

THE ORGAN CLUB

President: Robin Coxon

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2006

January Newsletter contributions: please send by December 20th 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

Saturday 18th November York

The fine medieval city of York is home to a number of impressive instruments in addition to the well-known Minster organ and its famous Tuba Mirabilis. This visit includes three large and well specified 3-manual instruments as well as a recently restored 3-manual Forster & Andrews. The starting point is All Saints, North Street.

11:15 – 12:00 All Saints, North Street YO1

Geoffrey Coffin organ of 1996

Gt 8 8 4 4 2 II III Sw 8 8 4 2 1¹/₃ 8 Ped 16 8 Cymbelstern

This beautiful church is particularly noted for its medieval glass. The organ was built by Geoffrey Coffin using the best of the pipework from the previous Forster & Andrews organ, and it is an excellent organ for performing baroque repertoire.

All Saints is approximately five minutes walk from York station. Go out of the station and cross the road bearing left, and follow the road round past the war memorial, then past Station Road and the Main Headquarters building. Head towards the river past the first Norwich Union building which has a clock on the corner and then go down to the riverside to the right of the Lendal Bridge. Turn right past the second Norwich Union building in Wellington Row.

All Saints is on the right, just before the Moat House Hotel (a large tower block right by the river).

The remaining churches are all within the city centre and are within easy walking distance of each other. The centre of York is very flat and has a large pedestrian zone, so it is an ideal city to explore on foot.

12:15 – 13:00 St Olave's, Marygate YO30

Walker 1907 enlarged by Geoffrey Coffin 2004

Gt 16 8 8 4 4 2 III 8 Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 2 III 16 8 8

Ch 8 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 2 1³/₅ 1 III 8 8 Ped 32 16 16 16 8 8 8 4 16 4

St Olave's has a very strong musical tradition with an excellent choir. The fine Walker organ was substantially enlarged by Geoffrey Coffin and now has unenclosed and enclosed sections to the Choir.

13:00 – 13:30 Lunch, own arrangements

13:30 – 14:20 All Saints Pavement, High Ousegate YO1 8RZ

Wood Wordsworth 1866, 1964 most recent work by Geoffrey Coffin in 1997

Gt 16 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 III 16 8 4 Sw 8 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 III 16 8 8 4

Ch 16 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 2 1³/₅ 1¹/₃ III 8 8 4

Ped 16 16 16 10²/₃ 8 8 8 4 4 16 16 8 8 4

This is the Guild church and also the regimental church for the Royal Dragoon Guards. The organ is a very versatile instrument and is divided either side of the chancel.

14:30 – 15:30 Central Methodist Church, St Saviourgate YO1 8NQ

Organ by John Brown 1841, restored by Geoffrey Coffin in 1994.

Gt 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 IV 16 8 4 Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 4 2 1¹/₃ IV 16 8 8

Ch 8 8 4 2 II 16 8 8 4 Ped 16 16 10²/₃ 8 8 4 16 8 4

The church was built in 1840 as a 'Cathedral of Methodism' and was designed to hold a congregation of 1,500. The organ has a stunning five-tower case in Spanish mahogany and is thought by many in the city to be second only to the Minster organ. Since the restoration of the organ by Geoffrey Coffin an annual recital series has been established.

15:30 – 16:00 Tea at Central Methodist Church

Bookings please to Philip Paul, 01904 638423 (with answer-phone), philip@york.wanadoo.co.uk by 11th November.

16:15 – 16:50 St Wilfrid's RC church, Duncombe Place (Please note earlier finish time)

Forster & Andrews 1867, restored by Harrison & Harrison 1998.

Gt 16 8 8 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 IV 8 Sw 8 8 8 4 2 8 8 Ch 8 8 4 8 Ped 16 16 8

St Wilfrid was built as the Pro Cathedral for the Diocese of Beverley.

17:15 Evensong, York Minster (Please note earlier starting time).

(expected to finish at ca. 18:15)

Travel to York :

York is on the East Coast Main Line and is also well served by Trans Pennine trains. For those travelling by car, York is on the A64, about 15 miles from the intersection of the A1 and M1. There are a number of city centre car parks and also five Park-and-ride car parks on the outskirts of the city.

The 21:00 train from King's Cross arrives at 11:02

Unfortunately there is engineering work taking place south of Peterborough from 18:00 onwards. A coach service will run from Peterborough to Huntingdon to connect with a First Capital Connect service to King's Cross. On 25th October the GNER website gave the following times:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| York | 16:34 | 16:44 | 17:25 | 17:31 | 17:37 | 17:44 | 18:13 | 18:28 | 19:52 |
| Kings Cross | 20:02 | 21:05 | 21:18 | 21:02 | 22:02 | 22:05 | 22:09 | 22:50 | 23:58 |

The GNER website: www.gner.co.uk

The customer relations department can be contacted on 08457 225333 (Mon–Fri, 9 – 5)

National Rail Enquiries

Tel: 08457 48 49 50

If you would be interested in staying in York on Saturday night and visiting more organs on Sunday please contact Philip Paul (see above). It is hoped to include St Helen, St Martin le Grande, Holy Trinity Micklegate and St Georges RC. There are many good hotels near the centre of York, and the Tourist Information Office can book accommodation for you.

Tel: +44 (0)1904 50099 E: tourism@yorkvic.co.uk www.visit-york.org

Saturday 9th December Central London

It seems appropriate that we should be in London for this visit which almost coincides (plus seven days) with the 80th anniversary of the Club's inaugural meeting and first visit held at St John's Wood Presbyterian Church (now demolished) in London on 2nd December 1926. We shall be visiting two famous London institutions and a well known parish church all within Travel Zone 1 so you will probably need an off-peak Travelcard Zones 1–2 (£4.90) to travel by tube or bus between the locations if you do not have an Oyster Card or a Freedom Pass (for over 60s living in London).

10:00 – 12:30 Freemasons' Hall, 60 Great Queen Street, WC2 www.freemasonry.london.museum

Members are asked to arrive 10:00 – 10:30 to allow time for registration at the reception desk and a cup of coffee or tea (help yourself and make a donation) upstairs in the Drawing Room before the start of our guided tour of the ceremonial areas and museum from 10:30 – 11:15. There may be a small group of members of a Masonic lodge joining our tour. We shall then proceed to see/hear and to play the organs.

The Grand Temple Organ

Henry Willis 1933, cleaned and overhauled by Walker in 1982/3.

Gt 16 16 8 8 8 4 8 Sw 8 8 8 8 4 4 IV 16 8 8 8

Ch & Solo 16 8 8 8 8 4 2²/₃ 2 1³/₅ 8 8 8 Ped 32 16 16 16 16 16 8 8 4 16 16

Chamber Organ in Lodge Room 3

Robert and William Gray ca. 1795, restored by Michael Broadway 2006.

Gt 8 8 4 2 III Sw 8 8

Michael Broadway will be there to demonstrate and to tell us about the restoration.

There were two more Willis organs in the Eastern Temple (3/29) and in the Grand Chapter (2/22) at the time of our last visit in 1979 which have since been removed and replaced by electronic organs. The chamber organ is a recent acquisition.

Directions: Nearest underground stations: Holborn (Central & Piccadilly lines, turn left at exit and cross Kingsway at first set of traffic lights to Great Queen Street – about 5 mins) & Covent Garden (Piccadilly line, turn left at exit and right into Long Acre which becomes Great Queen Street at second junction – about 5 mins)

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch, own arrangements

Not many places are open on Saturdays for eating around Holborn, or in the City (for our next stop), so I suggest that you head for Covent Garden or Leicester Square/Piccadilly area to find places to eat.

13:45 – 14:45 City of London School for Boys, Queen Victoria Street, EC4

www.clsb.org.uk

J.W. Walker 1969 and 1987

Gt 16 8 8 4 4 2 1¹/₃ IV V 8 4 Sw 8 8 8 4 4 2 IV 16 8

Pos 8 4 4 2²/₃ 2 2 1³/₅ 2 III 8 8 Ped 16 16 8 8 4 IV 16 16 8 4

This is the Club's first visit to CLSB. The 1969 Walker organ was originally built for the Victorian Great Hall on the school's previous site on Victoria Embankment beside Blackfriars Bridge. The School moved to the present site between Queen Victoria Street and the River Thames in 1986, beside the Millennium footbridge and facing 'Tate Modern' on the opposite side of the Thames. The 1987 organ was re-built with a new case to match the new Great Hall using a small amount of pipework from the old Walker organ.

Directions: Although the postal address of CLSB is Queen Victoria Street, the main entrance is confusingly located on the other side of the school on Paul's Walk overlooking the River Thames. You can find it by walking down Peter's Hill, which is a wide walkway from the south side of St Paul's Cathedral to the Millennium footbridge, across St Paul's Churchyard and Queen Victoria Street (with the College of Arms to your right and part of the CLSB's distinctive brick and stone 1980's building also to your right after you have crossed the street). You will pass some ornamental blocks with the inscription 'HSBC Gate' and the Salvation Army building on your left. Take the right hand steps down to Paul's Walk when you reach the Millennium Bridge and find the main entrance with glass doors and white frontage on your right. Nearest underground stations: Blackfriars and Mansion House (Circle and District Lines – about 5 mins walk) and St Paul's (Central Line – about 12 mins walk south from St Paul's Cathedral down Peter's Hill where you can see the distinctive tower of 'Tate Modern' in the distance across the Thames).

15:30 – 16:30 St Mary's Church, 30 Bourne Street, Pimlico, SW1

www.stmarythevirgin.org.uk

Lewis 1913, Henry Willis 1928, N.P.Mander 1984, Harrison & Harrison 2005/6

Gt 16 8 8 4 4 2 III 8 Sw 16 8 8 8 8 4 III 16 8 8 4 Ch 8 8 8 8 4 8 8

Ped 32 16 16 16 8 8 4 4 16 16 8 16 8 4

The club last visited St Mary's in 1996 before the recent overhaul and addition of a trumpet to the Great organ. The Vicar is Fr Alasdair Coles, son of the late Harry Coles, a well known member of the club who died recently.

Directions: Turn left outside CLSB main entrance, up left onto Peter's Hill, left onto Queen Victoria Street and walk down to Blackfriars underground station. Take any westbound train to Sloane Square underground station. Exit sharp left from here, into Holbein Place, first left into Whittaker Street, first right into Bourne Street where the church can be seen opposite on the left hand side at the junction with Graham Terrace. About 3 minutes walk from the station.

Tea: A light tea will be available in the Presbytery after 4.30pm. Please contact me to book a place before **Tuesday 5 December**.

Mike Tiley 020 8840 7447 miketiley@hotmail.com

Console stewards

The committee hopes to involve more members in this respect by establishing a list of those willing to steward occasionally. If you wish to help in this way please let me know.

Robin Coxon 01707 324011 robin.coxon@ntlworld.com

Anniversaries

Following the relatively recent large scale celebrations of the Club's 75th anniversary our 80th birthday will be a quieter affair. The very first meeting was held at St John's Wood Presbyterian Church on 2 December 1926, so it is fitting that our December 2006 meeting will also be in London. I'm sure that there will be appropriately grand celebrations for our centenary in 20 years time!

Robin Coxon

Saturday 17th February In and around St Albans

We will visit five organs, three of which have been rebuilt/restored within the last three years by B.C. Shepherd & Sons, Vincent Woodstock, and The Village Workshop. Our final visit will be to the new 3-manual Mander instrument in St Peter's, St Albans. Full details in the January Newsletter.

Subscriptions for 2007

Subscription rates must rise a little to allow us to continue doing all we do, including maintaining at a good level our donations to the churches we visit. Action now will prevent an otherwise-likely deficit next year. Subscriptions were last increased in 2004. The rates next year will therefore become £27 Standard and £20 Senior; at £10 the Student rate is unchanged. The supplementary charge for overseas mailing will go up from £5 to £7.

Richard Blanch

Saturday 20th January 2007 Bournemouth masterclass

Organ masterclass and recital given by James Parsons at St. Peter's Church, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2EE

After the success of the masterclass and recital given by Roger Fisher last January it is with delight that we are running a similar event with James Parsons. James is well known both as a recitalist and in several capacities associated with organ education. He is founder director of Oundle International Festival with its proven courses for young organists, was for five years Education Editor for Organists' Review, and Visiting Organ Tutor at Birmingham Conservatoire. He has accumulated a wealth of teaching experience conducting masterclasses at universities and conservatoires here and in the USA, has taught on RCO courses, and for over twenty years he was on the staff of Oundle

School, latterly as Director of Music. We are thrilled that he is able to be with us for what should be an enlightening event rounded off by an exciting recital.

Timings are as follows:

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 13:30 | Arrival |
| 14:00 – 16:00 | Masterclass |
| 16:00 | Tea |
| 17:00 | Short recital by James Parsons |
| 18:00 | Church to be vacated promptly |

Costs: the event is £10 a head to include tea, the recital, notes and attendance at the recital.

To book a place to observe the day's events please contact Cathy Lamb on 07747 444 047 or cathylamb@btinternet.com

By car:

From the East: Follow the M27 West until it becomes the A31. Continue for 8 miles, then pass Ringwood and turn left at the roundabout signposted Bournemouth A338 All traffic. When entering the 50-limit watch out for speed cameras. Keep going until arriving at a roundabout. Take the second exit. Take the next slip road off to the left. Left at the roundabout onto Richmond Hill. Immediate left (driving past a multi-storey car park). This takes you back to the slip road – turn right at this point. Second exit at the small roundabout at the bottom of the hill (watch out for Pelican crossing!). St. Peter's Church is on the left hand side opposite Beales.

From the West: Follow the A35 East into Poole. The A35 has various names within the Poole area but keep following the signs for Bournemouth Town Centre through Parkstone and Branksome. At the large Bournemouth West roundabout containing the Liverpool Victoria building, take the 1st exit onto the A338 signposted Bournemouth Town Centre. Continue for half a mile until the Richmond Hill roundabout and take the 3rd exit onto Richmond Hill. Then immediate left (driving past a multi-storey car park). This takes you back to the slip road – turn right at this point. Second exit at the small roundabout at the bottom of the hill (watch out for Pelican crossing!) St. Peter's Church is on the left hand side opposite Beales.

Sadly there is no parking available at the church or on nearby roads. I advise parking at the multi-storey car park acknowledged in these directions.

By rail: Trains leave from London Waterloo. I suggest walking from the station to Hinton road, which takes about 10 minutes. Follow signs for town centre.

Cathy Lamb

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

Bury Park URC, Waldeck Rd, Luton

The New School Of Organ Studies Thursdays 12:15 Lunch 13:00

Nov 2 James Banville, St Lukes Leagrave

Nov 9 Sheila Lathwell & William Gunn, Oakdale Methodist & Bury Park URC

Nov 16 Michael Rhodes, City Organist & Proms director, Victoria Hall Stoke-on-Trent

Nov 23 Geoffrey Symon, Founder of New School Of Organ Studies

Nov 30 Tim Marshall, Bovingdon

Dec 7 Donald MacKenzie, Odeon Leicester Square

Dec 14 Julian Collings, Sevenoaks

Dec 21 Christmas Special: Sheila Lathwell & Friends

Dec 28 NO RECITAL

Details from David Clark 01582 520588

Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans

Recitals arranged by the New School of Organ Studies

Tuesdays 12:30 – 13:15

Nov 7 John Rippin, Chingford

Nov 14 Carol Jarman, Southgate

Nov 21 Michael Frith, Middlesex University

Nov 28 Terence Atkins, Barnet Parish Church

Dec 5 James Mooney-Dutton, London

Dec 12 David Patrick, Barnet

Dec 19 David Boarder, St Mary's, Standon

No recitals Dec 26 & Jan 2

Alexandra Palace, London Tuesday recitals at 19:30

Dec 12 Donald Mackenzie