

Royal Hospital School Chapel, Holbrook IP9 2RX

Sat 1st February 2020 (RCO Study Day)

**“The art of making instant music!”** - improvising on the organ

For the parish organist, and more advanced players.

The ability to improvise is an important skill – especially for the church organist – and it is fun! There are always moments during a service when pieces need to be extended or suitable music played for a short time.

Improvisation is an “age-old skill and a wonderful practical and creative resource”.

Come and find out how to do it; or come and take your existing skills to a whole new level!

Observers also most welcome – come and pick up tips whilst relaxing and listening to others play.

The course will be directed by Ronny Krippner (“*A phenomenal improviser*” BBC Music Magazine) and Drew Cantrill-Fenwick (“*a formidable musician*” NZ Herald)

- 11:00 Refreshments & registration
- 11:15 Improvisation demonstration/recital by Ronny Krippner
- 12:00 Workshop 1
- 13:15 Lunch break
- 14:00 Workshop 2
- 15:15 Refreshments
- 15:45 Organ recital by Drew Cantrill-Fenwick  
Featuring music by Litaize, Boëly, Franck and Vierne.

Participants (maximum of 6 in each group): £30 (for masterclass & recital);

Observers also most welcome: £15 (for masterclass & recital);

Lunch is available to purchase at £5;

Admission to concluding Recital only: £10.

Bookings for the Workshop: participants & observers, in advance please, via

David Poulter at RHS: Email: [DPoulter@royalhospitalschool.org](mailto:DPoulter@royalhospitalschool.org)

Tickets for the 15:45 Recital also available in advance or on the door

\*\*\* Visit the Club’s website: [www.organclub.org](http://www.organclub.org)

\*\*\* Follow the Club on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheOrganClub](https://www.facebook.com/TheOrganClub)

# The Organ Club Newsletter

Number 92

September 2019

## 1. NOTICES

### Membership Matters

We need new members of all ages to join the Club -it will help keeping subscriptions down. PERSONAL CONTACT is the BEST METHOD of advertising!

If you can encourage and get them to join the CLUB, you get a **£5 reduction** in your 2020 membership renewal.

A NEW member joining in the Autumn (September onward) receives a membership expiry date of 31st December 2020 - i.e. 15 months for the price of 12. This brings the membership renewal date in line with the calendar year. £30 for adults and £12 for young members - forms on line - OR please ask me to send you some forms that can be handed out to your non-member friends!

Any queries - to me - [markmdjameson@btinternet.com](mailto:markmdjameson@btinternet.com) or text/phone 07802 715634.

### Sales of Member Bequest items

This summer, three members have selected items from lists of available books, CDs, DVDs and leaflets that are available a very low costs, but there are still around 850 items looking for new homes - the greatest number now being old day visit notes.

Members who are able to attend visits will have seen the considerable detail about buildings and organs these notes contain.

Please contact me for PDF lists (any items that a member has requested, but the sale is on-going has their initials, if I get a second request for an item, that will be logged, but I do not go in for e-bay over bidding for any item).

## Cautionary note for subscribers to *Choir & Organ* magazine

Mark Jameson is a subscriber to *Choir & Organ* (C&O) magazine. Currently, the magazine is issued every 2 months, but from October, C&O will be issued monthly. Mark took out a 2-year subscription terminating with the March 2020 issue, but Mark has now been informed by the publishers that, with the extra issues, his subscription will now terminate with the December 2019 issue.

To quote from Mark's email:

*"I paid for a TWO YEAR subscription. If you have paid for a subscription to this magazine - do look and check when it expires with the date and time of the original expiry date. A subscription is a legal document in TIME as well as issues - if the supplier then changes the terms substantially which the publishers have now done - they MUST honour the terms and conditions of the original purchase agreement.*

*Do take time to check the subscriptions you have. I paid £41.49 for two years - now the publicly advertised ONE year sub is £71.88 with minor discounts to £62 for direct debit.*

*I have complained to Sally Boettcher, their Customer Service Director on 01722 716997, who put me onto their Circulation Manager, who having listened to what I said has restored my subscription expiry date to March 2020."*

Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary) [markmdjameson@btinternet.com](mailto:markmdjameson@btinternet.com)

## November 2019 Newsletter contributions

Please email notices by October 16<sup>th</sup> at the latest to John Belling ([newsletter@organclub.org](mailto:newsletter@organclub.org)), or write to him at:

42 Cunningham Park,  
Harrow,  
Middlesex,  
HA1 4QJ

## Truro Cathedral, St Mary's Street, Truro, TR1 2AF

Aug 30<sup>th</sup> 13:10 Timothy Easter (Harpenden)

## Winchester Cathedral, The Close, Winchester, SO23 9LS

Sep 3<sup>rd</sup> 13:00 Timothy Easter (Harpenden)

## Royal Hospital School Chapel, Holbrook IP9 2RX

Saturday Sep 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00 – 18:00

### ***"Play the organ? What ..... me?"***

Organ Taster Day for Pianists - including a Celebrity Recital by Daniel Moul. An opportunity to hear and play the King of Instruments, & to find out how it works. Bring a piano piece to play/doodle with a few notes, or just come and listen. This is for anyone, young and old, who is interested in maybe learning to play the organ.

**Directed by Daniel Moul** (Head of Organ Studies, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire & International Concert Artist) **with David Poulter** (formerly DOM at the Cathedrals of Liverpool, Chester & Coventry), **and William Saunders** (Director of Music at the Royal Hospital School).

Participants will be taught on the small Classical 2-manual organ as well as the charming 2-manual Skrabl tracker action instrument in the Music Department library.

There will also be an opportunity to play the legendary Grand Organ, a 4-manual Romantic instrument of unrivalled power housed in the huge acoustic of the 1930s chapel.

The day will start with a recital by William Saunders (DOM at RHS) who will explain how the organ works and what it can do!

There will be three workshops:

Basics – Piano to Organ; Hymn playing; and Playing pieces – manuals only & easy pedals.

Daniel Moul will conclude the proceedings with a Celebrity Recital at 17:00 – including pieces by Mendelssohn, Widor, Stanford, Whitlock, Hough, Vaughan Williams and Dupré.

Participants: £30 (for workshops & recital);

Observers also welcome: £15 (for workshops & recital);

Lunch is available to purchase at £5;

17:00 Celebrity Recital only: £10.

Bookings for the Workshop: participants & observers, in advance please, via David Poulter at RHS: Email: [DPoulter@royalhospitalschool.org](mailto:DPoulter@royalhospitalschool.org)  
Tickets for Celebrity Recital also available in advance or on the door.

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

Sep 21<sup>st</sup> 19:30 Andrew Caskie (Director of Nicholson & Co organs)  
Admission: free with collection; Angel Tube; buses 4 19 30 38 73 205 341

**St John the Evangelist, Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood, London SE19 2RX**

Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 19:30 Gerard Brooks (Central Hall, Westminster)

**St Michael's Abbey, 280 Farnborough Rd, Farnborough, GU14 7NQ**

Organ by Cavaillé-Coll

Programme for 2019, 15:00 to 16:00

[ Neil Wright OC member - DOM at the Abbey.

Organ looked after by Eric and John Shepherd! ]

Sep 1<sup>st</sup> 15:00 David Bendix Nielsen (Roskilde Cathedral, Denmark)

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 15:00 Neil Wright (Farnborough Abbey)

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 15:00 Advent Concert – Neil Wright

Admission free, with retiring collection.

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

Sep 22<sup>nd</sup> 15:00 Andrew Furniss (Central Hall, Westminster)

Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 15:00 Jeremy Lloyd (Rochester Cathedral)

**St. Michael's, Cornhill, London EC3V 9DS**

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 13:00 Norman Harper (London)

**Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA**

Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 13:10 Adrian Gunning (St John the Evangelist, Islington)

**St Lawrence Church, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 2BW**

Organ Recitals – 53rd season - Tuesday at **20:00**, usually finish by 21:15.

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> James Tett (RCM & OCSO member)

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Tansy Castledine (Director of Music and Organist,  
Peterborough Cathedral)

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> David Poulter (Chester & Coventry)

And in 2020:

Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Paul Carr

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Peter Wright (recently retired from Southwark Cathedral)

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> Kristel Aer (Estonia)

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> Anna Lapwood (Pembroke College, Cambridge)

May 5<sup>th</sup> Peter King (Organist Emeritus, Bath Abbey)

Tickets £10 at the door, but there is usually a season ticket for those able to attend regularly.

For getting home, Alton Station 21:44 arrives Waterloo 22:58 (via Aldershot, Woking and Clapham Junction). Allow 15 minutes to get from church to station walking.

## 2. CLUB MEETINGS

**Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> 2019** (NB: 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday)

### Vale of the White Horse, Wiltshire

John Varney has put together an interesting day in The Vale of the White Horse, an area just north of Salisbury Plain and very rural. The Parish Churches are all historically interesting buildings.

**10:00 Coach** departs from Westbury Station.

**10:15 - 11:15** Westbury Methodist Church, Station Road, BA13 3JD

Organ 1885 Wilkinson of Kendal, major overhaul in 1984 by Roger Taylor, compass 56/25

Ped: 16; Gt: 8,8,8,4,4,2; Sw: 8,8,4,8; 3 Unison couplers

Almost every surviving organ built by this builder is in the north of England.

**11:15** Coach leaves to go to Steeple Ashton.

**11:30 - 12:45** St Mary the Virgin, Church St, Steeple Ashton, BA14 6EW.

Organ 1877 Bryceston Bros & Ellis, 1956 Percy Daniel; 2011 Stephen Cooke of Westbury carried out an overhaul, currently Liberty organs (Gary Cook) looks after this fine instrument. Compass 56/30.

Ped:16, 16; Gt: 8,8,8,8,4,4,2, III, 8; Sw: 16,8,8,8,8[TC],4,4,2, III, 8,8;

Ch: 8,8,8,4,4,8; Couplers: Sw/Ch, Sw/P, Sw/G, Ch/P, G/P. No thumb pistons.

**Lunch Break** – Food being organised at the Long Arms Public House, a short walk from the Parish Church.

**13:45** Coach leaves to go to Edington Priory.

**14:00 - 16:00** Edington Priory Church of St Mary, St Katharine & All Saints,

Monastery Rd, Edington, Westbury BA13 4PH.

Light tea refreshments are being provided for a small charge.

*Main organ:* 2014 Harrison & Harrison, compass 58/30

Ped: 16,8,8,16; Gt: 16,8,8,8,4,4,2,III,8,8; Sw: 8,8,8,8,4,4,2 $\frac{2}{3}$ ,2,1 $\frac{3}{5}$ ,III, 8,8;

Tremulants to Gt, Sw. Sw Sub octave, 3 Unison couplers

*Chancel organ:* Acquired 1981; c1850 Alex Mills of New York (USA):

OD [Ten. F], St. Bass [Bottom C to TE], Dulciana [TE up] Flute.

**16:15** Coach returns to Westbury

An art exhibition will also be going on.

**16:30 - 17:45** All Saints Church, Church Road, Westbury, BA13 3BT

Organ 1867 Bevington, alterations in 1888, by 1957, c1978 Coulson, Bristol.

Progressive work from 2001 onward by Stephen Cooke. Compass 54/30

Ped: 16,16,8,8,4,16; Gt: 8,8,4, 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ ,2, III, 8; Sw: 16,8,8,4,2,16,8;

Ch: 8,8,4,2, II, 8; Couplers: S/P, S/G, S/C, C/G, C/P, G/P.

There will also be an art exhibition at the church.

**17:45** Prompt finish, coach only hired to 18.00hrs. *Distance: All Saints to station – 1.1miles.*

**Optional extra:** Westbury URC, Warminster Road, BA13 3PJ  
(those with cars only)

Unknown builder of Victorian organ, 56/30.

Ped: Large Pedal Pipes [Sub Bass 16], BF8; Gt: OD8, SD8, Ker8 [TC],  
Dul 8[TC], P4, F4, F2; Sw: OD 8, FDA 8[Gvd to LG], LG8, P4, P2, Hautboy 8.  
Hand and electric blown. Sw Sub Octave plus 3 Unison couplers.  
Can Club members resolve the builder mystery?

#### **Car Parking:**

Westbury Station, car park BA14 3HP and station entrance on south-east side, £2.30 all day [APCOA]

Westbury Methodist – alongside church, junction of B3097/A350.

Steeple Ashton – village location, either in Church Street or near the Long Arms.

Edington – Car Park with toilets by Priory, beware uneven surfaces.

All Saints – limited churchyard parking, High Street parking charged – meters. NB access from Church Street to All Saints -pedestrianised.

URC – Aldi almost opposite; church car park – pass URC on left, 1<sup>st</sup> left into Hospital Road, 1<sup>st</sup> left The Butts, narrow entrance on left after second building to church car park.

#### **Travel:**

Westbury is a major junction for many train routes, but few London trains.

To help with planning the web site –

[www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced) has been used.

#### **Getting to Westbury by train:**

Train London Paddington, platform 1: 08:03 arrives **Westbury 09:27** [1C74 to Exeter] NB this is the only direct service in the morning.

Train [2070] Worcester to Weymouth at 06:49, at Bristol Parkway 08:20, Bath Spa 08:55, **Westbury 09:26**

Train [2M97] Southampton 08:30 via Salisbury arrives **Westbury 09:37**.

Train [1A77] Taunton 09:19 arrives **Westbury 10:02**

Train [1C06] London Paddington to Bristol Temple Meads, platform 3 08.30, arrives Bath Spa, platform 1 09:59. Use underpass to reach platform 2, connect with train from Gloucester [2086] arrives Bath Spa Platform 2 10:05 – arrives **Westbury 10:36**. Make own way to the Methodist church. †

**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**).

#### **Fri/Sat December 27/28<sup>th</sup> 2019: Central London**

Organ Club Competition

**Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> 2020, Canterbury Cathedral** & its new organ.

**2020 September or October:** Tour of Isle of Man – to include Trams and Steam Trains. Details to follow when available.

### **3. RECITALS PLAYED OR PROMOTED BY CLUB MEMBERS**

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

Sep 14<sup>th</sup> 19:30 Simon Lindley (Organist Emeritus, Leeds Minster and Leeds Town Hall)

Admission £10, including refreshments.

#### **Reading Town Hall, Blagrove Street, Reading, RG11QH**

Sep 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00 & 12:00 Heritage Open Day

Free talk and demonstration of the historic Father Willis organ, followed by the opportunity to come and try your hand at the 4m Willis in 1882 condition WITHOUT modern playing aids! Admission free

Lunchtime Series 2019/20, 6 recitals, Mondays at 13:00

Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> 13:00 Edward Kemp-Luck

Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 13:00 Benjamin Chewter (London)

Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 13:00 David Pether (Reading)

Further dates in 2020: Mar 16<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Jul 20<sup>th</sup>.

Admission £5, or season ticket for all 6 recitals - £24

#### **Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue WC2H 8EP**

Sep 28<sup>th</sup> 16:00 Sebastian Heindl (Hochschule für Musik, Leipzig, Germany)

Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 16:00 Jane Watts (Concert Organist – 60<sup>th</sup> birthday recital)

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> 16:00 Ghislaine Rees-Trapp (Highgate School)

#### **St Edmund's, Larkwood Road, Chingford, E4 9DS**

Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 19:30 Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

Ends 21:20 – 22:00; interval with refreshments; admission £10

#### **Christ's Chapel, Dulwich, College Road, SE21 7AS**

Sep 25<sup>th</sup> 13:30 Thomas Trotter (Birmingham City Organist)

## Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2019: Bishop's Stortford

**11:00** St Michaels P.C. Windhill, CM23 2ND

Recently reconstructed in 2016 by Mander Organs, this is now basically a new organ using almost all of the original 1888 Kirkland pipework with additions by Walkers, Nicholsons and Manders.

It is now a very fine Parish Church Organ - Gt 12; Sw 10; Ch 12; Ped 10.

**12:30 - 14:00** Lunch

There are numerous eateries in Town within very easy walking distance of this and the next church.

**14:15** Water Lane U.R.C. Water Lane, CM23 2JZ

Organ by William Hill 1898, rebuilt by H.N&B in 1952 with pneumatic action and then again in 1995 when it was electrified and a detached console added. Gt 8; Sw 10; Ped 6.

**16:00** All Saints' Hockerill, Stansted Road, CM23 2DY

Overhauled and enlarged earlier this year by Willis, who built the original organ in 1937. The organ uses the extension principle owing to an extremely tight chamber and now produces a noble sound in this beautiful church. Gt 11; Sw 10; Ped 10.

**17:30** Hockerill Anglo European College, Dunmow Road, CM23 5HX

Originally by Hill (1878) and then overhauled by H.N&B in 1923, the organ was then drastically altered by Anthony Worsdell before being returned to its original specification by Johnsons in more recent years.

Gt 5; Sw 4; Ped 2.

**Car parking** - there are numerous town centre car parks very close to the first two churches with just a short ten to fifteen minute walk up the hill to Hockerill in the afternoon. Charge is £4.40 for all day parking.

For those who don't feel like walking up the Hill to All Saints there will be parking available at the Anglo European college (only available in the afternoon) which is just around the corner from All Saints.

There is also parking at the first church (St Michaels) for just 3 or 4 cars strictly for those with walking difficulties please.

Regular trains from London to Bishop's Stortford.

**Bookings** by 9<sup>th</sup> November to [a.stevens405@btinternet.com](mailto:a.stevens405@btinternet.com)

or tel 01440 730085.

### Return trains from Westbury:

17:01 Plat 2 [1F25, From Cardiff] arrives Salisbury 17:31, Southampton 18:02.

18:19 Plat 1 [1C89 From Paddington] arrives Taunton 19:00, Exeter 19:29, Penzance 22:42.

18:32 Plat 3 [2M61] arrives at Swindon plat 1 at 19:21 (local service only, then change to plat 3 arrival from Cardiff (1L90), depart Swindon 19:29, Paddington 20:30.

19:12 Plat 3 [1A92 from Plymouth] arrives Reading 20:05 & Paddington 20:37.

20:05 Plat 3 [1A94 from Penzance] arrives Reading 20:59 & Paddington 21:36

NB No direct trains to London between 16:10 and 19:12.

† **Taxis** in Westbury: Three operators listed – A2B – 07980 804742; Clive's 07850 216564; Tim's 07855 560035.

**Walking:** ½ mile from station to Methodist, out of Station Approach, right onto B3097, keep in same direction, under railway bridge – two major junctions to cross, and Methodist on sharp left curve. Bus stops outside Railway Inn and Westbury Police station (just before Methodist church) - Bus times **not found** (timetables are due to change in September).

**Hotels** in Westbury: a Google search of hotels revealed the following: The Chalford House Hotel, 114 Warminster Road BA13 3PR; Horse and Groom PH, 18 Alfred Street BA13 3DY (bang in the centre of Westbury); nearest Travelodge in Warminster, Premier Inn in Trowbridge.

### Lunch time food:

Arrangements have been made with The Long Arms at Steeple Ashton for members to pre-select lunchtime food- either as a set meal or sandwiches. The Manager (Caroline) is aware of our time schedules, so I hope shortly to have menus from her for members to pre-select requirements. She will be given the member's name to avoid confusion, and members will pay the Long Arms. A room is being set aside for Organ Club members.

**Cost:** £10.00 per person, to be collected on the day. All food extra.

**Booking** - by **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** (for meals and coach numbers): Please contact Mark Jameson by e-mail- [markmdjameson@btinternet.com](mailto:markmdjameson@btinternet.com) or telephone 01189 344212 or text mobile 07802 715634 to book.

I need to know if you are coming by train, driving, or as a passenger with another member in a car.

I need to know if you wish to have lunch at The Long Arms, so I can send you the menu.



Chancel organ in Edington Priory (Alex Mills of New York, c1850)

## Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019: Yorkshire Tour

Our members David Wilks and Pat Flynn have arranged a tour to visit the restored Hill organ at Selby Abbey, the Compton/Wood organ at Wakefield Cathedral together with a number of notable instruments in the area.

A draft itinerary appeared in the 2019 July Newsletter and we shall be visiting nearly all those places.

Accommodation on a room and breakfast basis has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express, Wakefield (arriving Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> and leaving Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October) within easy reach of both Wakefield railway stations. A coach (38 seats) will be provided for travel outside Wakefield.

Lunches, dinners etc. will be at your own choice and cost.

The full accommodation and coach package, including Club costs (donations, brochure) is estimated to be **£290** per person sharing a double/twin room, or **£450** for single occupancy (the hotel price is per room, not per person).

A more detailed information document plus a booking form can be obtained from:

Richard Blanch,  
1 Chedburgh,  
Welwyn Garden City,  
AL7 2PU

Or email [richardblanch@aol.com](mailto:richardblanch@aol.com), tel: 01707 322166 to whom all enquiries should be directed.