



PHOTO: TIM DOLAN

NDOA presents a  
**CONCERT FOR EPIPHANY  
AND THE NEW YEAR**  
St Peter and St Paul  
Abington Park Northampton  
NN3 3AB

**Saturday 18th January at 2pm**

Come and enjoy an informal afternoon of seasonal music-making, including items for organ, piano, chorale, and 'fun' items by NDOA members and friends.

The concert will be followed by refreshments  
Everyone is welcome - admission free

Find NDOA on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and at  
[www.northamptonorganists.org.uk](http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk)  
Registered Charity no. 274679



GRAPHICS: JENNIFER COOM

**N** NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT  
ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

**Season's greetings to all our members and friends.** December is perhaps the busiest time of the year for our members and friends, with Advent and Christmas services, concerts and rehearsals. We hope that all your musical endeavours are appreciated by congregations, choirs and audiences alike. This is the final *Newsletter Extra* of the year, and we would like to take the opportunity to send Season's Greetings to all, and to thank everyone who has supported NDOA throughout the year. May we wish all our readers a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas when it comes.

**AGM.** At our AGM in November, our new officers and committee were appointed. Our new President is Tony Edwards, with John Wilson serving as immediate Past President. Helen Murphy continues as our Secretary, and is also appointed as our President Elect. Helen will serve as President from November 2025. Glyn Hughes continues to serve as our Treasurer, and Richard Tapp as our Editor. They are joined on the Committee by Steve Bell, Alan Cufaude, Don Kennedy, Stephen Taylor, James Lloyd Thomas, and Robert Tucker. Tony joins the exalted ranks of those of our Presidents who have served for more than one term. We are very fortunate to have such an active Association, and we hope you will support us by attending our events, both physical and online, during the coming year.

**Concert for Epiphany and the New Year.** On **Saturday 18th January at 2pm** we will host a Concert for Epiphany and the New Year at Ss Peter & Paul, Abington. We will enjoy an informal afternoon of seasonal music for all. The 2024 January concert at Abington was hugely enjoyable and a great success, and we very much hope you will come along. Abington is a warm and welcoming church in every sense of the word so don't worry about being cold! The event is open to all and completely free, and what's more, will be followed by refreshments.

**Members' CD Choice Afternoon 2025** will be held on **Saturday 15th February at 2pm** at the home of Alan and Gabriela Cufaude in Northampton, with thanks for their most generous hospitality. Alan's audio equipment caters for CD, USB, video, DVD and more besides. We share our favourite music, and then enjoy a nice tea, to which members can contribute. Full details soon.

St Peter & Pauls Church, Abington  
Music at 'The Church in the Park' 2024  
Celebrating 800 years



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 4.00pm**  
**Handel's Messiah**  
Christmas section plus "Hallelujah" and "Amen"  
Abington Church Choir with  
The Watling Singers  
Accompanied by the Abington orchestra

**Soloists:**  
*Izy Sommerfield*  
*Judith Daykin*  
*Tom Pearson*  
*Stephen George*  
**Conductor: Tim Dolan**

Donations to church Christmas charities welcomed if you are able

**NDOA Membership - subscriptions now due!** Subscriptions for 2025 became due at the AGM, and we would very much appreciate it if you could pay your subs now. The AGM agreed that our annual subscriptions should remain unchanged at £10 for individual membership, £15 for family or corporate membership (including churches) and entirely free for student members. If you would like a high-quality professionally printed A5 copy of each quarterly *Newsletter*, it can be yours for an additional £10 towards the cost of printing and postage.

You can pay by cheque, PayPal or bank transfer - full details are on the website - but we'd really appreciate it if you could pay by bank transfer if at all possible as it is the simplest route and avoids additional charges. Our bank account details are as follows - please use your name as the reference so we know you've paid:

Sort Code: 56-00-60

Account: 05476240

Account Name: Northampton & District Organists Association

We believe our membership represents excellent value - with the basic subscription of £10 being at the same level it was thirty years ago in 1994. What else can you get for 1994 prices? Your subscription buys you access to regular events, our monthly *Newsletter Extra*, quarterly full colour illustrated *Newsletter*, discounted copies of the *Organists' Review*, and discounts on organ music from Church Organ World. Our student members can also apply for help with the cost of items to assist in their studies. We have members across Northamptonshire and beyond, so if you're reading this and not already a member, why not join now at [www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join](http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join).

**Messiah at Abington.** On **Sunday 1st December at 4pm** at Abington parish church - the Church in the Park - why not enjoy the Christmas section of Handel's *Messiah*, plus the Hallelujah chorus and Amen. Abington church choir, the Watling Singers and the Abington orchestra are conducted by our member Tim Dolan.

**Lunchtime Live.** The last All Saints' Northampton Lunchtime Live concert of the year is a cello and organ recital by DOM Jem Lowther and his sister Oona on **Thursday 5th December at 1.10pm**.

**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. Details at [Play the Organ Year 2025 \(rco.org.uk\)](http://rco.org.uk)

**PLAY THE  
ORGAN  
YEAR 2025**

**RCO Podcast.** The latest RCO Podcast features Donald MacKenzie showcasing the historic Compton organ at the Odeon cinema in London's Leicester Square. As one of Europe's leading theatre organists and accompanist of silent films, Donald demonstrates the art of film improvisation and brings to life the history and rich tradition of the cinema organ. Not only that, but Gordon Stewart looks back on his long career as an international recitalist, conductor, broadcaster, town hall performer, teacher, and his continuing fascination with the music of Bach - [The Organ Podcast \(buzzsprout.com\)](http://buzzsprout.com). Sadly, we understand that the RCO Podcast series is now paused, but you can find 20 episodes still available which are all interesting, varied and of very high quality.

**Scott Brothers Duo Concerts.** Members and friends may well have enjoyed Jonathan Scott's outstanding playing at the Proms this year, as well as at the Midlands Organ Day in Wolverhampton. Did you know, though, that Jonathan and Tom have continued to add to their special online concerts, and there are now no fewer than 55 of them available on YouTube through the website at [www.scottbrothersduo.com/concerts](http://www.scottbrothersduo.com/concerts). Recent concerts feature the organs of Billerbeck cathedral, St Mary's Basilica in Kvelaer, Evreux cathedral and Huddersfield Town Hall. There's also a fabulous Christmas Organ Concert recorded last year at Albion Church, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**NDOA Newsletter.** The next issue of our quarterly *Newsletter*, issue 1/2025, is scheduled to be with members early in January. It will be a bumper edition, with reports of our Members' Recital in Kettering and our AGM at All Hallows, Wellingborough (both illustrated with superb photos by Robin Palmer) and an article on life as a cathedral organ scholar by our member Harvey Stansfield, former organ scholar at Peterborough, who is now assistant organist at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh. There's also a fascinating exposition of the Holdich organ at Benefield by our member Colin Ashworth, a report on the Organ Historical Trust of Australia visit to Brisbane by Stephen Taylor, lots of recital reports, and so much more. Don't miss it!

**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](mailto:editor@northamptonorganists.org.uk)