

# The Organ Club Newsletter

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MARCH 2018

## NOTICES

**May Newsletter contributions:** please email notices by **16th April** at the latest to the usual address ( [newsletter@organclub.org](mailto:newsletter@organclub.org) ).

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Thank you to those who have renewed, and the many who have added extra to the basic sum. All those due to renew were posted a form with the Newsletter early in January. Payment has to be received by 31st March as dictated in the Constitution. UK members - Juniors £10, Senior £25, Standard £30 [25-60 years]. Non-UK - add £10 postage. If you have difficulty in paying, please contact me. Contact details appear in the April visit information.

**Mark Jameson**, Membership Secretary

## CLUB OFFICER VACANCIES

### 2019/20 Presidency

The Interim President, **John Miley**, has agreed to continue in post until the 2019 AGM. The Constitution requires that, *prior* to the completion of his term of office, the committee must put forward the name of a suitable candidate to take over from him. Your committee is pleased to nominate **Peter Owen** for this position. Once ratified at the Annual General Meeting, Peter will assume the title and role of President-elect, taking over as President in March 2019. This procedure helps to promote continuity in the leadership of the Club.

### Other Officer Vacancies

All Officers' posts are subject to election each year. Sometimes, existing post-holders are content to put their names forward for re-election, although any Club member can be nominated for these positions. At the time of writing, **no** nominations from existing Officers or other volunteers have been received for the following posts:

**Treasurer Richard Blanch**, the Interim Treasurer, has carried out an excellent job in clarifying the issues left by his predecessor in the 2014 to 2016 financial statements of the Club, but does **not** wish to continue in this post. Here is a brief Job Description of the role:

- Operate the Club bank accounts (current & deposit).
- Inform the Membership Secretary of Subscriptions and 'Member Donations' received directly into the bank current account.
- Issue cheques for payments to suppliers.
- *Either* attend monthly visits (and tours) *or* appoint a 'deputy' to collect dues from participants, pay for teas, coach driver tips etc. Make a record of these transactions and pay the net amount received into the bank.
- Maintain accurate book-keeping records of all the Club's transactions.
- Produce a Report of the current financial situation of the Club (i.e. income, expenses and surplus/deficit) for each Committee meeting.
- Agree the Annual Accounts with the Independent Accounts Examiner(s) and present them to members in the Annual Report at the Annual General Meeting.
- Provide advice to the committee on the strategic financial planning necessary to ensure the successful operation of the Club.

**N.B. IF THE POST OF TREASURER CANNOT BE FILLED THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB WILL BE IN JEOPARDY.**

**Newsletter Editor**, **Brian Caswell**, having served as Club Newsletter Editor for over 6 years (and Secretary prior to that) now intends to stand down. The Job Description for this role is to:

“Receive: announcements about monthly visits and the annual tour; information from event organisers and Committee members; and details of recitals involving Club members. Check that the information is complete and accurate. Format the resulting draft into an accepted style, then email the resulting file to the Club’s printer and the website organiser.”

**Journal Editor** **Kevin Grose** wishes to relinquish his Editorial role, a post that involves:

Gathering material via E-mail and post for inclusion in 3 issues of the Journal each year. Editing each one using suitable software. Organising its content and finalising the Tables of Content. Sending the resulting file to a designated graphic designer to lay out. Proof-reading the resulting document, finalising the layout and sending the file to the Club printer

**Committee Members** The Constitution stipulates the appointment of **eight** committee members, each serving a term of four years. Of recent times it has proved difficult to achieve this number, although co-option of members with special expertise has minimised this shortfall. This year, there are still no nominations for **three** of the vacancies. The Job Description of a committee member is:

“To attend Committee meetings (about 5 per annum, in the London area or by *Skype*); to receive and comment on Officers' reports; and to organise (with assistance, guidance and suggestions from others, if needed) at least one monthly visit per year”.

**Anyone with the skills and time to take on any of these roles, please make yourselves known to John Miley, or one of the other committee members, as soon as possible!**

## **CLUB MEETINGS**

### **• SATURDAY 17 MARCH, 11.00, BLOOMSBURY CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH -**

#### **(a) THE 2018 CLUB AGM**

Details of the agenda and venue location of this meeting are included in the 2017 Annual Report which accompanies this Newsletter. **If attending the AGM, please bring the Report with you!**

This AGM is a particularly important one, since it not only enables members to review 2017 Club activities and vote for members of the 2018/19 committee, but also provides the opportunity for them to consider the Revised Financial Statements for 2014 to 2016. The Interim Treasurer has carried out a very substantial analysis of each set of accounts for 2014, 2015 and 2016 and the Independent Examiner, **George Gray**, has reviewed them and added his report in each case. Formal acceptance of these documents will be sought from those present.

#### **(b) A SPECIAL MEETING TO CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

This meeting will immediately follow the AGM. It is some time since the Constitution was reviewed, during which time, the age profile of the membership has changed and many

developments in methods of communication have taken place. Legislation has also imposed increasing levels of accountability on organisations. The changes proposed by committee to address these issues are shown in the Annual Report booklet pages 35 - 37.

The afternoon will be given over to a video programme introduced by **John Miley**, followed by a recital by the distinguished organist **Thomas Trotter** and concluded by afternoon tea.

**THERE WILL BE A CHARGE OF £10, FOR THE RECITAL AND TEA**, to be collected on the day. The recital programme is shown on page 39 of the Annual Report.

**PLEASE INFORM SECRETARY JOHN VARNEY IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS, RECITAL AND TEA**

( Phone: 01483 574326; [jvarneyguildford@icloud.com](mailto:jvarneyguildford@icloud.com) )

• **SATURDAY 21 APRIL - READING VILLAGES** - Four 2-manual organs

*An event in the spirit of the Padre Organ visits that were led by the late Bernard Edmonds - except that we have a coach! Size is not everything!*

**MEET: 10.30 READING STATION** Exit from bridge by platform 15: **NORTH SIDE** by Bus station to meet a *Reading & Wokingham Coach*. Thence depart to:

**10.45: - ALL SAINTS DUNSDEN RG4 9PH.** *In a country lane! Hopefully Spring will put on a good display of flowers at Dunsden (& Kidmore End) this year.*

WW1 Poet Wilfred Owen was associated with this church.

*1875 Holidich* restored 1995 by *Saxon Aldred* Gt 4, Sw 8, Ped 1. **Philip Bowcock** Director of Music will demonstrate the qualities of the organ.

**12.15: - ST BARNABAS EMMER GREEN RG4 8RA**, (junction of Grove Road/St Barnabas Road)

*2016 Peter Collins* - all pipes Gt 5, Sw 5, Ped 4. Plus Swell Oct/Sub Octave. Autobases assist. (Incorporating *1929 Phipps* 1 manual, Ped, 7speaking stops.)

**LUNCH AT THE CHURCH - it is remote from facilities!**

**14.30: - ST JOHN THE BAPTIST KIDMORE END, RG4 9BH**

*Village centre with duck pond & house!*

*1867 Bevington* restored 2000 Tony Foster-Waite Gt 6, Sw 5 + octave, Ped 1. I hope **Frances Brewitt-Taylor** will demonstrate this organ

**16.15: - CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS METHODIST, 74 Highmoor Road, READING RG4 7BG** (Church built 1909)

*1878 Sweetland*, moved the instrument here from Trinity Congregational Church 1913, rebuilt 1963 *Rushworth & Dreaper*; rebuilt 1981 *Osmond* of Taunton.

Gt.12, Sw 10, Ped 7. Director of Music **Peter Bernard** will give a full demonstration.

**18.00 - FINISH: at READING STATION**

**John Varney** will lead this visit with OSCO member **Joshua Simoes** opening the playing at each church.

**BOOKING: Coach £20, LUNCH** - to be pre-booked - the team at St Barnabas have offered to provide tea/coffee, and a salad platter, cost **£5** - to be paid to the team who

will have a list of those who have booked. Those using their cars: £5 per person, lunch £5, which must be pre-booked.

**Bookings:** Mark Jameson 01189 344212 or text 07802 715634 or e-mail [markmdjameson@btinternet.com](mailto:markmdjameson@btinternet.com) by **TUESDAY 17 April**

**TRAVEL & PARKING:** 09.45 London Paddington Platform 2, arrives platform 9 at 10.10 or 09.52 Paddington Platform 1, RDG platform 9, 10.24 **Allow 10 minutes walking time from the platforms to the north exit.** See <https://www.gwr.com> for timetables. Frequent train service, now with mainly electric trains.

**PARKING** Station £12 Saturday all day rate, Hills Meadow RG4 8DH [NCP] north side of Reading Bridge 15 mins walk £8 all day [Kings Meadow RG1 8DF likely to be full £9]. Churches - **Dunsden** - keep entrance clear for coach, car park to east of church. **Emmer Green** - limited, only members with walking difficulty close to church, yellow lines & bus route in narrow roads. **Kidmore End**, nearby pub, but very limited. **Caversham Heights**, small car park at rear of church, street parking on narrow road served by 4 buses per hour route 22. **Beware bus and lanes and stops - all have cameras that are 24/7 active!**

• **SATURDAY 19 MAY - ELY and THE CATHEDRAL**

Make a note in your diary of this visit to a fabulous venue, including a Royal School of Church Music Festival service (in place of Evensong) followed by a demonstration of the organ by **Edmund Aldhouse**, assistant Master of Music. There will be an opportunity for some playing time afterwards. A visit to St Andrew's Church, Soham is also planned for the early afternoon to hear the 28 stop organ built by *Bower & Co* in 2013. Look out for full details in the May Newsletter!

**RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS**

• **FRIDAY 4 -SUNDAY 6 MAY - USHAW ORGAN WEEKEND**

Hosted at Ushaw College, 5 miles from Durham Cathedral. A full and varied programme of interest to all organ lovers, including a visit to *Harrison and Harrison* Organ Builders, informal classes, an Organ recital by James Parsons etc.

Cost, including tuition, recital, dinner (with wine) at a reduced cost of £150 for Organ Club members. Further details in the E-Newsletter or contact John Miley, President. A deposit of £40, payable to The Organ Club, addressed to: Ushaw Organ Weekend, 7 Pridmore Close, Woodnewton, Peterborough, PE8 5EY

**St Alphage, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 0DN**

3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm, **Sarah Kim**, International Recitalist. Admission £10, with refreshments

**Kings College, Cambridge, CB2 1ST**

2<sup>nd</sup> April at 17.30 **William Whitehead** Admission £12.50, (concessions available).

**Reading Town Hall, RG1 1QH**

Monday 30th April 1pm **Jonathan Holl**, Organ Club member & President Berkshire Organists' Association. Recital tickets £5