

The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 89

March 2019

1. NOTICES

Membership and Subscriptions for 2019

At the time of writing 260 members have renewed - and I have a pile of around 40 that have yet to be processed. The database this year has to be done differently because of GDPR and other proposals - it's taking time.

We advised the rates for 2019 in the November Newsletter, and the January Newsletter gave more information along with the renewal form. This form was sent BY POST to everyone due to renew. Despite this, several members have not updated bank standing order instructions, and currently, two members (as at 14th February) are still short paid. UK rate is £30, Young members £12. The form has signature spaces for GDPR (still quite a number to respond). I will acknowledge all those with e-mails, the priority is to process the renewals.

Please direct all correspondence to markmdjameson@btinternet.com or by post to: 92 The Hawthorns, Charvil, Reading, RG10 9TS.

Thank you to those who have renewed: many had added donations on top of their membership fee, and very many who are able, have signed so we are ready, when hopefully we can become a Charity.

Mark Jameson, Membership Secretary

May 2019 Newsletter contributions: please email notices by April 16th at the latest to John Belling (newsletter@organclub.org), or write to him at: 42 Cunningham Park, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 4QJ.

2. CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday March 16th 2019: AGM St Albans Organ Theatre

The AGM will take place at the St Albans Organ Theatre at 13:00 and will be followed by a demonstration of the Theatre's collections, including the two playable pipe organs, the Spurden Rutt and the Wurlitzer. We will also have the world first performance of a piano roll production of "Ride in a High Speed Train" by Ad Wammes which was played to us at the 2018 AGM by Thomas Trotter. Ad Wammes is coming over from Holland to attend the event so members will have a chance to meet him.

The Theatre is providing a buffet tea around 16:00, and at 17.30 the St Albans International Festival Society is arranging an organ recital at St

Saviour's Church by Edward Higginbottom, the retired Organist of New College, Oxford. St Saviour's is a short walk from the Theatre so members may like to complete the day with attendance at the recital.

Travel: St Albans Organ Theatre. 320 Camp Road, St Albans AL1 5PE.

Train to St Alban's City Station., exit to Victoria Street, turn left; left again at Breakspear Avenue, at end is Camp Road. Turn right into Camp Road, follow to no. 320 which is next to Camp School.

Museum telephone number is 03003 656565.

Please note: car parking is not allowed on site.

Entry to the AGM is of course free to members, but the charge for the demonstrations plus the buffet tea is £10.

Please inform John Miley at cegb36@gmail.com (01780 470015) by Wednesday 6th March to signify your prospective attendance and also whether you wish to partake of the tea.

Saturday April 27th 2019: A London Visit

The visit this afternoon has been organised by Peter Owen.

11:30 The Swiss Church in London, 79 Endell Street, WC2H 9DY

We will be met by the Director of Music, Peter Yardley-Jones.

The organ at the Swiss Church was completed in 2009 by Orgelbau Späth, a Swiss organ builder founded in 1909 in Rapperswil (and now based in Rüti ZH). The organ has 676 pipes with the shortest pipe measuring 1.8cm and the longest 2.4m.

12:30 Lunch

13:30 The Welsh Church of Central London, 30 Eastcastle Street, Fitzrovia, W1W 8DJ where we will meet Euron Walters (Organ Club member Paul Joslin is away).

Nicholsons completed a restoration of the 1908 Alfred Hunter & Son organ in September 2018. A 16ft Trombone was added to the Pedal Organ. A painted and gilded decoration in period style was also applied to the case pipes using traditional techniques. The consultant for the work was Paul Joslin. A comprehensive fully illustrated 35 page booklet about the organs will be available at the chapel (£5). All proceeds to the organ fund.

An article on A. Hunter & Son (and the Welsh Church organ) is featured in the current (March) edition of *Organists' Review*, pages 36-41.

As we go to press, a visit to a third church has not been finalised. Details will be given in the AGM on March 16th, see above.

May 18th 2019: Visit to Leicester

The organisation of this visit has not yet been completed - full details will appear in the next (May) newsletter.

Friday May 31st to Sunday June 2nd 2019:

Ushaw Organ Weekend

An invitation to organists at all ages and stages, observers, and all seeking a holiday weekend of inspiring music-making and cultural exploration in Durham's stunning historic setting, and Newcastle's dynamic cityscape. The weekend is hosted at Ushaw College, 5 miles from Durham, and is curated by James Parsons, with sponsorship from The Newcastle & District Society of Organists.

- Organists – tune-in to tuition from DAVID GOODE, JAMES PARSONS, BRIGITTE HARRIS and WILLIAM SAUNDERS; build skills and performance confidence in non-competitive, supportive classes – at Ushaw and in Durham College Chapels;
- attend ORGAN RECITALS by David Goode in Durham Cathedral on Friday May 31st at 19:30, and by virtuoso WILLIAM SAUNDERS in St Cuthbert's Chapel, Ushaw College on Saturday 1 June at 14:00 (programme includes Iain Farrington's entertaining ANIMAL PARADE);
- welcome to Durham Cathedral Organ loft with Daniel Cook and David Goode;
- play in Participants' Concert at Ushaw;
- socialise over Dinner in The Parlour at Ushaw – a handsome and intimate setting;
- discover Durham and Ushaw's art treasures; leisure pursuits on the Ushaw estate, and stroll through delightful parkland in bloom;
- on Friday 31 May (from 10.30): guided 'organ crawl' to notable organs in nearby Newcastle-upon-Tyne (there are lots!);
- group transport by minibus.

Costs: **£185** covers full participation: Tuition, Participants' Concert, Recital, Dinner and Organ Club membership for 2019, but for current members of The Organ Club, the cost is just **£150** and observers/students pay only **£95**. Participants should book own accommodation in the area – ensuite rooms at Ushaw are highly recommended - **£50/night B & B** (phone 0191 373 8500)

Reserve your place - please send a deposit of £50 (cheques payable THE ORGAN CLUB) to: Ushaw Organ Weekend, 7 Pridmore Close, Woodnewton, Peterborough, PE8 5EY

Enquiries: email to contact@jamesparsons.org

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**).

Saturday June 15th 2019: morning - The Chapel of Christ the Redeemer, Culham Court Estate; afternoon - Maidenhead St Luke's followed by St Andrew & St Mary.

Saturday July 20th 2019: Newland Chapel of Beauchamp Community; Malvern Link St Matthias; Great Malvern Priory.

Saturday August 17th 2019: Colchester.

Saturday September 26th 2020, Canterbury Cathedral & its new organ.

To whet your appetite, the following are also planned:

(a) **2019/ or 20:** a Yorkshire tour, where we plan to visit cathedrals, abbeys and minsters of Wakefield, Selby, Dewsbury, Howden and Beverley *inter alia*.

(b) **2020 September:** Tour of Isle of Man - details to follow when available.

3. RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

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

Mar 2nd 19:30 Jane Watts (Concert Organist)

Apr 6th 19:30 Samuel Austin (St Alphege & St Paul's, Mill Hill)

Jun (tba) 19:30 Anthony Halliday (St Francis Church, Melbourne)

Jul 6th 19:30 Kerek Stefanski (Poland)

Admission £10, including refreshments.

Reading Town Hall, Blagrove Street, Reading, RG11QH

Mar 25th 13:00 Dr William McVicker (Reading Town Hall Organ Curator)

May 20th 13:00 Eric Tyson

Tickets £5

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue WC2H 8EP

Mar 30th 16:00 Simon Gledhill (London)

Apr 27th 16:00 Eleni Keventsidou

May 25th 16:00 Daniel Moulton (Royal Birmingham Conservatoire)

St Margaret's Church, Church Road, Crick, Northampton NN6 7TP

Mar 27th 12:30 Philip Bricher (Holy Trinity, Northampton)

St Dominic's Priory, Southampton Road, London NW5 4LB

Apr 13th 19:00 Martin Stacey (St Dominic's Priory, Hampstead)

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