

MARCH 2003

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to new members **Kazuko Katahira** of Woodside Park and **Edward Sharp** of Tewin. It was good to have **Jack Beeson** with us again after his stroke at both the Stanford evening in January and the AGM.

Subscriptions 2003

These remain at £10 (£5 for those at school or college). Subscription slips are enclosed unless you are a new member or paid at the AGM. **Please pay promptly!**

Music Festivals

The **North London** Festival of Music and Drama has 7 organ classes: Beginners (with or without pedals), Intermediate, Advanced, Bach, Recital, Anniversary, and Hymn Playing. They take place on Saturday 3 May at Christ Church, Southgate. Further information from Mr M Keyte, the Organ Section Secretary, 37 Plimsoll Close, London E14 6EJ Tel: 020 7515 7100, Keytesathome@aol.com closing date for entries 28th March.

Oundle Courses

11 - 13 April in Oundle **Pulling Out The Stops** for early-stages organists age 10 -14.

13 - 20 July in Oundle **International Summer School**

22 - 26 July in Oxford **Prospective Organ Scholars Summer School**.

Further information from OIF, The Creed Chapel, Ashton, Oundle, Northants PE8 5LD Tel/fax 01832 272026 www.oundlefestival.org.uk

News from neighbouring associations . .

Chelmsford: March's event is an illustrated talk on Vierne's 24 Pieces en style libre. In April there is the President's Evening and in May an outing to Penshurst Kent, with visits to two organs and time to visit Penshurst Place and Gardens.

City of London & Eastern have a concert with an opportunity for members to perform as the Chairman's event in March, and the AGM at the end of April.

Revd Patrick Henderson has written about the organ under construction at Holy Innocents, 134 Tottenham Lane, Hornsey. The console and pipework were purchased from a church in Canada and are being installed in a west-end gallery by the church's organist Gilbert Reines and a team of helpers.

EDOA members will be welcome at 6 pm on Sunday 13 July for the service of dedication which will be followed by a recital.

Great	16 8 8 8 4 4 2 III IV-V 8
Swell	16 8 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 ² / ₃ 2 1 ³ / ₅ 1 ¹ / ₃ III IV 16 8 8
Choir	8 8 4 2 1 II 16 8 8
Pedal	32 16 16 16 8 8 8 4 2 V 16 16 8

Thanks to **Peter Smith** for providing a synopsis of his Stanford talk - which reminds me that Percy Whitlock, whose centenary we celebrate this year, used the pseudonym Kenneth Lark for his musical journalism and some of his lighter compositions and it was not unknown for a review of a Percy Whitlock recital to be penned by KL!

Notes after the AGM

The officers were re-elected. Susan Dingle and Jeremy Ewen came to the end of their term on the committee, Roger Carter and Paul Minchinton who had been co-opted after the last AGM were elected to the committee as was Rosemary Knight. We had 77 members at the end of 2002. The balance sheet showed a profit of £0.59 for the year and £1295.93 in hand. Robin reported that when he took over as Treasurer in June 1973 subscriptions were 80p, and at the end of that year there was a profit of £8.25 and £15.09 in hand!

Your Committee

Andrew Parnell (President) began organ studies with Kenneth Beard while a chorister at Southwell Minster. During his subsequent tenure of the organ scholarship at Christ's College, Cambridge, where he studied with Nicolas Kynaston, he gained the first prize for organ playing in the FRCO diploma examinations aged just nineteen.

Invited by Peter Hurford, he came to St Albans Abbey in 1976, where for the next 25 years he played a full part in the musical life of the Abbey, St Albans School and St Albans Symphony Orchestra. Since leaving St Albans in 2001 he has pursued a freelance career from his new home near Kings Lynn in West Norfolk.

Terence Atkins was born and educated in London. In his youth he was in the City of London and Eastern Society of Organists, including serving on the committee. While at the Royal College of Music, he was Organ Scholar at St George's Chapel, Windsor, under Dr Sidney Campbell; his other teachers have included John Birch and Dr W S Lloyd Webber. He is a Bachelor of Music of London University, a graduate of the Royal Schools of Music, and holds diplomas in organ playing and teaching. Terence has been Organist and Choirmaster at St John the Baptist Parish Church, Chipping Barnet for more than 25 years.

After many years of running successful music departments in two Hertfordshire schools, Terence now concentrates on private teaching and

examining. For the past eighteen years he has also been Director of the Elstree Singers. Terence has given recitals in North America, Hong Kong and throughout the British Isles. As well as being an active member of the Hymn Society, Terence is a keen supporter of a number of transport and local history societies, not to mention the Morris Minor Owners' Club and Archers Addicts. An avid postcard collector, his *Barnet Calendars* in aid of overseas charities have been complete sell-outs and the source of most of the large pictures adorning the walls of Barnet's McDonald's.

Roger Carter was, until a few years ago, the Deputy Head of a Prep. School in Luton. He now enjoys a more flexible schedule, returning there one day per week to teach Information Technology, as well as teaching organ, piano and aural classes at Haberdashers' Aske's School for ninety days of the year, undertaking freelance work and teaching privately. He has been Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's, Harpenden for more than 25 years.

Roger studied with Sylvia Gostelow and Christopher Scarf and later with Richard Popplewell, gaining Fellowships from the Royal College of Organists and Trinity College of Music. In 1984 he was awarded a Belgian Government Scholarship to study with the late Flor Peeters at the Mechlen International Summer School. Following participation in the International Summer Academy in Haarlem in 1988, he was invited by Harald Vogel to take part in a recital on the city's historic organ in the Church of St Bavo. In 1983 he studied early Italian music on organs of the period in Tuscany with Luigi Ferdinando Tagliavini. Playing historic instruments has enabled him to pursue his particular interest in the application of idiomatic performance practices.

An unusual assignment some years ago was to provide organ music for an episode of *EastEnders*!

Robin Coxon (Treasurer and Newsletter Editor) Robin's musical life has been greatly influenced by his time as a chorister at Durham Cathedral. Later he took a mathematics degree at Durham University, gaining his FRCO the same summer.

After early retirement from teaching (Maths) he is as busy as ever - sitting at the computer transcribing books into Braille for the RNIB, organising the weekly organ recitals at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans, marking several hundred GCSE Maths scripts in June/July, and being a church organist!

Robin joined EDOA in 1967, is a former Chairman, and has been Treasurer since 1973. He has been Organist of St. Francis, Welwyn Garden City since 1976. When he joined EDOA he was about to be married, when he started at St Francis he and Mary had three young children, now it is three grown-up children and three grandchildren!

Esther Dunstone (Secretary) joined EDOA in 1993 after attending an Intermediate Organists Course at the RSCM. She began learning the organ in her twenties and passed grades VI and VII. After early retirement from the BBC, Esther attended the City Lit Musicianship Course, and studied organ with Andrew Parnell, gaining her ATCL in Music Education. She is Organist of Grange Park Methodist Church.

Chris Garratt recalls that it is over 40 years since he started 19 fulfilling years as Organist of Totteridge Road Baptist Church, Enfield. He has broadened his experience through membership of EDOA (since 1965) and The Organ Club (since 1973). With the latter, in addition to many visits in this country, he has visited Paris, North Germany, East Germany, Amsterdam and Australia.

Rosemary Knight studied modern languages at Godless Gower Street and taught German for a time before joining an IT company where she supports a pan-European computer system. She began learning the organ as a teenager in her native Lancashire and is now a pupil of Roger Carter, under whose guidance she has progressed as far as Grade VII. In spite of being a mere 'hobby organist' she believes passionately in maintaining the tradition of Anglican church music. Rosemary is currently organist at St Peter's Church in the Hertfordshire village of Tewin, and she also sings in a small choir in London.

Having been co-opted onto the EDOA Committee last year, **Paul Minchinton** continues by election at the recent AGM.

Paul has been musically active in the area for a long time - long enough, indeed to remember a time before Robin Coxon was organist at St Francis', Welwyn Garden City! Some years after Robin's arrival, the choirmaster, Malcolm Warwick, moved to the USA, and Paul was asked to provide cover as choirmaster at St Francis until a permanent replacement was found - a process that took several months. During this time he was looking after his own choir and organ, and spending a great deal of each week in North Yorkshire for his job.

Since 1983, he has been Organist and Choirmaster at St Mary's Ponsbourne (one of the Hartford Hundred Group of four parishes - and five churches) where with a small but dedicated group of singers the aim is to produce interesting music, liturgically appropriate and giving nourishment to the soul. There is also the challenge of playing the 1858 Walker in the church, an instrument with fine voicing but greatly in need of restoration (the Organ Fund has reached about £11,000 but needs nearer £100,000, so please mention us to anyone you know who doesn't know what to do with a large Lottery win!)

In "real life", Paul works for a large company in the computing field.

EDOA Future Events

Saturday 5 April This year's event arranged, for **all** members, by the EDOA Teachers' Forum will be based around HYMNS. Simon Williams, EDOA member and RCO Education and Events Officer, leads an afternoon workshop at Trinity-at-Bowes Methodist Church, Palmerston Road N22. Organists of all ages and standards are invited to participate in improving their hymn playing and in playing hymn based voluntaries. So dig out those hymn based voluntaries and get practising for April 5th! Do come as player or observer. **If you wish to play** please contact Roger Carter (01582 720095) without delay, by 18 March if possible. For any further information contact Roger Carter 01582 720095

Saturday 26 April, 2.30. Visit to St Saviour's, Sandpit Lane, St Albans which houses the International Organ Festival Society's Peter Collins organ. This was built in 1989 in the style of Andreas Silbermann and has

Grand Orgue 16 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 III III I 8

Positif 8 4 2²/₃ 2 1³/₅ 1¹/₃ 1 8

Pedale 16 8 8 4 16 8

The church's own organ 1898 Nicholson, 1928 Speechly, 1952 Willis, 1988 Saxon Aldred has . .

Great 16 8 8 4 4 2 IV 8

Swell 8 8 8 8 4 III 16 8 8 4

Choir 8 4 2 III

Pedal 32 16 16 16 8 8 4 16* 16

* prepared for

For any further information contact Jeremy Ewen 01707 646259

Saturday 17 May The 17th IAO London Organ Day, final details are still awaited. February's *Organists' Review* says: We will post application forms to all previous participants, hopefully by early March. Anybody wishing to attend for the first time should contact the Artistic Director, Susan Heath-Downey (07961 148806) e-mail: sueheathdowney@hotmail.com

Our website www.iao.org.uk will be updated with details as soon as they become available.

Monday 9 June, 7.30 A visit to the Cathedral Organs showroom in Welwyn Garden City, the UK outlet of Eminent Organs. Some may remember the visit we had to Allen's showroom in March 1997, this is not as large, but there will be several instruments to play. I was most impressed with their organs when I visited early last year, and have been delighted with my purchase which I've had since October. Do come to the showroom and see and hear. The address is 4 Mundells Court, Welwyn Garden City. For any further information contact Robin Coxon 01707 324011.

Directions: From the South take A1(M) north-bound leaving at J4 after the Hatfield tunnel - at the roundabout after crossing over the motorway take the 1st exit (A6129 Stanborough), at the next roundabout 2nd exit (A6129 WGC) - keep on this over the next two roundabouts, signs will say Business and Industrial Area. At the next

roundabout the road becomes A1000 and is Broadwater Road. After the traffic lights (straight over) at the intersection with B195 the name changes to Bessemer Road there is one more roundabout before you enter the Mundells one-way system. As you approach the system the right hand lane is marked *other routes* - take this lane and keep to the right as you start on the one-way system - at the next roundabout take the 3rd exit (Town Centre, Hertford) and almost immediately there are two adjacent entrances on the left the second of these is Mundells Court. Turn right along the front of the buildings which face onto the road, 4 is at the right hand end of these.

If on the one-way system you reach a turning off to B1000 Tewin you've gone too far! Complete the one-way circuit and try again!

From the North leave A1(M) at J6 head for WGC and A1000.

July We will not be organising an EDOA event, but will have details of the St Albans International Organ Festival 9 - 19 July.

Saturday 13 September A London visit to include St George's, Hanover Square and the Handel House Museum. For any further information contact Roger Carter 01582 720095

October We hope to have our annual Recital by Members at St Saviour's, St Albans. For any further information contact Jeremy Ewen 01707 646259

November date tbc At Home, Speaker - Eric Pask. For any further information contact Paul Minchinton 01707 323742

Vacant Posts

Christ Church, West Green, Waldeck Road N15 3PR would like to find an organist, or several organists to form a rota. Modern church building (25 years old), 2-man & Ped electronic organ, Sunday 10.30 Parish Mass, no choir but "we love our music", Merbecke + 4 hymns from Celebration Hymnal or New English Hymnal, £30/service. Contact : Denis Hartley 020 837 40915 or e-mail dhart74802@blueyonder.co.uk

EDOA At Home Stanford after Cambridge

On the evening of Monday 20 January a dozen or so people gathered in St Mary's Church, Cheshunt for the second of two illustrated talks on Charles Villiers Stanford. The earlier session having investigated Stanford's career up to the end of his residence in Cambridge at the end of 1892, the focus of the evening was the second half of his creative life, up to his death in 1924. Although those of us who work as organists or choir directors in churches tend to regard Stanford first and foremost as a church musician, music for organ or for church choir accounts for only a small percentage of his total compositional output, and after leaving Cambridge he never again held a church post or played the organ regularly.

As well as touching on important events and developments in Stanford's career, such as his growing recognition as composer, conductor and teacher during the 1890s, his knighthood in 1902, his conductorship of the Leeds Festival from 1904 to 1910, his sometimes difficult relationships with his fellow-musicians, and the sad decline and financial insecurity of his last years, the evening included recorded extracts from a wide range of his mature compositions, among them the 'Requiem' and 'Stabat Mater', the fifth symphony, clarinet concerto and serenade for nine instruments, the large-scale hymn-anthem 'Ye holy angels bright', and the Latin Magnificat for double choir. Rather appropriately, the evening ended at about 10.15 pm with the first recording of an exquisite anthem of 1918, 'Lighten our darkness' - a piece which lay neglected, unperformed and unpublished until its recent rediscovery and publication last year by the RSCM. Such a gem deserves to be in the repertoire of every parish choir which sings Evensong. It is not difficult, but most effective.

If any member of the association (or anyone else, for that matter) seeks further information on Stanford's music - its availability either in printed or recorded form - I shall be quite happy to give any assistance I can. Contact me either by phone (0208 360 4599) or by e-mail : peterjsmith@britishlibrary.net

Peter Smith

AGM Recital 22 February

In 1963 the inaugural meeting of EDOA was held at Eric Pask's home in Church Hill, Winchmore Hill, so it was an interesting coincidence that 40 years on we met a few doors away at St Paul's Church for our AGM and Recital.

After a well-attended AGM we were welcomed to the bright, warm and comfortable church by the curate, Revd. Mark Amey, also an organist and a long-standing member of the EDOA. Andrew Parnell, our President, then entertained us with a varied and interesting programme of organ music.

The Prelude and Fugue in C minor (BWV 546), one of Bach's greatest, opened the recital. Its strong majestic Prelude led on to the darker tones of the Fugue subject with some attractive lighter textures in the episodes of the fugue. Andrew then showed the quieter stops in an expressive performance of one of Reger's miniatures 'Ave Maria' (op 80 no. 5). Sweelinck's Variations on 'Mein junges Leben hat ein End' followed conveying the thoughtful and tragic theme most convincingly.

Guilmant's Sonata no. 3 in C minor brought us back to the 19th century with some positive, bright sounds played with direction and enough flow in the second movement to avoid too much sentimentality.

Two English pieces, Howells' Rhapsody in D flat (op. 17 no. 1) and S S Wesley's Largetto in F# minor showed us the quality that has been left us by these two eminent English organists and then Vierne's Carillon de Westminster created a satisfying and glorious climax bringing this fine recital to an end.

Andrew was able to bring out the beauties of this 2 manual organ, and by his skillful registration he disguised the fact that it had only eight extended ranks and two independent reeds so that we got the impression of a much more resourceful instrument. It was pleasing that a good number attended and we are most grateful to Andrew for giving us such a diverse and attractive programme.

After this feast of music we repaired to The Salisbury Arms for a feast of a different kind

where we enjoyed each other's company and excellent food. Thanks to Robin for making the arrangements and to Susan Dingle who made the preliminary investigations.

Joyce Beaumont

Other Events

Royal Festival Hall

Recitals at 7.30 £10 (£8 concessions)
free pre-concert discussion/talk at 6.15
Bookings 020 7960 4242 / www.rfh.org.uk
www.sbc.org.uk

Tuesday 8 April Olivier Latry

St Paul's Cathedral

Sundays 5 - 5.30 Staff and guest organists
February to December with occasional exceptions
Celebrity Recitals first Thursdays 6.30 May - November
Information 020 7236 6883

Southwark Cathedral

Mondays 1.10 - 1.50 (except Bank Holidays,
Holy Week and the week before Christmas).
Peter Wright, Stephen Disley and guests
Information 020 7407 3708

Westminster Abbey

Sundays 5.45 - 6.20 Abbey Organists and guests
Information 020 7654 4854

Westminster Cathedral

Sundays 2.45 pm Cathedral Organists and guests
Information 020 7798 9057

All Souls, Langham Place W1

Second Monday of month 7.30-8.45
Information 020 7580 3522

Apr 14 Anne Marsden Thomas

May 12 Donald MacKenzie Jun 9 Malcolm Riley

St Michael's Church, Cornhill, EC3.

Mondays 1.00-1.50 (except Bank Holidays)
Jonathan Rennert or guests Information 020 7626 8841

St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square

First Monday of each month at 1.05 pm Info 020 7766 1111

St Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street EC2.

Tuesdays 1.00 - 1.45 (except August and
Tuesdays following Easter and Christmas)
Catherine Ennis or guests
Information 020 7600 9478

St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street

Second Tuesday of the month 1.05 - 1.45
Susan Heath-Downey or guests Information 020 7626 4481

Wesley's Chapel, City Road

Second Tuesday of the month 1.05pm
except July & August Information 020 7253 2262

St Matthew's Westminster, Great Peter Street SW1

Second Wednesday of the month 1.05 - 1.40

Apr 9 Andrew Sampson & James Longford (org duets)

May 14 James Hearn

Information 020 7582 6634

The Temple Church, Fleet Street EC4

Wednesdays in term time 1.15 - 1.45

March

19 Peter King 26 Gary Sieling

April

30 James Vivian

May

7 Peter Wright 14 Paul Griffiths

21 Francis Jackson

June

4 Huw & Angela Williams (Organ & Oboe)

11 Robert Quinney 18 Mark Williams

Information 020 7353 3470 www.templechurch.com

St Peter's, Eaton Square, SW1

First Wednesday of the month 1.10 pm

Andrew Smith or guests Information 020 7823 1205

St John's, Smith Square

Thursdays at 1 pm

Mar 20 Hanne Kuhlmann Apr 17 Jonathan Scott

Information 020 7222 1061 www.sjss.org.uk

St Margaret, Lothbury, EC2.

Thursdays (except August) 1.10 - 2.00

Richard Townend or European celebrities

Information 020 7606 8330, 020 7589 1206

St James', Clerkenwell Green, EC1.

Third Thursday of each month 1.10 - 1.55

Gerard Brooks or guests

Information 020 7251 1190 (11 am - 3 pm)

All Hallows by the Tower, EC3

Most Thursdays in term time 1.15 - 2.00

Jonathan Melling (occasionally guests)

Information 020 7481 2928

St Stephen Walbrook, EC4.

Fridays 12.30 - 1.30 (except Good Friday and
Christmas Friday) Information 020 7283 4444

*See also The London Organ Concerts Guide online at
www.londonorgan.co.uk*

Royal College of Organists

Details from RCO, 7 St Andrews Street, London EC4A 3LQ

Tel 020 7936 3606 Fax 020 7353 8244

Website: www.rco.org.uk

The College the London Handel Festival
at St George's, Hanover Square W1

two free concerts on the Goetze & Gwynne

18th century-style house organ

1.10 Mon 24 March & Tues 25 March