

Derby & District Organists' Association
Annual General Meeting November 2019

1 **Apologies:** Andrew Storer, John Maxwell-Jones.

2 **Minutes of the last AGM**

2.1 Chris Darrell is not in a nursing home; the nursing home reference was for David Shooter.

2.2 The website architect is James Barron, not James Barrow.

2.3 Minutes accepted. Proposed, Richard Brice; seconded, Laurence Rogers.

3 **Matters Arising**

3.1 There were no matters Arising.

4 **Chairman's Report**

4.1 Margaret Eades reported that it had been an eventful year with a number of interesting events and the introduction of the new website.

4.2 New Safeguarding Procedures introduced by the Derby Diocese had caused some concern; the matter was being addressed by a subcommittee which had written to the Safeguarding Officer asking for clarification.

4.3 The Chairman paid tribute to Ed Stow, who had been a stalwart member of the Association for many years, contributing much as a fine musician, friend, organ builder and counsellor.

4.4 Thanks were offered to Chris Darrall for his long service as Treasurer, in recognition of which he was awarded Honorary Membership.

4.5 The 2019 programme had included: interviews of four members of the Association detailing the development of their interest in the organ; a talk by Margaret Eades on women organists; a session on improvisation offered by Nigel Allcoat; visits to Melton Mowbray, Lincoln, the London Oratory and the cathedral of St Alban; three Oxford colleges, and a presentation by Denis Littleton and Laurence Rogers on organs in Denmark.

4.6 The CATO group had continued their work promoting playing the organ amongst junior school children. The group had been approached on the possibility of a presentation to state primary school children in Oxford in the presence of organ scholars. The Chairman thanked Stephen Johns and the group for their continuing work.

4.7 Tom Corfield and Stephen Johns were thanked for their work preparing for the Vierne Day in February 2020 which was to be a major event for the Association. Further details of the 2020 programme were given: visits to organs in the Burton area, Lincoln and Allestree; a talk on the music of René Becker by Richard Brice; a presentation by Tom Corfield on 'How we Practise', and the annual lunch.

4.8 The Chairman also thanked the many people who had helped her during her period of office, had organised events , and those who had written articles for the Newsletter.

5 **Treasurer's Report**

5.1 The audited accounts for the year ended 31/12/18 were presented at the meeting. These showed a surplus for the year of £75.07, despite the annual outing to Manchester being poorly attended and thus resulting in a loss to the association of £305.

5.2 The provisional accounts for the year ending 31/12/19 were also presented with forecast figures included for November and December. Website costs have increased during this year as a result of an outside company being used to update the website. However the association

received £300 from the Royal Bank of Scotland as a result of a complaint made regarding their poor handling of our application to amend the bank mandate covering signatories on the account. Assuming that approximately £400 will be received in December as early payment for 2020 subscriptions, the treasurer is forecasting a small surplus for the year of approximately £70 at this stage.

- 5.3 Budgeted figures for the year ending 31/12/20 were also presented. The treasurer is forecasting a deficit of approximately £249 for the coming year. However, with reserves likely to be in the region of £2700 at the year end this year, the treasurer is not proposing an increase in subscription fees for the coming year.
- 5.4 The treasurer also informed the meeting that our auditor, David Hall, does not wish to continue auditing our accounts any longer. Chris Darrall has kindly agreed to continue the role as independent examiner from now on. The treasurer has sent a card to David on behalf of the association expressing our gratitude to him for the work he has done as auditor since 1986. However it was suggested that a gift or invitation to our annual dinner may also be sent, and the committee agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. GC

6 Secretary's Report

- 6.1 The membership stood at 79.
- 6.2 Five new members had joined: Monica Wilde, Mike Thomson, Alex Binns, Mary Cobbold and Stuart Bassett.
- 6.2 It was with sadness that the loss of Ed Stow was reported. Ed was an Honorary Member and had contributed a great deal to the working of the Association for many years.

7 Election of Officers

- 7.1 Chairman: Tony Westerman. Proposed, Stephen Johns; seconded, Terry Bennett.
- 7.2 Vice-Chairman: John Maxwell-Jones. Proposed, Laurence Rogers; seconded, Chris Darrall.
- 7.3 Secretary: Andrew Storer. Proposed, Stephen Johns; seconded, Denis Littleton.
- 7.4 Treasurer: Gillian Chatto. Proposed, Tony Westerman; seconded, Denis Littleton.
- 7.5 Newsletter Editor: Laurence Rogers. Proposed, Chris Darrall; seconded, Tom Corfield.
- 7.6 Committee Members: Margaret Eades, Terry Bennett, Tom Corfield, Alex Binns, Denis Littleton and Richard Brice.
- All officers were elected unopposed.

8 A.O.B.

- 8.1 Stephen Johns observed that the DDOA was one of the most active and interesting organists' associations in the country thanks to the commitment of the Association officers and committee members.
- 8.2 The new chairman thanked Margaret Eades for her work as chairman observing that her measured approach and steady hand had served the Association well. Margaret had observed earlier that she was the first woman to be chairman in the Association's 115 year history.