NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

October 2024



PHOTO: CAROL

NDOA presents a

MEMBERS' RECITAL

St Peter and St Paul Market Place Kettering NN16 OAL

Saturday 26th October at 3pm

Come and enjoy our Members' Recital on the magnificent 3-manual Walker organ of St Peter and St Paul, Kettering. Everyone is welcome to attend the recital - admission free! Refreshments will be available.

The Recital includes performances of new organ music especially composed for NDOA's centenary celebrations.

Further information from johnfwilson@btopenworld.com

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Our **AGM** will take place at 2.30pm on **Saturday 9th November** at All Hallows', Wellingborough. There will be the usual reports and other business items, and they will be followed by a musical event which will be open to members and friends. Further details will follow, but meanwhile do please save the date now.

NDOA 2025! We are planning a Concert for Epiphany and the New Year on Saturday afternoon 18th January 2025 at Ss Peter & Paul, Abington, and a Members' CD Choice afternoon in Northampton on Saturday 15th February. More details soon, but do put the dates in your diary now!

IAO Midlands Organ Day 2024 takes place on Saturday 5th October from 10.30am at St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TY with celebrity recitalist Jonathan Scott (following his performance at this year's BBC Proms) and featuring the recently restored Father Willis organ. There will also be recitals by advanced students from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and performances by the choir of St Chad's, Shrewsbury, together with the opportunity to visit the nearly St John's church with its historic Renatus Harris organ. The Midlands Organ Day is supported by all the organists' associations in the Midlands Region - it will be an excellent day and your support would be really appreciated. The cost is £28 for Organist Association members. Full details and booking link at www.iao.org.uk/ mod2024.

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Organ Festival 2024. Join Daniel Moult, Nicholas Wearne, Anna-Victoria Baltrusch, Carolyn Craig and Henry Fairs as they perform on the stunning new 'Juliet' organ, custom-built by William Drake Ltd in November's RBC Organ Festival - Royal Birmingham Conservatoire | Birmingham City University (bcu.ac.uk).



Lunchtime Live. The next All Saints' Northampton Lunchtime Live concert is a cello and organ recital by Oona Lowther and Jem Lowther on Thursday 3rd October at 1.10pm.

Church Organ World holds its annual Autumn Shades concert with lan Tracey at its Shaw (Oldham) HQ on Saturday 5th October. Booking essential. Full details from Events - Church Organ World.

Hereford Composers' Workshop at Leominster Priory on Saturday 12th October features two choral pieces by our former member Robert Page, George and O Lord, my heart is not lifted up (psalm 131). All would be most welcome.

Celebration Day – Come & Sing Evensong. St Albans Cathedral Saturday 19th October. Conducted by David Hill of the BBC Singers, an opportunity to sing in the fabulous surroundings of St Albans Cathedral. Repertoire is also mostly C V Stanford - https://www.rscm.org.uk/whats-on/celebration-day/.

Rosemary Nayyar at Higham Ferrers. Our member Rosemary Nayyar, former DoM at St Mary's Rushden, will give the next Higham Ferrers Farmers' Market Recital on the fascinating hybrid Peter Collins instrument at St Mary, Higham Ferrers, on **Saturday 26th October** at 11.30am. Admission free, retiring collection.

Paul Hale at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery. Paul Hale, former Rector Chori at Southwell Minster, former Editor of *Organists' Review* and well-known concert organist and organ consultant, will give a talk on **The Wonderful World of the Pipe Organ** at the Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, Guildhall Road, Northampton at 10.30am on Thursday 7th November. Cost £4.50. Advance booking is essential at Eventbrite, or in person at the Art Gallery or Museum, or by phone 01604 526322.

Many congratulations to our student member Matthew Foster who is now studying at the University of York. You can read about Matthew's recent stellar recital at Higham Farmers' Market Recital - which won him a standing ovation - in the latest Issue of our *Newsletter* which is being sent to members now..

Play the Organ Year 2025. Play the Organ Year is designed to inspire a year-long effort by the whole organ-playing community, not just to increase the number of people learning to play the organ, but also the number enjoying live and recorded organ music. The RCO, IAO and other organ bodies are working together to get as

many people as possible to hear, see - and play - the organ. At the heart of Play the Organ Year will be an attempt to open this experience to as many people as possible - to encourage them to take a step towards the organ, to lay hands on it wherever possible, and to discover for the first time the unique and thrilling experience of playing this remarkable instrument. Details and resources will be available at Play the Organ Year 2025 (rco.org.uk)



The Lady Organist. Do have a look at the <u>Lady Organist</u> website, which has a wealth of organ-related material from music and book reviews, interviews, lots of pedal resources, to a 'Rescue Package for Reluctant Organists.' You can also find a list of <u>handy excuses for organists</u>, and subscribe to the Lady Organist's Newsletter online.

RCO Podcast. The latest RCO podcasts feature Mark O'Brien and Richard Brasier talking about some of the startling discoveries he made while researching Cesar Franck, and Richard playing one of Franck's unpublished works. Of particular interest to our members, Christopher Stokes also provides a demonstration of the Tickell organ at Manchester Cathedral (made in Northampton, of course) and shares his approach to designing the instrument - The Organ Podcast (buzzsprout.com)

NDOA Newsletter. The latest edition of our quarterly *Newsletter* is live and being sent to members. You can find features on the Hill organ of Peterborough cathedral, some notes on choosing hymns, Chris Benton's fiendish chromatically-inverted Bach, and Bozeat's Roger Yates' organ. There are reports too of our Reluctant Organists' Day, Peterborough's summer recital series, and so much more. Thanks to everyone who contributed, and we do hope you enjoy it.

NDOA Membership. Are you reading this but not already a member? Do please consider joining us. Membership is only £10 per year, £15 for families and corporate members (including churches) and entirely FREE for students www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join.

Newsletter Extra and the quarterly **Newsletter** are published by Northampton and District Organists' Association, registered charity no. 274679. Find us at http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/ and on Facebook and X - formerly Twitter. Contact us at editor@northamptonorganists.org.uk