

Bournemouth & District Association of Organists



May 2008

President

Brenda Price
22 Mayfield Close
Ferndown, BH22 9HS
Tel: 01202 877915
Brenda'at'rossmore.plus.com *nb*
change 'at' to '@

Hon Secretary

Margaret Clarke
25 Kensington Park
Milford on Sea
Lymington, SO41 0WD
Tel: 01590 642689
m.clarke25'at'btinternet.com

Hon Treasurer

Keith Sutton
22 Mayfield Close
Ferndown, BH22 9HS
Tel: 01202 877915
Keith'at'rossmore.plus.com

Trustees

Eric Collier, Paul Fearnley,
Peter Lattimer, Sue Rawlinson
Timothy Rice
Brian Schollar

Newsletter Editor

Brian Schollar, 22 Bethia Road
Bournemouth, BH8 9BD
Tel: 01202 397925
schollar'at'dsl.pipex.com

<http://website.lineone.net/~bao-organists/>

Registered Charity No 1098369
Affiliated to the Incorporated Association
of Organists

Brenda reminds us that she needs to receive the booking forms for the annual outing as soon as convenient (to reduce any anxiety about filling the coach). When I enquired recently she had only 8 definite bookings and a few promises. I know that she received at least one more at the St Stephen's May Festival. For any members who can't find their booking forms there is another copy with this newsletter.

The organs and buildings we are booked to visit are well worth our attention so I hope many of us will want to join the coach on 14th June (together with any family or friends expecting to enjoy the chance to see Guildford). For more details of organs and venues look again at the April 2008 Newsletter.

The following time we meet will be on 13th July for our Lunchtime Buffet Event (12.00-2.30) by kind invitation of our President at 22 Mayfield Close. She asks for £3.00 a head towards the cost of the food and requests those who are hoping to come to let her know by e-mail or on 01202 877915 so that she knows how many to cater for. If it makes it easier for anyone they can come straight from church.

ADVANCE NEWS ABOUT THIS YEAR'S ST STEPHEN'S MUSIC DAY.

Keith Sutton tells us the event will be on 25th October 2008 from 11.00 to 17.00. He says, "Bring your own instrument or play

the Bechstein Grand, or the Grand Organ. Some new ideas will be published in our September Newsletter.”

COMING ASSOCIATION EVENTS

June 14th – Annual outing; to Sandhurst Memorial Chapel, Guildford URC and St Nicholas Compton. See booking form enclosed.

July 13th – Sunday lunchtime buffet; 12.00 onwards at 22 Mayfield Close, Ferndown, BH22 9HS. Come when you are free.

Sept 27th Eileen Bolt Recital; 3.00pm at Richmond Hill St Andrew’s URC, St Stephen’s Road, Bournemouth. Recitalist Geof Tuson.

Oct 11th Organ Crawl; we meet at St Martin’s Salisbury, 11.00 – 12.30, and reassemble at St Mary & St Nicholas Church, West Street, Wilton at 2.00.

Nov 15th Annual dinner, 7.00 for 7.30 at the Liston Hotel, Wollstonecraft Road, Boscombe.

Dec 6th Christmas Party Pieces and Mince pies, 2.00 – 4.00, Church of the Transfiguration, Chaddesley Glen, Canford Cliffs.

RECITALS AT CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY – LUNCHTIME SERIES

Thursdays at 12.30 – admission free, retiring collection. Light lunches, refreshments and drinks are available in Priory House before and after the recitals.

May	8 th	Karl Dorman	<i>St Mary’s Merton</i>
	15 th	David Coram	<i>Romsey Abbey</i>
	22 nd	Richard Walker	<i>Harrow</i>
	29 th	Ian Wicks	<i>Salisbury Cathedral School</i>
June	5 th	Mark Blatchly	<i>Charterhouse School</i>
	12 th		<i>(no recital – exhibition in the Priory)</i>
	19 th	Andrew Wilson	<i>Milton Abbey School</i>
	26 th	Durlston Court School	Choir
July	3 rd	Bishop Wordsworth School	Choir

Recitals on June 26th and July 3rd are choral, not organ.

RECITALS AT CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY – SUMMER EVENING SERIES

Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) – admission £6 at the door

- June 25th Graham Barber *St Bartholomew's, Armley*
July 9th Philip Scriven *Lichfield Cathedral*
23rd Charles Harrison *Lincoln Cathedral*
Aug 6th Geoffrey Morgan *Christchurch Priory*
20th Gordon Stewart *International Recitalist*
Sept 3rd Richard Hills *St Mary's, Bourne Street, London*
-

RECITALS AT RICHMOND HILL ST ANDREW'S URC

All recitals are on Saturdays at 3.00

- June 21st Celebrity opening concert by Geoffrey Morgan
Christchurch Priory - £7.
July 12th Sam Hanson, *organ scholar, Cambridge.*
Aug 2nd Danniell Campbell, *Richmond Hill St Andrew's.*
Sep 13th Stephen Le Provost, *St Peter's, Bournemouth.*
Sep 27th The Eileen Bolt memorial recital by
Geoffrey Tuson, *organ student, RCM.*

All recitals £5 except June 21st

With Videoscreen facility and refreshments served afterwards in the Rainbow Room.

RECITALS AT SALISBURY CATHEDRAL

Recitals on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Admission: £8.00 at the door.

- May 21st The Jenkinson Recital: Simon Hogan *Organ Scholar*
Salisbury Cathedral
June 11th Robert Quinney *Westminster Abbey*
July 16th Patrick Russill *Brompton Oratory*
Aug 13th Daniel Cook *Salisbury Cathedral*
Sept 10th Keith Wright *Durham Cathedral*

NEWS FROM NEIGHBOURING ASSOCIATIONS

Dorset Association of Organists.

Sat 17th May – ‘You can improvise!’ by David Bruce-Payne. 2.15 at St Paul’s Church, Abbotsbury Road, Weymouth. An opportunity to learn some of the tricks needed to improvise during services.

Sat 28th June – Visit to Marlborough College Chapel at 2.00 to see the new 62 stop, 4 manual Beckerath organ. Make own arrangements for travel.

Wiltshire and Bath OA

Sat 17th May, 7.00pm, ‘Repertoire within Reach’ – Corsham Parish Church. Robin Jackson and Maureen McAllister.

Sat 7th June, 7.00pm, Composite recital at St Andrew’s Chippenham (admission £5, £4 concessions) followed by the summer social in the church hall (£7.50 per person).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE

Our Treasurer says that fourteen out of 68 members still have yet to pay. He eagerly awaits cheques for £12 from full members and £2 for student members so please think about making Keith’s day by sending yours to him now while it is fresh in your mind. His address is in the panel on the front page of this newsletter. We cannot afford to continue posting Newsletters to those who do not subscribe and they will not receive any more newsletters this year.

ST STEPHEN’S FESTIVAL LECTURE BY DR BARRY ROSE ON 3RD MAY 08

His title was, “Fifty years and counting” though in his introduction he suggested that what he had to say might only fit the title rather loosely. Certainly his easy, humorous style with numerous anecdotes about other musicians and various cathedral vergers made it an all too brief excursion into his 50+ year long career.

Having abandoned a job in insurance and spent time as an organ scholar at Cambridge and at the Royal Academy of Music he applied for and

obtained the brand new post of organist at a yet to be completed cathedral building at Guildford with non-existent choir and organ. His account of some of the travails that led eventually to a choir with highly acclaimed recordings to its credit illustrated just what he had achieved in enabling him to describe that choir as, "Everything I could wish".

At some time in his career Dr Rose was advised that if he wished to be a good choir trainer he should go and sing under one. Thus he joined Martindale Sidwell at Hampstead PC.

We heard how he had followed George Thalben-Ball at the BBC and how a boy's treble voice which had not broken till age 16+ in the era of Ernest Lough now faded by age 12. Dr Rose was obviously an admirer of GTB and we were privileged to hear a recording of BR talking to GTB about his 60 years at the Temple Church and his three recordings of "Hear my Prayer". We also heard a recording of Herbert Howells talking about GTB.

With 50 years of experience to look back on Dr Rose was able to reflect on the changing quality of cathedral music as epitomised by BBC broadcasts of Choral Evensong since the 50s. He was at pains to point out that in its early days the BBC used only one microphone, allowed no time for a rehearsal and the choir was not necessarily conducted so the standard may have been better under more normal circumstances. He played three examples which suggested that he might have been too generous in blaming only the BBC. Then we heard a recording of Peterborough Cathedral choir in an altogether more favourable light.

He moved from Guildford to St Paul's, and after 10 years to St Alban's Cathedral. As a very successful choir trainer he remarked that your choir is only as good as your organist. Conductor and organist need to be completely at one.

He spoke with evident pride but also affection for some of his former choristers one of whom is now running a choir at St Andrew's Kingsbury, another who is a King's Singer and numerous others who have made a mark in choral music.

His own experience was not confined to liturgical music and we heard a recording with Peter Skellern and the boys of Guildford Cathedral.

The talk was liberally and revealingly illustrated with recorded examples of his and other people's music. He concluded by quoting Sir Thomas

Beecham on seeing a grave stone inscribed, “Dr John Smith, organist and musician” who queried, “How did they get 2 people down there?” The prolonged applause was evidence of our enjoyment of Dr Rose’s lecture.

It may be of interest to read a note from the Novello website which says, “Barry Rose is a Choral Advisor to Novello and has been associated with church music for over fifty-five years. He was formerly director of the choirs at the Cathedrals of Guildford, St. Paul’s and St. Albans. He now spends much of his time in workshops with choirs in Britain and abroad, and continues his work as a freelance organist and broadcaster. His many recordings cover a wide range of music, from the traditional church repertoire to the original soundtrack for The Snowman and he has the unique distinction amongst church musicians of holding one platinum, three gold and two silver discs.

His work for Novello publications includes the selecting and editing of the collections High Praise, High Praise 2, Merrily on High, More than Hymns 1 & 2, More than Psalms, Sing Low, and recently, his orchestration and recording of John Stainer’s The Crucifixion.

AN INTERESTING WEB-SITE

While researching my article on Barry Rose’s lecture I chanced upon a website <www.organrecitals.com/siteguide.php> and found a surprising mixture of material on it. It leads to a recital diary (as might be expected) but also to “jokes” and “bits and pieces”. The “bits and pieces” section lists the following:

Atlantic City Convention Hall - The world's largest musical instrument.

Southwark Cathedral - A guide to the greatest work of Lewis & Co.

Westminster Cathedral - A resumé of what is, arguably, the finest organ in the UK.

Westminster Abbey - A look at the Celestial organ which is, sadly, now unplayable.

St Paul's Cathedral - A brief history of the organ from 1900.

Clicking on the links leads to lengthy illustrated articles on these interesting organs complete with stop lists and history.

BAO Newsletters don’t usually go in for the more flippant ephemera but here are one or two of the least vicious (or rude) jokes:

Why are harps like elderly parents?

Because they're unforgiving and hard to get in and out of cars

Why is the French horn a "divine" instrument?

Because man blows into it but God alone knows what comes out of it.

How do you fix a broken tuba? With a tuba glue.

ANDREW FLETCHER'S WORKSHOP ON SERVICE ACCOMPANIMENT

It might have been supposed that a workshop on accompanying hymns and psalms would not have attracted our most expert members but, on the contrary, this occasion brought together all levels of attainment as the photo below shows.

Perhaps it was that many of our members already knew Andrew and his friendly approach. No-one was put 'on the spot' and we all derived much of value from his visit. He will have returned again to Bournemouth for St Stephen's May Festival before you read this report.



His hand-outs were very popular and everyone present must have relished his well chosen but quite astringent words about worship songs and their musical and theological inadequacies. He didn't just criticise. He generously gave us copies of his transcriptions for 4 part choir of some of the better known songs which I am sure will receive an airing in other Bournemouth churches as well as my own. He appeared to be hinting that they would appear with others in book form in due course.

BOURNEMOUTH & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF ORGANISTS

Annual Outing to Sandhurst Royal Military Academy Memorial Chapel, Guildford United Reformed Church and St Nicholas Compton

There will be two coach pick-up points:

8.30 a.m. Coach stop at top of Fisherman's walk, Wentworth Avenue,
Boscombe

9.00 a.m. New Milton Parish Church car park

10.30am Arrive at Sandhurst

This is a military establishment and all visitors are required to show a current passport or a new type Driver's License with photo ID before entering the establishment. Should you not have either of these forms of ID, we have been given permission that members can show a current bus pass with photo ID.

12.30pm Depart Sandhurst for Guildford

It is expected that we will arrive at Guildford United Reformed Church in time to have lunch. There is a picnic area about 3 minutes walk from the church and also Debenhams 5 minutes walk from the church. Anyone who would rather shop than see organs, your opportunity is from when we arrive at the URC Guildford, (the shops are about 5 minutes walk away) until the coach leaves the church at about 3.30pm.

2.00pm Guildford United Reformed Church

4.00 pm St Nicholas Compton

5.30pm depart and return to pick up points by about 7.00pm – 7.30pm

(Apart from pick up points timings are approximate)