

**President's Message
March 2015**

Whenever the topic of multi-tasking comes up (as it seems to with increasing frequency), we organists perhaps feel a quiet, aloof pride, knowing what has been expected of us from day one. A brilliant illustration of the multi-tasking organ supremo has been provided by Morwenna Brett: www.theladyorganist.com. I make no apology for once again enthusing about this website, which is so informative and entertaining. "Five Questions for..." is a regular feature and always worthwhile, and an earlier interview with Anne Marsden Thomas has been brought to the fore once again in honour of Anne's MBE award. Another good read is the recent "How to chat up your organist" – not at all frivolous but full of common sense.

Our warm thanks are due to Paul Minchinton for welcoming us to St Mary's, Ponsbourne for the AGM, to Robert Evans for his thoroughly enjoyable recital and to Michael Hennin for his hard work in ensuring the success of the occasion. If you have yet to attend this highlight of the EDOA year, do please consider for next time, for it is for the whole membership and you will not be disappointed. Peter Stokes, perforce retiring after a double two-year committee stint, was thanked for his invaluable contribution. This vacancy has yet to be filled, so if you feel that you could be the one, do please make yourself known! Suggestions for events and activities are invited from every member of the EDOA – and indeed I am grateful for a generous idea that will be considered following a recent chance encounter in Waitrose.

It is hoped that a goodly number will wish to support our next event, which is on the Saturday after Easter, 10.30 am on 11th April, at St George's, Hanover Square. Robin Walker, the Assistant Director of Music to Simon Williams, will lead a workshop and masterclass on early and Baroque repertoire. Whether as performer (six places) or observer, there is no charge for EDOA members. Full details are as always on our website and elsewhere. In passing, it is sad to note the death of Simon's predecessor, Denys Darlow, aged 93.

Finally, our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Joyce Beaumont, whose recovery from serious illness has had its setbacks. It is good to report that she is now progressing well at home.

Terence Atkins