

From the President. *It was a great pleasure to welcome members to our AGM at Castle Ashby church on 5th November where, following the usual AGM business, members and visitors enjoyed a service of Choral Evensong organised by Castle Ashby resident, Stephen Meakins, who conducted a specially invited choir. I am very grateful to Stephen for his musical leadership, to our Past-President Jonathan Kingston for assisting with the music as well as chairing the AGM, to Richard Tapp for assisting with the arrangements and, last, but not least, to Castle Ashby PCC for provision of the facilities and their generous support.*

*It is my privilege to assume the Presidency for the coming season and I would like to record my sincere thanks to Jonathan for his excellent leadership during the past year and for the support of my fellow officers in the Association. I have been asked by our Editor to pen a few words by way of a brief profile of your newest President and I will arrange for something to be included in the next edition of our full Newsletter. In the meantime, my colleagues on the Committee and I are finalising details of our events for the coming months, which we hope you will find to be an interesting and varied mixture of live and virtual gatherings. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at those. Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes for a peaceful Christmas. **Glyn Hughes***

NDOA 2022 AGM and Evensong. At the AGM, we thanked Jonathan Kingston for all his work as President during the 2021-22 season, and welcomed Glyn Hughes as our new President, and John Wilson as President-Elect. We also said farewell with sincere thanks for everything they have done to Mark Gibson and Lee Dunleavy from the Committee, welcoming Steve Bell and Stephen Taylor in their place. Richard Tapp stood down at the end of his term as Past-President, and was also elected to the Committee. A full report will appear in the forthcoming edition of the *Newsletter*, to be published early in the New Year.

Organ Stops! We greatly enjoyed the first event of the 2022-23 NDOA season with a virtual meeting on 19th November jointly with our friends from the Buckinghamshire Association featuring the documentary *Organ Stops! Saving the King of Instruments* and followed by an exclusive online discussion with the film maker James Dawson and the organ builder featured in the documentary, Martin Renshaw, who also spoke about his charity Pipe Up for Pipe Organs. A full report will appear in the forthcoming *Newsletter*. Do look out for full details of the rest of the 2022-23 programme of events in due course.



NDOA Newsletter Issue 1/2023. In addition to a musical profile of our new President, Glyn Hughes, the forthcoming edition of the *Newsletter* in January will include detailed reports of the AGM and Evensong at Castle Ashby, and the virtual meeting on the *Organ Stops* documentary. If you weren't able to attend, you missed a fascinating and informative discussion about film and the Pipe Up for Pipe Organs [charity](#), which rescues, rehomes and advocates for the organ, including the Henry Jones organ at London Bridge station. The *Newsletter* also includes the story of the William Hill organ at St Peter and St Andrew, Corby (left), details of a new initiative on music for small organs by Colin Ashworth, a feature by James Lloyd Thomas on sight-reading, and in-depth details of the making of his new CD by John Wilson. There are also articles on Northamptonshire organ builder George Holdich, some thoughts on organ mishaps, and Corno Dolce II's revelations on peripetecity. Want to know what that means? Don't miss it!

NDOA membership. The AGM confirmed that NDOA subscriptions remain unchanged at £10 for individuals (the same as they were in 1998!). £15 for family and corporate membership, and entirely free for student members. Makes a great Christmas present for your musical friends too! 2023 subs are now due and payment will be very much appreciated please - bank details and a membership form can be found at our website at www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join.

Lunchtime Live - All Saints' Northampton - 1st December. Say farewell to the calendar year and hello to the new liturgical year by coming to [All Saints' Church, Northampton](#) on Thursday 1st December. All Saints' Director of Music, [Jem Lowther](#) will be putting the gallery organ through its paces with an Advent-themed recital. Lunch from [All Saints Bistro](#) - before, after, or even during the concert! Entry is free, with a retiring collection for All Saints' music programme. Or visit All Saints' Facebook page to watch it live or on catchup, and donate at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/LunchtimeLive22>

Programme - Nicolaus Bruhns (1665–1697) *Praeludium in E minor* and *Chorale Fantasia on Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland*; J. S. Bach (1685–1750) *Chorale Prelude on Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 659, *Chorale Prelude on Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 661 and *Fugue on the Magnificat*, BWV 733.

Music at Harrington. Sunday 4th December, 3.30pm Harrington Church Advent & Christmas Music. The **Swarbrick Singers'** Ian Clarke directs his choir in a carefully chosen programme of familiar and less well-known choral music for Advent and Christmas, interspersed with organ chorales. This starts the Christmas season in the atmospheric surroundings of Harrington church with candles at sunset. Everyone will be able to join in singing the carols! Mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £18 from Katharine at Harrington Concerts musicharrington@gmail.com or 01536 71394.

Christmas Music at SMSG Stony Stratford [What's on | Music for All @ SMSG \(musicforallsmg.org\)](#) has a host of seasonal events including Irina Davydova and Bridget Wilson presenting an organ, piano and flute recital of **Music for Advent and Christmas** at 2pm - 3pm on Sunday 4th December, and the **Big Sing Carols Express** on Sunday 11th December at 3pm- 4.15pm directed by our immediate Past-President Jonathan Kingston, with our member Stephen Taylor at the Willis - bring your own copy of Carols for Choirs!

Music at Milton Keynes. Virtuoso Russian pianist **Alexander Ardakov** comes to the Milton Keynes City Church for a recital of great works by Schumann, Chopin and Rachmaninoff on Sunday 4th December at 3pm Admission by programme at the door £12 (children £1). Also the City Church's planned illustrated talk on **Advent and Christmas Music Through the Ages** will take place on Wednesday 7th December, 2.30pm at 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, MK8 8LS. Admission at the door, £5.

IAO London Organ Day takes place at Chelsea Old Church on Saturday 11th March 2023 - more details soon from [London Organ Day - The Incorporated Association of Organists \(iao.org.uk\)](#) but save the date now.

Magnificat Podcasts. Looking for something different? Why not try the Magnificat Podcasts for lovers of Evensong at [Episodes | Magnificat](#). There are three interviews so far - with Katherine Dienes-Williams of Guildford, Philip Moore, formerly of York Minster, and David Flood formerly of Canterbury,

John Wilson writes that as President-Elect he is already looking at a programme of events for 2023/24 and would be happy to receive ideas and proposals for outings, meetings or online events at the email address below. He also reminds members that he has produced a CD of 14 songs suitable for use in churches. Called **Sermons in Song**, they are in a range of styles and voices, all with keyboard accompaniment, and include songs suitable for Christmas. Copies of the CD at £15 can be obtained from John at johnwilson@btopenworld.com, or a download album can be obtained from watchfiremusic.com/recordings.

Colin Ashworth writes: 'should you feel minded to do so, you can hear a piece of organ music on my YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@cjashworth> on each day of Advent. They may not all have anything to do with Advent or Christmas since the objective was to make myself do some practice. I can only hope I make it to Christmas Eve! Each new piece should appear there as videos/recently uploaded.'

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