

# Raymond Luckhurst – piano, organ

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## Experience

**Anglican:** currently organist at St Andrew's, Stokeinteignhead and Benefice churches. 2011–17 organist at the Parish Church of St Mary's, Brixham. Approximately 100 services p.a. plus weddings and funerals. Weekly Communion and monthly informal worship. Weekly BCP Evensong with sung canticles and psalm. Also festival services with anthems, civic services, special occasions, children's functions, and playing at other Mission Community churches. Deputising at St. George's Goodrington and elsewhere in Torbay.

**Other:** playing organ and piano for Baptist, URC, Methodist non-conformist churches, also the Fishermen's Mission, care homes, ensembles, choirs, accompanying exams.

I normally play soft classical piano and worship songs for service prelude music and to accompany Communion – the contrast is appreciated. I also use the piano for times of reflection – Memorial services, Remembrance, Blue Christmas, funerals, wedding registers.

I have a low-church progressive background but enjoy all kinds of discerning church music. I have been involved in inner-city and evangelical churches, in worship groups playing piano and clarinet and singing tenor.

## Qualifications

- DipABRSM – Diploma in Piano Performance (2005)  
studied under concert pianists Brenda Lucas Ogdon (widow & duo partner of John Ogdon) and Carolyn Kotok in London, also privately at the Guildhall SMD  
J. S. Bach: Toccata in D, BWV 912; Mendelssohn: Prelude & Fugue in F mi;  
Ravel: *Sonatine*; Prokofiev: *4 Visions Fugitives*; John Ogdon: *25 Preludes, No. 9*  
also written authoritative programme notes, viva voce, quick study
- ABRSM Grade 8 Organ – distinction (2014)  
exam taken on the Hele organ at St Mary's, Brixham  
Buxtehude: Toccata in F (with *Fuga*), BuxWV 157 – [listen](#)  
Gigout: Scherzo in E (from *10 Pièces*) – [listen](#)  
Richard Proulx: Fanfare for Organ (1970) – [listen](#)
- Torbay & SW England Music Festival – distinctions in Piano Performance (2010) for Prokofiev's *Sarcasms* No. 3, *2 Visions fugitives*, and Dave Brubeck's *It's a Raggy Waltz*
- ABRSM Grade 5 Singing – distinction (2010)
- ABRSM Grade 8 Music Theory (1992) and Grade 8 Piano – distinction (1987)
- BSc Electrical Engineering and Electronics (1986); now studying for MSc in Data Science

## Recordings

I have made two amateur CDs: *Piano Odyssey* (2002) and *Piano Textures* (2005). Samples of my organ and piano playing are at [youtube.com/@digitallegro](https://www.youtube.com/@digitallegro).

## Music Direction

I directed Brixham St Mary's choir for three years, often composing simplified singing parts for their limited resources and transcribing for choir, organ and handbells/flute. I led a 'Singing for Fun' evening course at Brixham College in 2010. Directing is not really my forte but I can provide practical support. I like to balance old and new styles and to freshen worship with new texts to familiar tunes and new tunes to old texts.

## Related Information

I studied harmony and composition to diploma level in the 1990s, aiming for ARCM. I use Sibelius and MuseScore to typeset arrangements and compositions, and a book scanner to make scores playable on tablet devices. I have taught piano to adults and children with good exam results. At home I have a modern Grotrian-Steinweg piano and a 2-manual+pedals practice organ.

## Organ Repertoire

These popular works plus many other standard and contemporary organ works:

- Widor: Toccata, (5th Organ Symphony)
- J. S. Bach: Toccata and Fugue in D minor; *Sinfonia* (Cantata No. 29)
- Karg-Elert: *Nun danket alle Gott* (Chorale Improvisation)
- Boëllmann: Toccata and other pieces (*Suite Gothique*)
- Eugène Gigout: Toccata in B mi; Scherzo in E (*10 Pièces pour orgue*)
- Théodore Dubois: Toccata (*12 Pièces*)
- William Walton: *Crown Imperial*
- Einar Trærup Sark: Toccata Primi Toni (performed in Exeter Cathedral in 2015)
- Mendelssohn: Wedding March (*Midsummer Night's Dream*); War March of the Priests
- Wagner: Bridal March (*Lohengrin*)
- exam pieces studied for Grades 8 & 6

## Professional

Software Developer, now retired but active on open-source projects, see [Software CV](#).

## Safeguarding

I have a Basic DBS Certificate, No. 001178434909 (consent code on request).

## Referees

- Rev'd Prebendary John Good, Stokeinteignhead – [johngood1549@outlook.com](mailto:johngood1549@outlook.com)
- Superintendent Minister, Torbay Methodist Circuit – [supermin@torbaymethodistcircuit.org](mailto:supermin@torbaymethodistcircuit.org)

## Fees

Please note that I do not accept fees for church work – I have had a good career!