

# The Organ Club Newsletter

---

**JULY 2015**

## **NOTICES**

**The Newsletter:** From now on, you should receive either the paper or the digital edition in accordance with your choice. Please let us know if you wish to change your preference. We continue to welcome your comments and suggestions.

*Brian Caswell (newsletter@organclub.org)*

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

**Write for the Organ Club Journal!** Please email contributions by 1st September to Kevin Grose (*journal@organclub.org*), or alternatively write to him at 330 East 33rd Street 14A, New York, NY 10016, USA. Photos (sent as jpg files) to accompany the contributions are welcome.

## **2015 Tour - Channel Islands and Brittany (24 Sept to 2 Oct)**

Organ Club members are invited to take part in a very rare opportunity to visit organs in Jersey, Guernsey and Brittany. Our visits will start in the late afternoon of Thursday 24 September. We will stay in St Helier, Jersey, looking at organs there and travelling around the island. We will spend one day in Guernsey, which has also some interesting churches and organs.

On Monday 28 September the party will travel by ferry to St-Malo (64km). We will stay in the historic town of Dinan and travel to see the most interesting instruments in this area. These will include instruments by Cavaillé-Coll but will also give us an opportunity to become acquainted with instruments by many other French builders. Jean Langlais was a Breton and he advised on the organ at the cathedral of Dol-de-Bretagne. Our visits will include organs in St-Malo and the 1851 London Exhibition organ by Ducroquet in Vitré. The last day will be spent in Rennes including a visit to the two organs in the Cathedral.

The total cost of the tour will be around £580 per person in a shared room and £790 for single occupancy, with a limited number of single rooms at a slightly lower price. For an itinerary and booking form, please contact the Treasurer, Colin J Brookes, 83 Castle Road, Hartshill, NUNEATON CV10 0SG (*colin@colinjbrookes.co.uk* or 02476 398940). You will need to return your completed booking form **by 6 July 2015 at the latest.**

*Peter Stokes*

## **Schnitger and Schnitzels (24-27 August 2015)**

There are still vacancies for participating students and observers at this year's Club-sponsored study visit to Hamburg, with John Miley, James Parsons and William Saunders, featuring masterclasses by Arvid Gast and Joachim Vogelsanger. For full details, please contact John Miley, preferably by email ([jmiley@tee.org](mailto:jmiley@tee.org)). Closing date for bookings: **1 August 2015**.

## **CLUB MEETINGS**

### **THURSDAY 2 JULY (evening meeting) GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL Stag Hill, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7UP**

I have arranged a weekday evening meeting here, the advantage being that we will be able to attend Choral Evensong at 1730, sung by the excellent choir. Music: Lloyd Responses; Psalms for the 2nd evening; Canticles Sumsion in G; Anthem Give us the wings of faith, Bullock.

At 1830, Organist & Master of the Choristers, Katherine Dienes-Williams, will demonstrate the organ, after which members will be able to play.

This will be the last chance to hear the organ before major restoration work is carried out in the cathedral. The organ will then be rebuilt by David Wells. The work on the cathedral and organ will not be finished until 2017.

The organ was installed in the cathedral by Rushworth & Dreaper in 1961; it used as a basis the four manual organ from Rosse Street Baptist Church, Shipley, Yorkshire, which had been built by Nicholson of Bradford in about 1866, and enlarged by Harrison & Harrison in 1899. It was enlarged when it was installed at the cathedral, and a new positive section in the gallery opposite the console was added in 1962. The specification was drawn up in consultation with Barry Rose (the first organist). There are 4 manuals and 77 speaking stops. The organ has been tuned and maintained by B C Shepherd and Sons for the past 12 years; they overhauled the positive section in 2009.

Please make sure that if you cannot attend Choral Evensong you get there before 1830 when the main meeting will start. The building will be locked then, so latecomers will not be able to get in. Please let me know if you intend to come ([eric@shepherd0001.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:eric@shepherd0001.fsnet.co.uk)) (020 8958 2461) by **Saturday 28 June**.

### **SATURDAY 18 JULY - OLD ENGLISH ORGAN DAY IN ESSEX**

This day begins with a visit to the recently restored 1821 organ by Henry Lincoln in Thaxted Parish Church. This organ is particularly significant as it is reputed to have the largest amount of original material of any early English organ. In the afternoon we will visit the nearby villages of Little Bardfield and Great Bardfield, both of which have historic instruments.

**1020 coach leaves Bishops Stortford train station.**

### **1100 St John the Baptist, St Mary & St Laurence, Thaxted CM6 2PE**

Extended demonstration by David Patrick followed by members playing: Henry Lincoln 1821, originally in St John, Bedford Row, Holborn and moved to Thaxted in 1858; restored by Goetze & Gwynn (2014). III 23 in its historic case. Ped (from FF - 19 notes) 8 Ch (from FF - 60 notes) 8 8 4 4 2 8 Gt (from FF - 60 notes) 8 8 8 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 III-IV II 8 Sw (from e - 38 notes) 8 8 4 8 8 8

### **1415 St Katharine, Little Bardfield CM7 4TT**

Renatus Harris 1688; John Gray 1831; A T Miller 1864; Michael Young/Peter Wood 2010. I 13. Ped (from GG - 18 notes) 8 Man 8 TC 8 TC 8 Bass (12 notes) 8 TC 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 III V from f 8

### **1545 St Mary the Virgin, Great Bardfield CM7 4RN**

A T Miller 1878 organ in the old English style: 2001 Peter Wood. I 12. Ped 16 Man 16 TC 8 8 Bass 8 Treble 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 III Sesquialtera Bass

### **1715 coach leaves for Bishops Stortford train station.**

**Travel:** A coach will be provided from Bishops Stortford train station, where there is a car park. There are four trains an hour to and from Liverpool Street.

**Lunch:** there are places to eat in Thaxted and a most agreeable churchyard for a picnic. Tea will be provided at Great Bardfield.

**Costs:** £15 per head, less £5 for those either driving or car passengers..

**Bookings:** to Peter Stokes (01727 865417) by 12 July.

## **SATURDAY 15 AUGUST - MAIDENHEAD, BRAY, THE COOKHAMS**

Our August visit takes us to four churches in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead. Two churches are Medieval and close to the Thames, the other two Victorian and about a mile from the Thames. Three of the four organs are maintained by Club members.

### **1045 Maidenhead Methodist Church, High Street, SL6 1EF**

The church is in a pedestrianised area about 7 minutes stroll from the station. Exit front of station and use crossings to left, with “3” telephone HQ on your left. Continue over a further crossing and church far end on left at the top of the High Street. 1874 Hunter organ rebuilt 1972 by Bowen of Northampton and moved in 1994 to its current position by T Fearn. Gt 16 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 II 8. Sw 8 8 8 4 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  II 16 8 8 4 Ped 16 16 10 $\frac{2}{3}$  8 8 4 16 8 4.

### **1200-1255 lunch break, plenty of local shops for a light lunch.**

**1300 board Reading & Wokingham Coaches in Frascati Way (NB a very busy bus stop).**

### **1320-1430 St Michael, Bray SL6 2AB**

Here I hope members will find their voice to sing *The Vicar of Bray* - words and music in your day notes. Assistant Organist, Lesley Burch, will be one of the team hosting our visit, whilst Relf Clark has provided the historical

background. The 2014 Peter Collins organ is a mixture of new and recycled material. Gt 16 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 IV 8 8 Sw 8 8 8 4 2 III 16 8 Ch (digital) 8 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 1 $\frac{3}{5}$  1 $\frac{1}{3}$  8 8 8 Ped 32d 16 16 8 8 4 16 8.

### **1500-1640 Holy Trinity, Cookham SL6 9SP**

Cream tea available for those who have booked, from 1530. We were here in 1984. David Colthup will be hosting us and arranging the demonstration. 1860 Robson rebuilt 1899 Bishop and rebuilt 1937 & 1964 by Walker's. John and Eric Shepherd have looked after it since 1978, and more work is planned when funds permit. Ped 16 16 16 10 $\frac{2}{3}$  8 8 4 4 2 16 Gt 16 8 8 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 III 8 Sw 8 8 8 8 4 2 III 16 8 4 Pos 8 8 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 1 $\frac{3}{5}$  8.

### **1650-1800 St John the Baptist, Cookham Dean SL6 9PD**

David Colthup has been Organist here for 50 years and regularly arranges for very well known players to give recitals. The current organ was built as 2m by Percy Daniel in 1932. John and Eric Shepherd overhauled it in 1996, since when it has gradually grown gaining 3rd Nave division and later manual (top) that originated from a Compton. A second portable Nave keyboard with 4 preset pistons aids parish use. Ped 32 16 8 4 4 16 8 4, Great (bottom) 8 8 8 4 2 2 1 $\frac{1}{3}$  16 8 4 (reeds are floating) Sw (middle) 8 8 4 2 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  1 $\frac{3}{5}$ ; Nave (top) 8 8 4 4 2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 $\frac{2}{3}$  2 2 1 $\frac{3}{5}$  1 $\frac{1}{3}$  1 $\frac{1}{7}$  1 $\frac{8}{9}$  16 8 4.

### **We aim to be back at Maidenhead station by 1820.**

**Cost:** £20 per head including tea, less £5 for those either driving or car passengers.

**Parking:** At Maidenhead station, cost for north side at end of Silco Drive £2.80, on south side in Shoppenhangers Road £3.40. Maidenhead Methodist - Nicholsons multistorey nearby. Bray – no parking in church grounds, very limited on The Causeway, general public car park opposite Jesus Hospital, but often very full. Cookham churches - see day notes.

### **Trains to Maidenhead: (i) from London:**

0927 Paddington (to Oxford) (platform 13) arr 1004; 0942 Paddington (to Reading) (platform 11) arr 1022; 0957 Paddington (to Oxford) (platform 14) arr 1034; 1012 Paddington (to Reading) (platform 13) arr 1052 (platforms 13 and 14 are at the back of the station; allow 5 minutes from the front of the station). Four trains per hour roughly at this time pattern.

**(ii) from Reading:** 0948 (platform 14A), 1003 (platform 14), 1018 (platform 13A) & 1033 (platform 15) (takes 15 minutes). "A" platforms are London end.

**Return trains from Maidenhead: (i) to Paddington:** From platform 4: 1817 arrives 1859; 1832 arrives 1916; and 1847 arrives 1931.

**(ii) to Reading:** 1834 to Oxford, or 1853.

**Bookings:** to Mark Jameson ([markmdjameson@btinternet.com](mailto:markmdjameson@btinternet.com)) (01189 344212 or text 07802 715634) **by Monday 10 August.**