

The Organ Club Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2012

NOTICES

January Newsletter contributions: please email notices by 16th December to Brian Caswell (newsletter@organclub.org), or alternatively write to him at 42 Wymondley Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9PR.

Journal contributions: please email contributions by 1st January to Richard Blanch (journal@organclub.org), or alternatively write to him at 1 Chedburgh, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 2PU. Tel: 01707 322166.

Club Secretary

Nominations are sought for the post of Hon General Secretary, which will fall vacant at the 2013 AGM. Nominations should be made in writing to the Hon General Secretary accompanied by the written consent of the nominee. Correspondence to me, please, at 42 St Barnabas Road, London, E17 8JY.

Edward Kemp-Luck (Hon General Secretary)

2013 Subscriptions

You will be glad to know that the Committee have decided that subscriptions should not be increased in 2013. However, the cost of the Journal is a major consideration. Printing, paper and postage costs are ever increasing, and have to be borne by the account. The Journal is a very important publication as members are obviously not able to attend every meeting, and appreciate the excellent reports and photographs of those meetings that have taken place, along with other articles of interest.

In the present economic climate, the Committee feel that subscriptions should not be increased, but if you are able to give a donation above the subscription rate it will help us to be able to continue to keep the subscription cost down in future years.

*John Miley
(President)*

Edinburgh Tour, 5th to 11th May 2013

Our member David Stewart has arranged a week's tour of some 25 organs in Edinburgh. A compact and historic city of half-a-million population, Edinburgh has around 150 organs, dating from a Snetzler of 1757 to a 2010 instrument by Principal Pipe Organs. The Club last visited the city in 1995. Seven have not been visited by the Club before, and a further four have had major rebuilds since the last visit.

We plan to visit the organs of the three Cathedrals (1879 Willis/Harrison 4/58, 1992 Rieger 3/57 and 2007 Copley 3/63), the two major halls (1897 Hope-Jones/1953 Willis 4/62; 1914 Norman & Beard 4/63), selected instruments by Scottish builders D & T Hamilton, Ingram, Edmonstone and Lammermuir, and examples of work from Snetzler to Peter Collins, Wells Kennedy to Kenneth Jones, and Ahrend to Frobenius, plus many 19thC instruments. The visits on one day will be just outside the city.

The tour will begin at 2pm on Sunday 5 May (though members may wish to travel up on Saturday 4 May), with the last visit ending at 3pm on Saturday 11 May, allowing members to return south in time for Sunday duties.

We are aiming to secure accommodation in the 3 star Premier Inn, Morrison Street, central Edinburgh, on a B&B basis (single £78 per night, sharing £46 per person per night), and are hiring a 49 seater coach. Thursday will be a free day: there are many other attractions to visit in the city. There will be a dinner on the evening of Friday 10 May. (Members should obtain their own lunches and other dinners.)

The non-hotel costs (coach, Friday dinner, donations to venues, tour brochure etc) will be around £120 per person. Those who wish to book their own accommodation or join us in their own transport are welcome to do so (though Edinburgh is heavily covered by expensive parking meters) and an individual price will be calculated before you make a booking.

If you wish to receive an outline itinerary and a booking form please contact:

The Treasurer, 1 Chedburgh, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL7 2PU or email/phone: *RichardBlanch@aol.com* 01707 322166.

Visit to Australia 2014

The Club last visited Australia in 1992 with a wonderful programme devised and arranged by Past-President Dr Lindsay Colquhoun. It is perhaps time that we went there again, and I have been looking into the possibility with the help of Oliver Brett, now Assistant Director of Music at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. We propose to visit Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide from 22nd October to 12th November 2014, and would arrange to visit the most famous and most historic organs in each city including of course Sydney Town Hall and the Opera House.

The visit will be arranged to start and finish in Sydney, with participants arranging their own flights to and from Australia.

The cost would be in the order of £3,000 to include hotels, transport (excluding fares from UK to and from Sydney), fees and some special meals. Before proceeding to make firm arrangements I would like to know the number of people who might like to be involved.

If you are interested, please send me an email: (bww608@aol.co.uk) to reach me by 15 December.

John Miley (President)

CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday 17 November - South Oxfordshire

1030 All Saints Church, Didcot OX7 11EA

1930s Compton extension organ 4Ranks r 2001 David Wells 2/26;
Gt 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 II; Sw 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 2 1¹/₃ 1 8 4; Ped 16 8 8 4 4 8 4

1150 St Peter & St Paul, Appleford on Thames OX14 4QE

1777 Samuel Green, 5 stops, 1man 8 8 4 [bass & treble], 2 [B&T],
Sesq/Cornet

1300 All Saints, Sutton Courtenay OX14 4AE

Lunch* then organ demo & playing 2/16 r 1970 Arnold Williamson
& Hyatt

Gt 8 8 4 4 2 II; Sw 8 8 4 2 1¹/₃ 8; Ped 16 8 4 2

1530 Dorchester Abbey OX10 7HZ

2007 Peter Collins 3/32 including older material & Peter Collins box organ. Demonstrations, talk by Peter Collins, tea and members

playing. Club was last here in 1986. Dorchester Abbey teas are famous!

Box 8 4 4 2. Main: Gt 8 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ 2 III 8; Sw 16 B&T 8 8 8 8 4 2 IV 8 8 4; Ch 8 8 4 2 8 II; Ped 16 16 8 16. Estimated finishing time 1730 (Abbey), 1800 (Didcot).

Travel: Coach departs Didcot station at **1020** (first church is 10 minute's walk for any late arrivals).

Trains: Paddington 0827 0857[plat 10] 0930 [plat 9 HST for Bristol]

| | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|------|
| Ealing Bdy | 0835 | 0905 | fast |
| Reading | 0920a | 0950a | 0957 |
| Didcot | 0948 | 1018 | 1012 |

[a] - departs 3 minutes later. There are other services, but you have to change trains in Reading.

Return trains: 1822 Didcot arr 1838 Reading & 1908 Paddington; change at Reading 1848d for Ealing Broadway 1933a.

Basic cheap day return £22.50, less with Senior Railcards.

Parking: Didcot station car park off Foxhall Road (£3.70 all day) off B4493 NW of the station in the triangle between all the railway lines. Lay-by near church for the coach; other parking restricted. Appleford - at the end of a narrow lane, limited parking on rough ground in front of the church. Coach will park in Manor Farm entrance. Sutton Courtenay - limited places, pub car parks for their customers. Dorchester - no yellow lines, lay-by near Abbey for the coach, street parking or opposite leading down to the RC church, can get very congested.

Costs: Meetings charge £2. Tea £4 at Dorchester Abbey. Coach £11 depending on how many book. *Lunch – either bring your own packed lunch, or The George & Dragon and The Swan are briefed to expect members for light lunches (45 mins allocated).

Bookings to Mark Jameson (markmdjameson@gmail.com) or 01189 344212 by **Tuesday 13 November**. NB: no response to telephone or e-mail between 25 October & 6 November. **Please note temporary e-mail address!**

Saturday 8 December - Wimbledon

We visit Wimbledon, the home of tennis, finishing at St Mary's Parish Church in historic Wimbledon Village, whose prominent spire is often shown on television during the tennis coverage. It has been very difficult to arrange this visit, as we have to avoid rehearsals for concerts at the first two churches, and a wedding at St. Mary's Church.

1045 St Paul's, Wimbledon Park SW19 6EW

The church is on the corner of Inner Park Road and Augustus Road, off Wimbledon Park Side, opposite Wimbledon Common.

The organ in this large resonant church was built by Hill in 1889. It was rebuilt by Percy Daniel in 1959, and in 1975 they added the Positive. It is now maintained by B C Shepherd & Sons. There are 3 manuals and 40 speaking stops.

Gt 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ 2 II 8; Sw 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 III 16 8 8 8 (Gt); Pos 8 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ 2 1.3/5 8; Ped 16 16 16 8 8 8 4 4 16 16 8

We last visited this church in 1996, when the building was filled with scaffolding.

We have to leave the church at around 1200, so there will be plenty of time for lunch in Wimbledon Village, where there are several pubs, cafes, and restaurants in the area.

1400 St John The Baptist, Spencer Hill, Wimbledon SW19 4NZ

This interesting church, on the corner of St John's Road, is an early work of Sir Thomas Jackson, built in 1875, with a good acoustic.

The organ was built by Norman & Beard in 1904; the choir was added in 1926 by Walker. There are 3 manuals and 25 stops: Gt 8 8 8 4 4 2 8; Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 III 8 8; Ch 8 8 8 4 8; Ped 16 16 8 16. The Club last visited the church in 1975.

1600 St Mary's Parish Church, Wimbledon Village SW19 7BP

The church is in St Mary's Road, off Church Road. We last visited in 1996. Tea will be available here. The Georgian church, which replaced the Medieval building was extensively rebuilt and enlarged in Gothic style with a 196ft spire by Messrs Scott (later Sir George

Gilbert Scott) & Moffat in the 1840s. The chancel is from the medieval building, and the chapel is from c1620.

The organ was originally built by Walker in 1843, and a few stops and part of the case remain from this instrument. It was rebuilt and enlarged by Alfred Hunter in 1876, then a new organ with tubular pneumatic action was built by A Hunter & Sons in 1925, incorporating a lot of earlier pipework. Various prepared for stops were added over the next 12 years by Hunter. A major rebuild including installation of electro-pneumatic action was carried out in 2007-8 by B C Shepherd & Sons (who have maintained the organ since 1985). The console was moved from the west gallery to the north gallery. No tonal alterations were carried out. Gt 16 8 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ 2 III 8; Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 2 III 16 8 8 4; Ch 8 8 8 4 4 2 8 8 8(Gt); Ped 32 16 16 16 16 8 8 16 8 (3 manuals 40 speaking stops).

Travel: The nearest Underground station to St Paul's Church is Southfields on the Wimbledon branch of the District Line. The station is near the opposite end of Augustus Road.

It is a fair walk from St. Paul's to Wimbledon Village for lunch, but it is on a bus route, so there should be no problem. Spencer Hill is approached from The Ridgeway, Murray Road turns off The Ridgeway, and this becomes Spencer Hill. St Mary's Road leads off Church Road which turns off High Street in Wimbledon Village, this is close to The Ridgeway when retracing your steps from St. John's Church. Wimbledon Station is probably the best to use after the visit to St. Mary's Church. There are buses down the hill to the station.

Parking: Not difficult at St Paul's Church, and there is a car park at St. Mary's Church. It may be more difficult at St John's Church.

Costs: The meetings charge will be £4. Tea will be approx £3.

St John's Church have asked me to mention that there is a concert at 8pm of music for Recorder and Triple Harp. The performers are Andrew Collis (recorders) and Robin Ward (triple harp).

Booking: Please contact Eric Shepherd (020 8958 2461 or eric@shepherd0001.fsnet.co.uk) by Tuesday 4 December.

Saturday 19 January 2013 - Blackheath

St Margaret's, Lee Terrace SE13 - Walker 1928 (includes some older Bishop pipes), Harrison & Harrison 1999, IIP/43

Our Lady Help of Christians (St Mary) SE3 - Freiburger Orgelbau 1978, IIP/12

St Michael & All Angels SE3 - Walker 1834, Spurden Rutt 1910 & 1927, Mander 1955, IIP/28

All Saints, The Heath SE3 - Hill 1859, Walker 1958, Percy Daniel 1969, Mander 2003, IIP/44.

The visits are being organised by our member, Margaret Chambers. Richard Blanch will handle bookings. Full details will be in the January 2013 Newsletter.

RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans AL1 3XG

Tuesdays 1230–1315 (light refreshments 1200–1220, and after the recital). www.nsos.org.uk/stalbansrecitals.htm

Nov 6 John Rippin (Chingford)

Nov 13 Philip Prior (St Peter-ad-Vincula, Coggeshall)

Nov 20 Travis Baker (St Mary's, Putney)

Nov 27 Peter Smith (St Mary's, Cheshunt)

Dec 4 Stephen Turner (The Square Methodist Church, Dunstable)

Dec 11 Mervyn Hogg (Ruislip)

Dec 18 Robin Coxon (St Francis of Assisi, Welwyn Garden City)

Dec 25 no recital

(next recital Jan 8)

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, London WC2H 8EP

Saturdays at 1600 (admission free with collection)

Nov 24 Peter Wright (Southwark Cathedral)

Reading Town Hall

Nov 8 at 1930 David Goode (organ) & Crispian Steele-Perkins (trumpet)(£12.50)

Nov 21 at 1300 Graham Ireland (£4.75)

King's College Chapel, Cambridge

Saturdays at 1830 (admission free)

Nov 3 Freddie James (St John's College)

Nov 10 Robert Munns (Eastbourne)

Nov 24 Douglas Tang (King's College)

St Nicholas, Newbury

Nov 8 at 1310 Jonathan Holl

Cambridge Academy of Organ Studies

Nov 10 1030-1730 in Trinity Hall Chapel: Professor Peter Williams will give a talk and a masterclass for advanced students on Bach's organ music.

Peter Williams is among the foremost authorities on Bach's organ music in the world, having written the comprehensive guide, *The Organ Music of J S Bach* (CUP), and published innumerable books and articles on Bach and the organ during a long and distinguished career in this country and the USA. He is also a renowned performer on both organ and harpsichord and Patron of CAOS.

Full price £30 (whole day); £15 (morning or afternoon sessions only)

Students £10 (whole day); £5 (morning or afternoon sessions only).

Contact: Andrew Johnson (andrewpj@waitrose.com).

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