

## Forthcoming events

**BACH IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**  
**MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM**  
The Church at Carrs Lane,  
[B4 7SX](#), with **Gordon Stewart**  
and the 1970 HN&B organ  
[Click](#) for details.

**ANNUAL SERVICE**  
**MONDAY 30 OCTOBER, 7.30PM**  
St Nicolas, Kings Norton  
[B38 8SA](#),  
Evening Worship for All Saints  
[Click](#) for details.

**CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER,**  
**7PM FOR 7.30PM**  
Café Rouge,  
174-6 Wharfside Street,  
The Mailbox, [B1 1RN](#)  
[Click](#) for details.

## BOA newsletter

volume 13 no 3

### Autumn 2017

### In this issue

#### Future events:

- [Bach in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century](#)
- [Annual Service](#)
- [Christmas Dinner](#)

#### Past event reviews:

- [IAO events](#)
- [Walsall visit](#)

or click [here](#) to start

### Birmingham Organists' Association

affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists

[www.BhamOrgan.org.uk](http://www.BhamOrgan.org.uk)

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## Event Guide

### THSH Town Hall

Mondays 1pm **Thomas Trotter**  
25 Sep, 9 Oct  
23 Oct [Symphony Hall]  
6 Nov, 20 Nov, 4 Dec  
Tues 31 Oct, 7.30pm **Nigel Ogden**  
Sun 12 Nov, 3pm **Darius Battiwalla**  
[www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

### Holy Trinity, Wordsley, [DY8 5RU](#)

*Sunday Afternoon Organ Music* 3pm  
**Paul Carr** 1 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec  
[www.paulcarr.co.uk](http://www.paulcarr.co.uk)

### St Chad's Cathedral, [B4 6EU](#)

*Thursday Live*  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, 1.15pm  
5 Oct **Daniel Gárdonyi**  
2 Nov, 7 Dec **Paul Carr**  
[www.paulcarr.co.uk/ThursdayLive](http://www.paulcarr.co.uk/ThursdayLive)

### Emmanuel, Wylde Green

[B72 1YG](#) Fridays 1pm  
6 Oct **Anthony Pinel**  
3 Nov **Josh Roebuck**  
1 Dec **Paul Carr**  
<http://www.organrecitals.com>

### Walsall Town Hall

Leicester Street, [WS1 1PT](#)  
**Peter Morris** Thursdays 1pm  
21 Sep, 7 Dec

## Bach in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Monday  
25 September  
7.30pm  
The Church at Carrs Lane,  
Birmingham,  
[B4 7SX](#)

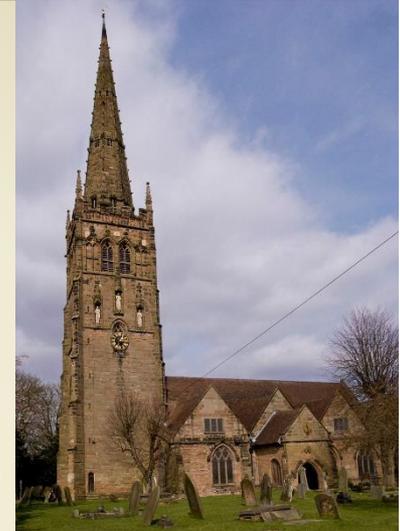


We are delighted to be able to welcome  
**GORDON STEWART**  
well-known concert organist & teacher  
who is tasked to “brush-up” our Bach playing in what  
is sure to be an entertaining and informative  
illustrated talk on current performance practice.

Since most of use don't have the luxury of a modern  
state-of-the-art tracker action instrument, the venue  
chosen has a large gallery in which we can all  
congregate around the *detached* console of the  
landmark (III-27) 1970 Hill Norman & Beard organ.

## Annual Service

Monday  
30 October  
7.30pm  
St Nicolas' Church,  
The Green  
Kings Norton, [B38 8SA](#)



An evening service of hymns,  
anthems, readings, prayers  
and a short homily for the  
week of All Saints' Day, sung by the church choir  
directed by BOA member **Sylvia Fox**. As usual, the  
collection will be divided between the host church  
and the IAO Benevolent Fund.

Free on-street car parking is possible in the vicinity,  
or at £1 for 3 hours in the car park of the adjacent  
pub, the Bull's Head.

Light refreshments will be available after the service.

# Christmas Dinner

Wednesday

6 December

7 for 7.30pm

Café Rouge,

174-6 Wharfside Street,

The Mailbox, [B1 1RN](#)



This year's annual dinner is to be in the city centre to facilitate the use of public transport, but a 24hr car park is available in The Mailbox, access from Royal Mail Street, B1 1RD – albeit at city centre prices!

More details, costs and a booking form will be circulated to members later.

The guest speaker will be **PAUL HALE**, recently retired *Rector Chori* of Southwell Minster and well-known organ consultant & recitalist. Paul was taken ill before last year's Dinner, so we look forward to welcoming him this year.

Colleagues from the Lichfield and Worcestershire associations have been invited to join us.



## Festival (formerly Congress) 2017

This year the IAO's annual Festival was based in the historic city and university of **Oxford**. With up to 150 in attendance on any one day, it proved successful and a real feast of wonderful music, visits and talks. In addition to **PETER KING** (Festival Director), participants included **David Goode**, **Matthew Martin**, **Benjamin Nicholas**, **Robert Quinney** and **Dame Gillian Weir**. There were visits to Blenheim Palace and Eton College, with the annual dinner being held in the medieval banqueting hall of Exeter College.



## OrganFest 2017

*BIOS, IAO & RCO celebrate the organ*

Hull, the current UK city of culture, was recently the venue for two days of inspiring events for lovers of the organ and its music, featuring the huge (IV-141) concert organ by Forster & Andrews in the City Hall. It included a special guest appearance by **Huw Edwards** of BBC TV News selecting his organ music to take to a 'Desert Island', which was then performed 'live' by **John Scott Whiteley**.

But there was much more than this to enjoy and a full report and photos can be found at [www.OrganFest.org.uk](http://www.OrganFest.org.uk)

# Visit to Walsall

## Nick Fanthom

Our August event started in grand style at Broadway United Reformed Church with coffee & cakes!

The grandeur continued with a recital in true 'Town Hall' style, from Council member Christopher Cipkin on the four-manual Lloyd & Haynes instrument there. A dazzling performance of Hollins *Concert Overture in C Minor* opened proceedings, whence Christopher took us on a musical tour through an arrangement by W T Best of Handel's *Organ Concerto in F*, Guilmant's *March sur un Thème de Haendel*, Elgar's *Idylle* arr Lemare, (which I must learn!), culminating with Best's *Concert Fantasia on a Welsh March*. To keep the cake theme going, in the middle of this was Nigel Ogden's *Art Deco "Three Piece" Suite* - a gorgeously gooey confection! All were played with style and panache, Christopher negotiating the instrument with great dexterity to really demonstrate its array of colour and individuality.

We retired to a local hostelry for lunch, but soon it was time to move on to our next venue, St Matthew's Parish Church, which towers above Walsall town centre. Here we met more members of the Association to explore the large four-manual instrument, containing pipework from Samuel Green (1773), J C Bishop (1880), J W Walker (1952) and latterly Nicholson (2000). Organist Patrick Marriot outlined the history of the instrument after which members were free to play. This is not an easy instrument for the unfamiliar player to judge, as the console is buried deep in the chancel. Whilst this is ideal for accompanying any choir that may occasionally be present, it is difficult to appreciate the damage that one may be inflicting upon a congregation in the nave! A mobile nave console would be of great benefit but, alas, such a luxury is not present. For details, see [Organ of the Month 15](#).



*Christopher  
Cipkin*



*Organ by August Gern in  
the Free Church of  
England of St Jude,  
Walsall*

Our final venue was St Jude's, Walsall, part of the Free Church of England. Here, in a small but resonant building, resides a rare surviving UK example of an instrument by **August Gern** dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, which has been lovingly and painstakingly restored by Geoff Jones of Telford and BOA member Jonathon Thorne, who provided some background history and described the work recently undertaken.

Though only a small two-manual instrument, this is an absolute jewel, which speaks in a fluid and unforced manner into the generous acoustic. Gern was born in Berlin in 1837 and trained with Bavarian organ builders. He worked for Cavallé-Coll from 1860 for six years, rising to the position of *contre-maître* (foreman). Such a pedigree shone through this instrument, from the singing pipework (flutes to die for!), to the craftsmanship of the casework with its delightful carving. An absolute gem, which should be more widely known.

All-in-all, a splendid local day out, for which grateful thanks go to all concerned, particularly Alan Taylor for arranging it. This instrument will feature as a future Organ of the Month.

### Broadway United Reformed Church, Walsall, [WS5 3PH](#)



27<sup>th</sup> anniversary organ recital  
by BOA member **NIGEL MORRIS**  
(assistant director of music, St Chad's Cathedral)  
Wine reception from 7pm, recital starts 7.30pm  
Admission FREE: retiring collection.  
Programme details available [HERE](#)