

I bought Peter's book 'Letters from Dudley' because I knew both of them during my time at Dagenham County High School. I was there from 1953 to 1959. My subsequent attempts to contact Peter were, unfortunately, unsuccessful.

Peter Cork was an inspiration to me too. Within a year of having Peter as a teacher, my parents had somehow afforded to buy me a piano, paid for a private music teacher, and set me off on the long road to musicianship.

Peter's commitment to pupils was above and beyond. In addition to 'out of hours' involvement with the school choir and orchestra, both of which I joined, he used to accompany small groups of us to London, in his own time, to attend Robert Mayer youth concerts at the Royal Festival Hall.

Preparation for GCE music involved studying Elgar's Enigma Variations in some depth, and Peter's love of the work was communicated to the extent that I passed the exam and the work still ranks as one of my all-time favourites.

Peter Cork and my piano teacher, Irene Allen, were truly inspirational and thanks to them my life has been incalculably enriched.

Colin Heaviside