



Auckland Organists Association Inc

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2014

MOULT'S MARVELLOUS MASTERCLASS, MAGNIFICENT MOZART, AND TREMENDOUS TEACHING TANTALISES IN TAKAPUNA



Daniel Moulton in full flow

St Peter's Church in Takapuna was the venue for a thrilling day of organ music in June, when British organ virtuoso Daniel Moulton flew in for the weekend to give a masterclass and concert. The event was generously hosted by the AOA through the initiative of Michael Cox, and local students, representing a wide range of age and experience, were given immensely valuable help, both specific and general, with Daniel's abundant charm and good humour setting the players at ease from the start. A consummate professional, Daniel eagerly shared his tips on technique and preparation, whilst having plenty of helpful comments about the interpretative aspects of the musical performances.

Later in the day, and after only a very brief rehearsal on the organ, Daniel presented an immaculate and highly entertaining concert of some of the organ repertoire's most technically challenging works, demonstrating that he is equally confident with the weightier offerings of Bach and Mozart, as with the more jazzy and lighter (though no less difficult to play!) works of lesser known composers. Iain Farrington's Live Wire, for instance, as its name suggests,

AOA MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Our condolences go to the families of Dr Patty McDonald (AOA Secretary 1984-97) and Mervyn Rosser, who have passed way in the past few months.

Please see the latest issue of ORGANZ News for an obituary for Patty, whose funeral was attended by Stephen Hamilton (who spoke on behalf of AOA) and former AOA Presidents (Alan Minifie, who played the organ, Pam Shearer, Neil Mander and Peter Gilmour) and several other former AOA committee and other members.

Nicholas Forbes (Organist and Choirmaster at Kings College, Auckland) rejoins AOA – welcome back Nick!



Nicholas Forbes



Daniel Moulton

seems to involve an almost impossible number of notes per second, with extraordinary rhythmic precision needed, yet Moulton barely broke into a sweat. Similarly, Mozart's Fantasia in F minor – written originally for a mechanical clock that was pre-programmed to get it right – presented no problems at all for Daniel, who danced around the Takapuna organ as if he'd been playing it for years.

Although it was a pity that more people were not there to hear this

remarkable playing, those who attended were in doubt that they had experienced a real treat, organ playing of distinctive international quality, and the spontaneous standing ovation was a clear testament to how much the concert had been enjoyed.

Daniel managed to get some fabulous sounds out of the Takapuna instrument, and showed how thrilling a concert on a small organ can be, when given by the right player. One can only imagine what Daniel would be able to achieve if he were let loose in the Town Hall, and it is very much hoped that an invitation will be winging its way to him very soon.



St Peter's Church, Takapuna

PAST AOA RECORDS

It has become apparent that AOA's archiving of its records (eg: minute books, correspondence, etc) has not always followed 'best practice'. Barrie Collett, AOA committee member, has taken on the task of collating what past secretarial, financial, newsletter and other AOA records may still exist but not yet been deposited in an official archive. If you have some AOA records which you believe could be relevant or helpful, please phone Barrie on (09) 476 1132 or e-mail him on barriec@xtra.co.nz.



Barrie Collett

ERIC WINSTONE MEMORIAL ORGAN TRUST

The Eric Winstone Memorial Organ Trust is coordinating the collection and re-sale of second-hand organ music. The objective is to provide some affordable organ music to students, and to raise funds from AOA members who purchase the music to contribute towards EWMOT grants made to fund tuition for organ students. If you have some organ music you would like to donate to EWMOT for this purpose, please contact Stephen Hamilton (details in the directory following).

NATIONAL ORGAN WEEK ON



Listen out for the many organ segments on Radio NZ Concert each day over the period from Saturday 30th August to Sunday 7th September.

Our grateful thanks are due to AOA member Kerry Stevens, former Executive Producer for Radio New Zealand Concert in Auckland, for once again advocating for and helping organise these marvellous organ broadcasts!



Robert Costin

Check out the NZAO or Radio NZ websites for more details (www.organz.org.nz or www.radionz.co.nz):

Saturday 30th August, 3.00pm: Robert Costin (NZAO personal member) concert on the Auckland Town Hall organ, presented by the Auckland Town Hall Organ Trust.

Sunday 31st August, 9.00am: Dr Indra Hughes (NZAO President) introduces Dietrich Buxtehude, Composer of the Week.

Monday 1st September – Friday 5th September, 9.00am: Dietrich Buxtehude, Composer of the Week.

Tuesday 2nd September, 2.00pm 'Afternoon Requests': includes Carlo Curley playing Elgar and Albert Schweitzer playing Bach.

Tuesday 2nd September, 4.00pm 'Made in New Zealand': includes Martin Setchell (NZAO personal member) playing Spicer's 'Kiwi Fireworks'.

Wednesday 3rd September, 7.00pm 'Appointment': Eitan Cornfield pulls out all the stops to explain why organs still matter in our increasingly secular world, from cathedrals to arenas.

Wednesday 3rd September, 8.00pm 'Music Alive': Musica Sacra (directed by Dr Indra Hughes) with John Scott (organ) and APO Brass and Percussion – concert from the Auckland Town Hall.



John Scott & Indra Hughes



The Organ of Westminster Abbey

Thursday 4th September, 7.00pm 'Appointment': Margaret Ogilvie interviews Jeremy Woodside (former COA member) about his recent appointment as Organ Scholar at Westminster Abbey, London, including performances on the organs of Christchurch Cathedral, and St Michael and All Angels Church, Christchurch.

Friday 5th September, 4.00pm 'Cadenza': includes Dr John Wells (NZAO Patron) playing his Organ Concerto (Christchurch Town Hall organ).

Friday 5th September, 8.00pm 'Music Alive': Dr Indra Hughes plays Bach's 'Art of Fugue' on the Rieger organ of The Scots' Church, Melbourne, during the 2013 NZAO Organ Congress.

Saturday 6th September, 3.00pm: Cameron Carpenter plays the organ of the Auckland Town Hall, presented by the Auckland Town Hall Organ Trust.

Sunday 7th September, 2.00pm: John Wells presents his take on the young organ revolutionary, Cameron Carpenter.

FUTURE ORGAN EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

(* events are presented / organised by AOA)

Monday 22 September

7.00pm: Anita Banbury's house organ.*

Wednesday 24 September

7.30pm: George Chittenden organ concert, *Auckland Town Hall* (ATH Organ Trust)

Thursday 2 October

6.15pm: Myles Hartley, *Auckland Town Hall* (Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra)

Friday 21 November

8.00pm: Kemp English organ concert, *Auckland Town Hall* (ATH Organ Trust)

Saturday 29 November

Whangarei organ concert & tour *

Sunday 22 February 2015

2.00pm: Janet Gibbs organ concert and AOA AGM (*St Matthew-in-the-city*) *



AOA Committee 2014/15

The new AOA committee for 2014 is:

President:

Stephen Hamilton (also EWMOT Trustee)

Vice President:

Timothy Noon (also Newsletter)

Secretary:

Brian Ellis (also Website)

Treasurer:

Walter Nicholls (also Website, EWMOT Trustee)

Committee:

Ian Ayers (Event support, EWMOT Trustee and Secretary), Barrie Collett (Find an organist), Graham Davison (Whangarei organ tour), Janet Gibbs (Student membership), Stephen Vincent (Membership records, Website, EWMOT Trustee)