

## YOUR COMMITTEE

**Terence Atkins** (President) 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, and also played the double bass in the Forest Philharmonic. 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 Dr John Birch and Dr W S Lloyd Webber. Terence is a Bachelor of Music of London University, a graduate of the Royal Schools of Music, and holds diplomas in organ playing and teaching. He has been Organist and Choirmaster at St John the Baptist Parish Church, Chipping Barnet for over 35 years.

After many years of running successful music departments in two Hertfordshire schools, Terence now concentrates on private teaching, accompanying and examining. This year he completes 28 years as Director of the Elstree Singers (who now rehearse in Arkley!). 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.

**Roger Carter** 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 Mechelen 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 1993 he studied early Italian music on organs of the period in Tuscany with Luigi Ferdinando Tagliavini.

He is Director of Music at St John's Church, Harpenden and is often invited to tutor on organ courses. He teaches regularly for Queenswood and Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' Schools, the New School of Organ Studies and St Giles International Organ School.

**Robin Coxon** (Treasurer): 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 in St Albans, playing up to six times a week as Chapel Organist of Queenswood School, marking hundreds of GCSE Maths scripts twice a year, 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, and served as President of The Organ Club 2006-2009. Robin and Mary have three children and five grandchildren.

**Lilian Gibbens** was educated at a musical school, Dame Alice Owen's Girls School, at that time at the Angel, Islington. She started her working career in Fleet Street, then had two children, gained a London University degree and taught Biology and Chemistry.

In the 90's she transferred to Archives, working for Westminster City Council and later for Hackney as a researcher and genealogist, and served as a Trustee for the Society of Genealogists and the Federation of Family History Societies for many years, publishing several little books. She specialized in Death & Burial and Apprenticeships and chaired The London, Westminster and Middlesex Family History Society for fifteen years.

Lilian studied singing and piano from a young age and continued both actively until having her children. After her official retirement she purchased an electronic piano and following a couple of years practice, thought she would like the challenge of learning to play the organ, an instrument with which she has always been in love. Joyce Beaumont very kindly agreed to take her on as a pupil and she is still with her today, passing her Grade V examination last June.

She has also taken up singing again, joining the church choir of St Mary Magdalene , Enfield, in 2001, beginning singing lessons with David Bowman, formerly of Sadlers' Wells Opera (now English National Opera), and managing to take a second prize in a festival (second to a sixteen year old). Lilian also sings with Enfield Choral Society and occasionally performs solo songs. Last October she gained the RSCM Dean's Award (Bronze Medal) and is currently studying for the Bishop's Award and sang solo contralto parts in a performance of Vivaldi's Gloria at St Mary's in May this year.

If not making music, she is listening to music - her taste ranging from Early and Baroque music to heavy metal!

**Michael Hennin** (Secretary) joined EDOA in 1988, and became a committee member the following year, holding the post of Secretary during 1990 and 1991. After stepping down for two years, he served the Association again as a committee member 1998-2002 and was elected Secretary in 2004.

Michael is principal organist at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George RC Church. He began learning the organ in 1987 with EDOA member Joyce Beaumont and in 1991 passed his Grade 8 with distinction.

Returning to full time education in 1997 Michael subsequently completed a three year music degree course at Middlesex University (Trent Park) where his organ teacher was EDOA member Carol Jarman.

Michael is married to Marilyn and they have two children, Holly and Samuel.

**Linden Innes-Hopkins** studied at the Royal College of Music with Richard Latham, and later with Nicholas Danby. As a student she won prizes for her organ playing and gained her FRCO in 1977. In 2008, following a two-year course Music Teaching in Professional Practice (MTPP), Linden was awarded, with Distinction, the postgraduate diploma Dip Mtp from the University of Reading.

Her career has been richly varied, including choral accompanying, choir training, both class teaching and private teaching, composition and – more recently – recorder teaching. She has three daughters and lives in St Albans.

In 2006 she took up the position of Organist and Director of Music at Enfield Parish Church.

**Rosemary Knight** studied modern languages at Godless Gower Street and taught German for a time before joining an IT company. She began learning the organ as a teenager in her native Lancashire and is now a student the St Giles International Organ School, having lessons with Roger Carter. Since taking early retirement in 2009 she has passed grade 8 organ and almost completed a music studies course at Goldsmiths College. In spite of being a mere 'hobby organist' she believes passionately in maintaining the tradition of Anglican church music. Rosemary is currently organist of St. Peter's Church in the village of Tewin, Herts.

**Ted Sharp** joined the committee having been previously on the Board of the IOFS. A clergyman's son, he was given organ lessons at the age of 16 so as to be a convenient reserve organist. After many years of not playing, he bought an organ some 16 years ago and now spends many hours each week playing for his own amusement. He occasionally deputises for Rosemary Knight at Tewin and is on a reserve list at Hertford Methodist Church and All Saints, Datchworth.

He qualified as a chartered accountant and, prior to retirement 15 years ago, worked mainly in London. After retirement, he trained as a psychotherapist, and worked part-time in Hertford, with Mind, and in prison. His other interests are flying from Panshanger, riding motorcycles, singing with Hertford Choral Society and gardening.

**Peter St. John Stokes** was born in Yorkshire in 1944. He started playing the organ at school, and from the age of sixteen had lessons with Dr. Francis Jackson, organist of York Minster. At Trinity College of Music, London, he studied organ, singing and orchestral conducting as well as composition with Dr. Arnold Cooke. He also has a degree in French from Birkbeck College, London University, and a MMus in Historical Musicology from Kings College, London. As a former pupil of Naji Hakim, Messiaen's successor at La Trinité, Paris, he takes an interest in improvisation.

He taught, first in London, and then for twenty-one years as Director of Music at Loreto College, St. Albans. During this time he continued to play the organ and to be involved in choral conducting, having given many concerts both in this country and abroad. Previous organist positions include St.Giles-the-Fields, London and Dunstable Priory. Since 1992 he has been organist of both St. Silas and Holy Trinity churches in Kentish Town.

Peter's particular musical enthusiasm is for improvisation and especially its importance to the creative activity of composers, many of whom played the organ at some point in their lives. As a result of this he has worked to take his own improvisation beyond contemporary styles. He is also interested in producing performing editions of music, particularly from the eighteenth century. Outside music he particularly enjoys French literature and is currently back at Birkbeck researching an aspect of contemporary French crime fiction.