

Enfield & District Organists' Association

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at
St George, Hanover Square on
Saturday 16th February 2013 at 5.30pm.

Present were Terence Atkins (President), Michael Hennin (Hon. Secretary), Robin Coxon (Hon. Treasurer) and 22 members.

Apologies for absence were received from Joyce and Alan Beaumont, Susan Dingle, Lilian Gibbens, Linden Innes-Hopkins and Paul Minchinton.

Minutes of the last AGM. These had been circulated being previously available via the website. They were approved and signed by Terence Atkins, being proposed by David Patrick and seconded by Roger Carter.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

President's Report

Welcome to the AGM of the EDOA at the start of our 50th anniversary year, 2013! On your behalf I should like to thank the Rector and Churchwardens of St George's, Hanover Square and, of course, Simon Williams, for enabling us to be here (not for the first time) and for making us all so welcome. Our thanks also go to the Organ Club, president John Miley, for inviting us to share in the earlier part of the afternoon, when James Parsons gave an inspiring masterclass to five promising young organists, followed by Simon's excellent recital on the splendid St George's organ. After all this impressive and delightful music-making, we must now turn to the somewhat more prosaic business of our AGM.

We were privileged to have David Liddle as our guest recitalist at last year's AGM in St Mary's, Tottenham. The EDOA hosted four further events during the year. There were two "at homes", the first in March at Colin Wharton's in Whetstone and the second in June at Ted Sharp's in Tewin. Both were notable not only for the fine organs and pianos at our disposal, but also for the generosity of the welcome and refreshments. Our warm thanks to Colin and Jane Wharton and to Ted and Ruth Sharp. In May we held our second organ workshop, a repeat of the success of the year before, this time at Grange Park Methodist, thanks to Joyce Beaumont. Once again a willing group of aspiring organists benefited immeasurably from Roger Carter's wisdom and encouragement, the emphasis being on accompanying congregational hymns. It is good that another is being planned for next year; and we remain eternally grateful to Roger for this vital and ongoing aspect of our work. The final EDOA event was a September visit to St Silas, Kentish Town, thanks to Peter Stokes, whose improvised demonstrations of the two organs were such a joy.

EDOA members were also encouraged to attend a variety of other events, not the least of which was the London Organ Day. In 2012 it took place at Christ Church, Chelsea and was entitled 'JS Bach and the Lutheran Chorale'. The RCO London Organ Forum in November also concentrated on the music of JS Bach and took place here in St George's. St Benet Fink, Tottenham, is another venue valued by us in the EDOA and in July some members played in the flower festival marking that church's centenary. Finally, the annual Organists Online at

Bloomsbury Baptist Church last month was as always a source of great benefit, not least to the EDOA.

The hard-working committee deserves the thanks of us all, with particular mention of Michael Hennin as Secretary and Robin Coxon as Treasurer and Membership Secretary. Roger Carter has to stand down having completed a second term. His wise counsel will be much missed. I'm sorry to report that Linden Innes-Hopkins has stepped down after one term. They are both thanked for their contributions. At this point I should also like to pay tribute – and offer our hearty thanks – to Rosemary Knight, for bravely taking on last year the editorship of our newsletter as well as continuing to maintain the EDOA website. I'm sure Rosemary will not mind my announcing her success in gaining the CertRCO, for which we warmly congratulate her.

We have been sorry to learn recently of the death of our oldest EDOA member, Eric Kirton, who reached his centenary last April. I would remind you all of an article he wrote for our newsletter some dozen years ago and reprinted in his honour in the June 2012 issue. It is entitled 'A memorable meeting with Percy Whitlock'.

Finally, we must now look forward to the coming year: our very own golden jubilee! Two events in particular to highlight. The first is planned for Monday evening, 29th April, when we shall pay a visit to David Liddle in Methuen Park at the former home of Felix Aprahamian. We know from previous occasions that there will be much to enjoy, not least the playing of David on the two special organs housed within. Our main fiftieth anniversary celebrations will centre on St James, Enfield Highway one Saturday in June or early July and will include a members' recital amongst other delights. As always, full details will be made known through both our newsletter and the website.

Secretary's Report

Michael Hennin reported that nine events had been held over the past year, five hosted by EDOA. He encouraged members to put forward ideas for events and suggestions for new venues. Those with internet access were encouraged to join the members' list.

Treasurer's Report

After an introduction from Robin Coxon the statement of the Association's accounts was adopted, being proposed by Robin Coxon and seconded by Simon Williams. It was unanimously agreed that subscriptions remain at £10, being proposed by Robin Coxon and seconded by Michael Coffey.

Election of Officers

Terence Atkins (President), Michael Hennin (Secretary) and Robin Coxon (Treasurer) stood for re-election, being proposed by Jack Beeson and seconded by Michael Coffey. All were in favour.

Election of Committee

Linden Innes-Hopkins retired after her first term. Roger Carter retired after his second term. Robert Evans continues his first term. Lilian Gibbens continues her second term. Peter St John Stokes was elected to serve a second term, being proposed by Michael Coffey and seconded by Hilary Bailey. Rosemary Knight was elected to serve on the committee; she was proposed by Michael Hennin and seconded by Terence Atkins. Morwenna Brett was elected to serve on the committee; she was proposed by Ruth Lewis and seconded by Rosemary

Knight. Peter Smith was elected to serve on the committee; he was proposed by Roger Carter and seconded by David Patrick. All were in favour.

Election of Independent Examiner

Dorothy Ayre was re-elected Honorary Auditor and thanked for her work, being proposed by Robin Coxon and seconded by Peter Smith. All were in favour.

Programme of Events

Terence Atkins outlined some forthcoming events for 2013. Members were asked to contribute ideas and suggestions for events.

Any Other Business

Mrs Coffey raised a concern that the London Organ Day on the following Saturday was clashing with an IOF event at St Albans. The LOD organisers, apparently, had been restricted by the limited availability of the Royal Festival Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.12pm with thanks to the vicar and church wardens at St George, Hanover Square.