NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

May 2025



VISIT TO RUGBY SCHOOL

Saturday 17th May 11am

We will tour the Music Department to see just some of the facilities available to students, and hear and play the organs of the Memorial Chapel, the Temple Speech Room and the magnificent four-manual instrument in the Chapel.

A light lunch for £9 will be served in the nearby Raglan Arms.

PHOTO: ROBIN PALMER

Pre-booking is essential with Robin Palmer at robinmpalmer@gmail.com by noon on Thursday 15th May at the latest. Please also let Robin know if you require lunch to allow us to finalise catering arrangements.

The school is an historic building and access is difficult to some of the instruments with steps and stairs.

As the School will be in session, we are naturally required to follow the School's access requirements and Visitor Policy (including wearing a visitor lanyard at all times).

We visit by kind permission of the School and the Music Department.

Find NDOA on Facebook, X and at www.northamptonorganists.org.uk Registered Charity no. 274679

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NDOA is delighted to support the

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL SUMMER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES 2025

Wednesdays at 1pm Admission free Retiring collection

21st May - David Hill (Concert Organist)

 $28 th \; May - \textbf{David Hardie} \; (Birmingham)$

4th June - Adam Heron (Peterborough)

11th June - **Graham Thorpe** (Bradford)

18th June - Ben Morris (York)

25th June - Claudia Grinnell (Bury St Edmunds)

2nd July - William Saunders (Concert Organist)

9th July - Chris Strange (Peterborough)

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NDOA Rugby School Visit. On Saturday 17th May we will visit four organs at Rugby School. Meeting at 11am at the Music Schools, we are privileged to visit Richard Tanner's own Škrabl organ, and the Memorial Chapel where we will hear and play the 2-manual 1923 Harrison and Harrison.

A light lunch is available (likely cost £9 per head, booking essential) at the Raglan Arms, after which we will visit the 3-manual Bryceson organ of the Temple Speech Room and the magnificent 2001 4-manual Kenneth Jones and Associates organ of the Chapel. Our visit will be hosted by lan Wicks, Head of Keyboard, and we are most grateful to lan, Richard Tanner, and to Robin Palmer for arranging the visit.

Please note that the organs in the Memorial Chapel and Temple Speech Room are accessed by steep steps and a spiral stone staircase respectively, and we will of course need to follow the School's Visitor Policy. Please let Robin Palmer know by Thursday 15th May latest if you are attending at robinmpalmer@gmail.com.

This is an amazing opportunity to hear and play the organs of Rugby School which are not normally accessible. If you can possibly make it - even for part of the day - you will not regret it. Please do come!

NDOA sponsors Peterborough Cathedral's 2025 Summer Organ Recital Series. We are delighted to be sponsoring Peterborough Cathedral's 2025 summer series on Wednesdays at 1pm, admission free, retiring collection. Do put the dates in your diary now and come along and support NDOA and the cathedral music department.

- 21st May David Hill (Concert Organist)
- ♦ 28th May David Hardie (Birmingham)
- ♦ 4th June Adam Heron (Peterborough)
- ♦ 11th June Graham Thorpe (Bradford)
- ♦ 18th June Ben Morris (York)
- ♦ 25th June Claudia Grinnell (Bury St Edmunds)
- ♦ 2nd July William Saunders (Concert Organist)
- 9th July Chris Strange (Peterborough)

NDOA plans to have a small stand at each recital. If you might be able to staff our stand at any of the recitals, that would be really appreciated - do please let Richard know on editor.ndoa@gmail.com.

Colin Ashworth at Higham Ferrers. On Saturday 31st May at 11.30am, our member Colin Ashworth will play the monthly recital at St Mary's Higham Ferrers. The programme is currently planned to include Bach's Fantasia in G major, Cocker's Tuba Tune, and Vierne's Final from Symphony 1. Do come and hear Colin play the unique Peter Collins hybrid instrument at Higham!

Lunchtime Live! at All Saints', Northampton. On Thursday 1st May at 1.10pm *Lunchtime Live!* continues in welcoming Lufuno Ndou (Mezzo-soprano) and our member Laurence Caldecote (Piano). All most welcome.

NDOA dates for your diary. We are also planning further events for your delectation over the coming months, to include the following. More details as these are confirmed and finalised but do please hold the following dates:

- ♦ 21st June, 7pm an Organ Quiz at All Hallows church hall, Wellingborough, with Paul Edwards. Admission £5 to include light refreshments.
- ♦ 12th July, 7pm President's BBQ.
- ♦ 25th August Bank Holiday Organ Crawl.
- ♦ 18th October an all-day visit to Windsor and Eton, including the organs of Eton, evensong in St George's Chapel, and an evening visit to the chapel.
- 15th November, 2.30pm NDOA AGM and Vespers, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Wellingborough.

lan Tracey will perform Church Organ World's Sounds of the Summer event at COW's Mixbury showroom on Saturday 3rd May. A Registration Clinic will be included, with lan advising on hymn-playing and on registering a single piece. The event is now sold out but there is a waiting list so if you're interested in what is always a very special day, you can find details from 'Sounds of the Summer' at Mixbury Ticket: Saturday 3rd May 2025 - Sheet Organ Music.

Oakham Recitals. Organ recitals at Oakham parish church will take place on Bank Holiday Mondays this year, starting at 11.15am each day. The recitalists are Monday 5th May - Louise Reid (St. John's College, Durham) Monday 26th May - Christopher Allsop (Eton College) and Monday 25th August - Andrew Caskie (Malvern Priory) Entrance free, with a retiring collection. Car parking opposite the church is free on Bank Holiday Mondays. After the recital there will be lunch, provided by a local delicatessen, Otters, at a cost of £10 per head.

Come and Sing Evensong. Come & Sing Choral Evensong with Royal School of Church Music's Director Hugh Morris at St Mary's Church, Shenley Church End, Milton Keynes MK5 6LL on Saturday 10th May, 2.15pm rehearsal, 5pm Choral Evensong. Music from the RSCM Come & Sing Evensong! book including Stanford's O for a closer walk with God, the Ayleward Responses, Brewer in D and Wood's O thou the central orb. Book online and further details at http://www.rscm.org.uk/.../ come-sing-evensong-with-hugh.../.

Roger Sayer at Christ Church, Oxford. Roger Sayer will play the Andrew Chamblin Memorial Concert at 8 pm in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford on Wednesday 2nd July. Admission free in person (no tickets required), and online live-stream at https://youtube.com/live/AxlxZJSfWp8.

Oundle for Organists. Events this year will include Gerard Brooks at Titchmarsh on 11th August at 4.30pm, Francesca Massey at Oundle School Chapel on 13th August at 9.15pm, Henry Fairs at Oundle School Chapel on 15th August at 1pm, William Whitehead on 16th August at 11am at Fotheringhay, Festival Choral Eucharist on 17th August at 11am at Fotheringhay and a Closing Recital at Oundle School Chapel on 17th August at 2pm. Details at creativeoundle.co.uk.

Anna Lapwood stars in an unusual Prom this year - BBC Proms: From Dark Till Dawn | Royal Albert Hall at 11pm on Friday 8th August, intriguingly described as 'a unique musical journey extending from the nocturnal hours to beyond the dawn chorus' and featuring her former choir at Pembroke College, Russian cellist Anastasia Kobekina with a set of solo Bach; and Chopin Competition semi-finalist Hayato Sumino. The website promises that further details will be listed closer to the sale date!

Rachel Mahon - DoM at Coventry - will also be at the organ of the Royal Albert Hall for a performance of the Saint-Saëns organ symphony as part of this year's Proms series on Thursday 28th August at 7.30pm. Tickets from Proms - BBC

International Historical Organ Recording Collection is an fascinating resource of pre-1973 organ recordings, well worth a browse www.ihorc.com.

Fugue State Films - makers of so many iconic organ videos - have now made material from Daniel Moult's *The Great Toccata* film available free to stream for a month or so. There's around four hours of material including the documentary and Daniel Moult's full performances of BWV 565, 738, 530, 709, 566a, 728, 543, 731 and 532, filmed at the Petruskerk in Leens and the Martinikerk in Groningen. In addition, there are introductions to each piece, and demonstrations of the two organs https://watch.showandtell.film/preview/the-great-toccata. Fugue State want as many people as possible to watch and engage with this film. It's free, but there is an option to donate if you want to – and of course you can also buy the DVD and many of the other Fugue State organ documentaries.

Orgues Nouvelles - the leading French-language magazine about organs - is to be made available in an English edition, giving all the usual excellent content. A pilot edition is available at ONOGB.pdf and you can then access the Summer edition when published by creating an account at https://orgues-nouvelles.org/mon-compte/.

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