

HOLD THE DATES: 2025 Organ Concerts at St John the Evangelist, Islington

Four exciting organ recitals have been scheduled to take place at St John the Evangelist, Islington in 2025.

Pencil the dates in your diary. There'll be more information to follow.

Saturday 31 May, **Nathan Laube**

Saturday 28 June, **Gary Sieling**

Saturday 26 July, **James McVinnie**

Saturday 27 September, **Katelyn Emerson**

You can read more about these and other concerts at: islingtonchurchconcerts.org



Warmly,
The Islington Church Concerts Team

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

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

The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 123

November 2024

1. NOTICES

Journal apology & correction

Journal Editor Ian Miles signals his abject apologies to **Dr Peter St John Stokes** for having misattributed a Visit Report in the latest edition ('24/2, p.11): the writeup of the Club's Covent Garden Day on 20th April was indeed authored by Dr Stokes, and not, as erroneously credited, by Keith Dukes. This apology will, of course, reappear in *OCJ* '24/3 which aims to be with readers sometime before Christmas, but this *Newsletter* meanwhile offers our promptest outlet to set the matter straight.

Last Visit



This was to Thameside Oxfordshire village churches, organised by Mark Jameson. The 11 attendees enjoyed a fine day out.

Mark says: "At Warborough, and with exceptional pleasure, my only remaining Aunt, Romey, who celebrated her 100th birthday back in February, attended the visit". Photo right.

The photo on the left is of Philip Bricher at the Willis organ of St Laurence, Warborough.

Membership Issues

The RENEWAL DATE is 1st **working** day of January [UK 2025 - Friday 3rd January]. Renewal required to be completed by 31st March, i.e. Month end after the AGM. It does not allow us to financially plan events if members dally with renewals.

YOUR existing membership number appears on the Journal and posted newsletters envelope, numbers starting 5xxx or 8xxx - no renewal needed.

The UK membership rate for 2025 is unchanged from the current year [Ordinary rate UK £30, Young members UK £12]. As we all know the postal rates are going up rapidly, so as many who are able to receive Newsletters by e-mail, please do so. For those living outside of the UK Royal Mail delivery area [Ordinary £40, Young £22], payment must be in GB pounds, international banking fees plus currency variations must be allowed for in your payment [in October 2024 €53 just about covers £40]. Under-payment due to exchange factors will not be accepted.

Joint members: Ordinary rate: 2nd or more adults, 50% discount per person. Young members: NO discount per member as the rate already subsidised by full rate payers.

If a member is able to enrol another member, then a one-off discount of £5 for the year's payment is permitted, but the person enrolled must be shown clearly on the renewal form - or in an e-mail to me for electronic payments. We are hoping that eventually as part of a major update to the website to be able to offer card payments, in the meantime members outside of the UK if they are unable to make ESTG payments must contact me by e-mail.

At a recent committee meeting it was agreed that the membership rates would be unchanged for 2025 & 2026 years, subject to unexpected and unforeseen circumstances**

To protect members, any member wishing to renew for two years may do so, simply double your payment - but please advise or show on the renewal form that will be part of the January 2025 Newsletter.

** = covid, war, OBR/taxation etc....

Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary)

Organ Music and magazines free for collection

Committee member Andrew Stevens has six boxes of organ music.

There are *Organists Review* magazines from 1990 -2010, *The Organ* magazine from 1962-1982, and *Musical Opinion* from 1962-1967.



St John's Church, Ranmoor

Organ Recitals 2024-25

All recitals begin at 8pm

FREE entry with a retiring collection towards the maintenance of the organ.

3rd October

Andrew Kirk
(Bristol)

7th November

Philip Collin
(St John's, Ranmoor)

5th December

Peter Heginbotham
(St John's, Ranmoor)

9th January

Peter Siepmann
(St Peter's, Nottingham)

6th February

Derek Grover
(St John's, Ranmoor)

6th March

James Mitchell
(Sheffield Cathedral)

1st May

Oliver King
(St Mary's, Saffron Walden)

5th June

Julian Gunn
(St John's, Ranmoor)

CHRIST CHURCH SPITALFIELDS

Commercial St, London E1 6LY
(Tube: Liverpool Street or Aldgate East)
2024 Organ Concerts on the
1735 Richard Bridge / William Drake organ

Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.30pm
Admission by programme £15 or online:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/org/organ-concerts-2024-season-3208219>

PATSY GAMBLE

(Saxophone)

Gerard Brooks

(Organ)

programme

A Programme for Remembrance Day

PATSY GAMBLE

Lament

In Remembrance

Darkness ~ Divine Spirit ~ Reflection ~ Remembrance ~ Peace and Light

JAN PETERSON SWEELINCK 1562-1621

Mein junges Leben hat ein End

REMO GIAZOTTO 1910-98

Adagio on a theme of Albinoni

EDWARD ELGAR 1856-1934

Salut d'Amour

ENNIO MORRICONE 1928-2020

Gabriel's Oboe

JEHAN ALAIN 1911-40

Postlude pour l'Office de Complies

JOHN WILLIAMS b.1932

Theme from Schindler's List

Andrew has these items stored at his workshop near Finchingfield in Essex, and will be available to members on a first come first served basis.

If you are interested, please contact Andrew by email at a.stevens405@btinternet.com, or by mobile: 07958 520 889.

January 2025 Newsletter contributions

Please email notices by December 20th at the latest to John Belling, Organ Club newsletter editor, at newsletter@organclub.org.

John Belling (Newsletter Editor)

2. CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday November 9th 2024: Windsor

This visit is organised by Mark Jameson on behalf of the Berkshire Organists' Association, and Organ Club members are warmly welcomed to join this visit. Mark writes: "a shorter Windsor visit that John Halsey is helping me with - in the morning - the Methodist [part of the 2020 covid-cancelled original OC plan], the much enjoyed RC Bevington in St Edwards, and in the afternoon, St John's. St John's was not available for the OC June 23rd 2023 visit [being rebuilt by Bishops] and was a last-minute substitution in November 23 when the original plan failed at a late stage, again missed by many members".

Schedule:

10:30 to 11:30 Windsor Methodist, Alma Road, SL4 3HH

This church was in the original 2020 OC visit plan scuppered by Covid.

Organ: 1879 Bevington renovated by T W Fearn, 1993, Gt 8,8,8,4,II, Sw 8,8,8,4,8, Ped: 16, 16+8+4.

11:45 to 12:45 St Edward, RC, Alma Road, SL4 3HJ

Organ See OCJ 2023/2 page 28

15:00 to 18:00 St John Parish Church, High Street SL4 1LS

Organ: See OCJ 2024/1 page 20

Please book as soon as possible with Mark at markmdjameson@gmail.com or text 07802 715634.

No charge, but donation welcome.

Saturday November 16th 2024: Petersfield, Hampshire

This visit is organised by Mark Jameson.

Schedule:

10:45 to 12:00 Methodist, Station Road GU32 3EB

Organ: 2 manual Morgan and Smith rebuilt Willis 1983 and with further work carried out recently by Organ Design of Alton [request made for information]

12:10 to 13:10 St Laurence RC Station Road GU32 3ED. - opposite side of road to the Methodist.

Organ: Wyvern 2 manual, building of interest and they are very keen we visit.

14:30 to 16:30 St Peter, PC, Church Path, GU32 3 HS

Organ: 2 manuals plus coupler manual, last alterations 2014 following church reordering.

Please book with Mark by November 13th, at markmdjameson@gmail.com or text 07802 715634.

Day Cost: £10

The London Waterloo to Petersfield [and on to Portsmouth] line is free of planned engineering - CURRENTLY!

December Friday 27th/Saturday 28th 2024: London Organ Competition at St Michael's, Cornhill.

This is a "Major Opportunity for Teenage Organists".

For the sixth year and in association with the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition, The Organ Club is promoting a competition at St Michael's Church, Cornhill, London EC2V 9DS. The competition will take place on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th December 2024.

1) Junior Section (ages 16 and under on Friday December 27th, 2024)

Prizes: First Prize – £700 and The Varney Cup; Second prize – £400

The competitors are:

Sidona De Silva	- St Albans
Theo Tang	- Shepperton
Chamberlain Ofoso	- Ashford
Maxim Demin	- London
Kevin Ge	- Birmingham

St Dominic's Priory (The Rosary Shrine), London, NW5 4LB

Dec 14th 19:00 Jeremiah Stephenson (All Saints Margaret Street and St Paul's Cathedral)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Next recital at Reading Town Hall on

Monday November 4th 2024, 13:00

Francesca Massey (Concert Organist, Rochester)

Alfred Hollins | Concert Overture in F minor

Sigfrid Karg-Elert | Clair de Lune

Felix Mendelssohn | Sonata No. 6 in D minor

Iain Farrington | Bluesday

J S Bach | Toccata and Fugue in D minor

The Concert Hall and the Berkshire Organists' Association present a series of lunchtime organ recitals by locally and nationally renowned organists.

All recitals begin at 1pm and last approximately 45 minutes.



Francesca Massey

At the age of 19, Francesca gained all of the top prizes in the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists' diploma and was subsequently awarded the WT Best Memorial Scholarship and Silver Medal of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, and the Musicians Benevolent Fund's Ian Fleming Award. Her teachers included Kevin Bowyer, Jeremy Filsell, David Goode and Andrew Fletcher.

Francesca now pursues a varied portfolio career as a freelance organist, choral conductor, examiner and music teacher, having worked as a cathedral musician for 15 years.

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/book/569602>

Hereford Cathedral HR1 2NG

Nov 9th 15:15 Peter Dyke (Hereford Cathedral)

Nov 30th 13:15 Peter Dyke (Hereford Cathedral)

Admission free with a retiring collection.

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

Nov 4th 13:00 David Lofgren (Nörkopping Sweden)

Nov 11th 13:00 Jonathan Rennert (Organ Club President-Elect)

Nov 18th 13:00 John Ward (St Mary The Boltons, London)

Nov 25th 13:00 Iain Quinn (Florida State University)

Dec 2nd 13:00 Benjamin Collyer (recent OC member)

Dec 9th 13:00 Jeremiah Stephenson (OC member) plays Messiaen's iconic organ contemplation on the Advent and Christmas story, *La Nativité du Seigneur*

Dec 16th 13:00 Festival of Lessons & Carols, with Benjamin Collyer at the organ

Jan 6th 13:00 Benjamin Collyer (St Michael's Cornhill)

Jan 13th 13:00 Jonathan Rennert (Organ Club President-Elect)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue WC2H 8EP

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

Nov 30th 16:00 Ashley Grote (Norwich Cathedral)

Feb 22nd 16:00 Darius Battiwalla (Leeds City Organist)

St Leonard's Church, Church St, Seaford BN25 1HG

Nov 16th 13:00 Gerard Brooks (Methodist Central Hall Westminster)

Admission free (retiring collection)

St Michael & All Angels, Bedford Park, Chiswick, W4 1TT

Dec 6th 12:30 Timara Easter (Concert Organist)

Admission free (retiring collection)

St Margaret Lothbury, EC2R 7HH

Dec 13th 12:30 Timara Easter (Concert Organist)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA

Nov 10th 17:00 Paul Greally (Westminster Abbey)

Admission free

St Mary's, Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3TY

Dec 12th 13:10 Jeremiah Stephenson (All Saints Margaret Street and St Paul's Cathedral)

Admission free (retiring collection)

2) Senior Section (ages 17-19 on Saturday December 28th, 2024)

Prizes: First Prize – £1200 and The Miley Cup; Second Prize – £800

The competitors are:

Lennart Kleeberg - Berlin

Pascal Bachmann - London

Jukka Geisler - Munchen

Mark Baker - Kent

George Baldwin - Surrey

Ergo Kiss - Kertstd

The first and second prize winners in the Senior Section, and the first prize winner in the Junior Section will be given free entry to the Northern Ireland International Competition to take place in Armagh in August 2025, with opportunities for further prizes and prestigious recitals.

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

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 January 25th 2025: Bloomsbury Organ Day

The Bloomsbury Organ Day takes place at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8EP on Saturday January 25th 2025.

12:00: Light refreshments.

12:30-17:00. Philip Norman, George Allan and Bruce Buchanan will give presentations, plus two ½ hour organ recitals given by Ben Collyer and Evan Lawrence, and a short violin and piano recital given by Ben and Evan.

Entry is free up to 17:00.

17:00: The Bloomsbury Buffet, cost £6.

18:00: Celebrity Recital given by David Briggs, cost £10.

19:30: End

Throughout the afternoon, it will be possible to purchase organ-related music and CDs and there will be good time to meet each other and exchange news and views.

Further details, including an online registration form, can be found at: <https://organistsonline.org/bloomsbury/introduction.html>. A poster is shown below giving an outline programme for the day. Don't forget to register for the free session, and optionally for the buffet and celebrity recital.

Saturday February 15th 2025: Caterham, Surrey

This visit is organised by our President, John Varney.

We will visit St. John the Evangelist Caterham, where John Varney was Director of Music and Organist from 1972 to 1998.

It is hoped to arrange lunch with guest speaker.

Afternoon to include a visit to St. Mary Caterham.

Further details in due course.

Saturday March 1st 2025: The AGM, All Souls, Langham Place, London W1B 3DA.

Yes, 1st Saturday in March, not an error!

Further details will be provided in due course, but please **save the date!**

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

Nov 20th 13:05 Thomas Allery (St Mary-le-Bow & Temple Church, London)

Dec 18th 13:05 Anthony Gritten (Royal Academy of Music)

Admission free, retiring collection.

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

Organ Matinees 2024, Sundays at 15:00

Nov 17th 15:00 Donald Mackenzie (Odeon Leicester Square, & Ayrshire)

Dec 22nd 15:00 Gerard Brooks (Methodist Central Hall, Westminster)

Service of Meditation

Oliver Messiaen (La Nativité du Seigneur) including an audio-visual presentation

Admission free, retiring collection.

Christ Church Spitalfields, Commercial St, London E1 6LY

Nov 11th 19:30 Gerard Brooks with Patsy Gamble (saxophone)

See poster below for programme details.

Admission by programme £15, or online at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/organ-concerts-2024-season-3209219>

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

Nov 14th 13:10 Nat Keiller (Windsor)

Admission free, retiring collection.

St Lawrence Church, Alton, GU34 2BW

Nov 5th 20:00 Mark Shepherd (formerly Head of Music, Charterhouse)

Dec 3rd 20:00 Simon Earl (Christchurch Priory)

Jan 7th 20:00 Roger Sayer (International Concert Organist)

Admission: £10.00 at the door, or season membership available.

<https://altonorgansociety.co.uk/styled-4/>

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

Lunchtime series: MONDAYS at 13:00

Nov 4th 13:00 Francesca Massey (Concert organist, Rochester)

Jan 13th 13:00 Ian Hockley (London)

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/town-hall/whats-on/lunchtime-organ-recital-november-2024>

The PANTRY CAFE & KITCHEN will be open from 11:30 before the recital.

NB: London area members – you can use your Freedom Pass to travel between London Paddington and Reading on the Elizabeth line, for FREE!

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

Nov 12th 13:10 Benjamin Chewter (Metropolitan Tabernacle, London)

Nov 26th 13:10 Alastair Ross

Dec 10th 13:10 Travis Baker (St Leonard's, Streatham)

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

Nov 5th 13:10 Tom Winpenny (St Albans)

Nov 19th 13:10 Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)

Dec 3rd 13:10 Joshua Ryan (Hampstead Parish Church)

Dec 17th 13:10 Richard Gowers (St George's)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Emmanuel Church, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1YG

Nov 1st 13:00 Alexander Woodrow (Leeds Minster)

Dec 6th 13:00 Roger Judd (St Michael's Church, Tenbury Wells)

Jan 3rd 13:00 Charles Wooler (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Admission free (retiring collection)

Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA

Nov 11th 13:20 Timara Easter (Harpندن)

Nov 18th 13:20 Simon Hogan (Southwark Cathedral)

Nov 25th 13:20 Daniel Phillips (King's College School, Wimbledon)

Admission free, retiring collection