

The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 105

November 2021

1. NOTICES

I am delighted to report two highly successful visits, firstly to Canterbury on September 25th, and secondly to Cirencester on October 16th. These were our first visits for 1½ years, and promise a return to 'normal service'. On behalf of members, I wish to thank the organisers, in particular, our President, Paul Hale, ably assisted by Alison Garratt, and our membership secretary Mark Jameson. I attended both visits - members' joy at resuming visits was palpable, and we can only hope that visits will continue.

But we are not quite there yet, as we unfortunately have had to postpone the London Organ Competition as explained in Section 2 below.

John Belling (Newsletter Editor)

Membership Matters

I am pleased to advise that membership rates for the 2022 calendar year are unchanged - £30 standard membership and £12 for young members (Young: at 1st January 2022 all up to 18 years, and those in full time study or apprenticeships up to 30 years). Your membership number appears on the envelope label for The Journal, and on posted Newsletters. If the number starts with "21" then renewal is due in the period 2nd January to 31st March (See Constitution, item 3d & 3f). The renewal form will be a page in the January Newsletter. My thanks to the large number of members who renewed on line for 2021.

The Newsletter is sent out as standard by electronic means – Mailchimp – please ensure your computer (particularly if you have a Company or School based e-mail address) recognises THE ORGAN CLUB. The Newsletter can always be found on our website. If you do not have e-mail or are unable to print, a printed issue is available. On-line & e-mail versions are regularly updated so please keep an eye on the Club's web site.

If you have moved or updated your system - telephone/e-mail during 2021 it is vital I am advised. Advising another member of the committee could delay your receiving information.

Sales of items from Bequests

I still have a number of books and leaflets, CDs and some sheet music available. Cost is far lower than commercial sellers. Lists available as PDF or Excel. Please send me a stamped addressed envelope suitable for A4 paper if you require a printed copy.

My contact details are shown on page 3 of each Journal; my e-mail for ALL correspondence is markmdjameson@btinternet.com; landline is **01189 344212** or mobile 07802 715634.

Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary)

CD for sale: Roger Fisher plays French Organ Music



Past President Eric and John Shepherd (B.C. Shepherd & Sons) maintain the organ at Notre Dame de France, Leicester Square. They have some CDs recorded at the church in 2003 featuring the international organist Roger Fisher who died in June this year. The works recorded are (1) Vierne's Symphony No 3 in F# minor, (2) Prelude & Fugue in B minor by Saint-Saëns, (3) Pastorale by Jean Roger-Ducasse, and (4) Sonata Eroica by Joseph Jongen.

This CD will be available for purchase at forthcoming Organ Club meetings for £5, which is ½ the original price, or by post for £7.50 to cover postage and packing – please send a cheque to:

John Shepherd 1 Mill Ridge, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 7PE

Loan of music sets for choirs

Owing to the disbanding of the choir of her church, committee member Judith Howard has asked me to remind members that the church is able to loan out sets of music to other choirs, and also a quantity of adult-sized robes, red cassocks and white surplices. (See July newsletter for more info.) Judith can forward a music list on an Excel spreadsheet to anyone interested. Email address: howardjudith@btinternet.com.

January 2022 Newsletter contributions

Please email notices by December 16th at the latest to John Belling, Organ Club newsletter editor, at newsletter@organclub.org.

2. CLUB MEETINGS

**Saturday November 20th 2021: St Alphage, Burnt Oak,
St Alphage Walk, Montrose Avenue, Burnt Oak, Edgware,
HA8 0DN**

Start time: 13:30

This is a special visit: our new President, Paul Hale, will describe some of his most interesting recent and current projects as an organ consultant, pictured below. This will be a 'meet the President' opportunity for members!



Eleni Keventsidou (International Recitalist, Organ & Piano teacher Rugby School & Kent College, Canterbury), pictured below, will give a recital.



The programme is:

Stanford - Fantasia & Toccata in D Minor;

Bach - Trio Sonata No. 5;

Duruflé - Fugue sur le theme du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons;

Reger - Introduction, Variations & Fugue on an Original Theme Op 73.

We will start at 13:30 with an introduction and a short demonstration recital by Rosemary Evans (Organist of St Alphege) -



Buxtehude - Chorale Prelude "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott", BuxWV 184;

Mulet - Campanile, from Esquisses Byzantines;

Magdalen Pemberton / Péter Szeles Partita super "Merton Chapel".

Paul Hale will give his talk at 14:00 or a little earlier, following which Eleni Keventsidou will give her recital. After tea, members can try the organ.

There has not been a Club visit there since 2002, apart from a Masterclass and recital by the late Roger Fisher in 2006.

Visit charge: £5 to include tea.

TRAVELLING TO St ALPHAGE CHURCH

The church is located in Burnt Oak, Middlesex, just off the A5 trunk road and a few kilometres southwest of junction 2 of the M1 motorway (where this meets the A1). It is situated south of Edgware, not far from the Royal Air Force Museum, Hendon.

TRAVEL BY TRAIN

There are now no convenient mainline connections to the Burnt Oak area, so members travelling from outside the area will need to head for one of the

main London termini and complete the journey by London Underground. Charing Cross, Euston, Kings Cross, St Pancras, Waterloo and London Bridge stations all connect directly to the London Underground Northern line, on which Burnt Oak station is situated. Liverpool Street and Farringdon stations also have easy, but indirect, access to the Northern line.

London Underground Burnt Oak Underground station is the penultimate stop on the Edgware branch of the Northern line, between Edgware and Colindale stations, in Travelcard Zone 4.

(N.B. On the day, Northern Line Moorgate/Kennington & MET closed Aldgate/Wembley).

St Alphage Church is approximately a 10-minute walk from the station.

TRAVEL BY BUS

Bus routes 204 (Sudbury Town to Edgware), 251 (Arnos Grove to Edgware) and 302 (Mill Hill to Kensall Rise) travel along Watling Avenue, and pass Burnt Oak Underground Station.

Route 32 (Kilburn to Edgware), 142 (Watford to Brent Cross) and 292 (Cromwell Road to Edgware) all run along Burnt Oak Broadway, and stop close to Montrose Avenue, walking distance from the church.

There are no parking restrictions in Montrose Avenue on a Saturday, but allow time to find a parking space.

Book with Eric Shepherd: bcshepherdandsons@gmail.com
or tel : 020 8327 0761 .

Saturday December 11th 2021

Committee member, John Varney, is endeavouring to arrange a visit on this day. Please note the date, and if successful, an email will be sent to all members with details.

Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th December 2021:

The London Organ Competition 2021

(St. Clement Danes, Strand, London WC2R 1DH)

Unfortunately, we have once again had to **postpone** the London Competition. The virus figures are still too bad, and students are not back to normal working with their tutors. We have now arranged new dates, namely 28 and 29th December 2022 once again at St. Clement Danes. Let us hope that we will be able to return to a sense of normality next year.

Thursday December 30th 2021: St Michael Cornhill, St Michael's Alley, London, EC3V 9DS

Workshop for teenage OCSO members.

So, no Organ Competition this year, but the good news is that we have been able to arrange a training day on 30th December.

You will be coached by Jonathan Rennert (Director of Music at St Michael's Cornhill) and Jeremiah Stephenson (Associate Director of Music at All Saints, Margaret Street) on two historic organs. The tutors will create a relaxed and encouraging atmosphere, so that they can help you not only with registration, but also with the process of learning, practising and performing a piece. The sessions will end with short, informal recitals, which families are welcome to attend.

You will be asked to bring two pieces which you have learned (your own choice of any piece by Bach, and a second piece from the 19th, 20th or 21st century).

The Organ Club is only too well aware that coming to London for this exceptional opportunity may be costly in train fares. The Club is therefore prepared to award a bursary of £30 to each participant.

Email cegb36@gmail.com for full details. Applications close on 15 November.

Apply as soon as possible to obtain a place.

Club members are invited to attend as observers for the day for which there will be a required donation of £5.

Please check public transport services before travelling. There will be major works at Bank Station, and the Waterloo & City line and the DLR will be closed on December 30th.

Please email John Miley (cegb36@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.

Saturday January 29th 2022: Bloomsbury Organ Day

The Bloomsbury Organ Day takes place at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8EP on Saturday January 29th 2022, 12:30-19:30, and Organ Club members are invited to attend.

Entry is free: it is hoped that the comprehensive 5pm buffet will be available depending on restrictions. The celebrity recital at 18:00 – 19:00 will be given by Richard Hills (Theatre and Church Organist) for which the charge is £7.

Dame Gillian Weir is once again giving a Masterclass (on 19th & 20th Century Organ Music) and Simon Williams will lead an RCO masterclass involving younger students. There will be the usual mix of recitals, talks, sales tables and displays.

Further details can be found at:

<https://organistsonline.org/bloomsbury/bcbcdays.html> - registration from November 15th.

In the Pipeline

The following visits are planned; full details will be given nearer to the time. Please note them in your diary! (though please bear in mind that these could be **subject to change**, particularly in view of the Covid-19 pandemic).

Saturday February 19th 2022: Master Class at Merton College

The Master Class will be given by Benjamin Nicholas on the fine new Dobson organ in Merton College Chapel, followed by Choral Evensong at New College, where the President was organ scholar, 1971-74.

The President has arranged for us to play the splendid Létourneau organ in Pembroke College chapel from mid-morning, while master-class candidates are rehearsing at Merton.

Saturday March 19th 2022: AGM at St Michael Cornhill, St Michael's Alley, London, EC3V 9DS

Details nearer the time, but please note the date!

Saturday April 23rd 2022: Visit to Derbyshire

We shall visit the following churches:



- Chesterfield Parish Church, (the crooked spire)

This is a major church with a superb organ and a very strong musical tradition.

- Dronfield Parish Church, again a major church and fine organ. I was once offered the post of Organist here, but unfortunately was not able to take it up.
- St. John the Baptist Church, Clowne, (a former mining village). I was baptised there, and it is where my parents are buried.
- St. James Church, Barlborough, village near Clowne and under the same Rector.

Visit organised by John Varney

Saturday May 21st 2022: visit to Guildford, including Cathedral

We shall visit the Cathedral (11:00) - 2021 to 2022 is the 60th anniversary celebrations of the consecration of the Cathedral. On the day of our visit the celebrations reach a climax with a major concert in the evening given by the Cathedral Choir including special commissions, which is why we have to visit in the morning. Members may wish to return to the Cathedral for the Diamond Anniversary Concert.

After lunch, we visit Holy Trinity Church (14:00 – 15:30), top of the High Street - this church acted as the pro-cathedral when the Diocese of Guildford was established.

Finally, we visit St. Mary's Church, West Horsley, with its wonderful Frobenius organ, only one or two others in the country.

Details nearer the time.

Visit organised by John Varney

Saturday July 16th 2022: Gorleston/Lowestoft

(Originally scheduled for July 18th 2020).

Please refer to the 2021 May newsletter for churches which we intend to visit.

Isle of Man Tour (Originally scheduled for September 2020)

We are now looking to hold this tour in September **2022** with the expectation of avoiding Covid related problems – dates to be decided, but will be a week between September 5th and 17th.

A week exploring organs, with some Victorian transport

The Isle of Man has much of interest. We will focus on seeing some of the organs in the some of the many churches and chapels on the island, but will also have the opportunity to experience Victorian rail travel and in the process see some splendid scenery in this essentially rural country.

The island is a Crown Protectorate with its own parliament, legal system and currency. As an independent state of fewer than 90,000 residents that recognises the Queen as 'Lord of Mann', it has never been a member of the EU. Further details will be published nearer to the date.

Wednesday December 28th & Thursday 29th 2022:

The London Organ Competition

Further details will be published nearer to the date.

Saturday March 18th 2023: AGM

Details nearer the time, but please note the date!

May 2023: Mini-tour – Devon, including Buckfast Abbey

This tour (which will also include a trip on a steam railway) is provisional at this time.

Saturday June 17th 2023: walking tour - “Lower” Windsor parish churches.

Further details will be published nearer to the date.

September 2023: Birmingham tour

This is just to give you a flavour of the wide scope of this very exciting tour. We hope to visit at least the following churches etc.

- St. Philip’s Cathedral*
- St. Martin’s in the Bull Ring
- St. Chad’s RC Cathedral
- St. Alban’s Conybere Street*
- Birmingham Town Hall
- Symphony Hall
- Birmingham Conservatory (with Master Class led by Daniel Moulton)

and outside city:

- St. Michael Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield
- Emmanuel, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield
- Solihull School Chapel
- St Alphege, Solihull
- St Margaret’s Olton

* Dr. Roy Massey MBE, our Vice President, is a former Organist here

Other possibilities further afield:

- Lichfield Cathedral
- Coventry Cathedral
- St. Mary’s Collegiate Church, Warwick

Further details nearer the time.

3. RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

St Mary Abchurch, Abchurch Lane, EC4N 7BA

Tuesdays at 12:30 Ian Shaw (St Mary Abchurch)

Also:

Nov 17th 12:30 Dr Peter St John Stokes (past Organ Club President)

Admission free – refreshments available

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

Dec 1st 12:30 Dr Peter St John Stokes (past Organ Club President)

- English 18th century music on Harris 1744 organ

Welsh Church of Central London, Eastcastle Street, W1W 8DJ

Glyn Lang Memorial Series

Nov 17th 13:05 Anthony Gritten (Royal Academy of Music)

Dec 15th 13:05 Rosemary Evans (St Alphage, Burnt Oak)

Admission free / retiring collection

Methodist Central Hall, Storey's Gate, Westminster, SW1H 9NH

Nov 21st 15:00 Andrew Furniss (Central Hall, Westminster)

Dec 19th 15:00 Gerard Brooks (Central Hall, Westminster)

Admission free (retiring collection)

St Nicolas Church, West Mills, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5HG

Nov 11th 13:10 Jonathan Holl (Windsor)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Union Chapel, 19b Compton Terrace, London N1 2UN

Dec 7th 19:30 Simon Johnson (Westminster Cathedral)

Tickets £8.50/£6.50

<https://unionchapel.org.uk/book/an-organ-recital-with-simon-johnson/191605>

St George's, Hanover Square, St George's Street, London W1S 1FX

Nov 23rd 13:10 Simon Williams (St George's, Hanover Square)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Christ Church, Commercial Street, Spitalfields, London E1 6LY

Nov 22nd 19:30 Gerard Brooks (Central Hall, Westminster)

Admission £10 (refreshments available)

Reading Town Hall, Blagrove Street, Reading, RG1 1QH

Lunchtime series: MONDAYS at 1pm

Nov 1st 13:00 Relf Clark (Didcot)

Admission: tickets £5 online, £6 card only at the door.

Ring 01189 960 6060 to book, or online at READING ARTS, or quick link:

<https://whatsonreading.com/venues/concert-hall/whats-on/lunchtime-organ-recital-november-2021>

Further recitals in the Lunchtime series will take place on the following dates in 2022:

January 17th, March 7th, May 9th,

July 4th 2022 – an organ student from Eton College.

Evening recital celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Berkshire Organists' Association on Thursday April 28th 2022:

18:30 Daniel Moulton talks about the English Organ DVD and his work with Fugue State Films

19:30 Music by J S Bach, Samuel Wesley, Elgar, Widor, Liszt and Franck

Tickets: £12.50 adults, £6 U18s

NB: London area members - remember using the TFL service from London Paddington your senior TFL pass allows you travel on the CROSSRAIL service (almost all stations) and takes around an hour - but it's **FREE!**

Minster Church of St Mary the Virgin, Chain Street, Reading RG1 2HX

Nov 19th 12:30 Robert Jones (St Bride's, Fleet Street)

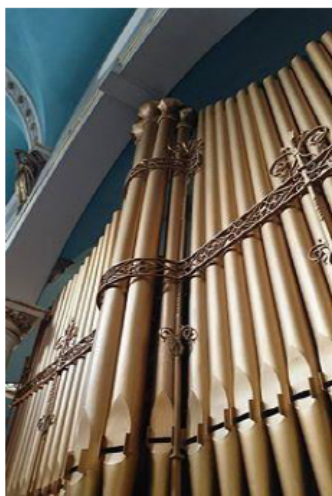
Admission free (retiring collection)

Ripon Cathedral, Minster Road, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 1QS

Nov 11th 13:00 Tim Harper (Ripon Cathedral)

Nov 18th 13:00 Tim Harper with Brett Baker (Trombone)

Admission free (retiring collection)



INTERNATIONAL LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

MONDAYS AT ONE

November – December
2021

ST MICHAEL'S
CORNHILL
City of London, EC3V 9DS

Free admission. Retiring collection

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15372
www.organrecitals.com/cornhill

Monday 1 November, 1pm

STEFAN DONNER (Vienna)

BACH Prelude & Fugue in a, BWV 543	12
BACH <i>Lente</i> , from Sonata, BWV 530	5
BEETHOVEN from Symphony 7	9
SCHUMANN 4 movements	15
HOWELLS Rhapsody 3 in c#	9

Monday 8 November, 1pm

JOSHUA RYAN (Australia)

A programme of music for organ and spinet, from the 16th century collection of keyboard music, *The Mulliner Book*.

Monday 15 November, 1pm

TSZ KEI YEUNG (RCM)

BACH Prelude & Fugue in a, BWV 543	13
BOEHM <i>Vater unser in Himmelreich</i>	5
MULET Tu es Petra	6
FRANCK Prelude, Fugue & Variation	11
LISZT Prelude & Fugue on BACH	14

Monday 22 November, 1pm

ILARIA CENTORRINO (Italy)

BACH Fantasia & Fugue in g, BWV 542	13
FRESCOBALDI Canzon dopo l'epistola	3
LANGLAIS Homage à Frescobaldi	4
FRANCK Choral 1 in E	15
SAINT-SAËNS Fantaisie in E flat	7
DURUFLÉ Chorale varié, <i>Veni Creator</i>	6

(With sincere thanks to Peter Holst for his generous sponsorship of this recital.)

Monday 29 November, 1pm

PHILIP BERG (The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy)

MUFFAT Toccata Primo Tono	5
BACH Pièce d'Orgue, BWV 572	8
WIDOR Symphonie 1 in c	35

Monday 6 December, 1pm

ELENI KEVENTSIDOU (Greece)

BACH Prelude & Fugue in b, BWV 544	12
SAINT-SAËNS Fantaisie 3, op 157	10
KALOMIRIS Movements from <i>For the Green Children</i>	5
MENDELSSOHN Variations serieuses	12
STANFORD Fantasia & Toccata in d	12

Monday 13 December, 1pm

JEREMIAH STEPHENSON plays
Olivier Messiaen's iconic meditation on the Christmas story, *La Nativité du Seigneur*

These recitals are thought to be part of the longest-running weekly series in the world (it began in 1914). Even during the recent lockdowns, they continued online. However, they run on a shoestring. Please contribute generously to the retiring collection.

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

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