

# *Birmingham Organists' Association*

affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists



<https://BhamOrgan.org.uk>



<https://iao.org.uk>

## **BOA newsletter** volume 17 no 1, Summer 2021

So far, this has been a very difficult year for all of us, with hopes of a resumption of normal activities being dashed first by the Alpha-(or Kent-) variant of Coronavirus and now we have the impact of the Delta-variant to manage. Also, the BOA's President and Treasurer have both been in hospital (not with Covid-related conditions), one for as long as three months; but both are now back home and recovering. More positive news comes from the knowledge that most of us should now have been vaccinated, so BOA feels able to announce a planned resumption of activities for the autumn.

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## **BOA events, autumn 2021**

**(all events subject to any Covid restrictions in force at the time)**

### **Saturday 25 September**

IAO Midlands Organ Day, Northampton

A revised version of this event, postponed from 2020, is planned for this year. It is in two parts, from 10am until 5pm, then an evening recital from 7pm to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Walker organ in St Matthew's Church. Please check the website <http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/midlands-organ-day/>

### **Saturday 2 October**

Recital by Paul Hale, St Margaret's Olton, 7.30pm

This is your chance to hear the restoration by Henry Groves & Son of the 1900 Norman & Beard organ. BOA member Eddie Guard invites us. Admission £10. Click [HERE](#) for a location map: postcode B92 7JS.

### **Saturday 13 November (date to be confirmed)**

BOA AGM at St Margaret's Olton, 10.30am

A return visit to St Margaret's for our AGM, a short recital by award-winning organist Callum Alger and then an opportunity for members to play the restored organ themselves.

### **Monday 13 December**

Organ Studio, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, 6pm

An opportunity to hear the new Flentrop organ during the organ department's end-of-term concert.

More details of all the above events will be circulated in September and appear on our website:

<https://BhamOrgan.org.uk>

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## News in brief from all quarters

- BOA members JOSHUA HUGHES, WILLIAM PEART and ASHLEY WAGNER are all finalists in this year's **IAO/RCO organ competition**, which is an online only event. Details will be available next week via <https://iao.org.uk/competition/>. Their (recorded) performances and those of the other three finalists (from Florence, Leipzig and Weimar) can be heard via the above link on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July. This will be followed by adjudication and announcement of the winners.
- The above event is preceded on the Friday evening by an **online recital** given by IAO President Dr John Kitchen, MBE from St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, the intended venue if the competition had been able to go ahead as a 'live' event. Access the video via <https://iao.org.uk/competition/>.
- Darius Battiwalla has notified us about the rebuilding of the **Leeds Town Hall** organ, due to start later this year. Click [HERE](#) for details.
- Perhaps of particular interest to any lovers of the bagpipes, Alan Calder from Dundee has notified us of a **new hymn** he has written, published earlier this year, the words set to an organ arrangement by Anthony Baldwin of the famous iconic bagpipe tune 'Highland Cathedral'. You can hear the latter at <https://youtu.be/GSgPiDrh518> and Alan's choral version can be ordered from the publishers [HERE](#), where there's a preview of the vocal score.

## Notices



**Paul Carr's** regular series of *Sunday Afternoon Organ Music* on the first Sunday in every month is continuing online. His *Thursday LIVE* series from St Chad's Cathedral with Professor David Saint is also continuing online.

Please visit

<https://www.paulcarr.co.uk/sunday-afternoon-organ-music/> and <https://www.paulcarr.co.uk/thursday-live/>

**Broadway URC, Walsall** is planning to host a 'live' recital by THOMAS KEOGH, former BOA member and now Secretary of the Leicester & District Organists' Association, at 11.15am on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

For confirmation, please visit

<https://music.broadway.urcwalsall.uk/events.html>.



The Victoria Hall, Hanley, is advertising an **Organ Festival** from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August, with monthly recitals thereafter, via <http://www.victoriahall-organproms.co.uk/prominfo.htm> .

**Lichfield Cathedral** has a series of *free* organ recitals on Tuesdays at 11.30am during the summer as follows:

July 20 – Liam Condon	July 27 – Alexander Binns
Aug 03 – Martyn Rawles	Aug 10 – Luke Fitzgerald
Aug 17 – Jonathan Allsopp	Aug 24 – Lucy Morrell

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### **Good home required for Holt reed organ**

We have been notified, via Daniel Moulton of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, about a reed organ by Holt needing a good home following the death of its owner. The owner's daughter would be happy for someone to go and (partially) dismantle and remove it from its current residence in Northfield.

We have no details about its size, specification or age, but anyone interested should contact Mrs A Payne via [peerdance@outlook.com](mailto:peerdance@outlook.com).