

The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 113

March 2023

1. NOTICES

Because of the advertised rail strikes around March 18th, the intended date of the AGM at Nottingham, we are now holding the AGM one week later, on **March 25th at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church**, combining the AGM with the already advertised "OCSO entertains" afternoon. Please see Section 2 of this newsletter for full details.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to wish all members a very Happy Easter. We have some very exciting visits lined up, and we look forward to our first tour, to the Birmingham area, since the start of the pandemic. We now have a firm date, September 13th – 19th, for this tour, and our President, Paul Hale, has provided further details to whet your appetite, and invites you to register your interest in attending – please see the entry in section 2 below.

2023 Membership

About half of our membership have renewed – thank you. Your current membership number appears on the address labels of the Journal and posted Newsletters. If the number starts with "22" – then please renew as soon as possible, renewals are due by 31st March.

The Club's financial year starts on 1st January, so that is the due date of your renewal.

The renewal form appeared on the back page of the JANUARY NEWSLETTER and the same applies to this Newsletter. Please check that your address /telephone/e-mail is up to date.

Especially - young members –as you move through the education system – most of the returns as undeliverable are from our young members! The form is not needed back if there are no changes.

Renewal rates: Ordinary [UK] £30 [unchanged since 2014], £40 for outside the UK Postal zone. Young members: £12 UK, £22 non-UK. Second or more persons at one address – 50% rate, appropriate to age. **PAYMENT** options- bank transfer or UK Cheque. See form.

ALL changes to membership information – e-mails/telephone number/address must be sent to me not to any other officer.

Preferred contact is by e-mail markmdjameson@btinternet.com, landline telephone [no message facility currently] 01189 344212 in emergency only.

Organ Club Centenary Celebrations - 2026

Leslie Bevis-Smith writes regarding the Centenary preparation:

About 50 years ago I was asked by the late Colin Gouldon to prepare designs for the graphic styling of the Organ Club Golden Jubilee. The main thrust of the brief then was that the image of the St Paul's organ case had to be prominent, being the Organ Club logo. My work was based around this but starting from scratch, with the objective to put the organ case into its architectural surrounding. The sketch has seemed to work quite well and is in still in use (it was even used as a greeting card by the St Paul's Cathedral School some years ago). The rest of the work then were the supporting graphics and LP cover, handbook design & etc. As was usual in the pre-digital '70s, 'Letraset' was the usual supporting technique. It would be an immense understatement to say things have changed, and I certainly do not have the technical skills to carry this forward!

50 years on, we strongly feel that a New Look for the visual presentation of the Organ Club is really needed - in modern language, '**Rebranding**'. Gone will be the lettering styles previously used as well as the more decorative style introduced later and currently used on the website, and a new modern - Young & Fresh - style introduced. Consideration will be given to the '**strapline**' (sub-heading). While major changes are made for the centenary graphics, how these should be carried forward in subsequent years is another matter to address.

The Centenary Committee is clear we should look to the membership as a whole for a member with graphic design skills to come forward to help us explore the direction that this can take, also bearing in mind that our website will be another critical element in our move forward.

We would be really happy to hear from a club member/s who feels they might be able to help us. A full briefing will emerge from initial discussions. In the first instance, President Paul Hale would be most pleased to hear from anyone happy to talk about their possible involvement. LBS

May 2023 Newsletter contributions

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

John Belling (Newsletter Editor)

2. CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday March 25th 2023: AGM at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8EP

The timetable for the afternoon is as follows (approximate timings):

13:30 onwards - tea, coffee and biscuits available in foyer area

14:30 **AGM** to be held in the sanctuary

15:30 Refreshments - tea, coffee, and biscuits in foyer area

16:00 **OCSO Entertains** (see immediately below)

17:00 Buffet

For those unable to attend in person, the proceedings will be broadcast as a Zoom session, joining link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88197371465?pwd=Qm9Zc1E4STI3ajJlZEVxV0h0Y09iQT09> or dial in: +44 131 460 1196 .

Please inform John Henderson at treasurer@organclub.org , if you are attending in person, saying if this is for the AGM only, AGM + 'OCSO Entertains', or 'OCSO Entertains' only, and also whether you would like to partake of the buffet.

There will be a £5 charge to cover costs.

The AGM documentation is being sent with this newsletter (for those receiving this by post).

OCSO ENTERTAINS

Several of our young members will each play pieces at a recital in Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church after the AGM, from 16:00.

At the 2023 AGM, we are particularly looking for any club members interested in joining the committee as General Secretary, or elected committee members. Committee meetings are held via Zoom, 4-5 times a year. Anyone interested in standing for any of these positions, or that would like more information, please contact John Henderson, at treasurer@organclub.org.

Saturday April 15th: Kensington Churches

We will be visiting Our Lady of Victories, with the day starting at 11am. We'll then have lunch, and will line up another church in the afternoon. Details of the other church and visit notes will be shared with those that have registered. For anyone that did not register, or can't remember if they registered, please email the organiser, John Henderson, at treasurer@organclub.org to do so.

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, not over yet!).

Saturday May 20th 2023: Hastings, East Sussex

Eric Shepherd writes:

As one of the churches for the proposed Newbury visit was unavailable, I am arranging a visit to Hastings, East Sussex.

We start at the large Anglo Catholic Church of Christ Church, Silchester Road, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex at 11am. The organ is a large 3 manual originally built by Holdich in 1882, rebuilt by Norman & Beard in 1902, and rebuilt at the west end of the church by Willis in 1930.

After an extended lunch break, and time to get to the lovely Old Town area of Hastings, we hope to visit another church, details to be confirmed, after which we visit the 3 manual 25 stop organ by Father Willis built in 1878, at All Saints Church at 4pm, where tea will be provided. This organ was cleaned and overhauled by B C Shepherd & Sons in 2021. The church has had a well-attended summer series of organ recitals for many years with recitals by well-known organists. It is many years since the Club visited Hastings.

We hope to rearrange the Newbury visit in August.

Saturday June 17th 2023: walking tour - "Lower" Windsor parish churches. (Organised by Mark Jameson)

This is arranged as a walking visit around the lower part of the town, away from the main tourist areas. Draft notes have been prepared and will be available ahead of the visit in electronic format. Printed notes will be in A5 booklet format.

10:30 All Saints Church, Francis Road. 1931 Hunter – last seen by the Club in 1931. Great 10, Swell 8, Pedal 4 stops.

11:45 Holy Trinity Garrison Church, Trinity Place. c1926 Conacher, rebuilt 1984 Rushworth & Dreaper, repaired in 1994 by John Budgen. Choir 5, Swell 10, Great 10, Pedal 5

14:00 St Edward RC, Dorset Road. c1867 Bevington, rebuilt and altered 1977 by Bowen Organs, and looked after by B C Shepherd & Sons. Great 8, Swell 7, Pedal 5.

Very limited parking at back of church, leave car at East Berkshire College Car Park for the first three churches [public parking on Saturdays].

15:00 St Stephen & St Agnes, Clewer. Walker, by 1894, 2013 Peter Collins, work not finished, but completed 2021 by Principal Pipe Organs; Great 11, Swell 11, Pedal 4.

Car parking here for this church - please book when booking visit. John Halsey, the Director of Music for All Saints and Holy Trinity has helped me organise this day. Bookings to Mark Jameson please (contact details under as '2023 Membership' above) day charge is £10 per person. More details for parking and travel in the May Newsletter.

Saturday July 15th 2023: Goring-on-Thames

This is another 2020-planned visit delayed by Covid.

In Journal 2021, number 1, from page 18 – the original plan was published. Since then, there have been changes.

11:00 Free Church, 2m/p Gern, then lunch break.

Time to stroll over the Thames bridges to arrive **14:00** at **St Mary Streatley, 2m/p 2004 Jennings.**

16:00 Our Lady & St John, RC – short visit here – Hauptwerk organ ex Graham Eccles.

16:45 St Thomas Goring – Paul Hale was the advisor here and the newly rebuilt organ by Clevedon Organs was opened with a recital by Thomas Trotter on 11th February. Paul's recital was postponed due to illness but to be rescheduled. Paul will give a talk about this instrument at the start of this visit.

More information and booking/travel in the May Newsletter.

September 13th – 19th 2023: Birmingham tour

The President writes:

I am delighted to be able warmly to invite as many members as possible to join me in Birmingham - England's Second City - for the Club's tour on September 13th (early afternoon) to 19th (ends after breakfast).

John Varney and I grew up and played organs in the area in the late 1960s and we both recall the range of fine instruments contained in and around the City, along with the organists who were so welcoming to young players.

I am really pleased to tell you that all venues to whom we wrote, requesting the chance to play the organ, replied in the affirmative. Arranging a day and time at Symphony Hall and the Town Hall was the biggest challenge, but in mid-February the email reached me telling me we'd got both Halls and organs booked.



Swarbrick case in St Philip's Cathedral B'ham

At that point it seemed clear to me that the Tour was feasible - as long as we attract sufficient Club members (and partners, of course) to spread the overheads affordably. The cost payable to the Club by each attendee will cover a fee to each of the 18 venues, a masterclass with Daniel Moulton on the new Flentrop at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, a special dinner with invited guests, one day's coach hire, plus incidental costs. A budget is being drawn up at this moment. We will be based at the Premier Inn at New Street Station and attendees will

make their own booking with the hotel and their own arrangements for meals except for the special dinner on the Friday evening, also their own bus fares on the day which takes us to Wolverhampton and Walsall and on the day that takes us to three organs in the Sutton Coldfield area.

Just to tempt you into putting the dates firmly in your diaries, look up these organs on the NPOR and you'll see why John and I are so excited about sharing our knowledge of these instruments with our friends in the Club: St Philip's Cathedral, St Chad's Cathedral, Symphony Hall, Town Hall, St Martin in the Bull Ring, St Paul's church (Jewellery Quarter), Royal Birmingham Conservatoire [new organ not yet on NPOR], Carrs Lane Chapel, St Alban & St Patrick church, Solihull School Chapel, St Alphege Solihull, St Margaret's Olton [large rebuilt organ not yet on NPOR, but do look at this: <https://paulhale.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/booklet-olton.pdf>], St Peter's Collegiate Church Wolverhampton, Walsall Town Hall, St Matthew Walsall, Emmanuel Wylde Green, St Peter Many [NPOR out of date] and Erdington Abbey [NPOR again out of date].

On the morning of the 19th September, there is an optional extra visit to St. Michael's Church, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, 10.30 am till 12 noon, to see the fine 1962 II/32 'Coventry type' Harrison & Harrison organ.

We will also be visiting the Science Museum (now called 'Thinktank' in its new building near the RBC), walking through the Bull Ring and past the stunning new Central Library, though sadly the beautiful Art Gallery with its sumptuous Pre-Raphaelite holdings will still be closed for renovation. Signs of HS2 will be evident near the RBC, for its Birmingham station will be at Curzon Street - revitalising the original 1838 Curzon Street Station, the terminus of the original line from Euston Station. The appearance of the building mirrored that of the long-lost and much-lamented Euston Arch at the other end of the line, both the designs of Philip Hardwick (1792-1870). Members may remember that the RCO almost moved there when our Vice President Dr Roy Massey MBE was RCO President, but alas the plans eventually came to nothing.

What I need at this stage is an expression of firm interest, not necessarily an out and out commitment (thought the latter would of course be really helpful!).

Could you please email me at PaulHale@diaphone.clara.net once you have had a look at the New Street Premier Inn charges, worked out what your meal costs might be for the 5.5 days (6 nights, or 5 nights if you leave mid-evening after the last organ visit on Monday 18th) we are there, and have decided that if the additional amount payable to the Club is not too large you could afford the Tour and would be interested in putting your name[s] down provisionally. The need for these provisional names is so that I can work out a per capita cost based on numbers, after which we should be able to let you all know the approximate Tour charge (should be less than £200, depending on number of attendees).

A reply by Easter Day would help me to progress the budget and thus let everyone know (a) the Tour charge and (b) whether it will definitely go ahead [that depends on a minimum number of 20, I feel].

I eagerly look forward to hearing from a whole host of Club Members - this is a chance not to be missed to play some amazing organs and experience a vibrant city, full of interesting buildings and culture.

3. RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

St Mary Abchurch, Abchurch Lane, EC4N 7BA

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

Admission free – refreshments available

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

Glyn Lang Memorial Series – Please refer to the January 2023 newsletter for details. Admission free / retiring collection.

St John's Church, 5 Ranmoor Park Road, Ranmoor, Sheffield, S10 3GX.

Mar 2nd 20:00 Peter Siepmann (St Peter's Nottingham)

May 4th 20:00 The organist of St John's – organ music from Yorkshire

Jun 1st 20:00 Darius Battiwalla (Leeds City Organist)

Free admission with a retiring collection in aid of the organ

[St John's Church, Ranmoor \(stjohnsranmoor.org.uk\)](http://stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

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

Lunchtime series: MONDAYS at 1pm

Mar 6th Marilyn Harper Christ's Chapel, Dulwich [& OC Member]

May 15th Gillian Blythman Thatcham – note the revised date

Jul 3rd Eton College organ student

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-march-2023>

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!**

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue WC2H 8EP

All recitals free with retiring collection, followed at 5pm by a light buffet.

Mar 25th 16:00 OCSO Entertains (The Organ Club Student Organisation)

Apr 29th 16:00 Ashley Wagner (Birmingham Cathedral)

May 27th 16:00 Peter King (Organist Emeritus - Bath Abbey)

Jun 24th 16:00 Eleni Keventsidou (Athens, London)

Jul 29th 16:00 Jan Liebermann (Frankfurt)

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

Mar 14th 13:10 Nicholas Morris (St George's)

Mar 28th 13:10 Iain Quinn (Florida State University, USA)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, Mayfair, London W1K 2PA

Mar 7th 13:10 Christopher Herrick

Mar 21st 13:10 Andrew Benson-Wilson

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

Please refer to the posters on page 11 for full details of Saturday recitals.

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

Organ by Walker 1963

May 27th 19:30 James Orford

Jun 24th 19:30 Jennifer Chou

Jul 29th 19:30 Richard Gowers

Sep 30th 19:30 Simon Thomas Jacobs

Admission: free with collection; Angel Tube; buses 4 19 30 38 73 205 341

St Michael's, Cornhill, St Michael's Alley, EC3V 9DS

(See poster on page 10 for full details of March recitals)

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

Organ Matinees 2023, Sundays at 15:00

Mar 19th 15:00 Maria Greco

Apr 16th 15:00 Patsy Gamble (sax) and Gerard Brooks (organ)

May 21st 13:00 Eva Robert Brodacki (DoM of the Priory Church of
Our Lady & St Cuthbert, Worksop)

Jun 16th 13:00 Martin Setchell (curator of Christchurch Town Hall organ,
New Zealand)

Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London

Mar 3rd 19:30 Robert Quinney plays JS Bach

May 6th 19:30 LPO concert to include Janáček's Glagolitic Mass

May 7th 19:30 Philharmonia concert to include Saint-Saëns
Organ Symphony

May 25th 19:30 Philharmonia concert to include Poulenc's Organ Concerto

May 31st 19:30 Olivier Latry plays Wagner

St Lawrence Church, Church Street, Alton GU34 2BW

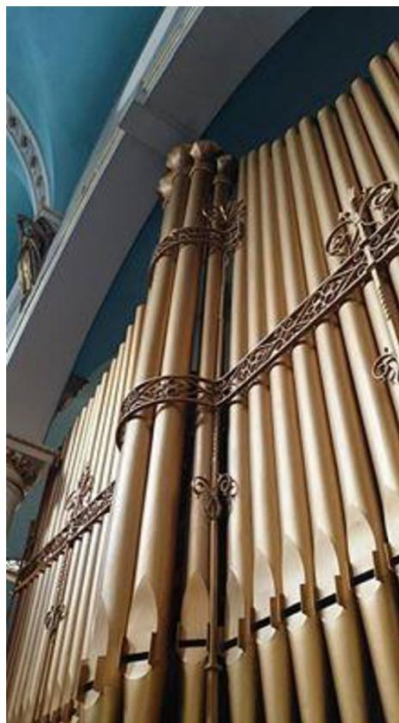
Tuesdays at 20.00 (doors open 19:30 - refreshments available)

Apr 4th 20:00 Travis Baker (St Leonard's Church, Streatham, London)

May 2nd 20:00 Luke Bond (St George's Chapel, Windsor)

Admission: £10.00 at the door

<https://www.altonorgansociety.co.uk/styled-13/>



Some of the 3,500 pipes of this fine organ are over 300 years old. Since Henry Purcell gave the opening recital in 1684, the instrument has been enlarged and enriched by a succession of leading organ builders, and it was last restored in 2010 by Nicholsons of Malvern. Organists of the church have included the 18th century composer William Boyce (here for 32 years), as well as Harold Darke (50 years) and Richard Popplewell. The [Royal] College of Organists was founded here in the 19th century. The weekly recitals series is thought to be the longest-running in the world (it began in 1914). It features performances by our two resident organists (Jonathan Rennert and Makoto James), as well as guest recitalists from the UK and overseas.

The continuation of these recitals depends on the generosity of the audience. As you leave, you will see a bowl for cash donations, as well as a card-reader (for debit or credit cards) and a QR code on display.

LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

in St Michael's Cornhill

MONDAYS AT ONE

March 2023

www.st-michaels.org.uk

Monday 6 March, 1pm

MALCOLM ARCHER

BOELLMANN Suite Gothique (4mm)	14
FRANCK Prélude, Fugue & Variation	11
BONNET Pastorale & Elfes	6
WIDOR Andante cantabile (Symphonie 4)	6
VIERNE Carillon de Westminster	8

Monday 13 March, 1pm

MARTIN BAKER

gives a celestial recital
(“his playing is out of this world”)

BUXTEHUDE Passacaglia in d	7
HOLST, arr Sykes Saturn (<i>The Planets</i>)	10
HAGGER The Great Conjunction Triptych <i>(world première performance)</i>	17
HOLST, arr Sykes Jupiter (<i>The Planets</i>)	9

Monday 20 March, 1pm

HILARY PUNNETT

‘A Lenten journey’

BRAHMS Präludium & Fuge, a-moll	6
DEMESSIEUX <i>Attende Domine</i>	4
KARG-ELERT Saluto angelico	4
LEIGHTON <i>Aus der Tiefe</i>	4
BACH <i>Valet will ich dir geben</i> , BWV 736	5
DUPRÉ Crucifixion	9
SMYTH <i>O Traurigkeit, O Herzeleid</i>	7
BÉDARD Prélude & Toccata sur <i>Victimae</i> <i>Paschali Laudes</i>	5

Monday 27 March, 1pm

ROGER SAYER

STANFORD Fantasia & Toccata	12
REGGER Melodia	6
BOSSI Scherzo	7
GIGOUT Scherzo	5
VIERNE Adagio (Symphonie 4)	8
JONGEN Sonata Eroica	17

St. Alphage

Montrose Avenue, Burnt Oak, Edgware, Middlesex. HA8 0DN

SATURDAY ORGAN RECITALS 2023

Organ built 2002 by B.C. Shepherd & Sons incorporating Father Willis pipes from 1857



At 7.30pm (*except 3rd June at 3.00pm)

Admission £10

13th May **CHRISTOPHER HERRICK** (Concert Organist)

*3rd June **ROSEMARY EVANS** (St. Alphage) at 3.00pm

1st July **SIMON LAWFORD** (Notre Dame de France, Leicester Square)

5th August **CHRIS TOTNEY**

(Director of Music, St. Benet Fink, Tottenham & Development Assistant, Britten Sinfonia)

2nd September **ANNE PAGE** (Concert Organist)

20th Anniversary of opening recital January 2003

by John Scott at St. Alphage Church



Dear Member

YOUR 2023 MEMBERSHIP

Please use this form – or a photocopy – to renew your membership.

UK ADULT	£30	UK YOUNG §	£12	2 nd or more, member – as JOINT Member/s 50%	£
OUTSIDE UK Postal area ADULT	£40	OUTSIDE UK Postal area YOUNG	£22	DONATIONS: £:	TOTAL: £

§ At 1/1/23: All to 18 years, up to 30 years if still in full time unwaged education or in an apprenticeship [not just music]

Our Adult UK membership rate of is unchanged since 2015. This covers the cost of producing and posting the Journal & Newsletter, insurances, and other overheads. If you gained the Club a new member during 2022, **please identify who.** A single discount of £5 can reduce your payment.

Please complete the box below and e-mail or post to me:

Your Surname PRINT PLEASE		Title	
First Name			
E-mail: PRINT PLEASE			
Telephone/s:			
Name of Joint member/s at the same address			
Your postal address including post code:			

GDPR rules: I provide the mailing lists for both printed & e-mail Newsletters, and for the Journal. If a printed Newsletter or Journal is damaged/missing contact me. **All membership matters should be directed to the Membership Secretary. Contacting other officers only delays response, and breaches confidentiality.**

ELECTRONIC BANKING [Preferred]:

Reference: Your Surname & Postcode
Amount: *the sum you are paying*
Account name: The Organ Club
Account sort code: 20-31-52 **Account number:** 00655171

INTERNATIONAL: SWIFT: BUKGB22 IBAN: GB27 BUKB 2031 5200 6551 71

May I suggest use of <https://wise.com> – if you do not have access to a £GBP account.

[Please do NOT use my paypal account, the above is safer. You have to register to use the service, already used by USA members]

CHEQUES: please put your postcode on the back and send to:

THE ORGAN CLUB c/o Mark Jameson, 92 The Hawthorns, CHARVIL, Reading RG10 9TS

My contacts: e-mail: markmdjameson@btinternet.com 0044 /01189 344212

Thank you for renewing – I try to acknowledge but there may be a considerable delay between receipt and when I am able to bank cheques.

Mark Jameson, Hon Membership Secretary

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

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