

THE BIOGRAPHY!!!

Colin Lesser started piano lessons at the age of six, before attending Frensham Heights school in Surrey, where he remembers how students were encouraged to follow their interests rather than a 'national curriculum'. For him music and sport dominated, with other subjects sharing whatever time remained. Most days were spent playing either Beethoven piano sonatas or tennis. Soon music became the dominant interest: while in the sixth form he performed Beethoven's 4th Piano Concerto, before going on to study piano at the Royal College of Music with Oliver Davies.

After qualifying as a teacher, Colin first taught music in Huddersfield where he also joined the Huddersfield Symphony Orchestra as a violist and became involved with the Huddersfield Youth Choir. Three years later he moved to Buckingham as Director of Music at the Royal Latin School with its established choral tradition. Highlights of his twelve years there included performances of Orpheus in the Underworld and the Mozart Requiem and preparing choirs to sing the Brahms and Verdi requiems, Orff's Carmina Burana and Handel's Messiah in the Royal Albert Hall. As assistant conductor and accompanist of Buckingham Choral Society, he worked on music ranging from Bach's St Matthew Passion to the Vaughan Williams Sea Symphony.

On moving to Lincolnshire in 1991 to become Head of Music at Caistor Grammar School, Colin met Thea Hogg, founder of the MRDCS. Thea encouraged Colin to sing in the choir when his other commitments allowed and on her retirement in May 2008, Colin was appointed Musical Director.