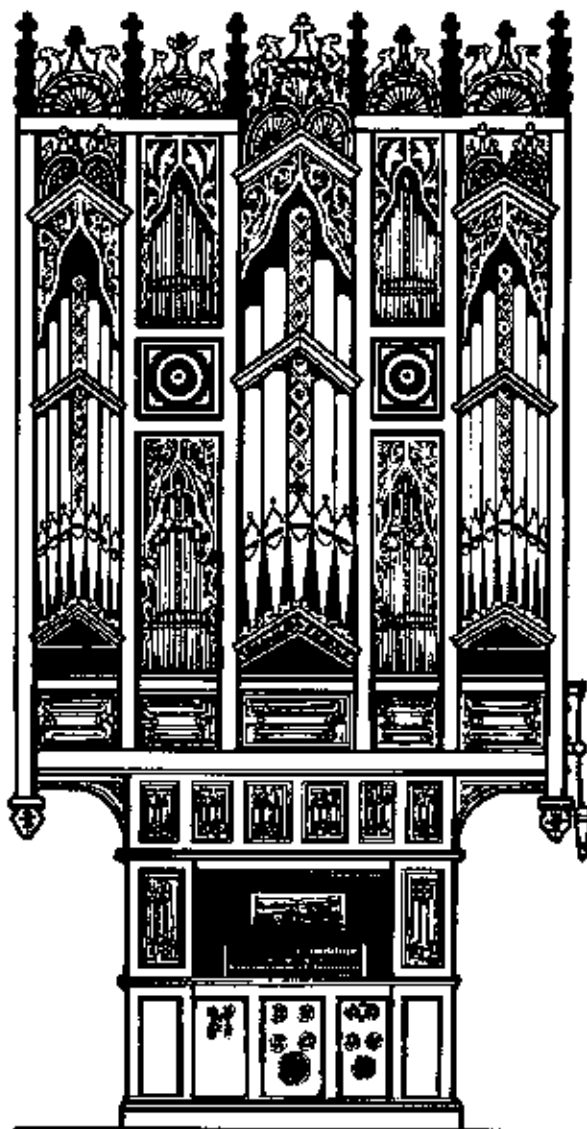


BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES

Registered Charity No: 283936

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016



**Agenda and Reports to be presented at the
Annual General Meeting to be held at
St John's Hyde Park, Hyde Park Crescent
London W2 2QD
on Saturday 23 April 2016 at 14.00 hours**

AGENDA ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING

AGENDA ITEM 4 - REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Agenda Item 4.1)

Much of 2015 was spent looking forward to the current year and the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of BIOS. Katharine Pardee, Richard Hobson and Malvin Hughes have devoted much time to what will be the flagship event - returning to our roots in Cambridge for the three-day Conference at Magdalene College in September. An excellent programme has been planned, including an organ recital in Trinity College Chapel by our member Anne Page, as well as the launch of the new BIOS 'Freeman book' on which Katharine and her contributors have been working hard for the last year or so. We urge all BIOS members to support the conference and to make it the celebration that it deserves to be. As an organisation, thanks to the vision of those who founded it and others who have nurtured and developed it during the intervening years, BIOS has made many achievements. The content of the Conference will acknowledge and reflect these, as well as considering how we should be taking our work forward during the next stage of our existence.

2015 began well, with the founding of the new restricted NPOR Fund, and I would like to pay tribute to Mark Venning (who acts as Council's liaison with the NPOR) and Adrian Mumford for their work in setting this up. It has proved a greater success than we could have anticipated, and BIOS has been encouraged by the concern that so many people have shown for this functional and very visible part of our existence. As well as individuals, we have been very gratified by the generous support given by many of our organ building firms as well as local Organists' Associations affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists. The response during the financial year has far exceeded any hopes and projections that we may have had. We do, however, need to continue working on the message that, whilst one-off donations are of course always welcome, what we really need is modest donations, accompanied by the commitment of an annual bankers' standing order, to give us the assurance that we will be able to continue having the means to finance the running costs of the NPOR on a year-to-year basis.

BIOS is a specialised organisation with a selective membership of modest numbers, spread out geographically around the UK as well as abroad. Our Conferences each year are therefore not always easy for members to attend, but they are nevertheless very important, for they are largely the means by which we can meet together as friends and conduct the kind of learning, debate and discussion which must have been at the heart of what, in 1976, led to the foundation of BIOS. In 2015, following the successful AGM in April at St Peter's, Kensington Park Road and St John's, Lansdowne Crescent, we had three other Conferences which I felt were particularly outstanding and for which we offer special thanks to our Meetings Officer, Richard Hobson. In June there was a good turnout at All Saints, Shrewsbury for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of John Nicholson of Worcester. BIOS is an academic body, and the lectures by Jim Berrow (on Nicholson) and Gerald Sumner (on the introduction of the Barker pneumatic lever to this country) were of special interest to us all. The day was rounded off with a fine recital by Roger Judd, performing music appropriate for the age and spirit of the Nicholson organ installed in All Saints' in 1878/9. In September members had a fascinating 'Day with Henry Willis' starting in Islington with the recently restored 1877 organ at the Union Chapel before moving on after lunch to St Dominic's Priory, Haverstock Hill, to hear the 1883 Willis in that church. What amazing buildings those two places are! At the Union Chapel we were grateful to the team from Harrison & Harrison who gave us a detailed account (assisted by a Powerpoint presentation) of the restoration of the organ and of its hydraulic blowing system. In the afternoon, and in his inimitable style, Bruce Buchanan gave a highly informative paper on the progress of his planned book on Father Willis. The crowning of the year came in November when we visited Christ Church, Spitalfields. The path adopted for the restoration of the organ there has not been without its critics, but none of us can dispute the quality of the finished result or the magnificence not just of the organ but also of the restoration of the building itself. We all need to take note of, and publicise, the tremendous contribution that the Heritage Lottery Fund has made in recent times towards the restoration of historic organs. As an

academic body we should note that it is the distinctive content of our Conferences, as well as our publications, that sets BIOS, its aims and objectives, apart from the activities of other organ-based associations.

In our many other activities we have had an equally successful year, with a number of new initiatives. John Norman continues his efficient management of our Website, now further developed by the active promotion of Facebook and Twitter accounts, with Jamie Singleton as the moderator. Andrew Hayden continues his valuable work as Casework Officer, the importance of which can be seen from his article in the latest edition of the *BIOS Reporter*. The foundation later this year of the new *Historic Organs at Risk Register* - an important initiative recommended to us by Historic England, will mark a further step in the emergence of BIOS as a quasi amenity society. Our Publications Officer, Katharine Pardee, continues to preside with great success over this important academic area of BIOS' work. It is particularly appropriate that, in this our fortieth year, the *Journal* is to be edited by Nicholas Thistlethwaite, a founder member of BIOS and a past Chairman. As always, we look forward to a high-quality edition not just in terms of content but also - thanks to John Brennan and Positif Press - in its printing and production. Also in the remit of Publications is the *BIOS Reporter*, the principal means of regular communication with our members, where we are delighted to say that Gordon Curtis has kindly consented, for a number of years at least, to the removal of the word 'Acting' from before his designation as Editor. Thank you for that, Gordon! The respective steering groups continue, quietly and efficiently in the background, to oversee the work of the Organ Archive and the National Pipe Organ Register, the latter now firmly under the grip and efficient care of our Manager, Andrew Macintosh. We thank and congratulate Andrew in particular for his achievement in beginning to reduce the backlog of work faced by our team of voluntary Editors. This has been one of our objectives for some time, and it very pleasing to see that it is now happening. Meanwhile Mike Sayers continues to steer the gradual physical move of the hosting of the NPOR from Emmanuel College to the Royal College of Organists.

The role of BIOS as the amenity society for historic organs is increasingly recognised in the valuable work of the Listing Committee. John Rowntree, our Chairman, efficiently handles the well-informed and occasionally lively debates over the status accorded to a nominated organ, and Jeffrey Williams, also new to our team this year, is proving an admirable successor to Paul Joslin. Jeffrey West, our Heritage Adviser who joined us last year following the retirement of Barrie Clark, has brought with him an invaluable breadth of experience gained from many years on the staff of Church House, Westminster. In particular, Jeffrey efficiently monitors what is going on in the wider world of heritage and conservation, and when relevant draws the attention of Council to ways in which BIOS can make informed contributions to debates and consultations that are taking place nationally in areas where we have a legitimate concern.

Underpinning all this work are our three Officers who, on a day-to-day basis, deal with the routine administration of the Institute as opposed to the running our activities and services. We are enormously indebted to our efficient and hard-working Secretary, Melvin Hughes (who in addition has so often come to our rescue as understudy for positions that are vacant, as for example Publicity at the moment); to our Treasurer Adrian Mumford, who seems to make easy work of what to others would be such a major task and, last but by no means least, our new Membership Officer David Shepherd who has seemingly seamlessly taken over the central role vacated by the departure of Melanie Plumley. In addition to the thanks expressed to those already mentioned may I add our appreciation to those others who serve on Council and who help us to ensure interesting and stimulating debates at our meetings: Colin Menzies (who also serves on the Listing Committee), David Shuker (a member of the Archive Steering Committee) and Christopher Moore. I'm sure that members will wish to join me in thanking this strong and dedicated team for leading BIOS into its fortieth anniversary.

Alan Thurlow

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Agenda Item 4.2)

Council met three times during the year under review each time at The Diocesan Office, The Diocese in Europe, 14 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QZ.

The Committee for the Listing of Historic Organs Committee met on three occasions, once prior to each Council meeting. The Joint Management Committees for the National Pipe Organ Register (NPOR) and the British Organ Archive (BOA) each met twice during the year.

Melvin Hughes
April 2016

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Agenda Item 4.4)

My span as Membership Secretary in 2015 covers eight months, but with details extracted from the database enables me to offer the following figures:

New members joining BIOS in 2015: 34

Members lost during the year through resignation or death: 13

Ordinary members (excluding concessionary rate payers): 325

Ordinary members paying concessionary rate due to retirement: 226
(209 in January 2015)

Ordinary members paying student rate: 4

Honorary members: 7

Institutional members: 14

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 576 (as at mid-January 2016)

As members are aware, the subscription rates rose in 2015, the first rise in eight years. The legacy of these changes is still felt in the number of members who have not yet increased their Standing Order amounts in line with the new rates. A number of subscriptions are still owing from 2015, and 2016 amounts for all members became due on January 1st of this year. By the time of the AGM, renewal reminders will have been sent, either by email or post, detailing any arrears, and it is to be hoped that members respond promptly to bring their memberships up-to-date.

David Shepherd

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER REPORT (Agenda Item 4.5)

JBIOS 40 is in the capable hands of Dr Nicholas Thistlethwaite, and should be delivered to the membership on schedule (beginning of September). JBIOS 41 (2017) will be edited by John Scott Whiteley.

Dr David Knight has taken over as Reviews Editor. In this capacity he will serve as a clearing house for reviews for both the *Journal* and the *Reporter*: unsolicited material from publishers should be sent to him, and he will disseminate it for review from there. In addition, anyone who wishes to review something should check with him first, to avoid duplication. He has set up some guidelines for reviews, to ensure that they contain complete information, and are uniform in style.

The Andrew Freeman book, which is to be issued in conjunction with BIOS' 40th anniversary celebration in Cambridge in September, is on schedule. All material for inclusion has been received and sent to the book designer.

Catharine Pardee
Publications Officer

BIOS Reporter Editor's Report

This year material has been forthcoming in just adequate amounts, original articles being a mix of those offered (often by non-members) and those solicited by the editor. Aside from the cover pages, the page count for each issue has been 24 with one issue exceptionally containing 28 pages, thus the volume contained 100 pages in total. Compared to volume 37 (160pp including AGM Report and accounts), and when the smaller type face now used is taken into account, this seems about right and just sustainable. The balance between the different sources of material (Council business, Meeting reports, Members news & letters, Original articles, Reviews and Future events) has varied from issue to issue and an ideal mixture is hard to achieve given the irregularity of events and offerings from members. An attempt to rationalise the situation with regard to Reviews and their publication in the *Journal* or the *Reporter* is ongoing.

The support of Council and Officers has been reliably present and greatly appreciated. Increasing interest from the membership in general has been evident and participation by means of articles or letters to the editor is growing and encouraged.

Gordon Curtis
April 2016

MEETINGS OFFICER REPORT 2015 (Agenda Item 4.6)

February 21 2015

Bernard Edmonds Research Conference, University of Birmingham

Attendance: 26

Professor Andrew Kirkman The new MA in Organ Studies at Birmingham University

Dr Jim Berrow 'And further he cannot depose'.

In 1766 John Snetzler supplied an organ to Halifax parish church

Derrick Carrington Madeira Revisited - Part II

John Norman Fit for a Queen - the organ at St Mary's, Finedon

Richard Hobson Treble Cornets and divided Trumpets – does the music fit?

Dr John Whenham The new Garnier organ at Birmingham University

Martin Renshaw 'Wondrous Machine', a completely new look at the history of the organ in Britain in 20 paragraphs

18th April 2015

Annual General Meeting Notting Hill

Attendance 32

At St Peter's, Kensington Park Road

John Norman The 1905 J.W.Walker organ and its restoration

Richard Hobson Demonstration of the organ at *St John's Church, Lansdowne Crescent*

Sam Barber, Organ Scholar Plays Bach

John Norman The 1794 Gray/1845 Bishop/1885 Hele organ –

AGM

Andrew Fearn (organ builder) The restoration of the organ

Alexander Hamilton, Organ Scholar, St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Recital

Saturday, 27 June 2015

John Nicholson, Organ Builder, born 1815

All Saints Church, North Street, Castletylds, Shrewsbury

Attendance: 30, and members of the parish

The Revd Father Michael Fish SSC Introduction and welcome

Dr Jim Berrow John Nicholson, an appreciation.

Richard Hobson Tonal demonstration

Dr Gerald Sumner The history and introduction of the pneumatic lever to this country.

Dr Jim Berrow The Revd Sir Frederick Arthur Gore Ouseley and the commission of the All Saints' organ

Roger Judd Memories of St Michael's College, Tenbury.

Roger Judd Recital

Saturday 5th September 2015

A Day with Father Willis

Attendance: 29

At Union Chapel, Compton Terrace, Islington, London N1

Duncan Matthews and Andrew Scott (Harrison & Harrison)

The Father Willis organ and its restoration

William Whitehead Recital

At the Priory Church of Our Lady of the Rosary and St Dominic Southampton Road, London NW5

Martin Stacey Introduction to the organ

Bruce Buchanan Henry Willis: Work in Progress

Martin Stacey Recital

ORGANFEST 2015

Friday 18 September 7.45

Cathedral Music (mostly)

The Choir and Organists of St Philip's Cathedral

St Chad's Cathedral: St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham

Saturday 19 September

RCO Organ Forum

Elgar Concert Hall, Bramall Music Building, University of Birmingham

Musicapoetica: a celebration of the music of Nicolaus Bruhns in the 350th anniversary year of his birth with Henry Fairs, Lorenzo Ghielmi, Nicholas Wearne and Thomas Wilkinson

Transmission of the Stylus Phantasticus from Frescobaldi northwards

North German choral music before Bach

Stylus Phantasticus in the two E minor preludia by Bruhns

The influence of Bruhns and North Germany on the young Bach

Recital of music by J S Bach and Bruhns by Henry Fairs

7.45pm **Recital by Daniel Bishop (Liverpool Cathedral)**

The 25th anniversary recital on the organ of Broadway United Reformed Church, Gillity Avenue, Walsall

Sunday 20 September

11.00 Choral Solemn Mass

sung by the Choir of St Chad's Cathedral directed by David Saint, preceded by 15 minutes of organ music played by Nigel Morris St Chad's Cathedral

Richard Hills in concert

Virtuoso classical and theatre organist Richard Hills presents a programme of light organ music including works by Coates, Gershwin and Sullivan, on the Compton Theatre Organ at The Fentham Hall, Hampton-in-Arden

Saturday 21 November, 2015

The Richard Bridge Organ in Christ Church, Spitalfields, London

Attendance: 90+

Gerard Brooks Opening voluntary

Nicholas Thistlethwaite 'The tone is pronounced to be unexcelled' – The Spitalfields organ and its restoration

Dominic Gwynn Richard Bridge, an eighteenth-century organ-maker

William McVicker and Nicholas Thistlethwaite Demonstration of the organ

Joost de Boer and Geert Noppers (William Drake Ltd) and David Frostick

Restoring the organ

Middle voluntary

John Collins Peter Prelleur, the first organist, and his music

Gerard Brooks and William McVicker Short recital

William McVicker (chair), John Mander, Joost de Boer, Terence Charleston

Panel discussion on temperament – Closing voluntary

Richard Hobson

PUBLICITY (Agenda Item 4.7)

Advertising

By keen negotiating, advertising costs were contained at the level incurred in earlier years. During the first half of 2015, the advertising pattern remained similar to earlier years promoting upcoming conferences with adverts appearing in *Organists' Review* and *Choir & Organ* as well as the *London Organ Concerts Guide*. Later in the year it was not possible to feature a conference so we reverted to advert content aimed at raising general awareness of BIOS.

With it being some while since I attempted to relinquish BIOS administrative functions, the generic adverts were then adjusted to allow them to continue to be used for as long as the Council felt that same copy served a purpose.

Social media

During the course of 2015 prime responsibility for management of the Facebook page and Twitter feeds passed to Jamie Singleton, though if required I can still support these areas.

In January 2015 350 people had used the Facebook "like" process to ensure they got notifications of new content. In June that number had risen to 676 and by the end of the year almost 80% more people than we have as members, with no direct correlation between the two.

The once idle Twitter feed linked to the web page began to get content usually echoing material posted on Facebook. The original Twitter feed created by order of Council in February 2014 is now abandoned.

Publicity materials

A new Membership List for 2105 was prepared from data provided by the Membership Secretary and was distributed in the autumn. Other brochures including Grants, Constitution, and the NPOR report form have all continued to be maintained with any new changes included as they were needed and notified.

Melanie Plumley
13th April 2016

INFORMATION SERVICES: BOA/NPOR (Agenda Item 4.8)

British Organ Archive

The Joint Management Committee continues to meet in Birmingham on a six-monthly basis. BIOS is represented by the Chairman, Dr David Knight, Dr David Shuker, and Chris Kearl. BIOS member Andrew McCrea attends in his capacity as Director of Academic Development of the RCO and Librarian of the RCO Library (housed nearby at the Library of Birmingham City University), and his presence and input are greatly valued. The Cadbury Research Library is represented by Susan Worrall and Ivana Frlan.

Records kept by the CRL staff show that the collection continues to receive good use by BIOS members and public alike, though the numbers are slightly lower in 2015 than in the previous year. Over the last twelve-month period there were eleven visitors who carried out research on a total of eighteen days, between them consulting a total of fifty-four items or boxes. In addition, fifty postal or email enquiries were received and the Library handled a total of thirty-two reprographic orders for material from the Archive.

Accessions during the year have included the 1865 specification of an organ manufactory for T.W. Rogers (an addition to the records of T.C. Lewis and Co.) and the manuscript notebook of Alfred Deeks (1862-1921), reed voicer (an addition to the records of Hill, Norman & Beard). Indexing work continues, thanks in particular to the voluntary work done in the Library by Chris Kearl, and work has concentrated on the organ location folders, the Haycraft scrapbooks and the newly-acquired Hubble notebooks. The Fonds Level catalogue and the accompanying handlist were updated last October. An offer of records from the firm of Griffen & Stroud has been accepted and is being followed up. The Committee was also pleased to learn that, following an approach from the Cadbury Research Library, Durham County Council Archive Service has agreed to allow for copying of records from the Percy Daniel & Co. and Harrison &

Harrison microfiche collection under the same terms as the CRL allow for the copying of other organ collections for which the Archive has only microfiche copies. This means that Archive users can now obtain copies, for personal use only, without having to seek permission.

BIOS extends thanks as always to Susan Worrall (Director of Special Collections) and Ivana Fran (the member of staff with special responsibility for the Organ Archive) for their enthusiasm and the care that they exercise over the collection on a daily basis, and to Chris Kearn who as a Library Volunteer continues to take a special interest in the Organ Archive and to make an important contribution to its development.

Alan Thurlow

National Pipe Organ Register (NPOR)

Meetings of the Joint Management Committee, consisting of representatives of BIOS and the RCO were held on 2nd June and 8th December 2015.

1. Finance

The early part of the year was dominated by the launch of an appeal to help cover the running costs of NPOR: these are currently about £8,500 annually, a sum that is beyond the ability of BIOS to sustain from its own resources. The appeal now has a permanent presence on the NPOR website, whereby users of the Register are encouraged to contribute. In addition, the Chairman and Mark Venning sent out appeal letters to many NPOR users and supporters, including organ builders, organ advisers, organists' associations, and institutions concerned with the organ. The results were very encouraging, with appeal receipts to 31st December totalling £11,733 from about 165 donors, to which Gift Aid adds £2,742. Donors of larger sums are listed in four annually-renewable categories of supporters: patrons giving £500 or more, benefactors £250, donors £100, friends £50. NPOR also received the proceeds of a generous legacy of £2,741.

The generous initial response shows the high regard in which NPOR is held throughout and indeed beyond the British organ world. From now on, the need will be to achieve as many donations as possible on a regular basis (by Standing Order) and to encourage renewal of one-off donations. Meanwhile, thanks are due to all those within the organisation who helped with this effort: in particular the Chairman, Treasurer and Webmaster, not forgetting Tina Thurlow who helped with the distribution of letters, and also the BIOS membership for their practical encouragement.

2. Succession

It is good to report that Mike Sayers's impending retirement has been postponed yet again – with his willing agreement – in order to facilitate the necessarily complex transfer of the NPOR server to its new host, the Royal College of Organists. The handover is now expected to be complete by the middle of 2016, after which there will for the first time be an annual maintenance cost for maintaining the server. This will be in addition to the annual management cost mentioned above, underlining the need to increase NPOR's income. Meanwhile, our thanks must go yet again to NPOR's founding father and to Emmanuel College Cambridge for continuing to maintain the server free of charge.

3. Management

In the hands of the RCO's Manager Andrew Macintosh and our team of dedicated editors, NPOR is being effectively managed and we are making useful progress in reducing the backlog. The reduction is in large part due to Andrew himself taking a hand in some of the basic editing tasks – a commitment which is sincerely appreciated.

The new on-line submission form is bedding in but is still only used for a fairly small minority of submissions, which are handled promptly by a dedicated editor. In time, our aim is to make this the standard method of submission, once additional editors have been trained, thus streamlining the editors' task. Paper submissions will, however, continue to be accepted for the foreseeable future.

Steps have been taken to update the register with details of 35 organs with historic organ certificates, of which the stop-lists had previously not been included in the register thanks to Melvin Hughes for coordinating this very necessary task.

Subject to the approval of Council, plans are in hand to include in the register details of historic organs which are at risk of loss.

Mark Venning
January 2016

Report on the Historic Organ Sound Archive for BIOS AGM 2016

The NPOR still hosts the recordings made under the original project but augmentation of the archive has been on hold for a number of years now, partly due to the peregrinations of the NPOR. National coverage is a worthwhile aim but without a national funding structure difficult to achieve. The Heritage Lottery Fund which funded the original scheme is regionally based. I am hoping to discuss with them whether there is any way national coverage might be achieved through an application to one of the regions.

Meanwhile sales from the HOSA CD are intended to fund a few additions from across the country. Members are referred to a short article in the April Reporter.

Anne Page
Curator

BIOS Website

It is now four years since the revised BIOS website was developed, the facilities continue to be enhanced. The NPOR Donations facility that was released just before the 2015 AGM has proved successful and the BIOS Journal index facilities have been extended. The full Index to BIOS Journals from 16 - 25 is now available on the website, as is a list of contents right up to the current issue. In addition, a 14-page consolidated locations index for BIOS Journals 26 - 30 is now available. It is to be hoped that a volunteer will come forward to complete the people and subject indexes for these issues.

When the 'Historic Organs At Risk' register is set up on the NPOR, a page will be provided on the BIOS website explaining the purpose of the register. A link to the NPOR will be provided to facilitate consultation and a link to an application form will be provided for members (and others) to suggest possible instruments. It is not intended that the register should be used as a market place for second-hand organs.

Discussions have continued over the detailed operation of the Webstore. The administrative requirements have changed somewhat and we are in the process of reconciling these with the practicalities.

Church House have set up a special 'ChurchDays' website (www.ChurchDays.co.uk) to introduce church architecture and interiors to tourists. Following discussions with CBC staff, material has been provided for the introductory 'Fittings and Features of a Church' page and also photographs and text for the more extensive lay introduction to the organ found in the 'Featured Churches' section. This includes an introduction to BIOS and the NPOR, and a link to the BIOS website, together with 'Ten Notable Organs' (each with a link to the NPOR).

Feedback is always helpful. If members would like either more extensive coverage of some items or less of others, please let the webmaster know. The website is now quite large so, if you feel the route to any particular page could be improved, do email the webmaster with your ideas.

John Norman
BIOS Webmaster

CASEWORK OFFICER'S REPORT (Agenda Item 4.9)

This past year has seen above all a strengthening of our working relationship with the Victorian Society and with that an increased awareness of what is happening to organs in the various denominations.

~~In one sense~~, This is to be welcomed because far more is coming to our notice and BIOS has been able to increase its sphere of operations and hopefully, influence. Far more too is coming to light about activity and the extent of attrition in areas of the country which have, until now, gone largely unreported. This is particularly so in the North West where a number of instances of report-writing by unaffiliated and self-appointed advisers have been notified together with the usual spread of diocesan advisory reports of varying quality.

Of the organs dealt with the following are typical. As always, further information on any of those featured would be gratefully received:

St Stephen's, Norwich N06519

We were approached by Margaret Phillips about this instrument, a rather fine 3mp Lewis of 1869, in January of this year. The church was originally slated for redundancy following severe structural problems at the east end. It was rescued under a scheme which saw it turned into a city worship and 'drop-in' centre open all hours, requiring conversion and a heating system to match. The organ was pneumaticised in 1935 by HN&B with some alteration of the stop-list though the core of the Lewis remained intact. It must have been one of the smallest 3mp Lewises built, originally with only 16 stops but very well thought out and a model of what could be achieved within a limited specification.

Regrettably, the organ has been dessicated by the constant heating and is no longer playable in any meaningful sense. BIOS advised that, given the need for more office space, a west end galleried position might be considered since there was already a lobby structure in place which might be strengthened to support the organ. Removal was to be discouraged, a view shared by the DOA, David Dunnett. Its future remains undecided.

St Curig Porthkerry, Glamorgan, Evans & Barr

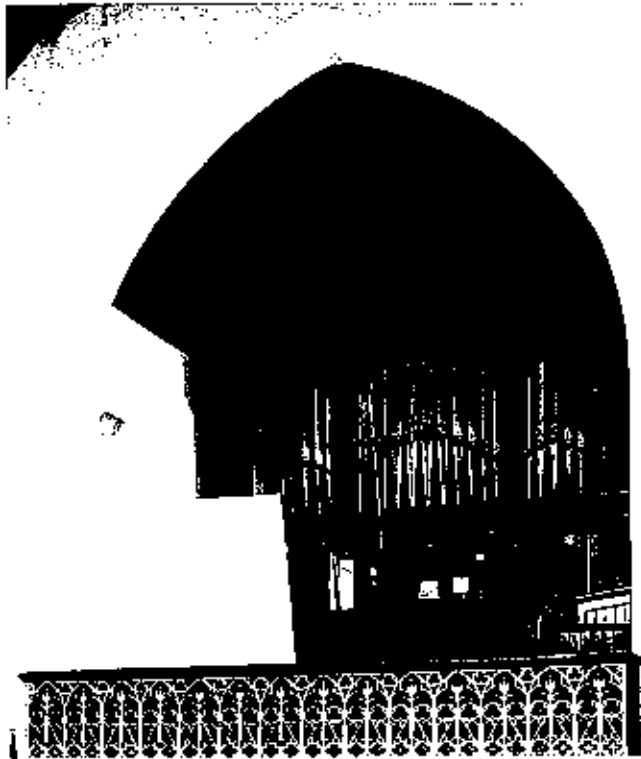
This organ does not feature on the NPOR but we were pleased to be consulted by Llandaff Diocese. It is a small 1 mp by Evans & Barr built in the 1920's which it was proposed to overhaul. BIOS was asked to comment on two suggested contractors neither of which was deemed suitable, the first not advertising itself as an organ building firm but specialising in player piano mechanisms. Fortunately, Llandaff DAC insisted on the use of competent and approved organ builders and so Cleveland Organs was eventually arrived at. It is understood the organ will be overhauled by them.

St Catherine's School, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey G00439

The NPOR lists this as a Willis no. 7 organ built ca. 1899 (NPOR says 1870) very similar to the St Paul's 'Willis on Wheels'. BIOS was asked for advice on what to do with it and advised the school to approach Dr Nicholas Thistlethwaite who is known to them. The organ has apparently not been altered so would probably be eligible for an HOC.

Sleaford United Reformed Church, Lincs. Holdich 1870 D04165

This church is currently home to an outstanding and virtually unaltered 2 mp example of G M Holdich's mature work; a Victorian organ in the grand style with a comprehensive specification. Sadly, the question of its future hung in the balance until the departure of the minister and efforts are now being made to return the organ to use and obtain a BIOS listing certificate. It goes without saying that this could have been another casualty of a church which, while priding itself on the autonomy and freedom to act of the individual congregations, is almost wholly unregulated when it comes to its assets and heritage.



Sleaford United Reformed Church

Greenock, Renfrewshire, Lyle Kirk N18184

The 3mp Willis of 1894/1936 has been destroyed, seemingly on the advice of the organist of the church, in favour of a Viscount electronic organ.

Regrettably, the Willis needed restoration work partly as a result of being overheated but also because a grant from HLF Scotland would not have been awarded without restoration to its 1894 condition involving a return to the original action (Barker lever). CARTA advised that the Willis should be retained whether the Viscount was installed or not and BIOS wrote to the Presbytery expressing its hope it could be kept but this advice was ignored by the Parish.

Holy Trinity, Frome, Somerset N06855

Judgment was given recently in this case involving a rare survival by the Bristol organ builder Robert Allen. Although permission was given for the organ to be removed, the Chancellor made the following stipulations based on representations from BIOS.

"Proper concern has, however been expressed by the British Institute of Organ Studies that if for some reason the transfer to Haamstede fails to take effect the organ might be scrapped. In order to guard against this eventuality no disposal otherwise than to the Gereformeerde Gemeente, Haamstede will be permitted under the faculty. Any other mode of disposal will have to be authorised by a further order of the Court, about which the British Institute of Organ Studies will be given the opportunity to make representations.

There will also be a condition to the faculty that the Petitioners shall request a fully documented restoration report from the transferees, and shall supply the British Institute of Organ Studies with a copy of the report."

This was to be welcomed and we look forward to the day when a chancellor is persuaded by us that an organ of similar ilk may not be removed but go on to serve its parish for another 100 years!

Bradninch Baptist Church, Devon (Foskett/Bonavia Hunt 1924) R01153

This was a small two-manual organ which was referred to us by Baptist Union Listed Buildings Committee. Nigel Browne was asked to visit and report though it is understood the organ was declared redundant following fire damage to the building. Beyond containing one of Rev'd Bonavia Hunt's 'Super Diapasons' it had little else to recommend it.

Kilbarchan West Church, Renfrewshire N00970

Kilbarchan West was home to a Grade 1 listed Hill of 1904 of 38 stops. The church has been slated for closure following a review of provision in the village given that there is a smaller church within about two minutes walk. BIOS wrote to Church of Scotland supporting the retention of Kilbarchan West but sadly the outcome was otherwise. It was hoped the organ might find a new home in St Andrew's University though at the time of writing, this had not been confirmed and it may well be it goes elsewhere.

St Mary's Banbury, Oxfordshire, N01269

This organ was rebuilt by HNB in 1924 with what was until very recently, the largest Hollins console still in existence (39 stops). An appeal was launched in 2010 for £40000 to repair the organ which included the following:

• Replace existing pneumatic actions with a processor system; repairs to Great Soundboard; patch all corner gussets on the bellows; attention to voicing of all reeds; repairs to inaccessible Trombone ventils (information from Church website).

The above appears to have been based on an estimate from a firm of organ builders which is not accredited by the IBO for historic restoration. The console was the main casualty as far as can be ascertained since the Hollins stop controls were replaced, bizarrely, with standard stop solenoids in the positions of the originals.

St Thomas's, Pimhole Road, Bury N01523

The organ is by Kirtland & Jardine from 1868 and was listed ungraded in 1998. It survives untouched though partially dismantled because of access needed to attend to roof repairs in the organ chamber. It is presumed under threat. BIOS was asked for advice and replied expressing great concern were the organ simply to be removed without being rehoused given its undoubted historic significance. We stressed it would qualify for grant aid from a variety of sources including HLF. The matter is currently with the Archdeacon of Bolton.

St David's, Davidstow N11170

A request for funding information was received for the 1876 Fr Willis organ and BIOS replied suggesting it be put forward for listing. The NPOR entry suggests this could be a worthwhile case.

St Luke's Winnington N04337

The organ is by Peter Conacher, undated, and was listed grade II in 2014. Efforts to find a new home for it in this country failed and it has now been shipped to Germany where it is expected to be erected in a church in Wermelskirchen.

Wisbech St Mary Methodist Church D05194

This 1 mp Holdich, built in 1857, originally came from St Peter & St Paul, Walpole. The organ remained in the chapel after closure and was sold along with the building to a couple wishing to convert it to a private dwelling. The organ was then offered on Gumtree and eBay for £10000, a wholly unrealistic sum. BIOS visited and saw a very attractive example of Holdich's work in playing order. Sadly, however, some unguarded and potentially misleading comments made by enquirers seemed to bolster the sellers' belief that the organ was 'unique' and would realise such a large sum. No buyer was forthcoming and the organ was broken up with the casefront set to grace a jacuzzi.

St Catharine, Baglan, Neath Port Talbot. No NPOR record

This organ was built by Henry Willis in the 1880's and remains untouched. BIOS was consulted by Llandaff diocese regarding proposals for its refurbishment to be undertaken by Patrick Burns. This was to be a conservative overhaul and so no concerns were raised. The diocese has been urged to encourage the parish to have the organ listed.

St. John, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk N06314

This church houses a good 2mp Binns of 1912 in original condition. The church is effectively redundant though has, as yet, not been declared so. BIOS was asked to comment on proposals to remove it for use at St Nicholas, the parish church. We replied that thought needed to be given to whether the organ was to stand alone instead of the ailing Hill/Compton from St Mary the Boltons or be integrated with a wider scheme for both organs.

St Mary, Old Alresford, Hants N11309

The organ is a 1 mp Bevington built in 1874 which the Parish had applied to remove and sell to an individual claiming to be an organbuilder in Southern Ireland. Enquiries revealed his credentials did not qualify him as such and that the reason for wanting to remove the organ was so that work could be undertaken to the roof structure above. BIOS's involvement came about following a request from the Victorian Society for an opinion as to its appropriateness when it was also established that the organ was a memorial to Mary Sumner, founder of the Mothers' Union.

John Rowntree was deputed to visit and report following which, BIOS, together with Victorian Society, submitted written objections which were able to persuade the Parish that retention of the organ was by far the better plan especially given that the Makin electronic which supplanted it had already been in the church since the early 1990's. Information regarding grant aid has been supplied to the Parish and it is understood an application has been made for a Churchcare grant.

St Peter, South Barrow, Somerset N05515

This organ was also notified to us through the Victorian Society. The parish is very small with



an electoral register barely in double figures and the church is listed II*. It was extensively remodelled in 1850 and now there are proposals to reorder the interior to make it attractive as a community venue. Regrettably, the organ is perceived as surplus to requirements even though the need for an organ of some kind will still be there. John Budgen's report suggested it might be a Gray & Davison on account of a Clarinet Flute and the overall build quality including the very attractive case. The specification and compass (54 notes C – f''') of the organ are contemporary with the remodelling of the church and so it could be it was bought new. BIOS has offered an opinion to Bath & Wells to the effect that the reordering proposals which include a west gallery over a kitchen/toilet space, could easily accommodate the organ there and be cheaper than a new electronic, the console footprint of which would be greater than that of the existing instrument. Since it is only ever likely to be played by pianists, a simple one-manual organ of six stops is going to be far easier to navigate than a 2 mp electronic with twenty five.

Holy Sepulchre, Northampton.N03423

A letter was received from the vicar, asking whether BIOS could assist in rehoming this organ, a Stringer of 1880 listed II* and the largest surviving organ by him, following a wish of the PCC to locate a servery and toilets in the area currently occupied by the organ. BIOS visited the church shortly before Christmas and spoke with the vicar and a PCC representative. Enquiries with Peterborough DAC indicated that while the Parish was in the process of drawing up a 'Conservation Management Plan', no formal moves had been made regarding the organ though the perception on the part of the Church was that it was surplus to requirements and was unlikely to ever be played again. In addition, following a gravitation of the liturgical focus towards the circular nave, the remainder of the building consisting of extensions to the nave

and a chancel by George Gilbert Scott is virtually unused. The organ sits in the northeast corner of the building which, regrettably, is treated as a store for old pews and lighting scaffolding, and is remote from the current worship area. It also does duty as the plant room for the heating and electrical equipment – a matter of concern given the quantity of wood in the vicinity. The nave, while serving as the worship area, is also used by drama students from Northampton University and so is dominated by a large lighting gantry. An electronic organ is played by a pianist with speakers mounted high up above the nave.

BIOS was subsequently asked to comment on a draft 'Conservation Management Plan'. We sought to make plain how important the organ was and that relocation in this country was not an easy option. It was felt the manner in which the church's 'reordering' to accommodate drama students was effected, was piecemeal and did not make use of the various spaces within the church to best effect. Turning the nave into a multifunctional area left the remainder of the building looking desolate and uncared for despite it containing some of the church's greatest artistic and liturgical assets (the carving of the choir stalls and the sanctuary area is of very high quality) including the organ. The nave itself presented all the appearance of the sort of development favoured by bijou architects in 'change of use' schemes. If the conservation management plan was to have any real significance, it needed to address these problems.

In conclusion, I should like to express my continued thanks to Council and, in particular, our chairman Dr Alan Thurlow, and Jonathan Goodchild for their support and valuable advice in what can be, on occasion, an exacting and sometimes fraught aspect of BIOS's work.

Andrew Hayden
31 March 2016

COMMITTEE FOR THE LISTING OF HISTORIC ORGANS (Agenda Item 4.10)

John Rowntree
Chairman, Committee for the Listing of Historic Organs.

BIOS HERITAGE ADVISER (Agenda Item 4.11)

In so far as heritage impacts on BIOS, 2015 could well be described as a year of change and the promise of change. April saw the official birth of **Historic England**, which took the place of English Heritage as the national government advisor and champion of heritage matters: its guardianship role passing to a newly constituted 'English Heritage'. The General Election followed in May, and brought both a new government and new Ministers, as well as new policies and priorities in all departments including heritage. Then, in September, the Church Of England published a consultation document that sought to introduce a system of management for its buildings based on greater flexibility and less 'red tape'. Although, in early December, the Chairman of The Heritage Alliance, Loyd Grosman, was generally 'up-beat' about the state and prospects of the heritage, by late January 2016 – at the close of the consultation period for the Church Buildings Review – the mood for many consultees had moderated in the uncertainty about the future of the ecclesiastical heritage and the possible impact of the proposed changes not only on church buildings, but also on the richness, diversity, and historic interest of their contents.

In its response to the Church Buildings Review Group, BIOS expressed the hope that the Report would act as a catalyst for further discussion about the future of the ecclesiastical heritage. The subsequent announcement of a Government review of (the financing of) churches and cathedrals will form part of the heritage advisor's report for 2016, but it may be said that indications suggest that the matter is being taken seriously. Whether the same will be said about the streamlining of process proposed in the Report remains to be seen, and BIOS has stated its readiness to discuss any specific proposals with regard to historic organs. Even so, in its response to consultation BIOS made a firm and clear statement that it would not support any proposed change that would undermine the BIOS listing and certification programmes, nor

would it support any change that might put historic organs at risk. One area of potential risk – and one given an amount of coverage in the national press – was the proposal for establishing 'Festival Churches' namely, churches that remained open for worship, albeit only at the time of the great annual and local festivals. In some rural dioceses such a change would legalize established realities, although the exposition of the concept raises many questions not addressed in the Report, not least those concerned with the 'Exemption', insurance, monitoring and safeguarding and finance. How historic organs will endure long periods of inactivity in cold damp churches is not addressed, although by the nature of their materials and construction the prospect does not conform to sustainable management. Though such a change of circumstance is – or could be – tantamount to putting an historic organ at risk, BIOS remains ready to discuss workable solutions that will serve to maintain and, ultimately, preserve historic organs in the national interest.

Jeffrey West
Heritage Advisor

Committee for the Listing of Historic Organs BIOS AGM 2016

This year has been noteworthy in a number of respects. First, I must record the invaluable help of Melvin Hughes in continuing temporarily as Co-ordinator and Secretary. Secondly, I am delighted to report that Jeffrey Williams has now taken on the role of Co-ordinator and Secretary. His presence is exceedingly welcome.

As last year, it is clear that both BIOS as a whole and the Listing Committee in particular are seen more and more as de facto amenity bodies. The listing of an organ and the associated Historic Organ Certificate are more and more being taken into account by public bodies, especially those awarding grants. This year there has again been noticeable pressure from some applicants for the award of Grade I status, whether in terms of 'prestige' or in the hope it assisting in the raising of funds, coupled with pressure in terms of associated appeals.

The standardised application and listing procedure now in place together with the availability of the material on line has greatly assisted the work of the Committee. This said, reaching decisions as to listing is not straightforward and I would wish to pay tribute to the care, thoughtfulness and assiduity of the Committee members - Dominic Gwynn, Matthew Hynes, David Wood, Colin Menzies and Dr David Frostick, coupled with the always thoughtful input of the Chairman, Dr Alan Thurlow - in these matters. In all of this the unfading technical help of Graham Jones in respect of each meeting is invaluable.

In conclusion I would urge members to propose organs for listing - there are still many historic organs not yet listed - but in doing so to note the criteria and procedures involved.

Dr John Rowntree
Chairman, Committee for the Listing of Historic Organs

The British Institute of Organ Studies Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015

The British Institute of Organ Studies (Registered Charity number 283936) exists to advance the education of the public in and promote the study of and research into the development of the organ and its music in all aspects and, in particular, the development of the organ and its music in Britain and to publish the useful results of any research. Also, to promote the preservation and restoration of historic organs in Britain for the benefit of the public generally.

Council

During the year the following served on the Council:

Alan Thurlow (Chairman)	Richard Hobson
Melvin Hughes (Secretary)	John Rowntree
Adrian Mumford (Treasurer)	Christopher Moore
David Shepherd (from 18 April)	David Shuker
Andrew Hayden	Gordon Curtis
Colin Menzies (co-opted from 6 June)	Jeffrey West (from 18 April)
Katharine Pardee	Melanie Plumley (up to 18 April)
Mark Venning	Nicola MacRae (up to 18 April)

The Council met three times during the year.

Independent Examiner: Michael Black

Bankers

CAF Bank (Charities' Aid Foundation), Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent
Nat West Bank, Durham

Investment manager

CCLA Investment Management Ltd. 80 Cheapside, London EC2

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's need for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission: they believe that it is prudent for the minimum level to be the equivalent of a 3-year moving average of annual subscription income. Additional designated reserves may be held from time to time when significant future events are anticipated.

Financial Review of the Year

Net incoming resources overall were positive. Unrestricted funds, strengthened by slightly higher subscription rates and relieved, at least for the time being, of responsibility for the NPOR, grew by just over £6,000. This result was also helped by good attendances at day conferences (Spitalfields in particular), lower Journal production costs (2014 being an exceptional issue for the RFH), well contained Reporter costs and no expenditure incurred in respect of the British Organ Archive. Unrestricted year-end reserves were at £53,974, comfortably meeting the Reserve Policy.

Restricted Fund (HOSA and Endowment) attracted investment income over £1,000. There were no costs in respect of either fund although only the Endowment Fund stands ready to support exceptional initiatives in respect of the forthcoming 40th Anniversary of BIOS.

2014 saw the establishment of a new Restricted Fund so that costs and income directly attributed to the National Pipe Organ Register are transparently recorded. The appeal for donations has been successful; members and NPOR users are to be most warmly thanked for their generosity. Those who kindly set up standing orders help to ensure future income stream and it is hoped that more donations will come by this route – annual costs close to £8,000 per annum will remain a challenge.

As BIOS approaches its 40th anniversary, it is good to be able to report that its financial health is sound.

Independent Examiner's Report to members of the British Institute of Organ Studies.

I am giving my report on the accounts of the British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS) for the year ended **31 December 2015** which are set out on the following two pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The BIOS Council are responsible for ensuring the preparation of the accounts; they consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts and issue this report in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act).

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. That examination includes a review of the accounting records and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements have not been met:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 1993 Act,

or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Michael Black BA

Dated: 8 February 2016

British Institute of Organ Studies
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
for the year ended 31st December 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Incoming Resources :					
Subscriptions	1	16,180		16,180	19,745
Sales	2	438	113	551	944
Investment Income		1,293	1,033	2,326	1,960
Conferences	3	4,665		4,665	3,043
Tax recovery on Gift Aid		2,032	1,795	3,827	2,269
Donations			11,733	11,733	440
<i>Total Incoming Resources</i>		£24,608	£14,674	£39,282	£28,401
Resources Expended :					
BIOS Journal		5,831		5,831	7,166
Reporter		4,670		4,670	5,003
National Pipe Organ Register			7,426	7,426	7,422
British Organ Archive		1,660		1,660	1,512
Council & sub committees		624		624	882
HOCS and surveys		598		598	724
Bank charges		465	258	723	413
Conferences	3	3,547		3,547	2,811
Publicity and website	4	1,999		1,999	2,144
Insurance		588		588	543
Other costs	5	147		147	233
<i>Total Resources Expended</i>		£20,129	£7,684	£27,813	£25,493
<i>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</i>		4,479	6,990	11,469	2,908
Exceptional item: Legacies	6		2,742	2,742	2,317
Net incoming resources		4,479	9,732	14,211	2,145
Balance brought forward		47,835	38,208	86,043	83,945
Balance carried forward		£52,314	£47,940	£100,254	£86,043

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 2015

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £
Tangible fixed assets		0	0
Current Assets			
CCLA Investment Fund Units	7	55,000	55,000
Short term deposits and Cash at Bank		39,094	27,830
Debtors and payments in advance	8	6,160	3,213
Net Assets		£100,254	£86,043
Funds			
Unrestricted General Funds		52,314	47,835
Restricted Funds	9	47,940	38,208
Total Funds	9	£100,254	£86,043

British Institute of Organ Studies
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for the year ended 31st December 2015

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Net Assets		£100,254	£86,043
Funds			
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Restricted Funds	9	47,940	38,208
Total Funds	9	£100,254	£86,043

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policy

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP); only the figure for subscription income is a record of amounts actually received, rather than receivable to 31 December. The total is slightly lower than 2014 when it was reported that earlier subscription renewal notices meant that some 2015 income was taken in to that year.

2. Sales

This is mostly in respect of BIOS Journals plus two Leffler manuscripts together with modest income in respect of CD sales.

3. Conferences

Conferences are budgeted to end up on the right side of break even. From the five held during the year, there was a net contribution of £1,118 to unrestricted funds, very much of which arose from the exceptional attendance at the Spitalfields event.

4. Publicity

Publicity costs include website maintenance and advertisements in related publications.

5. Other Costs

The £1,660 payment from Restricted Funds (Endowment) was for the digitising of photographic plates in preparation for a book to be published in time for the 40th anniversary Conference.

6. Legacies

There were one legacy received in the year from the estate of John David Jones. The Council decided that it should be capitalised in to the new NPOR Fund.

7. Investments

Charities Investment Fund Units held through CCLA are shown at cost. Gross dividend yield was 3.75% and the market value of the investment was £58,593 at the year-end (both close to 2014 figures).

8. Debtors and payments in advance

This is tax recovery on gift aid for 2015 receivable (received January 2016), insurance and conference deposit paid in advance. It has previously been Council policy fully to write off tangible assets in the year of acquisition which included the cost of printing the Leffler manuscript. Stocks of 61 manuscripts (and rather more HOSA CDs) exist at the year end with nil value in the accounts.

9. Funds

Restricted Funds are those which are to be used in accordance with specific limitations set by the BIOS Council.

Analysis of Funds:	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance
	at 1/01/15				at 31/12/15
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:	47,835	24,608	(20,129)	0	52,314
Restricted Funds:					
HOSA and Leffler	6,058	277	0	0	6,335
Endowment	32,150	869	0	0	33,019
NPOR	0	16,270	(7,684)	0	8,586
Total Funds	£86,043	£42,024	(£27,813)	£0	£100,254