Chester & North East Wales
Organists' & Choirmasters' Association

Newsletter - March 2023

Dear Member,

You have not missed the February newsletter. Unfortunately, I did not have time to produce one.

This is the first mailing to go out using the 2023 membership list. If you are reading this via the website and believe that you should have received a copy via email or post, please check with the Membership Secretary that your application form and subscription went through correctly.

ALEX MCMILLAN

Sadly, Alex McMillan passed away on 7th February aged 89 years. He was well known and respected across the Wirral and in Liverpool as a musician, organist and friend and, until recently, a regular attendee at Association meetings. A memorial service was held on 28th February for Alex and his wife, Pearl: this was well attended and Prof Ian Tracey played the organ. Alex will be sorely missed and we extend our sympathies to his family.

OUR LAST MEETING

No-one attended the meeting on 20th February, the BBC having stolen our thunder by broadcasting the documentary "Organ Stops – Saving the King of Instruments" at Christmas. However, Greg Yates sent an enthusiastic email about the subject, hoping that the Association might help in some way with this important work. Please share your thoughts on this using the email at the bottom of the page, using the members' forum on the website or ringing 01829 270425.

OUR NEXT MEETING

On **Saturday, 11th March** we will visit **Blackburn Cathedral at 10.30am.** Lunch may be purchased at the cathedral at 12.30pm before we move onto **St Silas, Blackburn**. You are reminded that this meeting is for **members only**.

John Hosking, organist at the cathedral, has sent the following instructions for those arriving by car: "Parking is very easy - you need to ask people to set their satnavs for BBC Radio Lancashire on Darwen Street; there is a sharp left after the cathedral entrance by the Wetherspoons pub onto Dandy Walk. The cathedral car park is the first on the left after a sharp bend through some black gates. St. Silas - lots of parking available; possibly best to give directions once you're here? It's 5 mins up the road."

There is still time to contact the General Secretary if you need a lift to this event.
(secretary@cnewoca.org.uk or ring 01829 270425.)

APRIL/MAY MEETINGS

Mike Edwards has kindly offered to give an illustrated talk on how organs are designed. This will happen in May, date and venue to be decided.
Nothing is arranged yet for April.

SAVE THE DATE

Our AGM this year will be at All Saints, Gresford, 2.00pm on Saturday, 10th June.

If you have items for the Newsletter, please send them to: newsletter@cnewoca.org.uk

Our webmaster writes:

Announcing the CNEWOCA Members Only Forum

This is an online safe place to share your love of Music and the Organ, a place to let everyone know what musical events you have planned, to ask questions, and even to tell us about what music you are planning to use during the various liturgical seasons (nice article on that in the Organist Review).
Here you can also ask questions of the Committee, tell us what events or even types of events you would like. We are always open to new ideas, as arranging a fresh and exciting year for members takes a great deal of time, effort and thought.
As an association we cover a very wide area, this is an opportunity to talk to and meet the other members that we would otherwise never have. An exchange of knowledge and views through the forum can help encourage other members who may not have anyone nearby to talk to about all things musical and organs.
Click on the following link to read the rules and advice for the forum (this will only take about two minutes):
Members Forum | Chester & North-East Wales Organists' & Choirmasters' Association (cnewoca.org.uk)
At the bottom of that page you will find the link to join the forum.
The forums themselves are at https://members.cnewoca.org.uk

WHAT'S ON

Chester Cathedral recitals – Thursdays 1.10pm:
https://chestercathedral.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/LEAFLET-Organ-Recitals-March-2023.pdf

2 Mar	Jonathon Scott (Manchester)
9 Mar	Alexander Lanigan-Palotai (Chester Cathedral)
16 Mar	Philip Rushforth (Chester Cathedral)
23 Mar	Timara Easter (Harpenden)
30 Mar	Graham Eccles (St Asaph)

Full details of the programmes may be found using the link above.

MUSIC @ WESLEY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS
Tuesdays at 12.45pm - no need to book.
Retiring Collection.

7 Mar	Chetham's School of Music Pianists
14 Mar	Rebecca Ramsey (soprano) and John Gough (piano)
21 Mar	Matthew Lau (piano)

Saturday at 12.45pm - no need to book.
Retiring Collection.

18 Mar	John Hosking (Blackburn Cathedral)

Chester Male Voice Choir's Spring Festival Concert with Haydock Male Voice Choir
28 April at 7.30pm, St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester
Tickets: Adults £12, Under 18s £6 available from www.chestermalevoice.com/concerts, Visitor Information Centre, Town Hall Square or call John on 07894 509529.

CONTACTS

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