

The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 117

November 2023

1. NOTICES

I'm sure I can speak for everyone on the recent Birmingham Tour that it was hugely entertaining, educational, and great fun! Many thanks to all who contributed to the organisation of the tour, and in particular to our President, Paul Hale, who so ably "led from the organ bench".

A truly magnificent tour!



The photo shows Paul cutting the picturesque (and tasty!) cake at St Margaret's Church, Olton.

Rearranged visit for November 18th: We had planned a visit to some London Churches on November 18th, but unfortunately, owing to difficulties in booking specific time slots, we are having to postpone this visit.

However, we are fortunate that we can offer a replacement visit, at short notice, to the **Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Windsor**. Full details, including travel suggestions, are presented in section 2.

The Next Tour

Our next tour, 9th – 12th May 2024, will be to South Devon, to include Buckfast Abbey, and is being organised by Past-President Eric Shepherd.

Please email Eric as soon as possible if you wish to join the tour – provisional details in section 2 below.

Eric emphasises that hotels should be booked sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

2024 Membership

I am pleased to advise that membership rates for the 2024 calendar year are unchanged - £30 standard membership and £12 for young members (Young: at 1st January 2024 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 “23” then renewal is due in the period 2nd January to 31st March (See Constitution, item 3d & 3f).

The renewal form will be the back in the January Newsletter [printed copies] or as click attachment with the electronic mailing.

My thanks to the large number of members who renew electronically.

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] recognizes 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 2023, it is vital I am advised. Advising another member of the committee could delay your receiving information.

My contact details are shown on page 3 of each Journal; my e-mail for ALL correspondence is markmdjameson@btinternet.com; my phone **07802 715634** [SMS or text, please do not use voicemail].

Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary)

Viscount Electronic Organ loan to young Organ Club members



This organ is available free of charge on behalf of The Organ Club for young members who would benefit from having a practice instrument at home.

For a period of up to three years, a young member may use the organ at their home before it is passed on to a new young member.

Details are as follows:

Two manuals and a 32-note pedal board with a total of 25 stops.

Dimensions are: width 55 inches, depth 44 inches including pedal board.

If you are a young member aged 14-20 and are interested in using this organ, email John Miley at the address cegb36@gmail.com.

January 2024 Newsletter contributions

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

John Belling (Newsletter Editor)

2. CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday November 18th 2023: Parish Church of St John the Baptist, High St, Windsor, SL4 1LS

Owing to difficulties booking venues, the previously planned visit for this date has been postponed.

We are delighted to advise that, at short notice, we have a visit to the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Windsor - from 14:00 to 17:00.



A 14:00 start allows teachers and younger members to get there!

Some of you met John Halsey, the DOM for the Windsor Parishes, during the Windsor visit in June this year - and at the time the St John's organ rebuild was still in progress. This work is now complete, and the organ was reopened on 1st October with a recital by Thomas Trotter.

The organ is a 3-manual Hunter and the work has been carried out by Bishop & Sons - no specification changes, but the action has been totally brought up to date.

John Halsey has produced an excellent leaflet describing the organ which will be available on the day. John has agreed to demonstrate the instrument.

Minimum cost per member: £5 - if you feel able to contribute more, please do so.

HOW TO GET THERE - PUBLIC TRANSPORT

St John's is the main parish church of Windsor and is in a very busy spot. I would suggest as many as possible travel by train.

If you leave the GWR Windsor station - cross the road to the Castle side, then turn right - Guildhall ahead of you - and the church is up steep steps just beyond.

If you use SWT to Windsor & Eton Riverside - further walk - cross road and walk up the road with the castle walls, about a 15 minute walk.

Greenline - current timetable:

<https://images.reading-buses.co.uk/downloads/greenline%20leaflet%20may23.pdf>

GWR: Paddington/Didcot service is now non-stop Paddington to Slough - Timetable:

<https://www.gwr.com/-/media/gwr-sc-website/files/plan-journey/timetables/2023/Train-times-21-May-to-9-December-v3/T10-train-times-21-May-to-9-December-2023-v3.pdf>

The more frequent service from London is the Elizabeth line - but this calls at many stations - senior TFL travel pass ok, by fare payable if using an oyster card between West Drayton and Slough.

The shuttle [2 car 165 diesel unit] Slough Windsor - time table T4 at xx.10, xx30, xx50 from Slough, 6 minute journey time.

HOW TO GET THERE - BY CAR

Numerous car parks - some Saturday only - the June Newsletter gave details of Car parks - except that the central King Edward has been renamed Windsor Yards - I think owners are the shops, I have not used for a while.

However, there is a limited space Saturday only car park, under YORK HOUSE, 53 Sheet Street, SL4 1BY, on B30222, (opposite Victoria Barracks entrance) - £4.10 cash/card - 74 spaces; Ring-Go parking or 01753 981000, location code 37559. BEWARE OF DIFFERING LEVEL STEP EDGES!

Please book with me (Mark Jameson) as soon as possible.

If you had contacted John Henderson for the originally planned visit on this day, please also **rebook** with me as soon as possible.

Mark Jameson Telephone: 07802 715634

e-mail: markmdjameson@btinternet.com

Communicated by Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary)

Thursday December 28th & Friday 29th 2023: **The London Organ Competition at St. Clement Danes** (St. Clement Danes, Strand, London WC2R 1DH)

We have a full complement of entries for the competition this year on the following dates:

Thursday 28th December - from 14:00

8 Junior candidates (age up to and including 16)

Friday 29th December - from 14:00

6 Senior candidates (age 16-19)

Members are invited to attend the Competition, and the usual meeting charge of £10 will be collected on the day.

Feel free to just turn up. Advanced notice of attendance is not required.

Saturday January 27th 2024: Bloomsbury Organ Day

Paul Hale, Bruce Buchanan and Will Fraser will give presentations, and the concluding recitalist will be Katelyn Emerson (USA).

In the Pipeline

The following visits are planned; full details will be given nearer to the time. Please note them in your diary! But could be subject to change.

Saturday February 17th 2024: visit to Guildford

A morning visit to St Nicolas, followed by a masterclass with Daniel Moult in the afternoon, at the United Reform Church.

10:00 for 10:30: St.Nicolas Church, Guildford

Our President Paul Hale will talk about the Father Willis Organ, at present in a very sorry state and hopes for its restoration. Members will have the opportunity to play.

John Varney will also give a short piano recital on the recently acquired wonderful grand piano.

It is hoped to arrange a lunch at the church hall. Details tbc.

14:00: Guildford United Reformed Church (Organist Gillian Lloyd)

Master Class for young members given by Daniel Moult.

Members will also have the opportunity to play.

Saturday March 16th 2024: AGM at St Peter's, Nottingham

Save the date!

May 9th – 12th 2024: Short Tour to South Devon, including Buckfast Abbey

Note from organiser Eric Shepherd:

The long-awaited visit to hear the two Ruffatti organs in Buckfast Abbey has now been arranged for May 2024. The Abbey is a busy place, and I have been trying to book a visit each year since 2020. The only day that we can have the organ to ourselves for two and a half hours is on Saturday evening 11th May 2024 from 7 – 9:30pm. We will be hosted by David Davies who is the organist there and who has kindly gone to a lot of trouble to make the arrangements for our visit. The provisional arrangements for the tour are as follows:

Thursday May 9th

Arrive at Newton Abbot and meet at the station in the afternoon at about 1:30pm.

2:30pm: St Peter & St Paul Teigngrace.

2 manual 12 stops, possibly by James Davis 1781, rebuilt 1885 George Hawkins.

4pm (approx.): St Andrew's Ashburton (to be confirmed), 3 manual Father Willis rebuilt Percy Daniel 1981, Michael Farley.

Arrive at Buckfast.

Buckfast Abbey has a 30 room 3-star hotel called Northgate House Hotel in the grounds of the Abbey which as of last week is available. If you want to

stay there, you must book straight away before it becomes unavailable. They offer bed & breakfast, and the cost of a double or twin room is about £110 per night. Single occupancy is £100 per night. There are also self-catering cottages to rent. Call 01364 645630 to book Northgate House Hotel or self-catering cottages, or look up Buckfast Abbey website www.buckfast.org.uk.

A short distance from the Abbey is The Abbey Inn (not connected to Buckfast Abbey), a 3-star hotel which offers Bed & Breakfast, tel 01364 642343, 30 Buckfast Road, Buckfast, Buckfastleigh. TQ11 0EA.

Bookings can be made on various hotel booking websites and prices vary now from £63-£75 per night, breakfast is extra.

Friday May 10th

A day in Torquay.

11:30: St John the Apostle, above the Harbour Hill, Walker, Deane, Michael Farley - 3 manual 47 stops.

Time for lunch in the town.

14:30pm (approx): St Matthias, Wellswood, Torquay (to be confirmed) Hill, Rushworth & Dreaper, Nicholson - 3 manual 42 stops.

16:00: St Mary the Virgin, St Marychurch, Torquay. Harrison, Greaves, Derry Thompson, Michael Farley - 4 manuals.

Saturday May 11th

South Devon Steam Railway from Buckfastleigh to Totnes

11:30: St Mary's Priory Totnes.

3 manual Father Willis 1861, last restored by William Drake 1988. 3 manual 31 stops.

Break for lunch in the town.

14:30: St John's Church Bridgetown, Totnes. William Drake 1983. 2 manual 22 stops.

Return trip from Totnes to Buckfastleigh on South Devon Steam Railway.

19:00: evening visit to Buckfast Abbey - demonstration of organs by David Davies and long playing session.

Organ by Fratelli Ruffatti of Padua, Italy, built 2017-18.

Quire Organ 4 manual 72 stops. West Gallery organ 27 stops.

Moveable 4 manual console in Quire, and 4 manual West Gallery console.

Both organs are playable from each console.

Sunday May 12th

11:00: Buckfast Abbey: sung Mass by the excellent professional choir with organ.

Lunch including Carvery Lunch, in the Grange Restaurant, Buckfast Abbey. Needs to be pre booked.

Approx. 14:30: St Mary's Church, Abbotsbury, Newton Abbot.
Hele 1923, Michael Farley 1994 - 3 manual 38 stops.

Approx 15:45pm: return to Newton Abbot station.

A coach will need to be booked for Thursday, Friday and Sunday.
Please book at a hotel soon to avoid disappointment and please send me an email to let me know if you wish to take part on the tour at bcshepherdandsons@gmail.com .

3. RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

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

Glyn Lang Memorial Series

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

Dec 20th 13:05 Laurence Caldecote (All Saints, Northampton)

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue WC2H 8EP

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

Nov 25th 16:00 Colin Walsh (Organist Laureate - Lincoln Cathedral)

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

Lunchtime series: MONDAYS at 13:00

Nov 6th Christopher Allsop (Eton College)

Jan 15th Andrew Reid (Little St Mary's, Cambridge)

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-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!**

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

Organ Matinees 2023, Sundays at 15:00

Nov 19th 15:00 Royal Academy of Music students

Oct 15th 15:00 Jeremy Lloyd (Rochester Cathedral)

Admission free, retiring collection.

St James', Prebend St, London N1 8PH

Nov 11th 19:30 Adrian Gunning (St John the Evangelist, Islington)

Admission: free with retiring collection

<https://islingtonchurchconcerts.org/>

Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, OX1 1BX

Nov 15th 12:00 Christopher Fletcher-Campbell

Admission £6.50 at the door, complimentary tea/coffee

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

Nov 7th 13:10 Tina Christiansen (Ansgar's Church, Odense, Denmark)

Nov 21st 13:10 Jeremy Lloyd (Rochester Cathedral)

Dec 5th 13:10 tba

Dec 19th 13:10 William Saunders (Holbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk)

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

Nov 14th 13:10 Norman Harper (London) (see below for programme)

Nov 28th 13:10 Alastair Ross

Dec 12th 13:10 Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)

Jan 9th 13:10 Anthony Gritten (Royal Academy of Music)

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

Please refer to poster below.

Christ Church Spitalfields, Commercial Street, London E1 6LY

Nov 20th 19:30 Tom Bell (RCO) **NB – POSTPONED UNTIL 2024**

Admission £12 online or at the door.

<https://www.ccsplits.org/organrecitals>

St. Martin's Church, East Horsley, Surrey, KT24 6RL

Nov 26th 16:00 John Bartlett - *Contemporary Romantic Organ Music*

NB: John Bartlett (Lord of Stratford) is an Organ Club member.

Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA

Nov 6th 13:20 Norman Harper (London) (see below for programme)

Nov 13th 13:20 Andrea Albertin (Padua, Italy)

Nov 20th 13:20 Jack Spencer (London)

Nov 27th 13:20 Simon Hogan (Southwark Cathedral)

Admission free, retiring collection.

St Paul's Church, Reading Road, Wokingham, RG41 1EH

Nov 11th 11:00 Christopher Cipkin (Wokingham)

Music for the season of Remembrance. The church's Autumn bazaar is immediately afterwards, including book stall, and organ music for sale.



The Monday lunchtime recitals at St Michael's first became a fixture in the life of the City of London in 1914, when office workers turned to the Church for comfort from the horrors of World War I. Some of the 3,500 pipes of the organ date back to 1684, when the opening recital was given by Henry Purcell. The latest restoration was by Nicholsons in 2010. Organists of the church have included the composers William Boyce and Harold Darke. The (Royal) College of Organists was founded here in 1864.

Please be generous as you leave. There is a bowl for cash, a card-reader and a QR code.

Monday 30 October, 1pm
JONATHAN RENNERT
 (Lunchtime recital no 472)

CAMPBELL Pageantry (1962)	4
LIDDLE Skye Boat Song (1995)	5
IRELAND Elegiac Romance (1903)	9
THALBEN-BALL Tune in E	4
VINCENT Nocturne des Anges	5
MARSON Folly for flutes	5
BACH <i>St Anne</i> Prelude & Fugue, BWV 552	16

LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

MONDAYS AT ONE
October – November 2023
ST MICHAEL'S CORNHILL
City of London

Monday 6 November, 1pm
JULIAN COLLINGS
 (St Cyprian's, Clarence Gate)

SUSATO Mohrentanz	3
BUXTEHUDE <i>Nun bitten wir</i>	3
MENDELSSOHN Andante & Variations	6
LANGLAIS Chant de paix	5
HOWELLS Psalm Prelude, set 2/1	8
KARG-ELERT Pax vobiscum	7
BRIDGE Adagio in E	7
BOVET Hamburger Totendanz	6

Monday 13 November, 1pm
RUPERT JEFFCOAT
 (St Luke's, Chelsea)

HOLLINS A Trumpet Minuet	4
SAWA Adoro Te Devote	4
BACH Sei gegrüßet, BWV 768	17
GUILMANT Sonata 2 in D (3 mm)	16
BOLCOM Sweet Hour of Prayer	3
LEIGHTON Paean	4

Monday 20 November, 1pm
ANDREA ALBERTIN
 (Italy)

MATHIAS Fanfare	3
SCHUMANN 4 Sketches, op 58	14
REGER Toccata & Fugue in d, op 59	9
SALOMÉ Melodia	3
GUILMANT Sonata 1 in d (3 mm)	22

Monday 27 November, 1pm
JOSHUA SIMÕES
 (Royal Academy of Music)

BACH Fantasia in c, BWV 537	5
BACH Nun komm, BWV 659	5
MUHLY <i>7 O Antiphon</i> Preludes	17
PARRY Fantasia on <i>When I survey</i>	6
NESBIT Fanfare & Rounds	11

Recitals by Organ Club member Norman Harper

Monday 6 November 13.20 at Southwark Cathedral (Anglican)

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Prelude and "Fiddle" Fugue in D minor BWV 539*

Philip Wilby: *Ripon Misericords*

François D'Agincour: *Pièces d'Orgue du Premier Ton*

Norman Harper: *Toccata: Divinum Mysterium*

Cecilia McDowall: *"O" Antiphons: O Radix Jesse ~ O Clavis David
~ O Emmanuel*

Martin How: *Homage to Elgar*

Tuesday November 14th at 13.10 at Grosvenor Chapel

Jacques Boyvin: *Livre d'Orgue du Premier Ton*

William Smith: *Fantasia*

William Russell: *Voluntary in C*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: *Fantasia in F major & minor KV 594*

Henry Purcell: *Voluntary for a Double Organ*

Philip Wilby: *The Western Wynde*

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Fugue on the Magnificat BWV 733*

It may also be of interest to members that Fagus have just produced a volume of new Advent organ pieces, including music by Gwilym Beechey, Geoffrey Atkinson and Norman Harper.

<https://normanharper.carrd.co>

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

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