

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

February 2022

Dr Francis Jackson CBE. Colleagues will know that Dr Jackson passed away on 10th January at the great age of 104, following a lifetime dedicated to church music at York Minster and beyond. The Association sends its sincere condolences to his family and friends. An online organ recital in tribute to Dr Jackson by former York organ scholar Richard McVeigh is at Richard McVeigh | BEAUTY IN SOUND - YouTube.

Ernest Copeman Hart. We are also saddened to note the passing on 16th January of Ernest Hart, founder of Copeman Hart & Company Limited, which traded from Irthlingborough for many years. Our member Steve Bell's recollections of his work with Copeman Hart can be found in issue 3/2021 of the NDOA *Newsletter*. The Association sends its heartfelt condolences to Ernest's family and friends.

Five at the Organ - Roger Smith Memorial Recital - Saturday 26th February 11am, St. Mary's, Wellingborough. This annual recital in memory of our much-respected and much-missed former President and Secretary, Roger Smith, will this year at the request of Roger's widow, Diana, be performed by members of NDOA - Colin Ashworth, Jonathan Kingston, Tony Edwards, Stephen Taylor and Lee Dunleavy. Do come. Admission free - see the poster sent with this NE.

Visit to Viscount - Saturday 5th March. David Mason, Owner of Viscount Classical Organs is kindly hosting us at the Bicester showroom headquarters on Saturday 5th March. The gathering will allow members to try the instruments in the showroom for themselves before an invitation to transfer to David's home in Helmdon, where two large Regent Classic custom-built digital organs can be seen and played as well as a two-manual Hill pipe organ. A rough shape of the day sees members meeting at 23 Telford Road, Bicester, OX26 4LD at 10am before heading to David's home around 11.30. David will be opening up the premises specially for our visit, so a fulsome turn-out would be greatly appreciated. Do save the date in your diary now!

Young Organists' Day - St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford - Saturday 14th May, 10-1. Our President, Jonathan Kingston, invites young organists at any stage in their playing career to experience the fabulous three-manual Father Willis organ. Jonathan will provide performance advice and friendly guidance. The day is free of charge to participants but notice to perform is needed. For more details see the flyer enclosed, and contact Jonathan Kingston president@northamptonorganists.org.uk

NDOA Newsletter. Could you write an article for the Newsletter - about the organ you play, your favourite composer or organ piece, or your experience of learning and playing the instrument? Articles for publication are always welcome - contact Richard at editor@northamptonorganists.org.uk.

Membership Renewals. Just a reminder that 2022 membership renewals are now due. Subscriptions are unchanged at just £10 for individual members, £15 for corporate and family members, and completely free for student members. There is an additional charge of £6 for printed copies of the quarterly *Newsletter* Payments can be made to our Treasurer, Glyn Hughes by all the usual methods.

Join up a friend! Do you know anyone who plays, is interested in the organ or organ music, or might simply enjoy our events and reading about local organs in our Newsletter? Do invite them to join membership is superb value, and you can simply pass on the enclosed membership flyer, or direct them to our website at Join The Association | Northampton & District Organists' Association (northamptonorganists.org.uk). Can you also please place copies of our flyer in your church? Helen will gladly supply some on request to secretary@northamptonorganists.org.uk

NDOA New Year Quiz - the answers. How did you get on with NDOA's New Year quiz in the last edition? Answers below - no prizes except the satisfaction of your expertise!

- 1. Which former NDOA Presidents were taught by C S (Robin) Lang and where? Canon Hilary Davidson and Canon Paul Rose, at Christ's Hospital school.*
- 2. What is title of Dr Jackson's biography of Sir Edward Bairstow? Blessed City.
- 3. Whose generous donation funded the construction and recent restoration of the superb West Gallery Organ at All Saints' Northampton? The Bernard Sunley Foundation.
- 4. What are the Northamptonshire connections with Austin Organs Inc? It's founder was John Turnell Austin, whose father built the organ in St Margaret of Antioch, Denton. The company also built the organ in Rushden Baptist Church using the patented Universal Air Chest system.
- 5. In which church has Viscount Organs Wales recently installed a Viscount Envoy 350 Deluxe? St. Augustine's, Cardiff.
- 6. Which organ builder is based in Northampton, Massachusetts? Messrs Czlesniak et Dugal, Inc.
- 7. Who restored the Trustam organ at St Peter's, Isham? Jeffrey Hubbard of our corporate member, Soundcraft Pipe Organ Company.
- 8. Where can the Northampton School for Boys' Conacher now be found? In East Midlands Cinema Organ Association's New Forum Centre at Melton Mowbray see www.emcoa.co.uk
- 9. At which church is our new President the Director of Music? St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford.
- 10. What music was played before the AGM Choral Evensong in November 2021? The NDOA Centenary March by Robert Tucker, and the Centenary Fanfare by John Wilson.
- 11. Who built the organ at Wollaston Methodist Church and in which church was it originally? Martin & Coates of Oxford, originally installed in Holy Trinity, Northampton.
- 12. Which church starred in *Making Music in a Tropical Paradise* for NDOA in May 2021? St Andrew's Church, Fiji.
- 13. Who were the winners of NDOA's Centenary Composition Competition? Colin Ashworth and Michael Chamberlain.
- 14. Who is Head of Organ Studies at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire? Daniel Moult.
- 15. Where in the county was Copeman Hart based? Irthlingborough.
- 16. Which local man became organist at Canterbury Cathedral? Harry Crane Perrin.
- 17. Who played NDOA's Centenary Recital? Callum Alger and Martin Baker.
- 18. Who composed the *Thurleigh Suite?* Christopher Gower.
- 19. Where was the inaugural meeting of NDOA held? St Katherine's School, King St., convened by Charles King, organist of St Matthew's and who became the Association's first President.
- 20. Which Northamptonshire organ celebrates its 150th anniversary on Christmas Day 2022? The Nicholson Organ at St Mary Magdalene, Castle Ashby.

*Incidentally - did you know? Dr Jackson's academic hood for his Durham doctorate of music belonged to C S (Robin) Lang, being lent to Dr Jackson when he secured his doctorate, and then purchased for him by the Dean and Chapter of York?

Music at the Red Door. Our friends at Springfield AGO in the US often hold events at St John's Episcopal Church, West Hertford, CT, and you can hear the next recital by Matthew Bickett on the famous Austin organ at the church on Sunday 6th February at 5.30pm UK time online at Pipes Alive! – Matthew Bickett, organist | Music at the Red Door (reddoormusic.org).