

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, **Johannes Skoog** (1st prize winner, Montreal Organ Competition, May 31st)

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 126

May 2025

1. NOTICES

All Change!



With this issue of the newsletter, we say goodbye to the format that has been used for many years now. From the July issue, a new style will be adopted, to take us into our centenary year, and beyond. The new style will be used on all Organ Club publications, including the Journal and new website. Our new logo is shown on the left: there will be a special centenary version as well.

So keep a weather eye out for a first look at the Organ Club's new style.

All Change!

Membership Issues

So far, **29** members have not renewed. **Our renewal date for membership is the first working day of January.** Jonathan Rennert has enclosed a letter to each of those due to pay with the recently distributed Organ Club Journal 2025/1. I know funds can be tight and we are all living in a very challenging world. Our membership rates have been held since 2014. It cost both time and money to have to chase.

Unless I hear from those not paid, this will be your final Newsletter. Please check whether you have paid your membership for the year.

RENEWALS:

- **Online:**
Account: THE ORGAN CLUB Sort code 20-31-52. Account 00655171, with surname and post code as reference
- **Cheque:** Postcode and membership number as reference
- **REMINDER FORM:** Only complete and return to me if there are any changes to personal details. ***See previous Newsletters for the form.*** Information changes passed to any other officer may not reach me – I produce the mailing lists.
- **MEMBERSHIP Number:** This is on the envelope of all posted mail. Check envelope on receipt. IF the number starts with **4** **your**

membership expired on 31/12/2024. Numbers starting 5, 6, or 8 – no payment required. Please keep a record of the number.

The website is being updated, and we hope to have a membership section, but you will need your current membership number to access along with your e-mail.

Late payment means that those who dally are in fact being subsidised by those who have renewed.

All Journals/Newsletters due in 2024 were completed by the year end, so no reason to delay renewals.

Contact markmdjameson@gmail.com or text 07802 715634. Please do NOT leave voice messages as those calls cost ME money. PLEASE DO NOT RING my land line as it will not be answered

Mark Jameson (Membership Secretary)

July 2025 Newsletter contributions

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

John Belling (Newsletter Editor)

2. CLUB MEETINGS

Saturday May 17th 2025: Two Royal Chapels

THERE ARE ONLY TWELVE SPACES LEFT ON THE 59-SEATER COACH. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET BOOKED, PLEASE CONTACT MARK JAMESON AS SOON AS YOU CAN: markmdjameson@gmail.com, or TEXT to 07802 715634.

We shall meet at EGHAM STATION, then move as a party - in luxury - by coach! (There are quick trains from Waterloo. If you are coming by car, it can be left in the Station Car Park.)

Very strict security precautions mean that you will not be allowed to drive into Windsor Great Park.

[There are 54 spaces in Egham Station Car Park. The all-day charge is £3.90. If you have a BLUE BADGE, go onto station web site (see South West Trains) to register. PAYMENT SYSTEM: RingGo Code 2030. If you prefer, many other parking places nearby are offered by JustPark.]

We board the coach at the bus stop to the south of the station in Manorcroft Road. The Fernhill Coach will pick us up at 10:30.

The London Organ Competition 2025

For Teenage Organists, promoted by The Organ Club

At St. Michael's Cornhill, London

Tuesday 30th December 2025

Senior Section (17-19)

1st Prize £1,200 And the Miley Cup

For the Teenage Organist of the year



Monday 29th December 2025 Junior Section
(age up to and including 16)

First Prize £700 and the Varney Cup

Second Prize £400

Competitors in both classes will be required to play a piece by J S Bach and a second piece of their own choice.

For full details email: cegb36@gmail.com

Applications close on Saturday 1st November. Please apply as soon as possible in order to obtain a place, as we often have to turn down late applicants.

St. Alphage

Montrose Avenue, Burnt Oak, Edgware, Middlesex. HA8 0DN

SATURDAY ORGAN RECITALS 2025

Organ built 2002 by B.C. Shepherd & Sons incorporating Father Willis pipes from 1857



7th June ROSEMARY EVANS (Organist St. Alphage) at 3.00pm

5th July LORETO ARAMENDI at 7.30pm

(International Concert Organist, Organist Santa Maria San Sebastián, Spain)

2nd August ORGAN SOLOS & DUETS at 7.30pm

NORMAN HARPER

(Former Director of Music St George's Metropolitan Cathedral Southwark)

& MARILYN HARPER

(Organist Christ's Chapel Dulwich & St. Augustine's Honor Oak Park)

6th September DAVID HILL at 7.30pm

(International Conductor & Concert Organist)

Admission £10 followed by refreshments £3 (cash or cheques only)

First stop is the Royal Family's private Chapel of All Saints' in Windsor Great Park (2m Lewis, rebuilt 2024 by Nicholson). This building is not accessible to the public. We are privileged to have been invited by Canon Martin Poll (Chaplain to the King) and the Director of Music (Richard Furstenheim).

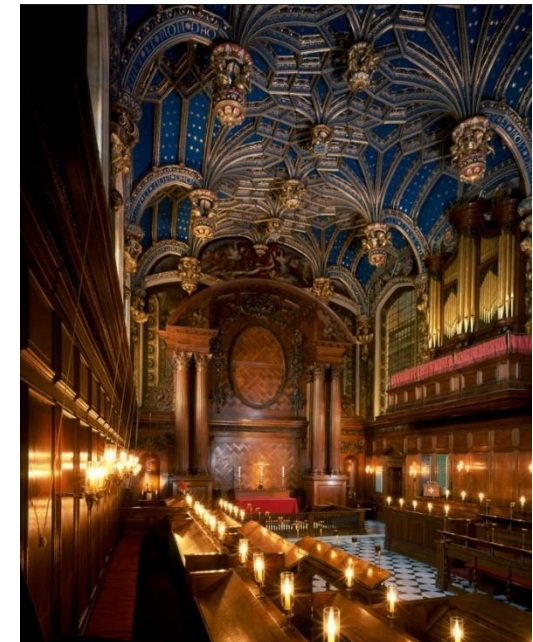


There will be a short demonstration, and time for members to play the organ (console pictured left).

A sandwich lunch will be provided at about 12:30. If the weather is fine, we can eat in the garden. The coach will leave at 1:30, to transport us to Hampton Court.

We hope to arrive at around 2:30 at the Palace of Hampton Court, where we shall be ushered into the magnificent Royal Chapel (pictured right). There will be a demonstration of the historic organ (1690 Father Smith, Hill, Walker, 2013 Harrisons). The Director of Music and Club member, Carl Jackson MVO, will talk to us about the organ and the music of the Chapel. It is planned that the President will present Carl with a certificate to mark his Vice-Presidency of The Organ Club. There will be time to play the organ.

It is hoped that the coach will deliver members back to Egham station by 5:00pm.



On the day, you may be asked to show photo-id. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There will be a charge of £30 per person (which covers lunch, transportation and all other costs). You are requested to submit payment to the Organ Club account (account details given on page 1 of this newsletter) ASAP.

June 10th to 14th 2025: Norfolk Tour

There has been a great response for this tour, with 44 members and guests currently registered! This promises to be a stunning tour! If you haven't paid your tour fees yet, please do so asap, as the deadline set by the organiser, Paul Hale, has already passed.

Some members will not be able to come on the complete Norfolk Tour. However, you will be very welcome to join the party on SATURDAY 14th JUNE.

We shall be meeting at St Peter Mancroft (Peter Collins organ, 3/38) in time to hear a recital by the superb Spanish organist, Loreto Aramendi, at 1:00. (The church's organist, Julian Haggett, will welcome our party, and there may be a chance to play the organ afterwards.)

We then move to Norwich Anglican Cathedral, where the organ has recently been substantially rebuilt (HNB/Harrison, 4/103). The Master of Music (Ashley Grote) and the Organist (David Dunnett) will talk about the organ and demonstrate it. They will be happy for members to play the instrument. We are privileged to be given access to such an iconic organ. [There will be a charge of £10 for members joining us just for the Saturday.] If you feel hungry or thirsty during the day, it is worth knowing that the Cathedral Refectory will be open till 6:00, serving drinks, snacks and light meals, with particularly delicious pastries and a vast array of different types of hot chocolate!

Saturday July 19th 2025: Dedham & Holbrook

This visit has been arranged by Andrew Stevens.

Known also for being Constable country (you will see one of his works hanging in the church) it is an area of outstanding natural beauty and makes you realise what a diverse county Essex really is.

10:30: Arrival time: *Local Car Parking £1.30 2 hours, £2.60 4 hours*

11:00: St Mary's P.C. Dedham Essex CM9 4QE

New organ by Nicholson & Co 2024 incorporating Binns pipework.

Great 11 Swell 10 Pedal 6.

13:15: Royal Hospital School Holbrook Suffolk IP29 2RX.

The Royal Hospital School was established by a royal charter in 1694.

13:30: Lunch at the school.

15:00: School Chapel East End Choir organ.

Hill Norman & Beard 1984 Great 6 Swell 6 Pedal 8.

16:00: School Chapel Grand Organ.

Hill Norman & Beard 1933.

Great 14 Swell 14 Choir 13 Solo 10 Pedal 13.

Day cost including lunch: £20.



Some of the 3,500 pipes of this fine organ are over 300 years old. Since Henry Purcell gave the opening recital in 1684, the instrument has been enlarged and enriched by a succession of leading organ builders, and it was last restored in 2010 by Nicholson's of Malvern. Organists of the church have included the 18th century composer William Boyce (here for 32 years), as well as Harold Darke (50 years) and Richard Popplewell. The [Royal] College of Organists was founded here in the 19th century. The weekly recitals series is thought to be the longest-running in the world (it began in 1914).

The continuation of this well-known series depends on the support of the audience. Please be generous as you leave. There is a bowl for cash, as well as two card-readers (for debit or credit cards) and a QR code on display.

LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

St Michael's Cornhill,
City of London
MONDAYS AT ONE
April - May 2025

www.st-michaels.org.uk
www.organrecitals.uk

Monday 28 April, 1pm
JAMES ORFORD

(Organist, St Paul's Cathedral)

<u>TOURNEMIRE</u> <u>Victimae Paschali</u>	9
<u>BYRD</u> <u>Fantasia in C</u>	5
<u>BACH</u> <u>Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 651</u>	6
<u>PHILIPS</u> <u>Veni Sancte Spiritus</u>	6
<u>LEIGHTON</u> <u>Veni Creator Spiritus</u>	5
<u>BACH</u> <u>Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 652</u>	9
<u>LANGLAIS</u> <u>Fête</u>	6

Monday 5 May, 1pm (online only)

BENJAMIN COLLYER

plays Bach & Pott.

ZOOM Meeting ID: 845 2793 3214

Passcode: 973336

Monday 12 May, 1pm

FRANCESCA MASSEY

(International Recitalist)

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS <u>Henry</u> <u>V Overture</u>	7
KARG-ELERT <u>Clair de lune</u>	4
SAINT-SAËNS <u>Prelude & Fugue in E flat</u>	7
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS <u>Sarabande</u>	4
RILEY <u>Suite for Jasper (5mm)</u>	10
FARRAR <u>Heroic Elegy</u>	7
MATTHEW MARTIN <u>Prelude & Fugue</u>	6

Monday 19 May, 1pm

GORDON STEWART

(Leading recitalist & Advocate for the Organ)

HOLLINS <u>Concert Overture in C</u>	
SCHEIDEMANN <u>Vater unser</u>	
BUXTEHUDE <u>Präludium in D</u>	
BARIE <u>Trois Pièces</u>	
HELEN LEACH <u>Prelude for a Royal Swan</u>	
BOSSI <u>Giga & Toccata di Concerto</u>	

Monday 26 May, 1pm (online only)

ELENI KEVENTSIDOU plays Reger

ZOOM Meeting ID: 813 1177 4159

Passcode: 190172

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

See poster below for May recitals,

Jun 2nd 13:00 Christopher Herrick (International Recording Artist)
Jun 9th 13:00 Paul Grealley (Westminster Abbey)
Jun 16th 13:00 Benjamin Collyer (Acting Asst. DoM, St Albans Cathedral)
Jun 23rd 13:00 Jonathan Rennert (St Michael's Cornhill &
Organ Club President)
Jun 30th 13:00 Anthony Halliday (St Francis Church, Melbourne, Australia)
Admission free (retiring collection)

Saturday 13 September 2025

10.30am – 4.30pm

Heritage Open Day at Reading Town Hall

Come to hear and play the famous 'Father' Willis organ

FREE

Reading Town Hall's Father Willis Heritage Open Day event this year is bigger and better to celebrate the Royal College of Organists' 'Play the Organ Year 2025'.

Spend the whole day with us, or drop in at any time, and enjoy a variety of Organ events. From an illustrated introductory talk, a lunchtime recital, the chance to 'have-a-go' and a masterclass with organist, Tom Bell, to more 'specialist' talks from organ builder, Bruce Buchanan, organ consultant, Nicholas Thistlethwaite and Managing Director of Harrison & Harrison, Andrew Scott - there is plenty for everyone.

Whether you are already an organist, or are simply curious, come along and spend the day with our majestic Father Willis Organ.

In collaboration with:

Royal College of Organists' 'Play the Organ Year 2025'
Berkshire Organists' Association
The British Institute of Organ Studies
Incorporated Association of Organists
Institute of British Organ Building
Harrison & Harrison Ltd
Society of Women Organists
Reading Borough Council

Reading Town Hall
Blagrove Street

Booking at your earliest convenience please (as approximate numbers are required for the caterers at Holbrook) to a.stevens405@btinternet.com, or text 07958 520889.

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 August 16th 2025:

Organs in a swimming bath and a private house.

Details of this intriguing venue will be revealed in the July newsletter!



REMEMBER TO RESERVE ANOTHER SPECIAL DATE IN YOUR DIARY!
Saturday September 27th 2025

THE LAUNCH LUNCH will usher in our Centenary Celebrations. It will take place in a Livery Hall in the City of London, and will be followed by Choral Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral.

Details will follow in future Newsletters.

Saturday October 18th 2025 : East London

Saturday November 22nd 2025: Rochester

Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th December 2025:

London Organ Competition 2025: St Michael's Cornhill.

(See poster below)

Saturday March 21st 2026: Centenary AGM at All Souls, Langham Place, London, W1B 3DA

More details nearer the time, but 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

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

Organ Matinees 2025, Sundays at 15:00

May 18th 15:00 Andrew Furniss (Methodist Central Hall Westminster)

Jun 15th 15:00 Ourania Gassiou (Athens Concert Hall)

Jul 20th 15:00 Colin Andrews (Indiana, USA)

Admission free, retiring collection.

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

Jun 12th 13:10 Malcom Pearce (Abingdon)

Jul 10th 13:10 Ian Hockley (Concert Organist, Dubai)

Admission free, retiring collection.

St Lawrence Church, Alton, GU34 2BW

May 6th 20:00 D'Arcy Trinkwon (International Concert Organist)

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

<https://altonorgansociety.co.uk/styled-27/>

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

Lunchtime series: MONDAYS at 13:00

May 12th 13:00 Callum Alger (Wolverhampton)

Jun 30th 13:00 Eton College Organ Student

Admission: tickets £5 online, £6 card only at the door.

Sep 13th 19:30 Heritage Open Day – see poster below.

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-may-2025>

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!

Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA

May 4th 17:00 Kees Nottrot (Westminster Abbey)

May 11th 17:00 Paul Greally (Westminster Abbey)

May 18th 17:00 Richard Moore (Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford)

May 25th 17:00 Alexander Hamilton (London)

Admission free

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

The John Hill, Cathy Ennis Series 2025 *

May 13th 13:10 *Jason Tang (St Mary, Bourne Street)

May 27th 13:10 *Carolyn Craig (Wells Cathedral)

Jun 10th 13:10 Mina Choi

Jun 34th 13:10 Daniel Baker (Grosvenor Chapel)

Jul 1 8th 13:10 Johannes Geffert (Bonn) & Ulrike Friedrich - flute

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

The John Hill, Cathy Ennis Series 2025 *

May 6th 13:10 *Joshua Simões (Chapel Royal, Hampton Court)

May 20th 13:10 *Mitchell Miller (USA)

Jun 3rd 13:10 *Alma Bettancourt (Paris)

Jun 17th 13:10 Zsombor Tóth-Vajna (Royal College of Music)

Jul 1 1st 13:10 Inga de Vegvar

Admission free (retiring collection)

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

May 2nd 13:00 John Hosking (Blackburn Cathedral)

Jun 6th 13:00 Angela Sones (St Alban's Church, Highgate, Birmingham)

Jul 4th 13:00 Anthony Pinel (St Chad's, Shrewsbury)

Refreshments available before and after the recital

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.

May 31st 16:00 Ludger Lohmann (International Concert Organist)

Jun 28th 16:00 TBC

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

Glyn Lang Memorial Series

May 21st 13:05 Jeremy Lloyd (Ely Cathedral)

Jun 18th 13:05 Alexander Knight (Old Royal Naval College Chapel, Greenwich)

Admission free, retiring collection

Christchurch Priory, Dorset BH23 1BU

May 8th 12:30 Hillary Punnett (Christ Church, Oxford)

May 15th 12:30 Piers Maxim (Great Malvern Priory)

May 22nd 12:30 Geoffrey Morgan (Christchurch Priory)

May 29th 12:30 Simon Bell (Tewkesbury Abbey)

Admission free (retiring collection)