division (Deputy General Secretary) and then Methodist Connexional Team (Secretary for Evangelism). He was President of the Methodist Conference from 1995-96 and retired to Knaresborough, North Yorkshire in 2000. Some forty of his hymns and tunes appear in print, the best known among them being 'Born in song! God's people have always been singing'. His tune RIDGEWAY set to Fred Pratt Green's words 'After darkness, light' happily links the Trust's founder and its retiring Chair. Brian's musical publications include *Hymns and Songs for Worship* (1988), *Celebrate and Sing* (1991), the full length musical *New Creation* (1995) and *Singing Faith* (1998). He served on the councils of the Royal School of Church Music and the Music and Worship Foundation and is a Member of the Jubilate Hymns team. He was on the editorial committees for *Hymns and Psalms* (1983), *Sing Glory* (1999) and *New Start Hymns and Songs* (1999). The longest-serving member of the Pratt Green Trust, he joined the Trust in 1989, became Deputy Chair in 1999, and was appointed Chair in 2006. Joyce Hoare, Brian's wife, also served as *HymnQuest* Coordinator 2000-2003 and Minutes Secretary 2003-2015. During his decade as Chair the Trust's work grew to include more developing countries and the scope of *HymnQuest* expanded enormously.



Andrew Pratt

(Chairman, 2015-)

The Revd Dr Andrew Pratt (b. 1948) is a Methodist minister, lecturer and prolific hymnwriter. Based until his retirement in 2015 at Luther King House, Manchester, a Christian interdenominational educational college for ministry training and theological study, he also taught within the South North West Regional Training Partnership. Originally a zoologist and marine biologist, Andrew later trained for the Methodist Ministry at Queens College, Birmingham, serving in Circuits in Cheshire and Lancashire. On two consecutive years, he entered the Pratt Green Trust Essay Competition, achieving second and joint first prizes. This served as a springboard for his study of hymnody. In 1997 he received an MA in English from the University of Durham for his research into F.W. Faber. He obtained his PhD from Liverpool University on the origins of the *Methodist Hymn Book* (1933). His research was published by Epworth in the UK as 'O For a Thousand Tongues' (2004). Among his best-known hymns are 'God, you hold me like a mother', 'God's on our side, and God will grieve' and 'Best of all is God is with us.' His publications include *Reclaiming Praise* (2006), bringing together 150 of his one thousand hymns and *More than Hymns* (2015). Many of his texts address contemporary issues and human challenges. Others hymns appear in *Come Celebrate* (2009), *Singing The Faith* (2011) and *Sing Your Faith* (2012), as well as on the website <http://www.theworshipcloud.com/>. He has edited two books for children's and all-age worship, is a past chair of the Methodist Peace Fellowship and a Non-executive Director of Stainer & Bell Ltd. He became a trustee of the Pratt Green Trust (2003), Deputy Chair (2006-2015) and was appointed Chair in 2015.



Founding Trustees

Bernard Braley (1984-2000, Chair 1985-1992)
Carol Wakefield (1984-1992)
Keith Wakefield (1984-1987)
Robin Leaver (1984-1986)

Trustees

Revd Dr Alan Luff (June 1986-2006, Chair 1992-2006)
Revd Brian Hoare (1989-2015, Deputy Chair 1992-2006, Chair 2006-2015)
Revd Don Pickard (1993-current)
Revd Dr Janet Wootton (1993-2004, 2011-2015, Deputy Chair 2015-current)
Revd William (Bill) Thomas (1999-2004)
Revd Dr Andrew Pratt (2003-, Deputy Chair 2006-2015, Chair 2015-current)
Revd Robert Canham (2004-current)
Judy Jarvis (2004-2010)
Peter Relf (2006-2014)
John Barnard (2006-2015)
Bernadette Farrell (2007-current)
Revd Dr Graham Adams (2014-current)

Officers

Keith Wakefield (Secretary 1984-1987)
Mary Shannahan (Secretary 1989-1993)
Joyce Horn (Secretary 1998-2003)
Joyce Hoare (*HymnQuest* Co-ordinator 2000-2003, Minutes Secretary 2003-2015)
Revd William (Bill) Thomas (*HymnQuest* Co-ordinator 2003-2004)
Christine Donald (*HymnQuest* Co-ordinator 2004-, Minutes Secretary 2016-)
Antony Kearns (Advisor representing Stainer & Bell 1998-current)
Revd Peggy Jackson (Treasurer 1993-2000)
Peter Braley (Treasurer 2000-2006)
David Fairclough (Treasurer 2006-current)
Kenneth Fairclough (Charity Secretary and Auditor 2004-current)



Fred Pratt Green MBE
(1903-2000)

The Revd Dr Fred Pratt Green was the most prolific Methodist hymnwriter since Charles Wesley. His legacy of nearly 300 hymns includes several of the most widely anthologised texts of the 20th-century. Born in the village of Roby, now an eastern suburb of Liverpool, he later attended Wallasey Grammar School and Claremount Road Wesleyan Church. His schooldays were completed at Rydal, the Methodist Boarding School at Colwyn Bay, Wales.

Green was the third child (and late arrival) of his parents, Hannah and Charles. As a young man he developed valuable business acumen by working for four years in his father's leather company. In 1924 he felt the call to ministry and spent a year with the Severn Valley Circuit. From 1925-28 he studied at Didsbury Theological College. As a candidate for ministry he began to use the name F. Pratt Green, to distinguish himself from another 'Frederick P Green.' The change seemed appropriate as he had been christened 'Pratt' after a Methodist preacher relative. While at college, he won several essay prizes and wrote his first published play, *Farley Goes Out*, about the foreign missions. First choosing to serve as a missionary in Africa, he was instead sent as Chaplain to the newly founded Methodist Boarding School for girls at Hunmanby Hall, Yorkshire. There he met his future wife, french teacher and Methodist local preacher, Marjorie Dowsett. They were married in 1931.

Throughout over forty years of active ministry, Green cherished Methodism's open welcome at Holy Communion. He served communities across England, starting in the Filey Circuit, then Otley, where he lived in a manse at Pool-in-Wharfedale. While he was at Girdlington, in the Bradford

Circuit, the economic depression increased the social divide in his congregation. Green's preaching underlined his conviction that God provides the earth for everyone. He wrote plays for local drama groups, published by Lampass Press. Living in a multi-faith city, he even attended the 1936 World Congress of Faiths in London. He was inspired and challenged by the spiritual insights and common values he shared with other believers. His rejection of extreme Christian fundamentalism did not diminish his ever deepening faith in the Cross. He felt its uniqueness and closeness to the realities of human life, not least during his own short period of breakdown and recovery. His hymns remain a powerful witness to his faith in the redemptive love of Christ.

The Methodist church at Gants Hill, Essex, had the largest Sunday School in the UK when the Greens moved there at the outbreak of the Second World War. But on their first Sunday, 3rd September 1939, most of the children had been evacuated to safer areas. Green combined his ministerial duties with those of Air Raid Warden. By the end of the war, the couple were also caring for Elizabeth Shepherd, the daughter of parents then missing after service in Burma.

At Grange Hill, London, in 1944, Green met the poet Fallon Webb, whose faithful friendship nurtured his talent. From 1947, as Minister at the Dome, Brighton, his mixed congregation often numbered over two thousand. He joined a poetry group and produced a first collection of poems, *This Unlikely Earth*, published in 1952, the year he moved to Shirley. In 1957 he moved to York as Chairman of the York and Hull District. This was a time of change in the Church, and although an excellent administrator, Green's heart was in local ministry. So he returned to London, in 1964, as minister in charge of Trinity Church in the Sutton Circuit.

When the 1966 Methodist Conference pledged to publish a supplement to the 1933 Methodist Hymnbook, Green was appointed to its planning group. In 1967, as he left active ministry, this task triggered his interest in hymnwriting. In his notebook he writes, 'It was involvement in the work of the supplement which got me busy trying to write hymns. Often we found we liked a tune but not the words set to it in other Hymn Books. Because I have written quite a lot of poetry in the last 20 years, I was challenged to meet the need for new words to certain tunes!' John Wilson, his colleague on the working party, became a trusted friend and mentor.

Hymns and Songs appeared in 1969, as Green retired to Norwich and began a second career as a hymnwriter. He believed that 'as a poet you speak for yourself, but as a hymnwriter you speak for the entire community of faith.' His texts were always open to dialogue. He would produce several drafts before his final version. His 1970 harvest hymn, 'For the Fruits of All Creation' appeared in the 1971 collection *Hymns of Hope*, one of a series of leaflets of new hymns published by The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada since 1928. Also appearing in 1971 was *26 Hymns*, a single-author collection of Green's work, published by Epworth Press, an imprint of the Methodist Publishing House.

THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE METHODIST HYMN BOOK

The Methodist Conference of 1966 agreed to publication of a Supplement of about 600 Hymns to the present Hymn Book (1933). The G.P. Committee appointed the 'Working Party' to make the selection. Several of us were added after work had begun. M.P. included:

Rev. Dr. FRANCIS WESTERSON
 Mr. J. H. HULLSON
 (Chair of M.C.S.)
 Rev. GUYTON HARRISFIELD
 (Chair, St. Oswald's Hall)
 Rev. IAN JONES (Secretary)

The Working Party presented its proposed Supplement to G.P. Committee in April 1968. The Conference of 1969 approved.

It was involvement in all work of the Supplement which got me busy trying to write hymns, often we found we had a tune but not the words set to it in other Hymn Books. Because I have written quite a lot of poetry in the last 20 years, I was challenged to meet the need for new words to certain tunes!

CHRIST IS THE WORLD'S LIGHT, HE AND NONE OTHER

The Uniqueness of Christ

- Christ is the world's Light, he and none other;
 Born in our darkness, he became our Brother.
 If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
 Glory to God on high.
- 2 Christ is the world's Peace, he and none other;
 No man can serve him and despise his brother.
 Who else (can make) us, one in God the Father?
 Glory to God on high.
- 3 Christ is the world's Life, he and none other;
~~Call for the glory, praise him, our Brother -~~
 He, who renews us, reigns with God the Father:
 Glory to God on high.
- 4 Give God the glory, God and none other;
 Give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;
 Give God the glory, God in man my brother:
 Glory to God on high.

F. Pratt Green (1903-)

Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM
 17th cent., arr. Vaughan Williams (HCS 105)

Sold once for silver, murdered here, our Brother

(See unabbreviated version of original version)

THE TUNE CHRISTE SANCTORUM is set in most Hymn Books either to "Now God be with us for the night is falling" or "Father most holy, merciful and loving".

IT CALLS FOR THE SAPPHIC VERSE FORM, which, however excellent in Latin, is not well-suited to the English language owing to its weak (feminine) line endings. In order to avoid this technical problem, I wrote words which fit the tune but are set strictly in the Sapphic metre (11.11.11.5), and which strengthen the weak endings of lines 1, 2, 3, by repeating the end words in each verse, and also by giving an emphatic last line. The metre adopted is, in fact, 10.11.11.6.

I gave way on this!
 See introduction

John Wilson, whose criticisms are always founded on a positive understanding of worship, does not like the 2nd line of the 3rd verse. He calls it a "smack-hit" line, out of line with the rest of the hymn. He also dislikes it on the ground that smacks of materialism! One ought not to sing of our guilt in that way, when one has no intention of doing anything about it. My answer is that the hymn, though very orthodox theologically, has a thread of humanism running through it - an element of protest - that the line follows on reasonably from line 2 of verse 2, & finds its answer in the phrase "God in man my brother" in the last verse.

Dr. ERIC RANTLEY prefers the tune ISTE CONFESSOR.

In the early 1970s, before moving to Westminster Choir College, Princeton, Erik Routley invited Green to work on an international hymnal, *Cantate Domino*. He was also often invited to produce texts for special occasions at Norwich Cathedral, including two hymns to celebrate the six hundredth anniversary of Mother Julian's *Revelations of Divine Love*. Others included a text for an Act of Thanksgiving attended by The Queen on completion of works of restoration in 1975 and a hymn for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. The latter 'It is God who holds the nations in the hollow of his hand' entitled 'A Hymn for the Nation' was selected for the Official Order of Service for the entire Commonwealth.

In 1977 Green became joint editor, with Bernard Braley, of the ecumenical hymnal, *Partners in Praise* and contributed to *The Galliard Book of Carols*. Braley, his literary executor, went on to compile five collections of Green's work. By 1981, Green had met George Shorney, of Hope Publishing Company, at the International Hymn Society Conference in Oxford. *The Hymns and Ballads of Fred Pratt Green* was published the following year by Stainer & Bell and Hope Publishing Company. In 1982 Green was also made a Fellow of the Hymn Society of America at their conference in Atlanta. On the same occasion he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Emory University.

In 1984, with the help of Bernard Braley, he set up the Pratt Green Trust, a charity dedicated to hymnody and church music, which has become an important part of his legacy. His fifty-one original scrapbooks, which he maintained from 1971 to 1988, were bequeathed to Emory University's Pitts Theological Library, with another copied set produced for the University of Durham. Containing material dating back to 1929, they are an invaluable record of his hymnwriting and a remarkable testament to his life of faith. In 1994 Green was awarded an MBE in recognition of his contribution to hymnody. Although his theology follows Wesley, with its powerful emphasis on the life and death of Jesus Christ, his language is simple and direct. Deep awareness of the world, appreciation of diversity, and understanding of 'change and doubt' bring a unique and universal dimension to his work.

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*For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.*

Fred Pratt Green MBE (1903-2000)



