

The Organ Club Newsletter

MARCH 2017

NOTICES

The Newsletter: Now that all membership renewal forms have been sent out by post, distribution of this newsletter returns to the more usual arrangement. Those who have chosen to do so will receive their copy by email, while the remainder will be posted a paper version. AGM paperwork is included with the paper version, while the email Newsletter contains a link to a colour edition of the document, which can be printed out at home.

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

2017 Membership Renewals

All those due to renew for 2017 were sent a form by post. The rates have not changed since 2015: Juniors £10; those who were over 60 on 1/1/17 £25; those over 25 and under 60 £30. All outside UK: £10 supplement towards postage. These are minimum rates – if you are able to add a donation, it is very much appreciated. Payment by cheque preferred, those without access to a GBP account, please contact me.

Thanks to the majority who have now renewed, and especially to those who have added a donation to their renewals. Your membership number appears on the label of the envelope of posted Newsletters and on the white flyer that forms the address label of the Journal.

Mark Jameson (membership@organclub.org or 01189 344212)

Consultancy survey

The recommendations of the consultancy carried out by the President-Elect are enclosed with this Newsletter. The full report is available on the Club website; there will also be printed copies at the AGM, when David will be presenting his report and recommendations.

Committee vacancies

Nominations are invited for the posts of General Secretary and Treasurer, and for the five Committee vacancies. The name of the member and of those nominating him/her must be made in writing to the President, Peter Stokes (40 Camlet Way, St Albans, Herts AL3 4TL) by 11th March 2017, accompanied by the candidate's written consent to serve.

The Organ Club Tour of a Lifetime! – Groningen

Sun 28 May to Sunday 4 June 2017 (visits from Monday to Saturday)

Groningen in the northern Netherlands has a unique collection of historical instruments, many of which have been sensitively restored. This tour offers an exceptional opportunity to visit, hear and play these organs in the company of Sietze de Vries. For full details of the tour, please see the accompanying leaflet.

Organ publications and CDs for sale

I still have a large number of items from Colin Langman's & John Smith's collections. Each of the lists is now on PDF documents. Please contact me for a copy.

Mark Jameson (membership@organclub.org)(07802 715634)

The 2017 London Organ Competition

Following the success of the first London competition last December, plans are now being made for this year's competition, which will again take place at St Clement Danes, Strand, London. The first prize for the Senior category (age 17-19) will be £1,000 with a second prize of £500. The Junior category (age 14-16) attracts a first prize of £500 with two prizes of £200 for the best performance by a competitor in each age group of up to 14, 15 and 16, excluding the age group of the winner.

The Junior competition will be held on Thursday 28 December, with the Senior competition on Friday 29 December.

Full details and joining instructions are on the Club website.

North West England Tour DVD

If you would like 8 hours of DVD of the 2016 tour please contact Keith Rawlings (01932 844376 or *keithrawlings10@talktalk.net*) to receive copies.

CLUB MEETINGS

SATURDAY 18 MARCH – 90th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1100 St Botolph's Church, Aldgate High Street, London EC3N 1AB

Full details and travel guidance are included in the Annual Report paperwork that accompanies this Newsletter.

The meeting will be centred on the magnificent Renatus Harris organ, which has been restored by Dominic Gwynn.

The programme will be:

1030 church open with coffee available

1100 talk by Dominic Gwynn

1130 demonstration of the organ, using 18th-century organ voluntary styles and sonorities, by the President, Dr Peter St John Stokes

1200 masterclass on music in the English style contemporary with the organ by the President-Elect, Professor David Baker

1245 lunch (members find their own in the neighbourhood)

1400 an account of the consultancy exercise on The Organ Club by the President-Elect

1445 the Annual General Meeting

1530 concert by the President and the Past-President

1630 tea

The AGM meeting is free. If you wish to have tea, please let John Oldham know; you will be invited to make a minimum contribution of £5 to cover costs.

Bookings: Please advise John Oldham of your intention to attend: (01489 564 798 or oldham@warsash64.freemove.co.uk).

Addendum to the AGM papers: Since the Journal Editor's report was submitted, Kevin Grose has been persuaded to be nominated for a further year, pending the recruitment of a successor.

SATURDAY 22 APRIL - EAST LONDON

1400 Mander Organs, St Peter's Square, London E2 7AF

Founded by Noel Mander in 1936 and latterly specialising in fine mechanical action instruments, Mander Organs now have examples of their work all over the world. John Mander will cover various aspects of pipe organ construction, action, and voicing.

Later in the afternoon, we hope to visit a church in the area.

Travel: Bethnal Green Underground is about 12 minutes walk from Mander Organs. Cambridge Heath mainline is about 6 minutes. Bus 48 from Liverpool Street, stop F (towards Walthamstow Central), or bus 26 from stop F (towards Hackney Wick/Trowbridge Road) to Warner Place, stop HJ.

Bookings: to David Baker (01422 884655 or d.baker152@btinternet.com) **by Tuesday 18 April.**

SATURDAY 20 MAY - BELLINGHAM

The Organ Club visit on the 20 May will finish with a special recital to be given by Club member Paul Derrett on the recently restored organ of St Dunstan Bellingham (III/27). Generally considered to be one of the finest organs in South London, this instrument is mostly by Hill (1866) but with much older pipework including at least one rank by Father Smith.

Originally in the Chapel Royal, it was used for the wedding of Queen Victoria so Paul will include music with Royal connections.

An occasion not to be missed! Further details in the May Newsletter.

RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

Oakham Parish Church, Rutland LE15 6AA

May 1 at 1115 (Bank Holiday Monday) Two winners of the London Competition are giving a recital followed by lunch at the Church Hall. Following lunch, members will be able to play the Church organ. For further details, contact John Miley (jmiley@iee.org).

St John the Evangelist, Duncan Terrace, Islington, N1 8AL

Apr 29 at 1930 Edward Kemp-Luck (Vierne series 2017)
Admission free; retiring collection.

St Alphage, Montrose Avenue, Burnt Oak, Edgware HA8 0DN

Mar 4 at 1930 Rachel Mahon (Assistant Organist, Chester Cathedral)
Apr 1 at 1930 Ben Bloor (Brompton Oratory)
Admission £10 to include buffet and wine.

King's College Chapel, Cambridge CB2 1ST

Mar 4 at 1840 Andrew Arthur (Trinity Hall)
Mar 11 at 1840 Richard Gowers (King's College)
Admission free; retiring collection.

www.kings.cam.ac.uk/events/organ-recitals.html

*** Visit the Club's website: www.organclub.org

*** Follow the Club on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheOrganClub