

Do you YouTube, too?

In each edition's opening paragraph it states "...this newsletter is only as good as what you put into it," and not having made any contribution for several years I thought it about time to do so. Being an avid reader of *Organists' Review* I thought about doing something similar to Joe Riley's piece where he not only talks about organ news, but lists five YouTube items he thinks will be of interest to the rest of us. So why not do something similar for the EDOA newsletter, thought I?

There's so much out there of interest to me that I could list, such as Widor's 6th Symphonie for organ and orchestra, BWV 538 played by Richter (one of his last recordings) or music by the magnificent Eric Coates, including his beautifully crafted songs. I also like my jazz, rock 'n' roll, boogie woogie... There are fun pieces by Leroy Anderson (The Typewriter, Sandpaper Ballet, and so on), and wonderful jazz arrangements by The Swingle Singers. But for now, here are five pieces that I hope you enjoy.

If you've got the e-newsletter then you can click directly on the link, otherwise type in the tags that I've given and hopefully the associated piece will be at the top of the list.

1. During our visit to St Andrew's, Enfield on 16 July we heard movements from Samuel Wesley's organ duet of 1812 (see Susan's write-up elsewhere in this newsletter). It's a lovely piece and deserves to be better known. Several renditions are given (one is just too fast), but the one I like is by Simon Preston and Trevor Pinnock on the Armitage organ at the church of St John the Baptist, Staffordshire. [Wesley duet for organ Preston/Pinnock https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBt41kDJv_w]

2. What a friend we have in Jesus: a poem written by Joseph Scriven in 1855 - and what a tragic story about him. But not until 1868, when American attorney Charles Converse wrote the tune that bears his name, did the hymn become popular. Countless renditions exist. You could listen to the nice reflective organ solo arrangement made by Dale Wood, or how about this from jazz musician Monty Alexander? And he plays which other hymn? [Monty Alexander, What a friend we have in Jesus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2xtUrS26y4>]

3. During the 1970s while I was listening to W. A. Mozart (who wrote the pop music of his day), my brother was listening to 'alternative Mozart' (the pop music of our day) – Pink Floyd, ELO, Led Zeppelin, ELP... But one thing that did catch my attention was the band Egg with 'Seven is a jolly good time'. It's good fun. See if you can keep up with the eleven-beats-in-a-bar riff. [Egg, Seven is a jolly good time <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h95GtKBvMZ0>]

4. And for those of us of that generation there is the unmistakable sound of the Tardis and 'Beam me up, Scottie;' and we were all into Thunderbirds. Gerry Anderson's puppet series filmed in 'Supermarionation,' whatever that is, enthralled us. But it was the big band music of Barry Gray that also contributed to its success. Barry accompanied Vera Lynn on piano during the Second World War; he was also an electronic music enthusiast. But it's the music to another of the Gerry Anderson programmes, Stingray, that I like. It has a big, exciting sound and forward driving rhythm – very dramatic. I think he was a Stravinsky fan. [Stingray tv <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPu9mLflOA>]

5. I'll finish on a spoof. I'm sure you all know the *Salve, Regina* so I won't print the words with commentary and translation on this occasion. There are fine recordings on YouTube by various choirs. But listen to this rendition, it's what happens next -- hold on to your organ benches....[danger pipe organ 128 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Wpn7xyzUgg>]

So, the question is: Do you YouTube, too? Who knows, this may become a regular column. Do send in your contributions.

Michael Hennin