

**APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER**

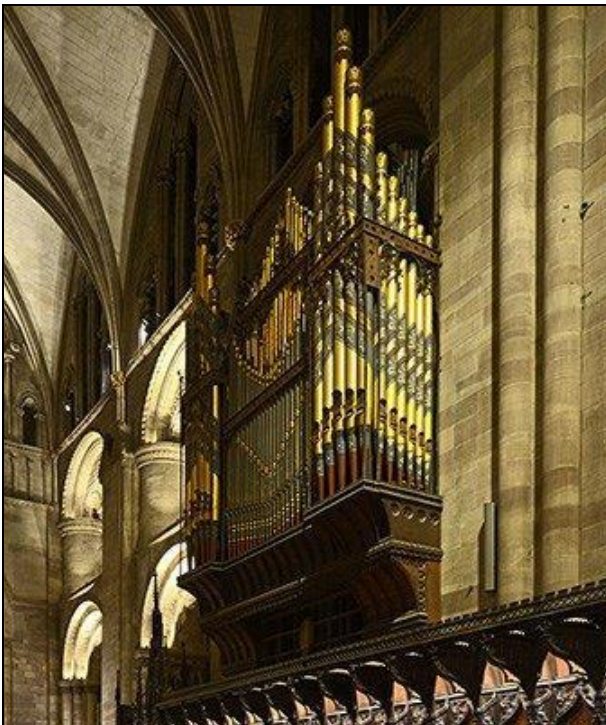
**FORTHCOMING LDOA VISITS/EVENTS**

**Visit to play LDOA member Eric Lunt's 4 manual 64 stop Makin digital organ**

As covered in the previous newsletter, in June 2018 our member Eric Lunt had installed in his home at Lichfield a superb 4 manual 64 speaking stop Makin Custom organ with external speakers, as designed and demonstrated by Prof. Ian Tracey, one of the highest spec digital organs in our area. Eric very generously invited LDOA members to come and try it, and indeed some have already taken up the offer, but if any other members also wish to take up the offer, please contact Richard Syner at [richard.syner1@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.syner1@btinternet.com), who will make the necessary arrangements.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – visit to Hereford**

One of our talented student members, Henry Metcalfe, is the 2018/19 Organ Scholar at Hereford Cathedral, and Henry has kindly invited us to pay a special visit during his tenure at Hereford, taking in a recital at the Cathedral and an opportunity for members to play the superb 4 manual 67 stop 'Father' Willis organ, as well as a playing visit to a local church.



Hereford Cathedral's 1892 Willis organ

14 members wishing to go on the visit have already submitted their names to me, but if anyone else wishes to go on the visit, it's not too late. Just contact me at

[trevorsmedley@ntlworld.com](mailto:trevorsmedley@ntlworld.com) ASAP and I'll gladly add you to the list. Most members going on the visit have elected to make their own transport arrangements, so for the two or three who have requested assistance, we will arrange car sharing. The itinerary and directions are being finalised and will be sent out to each member on the list of attendees shortly.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – visit to the Black Country**

Visit commencing at 2pm to St Mark's, Pensnett, known locally at the 'Cathedral of the Black Country', to play the 3 manual 45 stop organ overhauled in 1991 by Lloyd & Haynes.



St Mark's Pensnett organ

Then on for 3.30pm to St Peter's Cradley, by invitation of James Brookes, to play the 2 manual 31 stop Compton organ dating from 1933, which has recently been restored and brought back into full working order January 2018, after seven years of silence.



St Peter's, Cradley, Compton console

See Appendix to this newsletter for address and location details for both venues

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – visit to St Modwen's, Burton-on-Trent, including a workshop led by Nigel Morris**

Evening visit to this Grade 1 listed church, commencing at 7.30pm, with a workshop presented by Nigel Morris, Assistant Director of Music at St Chad's Cathedral Birmingham and our Midlands Region representative on the IAO Council. Nigel has invited members to bring along pieces they are working on, and he will offer advice about registration, style, techniques for effective practising etc. It is hoped this workshop will benefit all members at whatever level and whether they hope to participate or just observe.

If you would definitely like to take part as a player let secretary Richard Syner know via e-mail at [richard.syner1@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.syner1@btinternet.com), otherwise just bring your piece along on the night.

After the workshop, an opportunity for all members to then play the fine 3 manual Hill, Norman & Beard organ, installed in 1972 in Snetzler/Hope Jones casework dating from 1771.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Members' Recital at All Saints', Streetly**

At the invitation of Chris Booth, Director of Music, a return visit to All Saints' Streetly, for a recital given by a number of our own members, attended by members and their guests, with an invitation extended to members of All Saints' Church. Opportunities will be provided for preparation in advance of registrations on the 3 manual Allen digital organ, and plenty of time to bring your favourite pieces up to scratch!

Members who are willing to volunteer to play a 'slot' at this recital are invited to email our secretary Richard Syner at [richard.syner1@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.syner1@btinternet.com) by 31<sup>st</sup> May.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – visit to Warwick**

By invitation of Director of Music Oliver Hancock, a visit in the afternoon to St Mary's Church, Warwick. St Mary's Church has three organs; one located at the West End and another in the North Transept. The third instrument is a movable chamber organ. All three are regularly used for services and concerts. Since 1980, the 3 manual 45 stop West End Organ (newly built by Nicholson of Malvern to a specification drawn up by Andrew Fletcher in consultation with Roy Massey), and the remodelled 2 manual 27 stop Alfred E Davies/Nicholson Transept Organ, are both playable from the same console.

We are hopeful of combining the visit to St Mary's with a morning visit to another nearby church, and members of our sister associations of Coventry and Warwick have been invited to join us.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (provisional) – President's Evening**

Today sees the RSCM Lichfield Area Massed Choirs Festival Evensong held at Lichfield Cathedral. Martyn Rawles is awaiting confirmation from the Cathedral Booking Team that they are able to accommodate us for

President's Evening, and our annual treat playing the magnificent Hill organ after Evensong.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – visit to the Wolverhampton area**

Visit commencing at 1.30pm hosted by our Honorary Member and Walsall Borough Organist Peter Morris to St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

The fine 3 manual 52 stop 'Father' Willis organ is currently undergoing a £250,000 rebuild by Michael Farley, with enhancements including a four stop digital pedal unit, and a new console by Renatus of Bideford. When complete, the rebuilt Willis organ will make for a superb visit for us.

At Peter Morris's recommendation, we then make the short 2 miles/10 minutes' drive for a visit commencing at 3.30pm to nearby St Michael & All Angels, Tettenhall, hosted by John Taylor, where there is a 3 manual 47 stop Compton organ.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - Annual Dinner**

Venue t.b.c.

**RECENT LDOA VISITS/EVENTS**

**Visit to St James' Hill, Mere Green, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Our visit today was at the kind invitation of LDOA member and Director of Music at St James' Andrew Clayton, commencing with our 2019 AGM, from which matters arising of general interest members are covered later in this newsletter. Pleasing to see a good turnout of 18 members, and to see Pam Strong and David Gumbley joining us on this occasion.

The original church was built in 1834-35 by architect Daniel Rollinson Hill, and comprised a small chancel, a simple nave and a west tower with pinnacles. It was of brick construction, rendered and coursed to resemble ashlar. At the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, following significant population growth, it was decided to demolish the original church and rebuild in a much grander style under architect Charles Edward Bateman. Thus, in 1906-8, the chancel was demolished and rebuilt on a larger scale with a fine Arts and Crafts interior, and the transepts, crossing, organ loft and vestries were also added, with all the new building being in Hollington sandstone ashlar. The rebuilding of the nave, to provide a barrel roof of the same height as the new chancel, and a larger tower were never carried out, so the original building of 1834-5 still stands west of the crossing, resulting in the difference in height between the new higher chancel and the original nave.

At the church's centenary in 1935, extensive work was carried out, and then between 1990 and 1997 further extensive restoration and refurbishment work took place, giving the bright and airy interior seen today.

Following the AGM, there was an opportunity for members to peruse donated organ music scores whilst Andrew Clayton, kindly assisted by one of his three sons, Dan,

refreshed us with very welcome drinks and cakes, Andrew then giving a brief history of the organ.

The NPOR shows an earlier organ by Forster & Andrews, replaced by the current organ, which was last surveyed in 1953, and shown at the time as being a two manual instrument by Nicholson & Co, whereas in fact it now has three manuals.

The organ was indeed built by Nicholson, between 1919 and 1922. Mr Drewett was organist at the time and having been given to understand that the rebuilding of the church would be continued, he had designed a rather larger instrument than he would otherwise have done, with three manuals and pedals. Only two manuals could be built at the time, and room was left for two additional stops and for the Choir organ. Some of the mechanism was temporary, and indeed originally one manual was tracker action and the other pneumatic action. The Great was converted to pneumatic action in 1936, as was already the case with the pedal organ, but leaving the Swell organ still as tracker action. Some work was carried out by Hill, Norman & Beard in the mid 1950's.



The Nicholson organ of St James' Hill, Mere Green

In 1985, in time to celebrate the church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the organ was rebuilt by Leonard Reeves of Stoke. The console was moved down from the organ loft to its present position in the nave, the positive organ installed in the space previously occupied by the console, the third manual activated, and the whole converted to electric action. The inaugural recital was given on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1986 by a young man who had been appointed as Birmingham City Organist a few years earlier in 1983 – a certain Thomas Trotter no less! During 2001 the organ was completely dismantled, cleaned and reassembled by Mark Thompson of Burton-on-Trent.

The specification of the 3 manual 44 stop organ as it stands today is:

#### Pedal

16' Bourdon, 16' Open Wood, 16' Quintaton, 8' Bass Flute, 8' Octave Wood, 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>' Quint, 4' Fifteenth, Mixture (15.19.22), 16' Contra Oboe, 16' Trombone, 8' Trumpet, 4' Clarion

#### Great

16' Quintaton, 8' Open Diapason, 8' Harmonic Flute, 4' Principal, 4' Rohr Flute, Mixture (19.22.26), Sesquialtera (12.17), 8' Trumpet

#### Swell

8' Diapason, 8' Viol D'Orchestre, 8' Violes Celestes, 8' Gedackt, 4' Lieblich Flute, 4' Gemshorn, 2' Flageolet, Sharp Mixture (22.26.29), 16' Contra Oboe, 8' Oboe, 8' Cornopean, Tremulant

#### Positive

8' Quintaton, 8' Dulciana, 8' Gemshorn, 4' Gemshorn, 4' Flute, 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>' Nasard, 2' Principal, 2' Flautina, 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub>' Tierce, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>' Larigot, 1' Octavin, 8' Festival Trumpet, 4' Festival Trumpet, Tremulant

#### Accessories

Full range of couplers, plus memory capture system with divisional thumb pistons to each division.

Andrew Clayton is a very talented pianist, but as he is having organ lessons with David Gumbley, he gave us just a brief demo of the organ before handing over to our members to explore the organ's capabilities more fully, and Tony Westerman got proceedings off to a flying start with first an improvisation, followed by a most accomplished performance of Garth Edmundson's *Toccata Vom Himmel Hoch*, played impressively from memory.

Peter King followed with *Voluntary in B flat* by Maurice Greene. Tony White was next 'up', making his first return since being baptised here! Tony played *Prelude & Fugue in E Minor (Eight Short Preludes & Fugues)* by J S Bach, before handing over to Mike Rudd to play *Concerto del Signor Torelli* by Walther.



Mike Rudd at the console of St James' Hill, Mere Green

Next to Angela Sones for *Grand Choeur Dialogue* by Gigout, before assisting Jonathan Woodward, who is having lessons with Angela, playing the first movement of Mendelssohn's *Sonata No 2*.



Angela Sones at the console of St James' Hill, Mere Green, with Jon Woodward and Richard Syner assisting, showing also the fine altar

Then to Paul Geoghegan who did his customary exploration of the range of stops available on this organ, before Tony White returned for a final play to close the afternoon.

Temperature extremes over the last few weeks had caused the Great Open Diapason to be out of action for our visit, but despite the need for some attention, this organ is indeed a force to be reckoned with, and certainly no issue with the sound reaching down the nave with this instrument!

Our thanks to Andrew Clayton for hosting the visit and provision of welcome drinks, ably assisted by his son Dan, and to Richard Syner for the cakes. Andrew extended an invitation to any members wishing to make a return visit to play the organ to contact him via: [domstjameshill@gmail.com](mailto:domstjameshill@gmail.com) . TS

## MEMBERS' NEWS

### New Members

We're delighted that the following new members have joined us since the February newsletter:

#### Qyan Arnachellum

Qyan is an organist and is also a member of Leicester & District Organists' Association, of which he is a past President. He was recommended to us by our members from the Leicestershire area Simon Lumby and Christine Luckcuck, for which we are most grateful.

#### George Rawlinson

George is a student and plays the organ. He heard about us through one of our publicity flyers. He lives in Whittington.

We look forward to meeting both Qyan and George at our future events.

#### Cathy Lamb success

Congratulations to our honorary member Cathy Lamb on the project she leads having just won the independent-state school partnership award at the prestigious *Times Educational Supplement Independent School Awards 2019*.

For more than a decade, the Music Share Programme (Lichfield Cathedral and Lichfield Cathedral School) has brought the joy of singing to children through dozens of school partnerships. Since the programme joined the North-West Midlands Music Education Hub as a funded partner, its reach has exploded, and Music Share now works with pupils from some 50 state schools on various different projects each term.

The award was accepted by Music Share leader Cathy Lamb, Director of Music Outreach at the Cathedral School; Rev'd Canon Andrew Stead, Precentor (Liturgy, Music and Formation) at Lichfield Cathedral; and Jenny Mason, Music Hub Manager at Entrust Music Service Staffordshire.

Last year Music Share worked with 103 schools for core projects, with a further 150 for one-off projects, and extended its reach, producing two concerts with children with special educational needs (SEN) for the first time.



Cathy Lamb (centre) at the award ceremony

Lead judge Deborah Leek-Bailey OBE praised the project as a "sustainable initiative that has lasted over 15 years, but which is constantly evolving," adding: "Lichfield Cathedral School's Music Share Programme is a stunning example of how collaborations between groups of schools can create opportunities to expose young people to profound creative stimuli, as well as enabling them to realise new ambitions and challenge gender stereotypes."

#### Angela Sones Silver Jubilee Celebration

This year sees LDOA member Angela Sones complete 25 years as Director of Music at All Saints' Church, Four Oaks.



Angela Sones at All Saints' Four Oaks

To celebrate the occasion, Angela is giving a Silver Jubilee Recital at All Saints' on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.30pm. Members who have had the pleasure of hearing Angela play at our visits will be well aware that a treat is in store for those attending this event! A copy of the flyer for this recital accompanies this newsletter.

## NEWS FROM THE LDOA COMMITTEE

### 2019 AGM – matters arising of interest to members

Matters arising of general interest to members from our 2019 AGM held on 9<sup>th</sup> March at St James' Hill as follows:

- Finances in good shape thanks in no small part to Mike Rudd having been successful in gaining approval for us to claim Gift Aid on subscriptions/donations. So once again we are able to hold subscription rates unchanged for 2020.
- Membership has grown by 10% to 77 over the last year, but we need to keep pushing to attract new members to offset natural wastage and hopefully continue to grow. We have our website and publicity flyers, but word of mouth via existing members has proved to be the most effective way of attracting new members. So, a plea was made to existing members to encourage anyone they know with an interest in organs/organ music, whether as players or not, to join us. Richard Syner can provide you with publicity flyers to assist with this task.
- The current Committee was re-elected, but our Committee Member Chris Booth wishes to step down due to work/training commitments, so we need to find a replacement for Chris as soon as possible. If any member is interested in joining the Committee and has expertise he/she believes would contribute to the running of the LDOA, please contact Trevor Smedley for an informal discussion about the role.

### Next Committee Meeting

June 2019. Date t.b.c.

## NEWS & SNIPPETS FROM THE ORGAN WORLD

### Noel Rawsthorne obituary

Noel Rawsthorne, Organist at Liverpool Cathedral for 25 years from 1955-1980, passed away peacefully on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 aged 89. In his tribute to his teacher, mentor and illustrious predecessor, Ian Tracey described this multi-talented man as organist, teacher, composer, arranger, organ designer, harpsichord maker, cook, angler, gardener, French polisher, water colour artist and IT boffin.



Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

His relationship with Liverpool Cathedral began when he was just eight years old, with a visit with his father, and three years later he became a chorister. Organ lessons followed, and after study at the Royal Manchester College of Music (now The Royal Northern College of Music), he won scholarships to study with both Germani and Dupré.

Following his retirement as Organist of Liverpool Cathedral, he was appointed City Organist & Artistic Director at St George's Hall, Liverpool, and travelled widely as a recitalist in the UK, Europe, and USSR, the first British organist to play there. He was also the first organist to appear on *Desert Island Discs* as Roy Plomley's castaway – see the short excerpt on the BBC website: [www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p009n9xh](http://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p009n9xh). He was awarded a DMus from the University of Liverpool in 1994.

His ashes will be interred under the North-side of the organ, alongside those of his predecessor at Liverpool Cathedral Henry Goss-Custard, during Evensong on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, preceding the 93<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Recital

PS. January also saw the death at the age of 91 after a short illness of John Joubert, the prolific British-South African composer, best-known for his choral works, particularly his carols. He was senior lecturer, later reader, in music at Birmingham University from 1962 until he retired in 1986 to devote himself to composition.

### Wolverhampton Civic Hall Compton organ scrapped

The demise of the Wolverhampton Civic Hall 4/57 organ, the largest organ ever built by Compton, has been covered in the newsletter over the last couple of years, ever since the death of its champion, Steve Tovey, Wolverhampton Civic Organist in September 2016. Its fate has finally been sealed with the scrapping of all 6241 pipes. The pipes were left in situ when the ceiling was stripped of asbestos during the £38.1m refurbishment of the hall, and the pipes reputedly became contaminated, so have been disposed of as toxic waste. A shameful end to yet another piece of

Midlands' heritage. Ironically, the console has been preserved!

### Allegro Music/Churchorganworld

Many members will have purchased organ music from Allegro Music over the years, so you may be interested to learn that owners Richard and Barbara Priest are moving on, and their entire organ music stock has been bought by Churchorganworld, who are also UK agents for Makin, Johannus, Copeman Hart and Rodgers digital organs.

With effect from 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019, organ music may be purchased initially by phone, then shortly afterwards on line via their website [www.churchorganworld.co.uk](http://www.churchorganworld.co.uk).

### LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL NEWS/EVENTS

#### Music for Reflection

Details of the 2019 Lichfield Cathedral summer *Music for Reflection* events have now been released, and take place on Wednesdays from 1.15pm – 1.50pm, admission free with retiring collection. Dates and artists as follows:

- 17<sup>th</sup> July – Trio Rosalba (Julia Brewer, Helen Jones, Robert Webb) play Beethoven: *Piano Trio No 7 in B flat major, Op97* ("Archduke")
- 24<sup>th</sup> July – Andrew Wyatt (organ), Assistant Organist, Chester Cathedral
- 31<sup>st</sup> July – Rose Vinter (organ), Organ Scholar Lichfield Cathedral
- 7<sup>th</sup> August – Callum Alger (organ), Acting Director of Music, St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton
- 14<sup>th</sup> August – David Saint (organ), Director of Music, Saint Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
- 21<sup>st</sup> August – Ashley Wagner (organ), Assistant Director of Music, Birmingham Cathedral
- 28<sup>th</sup> August – Nigel Morris (organ), Assistant Director of Music, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

#### Evening Celebrity Organ Recitals

Details of the 2019 autumn evening recitals series will be advised when released.

#### Lichfield Cathedral Chorus Concert: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Come and join Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, under the direction of Cathy Lamb, with soloists and the Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra as they give their own interpretation of Verdi's mighty *Requiem*. 7.30pm – tickets cost £12 - £25 and can be booked on line via the Cathedral's website. Unfortunately this event clashes with our visit to Hereford.

For full details of Lichfield Cathedral events and services see: [www.lichfield-cathedral.org](http://www.lichfield-cathedral.org)

#### Organ Scholar appointment

Liam Condon is to take over from Rosie Vinter as Organ Scholar of Lichfield Cathedral for 2019/20. Liam is in his

final year at Royal Holloway, University of London, where he is currently Senior Organ Scholar.

### IAO/RCO MATTERS

#### Organfest 2019

The next BIOS/IAO/RCO Organfest will take place in Cardiff from 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019, with venues including Eglwys Dewi Sant, St David's Hall, Llandaff Cathedral, St John the Baptist and the National Museum of Wales. Full details will be available soon via: [www.organfest.org.uk](http://www.organfest.org.uk)

#### London Organ Day 2019

LDOA member Paul Geoghegan attended this event, held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Christ Church Spitalfields, and I'm indebted to Paul for sharing his experience of the day with us:

My alarm clock went off at 5am! What an ungodly hour to be woken up, even if it was for a day in London. My train left Sandwell & Dudley at 6.37am and the journey to Euston gave me plenty of time to reflect on my last visit to Spitalfields some 50+ years ago, when the area was very deprived both economically and socially, and Christ Church was closed and virtually derelict, being proposed for demolition.

Fortunately, demolition did not happen, largely due to the efforts of John Betjeman and his friends, and when the area was rejuvenated in 1990s the beautiful John Hawksmoor church was restored and re-opened. The church contained the remnants of the Richard Bridge organ of 1735 (the largest in England when it was built!), much altered and then vandalised and restored 1998 and 2016 by William Drake. The organ had originally sported a short compass Swell manual, and this was restored to the original specification after some discussion.

The day started at 9.30am with some 170 people in the nave of the church, seated on chairs facing the west end of the church where the organ sits high on a gallery and sings out into the nave. The first item on the agenda was a recital by Ghislane Reece-Trapp, which showed off many of the multitude of sounds available on this instrument. Her programme ranged from William Byrd (*Fantasia in G*) through Couperin, Jean Langlais and Judith Weir, thereby showing that the instrument could cope with 20<sup>th</sup> C music as well as music of the time when it was built.

The main session about the organ was a very detailed explanation of research undertaken to facilitate the restoration, which was delivered by the two consultants Nicholas Thistlethwaite and William McVicker. Music examples were played by the Curator Organist Gerard Brooks and included a piece by the first organist of the church in 1735, one Peter Preleur and including a World Premiere of a piece by David Loxley-Blount composed specially to commemorate the life and work of Peter Preleur.

After a break for lunch we were treated to a recital by Richard Brasier (St Laurence Upminster) of music of the Classical period with music by C.P.E. Bach, Beethoven,

Hayden and Mozart. Music beautifully played and we had the benefit of a short verbal introduction to each piece.



The Richard Bridge organ of Christ Church, Spitalfields, London

The last item of the day was a superb recital by Daniel Moulton, Head of Organ Studies at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Daniel's playing is not just technically proficient and virtuosic, it is superbly musical, with every little nuance beautifully interpreted so that every performance is a splendid experience. His programme covered the music of Handel, Stanley, Mozart, Guilain, Wesley, Mendelssohn, van Oortmerssen and Bovet. A brilliant recital rounded off a great day of music and sent me back to Liverpool Street station a very happy bunny for my return train ride.

After a very long day, I was pleased to hit my bed and very thankful that I did not have to play for a service the following morning, though singing in the choir was a bit of a strain!

Paul Geoghegan

### **IAO Finance Director/Treasurer vacancy**

IAO Finance Director/Treasurer, Richard Allen, has decided to stand down at the July AGM. The IAO has therefore to begin the search for a suitable candidate to replace Richard, and we have been requested to bring this vacancy to the attention of our members. An outline description of the key aspects of the role is:

- Maintaining day-to-day financial records
- Ensuring budgets are agreed for the key areas of the charity's operations
- Monitoring actual expenditure against budget
- Preparation of VAT returns and annual accounts

Contact David Saint via [secretary@iao.org.uk](mailto:secretary@iao.org.uk) for more details.

## **RECENT LOCAL ORGAN RECITALS REVIEWS**

### **Nicholas Morris recital at Emmanuel Wylde Green Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

Nicholas Morris spent his early musical years as a chorister at Westminster Abbey under the direction of James O'Donnell. He was subsequently a Music and Academic scholar at Uppingham School. Between 2011 and 2014, Nicholas held the Organ Scholarship at Queens' College Cambridge, where he also read for a degree in music. After graduation, he moved to the Midlands and took up the post of Assistant Organist at Birmingham Cathedral. Following a period as Assistant Organist at Clare College Cambridge, he is now the Assistant Director of Music at St George's Hanover Square, London. He has performed extensively as a soloist in the UK and abroad. Whilst at Cambridge he took organ lessons with William Whitehead, and he continues his studies in Birmingham with Henry Fairs.

Nicholas opened in lively fashion with J S Bach's *Prelude & Fugue in C minor BWV 546*, followed by Howells' *Master Tallis's Testament*, 'to demonstrate the English sounds of this organ.' Next to *Variations on the Harmonious Blacksmith* by Handel, arranged by Karg Elert, featuring the Voix Celeste.

Then to two works which Nicholas remarked 'belong together', in that they share the same theme and structure, with first Buxtehude's dramatic *Praeludium in C BuxWV 137*. Then to Petr Eben's rather different contemporary take on the same theme, *Hommage à Dietrich Buxtehude (Toccatenfuge)*, with its frenetic jagged rhythms.



Nicholas Morris taking his bow at Emmanuel Wylde Green

A very varied programmed confidently performed by a talented young man. TS

### **Thomas Trotter recital at Birmingham Town Hall 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Entitled 'Pedal Power', in today's recital we were clearly going to be treated to a display of Thomas Trotter's impeccable pedal technique.

J S Bach's *Tocatta, Adagio & Fugue BWV 564* was the choice for the first display of pedalling, with the big pedal solo coming in on the second page. The beautiful *Adagio*

calms things down, before the dancing *Fugue* takes over to keep both hands and feet busy.

In view of the theme of today's programme, Thalben-Ball's *Variations on a Theme of Paganini* was always going to make an appearance, with the fingers not being exercised until the final toccata-style finale. *Elegy in B flat major* by the same composer followed, with the crescendo and diminuendo beautifully managed. Next, to *Four Etudes-Caprices* for pedals, commissioned for Thomas Trotter in 2000 from Beirut born Naji Hakim, and described by Thomas as a mini symphony of four movements, *Scherzando, Mesto, Giocoso and Alla russa*. Technically demanding footwork, if all rather pointless to my mind!

Thomas commented that he was always on the lookout for something new and interesting, Kevin Volans' *Walking Song* was originally arranged for flute and harpsicord, then for organ, and was inspired by music of South Africa where he was born and grew up.

Finally, to *Etude Heroique* by leading Canadian composer/organist Rachel Laurin. Written as a test piece for the final round of an organ competition in Quebec, this exhilarating piece makes equal demands on both hands and feet, ending in an exciting ascent to a thunderous conclusion.

A veritable tour de force for the pedals! TS

#### **Thomas Trotter recital at Birmingham Town Hall 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Today's programme featured a colourful selection of lesser-known music, beginning in 17<sup>th</sup> century Germany with Buxtehude's *Prelude & Fugue in F sharp minor*.

Next to three pieces by English composers, with first a work new to Thomas, pianist and composer York Bowen's only organ composition, *Fantasia*, written for the Festival of Britain, a dramatic piece culminating in a majestic climax. Then to Sir William Harris and *Four Short Pieces*, the meditative *Prelude*, the wistful *Reverie*, the gentle *Interlude* and finally the whimsical *Scherzetto*. Next to three dances, *Lavolt, Pavin* and *Jig*, from *Five Dances* by John Gardner, written for Catherine Ennis and performed by her here at Birmingham Town Hall in 1989.

Finally to Vierne's *Symphony No 4*, with Thomas playing the serene *Romance*, followed by *Final*, a spectacular virtuoso work with a relentless rhythmic drive, before culminating in eleven majestic chords.

To celebrate a lady fan's birthday, just time to fit in an encore, the jolly *Caribbean Dance* by Madeline Dring, and an opportunity for Thomas to draw his favourite Whitechapel Bells stop! TS

#### **Ashley Wagner recital at Emmanuel Wylde Green, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

Ashley Wagner had been Organ Scholar at Birmingham Cathedral prior to moving to Worcester as Organ Scholar, and made a return to Birmingham Cathedral recently to take up the post of Assistant Director of Music.



Ashley Wagner

In an almost complete change to the originally published programme, for reasons not explained, Ashley opened with *Impromptu in F* by Coleridge-Taylor, perhaps better-known for his *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast*.

Then onto more familiar ground with Elgar's *Nimrod*, followed by *Galliarda*, a dance piece by Scheidemann. For *Cloches* by Fournier, Ashley produced a very realistic bell sound from the Willis organ I'd not heard before, which we later gathered he'd achieved using 4' flutes. Showcasing the fine Tuba stop, Lang's *Tuba Tune* was followed by Alain's reflective *Postlude pour l'office de complies*.

Then, to finish, a work originally written for piano, then arranged for orchestra, and then for organ, with this arrangement by Hirsch of Debussy's *Dance* putting both organ and organist through their paces. Lively from the outset, there is a lyrical central passage before, the lively tempo returns and builds to an animated final conclusion.

A rather different but varied programme. TS

#### **Callum Alger recital at St Chad's Cathedral Birmingham, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

LDOA member Callum Alger is currently a fourth year undergraduate at Birmingham Conservatoire, studying organ with Henry Fairs and choral conducting with Paul Spicer. Alongside his degree, he is Acting Director of Music at St Peter's, Wolverhampton, where he oversees the week-by-week running of the busy music department. He previously held positions at Portsmouth Cathedral, and St Matthew's church Northampton, as well as deputising at Derby Cathedral. After winning the 2018 IAO/RCO Organ Competition at Peterborough Cathedral, he has been in great demand for recitals, with no less than 14 recitals listed on Page 11 of this newsletter. He takes up the prestigious position as Organ Scholar at Westminster Cathedral in September 2019.



Callum Alger

The dramatic opening of Buxtehude's *Tocatta in D minor BuxWV 155* was followed by a gentle central section played on the Choir, finishing with a bold flourish. Next to



Schumann's beautifully melodic *Canon in A flat major Op 56 No 4*, followed by J S Bach's delicious *Leipzig Chorales: Allein got in der Höh' sei Her' BWV 662*.

The major work of the recital, Buxtehude's *Phantasie uber den Choral: 'Halleluja! Gott zu loben, bleibe meine Seelenfreud!*', showed both organ and organist to good effect, with Callum seemingly handling the usual Reger abundance of notes for both hands and feet with complete confidence, providing a stunning conclusion to the recital. A young man with prodigious talent who is surely destined to go far. TS

### **Thomas Trotter concert with Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir at Birmingham Symphony, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

In his introduction, LDOA honorary member and acclaimed choral conductor Paul Spicer informed us of three extra works in the programme prior to the programmed Fauré's *Requiem*.

Opening with Cesar Franck's setting of *Psalm 150 (O Praise God in his Holiness)*, accompanied by Thomas Trotter on the organ, Purcell's *Remember not Lord our Offences* followed, sung a cappella. Next, to a composition by Herbert Howells, with whom Paul Spicer had studied organ at the Royal College of Music in London. Howells was commissioned to write a choral motet to be performed at a memorial service for President Kennedy held at Washington Cathedral, and *Take Him, Earth for Cherishing* was the result, again sung a cappella.

Then, to the main work of the afternoon, Fauré's *Requiem*. It received its official premiere during the Paris Universal Exhibition in July 1900, and whilst this symphonic version enjoyed instant success in France, it didn't reach England until 1936, when Fauré's pupil Nadia Boulanger directed its British premiere in London. This afternoon's performance was beautifully sung by the choir, three superb soloists, including of course the sublime *Pie Jesus*, and with Thomas Trotter providing his usual sensitively judged accompaniment.

Another supremely professional performance from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Choir under the direction of Paul Spicer. TS

### **Concert at Emmanuel Wylde Green, with Josh Roebuck, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

Until the end of last year, Josh Roebuck was Organist at Emmanuel Wylde Green, and since 2017 organ Scholar at Birmingham Town Hall and Symphony Hall, before his move to Worcester Cathedral as Organ Scholar in January 2019. He's in his final year at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and as part of his finals, he took on both organising and performing in tonight's concert.

The concert opened with Alain's dramatic *Sarabande for Organ, String Quartet and Timpani*, directed by William Peart, also a student of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Two organ solos by Josh Roebuck followed, with first *Litanies (from Trois Pièces)* by Alain, then *Variations sur le Veni Creator by Duruflé*, with its theme and four variations, building to a grand climax.

The Emmanuel Orchestra under the direction of William Peart then joined with Josh to perform Poulenc's *Organ Concerto*, containing passages with greatly varying tone and texture, from the rather serious opening and allegro to calmer passages.



Josh Roebuck

After the interval, members of Sutton Chamber Choir, Emmanuel Choir and Orchestra, and Josh Roebuck combined to perform Duruflé's *Requiem*, under the expert and energetic direction of Emmanuel Wylde Green Director of Music Richard Mason. A very professional performance, with notable contributions from soloists Charlotte Sleet (mezzo-soprano) and Alistair Donaghue (baritone).

Josh is to be warmly congratulated on successfully taking on the challenge of organising and performing in such a concert. He was clearly both delighted (and relieved!) at receiving such splendid support for his efforts from both his fellow musicians, and the audience, which I would estimate filled the church to three quarters capacity. An unqualified success in every respect! TS

### **Thomas Trotter recital at Birmingham Town Hall 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

J S Bach's '*Great* *Prelude & Fugue in C Minor BWV 546* was the choice to open today's lunchtime recital, followed by a work commissioned from Jonathan Dove for Thomas Trotter's recital to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Snetzler organ of St Laurence's, Ludlow five years ago. Thomas commented that in commissioning a work from a composer you are in the hands of the composer, and don't know what you're going to end up with – some being hits and some misses - with this piece entitled *The Dancing Pipes*, falling into realms of the former. Describing it as 'an exhilarating piece to play', it uses an ostinato figure all through, and having started with dancing flutes, gradually builds to a climax.

Next to R. Vaughan Williams and his *Three Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes, Bryn Calfaria*, the delicious *Rhosymedre*, and *Hyfrydol*. Having now had the Spring Equinox, Thomas risked programming *On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring*, one of the best-known works by Delius, and being a beautiful spring day today, this new arrangement for organ by Nigel Potts was very appropriate.

Composed in the 1960s, *Prelude et Danse Fuguée* by Gaston Litaize was composed for a very different organ from this at the Town Hall. The whimsical *Prelude* develops into a *Fugal Dance*, becoming ever louder and more dissonant, and eloquently described in David Gammie's programme notes as 'ending in a savage

explosion of raw energy, with the rumba rhythm hammered out in aggressive chord clusters, to devastating effect'.

A glance at his watch showed Thomas that there was just time for an encore, in a very different style, with cinema organist, pianist, conductor and composer Sidney Torch's *On a Spring Note*. TS

## VACANCIES

### St Peter's Church, Wolverhampton

The departure of our student member Callum Alger, currently Acting Director of Music at St Peter's, Wolverhampton, to take up his position as Organ Scholar at Westminster Cathedral in September 2019, has given rise to the following vacancy advertised in the Church Times, and which we have been requested by our honorary member Peter Morris to help advertise:

Director of Music, St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

Location: West Midlands

Ref: JN007033

#### Job Description

As a church with a strong choral and civic tradition, separate boys' and girls' SATB choirs and a three manual Father Willis organ currently under complete restoration, we seek to appoint a Director of Music from September 2019.

Detailed job specification and person profile available from The Rev'd Preb. David Wright at:

[david.wright@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:david.wright@lichfield.anglican.org)

Closing date was 28 February 2019, so hence our earlier e-mail communication of this vacancy

### Holy Trinity Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield

Our previous Director of Music has changed his job and can no longer continue his commitment to Holy Trinity. So we are looking to engage someone as either Organist or Director of Music (being Organist with oversight of the Choir).

For an Organist we can offer a stipend of £2,650 (regular services) with occasional office fees (est £2,025 for 12 weddings & 10 funerals). For a Director of Music we can offer a further £1,325 for weekly choir practices, etc.

The church is of central tradition, with the main service as Eucharist. We use several Eucharist settings, and a range of traditional & contemporary hymns (but mainly from Ancient & Modern - Hymns & Songs for Refreshing Worship). The choir sing an anthem once a month. We have an organ (3 manual Allen installed in 2017) and piano.

We are looking to appoint someone from 1st May. Please contact: Revd John Routh [john.routh.htsc@gmail.com](mailto:john.routh.htsc@gmail.com) for further details.

### St Augustine's Church, Rugeley, is seeking a new organist and keyboard player.

St Augustine's is an open, inclusive church with a flexible liturgical tradition. We have a growing choir with an excellent director with whom our new organist/keyboard player will work closely. We are entering a new phase of music ministry. Our overall vision for music is to develop musical excellence both in our regular worship services, and as a means of bringing people from our wider community together to sing in a variety of settings. We recognise the value of music and singing as a means of fostering wellbeing, and are keen to explore the therapeutic value of music and singing. We have local connections with musicians in our schools, and are keen to explore the development of all age and young people's choirs.

A full role description and person specification is available at <http://www.brteamministry.org/work-opportunities/> For an informal conversation with the Incumbent about this post email [davidmaevans1@gmail.com](mailto:davidmaevans1@gmail.com).

### Organist and Choir Leader, St. Michael's Church, Brereton, The Parish of Brereton and Rugeley

St. Michael's is a small Church with a congregation of around 35-45. Music plays a key part in our worship, helping us reflect, worship God and uplifting us. Our current organist is retiring and we are looking for a new organist to enable our worship. So, if you love to play the organ, are interested in working with a traditional church which is also open to new initiatives, and would like to join a church that is trying to work out how music can be enhanced in our worship, then St. Michael's could be the place for you. We are keen to find an organist who can also lead, inspire and grow our small, loyal and enthusiastic choir.

Our Sunday 9:45am Holy Communion Service is traditional in style, with a small, robed choir - the Gloria is sung, as well as popular hymns. We also have monthly Evensong and occasionally other services requiring an organist. The organ is a two manual pipe organ, which is regularly maintained. We offer an annual retainer fee of £2,000 payable monthly, in addition to wedding and funeral fees.

For more information, please see: <http://www.brteamministry.org/work-opportunities/> for a role description, or contact Rev'd Georgina Holding: [rev.georgeholding@hotmail.com](mailto:rev.georgeholding@hotmail.com) / 01889 801077

### Organist & choir-leader required at All Saints' Church, Sudbury.

Wonderful well maintained 3 manual organ, and delightful appreciative choir and congregation.

Usually no evening services, with services on second, third and occasional fourth Sunday mornings. Twice a year there will be a Benefice service on the first Sunday morning of the month.

Choir practices are held before services on the second and third Sunday mornings. This arrangement was to suit the current organist, who has now moved to Stafford, and

is the reason for the vacancy. Fees by negotiation with the PCC, and further information can be obtained by informal discussion with the organist.

Please email: [jezzdutton@gmail.com](mailto:jezzdutton@gmail.com)

## FORTHCOMING LOCAL ORGAN RECITALS

### LDOA Members' Recitals/Events

#### Martyn Rawles

In addition to his Lichfield Cathedral duties, Martyn will be playing the following recitals:

- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 from 1.15 to 2pm at Cheltenham College Chapel
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 from 1.15 to 1.55pm, making a return visit to St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol. where he was a chorister.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 from 12.40 to 1.20pm at St Chad's Shrewsbury
- Bank Holiday Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 11am at Norwich Cathedral

#### Cathy Lamb

In addition to her Lichfield Cathedral School/Lichfield Cathedral duties, Cathy will be playing the following recitals:

- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019 from 11am to 12 noon at St Chad's Stafford
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 1pm at All Saints' Church, Four Oaks
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from 12.30 to 1.15pm at St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 from 12.00 to 1.10 at Victoria Hall, Hanley

#### Peter Morris

Peter is giving the following recitals:

- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 from 1 to 1.50pm at Shrewsbury Abbey
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May from 1 to 1.40pm at Blackburn Cathedral
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 1pm at St Giles & St Nicholas, Sidmouth
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 from 1.10 to 1.45pm at Chester Cathedral, where of course Peter was a chorister in his formative years.

#### Angela Sones

Angela is giving the following recitals:

- Palm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 8pm at Mountsorrel Methodist Church.
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 10.30am at All Saints' Church, Streetly – organ duets with Richard Hartshorn
- See also recitals at All Saints' Four Oaks below.

#### Richard Hartshorn

Richard is giving the following recitals:

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 10.30am at All Saints' Church, Streetly – organ duets with Angela Sones

- See also recitals at All Saints' Four Oaks below.

#### All Saints' Church, Four Oaks

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.30pm – Angela Sones, Silver Jubilee Recital celebrating her 25 years here as Director of Music. See also the flyer with this newsletter.

In addition to the above Silver Jubilee Recital, Angela has planned an exciting new 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month lunchtime recitals series here at 1pm. See details below and flyer with this newsletter:

- 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Cathy Lamb – inaugural recital of the new recitals series
- 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019 – Angela Sones
- 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 – Angela Sones/Richard Hartshorn – Organ Duets
- 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – Angela Sones– Duruflé Suite
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 – Angela Sones/Richard Hartshorn – A selection of Christmas Organ Music

#### Simon Lumby

Simon will be giving a recital on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 8pm also at Mountsorrel Methodist Church.

#### Alex Goldsmith

LDOA student member Alex will be giving a recital with George Gillow on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from 12.00 to 1.10pm at Victoria Hall Hanley.

#### Callum Alger

Following his success in the IAO/RCO 2018 Music Festival at Peterborough, LDOA student member Callum will be performing the following recitals:

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019 from 4.45 to 5.15pm at Westminster Cathedral, London, the cathedral where he will be taking up his appointment as Organ Scholar in September 2019
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 1 to 1.50pm at St Michael's, Cornhill
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 1pm at St Laurence, Ludlow, with Josh Roebuck
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7pm at St John the Baptist, Westbourne
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 from 1.15 to 2pm at St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019 from 1 – 1.45pm at St Nicholas' Church, Harwich, part of the *Harwich Music Festival*
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 from 1.15 to 1.45pm at St Albans Cathedral, part of the *St Albans International Organ Festival*
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 11.15am at Broadway URC, Walsall
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge, part of the RCO's *The Organ Student Experience*
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 from 1.15 to 1.50pm at Lichfield Cathedral
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019 from 1.10 to 2pm at Truro Cathedral
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from 5.45 to 6.15pm at Westminster Abbey
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 1pm at St Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon

- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 12 to 1pm at St Columba's URC, York

#### Richard Syner

See recitals listing below for St Modwen's

#### Tony Westerman

See recitals listing below for St Modwen's

#### Stanley Monkhouse

See recitals listing below for St Modwen's

#### St Modwen's, Burton-on-Trent

Following the very successful recitals series of 2017 and 2018, LDOA member Tony Westerman lost no time in fixing dates for the 2019 recitals at St Modwen's, Burton-on-Trent on Wednesdays at 12.30pm, lasting approx. 40 minutes. The recitals include six given by LDOA members, as detailed below:

#### Music for Reflection:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 – Tony Westerman (St Modwen)
- 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Stanley Monkhouse (St Modwen)
- 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Tom Corfield (Derby)

#### Summer Recitals:

- 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – Peter Gould (Portsmouth)
- 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – David Butterworth (Nottingham)
- 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – John Keys (Nottingham City Organist)
- 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – Tom Corfield (Derby)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 – Ben Mills (Keble College, Oxford)
- 10<sup>th</sup> July - Hans Uwe Hielscher (Wiesbaden Lutheran Cathedral)
- 4<sup>th</sup> September – Richard Syner (Burton-on-Trent)
- 11<sup>th</sup> September – Cathy Lamb (Lichfield Cathedral School)
- 18<sup>th</sup> September – Tony Westerman (St Modwen)
- 25<sup>th</sup> September – Stanley Monkhouse (St Modwen)

#### Broadway URC

On Passion Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, LDOA member and Broadway URC Organist & Choir-director Alan Taylor will be conducting Stainer's *The Crucifixion*, with soloists and an augmented church choir, with another LDOA member, Chris Stormont FRCO, playing the organ.

Alan Taylor is noted for fostering the careers of talented young organists, giving them recital opportunities on the fine 4 manual organ at Broadway. Alan has secured the services of more talented young organists to give recitals for summer 2019. The Saturday morning 'Coffee & Cake' recitals commence at 11.15 am, with details as follows:

- 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – Dylan McCaig (Organ Scholar, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham)
- 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Callum Alger (Acting Director of Music, St Peter's Wolverhampton, and an LDOA student member)
- 24<sup>th</sup> August 2019 – William Fox (Sub Organist, St Paul's Cathedral, London)
- 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Anniversary Celebration – details to follow.

#### Philip Scriven recital at St Editha's, Tamworth

LDOA member Maurice Price has for the last few years organised well-supported annual recitals by our past

President Philip Scriven at St Editha's, Tamworth, normally in the Autumn. There was no recital in 2018, but Phil makes a welcome return visit this year for a recital entitled *A Celebration of Spring at St Editha's*, on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Admission £10, including refreshments.

#### **Recitals In Local Area (to end of May 2019)**

#### **April 2019**

Wed 3 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.15 • St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent

Tony Westerman (St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent)

Wed 3 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.15 • St Alphege, Solihull

Jonathan Stamp (Norwich)

Thurs 4 April 2019 • 1.15 to 1.55 • St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham

David Saint (St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham)

Frid 5 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.10 • Stratford-upon-Avon URC

Stephen Dodsworth (Holy Trinity, Stratford-upon-Avon)

Frid 5 April 2019 • 1.00 to 1.45 • Emmanuel, Wyde Green

Richard Dawson (St Paul's, Brighton)

Frid 5 April 2019 • 1.15 to 2.00 • St Mary's, Warwick

Mark Swinton (St Mary's, Warwick)

Sun 7 April 2019 • 3.00 to 3.45 • Holy Trinity, Wordsley

Paul Carr (Birmingham)

Mon 8 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.10 • Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Wed 10 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.15 • St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent

Stanley Monkhouse (St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent)

Frid 12 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.10 • Stratford-upon-Avon URC

Samuel Bristow (Birmingham Cathedral)

Sat 13 April 2019 • 12.00 to 1.10 • Victoria Hall, Hanley

Jonathan Scott (Manchester)

Sun 14 April 2019 • 8.00 • Mountsorrel Methodist Church

Angela Sones (All Saints', Four Oaks)

Wed 17 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.15 • St Modwen's, Burton-upon-Trent

Tom Corfield (Derby)

Sat 20 April 2019 • 11.00 to 12.00 • St Chad's, Stafford

Cathy Lamb (Lichfield Cathedral School)

Mon 22 April 2019 • 11.00 to 11.45 • All Saints', Leamington Spar

Peter King (Bath Abbey, Organist Emeritus)

Wed 24 April 2019 • 1.10 to 2.00 • St Alphege, Solihull

Richard Walker (St Chad's, Shrewsbury)

Sat 27 April 2019 • 7.30 to 9.00 • St Editha's, Tamworth  
Philip Scriven (Cranleigh School)

Mon 29 April 2019 • 12.30 to 1.10 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Mon 29 April 2019 • 1.00 to 1.30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Rachel Mahon (Coventry Cathedral)

### **May 2019**

Wed 1 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.45 • St Mary's, Hinckley  
Peter Harris (St Mary's Hinckley) - organ 'fireworks' using the Hereford Cathedral organ sample set.

Thurs 2 May 2019 • 1.15 to 1.55 • St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham  
Paul Carr (Birmingham)

Frid 3 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.45 • Emmanuel, Wylde Green  
Anthony Pinel (St Chad's, Shrewsbury)

Sat 4 May 2019 • 4.00 to 5.30 • St Laurence's, Northfield  
John Keys (Nottingham City Organist)

Sun 5 May 2019 • 3.00 to 3.45 • Holy Trinity, Wordsley  
Paul Carr (Birmingham)

Mon 6 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Paul Leddington Wright (Coventry Cathedral)

Tues 7 May 2019 • 12.40 to 1.20 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Martyn Rawles (Lichfield Cathedral)]

Tues 7 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.40 • St Andrew's, Rugby  
Philip J Bricher (Holy Trinity, Northampton)

Wed 8 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.50 • Shrewsbury Abbey  
Peter Morris (Walsall Borough Organist)

Thurs 9 May 2019 • 12.15 to 12.55 • Worcester Cathedral  
James Orford (St Paul's Cathedral)

Frid 10<sup>th</sup> May • 11.00 • St Mary's, Stafford  
Margaret Outen (St Mary's Stafford) - Bach programme

Sat 11 May 2019 • 12.00 to 1.10 • Victoria Hall, Hanley  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Sat 11 May 2019 • 5.00 to 6.00 • Guild Chapel, Stratford-upon-Avon  
Andrew Jones (London)

Mon 13 May 2019 • 12.30 to 1.10 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Mon 13 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Rachel Mahon (Coventry Cathedral)

Frid 17 May 2019 • 12.40 to 1.20 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Peter King (Bath Abbey, Organist Emeritus)

Frid 17 May 2019 • 1.15 to 2.00 • St Mary's, Warwick  
Ashley Wagner (Birmingham Cathedral)

Sat 18 May 2019 • 12.00 to 1.00 • Malvern Priory  
John Kitchen (Edinburgh City Organist)

Sat 18 May 2019 • 12.00 to 12.45 • Stoke Minster  
Simon Russell (St Mary's, Warwick)

Sat 18 May 2019 • 2.30 to 3.15 • St Peter's, Cradley  
Jean Holloway (St Margaret's, Hasbury)

Mon 20 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Kerry Beaumont (Coventry Cathedral)

Thurs 23 May 2019 • 12.15 to 12.55 • Worcester Cathedral  
Nicholas Freestone (Worcester Cathedral)

Frid 24 May 2019 • 1.15 to 2.00 • St Mary's, Warwick  
William Peart (Birmingham Conservatoire)

Mon 27 May 2019 • 1.00 to 1.30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Liam Cartwright (All Saints', High Wycombe)

Frid 31 May 2019 • 1.15 to 2.00 • St Mary's, Warwick  
Marcus Sterk (Munich, Germany)

For a complete listing of organ recitals in the UK and further details go to: [www.organrecitals.com](http://www.organrecitals.com)

For details of recital organ specifications go to the National Pipe Organ Register at: [www.npor.org.uk](http://www.npor.org.uk)

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**Ed. – the next newsletter is planned for June 2019, with a deadline for submission of items for inclusion of 24/05/19, to Trevor Smedley by e-mail as above, or by mail to 8 The Parchments, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 7NA**

## APPENDIX

### Directions for the visit to St Mark's Church, Pensnett, at 2pm Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019

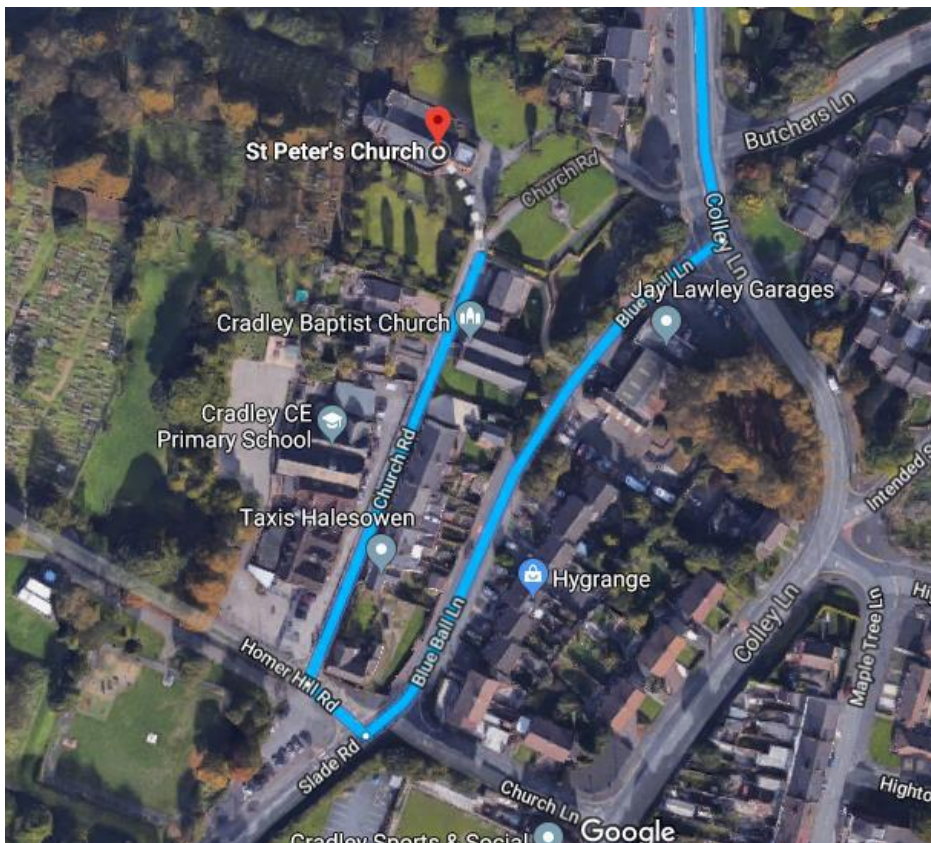
St Marks' Church, Pensnett, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 4JH is located approximately 2 miles beyond Dudley, via the A4101 High St, past Russells Hall Hospital, then right into Elgar Cres and left into Vicarage Lane. Through the archway on the left into the churchyard for car parking.



Locator map for St Mark's Pensnett (shown by red map pin)

### Directions for the visit to St Peter's Church, Cradley Heath, at 3.30pm Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019

St Peter's, Church, Church Road, Cradley Heath, Halesowen, B63 2UL, is approx. a 4 mile drive from our first venue, via Holly Hall, Netherton and Cradley Heath, then on the map below via Colley Lane, Blue Ball Lane, right into Homer Hill Road and right into Church Road. There is car parking for about 5 cars within the churchyard, or alternatively there is a small free car park at the corner of Homer Hill Rd and Slade Rd, from which it's just a 2 minute walk along Church Rd to the church.



Location of St Peter's Church, Cradley Heath (shown by red map pin)