

T H E  R G A N  
C L U B

*President: Eric Shepherd*

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2005

**November Newsletter contributions:** please send by October 25<sup>th</sup> to Tim Roe, Trinity Flat, Kensington Gore, SW7 2QU Tel 020 7581 3493 Newsletter@organclub.org

**Journal contributions:** please send to Alec Dingwall, 7 Oak Lane, Isleworth, TW7 6HH Tel 020 8400 1927 Journal@organclub.org

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**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Walker day**

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A different form of 'organ crawl', based on the work of just one builder: J W Walker. Within a fairly small area we will see, hear and play organs originally built by Walker's in 1957, 1925, 1972, and 1913 respectively. We will hear from Keith Bance what it was like to be an apprentice at Walker's in Ruislip. The climax of our day is a private recital by Jennifer Bate at St Matthew's Bayswater.

10:00 **St John's Wood Parish Church**, St Johns Wood High Street, NW8 7NE  
A 3-manual organ thoroughly rebuilt and enlarged in the 1950s with the resources to make a big impact.

Gt 16 8 8 8 8 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 III 8 Sw 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> II 16 8 8 4  
Ch 16 8 8 8 4 4 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 2 II 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 8 16 8 4 Ped 16 16 16 16 10<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 8 8 8 4 16 16 4

11:30 **Eleventh Church of Christ Scientist**, 1 Nutford Place, W1H 5YZ  
A fine 4-manual organ from that 'golden age' when a very fruitful relationship led to Walker's building a number of organs for churches of that denomination.

Gt 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 8 Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 III 16 8 8 4  
Ch 8 8 8 8 4 Solo 8 8 4 2 8 8 8 Ped 32 16 16 16 16 16 8 8 8 16 16

**Lunch** in the Edgware Road to your own taste

14:00 **Church of Our Lady**, 54 Lodge Road, NW8 8LA  
A very good representative of Walker extension organs from the 1970s in an unusual 'tone cabinet' case built round a corner.

Gt 8 8 8 4 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> III 8 Sw 8 8 4 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> III 16 8 Ped 16 8 8 4 4 2 III 16 4

15:30 **St Matthew's Church**, 29 St Petersburg Place, W2 4LA  
Dating from 1913, this wonderful instrument was restored with no changes by Walker's in 2000. Jennifer Bate has generously agreed to talk to us about her regard for the organ and to play a recital

possibly including pieces she recently recorded here for her world première recordings of Mendelssohn's Complete Organ Works.

Gt 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 2 8 Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 III 16 8 8  
Ch 8 8 8 4 2 8 Ped 32 16 16 16 16 8 8 16 16

**Tea** after the recital, for those who have booked.

**Travel** to St John's Wood on the Jubilee Line. From the station turn left and walk down Wellington Road with Wellington Court on your right. Soon the white Media Centre (Future Systems 1998–9) is visible to your right hovering like some off-course spaceship over Lord's Cricket Ground. On your left as you walk past the Church's burial ground you will see the portico of the church. Allow 10 minutes. Buses 13, 82, and 113 also go down Wellington Road, if you wish to save your legs.

**Bus** of the double-decker London variety for travel between venues.

Bookings for bus and tea, by **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** please, to:  
Steve Dunk 020 7278 0801 [steve.dunk@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.dunk@btinternet.com)

*Steve Dunk*

PS

A recital at St. John the Baptist Church, Holland Road, London W14 seems an appealing add-on attraction nearby. This has a 4-manual Gern organ rebuilt by Willis with 47 stops, and is in a lovely vaulted stone church. The recital is given by David Stratkaukas (Director of Music at St. Michael & All Angels Wandsworth, and Deputy Organist at St. John the Baptist). The recital is at 6 pm, the admission price is £5, and there will be refreshments afterwards.

*Eric Shepherd*

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**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Annual lunch**

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This year's Annual Lunch will take place at Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> October. We and the whole Committee hope you will attend on this special occasion, to which you are more than welcome to bring guests. We are delighted that our distinguished member Dr. Simon Lindley (Director of Music at Leeds Parish Church and Leeds City Organist) has agreed to be our speaker.

The lunch will take place first in Chapters (part of the Lichfield Cathedral Coffee Shop and Restaurant). We are privileged to have a recital on the magnificent Cathedral organ, Hill 1884/1908/1974, wonderfully restored by Harrison & Harrison in 2000. See the articles and photographs in the May and November 2000 editions of The Organ, and in Organ Building 2001. Philip Scriven, the present Organist and Master of the Choristers, will play for us. Philip has made a CD on this organ which will be on sale on the day, and he is a well-known recitalist. After the recital, there will be a limited amount of time for members to play but, as the Cathedral is open to the public at this time, members putting themselves forward to play will be expected to present well-prepared pieces (or sober improvisations).

The timetable for the day:

From 12:30	Pre-lunch drink in Chapters
13:00	Lunch in Chapters
15:30 (approx.)	Recital by Philip Scriven (following which, members may play until 17:15)
17:30	Choral Evensong, sung by the Cathedral Choir, which you are invited to attend.

The meal is of three courses, and coffee or tea will be served after the dessert. Please indicate your selection of starter, main course, and dessert on the booking-slip enclosed with this Newsletter, which please return, completed, as soon as possible (**and not later than 7<sup>th</sup> October**), enclosing payment of £29 per person. Your cheque – payable to the Organ Club – will be presented on receipt.

Please note that, as this is a formal occasion, men should wear a jacket and tie or, preferably, a lounge suit.

Trains leave London (Euston) at 07:23 and 08:23 for Birmingham (New Street) where you will need to change and alight at Lichfield City: total journey about 3 hours. There is a train from London (Euston) at 09:55 to Lichfield Trent Valley where you will need to change and alight at Lichfield City, taking 2 hours. For those coming from elsewhere, trains leave Birmingham (New Street) every 15 minutes for Lichfield City, taking 35 minutes. These timings are taken from the current timetable as that for 15<sup>th</sup> October is not yet available. The Cathedral is about half a mile north west of the station along the main A51 and then its continuation into the city.

*Eric Shepherd, Richard Blanch*

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### **Advance notice: AGM, March 2006**

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Please note that as our chosen venue is not available on the 3rd Saturday the 2006 AGM will be on Saturday 25th March.

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### **Scholarship available**

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#### **Church Music Scholarship 2006–7 at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea**

A Scholarship worth £3,500 is open to competition from young organists, preferably students in Higher Education aged 18 – 27 who live within easy reach of central London and are available on Sundays, occasional weekdays, and for the major Feasts.

Tenable from September 2006 to July 2007, it provides a unique opportunity to receive practical guidance, support and experience in a friendly and supportive environment, including valuable apprentice-style training in organ accompaniment and choral direction. It is a good way of expanding your musical contacts in London, and an ideal preparation for RCO and other diplomas.

The closing date for applications is 30 November 2005, and auditions and interviews will take place in January 2006.

For full details, write to the Organist, Ian Curror, The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3 4NL, or send an email to [iancurror@chelsea-pensioners.org.uk](mailto:iancurror@chelsea-pensioners.org.uk)

RECITALS      A listing of concerts by, or promoted by, our members.

#### **St Michael's, Cornhill    Mondays at One**

Sept 5    Jonathan Rennert  
Sept 12   Jonathan Rennert  
Sept 19   Christopher Cromar  
Sept 26   Jonathan Rennert  
Oct 3     Ian le Grice  
Oct 10   Robert Smith  
Oct 17   Jonathan Rennert  
Oct 24   Nicholas King  
Oct 31   Annual Harold Darke Memorial Recital

#### **St Giles-in-Reading**

Oct 15   19:30   Jonathan Holl

#### **St Nicolas, Newbury**

Nov 10   13:10   Jonathan Holl

#### **The Minster, Axminster, Devon**

Oct 9   15:00   Maureen McAllister & Robin Jackson

#### **Great Malvern Priory**

Oct 22   19:30   Ann Elise Smoot

#### **St. John the Baptist, Holland Road W14**

Oct 8    18:00   David Bleazard

#### **St John the Divine, Kew Rd, Richmond**

Sept 24   13:00   Matthew O'Sullivan

#### **St Mary Magdalene Music Society**

Sept 29 at 19:30   Jeremy Filsell (Duruflé Memorial Recital)

Nicholas Kaye asks if we could publicise this recital. The organ is a very fine large Compton, although not in good condition. The normal entry fee is £7, but *Organ Club members can come at the concessionary price of £5*. There will be wine and cheese afterwards. The programme includes music by Demessieux, Dupré, Litaize, and Vierne (5th Symphony): a treat from this respected Dupré and Vierne expert. OC member Ian Low does a lot to keep the organ action in reasonable condition, and we do the tuning.

From Warwick Avenue station (Bakerloo), walk up Clifton Villas, turn R at Blomfield Road and cross the canal bridge. From Royal Oak station (Hammersmith & City) turn R, taking the subway, and cross Westbourne Green.

*Eric Shepherd*

#### **Hereford Cathedral**

Sept 17 19:30   David Briggs  
Oct 8   14:30   Children's Prom (Peter & the Wolf with Peter Dyke at the organ)

#### **Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans**

Tuesdays at 12.30  
Sept 6    Owen Bubbers, RNCM  
Sept 13   John Rippin, Chingford  
Sept 20   Roger Harrison, St Helen's Wheathampstead  
Sept 27   Cyril Baker, Lerwick  
Oct 4     Alan Childs, St Mary's, Hitchin  
Oct 11   Tim Roe, Holy Trinity, Prince Consort Rd  
Oct 18   Michael Frith, Middlesex University  
Oct 25   Susan Dingle, Cockfosters  
Nov 1    Michael Mizgailo-Cayton, St John's Wood

#### **Notre Dame de France, Leicester Place WC2**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month, at 19:45   Admission £10  
Sept 14   Isobelle Mallie  
Oct 12    Jane Watts

#### **St Laurence, Ludlow**

Sept 10   13:00   Martin Setchell (Christchurch NZ)