NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

December 2021

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

Annual General Meeting and Evensong. Thank you to Jonathan Kingston, the Revd Canon Victor Bullock, and the choir and the entire team at St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford who made us so welcome at the Annual General Meeting, Inauguration of Jonathan as President for 2021-22, and NDOA Evensong in November. Thank you also to John Wilson and Robert Tucker for their compositions to commemorate NDOA's centenary year which Jonathan performed before the service. Robert Tucker and Tony Edwards stood down from the Committee at the end of their 3-year term, and John Wilson and Colin Ashworth were elected in their place. We are so grateful to Robert and Tony for all their hard work, and we wish Jonathan, John and Colin every success in their new roles.

Preliminary Programme 2022. Our new President, Jonathan Kingston, has devised an excellent programme for us for 2022, as follows. Please note the preliminary dates in your diary now:

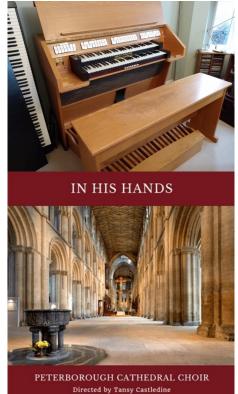
- Saturday 15th January, 11am Members' Record Review, via Zoom.
- Saturday 26th February, 11am Roger Smith Memorial Organ Recital NDOA Members' Recital, St Mary's, Wellingborough.
- Saturday 5th March visit to Viscount Classical Organs (Bicester) and to the home of David Mason (Helmdon) to view and play two large Regent Classic custom digital organs and the 2-manual Hill pipe organ.
- Saturday 2nd April, 2pm online event featuring the portable pipe- and fairground-organs of John and Anna Page.
- Saturday 14th May, 10am-1pm Young Organists' Day at St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford
- Saturday 18th June, 10am Visit to St Mary, Banbury (the largest Georgian Parish Church in England, 40-stop HNB/Walker, followed at 12 noon by St Peter ad Vincula, South Newington, and then a pub lunch.
- Saturday 16th July, 7.30pm St Mary Magdalene, Castle Ashby Martin Setchell (recital forming part of a series of events celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Nicholson organ).
 - Monday 29th August Bank Holiday Monday Garden Party, kindly hosted by John Wilson.
- September (date and venue tba) NDOA Dinner with speaker Don Kennedy (Decca Records and EMI Classics Literary Editor).
- October (date and venue tba) Members' Recital.
- November (date and venue tba) Annual General Meeting, Presidential Inauguration and Evensong.

Three Pieces for Organ - Howard Snell. The Northamptonshire composer, Howard Snell, has written *Three Pieces for Organ*, dedicated to NDOA on our centenary, available for purchase at only £8. These are delightful and accessible pieces which will grace any organists' library, and not to be missed. If you would like a copy posted (plus £2 p&p) please email Helen at secretary@northamptonorganists.org.uk.



Johannus Opus 220 requires good home - not just for Christmas! Alan Cufaude has a Johannus Opus 220 (pictured, right), built in 1985, working but in need of some TLC, available free to any NDOA member. You must arrange collection at your own expense, and that must take place before a date in mid-December TBC. If you are interested, please contact Alan directly on alannorthampton@hotmail.co.uk, or call him on 07894 237467.

In His Hands - Peterborough Cathedral Choir CD. The Cathedral Choir's new CD, In His Hands is available at £12 plus p&p at the Cathedral online shop at <u>Shopping (ticketisland.co.uk)</u>. It features recordings of fifteen well-known hymns and choral pieces, including How shall I sing that majesty; Angel Voices, ever singing, and We Three Kings. There are several new arrangements written especially for the choirs by the Director of Music, Tansy Castledine, and the Organist, Christopher Strange. The Intermezzo String Quartet, a brass quartet and the former organ scholar, Imogen Morgan, all feature. A must-have!



Beauty in Sound. Members might enjoy Richard McVeigh's excellent Advent sequence, featuring music and readings for Advent, which you can find at <u>Advent Sunday - Hymns, Organ Music, Choral Music &</u> <u>Plainsong - YouTube</u>. Do also keep an eye on Richard's Beauty in Sound YouTube channel <u>BEAUTY IN</u> <u>SOUND | Richard McVeigh - YouTube</u> for more music throughout Advent and Christmas.

Orgelsite.nl. Those of us who have enjoyed listening to a number of organs in the Netherlands over lockdown months, whether through the virtual church of Beauty in Sound or the online and physical recitals of <u>Gert van Hoef</u> or Minne Veldman <u>Voorpagina (minneveldman.nl)</u>, may be interested to see <u>orgelsite.nl</u> which features excellent photographs and specifications of a number of well-known organs in the Netherlands. Beauty in Sound fans will know that the Magnussen masterwork at St Laurenskerk, Rotterdam features frequently and you may like to see further details at <u>Rotterdam, Grote- of Sint Laurenskerk, Hoofdorgel – de Orgelsite | orgelsite.nl</u>.

Pipes Alive - Sunday 5th December, 5.30pm (UK time). Members will remember that our friends in the Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists often host events on the Austin Organ of St John's, West Hartford, CT. You can hear the organ online in Pipes Alive! - a concert by Natasha Ulyanovsky on Sunday 5th December via the website at <u>Pipes Alive! - Natasha Ulyanovsky, organist</u> <u>Music at the Red Door (reddoormusic.org)</u>. Natasha's programme will include Daquin's *Noël Suisse*, Bach's *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 659, Yon's *Gesù Bambino* and concludes with Dupré's *Variations sur un Noël*.

Happy Christmas! As this is the last *Newsletter Extra* of the year, may we take the opportunity to thank members and friends for all your support throughout our centenary year of 2021, for the inspiration which you provide through your ministry of music, and for your continued encouragement to the NDOA Committee. NDOA hopes you will enjoy all the Advent and Christmas events which you make so special, and wishes you all the compliments of the season.

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