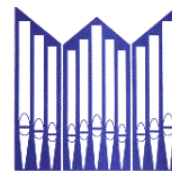


# Chester & North-East Wales Organists' & Choirmasters' Association

Affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists



CNEWOCA

## Newsletter – May/June 2019

On line at [www.cnewoca.org.uk](http://www.cnewoca.org.uk)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/groups/CNEWOCA](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CNEWOCA)

### Our Next Event

We have been invited to the home of John Latham in Malpas on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May (7.30pm) to hear and play the house organ. John's address is Newton Hall, Oldcastle, Malpas. **Directions: From North Wales** - take the A55 and exit onto the A41 (signed Whitchurch) and continue as follows. **From Chester** - take the A41, heading for Whitchurch. Turn right off the A41 at The Market House pub/restaurant, (signed Malpas B5069). On reaching Malpas turn left into the High Street and then right at the market cross, the church on your right. Carry on this road (still B5069), until the end of the houses on the left where there is a road called "Sunnyside". Turn into that and continue along it until reaching a cross roads (really lanes at this point). Go straight across and Newton Hall Farm is almost immediately on the right. Park in front of the farmhouse. **From the Wrexham area** - take the A525 then left onto the B5069, heading towards Malpas. After a rather nasty bend turn right down a lane signposted Oldcastle. Carry on down this lane until it meets the cross road mentioned above, turn right and again the farm is on the right. **For those with Satnav, the Post Code is SY14 7AG**

### AGM (June)

See the Chairman's newsletter and the enclosures. Please note the time limit to get menu choices back to David Bird (menu enclosed). No meetings are scheduled for July or August, so this newsletter covers the two months of May and June.

### The Chairman Writes

Spring is here and we have just celebrated the new life and resurrection associated with Easter. There are times when a new or fresh start can be a benefit, be it to our individual lives, or Clubs and Associations to which we belong.

Next month will be our AGM & Dinner at Upton Golf Club. You will find a form with your Newsletter regarding the menu. Please get your menu choices back as soon as possible - the date, if it's not already in your diary, is **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June**, with a 7.00pm start time for the AGM so that we can begin the meal at around 7.45pm. I hope that you

will feel able to invite guests to what should be a very enjoyable evening.

You will find plenty of other information about the AGM with this mailing, and you will notice that the future of the Association will be considered, due to a significant reduction in membership this year, as well as some very poor turnouts at events, most recently just four members attending the April event. I feel really sorry for anyone who organises an event and the support from members is poor - it is not only disappointing but also embarrassing for them as well as for the Association.

I have always tried to be positive in my approach to writing my monthly articles; however, we have reached a time when serious consideration needs to be given to the future of our Association, so please do you best to attend or share your thoughts with me by phone or e-mail.

As I mentioned last month, my term as Chairman is coming to its conclusion, and having been the Chairman for the past five years, and seven times during the last nine years, it is time for someone else, hopefully with fresh ideas, to take the Association forward. Please consider what you can offer our Organisation as the AGM approaches. There will be vacancies for both Officers and Committee members, so the opportunities to 'have your say' and to 'put your thoughts into action' are there waiting for you.

I am someone who likes short and catchy quotes that say so many truths in a clever way, often making you think at the same time, so I will leave you with a few to end this article:

- Opportunities are like sunrises. If you wait too long, you miss them.
- Smile in the mirror. Do that every morning and you'll see a big difference in your life.
- Every story has an end, but in life, every end has a new beginning.
- You are never too old to set a new goal or to dream a new dream.
- Sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed, and rearranged to relocate us to the place we're meant to be.

If you'd like to discuss anything to do with CNEWOCA, don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail ([angiejohnevans@uwclub.net](mailto:angiejohnevans@uwclub.net)) or on 07939-645688 - and don't forget to return your menu choice for the AGM!

### Jane Watts

#### Chester Cathedral – 9<sup>th</sup> May

The internationally-acclaimed Welsh organist continues to enjoy a career that has taken her all over the world. Jane Watts has given recitals in Europe, Hong Kong, Barbados, Australia and New Zealand, together with numerous appearances in



festivals and concerts throughout the United Kingdom. She has been both a soloist in, and a jury member of, the St Albans International Organ Festival, and opened its 2014-15 recital series. In 2011 Jane Watts was invited to give the opening recital of the first International Organ Series to be presented in the prestigious Frits-Philips Concert Hall in Eindhoven, Holland: her tenth visit to the USA took place in 2013. In January 2015 she gave the Celebrity Recital as part of London's Bloomsbury Organ Day - "A case of *impeccable technique being employed fully in the service of the music, not self-promotion*" (The Organ, Spring 2015), and in September she opened the 2015/6 series in St John's, Smith Square, London.

### Laudes

Laudes are an occasional visiting choir based on the Wirral/Chester, who will be singing Evensong at St Andrew's Church, West Kirby on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm. They are looking for an organist to accompany them on this occasion, and there would be an afternoon rehearsal. If you are interested, please contact Becky Ford on 0151-336-5088.

## What's On?

### Chester Cathedral

Thursdays at 1.10pm

- 9 May** Jane Watts (Concert Organist)  
**16 May** Colin Walsh (Lincoln Cathedral)  
**23 May** Philip Rushforth (Chester Cathedral)  
**30 May** John Wyatt (Ely)  
**6 Jun** Philip Rushforth (Chester Cathedral)  
**13 Jun** Mark Swinton (St Mary's, Warwick)  
**20 Jun** Graham Eccles (St Asaph)

Admission £5.45, concessions £4.50

### Shrewsbury Abbey

Wednesdays at 1.00pm

- 8 May** Peter Morris (Walsall Town Hall)  
**12 Jun** Nigel Pursey (Shrewsbury Abbey)

Admission free - retiring collection

### Liverpool Cathedral

Fri 10 May at 12.45pm

Lee Ward (Liverpool Cathedral)  
 in the Lady Chapel  
 admission free/retiring collection

Mon 27 May at 11.15am

Richard Lea  
 (Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral)  
 Admission £5

### Christ Church, Birkenhead

Sunday 12 May

2.00pm to 2.30pm & 3.00pm to 3.30pm

Paul Broadhurst  
 will perform a programme of light music in  
 support of the secret gardens of Oxton  
 Admission free

### St Giles', Wrexham

Mondays at 12.30pm

- 13 May** Fay Adamson  
**20 May** Charles Junes (Holy Trinity,  
 Llandudno)  
**27 May** Colin Porter with Robert Bird (Organ  
 and piano duets)  
**3 Jun** Glyn Mon Hughes (St Saviours, Oxton)  
**10 Jun** Gerry Howe (St Oswald's, Oswestry)  
**17 Jun** Bob Jones (St Francis', Chester)

Admission free - retiring collection

### St George's Hall, Liverpool

Ian Tracey  
 Liverpool Cathedral

Tues 14 May - 12.45pm to 1.30pm  
 Tues 18 June - 12.45pm to 1.30pm

Admission £5.50

### Music at Wesley

Tuesdays, 12.45pm to 1.30pm

- 14 May** Jonathan Guy (Clarinet), Leanne Cody  
 (Piano)

### Saturday Organ Recitals

12.45pm to 1.35pm

- 18 May** John Evans (Hoole Methodist, Chester)  
**22 Jun** Philip Rushforth (Chester Cathedral)

Admission Free - Retiring Collection

### Bangor Cathedral

Tuesdays 1.10pm

- 14 May** John Hosking  
**11 Jun** Martin J Brown (Bangor Cathedral)

Admission free - retiring collection

### St Chad's, Shrewsbury

Fridays at 12.40pm

- 17 May** Peter King (Bath Abbey)  
**4 Jun** Anthony Pinel (St Chad)  
**21 Jun** Richard Walker (St Chad)

Admission free - retiring collection

### Hoole Methodist Church, Chester

Charity Concerts - third Sunday at 3.00pm

- 19 May** The Queen's School, Chester  
**16 Jun** Waverton Singers

Admission free - suggested donation £5  
 Further details : John Evans 07939 645688

### St Asaph Cathedral

Wednesdays at 7.30pm

- 5 Jun** Christopher Enston (St Asaph Cathedral)

Admission £6

### St Oswald's, Oswestry

Thursdays at 1.00pm

- 6 Jun** Christopher Pilsbury (St Giles',  
 Wrexham)  
**13 Jun** Richard Walker (St Chad's Shrewsbury)  
**20 Jun** Anthony Dowlen (St Mary's, Ellesmere)

Admission free - retiring collection

### St Werburgh's, Chester

Friday 7 June at 7.30pm

John Hosking

Admission free - retiring collection

### Organ Recitals Nationwide

details on [www.organrecitals.com](http://www.organrecitals.com)

### Jean Guillou (1930-2019)

Jim Treloar writes: "Already this year we have lost two notable personalities in the English organ world, Noel Rawsthorne and Peter Hurford, both of whom have been recorded in our Newsletter. Another major organist and composer from France also passed away in January, Jean Guillou, an important figure in the long line of influential Parisian musicians.



"Guillou was born in Angers and originally appointed organist of St Serge in that city.

Later he studied at the Paris Conservatoire under Maurice Durufle, Marcel Dupre and Olivier Messiaen, amongst others. He lived for a while in Berlin where he also studied

organ building and design. He returned to Paris in 1963 where he was appointed to the prestigious post of organist at St Eustache, succeeding Andre Marchal, which he held until 2015. He wrote extensively for the organ but also for other combinations of instruments. Many of his organ works are uncompromisingly avant-garde in style although some are more approachable for the listener; a favourite of mine is his Toccata, a lively and impressive piece. With his interest in organ design he has left some impressive instruments, of particular note are Chant d'Oiseau in Brussels and Notre-Dame des Nieges in L'Alpe d'Huez. I once had the pleasure of meeting him in the 1970s when there was an annual Manchester organ festival he came over one year and I briefly talked to him at Adlington Hall on a visit we made there. By an unfortunate coincidence just after his death the first in a series of CDs of his music was issued, played by Zuzana Ferjencikova, one of his pupils, at the large organ at St Martin at Dudelange in Luxemburg. The major work on this CD is his arrangement of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, which illustrates another of his talents, that of arranging well-known pieces for the organ using an unusual range of registrations. This has been done before but I find this particular arrangement totally different but extremely impressive and I look forward to other CDs in this series. A sad loss to the world of organs / organ music."

### St James', Christleton

commence a new pattern of services from 9<sup>th</sup> June. As a minimum, and our top priority, we seek (and pray for) a regular organist for our weekly 9.00am Sunday Holy Communion Service, with a minimum of 3 hymns. We have a small choir but long for this to grow and flourish. We will also have a more informal 10.45am service with Holy Communion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, and two traditional services, an Evensong and Contemplative Communion, at 4.00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Hence, as a priority, we would have organist cover for these 3 services (the 10.45am 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 4.00pm) also. Our next priority is to employ an Organist/Director of Music to help develop our musical provision across all relevant services and ages. Someone with the flexibility to move across the traditional and contemporary services well and be instrumental in, e.g., building up and forming choir/music groups of all ages. Anyone interested should contact Rev Dr Stefan Collier at [rector.christleton@gmail.com](mailto:rector.christleton@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Contributions

Contributions for the July newsletter are required by end of June. Please write to Bob Jones at 3 Appleton Road, Chester CH2 1JH or (preferred) e-mail at [bob.jones25@btinternet.com](mailto:bob.jones25@btinternet.com) or telephone 01244 315089 or 07701 052304.