

# **CONVERSATION for CLARINET QUARTET**

## **by Alan Taylor**

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The files accompanying this note are a transposed score of the quartet, and a set of parts. They may be printed and used for playing the piece in private without further reference to me.

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About the quartet: It was written over a period through 1995 and 1996, and has been played several times by groups in the UK. I would like to acknowledge their contribution to the process of finalising the quartet. As a set of four very close instrumental voices, the quartet might be seen as a conversation between four people, talking about this and that, sometimes all at the same time, sometimes interrupting, not ultimately getting anywhere, but none the less sharing something valuable through the process.

I am an experienced amateur composer working in the UK. I began writing music when I was over 40, and I am largely self taught. I currently study with Michael Finnissy at the Royal Academy of Music. I specialise in writing music in a contemporary idiom, but playable by amateur players of various standards. I am an active member of the UK based organisation, Contemporary Music Making for Amateurs (COMA). I have worked with a variety of amateur groups, writing pieces for designed to fit their particular strengths, and I would welcome further opportunities of this kind. I do not charge for the music.

Among my many other activities over the years are contesting an election for the UK parliament, running six marathons, managing a local authority economic development service, breaking a record for the 400 meters track race, gaining a PhD in how to interpret election results, and having a hand in producing a couple of children.

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