
REMINDER – ST STEPHEN'S MAY FESTIVAL

A leaflet giving full details of this annual event was posted with your last newsletter. Just to remind you –

Sat 29th April Festival High Mass 10.45, Festival Lecture by Dr Simon Lindley (sponsored by this Association) 2.30, Festival tea 4.00, Festival Evensong sung by the choir of Exeter Cathedral 5.15, The 11th Whitlock Recital given by Andrew Fletcher (Harwood, Whitlock Favourites, Duruflé, Parry) at 7.00.

Sun 30th April High Mass 10.45, Festival lunch 1.00, Choral Concert (Britten 'St Nicholas', Vivaldi 'Gloria') 7.00.

Mon 1st May Lunchtime concert 12.30, Choral Evensong 4.00, Sequence of Music and Readings 'Life of Mozart' 6.00.

Further information at <www.ststephensbournemouth.org> or from Ian Harrison on 10202 485664.

ADVANCE NOTICE - St Stephens Music Day is planned this year for Saturday 18th November 2006. This is an all day event. The purpose is to enjoy ourselves making music, (however you want to), and to raise money for the organ refurbishment. Please mark the date in your diaries. More details later. Contact keith@rossmore.plus.com



Organ for Sale: Paul Isom, Rochester Diocesan Organs Advisor, says he is currently 'up-sizing' his house organ and selling his box organ. It is a 3 stop box organ in immaculate condition, with Stopped Diapason 8', Flute 4' Fifteenth 2'. The organ has a charming sound and is an ideal house, or even hire instrument. The organ has a transposer (with additional pipework). The retractable keyboard has a compass of CC-g 56 notes. Casework in American red oak, wooden keyboards, rosewood drawstops with bone inserts. The organ is on wheels and the blower detachable for easy movement. Price £7,750.00 o.n.o.

For more information telephone 01959 561743 or email paul.isom@ntlworld.com Paul Isom, Director of Music - St Martin's Church, Brasted, 17 High Street, Brasted, Westerham, Kent TN16 1JA

Organist urgently needed: St Alban's Church, Charminster has been using one of our deputies but seeks someone permanently for 10.00 and 6.30 Sunday services, occasional midweek, small choir on Sunday mornings, 3 manual organ, rec. refurbished, RSCM rates. Contact Vicar, The Rev Robin Nash 01202 534193. If you want to know the 'low down' ask Bob Whetton.

Can I appeal to members who have events coming up to tell me the details in good time so that I can ensure everyone knows what is going on. The Summer 2006 edition will be finalised during August so the deadline is Mon 31st July 06 – ed.

MEMBERS WILLING TO DEPUTISE

Name	Town	Tel:	Availability
Alan Aldis	Bournemouth	01202 551962 07919903240	not Sundays
David Beeby	Bournemouth	01202 303895 07789434178	not schooldays
Eric Collier	Bournemouth	01202 573670	only avail 1st & 2nd Sundays
Paul Crosby	Bournemouth	01202 433941 07703641589	not Sunday am
Julian Davies	Ferndown	01202 875479	not weekdays
Michael Dawney	Bournemouth	01202 468268	not Sunday am
Graham Exon	Bournemouth	01202 524333	not Sundays
George Horrell	Bournemouth	01202 309089	not Sundays
James Kennedy	Christchurch	01202 482354	available any time
Geoffrey Morgan	Christchurch	01425 277243	not Sundays
Sean O'Connell	Bournemouth	01202 434156	available any time
David Portsmouth	Bournemouth	01202 551360	available 2nd Sunday and evenings
John Radford	Wimborne	01725 517650	not Sundays
Joyce Rolls	Bournemouth	01202 514208	not Sundays and only within 10 mile radius of Bournemouth
David Smith	Christchurch	01202 482814	not Sunday am
John Steed	Bournemouth	01202 514339	available any time
Bob Wetton	Bournemouth	01202 516833	available any time
Anyone else who would like to be added to this list please contact Brenda Price			

NEW MEMBER We welcome Graham Exon, Director of Music at St John with St Michael, Surrey Road, Bournemouth.

WED 23 AUGUST 7.30 St Andrew's URC Richmond Hill. A talk by Lance Foy and demonstration of the newly restored organ.

Sat 2 Sep Eileen Bolt recital, 7.30 at St Stephens, Karl Dorman, Guildford.

FROM OUR NEIGHBOURING ASSOCIATIONS

SDOA (now to be known simply as Dorset Organists' Association) forthcoming programme, to which our members are invited is:

Wed 26th April Thomas Trotter Celebrity recital at St Mary Dorchester (jointly with the Dorset County Museum Music Society)

Sat 17th June Annual Coach outing to East Devon (provisionally Ottery St Mary and Killerton House with its SS Wesley connections; the organ for which the Choral Song and Fugue was written) and 'somewhere else'!
BDOA members welcome to fill the coach as with their visit to Eton.

WINCHESTER & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF ORGANISTS

Cathedral organ recital series – Tuesdays at 7.30, 25 April to 23 May, £7.50 with post-concert reception with the performers.

27 May – Organ crawl of 4 good Southampton organs . If interested contact Paul Isted 02380 733053.

Visit to East Riding of Yorkshire 25-28 Oct. Cost approx £100 per night, impressive array of organs, contact Timothy Rogerson, 01794 519004.

CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY ORGAN RECITALS

Wednesday evenings 7.30, admission £6.00

- 14th June Margaret Phillips (International concert organist)
- 28th June Timothy Byram-Wigfield (St George's Chapel, Windsor)
- 12th July Peter Wright (Southwark Cathedral; RCO President)
- 2nd August Geoffrey Morgan (Christchurch Priory)

Thursday lunchtimes 12.30, admission free – retiring collection

- 11th May Elizabeth Burgess (ex Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford)
- 18th May David Coram (Romsey Abbey)
- 25th May Geoffrey Morgan (Christchurch Priory)
- 1st June Nigel Groome (Beckenham Parish Church)
- 8th June Andrew Wilson (Malvern Priory)

Subsequent weeks - various combinations of soloists and choirs. For details of all concerts see website www.christchurchpriory.org/concerts or phone 01202 465804

into the Directive's scope. There are two anomalies:

- it will still be perfectly legal to build a hand blown, mechanical action organ containing lead pipes, as electrical or electronic components are not required to fulfil the primary function
- organ pipes last almost indefinitely, and have no adverse environmental effects – they are never disposed of into landfill as old metal is very easily recycled into new pipes!

The IBO has been making representations to both the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the European Commission, so far to no avail. It is now necessary to bring political pressure to bear, if we are to prevent the destruction of a unique art form across Europe.

We are urging all organ builders, organists, musicians and clergy to

- visit the campaign website www.pipes4organs.org to find more
- contact Members of Parliament – ask them to raise the issue with the DTI
- encourage others to do the same”

You may be pleased to hear that our President has made representations on our behalf but we can all add our names to a petition through the website.

COMING ASSOCIATION EVENTS

WED 26 APRIL 7.30 A lecture recital by Jennifer Bate at St Peter's Parkstone. Jennifer Bate has recently published, recorded and researched the music of Mendelssohn. She will play and talk about Mendelssohn the organist, composer and improviser and those who influenced him. This event is of special benefit to music students.

FRI 26 MAY, 7.30 Donald McKenzie at Bournemouth Pavilion. Don is organist at the Odeon, Leicester Square. He will accompany 2 silent films – Buster Keaton, *The Playhouse* (1921) and *The Great Train Robbery* (1903).

SAT 10 JUNE 2.30 at St Peter's Bournemouth - The complete works of Duruflé described and played by David Beeby and Sam Hanson. Illustrated lecture 2.30, tea 4.00, recital of complete organ works of Duruflé 4.30 – 6.00.

SAT 8 JULY All day coach outing to Eton School and Windsor. Coach pick up points with times of departure and return will be advised at the time of booking. We shall visit the three organs at Eton College before lunch, have time free in Windsor after lunch and attend Evensong in St George's Chapel at 5.15 after which we shall be able to visit the organ loft. This is a good opportunity to bring family and friends for an exciting day out. Price for coach but excluding entry to the Castle £12.

at St Peter's Parkstone, for coming to demonstrate the organ. He chose to play the excitingly loud Fantasia from the Leipzig Chorales, Komm Heiliger Geist by J.S. Bach to drown an unfortunate low droning cipher. After this a few of us ventured onto the bench but it would have been nice if we could have explored the quiet stops too.

All too soon we were off to St Peter's where Beverley Manning treated us to an explanation of the organ's history and played pieces to demonstrate both its strong and its weaker points. They were Pachelbel's six variations on Ach, was soll ich Sunder machen; Herbert Howell's Sarabande for the Morning of Easter, demonstrating use of the



sequencer; and finally Tu es Petra by Mulet. Everyone I spoke to commented that they just could not understand how such a huge volume of sound could emerge from such a small array of front pipes with no other obvious exit from the boxed-in organ chamber.

THREAT TO ORGANS FROM EU DIRECTIVE

This issue is of paramount concern to organists and for once there has been considerable press coverage of what to the rest of the population may only be of passing interest. The silly thing is that the regulations causing the problem were never aimed at organs in the first place and are in themselves admirable both on environmental and health grounds.

Probably the best place to find all the latest news is a website run by the IBO (Institute of British Organ Building) at www.pipes4organs.org.

Part of a press release on the website reads, "From 1st July 2006 new and rebuilt pipe organs will become illegal as a result of their inclusion under the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives. The major problem is the essential use of Lead in organ pipes, this being one of the banned substances. Tin/Lead alloy has been used for making organ pipes for centuries, its particular properties having a vital role in the production and voicing of pipes, and in the sound of the instrument.

The Directives have the reasonable intention of limiting the dumping of consumer items such as mobile phones and computer circuit boards into landfill. It is the connection to electrical power which brings pipe organs

Wood for making the arrangements for the AGM at St. Luke's church, and for directing the choirs of St. Luke's and Cantamus in a memorable choral evensong afterwards with David Beeby presiding in excellent form at the organ.

I hope to see you all at some time during the year, and to meeting those of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting.

I wish you all a lead-free year. As Richard Morrison, the chief music critic of the Times commented, he could think of many organists and many organ recitals which could be regarded as a health hazard*, but not to his knowledge an organ pipe. Our comfort is that the French and Germans are in this as well, and they care for their organs.

With best wishes, Paul

* see article on page 4

MEETINGS IN RETROSPECT - ST OSMUND'S 30TH MARCH

As might have been expected the opportunity to visit and play organs at St Osmund's and St Peter's Parkstone was one that attracted an above average attendance despite dismal weather.

We were greeted at St Osmund's by Father Chrysostom, resident priest of the Orthodox church that now owns the building. He explained that an American Trust bought St Osmund's and has planted this Orthodox congregation. One of 16 such communities in GB they started a few months ago with a congregation of only 4 which has grown to around 20 and is set to grow further as it attracts existing Orthodox believers and newcomers.

The dedication will change from the Latin St Osmund to Orthodox St Dunstan and various alterations will be made to the décor to personalise the building for their style of worship which doesn't include use of the organ. The instrument's future is undecided but they are happy to maintain it and continue using it for concerts. (eg Don McKenzie will be playing there on 1st May at 4.00) *(Photographs in this article are compliments of John Cope)*



It was sad that Gerald Roper was too infirm to be present and is now in a nursing home. We were grateful therefore to Beverley Manning, organist

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As I look at all the engraved names on the President's chain, the earliest being F.E Fisher in 1947, (although the Association started before then) I realize what a distinguished history our association has and I feel both honoured and slightly in awe at being one of those names for the next year.

For over two generations we have represented, supported, informed and hopefully entertained the local community of organists and equally importantly those who do not play but are passionate about the instrument and its music.

I have been a member of the association for over thirty years, and a member of the committee, now the trustees, for at least eight years (longer than I ought!). Over that time I have been to many memorable recitals, master-classes and talks by eminent musicians. I have been to many social events and made many good friends. I feel that the Association has given me many benefits, and I now hope that over the next year I can put something of value back into the Association.

I have also seen many changes over this time, not all for the better. We are all aware of the issues: musical education in schools (but I hasten to add, we are fortunate in this area with so many dedicated music teachers), declining church attendance, technology providing music on demand, a general trend against organized clubs and societies. We, in common with other organists' associations have seen declining membership, and as was mentioned in the last newsletter one of our neighbouring associations was concerned for its future.

We are fortunate that we are in a very healthy financial state as you can see from the last balance sheet. This is due in part to a legacy we received many years ago. The trustees and the members would prefer our funds to be used for the benefit and encouragement of young organists. For this purpose we have a bursary scheme whose purpose is to provide financial assistance towards lessons for promising young organists. Despite our efforts, the take-up has been lower than expected, although we have just agreed to support a local young organ student.

It is therefore my opinion, and that of the trustees, that we should not be frightened to spend money wisely on quality events, to invest in the future, and to aim to attract organists and musicians in general to the world of the King of Instruments.

We have had several requests to distribute a list of members, with address, phone number and email address. I am happy to do this, and I think it would serve a very useful purpose. To comply with possible Data Protection issues, if you object to your details appearing on such a list, please could you inform the Hon Secretary by 1st June. After that the list will be available on request to the Hon Secretary.

I am sure that you would wish me to thank Eric Collier for all the hard work he put into the Association last year as President. I would also like to thank Malcolm

Bournemouth & District Association of Organists



Spring 2006

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Hello again. Isn't it nice to have light evenings! Perhaps we can hope for warm Spring sunshine before too long.

The programme Paul has produced for us is exciting but hasn't come cheap so it will be good if **everyone** can round up kindred spirits to pack the events and enjoy them with us.

I trawled the idea in our last Newsletter of distributing it electronically to those who are happy to receive it in this way. Some of you have said you are happy to try it, knowing that the saving in printing and postage costs is worthwhile. Unfortunately, I unwittingly blundered into an only partially thought out process. The problem comes when the file size is inflated by pictures so that anyone with a dial-up connection, as opposed to broadband, has reason to curse the sender of such long-winded downloads.

Our proposed solution is to place the Newsletter file on our website in pdf format (which is read using free Adobe reader software) and to e-mail members informing them when it is ready to view and/or download.

There are still some rough edges to smooth but we hope to have January's Newsletter on the site very shortly as a trial and to follow it with this one soon afterwards. One advantage you will notice immediately is that some photos come out in colour instead of the black and white we use for printed copies.