

CONGRATULATIONS

To our Vice President Andrew Mayes who was recently awarded a doctorate. I invited him to tell us something about it:-

The title of my thesis is 'Aspects of Performance Practice in Works for Recorded Composed for Carl Dolmetsch Between 1939 and 1989'. It essentially followed on from the history of the repertoire covered in my book. As I examined the various manuscripts and published editions in the Dolmetsch archive it became increasingly apparent that the significant amount of annotation they contained could provide insights into Dolmetsch (and Saxby's) performance practice of this repertoire. This was far too specialized and detailed to be included in the book, but made an ideal topic for a PhD thesis. At Ross Winters' suggestion I applied to Birmingham Conservatoire who took me on as a part-time research student. My supervisor was Shirley Thompson (an authority on Charpentier whose book on the composer is due to be published by Ashgate later this year). My viva (at which my external examiner was John Bryan) was successfully completed a year ago this week, and following the inevitable minor amendments and corrections to my thesis I received my degree (awarded by Birmingham City University) in July.