

## **APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER**

### RECENT LDOA VISITS

#### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012 visit to the Birmingham Oratory

On our arrival at the Oratory for our evening visit, we were greeted by resident Organist Richard Jeffcoat, who explained that there was a security lockdown in force at the Oratory, as there had been a theft of metal from the dome on Sunday night. It was reported in the Birmingham Post that metal thieves had caused £30,000 worth of damage, after trying to wrench the holy cross from the top of the domed roof and stolen other metal.

The Oratory was founded in 1848 by John Henry Newman, who was beatified by the Pope in 2010 during his visit to Birmingham. It was established on the present site in 1851 in a temporary building, before the building of the current Oratory was commenced in 1903, and finally opened in 1909.

Richard Jeffcoat, who had only taken up his appointment at the Oratory just before Christmas, drew our attention to the highly decorative interior of the building, with mosaics and 12 huge monolithic Italian marble columns. The many services held here include some entirely in Latin.



West Gallery organ of Birmingham Oratory

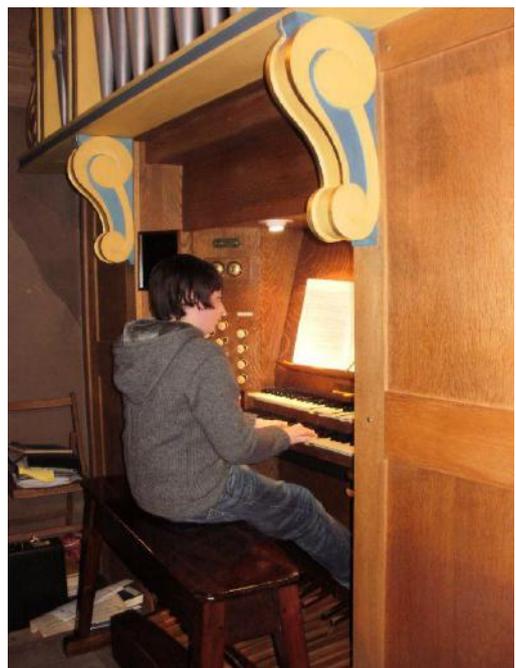
Richard then escorted us up to the West Gallery, where a delightful 2 manual 17 stop tracker action organ is installed. This organ built by Nicholson in 1864, and rebuilt by Harrison & Harrison in 1904, was originally in St

Leonard's, Clent, and was rebuilt at the Oratory in 1997 by John Pryer and Paul Parsons, with a new case reflecting the decorative style of the building.



Richard Jeffcoat at the Oratory's West Gallery Organ

Richard explained the organ was particularly suited to accompanying the choir, before demonstrating the instrument with music by J S Bach.



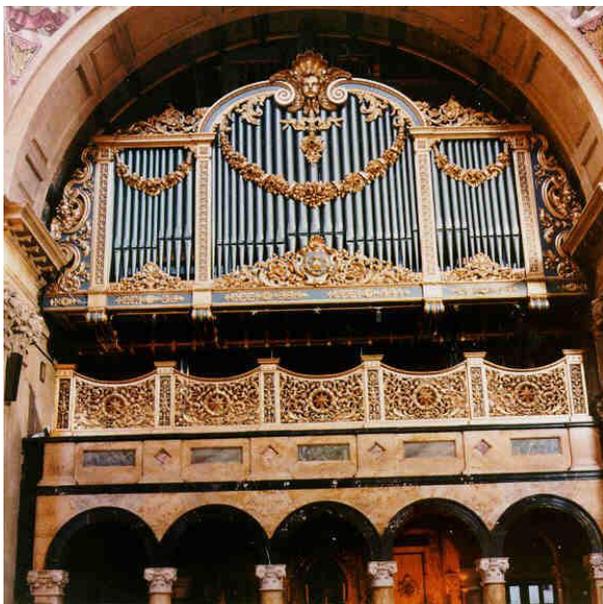
Henry Metcalfe at the Oratory's West Gallery organ

Then it was over to our members to 'have a go', and it was most gratifying to see our newest member, 12 year old Henry Metcalfe on his first LDOA visit, not being at all phased by the adult members in accepting the invitation to play.



Pat Neville at the Oratory's West Gallery organ

Other members, including Pat Neville, followed Henry, before returning to the floor of the Oratory and climbing the spiral stone steps up to the organ loft of the main organ.



The 4 manual Nicholson organ of the Birmingham Oratory

The main organ of the Oratory is a 4 manual organ built in 1909 by Nicholson, using pipes from an earlier organ, and then subsequently enlarged by the same builder. Rushworth & Dreaper did extensive work in 1950 and 1967, before Nicholson carried out a major rebuild in 1987 with tonal revision, modifications to winding and a new solid state system. The organ has electro pneumatic action, and now has a very comprehensive 59 speaking stop specification, including 3 ranks of Open Diapasons on

the Great, and an extensive Pedal division with a 32' Open Wood. The synoptic stop list is as follows:

Great: 16,8,8,8,8,8,4,4,2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>,2,III-IV,8

Swell (enclosed): 16,8,8,8,8,8,4,4,2,IV,16,8,8,4

Choir (enclosed): 16,8,8,8,8,2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>,2,1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub>,8,8

Solo (enclosed): 8,8,8,4,2,8

Pedal: 32,16,16,16,16,16,10<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>,8,8,8,4,16,16,8,4

It would have been nice to have been able to see the magnificent decorative casework as shown in the picture, but the Oratory were being particularly frugal with lighting on the evening, so all we managed were some shadowy glimpses of pipework in the dim lofty interior of the church. The pipework is framed by an arch, with the detached console on the elevated gallery beneath.



The console of the main Oratory organ

Richard Jeffcoat gave us a good idea of the power of this instrument when used as a recital organ by playing Marche Pontificale from Widor's 1<sup>st</sup> Symphony. Suffice to say that the organ had no problem filling the cavernous interior of the Oratory, and the final chords enabled us to experience its lengthy reverberation time.

Richard then handed over the console to members to 'have a go', with Chris Stormont playing a piece that had us all puzzled as to the piece and the composer. In fact it was Toccata in E Minor, one of only two pieces written by Georges Krieger who met a premature death at the age of 31 in WW1. Chris commented that he had heard this piece played by John Scott Whiteley, and finally managed to obtain a copy of the score. As always, Chris gave a superb performance of this piece, ably assisted by dad John acting as registrant.

Andrew McMillan played a work by one of his favourite composers, Vierne – Choral from Symphony No 2. This work calls for 'fff' towards the end, and John Stormont was called into service once again as registrant to add stops accordingly.

Undaunted by following on after the fine performances by Chris and Andrew, Henry Metcalfe put his 6 months training by Martyn Rawles to good use once again, and Chris Stormont commented that Henry at 12 years of age is more advanced than he was at the same age. If he

continues to progress with his organ studies, he should indeed be a young man to watch out for in the future!



Chris Stormont at the console of the main Oratory organ, with dad John acting as registrant.

Unfortunately, the security lock down in force curtailed our visit to the Oratory at 8.30 pm, limiting the opportunity for other members to play this impressive organ. As the number of members grows, we clearly could do with trying to extend the duration of our visits in order to give everyone who wishes to play the opportunity to do so.

We are indebted to Richard Jeffcoat for his hospitality, and for the opportunity to play both fine contrasting organs of the Oratory.

TS

### [FORTHCOMING LDOA VISITS](#)

#### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012 visit to St Peter's, Maney, for Chairman's Afternoon and AGM**

Hosted by our Chairman and Director of Music at St Peter's David Gumbley, the visit commences at 2.30 pm with the 2012 AGM, followed by a masterclass by David Gumbley on J S Bach with volunteers from our members, then an opportunity to play the fine 3 manual Nicholson organ.

For the benefit of new members who have not been here before, St Peter's is located at the bottom end of Maney Hill Road (just off Birmingham Road), Sutton Coldfield, post code B72 1JJ. There is parking both at the front and rear of the church.

#### **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012 visit to St James' Church, Mere Green, Sutton Coldfield (Note change of date)**

Visit commences at 7.30 pm. The Nicholson organ dates from c1921, and was extended from 2 manuals to 3 manuals in 1985. The church has good and lively acoustics.

#### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 visit to Broadway United Reformed Church, Walsall**

Visit commences at 3.30 pm, hosted by our member and Broadway Organist/Choirmaster Alan Taylor. The organ is a large 4 manual Lloyd & Haynes 51 stop organ, comprising mainly Nicholson/Nicholson & Lord pipework. (See October 2011 newsletter for photos and description)

NB. You may like to make a note in your diary of a recital at Broadway URC by Daniel Bishop of Liverpool Anglican Cathedral on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September, the week after our visit.

#### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2012 President's Evening at Lichfield Cathedral**

Visit hosted by our President Martyn Rawles. Open Choir rehearsal at 4.45 pm, followed by Evensong, then an opportunity for members to play the magnificent Hill organ, before finally adjourning for refreshments.

#### **2012 Annual Dinner**

Pam is planning this for a Wednesday at the end Nov/early Dec 2012.

### [NEWS FROM THE LDOA COMMITTEE](#)

No Committee Meeting since the last newsletter, but there has been a further meeting related to our initiative to foster the interest of children in the organ, and an update of the status of this is included below.

#### **Children and the Organ**

To ensure the future playing of organs in our churches, a stated aim of our Constitution is 'To foster an interest in the organ and organ playing among young people'. Martyn Rawles, Cathy Lamb, Eric Lunt and Steve Mansfield have kindly agreed to assist us in organising an event to fulfil this aim, and Trevor Smedley is meeting periodically with this group to plan the event.

The group met on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and agreed the outline format for a children's workshop format event centred on Lichfield Cathedral. Martyn is looking at possible dates in the busy Cathedral diary around Autumn 2012, and in the meantime the content of the workshops is being worked on. Next meeting is Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **IAO Benevolent Fund**

Along with payment of 2012 subscriptions, our members donated £61 towards the IAO Benevolent Fund, and Pat Neville has asked that we convey our and IAO Treasurer Michael Whitehead's gratitude and appreciation for members' generosity.

#### **Next Committee Meeting**

Next Committee Meeting is at 8 pm Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at Pam's house.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

### New Members

#### Roger Fifield

Roger has attended a few of our recent visits as a guest of his friend Colin Brookes, and we are very pleased to now welcome Roger as a new member.

Roger plays the organ, and before his retirement was for some 33 years a self-employed organ builder. His most recent large contract was around 2002 at Hinckley Parish Church, where he installed a 3 manual 1931 Taylor organ previously in St Paul's Leicester, enlarging it from 27 to 46 stops in the process. Roger lives at Nuneaton.

Having an organ builder in our Association is a most welcome addition to the experience and skills in our membership, and we look forward to seeing Roger at our future visits.

## LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL NEWS/EVENTS

### Organ Recitals – Evening Series

The 2012 Evening Organ Recitals commence in September, and two further recitals have been added since the last newsletter:

#### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30 pm

Stephen Farr (St Paul's Knightsbridge) and 2011 BBC Proms soloist

#### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 at 7.30 pm

Cathy Lamb, Lichfield Cathedral

#### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 7.30 pm

Martyn Rawles, Lichfield Cathedral

#### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7.30 pm

A welcome return visit by Alex Mason, who was Assistant Organist at Lichfield from 2002-7, before moving to St David's Cathedral, and is now Director of Chapel Music at Shrewsbury School.

#### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7.30 pm

Cathy Lamb, Ben Lamb, Martyn Rawles and Nigel Argust.

#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 at 7.30 pm

Martyn Rawles

### Organ Recitals – Lunchtime Series

Since the last newsletter, Martyn Rawles has advised us of the following 'MUSIC FOR REFLECTION' 2012 lunchtime events, on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1.00 – 1.30 pm, some of which have still to be confirmed. The events include both organ recitals and other musical events:

#### JULY

- 17 Philip Lancaster (baritone), tbc (piano)  
*Songs by Gurney*

- 20 Robert Webb (violin), Helen Jones (piano)  
*Elgar's Violin Sonata*

- 24 Nigel Morris (organ) *St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham*  
*tbc*

- 27 Ingrid Cusido (piano)  
*tbc*

- 31 Douglas Tang (organ) *Organ scholar elect, King's College, Cambridge*  
*tbc*

#### AUGUST

- 3 Nigel Argust (organ) *Lichfield Cathedral*  
*tbc*

- 7 Rosie Mosley (soprano), tbc (piano)  
*tbc*

- 10 Keith Hearnshaw (organ) *Concert organist*  
*tbc*

- 14 Andrew Kirk (organ) *St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol*  
*tbc*

- 17 Kristina Shakeshaft (soprano), Cathy Lamb (soprano), tbc (piano)  
*tbc*

- 21 Mark Swinton (organ) *St. Mary's, Warwick*  
*tbc*

- 24 Harriet Hunter (soprano), Martyn Rawles (piano)  
*tbc*

- 28 Lichfield Cathedral School Music Department  
*Mozart's Clarinet Quintet*

- 31 Gary Desmond (organ) *Bath Abbey*  
*tbc*

#### SEPTEMBER

- 4 Benjamin Chewter (organ) *Chester Cathedral*  
*tbc*

- 7 Richard Walker (organ) *St. Chad's, Shrewsbury*  
*tbc*

Ed Note: We are used to seeing events at the Cathedral involving the Cathy and Ben Lamb team, but we are fortunate in now having a second husband and wife team at the Cathedral, when on 24<sup>th</sup> August, Harriet (soprano) & Martyn Rawles (piano) are performing at the event.

### Other Notable Lichfield Cathedral Musical Events

#### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012 at 7.30 pm

'Come & Sing the Messiah' with The Lichfield Cathedral Chorus. Afternoon rehearsal prior to the evening performance.

#### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7.30 pm

Staffordshire Performing Arts Concert – Haydn's Creation

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 7.30 pm

A Jubilee Proms Concert, featuring the combined Darwin Ensemble Orchestra and City Concert Orchestra, soprano Elizabeth MacDonald, Lichfield Cathedral Chamber Choir and the Choristers of Lichfield Cathedral, conducted by Cathy Lamb, Ben Lamb and Adrian Jackson

### RECENT LOCAL RECITALS REVIEWS

#### Andrew Fletcher Recital, Emmanuel Church Wylde Green, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012

For his opening to today's lunchtime recital, Andrew Fletcher chose a piece by the Spanish composer and organist José Lidon (1748-1827) - Sonata del 1<sup>o</sup> Tono. Ideally this work requires a Trompette Royale, but not having one at his disposal, Andrew had to call into service the Tuba and reeds of the Willis, the resultant strident tone working well for this lively melodic piece.

The gentle Prelude on 'Schmücke dich' by J S Bach is from the Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes, and was followed by one of Bach's major works – Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C BWV 564 with its distinctive opening to the Toccata on manuals only, before the pedals take over. The beautiful melody of the Adagio leads to the lively Fugue.

William Henry Harris is well-known from his time at Christ Church Oxford and at St George's Chapel Windsor, but he has of course a local connection prior to these appointments when he was Assistant Organist at Lichfield Cathedral. His Prelude in E Flat and Reverie, are both gentle melodies.

Max Reger's writing was described by Andrew as 'black and excessive', and this description is certainly apt when applied to his Introduction & Passacaglia in D minor. The short dramatic Introduction is followed by the Andante 'ppp' opening to the Passacaglia, but this builds with a profusion of notes, and Andrew's comment about 'need to be good at reading chromatic chords' became very evident in the chromatic runs and chords which are the feature of the triumphal statement with which the Passacaglia climaxes.

Three sketches by C Armstrong Gibbs followed, with Quiet Thoughts and Folk Song being gentle melodies, and the third sketch Processional March finishing on full organ.

To conclude today's recital, Etude Symphonique by Marco Enrico Bossi was described by Andrew as 'ruthless, carefree, idiotic', and a 'toccata for pedals with some handwork thrown in!' Andrew commented that not many performers are able to get their feet around the pedals of this piece, and the significance of his comments became evident when after a few opening bars of manual chords, the frenetic pedal passage was unleashed. In fact, the frenetic activity alternates between the pedals and the manuals throughout the piece, until finally combining in both manuals and pedals to culminate in a final 'fff' chord blast. If like me this piece is new to you, I would recommend watching it on YouTube – a challenging workout for the feet if ever there was!

As always, a most enjoyable programme, with for me Andrew's superb virtuoso performance of the Reger being the musical highlight, but certainly also memorable for the pedalling in the Bossi!

TS

#### Peter Morris Recital, Walsall Town Hall, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012

A glance at today's programme suggested we were in for a wide range of musical styles, with composers as diverse as J S Bach and John Phillip Sousa.

The fanfare like opening of Intrada by Grayson Ives, described by Peter as 'an English sort of piece', provided the first of today's offerings. This was followed by 'A Toy' by Giles Farnaby, a late 16<sup>th</sup>/early 17<sup>th</sup> century composer who was considered one of the great English virginalists, and certainly this was evident in the style of this delightful piece.

Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C Major by J S Bach BWV 564 is the only one of Bach's major organ works to have three distinct sections. The Toccata begins with virtuoso flourishes for the hands and then for the feet. The beautiful melancholy Adagio is followed in total contrast by the exuberant Fugue.

Miniature Suite for Organ by John Ireland is very English in style, and had only been discovered by Peter a couple of months ago. The elegantly crafted Intrada is followed by the gentle melody of the Villanella, and then the jolly tuneful Menuetto Improptu.

A set of marches and fanfares followed, the first being a nice Fanfare by C S Lang, rather better known for his Tuba Tune. Diplomat March by John Philip Sousa was new to me, but it could only have been written by Sousa, and the piece for which he is perhaps best-known duly followed – Liberty March. Not the first time Peter's played this at Walsall Town Hall, and no doubt not the last! To complete this set of marches and fanfares, Arthur Wood's Barwick Green, made famous of course as the theme tune for the BBC Radio programme 'The Archers', was followed by Fanfare by Arthur Wills, for over 30 years Director of Music at Ely Cathedral.

To conclude his programme, Peter chose Sonata No 3 by Alexandre Guilmant. The quick Preludio leads to the beautiful gentle melody of the Adagio Molto, and then the Fuga builds to a fittingly loud climax to today's Walsall Town Hall recital.

TS

#### Thomas Trotter Recital, Town Hall, Birmingham, Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012

In his introduction to today's recital, Thomas commented that it hadn't been a good day so far! As we'd noticed, the Town Hall computers were 'down' so all the tickets had to be issued manually, and the organ was also not behaving itself, with a pedal note stuck sounding, and some stops on the Swell not working!

A high tech solution to the pedal note had been found – a towel being stuffed into the mouth of the pipe – but the problematic stops on the Swell had necessitated a change to the published programme, with Herbert Howells Rhapsody in D Flat and Karg-Elert's Homage to Handel not now being played. Thomas hopes to reschedule these for a future recital.

With John Stormont acting as page turner, Thomas finally got proceedings under way with J S Bach's Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C BWV 564, the piece played also by Peter Morris last week and by Andrew Fletcher at the beginning of February. As they say, 'you can't get too much of a good thing', so no complaints about hearing one of Bach's greatest works for a third time this month!

Instead of the Howells Rhapsody, Thomas played from memory two of the six Schumann Canons originally written for pedal piano. Then in place of Karg-Elert's Homage to Handel was substituted Handel's organ concert in B Flat Op 4 No 2, written as interval music for oratorio performances, and also played from memory by Thomas.

Back to the printed programme then for Scherzo from Frederick William Holloway's Second Organ Symphony. Born in 1873, he died on 20 January 1954, aged 80. A FRCO at 19, he was best known for his work as organist and conductor at the Crystal Palace, where the popular choral and orchestral concerts used to attract large audiences until its destruction in 1936. He was actually rehearsing the Choral Society when the Palace caught fire; everyone escaped but Holloway's organ and all his music perished.

To conclude the printed programme Thomas turned to Saint-Saëns Fantaisie in E Flat. Saint-Saëns is chiefly remembered for achievements as a composer and pianist, but his first musical appointment was as organist of the historic church of Saint-Merry in Paris when he was just 17. This piece is his first work for organ, and was written when he was just 22 for an inaugural recital on the restored organ at Saint-Merry. This piece is a favourite of mine, and Cathy Lamb played this all too rarely performed work at The Victoria Hall Hanley in August 2011 and again at Lichfield Cathedral the following month. The opening section comprises alternating patterns of chords and tone colours, whereas the second toccata-like section demonstrated the full power and majesty of the Town Hall organ, thankfully undiminished by the gremlins necessitating the changes to the earlier part of today's programme.

TS

#### **Andrew Fletcher Recital, Emmanuel Church Wylde Green, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012**

Continuing his theme for the 2011-2012 Friday lunchtime recitals of 'The Olympics' – pieces from many different countries of the world or Olympian works – today's recital opened with Fantasia & Fugue on BACH by Liszt. With its distinctive dramatic almost menacing opening, Andrew gave a beautifully registered virtuoso performance, unleashing the full power of the Willis for the climax.

Given the beautiful spring day, the gentle melody of Alfred Hollins' Spring Song was a most appropriate choice for the

next piece, followed by Prelude & Fugue in d by Buxtehude.

Chorale Partita 'Sei gegrüßet' by J S Bach is a set of 11 variations of magical textures, mostly of a gentle nature, but the final variation quite majestic.

To conclude the recital Andrew turned to two contrasting fantasy pieces by Vierne. Firstly Naiades - fresh water nymphs of Greek mythology - depicted by rapid silvery runs on the flutes. This was followed by the very popular finale piece Carillon de Westminster. Reputedly, the Westminster chimes theme was given to Vierne at a recital by Henry Willis to improvise upon, but Vierne being almost blind, Willis was obliged to hum the theme to him. Vierne then used this improvisation as the basis for Carillon de Westminster, but the inaccuracy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter was either due to Henry Willis humming it the wrong way round, or Vierne mishearing it, or him changing it to suit his own purposes! Whichever version of the story you believe, it provided a magnificent Willis full organ climax to this recital, and will no doubt do so again at many a recital in the future.

TS

#### **Thomas Trotter Recital, Town Hall, Birmingham, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

Today's Town Hall recital was entitled 'Four Weddings and a Funeral', and possibly due to the popular nature of the four wedding pieces and one funeral piece in the programme, the attendance was certainly above normal.

The Bridal March from Richard Wagner's Prelude to Act 3 of Lohengrin traditionally signals the entry of the bride, but as there was no requirement to limit the duration to the bride's progression down the aisle, it was nice to be reminded on this occasion of the rousing opening flourish of the unabridged piece.

Benediction Nuptiale by Saint-Saëns is probably the least well-known of today's works, and the pianistic, delicate melody is possibly best suited for use during the signing of the register.

Then followed the only funeral piece in today's programme – Guilman's Marche Funebre et Chant Seraphique – premiered at the inaugural recital of the organ in the Cathedral of Notre Dame. In the opening of this descriptive piece, the dotted rhythm of the pedals suggests the muffled beating of drums, and this relentless rhythm is maintained throughout the funeral march. It builds to an awesome climax, culminating in a shattering explosion of big chords above pedal trills. Rippling arpeggios announce the Chant Seraphique, which finally dissolves until just the soft rumble of the pedals remains.

The festive tuneful piece that is Grieg's Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen gets its name from his house overlooking a fjord near Bergen, and translates literally as Goblin Hill. A little cameo role incorporated for Thomas's Whitechapel Bells.

No prizes for guessing that music from Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream would make an appearance today, with firstly the gentle romantic Nocturne followed by

the featherlight Scherzo. Finally, the trumpet fanfares signalled the opening of the Wedding March and once again the opportunity to hear the full piece, and employing for the climax the full resources of the Town Hall organ.

Normally we aren't blessed with an encore, but on this occasion, Thomas returned to play a piece he recorded some 20 years ago for Nigel Ogden's BBC Radio programme 'The Organist Entertains' - Wedding of the Painted Doll, and another opportunity for Thomas to showcase his Whitechapel Bells!

Good to hear the Town Hall organ in fine fettle after its gremlins in the recital two weeks earlier!

TS

### **Cathy Lamb Recital, St James' Parish Church, Barton-under-Needwood Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

Having not seen this recital for the Barton Music & Art Festival advertised anywhere until the day of the recital I was unable to list the event in the last newsletter, which is a pity because it's always a delight to hear our honorary member Cathy Lamb play.

The church of St James dates from about 1480, and is set picturesquely in the village of Barton-under-Needwood. There used to be an 1885 organ by Alfred Kirkland, originally of 2 manuals but later enlarged in 1951 to 3 manuals with 24 speaking stops. Unfortunately in a 1978 survey the organ was reported as being 'in a bad state of repair'. The organ was replaced by an Allen electronic organ, which was in turn replaced by an Allen AP171 in September 2004, the speakers of which are housed behind the casework and front pipes of the earlier pipe organ. As I have an earlier Allen model at home, I was interested to hear how it performed in the rather more spacious surroundings of St James'.



Cathy Lamb having been presented with a bouquet of flowers after her recital at Barton-under-Needwood

For this evening's recital entitled 'Organ Fireworks', Cathy was assisted by husband Ben acting as registrant, and opened her programme appropriately enough with Flourish for an Occasion by William Henry Harris, one time Assistant Organist at Lichfield Cathedral.

Prelude, Fugue & Chaconne in C by Buxtehude was followed by Rhosymedre, the lovely melody by Vaughan Williams, based on a Welsh hymn tune and a stalwart of the organ repertoire. Beautifully registered by Cathy.

Another stalwart of the organist's repertoire is Boëllmann's Suite Gothique, with Cathy on this occasion treating us to all four movements. Humouresque L'Organo Primitivo by Pietro A. Yon followed, a short fun piece played using 'chiffy' flutes.

To take us up to the interval Cathy chose a piece normally reserved for a big ending to a recital – Finale from Vierne's Symphony No 1. Impeccably played by Cathy, but to do it justice, this piece requires a big romantic organ sound and unfortunately the Allen organ just wasn't up to it.

The second half of the programme was opened with J S Bach's Prelude & Fugue in C major BWV 547, described by Cathy as 'Bach's happiest Prelude & Fugue', choosing a light registration for this performance. This was followed by a Dutch composer and organist Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, born more than a century before Bach, and his variations on Mein junges Leben hat ein End were played on manuals only.

I must admit Mendelssohn's Sonata No 2 in C Minor is a favourite of mine, and Cathy played all four movements beautifully, but for the third movement, Allegro Maestoso e Vivace, the organ really was again somewhat lacking in power.

Funeral March for a Marionette by Gounod arranged by W T Best, and perhaps best known as being the theme tune for TV's Hitchcock Hour, was described by Cathy as a 'silly piece for which she had found some silly noises!' In the event, she clearly had fun with this piece, and found some more chifty sounds on the Allen organ.

Sortie in E Flat by the much maligned Lefébure-Wely was Cathy's choice for her finale, and intended to send us on our way with a smile on our faces, which played in Cathy's customarily bubbly style it duly did!

This recital was very well attended by some 80 people, and Cathy's efforts were rewarded with rapturous applause and a bouquet of flowers. It was just a shame that Cathy's excellent programme and performance wasn't matched by the excellence of the Allen organ, or more specifically the speaker system, which whilst it may be adequate for use in services, was inadequate to do justice to the more demanding recital repertoire in a church of this size.

TS

### **Peter Morris Recital, Walsall Town Hall, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

With at least 4 of our members attending this recital, Peter opened this lunchtime recital with a fanfare – specifically the distinctive and stirring Fanfare by Jacques-Nicholas Lemmens, the 19<sup>th</sup> century organist and composer of whom Widor was once a student.

This was followed by Suite de Deuxième Ton by the French composer and organist at Saint-Sulpice in Paris

Louis-Nicholas Clérambault. Peter explained that the suite requires to be heavily ornamented, and he would be attempting to make it 'as French as possible'. Splitting the suite into two parts, the first part comprised Plein Jeu, Duo, Trio and basses de Cromorne.

Norman Cocker was assistant organist and then organist at Manchester Cathedral for some 30 years, where Peter Morris was himself a chorister, albeit after Norman Cocker's time. Cocker was also a cinema organist, and reputedly favoured managing his stop changes by hand, but was not averse to using elbows, and even his head, when his hands were otherwise occupied! He is most well-known for his Tuba Tune, and for this piece Peter made full use of the fine Tuba stop on the Town Hall organ, and building to a nice crescendo to finish.

Two preludes on hymn tunes by Charles Hubert Parry followed – Melcombe, with the hymn tune concealed in the pedals, and Old 104<sup>th</sup> with the hymn tune more prominent. It was then back to the second part of the Clérambault suite comprising Flutes, Recit de Nazard and concluding with the fuller sound of Caprice sur les Grands Jeux.

Elgar's organ Sonata in G Major is a favourite of Peter's, and today he chose to play the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement, the delicate Allegretto, followed by the 1<sup>st</sup> movement, Allegro Maestoso. With its full organ climax this movement would have provided a very fitting end to today's recital, but Peter chose instead to finish the recital with a piece he had only recently discovered - the short featherlight piece Will o' the Wisp by the American composer G B Nevin. Depicting the mysterious light that sometimes can be seen at night dancing over lakes and bogs, this piece is one of the tracks on Ian Tracey's DVD/CD 'The Grand Organ of Liverpool Cathedral'.

A very varied programme from Peter, with the highlight for me being the 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement of the Elgar Sonata. Another one to add to my ever growing 'To Learn List'!

TS

### **Thomas Trotter Recital, Town Hall, Birmingham, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

For today's event, the attendance was well up on normal, with few seats remaining in the circle. The event was similar to that given by Andrew Fletcher here last September, primarily aimed at introducing people to the organ who are new to 'The King of Instruments', and hence the name chosen for today's event.

The narrator for the event was Jeremy Nicholas, an actor, writer, broadcaster and musician, who trained at Birmingham School of Speech Training and Dramatic Art. He enjoys playing the organ – adding 'not well' - and explained that he first discovered the Town Hall lunchtime organ recitals some 27 years ago, when he was just down the road playing for six months in the TV soap 'Crossroads'.

Describing the event as 'a beginner's guide to the organ', Jeremy gave a brief history of the Town Hall organ from its opening in 1834, containing the world's first high pressure reed stop (Tuba Mirabilis) and the first 32' front pipes, through the various rebuilds to the present day. He then

joined Thomas Trotter at the console for a demonstration of the organ, commencing with C S Lang's Tuba Tune. This was followed by a tour of the main families of organ stops, including short excerpts from Bach's Trio Sonatas, and to demonstrate the pedals Thomas's predecessor Thalben-Ball's 'Variations on a Theme by Paganini for Organ Pedals'.

This was followed by an organ piece written by presenter Jeremy Nicholas entitled Toccata Festiva, with today's performance being the first public performance of this work. It takes a simple basic theme for the toccata, which transpired to be a really impressive piece of organ composition, superbly played by Thomas Trotter, and which clearly gave Jeremy Nicholas a tremendous thrill to hear a piece he'd written performed in public by such an eminent organist. It very much deserves to be published and to receive further airings in the future.

The American composer William Albright's 'The King of Instruments' is sort of the organ equivalent of 'The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra', written for organ solo and narrator. It gives a none-too-serious tour of the organ in thirteen movements, between which Jeremy Nicholas narrated verses written by him, in an attempt to make the narration more accessible to British audiences. Very entertaining, with an imaginatively written humorous and eloquent narration.

As a finale, Thomas chose the ideal piece for an audience of which some were new to the delights the 'King of Instruments' – Widor's Toccata. Played from memory and showcasing both the Town Hall organ and Thomas Trotter commensurate talent, it was much appreciated by both those new to the organ and those whose appreciation goes back quite a few years!

TS

### **Andrew Fletcher Recital, Emmanuel Church Wyldre Green, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

To open today's recital, Andrew Fletcher chose a glorious piece, 'Hallelujah' Prelude & Fugue, by the Austrian composer Franz Schmidt. The majestic Prelude is followed by a fugue which starts quietly enough but builds to a grandiose climax, with some fancy pedalling along the way.

Setting an altogether quieter mood, Offertoire and Folk Song by the English composer H Greening, the second and third of his Three Pieces for Organ are both gentle melodies. Having previously played Buxtehude's Prelude & Fugue in D major at his 2<sup>nd</sup> March recital, Andrew now turned to the composer's substantial Prelude & Fugue in F#.

C P E Bach is one of J C Bach's more talented children, and when he heard Trio in D on Radio 3 he was 'rapt' by this delightful gentle piece, hence its inclusion today.

In his recitals at Emmanuel, Andrew has been quite prepared to tackle some seriously challenging organ works, and served up yet another blockbuster today, in the form of Suite Op 5 by M Duruflé. The first movement, Prelude, has a dark brooding opening, which builds to a strident climax before fading away. The second

movement, Sicilienne, has a haunting melody with a rather meandering feel to it. The third and final movement, Toccata, was described by Andrew as having 'astronomic difficulty', and so it proved to be with a profusion of notes in both manuals and pedals. A very dramatic piece, with an 'all guns blazing' strident climax.

The 1<sup>st</sup> June recital is a Requests Programme, and Andrew invited any requests to be submitted no later than the next recital on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

TS

### **Ian Tracey Recital, All Saints Four Oaks, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012**

A review of this recital on the eve of publication of this newsletter will appear in the June newsletter.

## **IAO MATTERS**

### **2012 London Organ Day**

This year's London Organ Day was attended by David Gumbley and Pam Strong, and I'm indebted to them for the following review of the event:

The 26<sup>th</sup> London Organ Day took place on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Christ Church, Chelsea. The theme of the event was: "J.S Bach and the Lutheran Chorale".

The day was introduced by Daniel Moulton, the gifted organist, and the first session was entitled "Recreating the Conditions - the Chorales in Context". Daniel explored Bach's use of the Chorale as the source for his many Chorale Preludes and demonstrated how the Chorale was incorporated into the liturgy of the church service. The audience was given a copy of the Chorales and they were invited to sing with the organ.

Professor Peter Williams is an acknowledged authority on Bach's music and he lectured on the use of the Chorale in Bach's many Preludes, the extensive ornamentation and the variety of the genre. Professor Williams then conducted a Master Class with 3 organists from the Birmingham Conservatoire. Each played a Chorale prelude and were all given advice on articulation, registration and ornamentation. Joe Waggott played "Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland" which consists of a florid fugal manual part, with the Chorale theme in the Pedal. Jonathan Stamp played "Valet will ich dir geben" which once again had the Chorale in the Pedal, with an exuberant manual part. Richard Cook played one of the longer Preludes based on "Schmucke dich, O liebe Seele", more meditative in style. Professor Williams gave the soloists a warm welcome and congratulated them fully on their performance.

Pegasus is a highly professional choir with an adventurous repertoire. They sing extensively in the London area, and made their debut at the London Coliseum in 2010. Their programme was eclectic: from J.S.Bach through Lassus, Resinarius and Brahms, to the contemporary work of Knut Nystedt. The singing of the choir was splendidly accurate, with a great variety of feeling. The performance was very well received.

"The Challenges of Recording J.S.Bach" were explored by Margaret Phillips, the concert organist and teacher, by Will Fraser, the highly acclaimed producer of documentaries about classical music, and by Gary Cole, the organist and one of the foremost freelance record producers. Gary founded the record company 'Regent Records', one of the leading choral and organ labels.



**Daniel Moulton with Ludger Lohmann, seated,  
at the 2012 London Organ Day**

The concluding recital was given by Ludger Lohmann, the celebrated German organist and consisted of Chorale Preludes and Miscellaneous works from Bach's Clavier-Ubung iii. The programme gave an insight into the way Bach used the Chorale in the liturgy of the Church service.

### **Yorkshire Organ Day, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Held from 10 am to 5 pm at Halifax Minster, the day will be full of events with recitals, talks and discussions, featuring chamber organs from the Early English Organ Project (the two organs are currently resident at the Minster), and the Minster's fine Harrison & Harrison organ. There will be an organ recital at 4 pm.

Contributors include: Philip C Tordoff, Dominic Gwynn, Tom Leech, Judith Blezzard, John Mander and Christopher Brown.

Cost for the day £10. Lunch available for £5. Further Details from 0845 456 0992 or by e-mail: [info@yorkshireorganday.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshireorganday.org.uk)

### **IAO 2012 Congress**

Following the very successful 2011 Congress in Northern Ireland and Dublin, the 2012 Congress will be held in Cheltenham from 29<sup>th</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August. This promises to be an outstanding event, with visits to Worcester Cathedral, Malvern Priory, St Swithun's Church (Worcester), Great Badminton Church of St Michael and All Angels, Westonbirt House, Cirencester Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Cheltenham College, Cheltenham Ladies College, St Mary Radcliffe (Bristol) and Llandaff Cathedral (Cardiff). Annual Dinner of the IAO with guest speaker Dr Roy Massey, MBE.

Note that places for delegates are now very limited. Contact Jane Allsopp, Congress Administrator on [congress@iao.org.uk](mailto:congress@iao.org.uk) or Tel: 01584 875154 to check on availability

## Midlands Organ Day, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012

The 11<sup>th</sup> Midlands Organ Day is to be held on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September in Grantham, hosted by the Lincolnshire Organists' Association. Details as follows:

- 10.30 - Welcome & Registration and tea/coffee at St Wulfram's, Grantham
- 11.00 – Introduction by Director of Music Dr Tim Williams
- 11.15 – Organ Recital by Colin Walsh (Lincoln Cathedral)
- 12.15 – walk to Finkin Street Methodist Church for lunch
- 13.30 – The challenges of making church music in a rural county – Rosemary Field (Diocesan Music Advisor)
- 14.30 – Adding to the repertoire – Ian Major (Composer, organist and former President of the Lincolnshire Organists' Assoc.) will play and discuss a selection of his own compositions
- 15.30 – Tea at Finkin Street
- 16.00 – Invitation to attend choir practice at St Wulfram's
- 16.30 – Choral Evensong at St Wulfram's directed by Dr Tim Williams.

Admission: IAO Members £18/Others £20. Booking form from Alan Phillips 01724 762404, or E-mail: Clarice.Alan@btinternet.com

### ORGAN THEMED PUZZLE

Timed to coincide with the masterclass on J S Bach being given by David Gumbley at our April meeting, we have a J S Bach themed puzzle to test your wits in this newsletter. See the 'Bach-clu-doku' attachment.

Members are invited to submit solutions to the Editor, and once again our author of the puzzle has kindly donated a £10 W H Smith gift voucher for the member who submits the first correct solution received.

Andrew McMillan has been the winner, or joint winner, for each of the last two puzzles. We'll see if anyone can stop Andrew making it a hat trick this time!

### VACANCY

We have been asked to assist with publicising the following vacancy:

#### **Vacancy at St Peter's Church, Rickerscote, Stafford**

*We are looking at the moment simply for an organist: the small, loyal, robed choir looks after itself in close collaboration. The worship is of a modern catholic type, and the sole Sunday service is a Parish Mass at 10.15. There are occasionally other services on the great festivals, and a few funerals and weddings each year.*

*The organ is a 3-manual, 56 stop Viscount Prestige digital electronic, in good condition, which sounds very well in the excellent acoustics of the church.*

*The salary offered is £1800 per annum. The vacancy has arisen because the former organist is studying for Ordained Local Ministry, and there aren't enough hours in the day to do it all!*

Further information from:

Tony Baggs (Former organist) Tel: 01785 251650, e-mail: [anthonybaggs@btinternet.com](mailto:anthonybaggs@btinternet.com), or  
Lynne Bott (Church Warden) Tel: 01785 256191, e-mail: [lbb@btopenworld.com](mailto:lbb@btopenworld.com)

### FORTHCOMING LOCAL ORGAN RECITALS

#### LDOA Members' Recitals/Events

##### Mervin Jones - Darlaston Town Hall

Concert of popular theatre organ music on 2nd Thursday of every month, with Mervin Jones at the 3 manual Binns Organ, 1.30 to 3.30 pm

##### Peter Morris - Walsall Town Hall

The 2011/12 Walsall Town Hall organ recital series by our Honorary Member and Walsall Borough Organist Peter Morris continues on the third Thursday of each month through to May 2012. The next recital is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm.

##### Martyn Rawles

In addition to the recitals listed for Lichfield Cathedral, Martyn Rawles is giving the following organ recitals:

- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2012, 12.40 pm St Chad's Shrewsbury
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012, 12.15 pm St Mary's Collegiate Church Warwick.

##### Cathy Lamb

In addition to the recitals listed for Lichfield Cathedral, Cathy Lamb is giving the following organ recitals:

- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012, 12.30 pm, Christchurch Priory
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2012, 4 pm, Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, London
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 1.10 pm, St Michael & All Angels, Croydon

##### Ben Lamb

In addition to the recitals listed for Lichfield Cathedral, Ben Lamb is giving the following piano recital:

- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012, 2 pm, Staffordshire Performing Arts, Stafford – Mussorgsky's suite 'Pictures at an Exhibition'

##### Pat Neville - Trinity Methodist Church, Shenstone

Further free lunchtime organ recitals will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October and an Advent recital on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December by our Treasurer and Shenstone resident organist Pat Neville at 12.45 pm to 1.30 pm. Bring your sandwiches – drinks will be available. Come and go as you please.

## Recitals In Local Area (to 30/06/2012)

### April 2012

Sun 1 April 2012 • 3:00 • Holy Trinity Wordsley  
Paul Carr (St Paul's Birmingham)

Mon 2 April 2012 • 1:00 to 2.00 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Thurs 5 April 2012 • 1:00 to 2.00 • West Bromwich Town Hall  
Keith Hearnshaw (Concert Organist)

Thurs 5 April 2012 • 1:15 to 1:45 • St Paul's Birmingham  
Paul Hayward (St Barnabas RC Cathedral, Nottingham)

Sat 7 April 2012 • 1:00 to 1:45 • St Thomas' Stourbridge  
Andrew Fletcher (Birmingham University)

Mon 9 April 2012 • 3:30 • Southwell Minster  
Gordon Stewart (Huddersfield Town Hall)

Sat 14 April 2012 • 12:00 to 1:00 • Malvern Priory  
Roy Massey (Tewkesbury)

Thurs 19 April 2012 • 1:00 to 2:00 • Walsall Town Hall  
Peter Morris (Walsall Borough Organist)

Frid 20 April 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Birmingham Cathedral  
David Phillips (London)

Sat 21 April 2012 • 12:00 to 1.00 • The Victoria Hall, Hanley  
Paul Hale (Southwell Minster)

Tues 24 April 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Methodist Central Hall, Coventry  
Joe Waggott (Birmingham Conservatoire)

Frid 27 April 2012 • 1:00 to 1:45 • Emmanuel Wylde Green  
Andrew Fletcher (Birmingham University)

Mon 30 April 2012 • 1:00 to 2.00 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

### May 2012

Thurs 3 May 2012 • 1:15 to 1:45 • St Paul's Birmingham  
Paul Carr (St Paul's, Birmingham)

Frid 4 May 2012 • 12:40 to 1:20 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Martyn Rawles (Lichfield Cathedral)

Frid 4 May 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Birmingham Cathedral  
Tim Wakerell (St Paul's Cathedral)

Sat 5 May 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Cynthia Hall (Oxford)

Sat 5 May 2012 • 1:00 to 1:45 • St Thomas' Stourbridge  
Matt Rose (St Thomas' Stourbridge)

Sat 5 May 2012 • 7:30 to 9:00 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Richard Walker (St Chad's, Shrewsbury)

Sun 6 May 2012 • 3:00 • Holy Trinity Wordsley  
Paul Carr (St Paul's Birmingham)

Sun 6 May 2012 • 7:30 to 9:00 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Richard Pilliner (London)

Mon 7 May 2012 • 1:10 to 1:50 • Worcester Cathedral  
Tim Harper (Birmingham Cathedral)

Mon 7 May 2012 • 3:30 • Southwell Minster  
Rupert Gough (Organ) & Rachel Gough (Violin)

Tues 8 May 2012 • 1:10 to 1:50 • Warwick Road United Reformed Church  
Darren Hogg (Halesowen Parish Church) with Frank Stubbs (Trumpet)

Wed 9 May 2012 • 7:30 • St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham  
Paul Carr (St Paul's, Birmingham)

Thurs 10 May 2012 • 2:00 to 4:15 • Burton-on-Trent Town Hall  
Norman Scott (Penkridge)

Frid 11 May 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Birmingham Cathedral  
Darren Hogg (Halesowen Parish Church)

Mon 14 May 2012 • 1:00 to 2.00 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist) with the Royal Welsh College of Music String Ensemble

Thurs 17 May 2012 • 1:00 to 2:00 • Walsall Town Hall  
Peter Morris (Walsall Borough Organist)

Thurs 24 May 2012 • 7:00 • Ellesmere College (The Great Hall)  
Ian Tracey (Liverpool Cathedral)

Sat 26 May 2012 • 12:00 to 1.00 • The Victoria Hall, Hanley  
Roger Sayer (Rochester Cathedral)

Sat 26 May 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Luke Bond (Truro Cathedral)

Mon 28 May 2012 • 1:00 to 2.00 • Birmingham Town Hall  
Summer Request Concert. Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

### June 2012

Frid 1 June 2012 • 12:40 to 1:20 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Ian Curror

Frid 1 June 2012 • 1:00 to 1:45 • Emmanuel Wylde Green  
Requests Programme. Andrew Fletcher (Birmingham University)

Frid 1 June 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Birmingham Cathedral  
Tim Harper (Birmingham Cathedral)

Sat 2 June 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Martyn Rawles (Lichfield Cathedral)

Sat 2 June 2012 • 7:00 • St Mary Magdalene, Bridgenorth  
Carlo Curley (Concert Organist)

Sun 3 June 2012 • 12:00 • St Thomas' Stourbridge  
Jon Payne (St Thomas' Stourbridge)

Sun 3 June 2012 • 3:00 • Holy Trinity Wordsley  
Paul Carr (St Paul's Birmingham)

Mon 4 June 2012 • 3:30 • Southwell Minster  
Paul Hale & Philip White-Jones (Southwell Minster)

Thurs 7 June 2012 • 1:15 to 1:45 • St Paul's Birmingham  
Jon Payne (St Thomas' Stourbridge)

Frid 8 June 2012 • 1:10 to 1.50 • Birmingham Cathedral  
Jonathan Stamp (Birmingham Cathedral)

Sat 9 June 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Oliver Walker (Solihull School)

Mon 11 June 2012 • 1:00 to 1:30 • Coventry Cathedral  
Benjamin Sheen (Julliard School, New York)

Tues 12 June 2012 • 1:10 to 1:50 • Warwick Road United Reformed Church  
Ivan Linford (Oakham)

Wed 13 June 2012 • 2.00 • Symphony Hall, Birmingham  
21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Organ Concert. Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Sun 17 June 2012 • 6:55 to 7:45 • St Chad's, Shrewsbury  
Richard Stephens (St James', Chipping Campden)

Wed 20 June 2012 • 7:30 • Southwell Minster  
Ian Tracey (Liverpool Cathedral)

Frid 22 June 2012 • 1:00 to 1:40 • St Swithun's, Worcester  
Roger Judd (St Laurence's, Ludlow)

Sat 23 June 2012 • 12:00 to 1.00 • The Victoria Hall, Hanley  
Francis Jackson (Organist Emeritus, York Minster)

Sat 23 June 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Mark Swinton (St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick)

Sat 23 June 2012 • 2:30 • St Lawrence's, Ludlow  
James Lancelot (Durham Cathedral)

Tues 26 June 2012 • 1:10 to 1:50 • Warwick Road United Reformed Church  
Tim Campain (Warwick Road United Reformed Church)

Sat 30 June 2012 • 12:00 to 1.00 • Malvern Priory  
Tobias Frank (Neubrandenburg, Germany)

Sat 30 June 2012 • 12:15 • St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick  
Sebastian Thomson (Oxford)

Sat 30 June 2012 • 2:30 • St Lawrence's, Ludlow  
Roger Judd (St Lawrence's, Ludlow)

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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**Editorial Note - next Newsletter is planned for June 2012, with deadline for submission of items for inclusion of 31/05/12, to Trevor Smedley by e-mail as above, or by mail to 8 The Parchments, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 7NA**