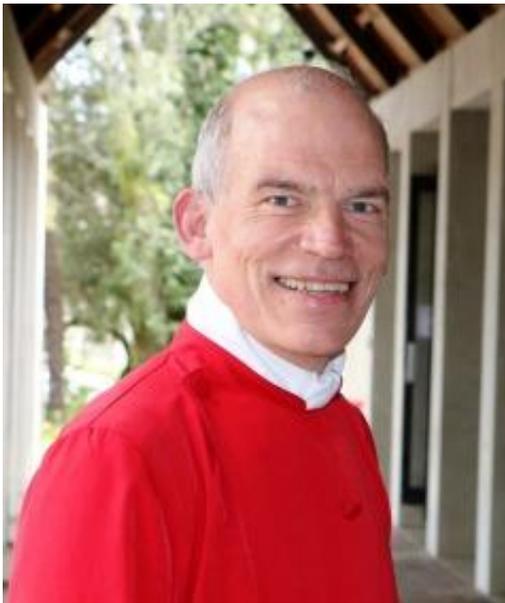


## FROM THE AOA PRESIDENT



It gives me great pleasure to be writing this as we prepare at Holy Trinity Cathedral for the long-awaited Cathedral Organ Festival, unveiling the new Nicholson Organ on the weekend of 16-17 September.

The new cathedral organ is sounding absolutely world class, offering such flexibility, whether as a solo instrument or accompanying anything or anyone from a single treble voice to a full orchestra.

The subtlety of the voicing is amongst the best I have heard in the world. Both mechanically, visually and most importantly, aurally, it is quite breath-taking.

There are other organ events to look forward to, including an organ visit to the Waikato at the end of the month. It is always good to experience other instruments to understand the wide variety of instruments that the term 'The Organ' encompasses.

And it is great to see that there are many students of the organ in Auckland today. Both the Willis and Mander Donald Barriball Memorial Chamber Organ at St Matthew-in-the-City will be the focus at an AOA event for students and others at 10.30am on Saturday 25th November, followed by an AOA member lunch. Do join us!

*Michael Stoddart*

## HTC NICHOLSON ORGAN

The inaugural recital on the new Nicholson organ of Holy Trinity Cathedral was given by Michael Stoddart and Philip Smith on the evening of Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. This was followed by a wide-ranging concert on the afternoon of Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

As well as the organ builders who were there in force from Malvern in England, visitors from around New Zealand came to Auckland for the weekend of events.



*Michael Stoddart, HTC Director of Music*

The organ sounded magnificent as the organists put it through its paces.



*Philip Smith, HTC Organist*

As well as some thrilling choral music from the Cathedral Choir and audience participation in the National Anthem and Parry's 'Jerusalem', a stand-out performance of Boëllmann's 'Suite Gothique' was given at the Sunday concert by Zosia Herlihy-O'Brien, the Belinda Godfrey Memorial Organ Scholar at Holy Trinity Cathedral.

*Stephen Hamilton*

## COMING EVENTS

### **AOA Waikato Organ Tour Saturday 30 September Led by AOA member, Dr Ron Newton**

Meet at Mt Albert Methodist Church, 831 New North Road. Parking on Alexis Ave around Asquith Ave and New North Road.

Bus leaves at 8.30am. Cost: \$30

Programme:

- 1) Holy Trinity Church, Ngaruawahia – George Croft, 1923
- 2) Morrinsville Methodist Church – Wm. Hill & Son, 1881
- 3) St. Mark's Church, Te Aroha - Various
- 4) St. James' Church, Thames - N.T. Pearce (Christchurch), 1923
- 5) St. George's Church, Thames – Hewlett (Northland), 1877
- 6) Return to Mt Albert Methodist, Auckland

This is a guided tour, covering organ, church and local history, led by Dr Ron Newton, including organ demonstrations, hymn singing, photo opportunities, with morning and afternoon teas provided. Please bring / purchase your own lunch.

For further details contact:

Ron Newton (027) 204 7228

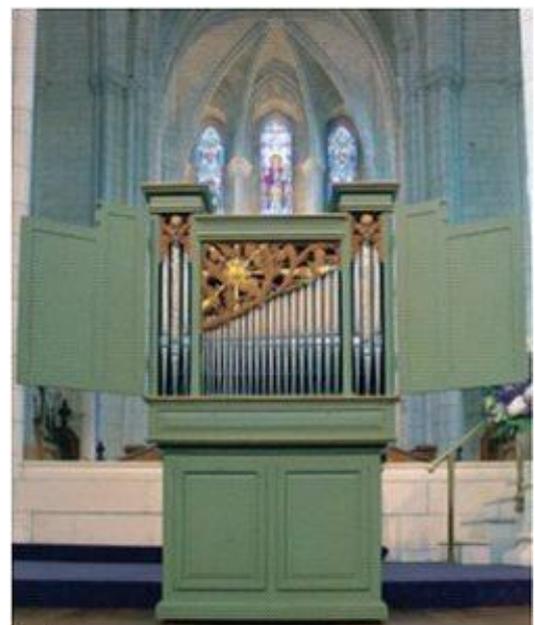
Walter Nicholls (09) 444 0580



### **AOA Student Organ and End-of-Year Event Saturday 25 November St Matthew-in-the-City, 10.30am**

Mark your diaries now for an end-of-year event focussed on some outstanding young organ and music students at St Matthew-in-the-City, playing and accompanied on the Willis and Mander Organs. The Mander chamber organ was played by John Scott at the 1981 Royal Wedding in St Paul's Cathedral, London, accompanying Kiri Te Kanawa..

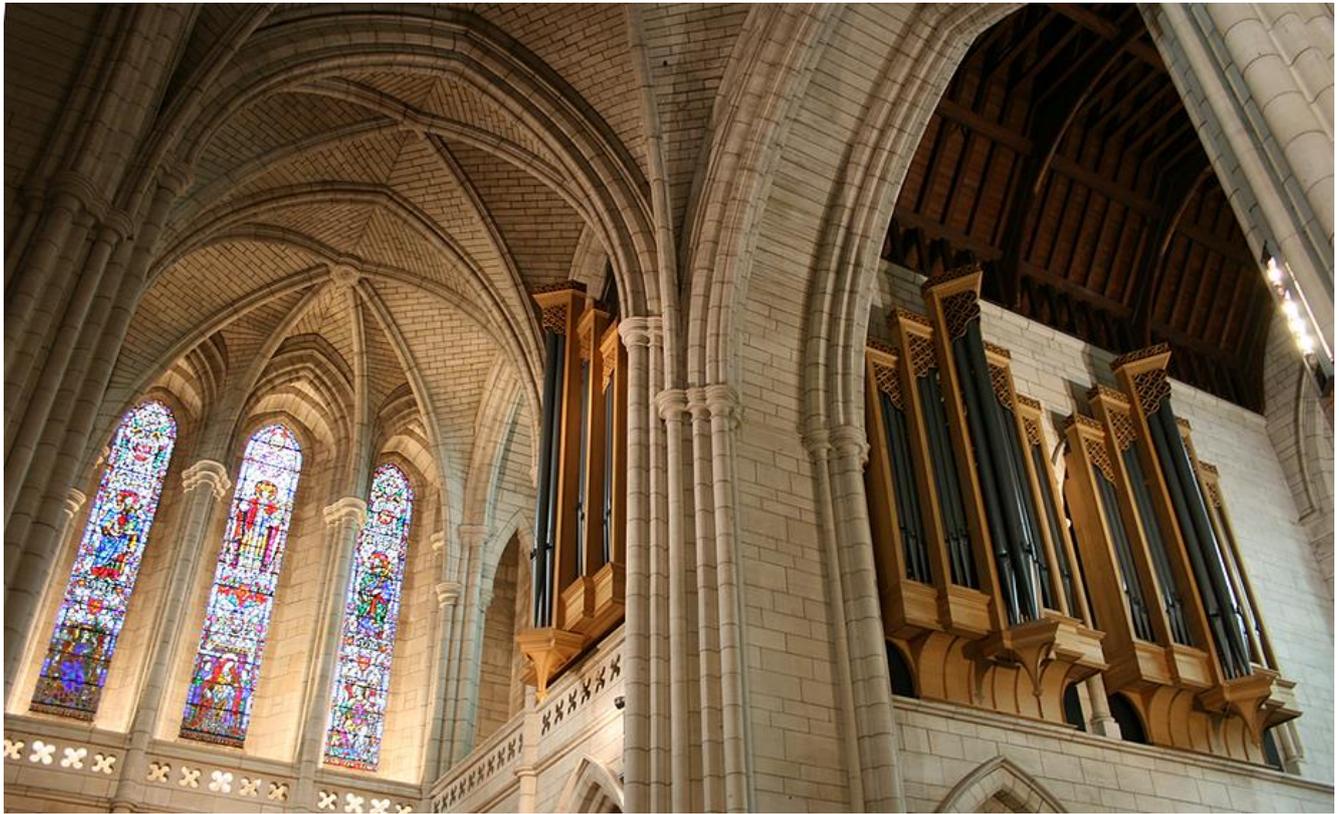
This event will be followed by an AOA lunch at the Elliott Stables, a 2 minute walk from St Matthew's, with our students hosted by AOA.



Plan to join us, support our younger AOA members, and enjoy the end-of-year event!

For further details contact:

Paul Chan (021) 399 938 or Stephen Hamilton (09) 216 5422.



## **Auckland Town Hall Organ Events:**

**Sunday 1 October, 2.00 pm**  
**Michael Bawtree, UK**

Michael Bawtree studied music and the organ at Christ's College, Cambridge, and conducting at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He is a prize-winning Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. Michael is currently a Lecturer at the RSAMD and Director of Music at St Margaret's Episcopal Church, Glasgow. He will be playing Bach's Prelude & Fugue in B minor (BWV 544), Elgar's Imperial March, Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty Suite, Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet Suite, as well as music by Bowen, MacMillan and Bingham



**Thursday 9 November, 6.00 pm**  
**Janet Gibbs, NZ**

This organ concert is free to all concert goers who have a ticket for the APO Bayleys Great Classics concert at 7:30pm.



Janet Gibbs graduated from Auckland University with a Bachelor of Music degree, having gained her ATCL and LTCL diplomas in piano performance while still at secondary school. Valuable undergraduate training in church music was provided during four years as a chorister and sub-organist at St Mary's Cathedral, Auckland. During this time, Janet gained her LRSM and FTCL diplomas in Organ Performance. In 2014 Janet moved back to Auckland and is now Director of Music at All Saints Church, Ponsonby.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### AOA in 1968-70 – the events and the people almost 50 years ago

Peter Godfrey was President of AOA in 1967/8, and chaired the 1968 AGM at St Mary's Cathedral, Parnell. Miss Lenora Owsley was elected the incoming President, and Richard Prothero as Vice President. Congratulations were expressed to Mr W Croft for having obtained the contract for re-building the Town Hall organ.

Bruce Thompson requested that AOA advertise the forthcoming recital by Miss Gillian Weir as widely as possible, commenting that this recital was in the nature of an experiment by the Broadcasting Corporation to test response to a visiting organist, and if this is well supported it would be repeated again.

At the 1969 AGM, held in Liston House at St Patrick's Cathedral, Richard Prothero was elected President of AOA. The Mayor, Mr Dove Myer Robinson, had accepted an invitation to be Patron of the Association. There was discussion about the possibility of telecasting an organ recital on the NZBC, perhaps from the new Holy Trinity Cathedral.

During 1969, Richard Prothero moved to Wellington and the Vice President, Roger Harris, took over as acting President. At the 1970 AGM it was resolved "That the Association adopt as policy that the minimum fee paid to organists for playing at weddings and funerals should be \$5.00".

It was also resolved "That the Auckland Organists Association regard as unethical any organist playing for weddings or other services in place of the duly appointed organist of the Church, except with the express permission of that organist", and "That this meeting has expressed concern over the quality of the Organ News and suggests that some degree of overall editorial control should be exercised by the N. Z. Council."

In October / November 1970, the celebrated Swiss organist Lionel Rogg was planning to tour Australia and New Zealand, but the tour was cancelled at short notice.

## 2017 AOA SUBSCRIPTIONS

Your 2017 AOA Subscription Notice / Statement is included with this AOA Newsletter. Membership of AOA includes membership of the NZ Organ Association (NZOA).

Please take advantage of the \$10 prompt payment discount if your 2017 subscription is paid by 20 October.

Internet payment is encouraged for members who can pay by this method. Alternatively, please post your cheque to the address noted on the Statement, or contact us to make some other payment arrangement.

We offer free membership to AOA and NZOA to secondary or tertiary students receiving regular organ tuition in the AOA region (Auckland and northern North Island region). If you are such a student, we are pleased to have you as a member! There should be nothing to pay in relation to the enclosed Subscription Notice.

If you know of students who meet the criteria but who are not members of AOA, please encourage them to join!

If you are a former organ student on our membership list who no longer qualifies as a student member and either you wish to continue as a member of AOA, or discontinue your membership, please contact us, and we will make the necessary adjustment to our records.

If you wish to make a donation to the Eric Winstone Memorial Organ Trust (including if you are a Life or Student member of AOA) please make an appropriate adjustment to the enclosed Subscription Notice / payment to AOA.

Details about AOA are available at:  
[//auckorgan.nz](http://auckorgan.nz)

*Stephen Hamilton*