

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The 2017 NZOA Congress will be held in Brisbane, Australia, at Queen's Birthday Weekend (2-4 June). Details of the programme are included with the latest issue of NZ Organ News, together with the registration form and information about accommodation options. I

urge AOA members to consider attending the Congress and then to register! Running the Congress in Australia is risky for NZOA, and AOA makes up approximately 40% of the membership of NZOA, so AOA support is critical to the success of the Congress.

Check out the new NZOA website if you want to find out more information, or contact me. Indra Hughes, NZOA President, has once again done a superb job in organising a most interesting and engaging programme for the Congress.

Please book early to secure the best prices for airfares and accommodation – and register early, before the 'early bird' cut-off date, so that the organisers know you will be coming, save their anxious nerves!

I will be standing down as President of AOA at the AGM after three years in the role, and I'm delighted to nominate Michael Stoddart, Director of Music at Holy Trinity Cathedral, for the role of President.

As far as I can tell, there has never been a contest for the role of President of AOA, so I'm hopeful that Michael will be elected unopposed with the unanimous support of AOA members.

I have accepted nomination as an ongoing member of the AOA committee, and look forward to help organise the 2018 NZOA Auckland Congress.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 2016, HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

The AGM of the Auckland Organ Association is being held in the Selwyn Chapel, Holy Trinity Cathedral on Sunday 19 March.

The meeting will follow a demonstration of a Johannus digital organ by Philip Smith, Cathedral Organist and Vice president of AOA, starting at 2pm.



Philip will talk about the major organ projects at Holy Trinity – one week out from the inaugural concert on the restored Croft organ of St Mary's-in-Holy-Trinity.

AOA has developed strong links with the Cathedral in recent years, with Philip following Timothy Noon as VP of AOA.

We are grateful to be using a room at HTC for our committee meetings. We make a donation for the use of the room, and in acknowledgement of this, HTC has named a choral scholarship as the Auckland Organ Association Choral Scholarship.

Michael Stoddart has been nominated for the position of incoming President of AOA.

COMING EVENTS

St Mary's Organ Recital Series

Philip Smith (Organist, Holy Trinity Cathedral) and Michael Stoddart (Director of Music, Holy Trinity Cathedral) will give the opening recital on the restored St Mary's-in-Holy-Trinity organ on **Saturday 25 March 2017, 7.30pm**.

Programme includes music by Bach, Pick-Mangiagalli, Festing, Sumsion, Stanford, Messiaen, Reubke.

Other recitals in the series are as follows:

Tuesday 2 May, 7.00pm (Johann Vexo (Organist, Nancy Cathedral, and Assistant Organist of the Choir Organ at Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris, France) and Damien Rivière (Tenor, Notre Dame Cathedral Choir, Paris, France).

Sunday 11 June, 3.00pm (Zosia Herlihy-O'Brien, Organ Scholar, Holy Trinity Cathedral) and Paul Chan (Organist, St Matthew-in-the-city).

Sunday 16 July, 3.00pm (Stephen Vincent, Organist, St Luke's, Remuera).

Tickets (\$15 per recital or \$40 for the 4 recital series) are on sale through iTICKET (www.iticket.co.nz or phone 361 1000; booking fees apply),

Takapuna Methodist – Autumn Winds – Sunday 26 March, 4.00pm

Janet Gibbs (Organ), **Alison Dunlop** (Oboe), and **Peter Reid** (cornetto and baroque trumpet). Funds raised contribute to the pipe organ restoration project.

Auckland Town Hall Organ Events

Sunday, 26 March, 2:00pm, Great Hall, Auckland Town Hall

Tom Chatterton (AOA member who performed before the 2016 AOA AGM at St Luke's, Remuera, and previous Director of Music at St Matthew-in-the-city, Auckland) will perform a wide ranging programme including works by Langlais, Bach, Duruflé, Franck, Vierne, Widor and Elgar.

Tom began his musical career as a Chorister in Lincoln Cathedral Choir, after which he became a music scholar at Uppingham School. He continued his education at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, where he was awarded an organ scholarship and studied for a degree in music. He was appointed Acting Organ Scholar at Jesus College, Cambridge, a post he held alongside his commitments at Corpus. After graduating, Tom spent a further year at Jesus College as Assistant Organist, where he had the opportunity to focus on widening his organ repertoire and choral conducting skills, working with some of the most prestigious organists and choral conductors in the UK. In September 2010, Tom took up the position of Organist and Music Teacher at Oakham School. At Oakham, he had a number of responsibilities centred around both performing on the organ and teaching. Tom was also the conductor of Oakham Choral Society, an 80-strong community choir which performed a wide range of repertoire under his stewardship, including, Mozart's Requiem, Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem and Puccini's Messa di Gloria.

After five years at Oakham, Tom, his wife Emma and the newly-arrived baby Arthur decided to move to Auckland in July 2015. In March 2016 Tom was appointed the Director of Music at the Church of St Matthew-in-the-City, where he was, until recently, responsible for all aspects of music in the Church.



Thursday, 20 April, 7.30pm, Great Hall, Auckland Town Hall – AOA members & friends event

Dr Indra Hughes, NZOA President, will demonstrate the versatility and subtlety of the specification of the Auckland Town Hall Organ. Indra was involved as a member of the advisory committee which was involved in promoting the rebuilding of the Town Hall organ (completed 2010) and prior to that instigated and organised the Friends of the Auckland Town Hall Organ.

Indra assisted in identifying potential organ builders, was involved in ranking and short-listing the organ builders who expressed interest in the project, played a significant role in proposing the shape of the current specification, and contributed to the evaluation and ranking of the tenderers. He accompanied the massed choir at the Inauguration Concert on 21 March 2010 and has presented more solo organ recitals on the instrument than any other organist, including Bach's Art of Fugue, and has presented Musica Sacra in concert with the organ including with guest artists John Scott and Andreas Scholl.



Indra has an extensive knowledge about the organ and the huge range of tonal colours available.

Entry to this event is free, and is for AOA members and friends only. Access will be via the Stage Door on Aotea Square from 7.00pm on the night. This promises to be a very engaging and informative event, not to be missed. Please support AOA by attending this members event.

Thursday, 18 May, 6.00pm, Great Hall, Auckland Town Hall (presented in association with APO)

Nicholas Forbes, AOA member, will perform for 35 minutes prior to the 7.30pm APO concert. The event is free to APO ticket holders.

Nick is Assistant Director of Music at St Patrick's Cathedral in Auckland and Musical Director of the North Shore Chorale. He began organ lessons as a chorister at Christchurch Cathedral and was organ scholar at Christ's College.

He completed a music degree at Auckland University, specialising in organ and historic keyboard with Dr John Wells and James Tibbles and conducting with Dr Karen Grylls. Nick has been a music teacher and organist at King's College, where he conducted the school's multi award-winning choir 'All the King's Men'.

Sunday 28 May, 2.00pm, Great Hall, Auckland Town Hall

Jeremy Filsell, NZOA Brisbane Congress recitalist, has established a concert career as one of only a few virtuoso performers on both the Piano and the Organ. Jeremy has held posts in the UK at Cranleigh School, Ely Cathedral, St Luke's Chelsea, St Peter's Eaton Square, the London Oratory School, Royal Holloway College University of London and Eton College. In the USA he combines international performing and teaching activities with being Artist-in-Residence at Washington National Cathedral, Director of Music at the Church of the Epiphany in downtown Washington DC and Professor of Organ at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore MD.

Jeremy will be accompanied by **Eric Suter**, formerly Organist at Washington National Cathedral, USA. Previously, Eric held positions at Trinity Church, Copley Square, and at the Parish of All Saints, both in Boston; and at Trinity Church-on-the-Green in New Haven, Connecticut.



They will perform works for organ & piano by Rachmaninov and Dupré. Free admission, koha donation.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

AOA in 1956-7 – the events and the people 60 years ago

At the AGM held at Pitt Street Methodist in March 1956, Oliver Harris was elected President of AOA, with Ron Dellow as Vice President. Under General Business, it was moved that an approach should be made to the City Council to seek assistance with the cost of advertising the Town Hall organ recitals which were arranged by the AOA. It was also moved that the Council should be asked for assistance with the payment of fees to the performers at the Town Hall concerts. (The Council had agreed in 1956 that there should be four free concerts per year, but it appears without providing any funding other than free use of the Town Hall.) Mr Lilburn moved that the incoming committee should be recommended to arrange for a recital with a combined choir.

The 1957 AGM was also held at Pitt Street Methodist. It was decided that monthly meetings would be held, on the first Friday of every month. It was requested that more social activities be included in the programme. It was also proposed that a series of organ recitals, in addition to the Town Hall organ recitals and regular monthly meetings, should be arranged. It was proposed that an approach should be made to 1YA to request regular Organists' Association broadcasts. It was suggested that the Mayor of Auckland should be appointed as a Patron or Vice Patron of the Association. It was suggested that the Association should arrange a Festival recital of organ and choral music, involving three or four choirs (not necessarily church choirs) and as many organists, in place of one of the regular Town Hall organ recitals. It must have been a busy year for the committee – or some of the ideas were not implemented!

At meetings later in 1957 the Secretary was authorised to explore the possibility of her suggestion of a series of lunch hour organ recitals at the Auckland Town Hall, or elsewhere. A Christmas Party was to be arranged which could include a conjurer (Rev Alan Carr, Dominion Road Methodist Church), two musical items, a quiz, a competition and dancing (depending on the number of acceptances). It was subsequently decided that organising lunch time recitals at city churches would give a better atmosphere with much less work and worry than at the Auckland Town Hall.

