

BIOS REPORTER

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THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES 1976 - 2007

BIOS OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

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THE BRITISH ORGAN ARCHIVE (BOA)

Birmingham City Archives (top floor), Central Library, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3HQ. Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10.00-17.00, Thursdays 10.00-20.00, Fridays and Saturdays 10.00-17.00; closed on Sundays and Mondays.
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THE HISTORIC ORGAN CERTIFICATE SCHEME (HOCS)

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THE NATIONAL PIPE ORGAN REGISTER (NPOR)

<www.bios.org.uk/npor.html> The NPOR Database Manager, Library Services, University of Central England, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2SU; [REDACTED]

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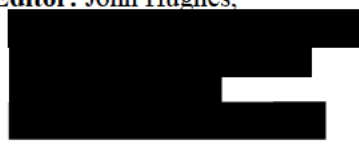
Secretary: José Hopkins



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SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription to BIOS is £30 (£24 concessionary). Full details of membership and subscriptions can be obtained from the:

(Some items, which did not meet the publication deadline, have been held over to the April edition of the Reporter).

Membership Secretary,

Peter Harrison,



The front cover illustration is of the 1894 Henry Willis organ at Denver Parish Church, Kings Lym. Photograph by courtesy of Andrew Hayden.

EDITORIAL

‘ ... discomfort the clergy — and don’t forget to play and listen.’

Peter Williams’s remarks, made in the act of retiring as Chairman of BIOS, resonated with at least one listener at the Annual General Meeting.

Discomforting the clergy may seem, at first sight, both a mildly amusing remark and one perhaps a little unfair on that calling. Yet it must surely be an essential task for any organist dealing with church music. At its most constructive, such discomforting should alert the clergy, in a sympathetic manner, to the contribution which the organist can make to the worship of the church; The organist, and organ, can make or break the church’s worship; the partnership between clergy, organist, and organ is self-evidently valuable.

The other sort of discomforting may well to some clergy who understand nothing of the above, leading to the removal of organ and organists, often on the grounds that neither can play the ‘modern’ music being introduced. The degradation of church music and worship that so often accompanies this process is all too familiar, as is the problem of finding a home for a good, redundant organ. There can be no shame in organists making voluble protest and criticism of this kind of thing, one which drags church music down to mediocrity. One can understand the need to modernize church services and music, to escape from the ‘sacralising influence of Hopkins’ as described recently by Martin Renshaw,¹ but this cannot be an excuse for allowing the vandalism so prevalent at the present time.

Playing and listening are matters altogether more subtle. Playing for whom? Some may be so fortunate as to emulate Bach and play for the Glory of God (which, surely, is the purpose of voluntaries before and after services?); others may have to settle for something less such as edifying or just amusing the congregation, if the latter be predisposed to listen.

There is a kind of playing and listening which is not generally recognized. Practising, perhaps not unusually, in a cold, damp church is not likely to draw an audience. Yet it was a wise old organist who said that such practise in an empty building should be performed as though the building were full of avid, informed listeners. Apart from the salutary effect on the organist’s approach to his practising, there remains the small, but real chance, that somebody will slip into the back of the building and listen. Experience has shown that such unexpected listeners can range from those merely seeking shelter from the rain to a passing organist of some repute who just happened to hear the sound of the organ drifting out through the door.

The most important playing and listening must involve children; their current educational experience with its emasculated Christian background, will not bring them into ready contact with the organ, its heritage or future. This is perhaps the greatest challenge facing BIOS.

1. Renshaw, M., ‘English Organ History’: *JBIOS* 30, 149

FROM THE SECRETARY

JOSÉ HOPKINS

2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2006 Annual General Meeting was held as part of the day meeting which took place at the Freemasons' Hall, 60 Great Queen Street, London, on Saturday, 25 November. The Officers' reports are reproduced in this issue, and Officers and Council members were elected in accordance with the Constitution.

The following Officers were elected:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Chairman: | John Norman |
| Treasurer: | Richard Hird |
| Casework Officer: | Andrew Hayden |
| Membership Secretary: | Peter Harrison |

Barrie Clark, David Knight, Katharine Pardee and Nigel Stark were elected as Council members, and biographical details of these and of the elected Officers follow. We welcome them to their respective roles, and especially our new Chairman, John Norman, as he takes over from Peter Williams.

At the end of the meeting, the incoming Chairman, John Norman, presented Peter Williams with a framed sketch by Martin Goetze of the organ built by Robert Dallam *c.* 1632 for Magdalen College, Oxford, recreated from the case of the present 'Milton' organ at Tewkesbury Abbey and the chair case at Stanford on Avon. It is intended that the sketch can be posted on the BIOS Website in due course. Let us hope the organ itself may be reconstructed some day.

It was also announced that BIOS had recently been able to reach agreement with the owners of the Leffler Manuscript to purchase it for the British Organ Archive. Further discussion has still to take place about plans for the preservation and wider dissemination of this important collection of stoplists from the early nineteenth century, details of which will be announced in due course.

CHANGES IN CONTACT DETAILS

Please note that my own amended contact details are as shown on p.3 (change of postcode and e-mail address), and that Andrew Hayden's contact details are now correctly shown.

JOHN NORMAN trained as an organ-builder with Hill, Norman & Beard, whom he left in 1974. He has been a professional organ consultant for over twenty years, whose projects include Worcester Cathedral and Houses of Parliament Crypt Chapel. He is a Diocesan Organ Adviser for the London Diocese and was formerly RSCM nominee on the Cathedrals Fabric Commission.

PETER HARRISON, aged fifty-two, is a professional sound engineer, working mainly in the UK and the USA, and an amateur organist and choir director. His early music studies were with H.C. Parr and Dr C. Eden of Durham, and, in between travels,



John Norman presents Peter Williams with Martin Goetze's drawing of the c.1632 Robert Dallam organ built for Magdalen College, Oxford.

he still plays regularly at an Anglican village church in Ramsbottom, Lancashire. He first became Membership Secretary of BIOS in 2002 and has continued to deal with membership administration since then.

ANDREW HAYDEN studied Music with Applied Physics at Surrey and was a pupil of Richard Hickox and Robert Munns, gaining FTCL under his tutelage. His early years were spent in Germany where he was a postgraduate researcher; he is a fluent German speaker. He has been actively associated with BIOS since 1986, co-editing the *Reporter* for a time with John Hughes, and has latterly been Project Development Manager at the British Organ Archive. He has had extensive experience of the organ from both a playing and a technical standpoint, involving him as a sometime adviser to the Norwich Diocese, and as a HOCS assessor. He was also on the team of HOSA organists. He is well known for his regular historical feature in *The Organ*, and as a keen photographer of the instrument.

BARRIE CLARK formerly worked for English Heritage as an architectural adviser with a particular interest in organ cases. He is a Diocesan Organ Adviser for Southwark Diocese, a HOCS inspector for BIOS, and is the prime mover in the current campaign to improve the current position with regard to legislation for the protection of organs in the UK.

DR DAVID KNIGHT is Conservation Assistant at the Council for the Care of Churches, where he has particular responsibility for casework relating to organs, bells and clocks. He has a PhD from King's College, London for his dissertation on the 'Organs of Westminster Abbey and their Music 1240-1908'. He also has an MMus in Organ Historiography from Reading University, where his research interests included the early development of the Swell organ and the organ-builder Renatus Harris. He is organist of Crown Court Church of Scotland, Covent Garden.

DR KATHARINE PARDEE is currently Betts Scholar in Organ Studies at the University of Oxford and is undertaking a DPhil in Musicology. She was previously Visiting Associate Professor of Organ at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY, USA, and is organising the joint residential conference on the Tudor Organ in Oxford in April 2007.

NIGEL STARK comes from Chester where he studied piano and later organ with Roger Fisher at Chester. He was Director of Music at St Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, conductor of the Bishop's Stortford Choral Society, musical director of the Harlow Opera Company, and founder and director of 'Serenata', a small professional vocal ensemble. In between these activities, Nigel found time to run his own piano-tuning and restoration business and build a two-manual-and-pedal mechanical action organ in his house.

Before coming to Solihull at the beginning of April 2002 to take up the post of Director of Music at St Alphege's, Nigel was Director of Music at St Mary's, Portsea; head of St Mary's Music Foundation; accompanist and assistant conductor of the Portsmouth Choral Union and the Portsmouth Festival Choir. In 2005, Nigel became conductor of the Leamington Spa Bach Choir. He has given many organ recitals, most recently in Portsmouth, Birmingham and Chester Cathedrals, and a regular monthly series in Solihull Parish Church.

An Associate of the Royal College of Organists and holder of the Diploma in Choral Directing, Nigel holds the degree of MA (distinction) in Organ Historiography from Reading University. His dissertation 'Benjamin Grindrod and The Tubeon' was published in the BIOS *Journal*.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ladies and gentlemen, as this is my last report as Chairman, I would like to make some general remarks in a moment, but first, I have the unhappy duty of recording the loss of valued members since we last met: Bernard Houghton of Southend, Peter Charles Knight of Olney and Michael Popkin of Headington. It was Michael who prepared the *BIOS Journal's* indexes, and I would like to record a warm sense of what we owe him for this fine work.

A happier duty is to thank Council for all its work over the last year, shown in the tabled reports and in each *Reporter*. Amongst particular activities, I would like to congratulate those concerned in the Historic Organ Sound Archive project, celebrated in the meeting at Norwich on 24 June. The best compliment we can pay it is for the scheme to continue in some form — we just need the money and the people! A further initiative is Barrie Clark's efforts, with the active support of our Secretary, to round up support for legislation on preserving the national organ heritage. Also in a recent *Reporter*, Richard Godfrey makes it clear how we need help and support in gathering information on redundant organs, preferably coordinated by a Casework Officer on Council. Please do contribute suggestions to the officers concerned: such activities are at the heart of BIOS's aims. The Historic Organ Certificate scheme continues under Paul Joslin, and while, as critical members point out, listing and certifying does not save an organ under threat, or even identify every worthy example, we do what we can as a society of volunteers. And after all, cataloguing is fundamental.

As I hand over chairmanship this year, I would not wish to glide over our problems. For example, members, including Council officers, are disappointed when their ideas meet with an unenthusiastic response. For example, there are ideas for BIOS publications (now in David Ponsford's capable hands) that will take time, due to the natural caution of a society with modest funding. I would only say: courage, don't give up, press for what you think will increase our effectiveness. I myself was deeply disappointed over the collapse of the Royal College of Organists project, after so much involvement in it. But all is not black: the British Organ Archive remains in the City Library, and, thanks to Mike Sayers and library staff at the University of Central England (to which BIOS now contributes), the National Pipe Organ Register is also running satisfactorily.

I found the failure of the RCO project depressing because it reflected more than failure of planning and personnel. Of course, business acumen and commercial scepticism require a different kind of skill from musicianship. Yet it would be dreadful if lack of money held back development in our areas of interest, for surely money problems are a symptom, not a cause. There is plenty of money in the UK for what the various *élites de jour* want to spend it on. Of the vast expense for the London Olympics, what percentage do you think would give BIOS a proper working budget, for ever? Perhaps 0.00001%? Probably less, but we are not going to get it, and a sign that we are not lies in that very phrase 'Ministry of Culture, Media and Sport'. For breathtaking banality, those words take some beating, and it is a huge challenge to counter the attitudes that lie behind them. With all its shortcomings, the RCO project did have vision, and its collapse is more than a simple setback.

Our devotion to organs is, as they say, a Minority Interest, and sooner or later we are likely to be accused of Elitism. But the Politically Correct can't have it both ways. If we are a minority in proportion to the country's athletes, say 0.1%, then give us a

proportionate funding! We deserve nothing less. Similarly, if we are elitist, in what way are not, say, Olympic horse-riders?

There is a fundamental absence of logic in the Politically Correct position: if it is wrong to maintain White Western Culture's musical heritage, such as organs, why is it right to take advantage of White Western Culture's technology, such as electricity? We seem to be living in a society in which there is no joined-up thinking, no sense of proportion: in a word, under-education.

All this might seem far from BIOS's work, but I don't think it is. Incompetence, speciousness and philistinism in our overlords percolate down to affect each and every one of us. In education, for instance: if salvation lies in our colleges and universities as they are today, forget it, we're lost! What I would say to BIOS members is: fight against this, keep up standards, pull together, do your best to sustain BIOS's aims, don't be put off by cautious colleagues, share your enthusiasms, answer the Secretary's calls for volunteers, contribute to our publications, agitate for interesting meetings, get blogging and webbing, write angry letters, discomfot the clergy — and don't forget to play and listen.

May I close on a warmer note by thanking the performers and speakers today, also our Meetings Officer for the arrangements. Special thanks go to our Secretary for organizing the formalities both for today and for every Council meeting. Finally, may I say what a privilege it has been to be so involved in BIOS and to work with present and past Councils. To them and all of you I wish the very best and, in particular, persistence in upholding the aims of our Society.

Peter Williams, September 2006

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Council has met on three occasions during the year under review, twice at the Dutch Church in London and once at Crown Court Church of Scotland, also in London. In addition the HOCS subcommittee has met three times prior to each Council meeting. Discussion has taken place as to the adequacy of three meetings per year for pursuing Council business, and the desirability of establishing additional layers of administration. No conclusions were reached. If, however, further commercial activity in the form of fund-raising or publications by BIOS were to be contemplated in the future, it would be necessary to set up a different constitutional basis for that, perhaps by setting up a charitable company.

I have been much involved during the year with the HOSA project, now completed, and the last strands are being pulled together at this time. In this connection, my report last year drew attention to the inclusion in the project of the 1821 Lincoln organ at Thaxted in Essex, which is in urgent need of restoration. As a direct result of the special public event which was held there recently, the church has at last recognised that something must be done about this organ. This is BIOS in action.

I am pleased to report that we have made some progress towards assessment and relocation of the BIOS artefacts formerly at Reading University, thanks to the willingness of Goetze & Gwynn to take in the older items. Further reports will be made in the coming year.

As BIOS celebrates its thirtieth anniversary, there is perhaps cause for quiet satisfaction in the growth of recognition and appreciation of historic instruments. However, the documentary and on-line records which BIOS strives to maintain,

namely the British Organ Archive and the National Pipe Organ Register are major projects which are widely assumed by many people to be permanent, self-funding institutions. This is not the case — such support as they have at the present time comes directly from our own resources, and therefore their future remains a cause for concern.

In recent weeks, however, there have been encouraging signs of volunteers coming forward in the area of Archives and Casework, and in the possible re-arrangement of the duties undertaken by a Publicity Officer. Help is still needed, however, in the the development work for NPOR from next year, and ultimately the not unimportant roles of Secretary and Treasurer will need filling.

In conclusion, I wish to thank two people on behalf of Council. David Hemsley, who has recently decided not to stand again as Publicity Officer after four years in the post. He has greatly developed our image in other organ publications, notably *The Organ*, and has organised the BIOS postcards on sale today. Derrick Carrington's work on Council over the past two years is also gratefully acknowledged. But I must now pay tribute to our retiring Chairman, Peter Williams, for his enormous contribution since taking over in 1997. He has brought his formidable intellect and presence to the affairs of BIOS in a wholly supportive and involved way, and although I know that he was personally very sad that the proposed new library in Birmingham did not develop as hoped, I know that he continues to have the aspirations of BIOS at heart. He is willing to be nominated as the first Honorary President of BIOS (subject to the approval of the Charity Commission). I take it that this suggestion has your approval!

José Hopkins, November 2006

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Statistics

The membership figures for mid September in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006 are as follows:

| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Ordinary members (excluding concessionary rate payers) | 517 | 516 | 515 | 488 |
| Ordinary members (concessionary rate due to retirement) | 138 | 147 | 140 | 135 |
| Ordinary members (concessionary rate as students) | 6 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Ordinary members (concessionary rate as unemployed) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Honorary members | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| Institutional members | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| TOTAL | 685 | 685 | 685 | 650 |

Since the 2005 report was prepared, we have welcomed 16 new ordinary members, with one of these previously having been associated through an institutional membership. A drop of 35 in our total membership, including 3 deaths, despite there being 15 newcomers, means 47 other people have ceased to be members. Some have openly cited the revised subscription rates as a reason whilst others have notified their resignations giving no reason, and a final group has been removed from membership due to non-payment. Before becoming part of that final group, a member has to have

ignored a variety of communications from the treasurer and/or the membership secretary and removal is very much a last resort, with very strenuous efforts made and patience shown by BIOS officers to prevent it growing.

A number of members who pay by standing order has failed to increase the amount paid to reflect the 2006 rates, and is it likely that such underpaid membership will result in the 2006 *Journal*, and in extreme cases the 2007 *Journal* as well, not being supplied until the arrears are made good. A roughly equal number of those joining who complete the reason on their application form cite either 'internet browsing' which includes the NPOR and BIOS websites or 'personal invitation'. The Membership Application Form and BIOS Information Leaflet are looking a little dated and steps are in hand to revise these with the aim being to reverse our membership trend of recent years.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The biennial *Membership List* is scheduled to be published again in the summer of 2007, so please be sure to notify the Membership Secretary of any changes in your contact details, not only for the next *Membership List*, but to ensure all publications are delivered efficiently.

E-MAIL LIST

The BIOS e-mail list has had little traffic other than BIOS's own material and, with the variety of open e-mail lists that are available, perhaps that is as it should be. Not all those who have provided e-mail address to be used in the list have ensured their internet service provider does not block the BIOS e-mail address, so some would-be subscribers are having mail they have asked to receive rejected by their e-mail systems.

Peter M. Harrison, September 2006

PUBLICITY REPORT

1. Advertising

Advertising has been a significant expense over previous years, and, since there has been no clear case as to its value in promoting BIOS membership, a decision was made to reduce the expenditure level for 2005-6. Nevertheless, advertising has continued, but in a more focussed manner, with quarter-page advertisements in *The Organ* and *Choir and Organ* being taken on the basis of three advertisements for each magazine over the year. Expenditure for 2006-7 is expected to remain at a similar level.

2. Editorial Material

A steady stream of editorial material has been maintained. *The Organ* has now become our 'base' for the BIOS Column following the changes in the *Organist's Review* editorial and advertising team last year. *The Organ*, under Brian Hick, is steadily improving, with a core ethos that is more akin to our aims than that of the other British leading journals.

3. Other Matters

There may be opportunities for editorial in the *Early Music* magazine, especially with the proposed conference on the early organ in Britain presently being organised by the University of Oxford for April 2007. The Goldberg bi-monthly journal published in Spain is of extremely high quality and could provide an opportunity for overseas membership promotion.

J. D. C. Hemsley, September 2006

BIOS PUBLICATIONS REPORT

I would like to pay tribute to Dr Relf Clark, the first to hold the title of Publications Officer, and who occupied the post from 1997/8 until 2005. Throughout that period, Relf ensured that the *Journal* maintained the highest standards both of scholarship and publication. His skills at proof-reading are legendary and his 'Notes for Contributors' is a model of its kind. His friendly encouragement to authors and guest editors, his scrupulous attention to detail, and his unflappable and helpful assistance in times of difficulty, made him an excellent director of publications. BIOS will always be indebted to Relf for the service he has given and for the consistently high quality of the *Journal* for which he has been responsible.

Vol. 30 of the *Journal* marks the end of three decades of BIOS, and I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr William McVicker for his very considerable efforts as Editor of this important edition. Unfortunately, for personal reasons, two authors failed to produce their promised essays, but two essays of real significance have been spirited into existence so that the planned volume of 192 pages has been realised. At the time of writing, final proof-reading is being undertaken and the *Journal* is planned to be presented at the Annual General Meeting. Despite fears to the contrary, the revised postal rates and fewer pages (192 instead of 224 in Vol. 29) will mean that postage of the *Journal* will not increase. There may even be a slight reduction of 10-20p per copy. However, members who can collect their copies at the Annual General Meeting will save BIOS significant postage costs.

Future editors of the *Journal* will be as follows:

Vol. 31 (2007): David Hemsley and David Ponsford

Vol. 32 (2008): David Knight

Vol. 33 (2009): Chris Berry

I would also like to thank John Brennan of Positif Press, not only for attention to detail in meeting BIOS's current requirements, but for taking initiatives that will increase interest in the contents.

However, BIOS would not be as healthy a society as it is without taking on new initiatives and building on its present achievements in the light of changing ideas and its responses to the membership. In June 2005, the Publications Working Party scrutinised every aspect of BIOS publications, and, in the last twelve months, various matters with respect to the *Journal* have been debated:

1. The balance between organ/technology-based articles and music/performance practice-based articles has been debated, and I am pleased to say that Council has agreed with me that an approximate balance of 60/40 per cent in favour of organ/technology would be ideal for the content of each *Journal*. In practice, this balance will vary from year to year, but it does mean that articles based on music, and therefore of relevance to players (repertory, performance practice, liturgical use, organ accompaniment, etc.), will be presented alongside scholarly research into all aspects of the instruments and their builders. After all, musical purposes are the sine qua non of organ studies.
2. We shall continue the policy (already begun) of inviting articles from scholars working overseas, thereby making BIOS more international in its outlook.

3. The Reviews section will become more international in its scope, and will also contain summaries of recent academic dissertations on relevant organ-based and music-based subjects.
4. A new cover design will be considered for Vol. 31.

I am pleased to announce that the *Index to Journals 16-30* is planned for publication at Easter 2007 and will be dedicated to the memory of Michael Popkin, who was compiling it until his death.

During the year, the *BIOS Reporter* has undergone a welcome facelift, and I would like to thank John Hughes very sincerely for all his care and continuing attention. In the future, further development of the *Reporter* will be considered, such as the introduction of guest editorials, news from and about members, reports of significant events (recitals, conferences, new and rebuilt/restored instruments, etc.). Because of its quarterly appearance, the *Reporter* is the ideal medium for debate and for the report of topical/regional events and issues, and the membership as a whole is strongly encouraged to contribute to it.

Needless to say, whilst the Publications Officer and the Editors of the *Journal* and *Reporter* make every effort to attend conferences and keep abreast of the plethora of publications and events, they rely very heavily on suggestions from individual members and their contacts for sources of potential articles, and continue to welcome all suggestions. Members are always welcome to express views directly to the Publications Officer, and the team will be happy to consider the ideas and suggestions of every individual member.

On a lighter note, the publication of sets of organ postcards is to be welcomed (see advertisement in the *Reporter*). Not only are they an attractive and interesting medium for communication, but they will surely help in our aims to generate greater interest amongst the general public in organs large and small, all of which represent a very significant part of our national heritage and are all vehicles through which real creative music-making can enliven communities.

David Ponsford, September 2006

MEETINGS OFFICER'S REPORT

This report covers the year from 1 September 2005 to 31 August 2006. Dr David Knight completed a four-year tenure as Meetings Officer at the 2005 Annual General Meeting on 26 November 2005; I succeeded him from that date after a year spent shadowing his role.

In the year to 31 August 2006, meetings have taken place in Southall, Middlesex; Whitechapel; the Barber Institute, Birmingham; Great Budworth, Cheshire and Norwich (see below). The number of delegates for each conference is shown in brackets in the first column.

The Joint BIOS/IBO Residential Conference: 'New Organ-Building in England/UK' (Central London), planned for August 2006, was postponed.

A list of speakers who have addressed BIOS and organists who have played for us in the past year is set out below:

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 15 October 2005 St George's, Southall | William McVicker Joan Jeffery | Demonstration of Organ An Introduction to the Jordan family |
|--|----------------------------------|---|

| | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| Study Day to consider proposed restoration of organ (31) | Dominic Gwynn | The significance of this organ and other Jordan survivals |
| | David Knight | Poverty the preserver - what would we do with riches and who pays? |
| | Ian Bell (Chair) | Approaches to Restoration - Open Forum including contributions from William Drake, Dominic Gwynn and John Mander |
| | William McVicker | The eighteenth-century organ and its place alongside the liturgy, with musical examples, discussed and performed |

26 November 2005

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| St George's German Lutheran Church Whitechapel Study Day and Annual General Meeting (44) | Jenny Freeman | Introduction to the Historic Chapels Trust and some of the organs in its Chapels |
| | John Peacham | The German Protestant Tradition in England and its music |
| | Paul Peters | Eberhard Friedrich Walcker (1794-1872) and the Walcker company's work in England |
| | David Graham Michael Cox | Recital of organ music The organ heritage of New Zealand and its conservation |

25 February 2006

The Barber Institute, University of Birmingham (31)

The Bernard Edmonds Recent Research Conference

| | | |
|--|---------------|--|
| | Nigel Browne | The Sidmouth Organ Controversies |
| | Richard Hird | A Victorian Organ-BUILDER'S Wife (Elizabeth Harrison) |
| | Jim Berrow | Ombersley Revisited - A Nineteenth-century Exercise in Conservation |
| | José Hopkins | Cambridgeshire Rambles Walking Walkers |
| | Barrie Clark | 'The Victorian Organ' Architectural Organ Cases: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly |
| | Melvin Hughes | 'Miserable Dumbledores'? A Survey of Organs and Organists in Victorian Literature. |

29 April 2006

St Mary and All Saints, Great Budworth, Cheshire Day Conference: The Samuel Renn Organ: Anatomy of a Restoration (25)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Dominic Gwynn & Martin Goetze | David Wickens | Archival sources, the brief and the restoration |
| | | An Appreciation of Samuel Renn - 'English Organ builder' with reference to some recent findings |
| | Barrie Clark | The organ case in context |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| David Hawkins | Nineteenth-century woodworking and workshop practice |
| Peter Horton | Gridirons for the feet: resistance to the introduction of the 'C' compass and pedal organ in early Victorian England |
| Tim McEwen | Recital - Samuel Renn's top ten |

4 June 2006 Completion of HOSA Project: Great Organs of East Anglia - A Noble Tradition

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| St Helen's, Bishopgate and St George's, Colegate, Norwich (28) | Doreen Green | The Great Hospital and St Helen's Anne Page Illustrated Review of HOSA project and organs |
| | Simon Pulham | Bishop & Son - Activity in East Anglia |
| | Andrew Hayden ... Anne Page ... Malcolm Russell... Robert Ince | Recital, St Helen's, Bishopgate, Two Organ Restorations — St Mary's, Tittleshall; and St George's, Colegate |
| | Andrew Hayden | Glasspoole Brothers, Wymondham. A Recent Discovery |
| | Andrew Hayden ... Anne Page ... Malcolm Russell ... Paul Binski ... | Recital, St George's, Colegate |

BIOS also supported the Symposium and opening Recital by Thomas Trotter to celebrate the completion of the restoration of the Gray & Davison Organ (1851) at St Anne Limehouse held on 10 June 2006.

Melvin Hughes, September 2006

INFORMATION SERVICES REPORT

BRITISH ORGAN ARCHIVE

The failure of the proposed location of the BOA with the RCO libraries has left us with the continuing problem of storage and access to a collection which continues to grow in scope and width. We have had a number of interesting additions including some primary material relating to Roger Yates, tape recordings of Derbyshire organs including some long lost, a set of notebooks from the 1950's as well as copies of *The Choir* containing information about nonconformist chapel instruments. Other acquisitions include a notebook from a tuner working with Norman & Beard in the early 1900s in Scotland which, though primarily detailing his hours worked and rates of pay, also contains first-hand information recording the erection of several prominent instruments. These must, for the foreseeable future, remain inaccessible since they are having to be 'outhoused' with BIOS members. This will continue to be the case for as

long as a permanent solution to the accommodation and resourcing of the Archive is not found. At some stage too, in the not too distant future, BIOS, may have to face the prospect of paying for the Archive's accommodation in Birmingham, and it is vital that mechanisms are put in place to ensure that the costs can be met in a way which also benefits users; for example, through income generation exploiting the wealth of material we possess.

This is a regrettable note on which to begin but the situation is real and pressing, and hinders the work which might otherwise be done in making what is rapidly becoming a world-class collection of material about the British organ available and interesting to the enquirer.

Chris Kearl has taken over the enquiries side through myself and continues to furnish well-researched and accurate information as far as the present state of the collections allows. We are, however, without an archivist in the strict sense of the word, which means that the necessary and continual process of indexing and cataloguing is at a standstill. Nonetheless, I am most grateful to Chris for his work. I would also like to thank everyone else who has been involved particularly those who have, without the least hesitation, answered my pleas for help in collecting and housing material which has been offered.

Andrew Hayden September 2006

NPOR - HISTORIC ORGAN SOUND ARCHIVE PROJECT REPORT

Although the NPOR office is now located at the University of Central England in Birmingham, the server has remained in Cambridge pending the completion of the HOSA project. We are grateful to Dr Mike Sayers for this support, and indeed for all the devoted work which he and others have put into NPOR over the years.

The Heritage Lottery Fund contractual obligation which obliged us to provide forty-two recordings of historic instruments in East Anglia, together with twenty public events, was completed by the end of October, with the addition of two further recordings and one further event. The complete list of recording locations and public event locations is to be found on the spreadsheet, together with NPOR survey numbers for reference. Almost all recordings are now on-line, and each of the instruments either has been, or will be reviewed for Historic Organ Certificate status.

The players taking part were: Anne Page (Playing Coordinator), Andrew Hayden, Daniel Hyde, Paul Joslin, Jonathan Lilley, David Ponsford and Malcolm Russell.

Participants in the public events (in chronological rather than alphabetical order) were: Jeremy Sampson (Events Co-ordinator), Richard Bower, Anne Page, David Frostick, Andrew Hayden, Alec George, Richard Harker, José Hopkins, Malcolm Russell, John Bailey, James Parsons, David Farr, Robert Ince, Adrian Richards, Gerald Gifford, Peter Bumstead, Gillian Ward Russell, Nicholas Thistlethwaite, Jeremy Blasby. Attendances ranged from seven to seventy at the one held at Thaxted. Responses from schools which were invited to attend was excellent.

The sound recordists were Peter Harrison and Gareth Stuart.

It will take time for the project to be fully evaluated and documented, but, in the meantime, thanks are due to all those involved for their hard work and enthusiasm. It is our hope that ways and means will be found to continue this new area of BIOS activity in the future.

José Hopkins, September 2006

HISTORIC ORGAN CERTIFICATE SCHEME REPORT

During 2006, the Historic Organ Certificate Scheme has continued to flourish and goes from strength to strength. Currently, there are rarely fewer than two enquiries per week, although these do not all develop into full applications.

Since the last Annual General Meeting, thirty-three organs have been awarded BIOS listing by Council, ranging in date and style from a 1755 Snetzler to an authentically restored and working 1925 Wurlitzer, the first listed cinema organ.

Once again, credit is due to a small team of inspectors and committee members who have unstintingly given of their time and expertise.

Paul Joslin, September 2006

HERITAGE ADVISER'S REPORT

ORGAN PROTECTION AND FORTHCOMING LEGISLATION - THE CURRENT POSITION

In September 2005, BIOS had a meeting with the DCMS team dealing with the new Heritage legislation, with English Heritage in attendance. The outcome was not very encouraging as the official line was that Government does not wish to increase the scope of items for protection not already within the existing system.

In November 2005, the DCMS Select Committee announced that it would review the new legislation before the White Paper is published, perhaps some time later in 2006, although the timetable for this keeps slipping. The Committee invited evidence and BIOS has responded. During the first session, the Committee concentrated on the broader issues of the historical environment, the built heritage and archaeology. This did not include the BIOS submission, but, in July 2006, the Select Committee announced that it would be holding a new inquiry as a sequel to the recent inquiry.

The focus of the second stage will be on museums and galleries, cultural property and archives. We hope this will include the BIOS organ issue and await the outcome.

Copies of this document were sent to several MPs, who have in the past shown sympathy with our cause, and a copy has also gone to our Honorary Member the Bishop of Salisbury and the Heritage Review Team within English Heritage.

I have written to Simon Thurley, English Heritage Chief Executive, referring to recent statements English Heritage has been making about our European obligations, and the legal confusion about fixtures and fittings within the existing legislation. I had what seems to be an encouraging reply, not a stereotyped letter, but one obviously written personally after some thought.

A meeting with Stephen O'Brien, the BIOS 'champion' within the House of Commons, took place on 8 February. Our aim was to establish an all-party approach to the problem of organ protection, which is not a political matter, and gain advice on how to proceed in the near future. Mr O'Brien's advice was to get as much publicity as possible by obtaining letters of support from institutions and important individuals in the organ world. Eighty-six letters were sent out, but only thirty-two replies have been received to date. Disappointing, but no doubt a good average taking human frailty into account. The next important milestone in this long saga will be the publication of the White Paper, in which the Government will publish details of what the new law will contain.

Barrie Clark, September 2006

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

PETER HARRISON

Last year's change in subscription rates was very straightforward for members paying by credit or debit card and reasonably so for those who provided revised standing orders or cheques. Unfortunately, we are still trying to collect arrears from those who did not make the necessary changes.

To help balance our costs and be fair to those who have paid at the new rates, *Journal 30* (2006) has not yet been sent to those with arrears. The change of rates was also one factor member numbers have dropped and there is a need to increase our membership base if we are to have a secure future, able to effectively pursue our aims for the pipe organ.

Much work falls at the door of our Casework Officer, Andrew Hayden, and he has asked me to mention his changed address which is now: [REDACTED]

Another officer with changed contact details is our secretary, Mrs José Hopkins, whose email address has changed to [REDACTED] and whose home at [REDACTED]

I am pleased to welcome the following two new members to BIOS:

Ms Sybil King LRAM: [REDACTED]

Mr Christopher J. Rengert: [REDACTED]

THE CLASS OF 2000 GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

DAVID HEMSLEY

Since 2001, five mature students from amongst those that joined the MA Organ Historiography course at the University of Reading during 1998-2000 have met in October of each year for a reunion. These students, a varied band of professional people, call themselves 'The Class of 2000'. All are BIOS members and have been so for several years, and are active either as directors of music, choral trainers or in pipe-organ research.

The reunion is a day event that includes visits to organs of interest across the country, and there is always time for a fine luncheon at which matters of topical interest in the British organ world are debated. This year's event took place in the south with visits to the fine three-manual Hill, Norman & Beard organ in the Guildford United Reformed Church, probably one of the better church instruments in Surrey, the Grant Degens & Bradbeer neo-classical organ in Cranleigh School Chapel, the 1913

Hill, Norman & Beard organ in St John's, West Byfleet, and (surprise, surprise) the £40,000 Copeman Hart instrument at St Mary and All Saints, Dunsfold, all within the county. The 2007 event is scheduled for 11 October 2007 in the Chelmsford/Cambridge area.

The Reading course closed in 2002, following the retirement of Dr Christopher Kent, who was its founder and tutor in the early 1990s. Although it had a life of barely a decade, a surprising number of people passed through the doors of the Susi Jeans Centre and became acknowledged historians with scholarly contributions to the organ world's leading journals. Not a few have played, and continue to play, their part as council members in the management of BIOS; indeed, José Hopkins, our Secretary, was one of the early course students. Others have continued with doctoral dissertations. Dr Kent's brilliant concept is not perhaps fully recognised as yet, but there can be no doubt that it has been a vital force in enhancing powerful historic and academic values in Britain.

The Class of 2000 is convinced that there has to be a new impetus for the setting up of new and dynamic course in organ historiography. That there is a potential student base is not doubted. What are needed are visionary teachers backed by a sympathetic and supportive University music department. The University of Central England was mooted around the time when the RCO project so dismally failed (where were the accountants? - but that is another story).

For its part, the Class of 2000 is more than willing to offer its time, experience and know-how to a music department or professional institute wishing to pick up the cudgels. As Winston Churchill used to minute — Action this day. The Class of 2000 comprises BIOS members Barry Jackson, Dr David Hemsley, Roland Keen, Dr Rodney Matthews and Nigel Stark. Further information on The Class of 2000 from David Hemsley at marquis-associates@tiscali.co.uk

ALAN LAUFMAN RESEARCH GRANTS

The Grants. The Organ Historical Society is pleased to accept applications for its Alan Laufman Research Grants for 2007. Research grants of up to \$1,500 are awarded for research projects related to the organ in the broadest sense — the instrument's builders, construction, history, styles, repertoire, performance practices, and composers from all style periods and nationalities. Grants may be used to cover travel, housing, and other expenses.

Application Requirements. The Society encourages all interested persons to apply, regardless of age, educational background, and nationality. There is no application form. Applicants should submit (a) a cover letter, (b) a *curriculum vitae*, and (c) a proposal. At a minimum, the cover letter should contain the applicant's name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. The curriculum vitae will summarize the applicant's educational background, training, and experience relevant to the proposed project, and it should include a list of any publications. The proposal, not to exceed 1,000 words, will contain at least the following information: (i) a description of the research project, including a statement of objectives, a plan for conducting the research, a description of phases of the research already completed or in progress, and an estimate of the time required to complete the project; (ii) a list of anticipated

expenses to be funded by the grant (up to \$1,500); (iii) whether the applicant would accept a grant if less than the requested amount is awarded; (iv) a list of other organizations to which the applicant has applied or expects to apply for grants to fund the research project and amounts awarded or requested; and (v) publication plans (see the following paragraph).

It is expected that an applicant's research will result in a manuscript suitable for publication. Each recipient of an Alan Laufman Research Grant will be requested to submit a brief report after the research funded by the grant is complete, whether or not the manuscript is finished. Once the manuscript is completed, the recipient is expected to submit it to the Society's Director of Publications to be reviewed following standard procedures for possible publication in *The Tracker* or by the OHS Press. Submitting an application constitutes an applicant's agreement to this condition.

Applications may be sent by mail or e-mail. They must be postmarked or e-mailed by 15 June 2007, and awards will be announced in early July 2007. Alan Laufman Research Grants will not exceed a total of \$1,500 in any year. Within that limit, the grant committee determines the specific amount of each award and the number of recipients. The grant committee may elect to withhold awards if satisfactory applications are not received. In its deliberations, the committee considers the completeness of the application, the merits of the proposed project and the qualifications of the applicant to undertake it. A grantee may receive successive awards for a single research project of large scope, provided that sufficient progress is demonstrated. Likewise, a grantee may apply for successive grants to fund new research projects. Grant recipients are expected to expend their awards within eighteen months of receipt.

The Society. The Organ Historical Society is an international organization for friends of the organ. The purpose of the Society is to encourage, promote, and further an active interest in the organ and its builders, particularly those in North America; to collect, preserve, evaluate, and publish detailed historical and technical information about organs and organ-builders, particularly those in North America; and to use its good office and influence to have significant organs, particularly those in North America, preserved in their original condition or carefully restored. The Society maintains the American Organ Archives in Princeton, New Jersey, the world's largest collection of books and periodicals on the organ. More information on the Society is available at www.organsociety.org.

Send applications or inquiries to:

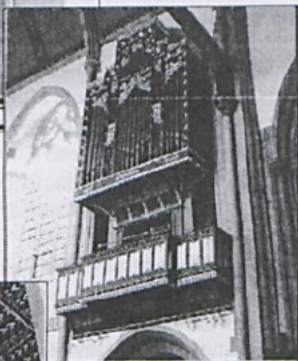
Dr Christopher S. Anderson, Associate Professor of Sacred Music, Perkins School of Theology,

2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DAY CONFERENCE


A report of this day conference will appear in the April 2007 issue of the *Reporter*.

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BIOS Publications 

WILLIAM SWEETLAND

GORDON CURTIS

William Sweetland (1822-1910) was apprenticed to George Sherborne in the 1840s and spent his entire working life in Bath. He retired in 1902 and sold his business to the Sweetland Organ Building Company which continued until 1962¹ when it sold out to Rushworth & Dreaper. At some time during the twentieth century, the firm's records were destroyed in a fire. This document is an attempt to list the organs built by Sweetland from the time of his starting in business (c. 1847) to his retirement in 1902. The principal sources are advertising lists and testimonials published around 1871,² 1878³ and 1890,⁴ and the instruments themselves of which around half survive. There are about 300 entries here. It is likely that a few instruments are entered more than once where their history has not been fully traced. Where an organ is known to have been moved, the organ is recorded under its original location or, where that is unknown, under its earliest known location with further moves noted. Any further information or corrections will be received gratefully by the author at e-mail:

Entries in *italics* are organs by other builders but rebuilt by Sweetland. Counties are as defined in 1891. Dates given in **bold** are from the brass nameplate on the organ or a contemporary source (church records or press account of the opening). Other dates are less certain. The fate of an organ is noted after the entry:

D = destroyed or broken up L = lost M = moved,

P = some features, usually pipework preserved in new instrument

R = rebuilt/enlarged ? = fate unknown

No letter code indicates that the organ is still in situ.

BERKSHIRE

Ascot, St George's School L

Reading, Congregational chapel 1878 M⁵

Wantage, Wesleyan chapel P

CHESHIRE

Crewe, Wesleyan chapel ?

Nantwich, Wesleyan chapel 1859 L

Sale, Wesleyan chapel L

Sandbach (Arclid), St John the
Evangelist's 1864

CORNWALL

Bodmin, Centenary Methodist church 1886

Camborne, Association chapel L

Camborne, Centenary chapel L

Camborne, Church L

Camborne, Wesleyan chapel 1845 R

Chynhale, Wesleyan chapel

Falmouth, Baptist chapel 1856 L

Falmouth, Wesleyan chapel 1858 D

Four Lanes, Methodist chapel L

Hayle, Foundry chapel L

Hayle, St Elwyn's 1875 R

Hendra Wesleyan chapel M⁶

Perranwell Bible Christian chapel M⁷

Ponsanooth, Wesleyan chapel 1867 L

Pool, Wesleyan chapel 1872 R

Redruth, Baptist chapel L

Redruth, Wesleyan chapel c. 1850 L

St Columb Minor, Wesleyan chapel 1900 ?

St Erth, Church 1881 R

St Michael s Mount, Church R

Saltash, Church ?

Tuckingmill, Wesleyan chapel pre-1870 M⁸

Tuckingmill, Wesleyan chapel 1891 D

Wall, Wesleyan chapel L

DERBYSHIRE

Derby, Greenhill Wesleyan chapel 1872/3 M⁹

Ironville, Church 1851 L

DEVONSHIRE

Bickington, St Mary's 1862 R

Bideford, Lavington chapel 1863 R

Lew Trenchard, St Peter's 1867 R

DORSET

Bourton, Church c.1870 L
Chaldon, Church c. 1880 L
Fontmell Magna, St Andrew's 1882
Fordington West, St Mary's 1886 L
Gillingham, Wesleyan chapel 1890 R
Holt, St James the Great 1878 L
Lyme Regis Methodist chapel 1854 M¹⁰
Netherhury, St Mary's 1874?
Piddletrenthide, All Saints R
Poole, High St, Wesleyan chapel 1872 R
Silton, St Nicholas 1869
Upwey, St Laurence 1895
Verwood, St Michael and All Angels 1893 R

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Bristol, Ashton Church c. 1888 D
Bristol, Baptist Mills Wesleyan
chapel 1871 M¹¹
Bristol, Bedminster Philip Street Baptist
chapel 1889
Bristol, Brooklands UM Chapel ?
Bristol, Old King Street
Ebenezer chapel RM¹²
Bristol, Grenville Hotwells Wesleyan
chapel 1864 L
Bristol, Milk Street Wesleyan chapel M¹³
Bristol, Old Market Street Wesleyan
chapel 1855 L
Bristol, Pembroke Congregational chapel
c. 1868 enlarged 1886 L
Bristol, Portland Street Wesleyan
chapel 1866 L
Bristol, Redfield Wesleyan chapel 1902 M¹⁴D
Bristol, Salem Chapel 71887 L
Bristol, Mr F. Watts's residence L
Cam, Independent chapel 1876
Cam, Methodist Church 1866
Cam, Upper, St George s L
Cam, Upper, St George's 1888 R
ChavenageHouse
Downhead, Wesleyan chapel ?
Dursley, Methodist chapel 1865 R
Dursley, Tabernacle (URC) 1892
Gloucester, Good Shepherd, Derby Road
c. 1900 M¹⁵L
Gloucester, Rycroft Methodist
chapel 1898 M¹⁶
Gloucester, St Mary's Congregational
Hall 1882
Gloucester, St Mary de Crypt 1898

1 Gloucester, Presbyterian chapel 1890 R
Kingswood, Cock Road Methodist
chapel 1860 M¹⁷
Kingswood, Hanham Rd Congregational
chapel 1890 D
Kingswood, St Mary's 1868 R
Staunton, All Saints 1901
Stonehouse, Wesleyan chapel L
Tewkesbury, Methodist chapel. The Cross
1878 enlarged 1881 R
Uley, Independent chapel 1865 M¹⁸
Warmley, Wesleyan chapel ?
Warmley Tower, UMFC, Ebenezer 1896
Wotton-under-Edge, Tabernacle 1895 RM¹⁹
Wotton-under-Edge, Wesleyan chapel M²⁰ L
Yate, Church L

HAMPSHIRE

Bournemouth, Wesleyan chapel ? M²¹
Bournemouth, Christadelphian
church 1872 M²²
Dibden, Church 1862 ? D
Havant, Rectory (Revd H. Olivier) 1871?
Hyde Common, Holy Ascension 1898
Hythe, St John the Baptist's M²³
Itchen Stoke, St Mary's 1866 M²⁴
Netley Marsh, St Matthew's 1871
Thruxton, Church D

HEREFORDSHIRE

Bredenbury, St Andrew's 1880
Winforton, St Michael and All Angels 1877

KENT

Canterbury, Countess of Huntingdon's 1875
Cudham, St Peter and St Paul's 1894
Tunbridge Wells, Vale Royal
Methodist chapel 1883 R

LINCOLNSHIRE

Lincoln, Wesleyan chapel, Clasketgate
1855 M²⁵
Sleaford, Westgate Methodist chapel M²⁶

LONDON

London, E. Long residence ?

OXFORDSHIRE

Oxford, Wesleyan chapel 1866 L

RUTLAND

South Luffinham, Church L

SOMERSETSHIRE

- Baltonsborough, St Dunstan's 1870
Bannerdovvn House (Col. Ward) ?
Bath, Weston Park (Handel Cossham) M²⁷D
Bath, Residence (J. Elkington Gill) ?
Bath, Residence (W. Sweetland)
Bath, All Saints chapel (episcopal) D
Bath, Argyle Congregational chapel 1888 R
Bath, Blind Asylum chapel ?
Bath, Christ Church 1892 R
Bath, Claremont Methodist chapel 1879 R
Bath, Corn St Episcopal Chapel ?
Bath, Hay Hill Baptist chapel M²⁸
Bath, Hope Wesleyan chapel 1858 ?
Bath, Manvers Street Baptist
chapel 1888 R
Bath, Margaret chapel L
Bath, Mineral Water Hospital, Brymer
chapel 1862 D
Bath, New King Street, Wesleyan chapel D
Bath, Octagon chapel c.1879 D
Bath, Partis college 1863 R
Bath, Portland Chapel (episcopal) D
Bath, Prior Park College D
Bath, St Andrew's D
Bath, St James's 1853 D
Bath, St John the Evangelist's RC chancel L
Bath, St John the Evangelist's RC
Great 1853 L
Bath, St Luke's 1873 M²⁹
Bath, St Mary's Bathwick 1867 M³⁰
Bath, St Matthew's 1863 L
Bath, St Michael's (with St Paul's) 1849
enlarged c. 1900
Bath, Swedenborgian church,
Henry Street 1886 M³¹
Bath, Trim Street chapel 1876 M³²
Bath, Combe Down, Holy Trinity L
Bath, Twerton, Baptist chapel, Mill Lane
1873 D
Bath, Twerton, St Michael's 1853? R
Bath, Walcot, Holy Trinity D
Bath, Walcot, St Saviour's 1879 R
Bath, Walcot, Wesleyan chapel R
Bath, Weston, All Saints 1893 R
Bath, Weston Methodist chapel
Batheaston, St John the Baptist's 1875 D
Brewham, St John the Baptist's
Buckland St Mary, St Mary's 1863
Bumham-on-Sea, Methodist chapel 1897
Butley, Church ?
Cadbury, North, St Michael's L
Charlcombe, St Mary's L
Charlton Mackrell, St Mary the Virgin's 1855
Cheddar, Church L
Claverton, Church 71858 L
Clevedon, All Saints 1862 M³³
Clevedon, Copse Road chapel L
Clevedon, Sunnyside Methodist chapel D
Clutton, Wesleyan chapel 1869 R
Compton Bishop, St Andrew's 1863
Corf ?=Corfe, Church ?
Coxley, Christ Church 1867 R
Easton-in-Gordano, Residence (Clarke) ?
Easton-in-Gordano, St George's 1882 R
Farleigh Hungerford, St Lawrence's 1873
Farnborough, Church 1869 L
Famborough, Wesleyan chapel L
Fieshford, Residence (Forster)
Freshford, St Peter's 1868 R
Glastonbury, St Benedict's c. 1870 R
Glastonbury, St John the Baptist's 1887 L
Harpree, West, St Mary the Virgin's 1891
Henton, Christ Church 1865
Holcombe, St Andrew's 1891 R
Kilmersdon, Wesleyan chapel ?
Kingston, St Mary's 1867 R
Marke, Wesleyan chapel 1887 M³⁴
Nailsea, ?Holy Trinity 1884 R
Paulton, Wesleyan chapel 1885 L
Pennard, East, All Saints 1871
Pennard, West, St Nicholas's L
Pensford, Methodist chapel ?
Petherton, South, Congregational
chapel 1877 M³⁵
Pylle, St Thomas Becket's 1877
Radstock, Ebenezer chapel 1862 L
Radstock, Primitive Methodist
chapel 1876 M³⁶
Radstock, St Nicholas's 1857 L
Shepton Beauchamp, St Michael's 1865 R
Stoke St Michael, St Michael's 1872 R
Stratton RC church
Stratton on the Fosse Old Chapel,
Downside school L
Swainswick, St Mary the
Virgin's 1875 RM³⁷
Theale, Christ Church c. 1884
Ubley, Wesleyan chapel 1888
Uphill, St Nicholas's 1879 R
Wellow, Church 1864 L
Wells, Bishop s chapel RM³⁸

Wells, Organist's House (Lavington) ?
 Wells, St Cuthbert's 1861 (or 1864) R
Weston-super-Mare, All Saints L
 Weston-super-Mare, Congregational
 chapel 1884 D
 Weston-super-Mare, Convalescent home ?
 Weston-super-Mare, Wesleyan
 chapel 1886 R
Weston-super-Mare, St John s L
 Weston-super-Mare, Trinity church ?
 Weston-super-Mare, Bleadon, St Peter and
 St Paul's 1893 R
 Wick St Lawrence, St Lawrence's 1867
 Wincanton Catholic Priory L
Wookey, Church 1871 L

STAFFORDSHIRE

Horton, Church L
 Stafford, Hanley, Hope Wesleyan chapel L
 Stafford, Hanley, Wesleyan chapel 1858 ?
 Wolverhampton, Wesleyan chapel 1861 P

SURREY

Rcigate, High Street Methodist chapel 1899

SUSSEX

Brighton, Norfolk Square Methodist
 chapel 1891 L
 Catsfield, St Laurence's 1883

WARWICKSHIRE

Cubbington, St Mary's 1896 R

WILTSHIRE

Alderbury, St Mary's 1889
 Ashton, West, St John's 1892
Bradford on Avon, Baptist chapel
(?Zion) 1858?
 Bradford on Avon, Christ Church 1878 R
 Bradford on Avon, Old Church = Holy
 Trinity 1875 L
Bradford on Avon, Independent chapel
 1865 R
 Bradford on Avon, Wesleyan chapel 1851 L
 Bremhill, Church M³⁹L
 Brinkworth, Methodist chapel M⁴⁰
 Brixton Deverill, St Michael's 1878 L
Caine, Old church L
 Castle Combe, St Andrew's L
 Chippenham, St Andrew's
 (Old Church) 1866? L

Chippenham, St Paul s L
 Chirton, Church 1854
Codford, St Peter s 1864 L
 Compton Bassett House (Miss Henneage) L
 Compton Bassett, St Swithin's 1866
Corsham, Hartham Park church R
 Corsham, St Bartholomew's 1881 R
 Corston, All Saints
 Crudwell, All Saints 1871
 Dauntsey, Church
 Devizes, Congregational chapel 1877 M⁴¹
Devizes, St John's 1874 L
 Devizes, St Mary's 1855
 Devizes, St Peter's 1874 R
 Devizes, Wesleyan chapel 1901
 Downton, St Lawrence's 1870
 East Knoyle, Church 1876
 Figheldean, St Michael and All Angels, 1881
 Great Somerford, St Peter and
 St Paul's 1880 R
 Grittleton House (Sir J. Neeld) 1856
 Hardenuish, St Nicholas's 1876
 Heddington, North, Church L
 Hilmarton, St Lawrence's 1875
 Hilperton, St Michael and All Angels 1884 R
 Longbridge Deverill, St Peter and
 St Paul's M⁴²
 Lydiard Tregoze, St Mary's 1902
 Marlborough, Residence (Dr Furgus) ?
 Melksham, Wesleyan chapel L
Mere, Congregational chapel
 Norton Bavant, All Saints 1875
Rowde, St Matthew's 1881
 Salisbury, Diocesan Training
 College 1902 M⁴³
 Seagry, St Mary the Virgin's⁴⁴ 1888
 Seend, Holy Cross 1889
 Swindon, Congregational chapel L
 Swindon, Trinity Presbyterian 1900 L
 Swindon, Wesleyan chapel L
 Tisbury, Zion chapel 1896 M⁴⁵
 Trowbridge, St Thomas 1870 L
Trowbridge, Tabernacle
Congregational chapel IM⁴⁶
 Trowbridge, Tabernacle Congregational
 chapel II 1884 R
 Tytherton, Moravian chapel
 Wraxall, North, St James's 1876 R
 Wraxall, South, Church
 Zeals, St Martin's 1866 R

SCOTLAND

Wigton, Residence (Earl of Galloway) ?

WALES

BRECKNOCKSHIRE

Crickhowell, St Edmund's 1882

Tretower, Church 1878 R

CARMARTHENSHIRE

Llanelli, Moriah Baptist chapel 1872 ?

Llanelli, St Peter's ?

GLAMORGANSHIRE

Cardiff, Baptist chapel ?

Cardiff, Charles Street Independent chapel L

Cardiff, Charles Street Wesleyan chapel 1857 L

Cardiff, Canton, Conway Rd. Methodist chapel 1879 L

Cardiff, East, Nottingham Street Wesleyan chapel 1879 L

Cardiff, Roath, Wesleyan chapel L Penarth, All Saints D

Penarth, Wesleyan chapel 1882 L

MONMOUTHSHIRE

Abergavenny, Penyfal Hospital chapel 1884

Monmouth, Rolls Hall 1889 L

Newport, Independent chapel ?

Risca, Trinity Methodist chapel M⁴⁷

Tredegar, Congregational chapel ?

PEMBROKESHIRE

Haverfordwest, Tabernacle Congregational chapel 1879 L

ITALY

Genoa, English Church 1881 D

NOTES

1. *Freeman-Edmonds Directory of British Organ-Builders*
2. Wilts CRO 632/40
3. Genova, Biblioteca Franzioniana : Archivio 'P. C. Remondini': Arch. II 82a. I am indebted to Dr Nigel Browne for drawing my attention to this document.
4. Wilts CRO 1603/20
5. To Caversham Heights Methodist chapel, 1914
6. To Stithians Parish Church
7. To Mabe Parish Church
8. To Beacon Methodist chapel, near Camborne; then to St Saviour's, Polruan
9. To Normanton Road Congregational chapel, 1893
10. To Morecombelake, St Gabriel
11. To Parkway Methodist chapel, Bristol
12. To St Andrew's Methodist chapel, Filton, 71958
13. To Eden Grove Methodist chapel, Bristol, 1932
14. To Oakfield Unitarian church, Clifton
15. To Temple Guiting, 1974
16. To St Nicholas's, Ashchurch
17. To Bridgegate Methodist chapel, c. 1910. Sold to F. Feenstra, Netherlands, 2005
18. To Quedgeley Methodist chapel, 1990
19. To Downside School chapel, 1972
20. To Halmore chapel, near Gloucester, c. 1901
21. To Springbome Wesleyan chapel, 1889
22. To Moordown Baptist chapel, then St Philip's, Kinson
23. To Lithuania, 1998
24. To St Gregory's, Alresford, c. 1971
25. To Zion Methodist chapel, Longton, Staffs.
26. To Monks Road Methodist chapel, Lincoln, 1965
27. To Hay Hill Baptist chapel
28. To Ashleworth, Glos. 1973
29. To Twerton Baptist chapel
30. To United Reformed Church, Fisherton Street, Salisbury

31. To Shaftesbury Methodist chapel, 1978
32. To Chawton, Hants, 1985
33. To Easton Maudit, Northants, 1878
34. To All Saints, Nunney, 1967
35. To St Peter's, Evercreech, 1986
36. To Writhlington Methodist chapel, 1970s
37. To St Leonard's, Butleigh
38. This may be the organ moved to Evvenny Priory, near Bridgend, 2003
39. To Foxham Church, 1901
40. To Oporto, 1999
41. To USA
42. To Witham Friary, Somersetshire, 1976
43. To USA, 1985
44. Moved from a house in Bristol
45. To Tisbury Methodist chapel, 1978/9
46. To Emmanuel Baptist chapel, Trowbridge, 1883
47. To Green Street Methodist chapel, Aberdare, 1993

RESEARCH NOTES

PAUL TINDALL

THE METROPOLITAN MANUSCRIPT

Tucked away in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York is an early-nineteenth-century manuscript collection of English organ-case drawings.¹ Some of the illustrations have been published and all the annotations transcribed in an admirable article by Laurence Libin,² but the collection is of such unusual interest that it deserves further examination. There are one hundred and fourteen pen-and-ink drawings of organs all in London and its environs, apart from Cambridge (ten), Brighton (four), and four to the north west of London: Cheshunt, Hertford (both churches) and Ware. Each drawing is a uniform elevation in silhouette, from above the impost and without detail, almost as if made for a comparative study of case types. The drawings are rudimentary (resembling neither the few known contemporary presentation drawings nor Sperling's), but many otherwise un-illustrated instruments appear.¹²

- | | |
|--|--|
| 12 'In Quebec Chapel, Oxford Street' | 14 'In St Mary's Whitechapel Church' |
| 62 'In Hanover Street Chapel, Long Acre' | 70 'In St Antholin's Church, Watling Street' |
| 88 'In St John's Church, Clerkenwell' | 102 'In Paddington Church, Middlesex' |

[and others]

The drawings are carefully labelled in ink, and the album is watermarked 1818, excepting the front and rear fly leaves of 1829. Most of the drawings are also annotated (less carefully) above in pencil, recording details, and alterations and replacement organs in the 1820s and 30s, but almost nothing after 1840.³ The surprising, and indeed unique, interest is in the biographical details of organ-builders. It is hard to know how accurate this information is, so it should be treated with caution. Some of the pencilled information is known to be wrong, but much else is verifiable,⁴ so it would be a mistake to reject the interesting comments out of hand.

In St Saviour's Church, Southwark. Crang w[ith] whom Robert Gray was apprenticed⁵

Crang is not known to have worked here: the organ was variously attributed to Schrider and Swarbrick by the antiquarians, but the builder must have been Jordan, since the Parish agreed to 'take security from Jordan to keep the same in Repaire' in 1705, shortly after its completion.⁶ The younger Jordan added a Swell in 1727.⁷

In Quebec Chapel, Oxford Street. John Avery built for the last commemoration [sic] of Handel, about the year 1795 when the performance took place in the Pantheon. Avery was brought up in the trade of a cooper in Gloster [sic]⁸

The Handel Commemoration which took place in the Pantheon was, in fact, on 27 May 1784, the only one of the five in that first year not to take place in Westminster Abbey. The Pantheon was converted to an opera house in 1791 to replace the Haymarket Theatre, which had been destroyed by fire: it was, in its turn, burnt down in January 1792.⁹ It was rebuilt, but on a reduced scale, and not as a concert venue. Besides, there was already an organ in place, said to be the work of Snetzler:¹⁰ 'In this gallery there was a new organ case, decorated with a transparency of HANDEL, from an original painting, presented to the Concert of Ancient Music by Mr Redmond Simpson'.¹¹

The *last* Commemoration was perhaps that of 1797 in the Banqueting House, when Avery seems to have supplied an organ;¹² perhaps it was this which was transferred to the Quebec Chapel (which was built in 1788). If Avery really was 'brought up in the trade of a cooper' it would not be unusual to transfer from one branch of woodworking to another. The brewing connection may also be sadly familiar. The first mention of Avery is certainly in Gloucester, where he is credited with repairs at the Cathedral, improbably for the date, in 1772-3.¹³

- In St Mary's Whitechapel Church. Shrieder [sic] the son in law & successor of Father Smith — to whom Crang was apprenticed — hence the Gray's are the successors of Father Smith the organs in the hands of Crang falling with those of Robert Gray¹⁴
- In King's College Chapel, Cambridge. John Avery new inside. He was upwards of a year in erecting this organ and there is a memorandum in the Buttery of the College of the quantity of ale supplied to himself & workmen during the progress of the work¹⁵
- In St. Mary Magdalen's Church, Bermondsy. Probably Harris — spoiled by a Pretender named F...a Duetchman¹⁶ [sic]
- In St. Philip's Chapel, Regent Street. James Davis — a very clever fellow — originally a wool carder at Kirk[h]am in the fylde his native place¹⁷
- In Surry Chapel, Black Friars Road. Elliot — after building this organ he became a publican keeping the Kings Arms at Hayes but returned to organ building at the death of Ohrmond [sic] and became the partner of Nutt¹⁸

There may be something in this. Elliot is recorded at Wharton's Court, Holborn in 1791¹⁹ and 10 Sutton Street, Soho in 1794.²⁰ His organ at the Surrey Chapel was probably built in 1793.²¹ There is, however, then a hiatus, and no further instruments or addresses until his proposal for Holy Trinity Cathedral, Quebec, dated 28 January 1801, from Artillery Place, Westminster.²² In the letters to the Quebec authorities,

Elliot speaks of having built ‘a very capital Instrument for a RC Chapel at Preston’. This would be St Wilfrid’s, which was opened in June 1793.²³ Ohrmann died in 1803 and Nutt the following year, by that time at 13 Tottenham Court. Elliot began paying rates on No. 12 in September 1804.²⁴ The (un-numbered) land tax records of the newly-built Tottenham Court in 1799 show ‘Messrs Orman [sic] & Nutt’ listed fourteenth, and in 1804 ‘Messrs. Ohrman & Co.’ were at No. 13: No. 12 is omitted. ‘Elliatt’ appears in 1806, and later, in the same position.²⁵ Elliot built an organ for Hayes in 1812, according to Leffler, but, interestingly, *Organographia* says ‘Hayes Church Middlesex. Elliott 1797. New organ Elliott September 1812’.

- In Hampstead Church, Middlesex. Davis for Longman whose name it bears²⁶
- In Cheshunt Church, Hertfordshire. Davis for Longman²⁷
- In St. Mildred’s, Bread Street Church. Griffin a Barber ... professor of music in Gresham College & the work (of the organ) was done by Abraham Pether²⁸

This poses many problems, but perhaps one partial solution. The organ at Bread Street was supplied on an annuity basis by Richard Hussey in 1744, but the agreement also mentions Thomas Griffin to ‘repair clean and tune’.²⁹ Griffin agreed to build annuity organs at St Helen Bishopsgate (1742 new style), St Katherine Coleman (1741) and St Margaret Pattens (1746), besides (without annuity) St Michael Bassishaw (1762).³⁰ Also attributed to Griffin is St Paul’s, Deptford (1744).³¹

Although Griffin is described as ‘organ builder of Fenchurch Street’ in the 1746 agreement for St Margaret Pattens,³² it has yet to be explained satisfactorily how his organs were built. Griffin’s proposal for St Helen Bishopsgate³³ is much more expansive than the competing ‘proposalls of abra Jordan Organ Builder John Harris and Comp’ [sic]. The combination of pseudo-technical detail (Three new Rolling Boards) with an appeal to emotion:

... Shall have the fullness of Body, Sweetness and Justness of Tone which is Proper
... the several parts of the said Organ Shall be So Masterly Finished

could hardly fail to win the hearts of the Vestry. Martin Goetze has observed³⁴ that none of the Bishopsgate pipe markings nor other details match those known from Jordan, Parker or Bridge, to whom the various Griffin organs have been attributed in the past.

It is worth noting that Met attributes to Abraham Pether only ‘the work (of the organ).’ The case of St Mildred Bread Street³⁵ was very unusual, with a triangular pediment over the depressed central flat. A certain ‘architectural’ quality is shared with the Joseph Patience drawing (1780) of St Michael Bassishaw³⁶: this, with its husks and swags, could conceivably be an up-to-date architect’s design in 1762. St Katherine Coleman had a standard³⁷ organ-builder’s case, but the other three ‘Griffin’ organs share the well-known and admired three-tower scheme with two flats ogee in plan and elevation. This model is otherwise known at Christ Church, Spitalfields, St George-in-the-East and Enfield (Bridge), St Bartholomew-by-the-Exchange (Harris & Byfield) and St George Botolph Lane,³⁸ St George Yarmouth and Cannons Park (Jordan).

Mct’s assertion that ‘The work (of the organ) was done by Abraham Pether’, raises several questions. Abraham Pether was a painter, bom in Chichester in 1756, died 1812, said to have been an organist in Chichester at the age of nine.³⁹ His son Sebastian was also a well-known painter, as was his cousin William

(c. 1738-1821) who also had Chichester connections.⁴⁰ William lived in Bloomsbury and Soho in the 1770s. Met may be confusing the painters with Abraham Adcock and William (and John) Pether the organ-builders. Any family connection is unknown. 'Abraham Adcock, Musician' of Queen's Head Court, appears in the Westminster Poll Book of 1749. *Mortimer's Universal Directory* of 1763 lists as organ-builders 'Abraham Adcock, The Comer of Orange-street in Castle Street, near the Mews' and 'William Pether, (and Harpsichord-maker), Brownlow-Street, Drury-Lane'. Pether died in 1781,⁴¹ and his son William, also an organ-builder, shared 12 Brownlow Street with William Gray (then about twenty five years old) in that year.⁴² There were other Pether organ-builders: the bureau organ at Colonial Williamsburg is inscribed 'Abraham Adcock & John Pether Londini Fecit', as is a smaller bureau organ sold at Sothebys in 1983.⁴³ Sperling (1:167) attributes Richmond P.C. to Pether & Knight 1770, although the contract was signed by Knight alone).⁴⁴

WHO BUILT THE ORGAN AT ST LUKE'S, OLD STREET?

The Fifty New Churches Act of 1711⁴⁵ scarcely lived up to its name, for its achievements included only twelve new buildings, and another seven remodelled or altered. Quality surpassed quantity, however, for among the Commissioners' achievements were Christ Church, Spitalfields; St Paul's, Deptford; St John's, Smith Square; and St Anne's, Limehouse. Each has attracted attention in the organ world recently.

One with a more chequered history, both physical and critical, is St Luke's, Old Street, otherwise St Luke's, Middlesex. So far as is known, it was the joint work of the extravagantly talented Nicholas Hawksmoor, and the less extravagantly talented John James: the Commissioners ordered its construction on 23 June 1727.⁴⁶ The parish was taken from that of St Giles Cripplegate. The church was finished in 1732, and was consecrated the next year on St. Luke's day, when the name of that saint was given as its patron.⁴⁷

So, who built the organ? It is difficult to answer this question without understanding something of the workings of the Vestry of St Giles Cripplegate. The parish comprised the 'Freedom', within the City of London, and the 'Lordship' outside. There are two surviving Vestry books for the period. The first⁴⁸ has Vestry minutes from 1659-1733, and on 12 April 1732/3 the consecration of St Luke's was discussed, along with its new parish (the former Lordship), taken from that of St Giles. It was resolved to dissolve the Vestry and make two new ones in its place. The minute book then records the doings of two committees which dealt with leases and similar matters until 1820. The committee for each Parish met at the same time, and in the same place.⁴⁹

The second Vestry book⁵⁰ runs from 1692-1783, and it is hard to discern why some of the earlier material has been placed here rather than in volume 1. However, from 1733, volume 2 is the sole source of the minutes of the Vestry of St Giles's. St Luke's had its own Vestry Book which runs from 23 October 1733-22 April 1754.⁵¹ Despite this, there were still disputes concerning responsibility: see below. Rimbault⁵² says in his 'List of Organs built by the Jordans':

St Luke's, Old Street. 1733. 'An MS. note by Pennant (the London historian) ascribes this organ to Jordan. This church was consecrated by Dr. Hare, Dean of St. Paul's and Bishop of Chichester, Oct. 18, 1733. The organ was presented to the parish by Mr. Buckley, an eminent brewer of Old Street'⁵³

He does not record it in his lists of organs by Bridge or by 'Byfield, Jordan and Bridge conjointly'. However, in Hopkins's part of the book,⁵⁴ we read :

The organ in St. Luke's Church, Old Street Road, was originally built by Bridge, but has been remodelled and almost entirely reconstructed by Gray & Davison

Leffler says⁵⁵ 'Organ built by Bridge'; Pearce, who ostensibly follows Leffler,⁵⁶ says: 'The organ, which was presented to the parish in 1733 by Mr. Buckley, a brewer, of Old Street, was built by Jordan & Bridge,' before quoting Leffler's stoplist. He then says 'In 1844 the organ was "remodelled and almost entirely reconstructed" by Messrs. Gray & Davison'.⁵⁷

Pearce, like everyone else, knew H & R, and seems to be trying to reconcile the material before him: hence the joint attribution. *Organographia*⁵⁸ says 'St Luke's Old Street - Bridge.' Sperling's version⁵⁹ is 'Old organ, Bridge 17 [blank], presented by Mr [blank], brewer in Old St.' More recent attributions to 'Jordan & Bridge' seem to be following Pearce, but what do the Vestry minutes tell us? According to Austin Niland,⁶⁰ 'The church records, however, are emphatic in naming Jordan and Bridge'. This is true so far as it goes, but to regard the organ as their joint work is perhaps a step too far.

St Luke Old Street Vestry Minutes concerning the organ and the organists⁶¹
30 October 1733

An Estimate of the Charge incurred for the Service of Saint Luke's parish as near as could be Calculated without having the Bills Organ - £250

9 January 1733/4

Ordered by this Vestry that no person be addmitted [sic] a Candidate for Organist that have any place as Organist of any other Church *at the same time*

11 February 1733/4

Persons that Stood Candidates for Organist of the parish of St Luke:

James Vincent⁶²

James Capper⁶³

Mr Vincent declared Organist

9 April 1733/4

John Boucher Chose Organ Blower of this parish

12 June 1734

The Sallery for the Organist put up at £25: 30: 35 [these were alternatives put to the vote] Carried to have Thirty Pounds per annum and that he gives his Attendance Sundays and Holidays

20 May 1735

Mr Green the late Organist, of the parish of St Giles Cripplegate applied to this Vestry for Five pounds for half a years Sallery due to him in the year 1728

23 June 1735

The affair of Mr Green be postponed till he produces the Coppys of the Orders of Vestry relateing [sic] to the Same

Mr Jordan Organ maker presented his Bill to this Vestry of £55.2s.6d due to him from the parish of St Giles Cripplegate and this parish [,] being between them for his Sallery for looking after the Organ in Cripplegate Church, and that he produces the Orders of Vestry relateing [sic] to the Same.

3 September 1735

... make a present to Mr Green the late Organist, of the Sume of Five Pounds ... Ordered by this Vestry that Mr Bridge the Organ Builder be allowed the Sume of Eight pounds per annum as a Sallery and to Commence from Michmass [sic] next for to look after and keep the Organ in good repair

22 August 1740

Mr Vincent the Organist Appeared and promised to give his personal Attendance or employ an able person to Officiate in his Absence for the future

11 October 1749

Unanimously Agreed that the Place of Organist be declared Vacant Mr Vincent the late Organist being Dead

29 December 1749

Candidates for Organist in the Room of Mr Vincent deceased.

Mr Baildon³²

Mr L [?- unclear] Heureux

Mr Relfe⁶⁵

Mr Courtney⁶⁶

Mr Readhead [sic]⁶⁷

Mr Keene ¹⁹

Agreed to Reduce the present candidates to two: Mr Baildon, Mr Keene
Mr Baildon duly Elected by a Majority of 13

Mr Baildon ³²

Mr Keene ¹⁹

It will be seen that Jordan's appearance in the St Luke's Vestry Minutes relates only to money due from the joint parishes for work done at Cripplegate — there is no evidence for anyone but Bridge building an organ at Old Street. St Luke's Vestry Minutes continue in a new volume (30 May 1754-29 September 1775). The organ is rarely mentioned, but George England makes one of his earliest appearances, presumably in succession to Richard Bridge, who died in 1757:

13 June 1758

Mr Geo England Organ Builder agrees to keep the Organ in Repair at Eight Pounds per Annum as before.

St Giles Cripplegate Vestry Minutes, MS 6048 volume 1:

17 July 1672

Ordered that Mr Charnock shall have thanks given him for his affection in bestowing a fair Organ upon the parish Church of St Giles without Cripplegate

London.⁶⁹ That a convenient place be found for the setting of it up, and that the Vicar and Vestry find out some way and means [sic] for the maintenance of the Organs

30 April 1688

Ordered that whereas Mr Smith the Organmaker Demands twelve pounds for mending and Repairing and Cleansing the Organ, the Gentlemen of the said Vestry have desired the Present Churchwardens ... to pay the said Mr Smith and to Gett as much abatement as conveniently they can obtain for the ... Good of the Parish.

24 August 1704

Ordered that the Old Organ be taken down and removed out of the church and a new Organ placed in the Stead thereof

27 September 1704

Ordered in Case a new Organ Shall be provided for the Church then the old Organ shall be exchanged towards such a new one

13 April 1705

That the present Church Wardens do deteyne [sic] in their hands so much money as will pay Mr Harris for the Organ when it shall appear the same do answer his proposals and then pay him what was agreed for

[same volume:] ‘Committee for Repair of the Church’: record starts in March 1704

11 May 1705

Ordered that John Blow be apointed [sic] on the behalf of the parish to inspect the Organ in the Church and give his opinion thereon as to the goodness thereof and to the Value.

31 May 1705

Ordered that Mr Harris be paid ffour hundred pounds by Mr Bowles and Mr Smith [the churchwardens] for the new Organ by him sett up in the Church with the appurtenances and workmanship thereto belonging [.] Upon his agreement to keepe the same in repairs and cleene it at his own charge by the space of one year 6 from Midsomer next coming [.] And at the end of the said year & for another if requested- by the Committee or the major part of them so to doo. And that the present Church wardens doo forthwith deliver the Old Organ to the said Mr Harris on his Order⁷⁰

There follow immediately undated accounts for the repair and improvement of the church, in two parts, among which are:

Mr Harris Organist [sic] by his receipt 200
200

MS 6048, volume 1, the General Vestry, continues:

7 December 1709

Ordered that Mr Harris having dealt trickingly with the parish relating to the Organ in the Church shall be no farther [sic] employed in repairing Cleaning or looking after the same.

Ordered that the said Mr Harris be paid by the present Churchwardens twenty eight pounds for his Looking after the Organ three years and a half ending at Christmas next. Hee the said Mr Harris on the ret. of the said twenty eight pounds giving a Ret. to the parish in full of all demands to that time relating to the said Organ in any manner of wise.

20 December 1709

Ordered that Mr Abram Jordan be forthwith desired to look after the Organ in the Church for a yeare to Commence at Christmas next And that at the years End he be paid eight pounds for soo doing

25 February 1722

An Account of the Workmens Bills for the Repairs of the Church and of Mr Greenes and Mr Jordans Bills, Organ Player, and Organ Maker as settled and signed for by a Committee the 22nd instant.

Old Debts disposed to this Vestry and as following viz. [among very many]:

Mr Greene Organ Player £67 10s

Mr Jordan Organ Maker £73 17s 6d

8 November 1722 [dispute between parish and parish clerk]

That the dispute relating to the Organ players being paid be referred to Dr Coull

25 May 1726

Mr Green the Organist appearing and producing a letter from Mr Abraham Jordan concerning the Organ in the Church which is as follows

To the Gentlemen of the Vestry of Cripplegate

[Jordan's letter offers 'an Entire new Movement' and to 'new Voice the whole Organ', work which he estimates at £100, but which he offers 'gratis' in exchange for a twenty-one year maintenance contract. An accurate transcription has been published by Joan Jeffery. Jordan recommends re-gilding the front pipes to prevent them from collapsing, but this was not ordered until 26 September - see below]⁷¹

The Vestry taking the above proposal of Mr Jordan into consideration Ordered [and agreed] that that the Customary annual Sallery of Eight Pounds per annum for the Term of One and Twenty years [should be paid]

It would appear that since the parish owed Jordan quite a lot in arrears, he was trying to tie them down to a future contract, with some repairs to the organ as a 'sweetener'.

8 August 1726

Upon Mr Jordan the Organ maker's appearing at this Vestry and Complaining that there was the Sum of 43 pounds 2 shillings and 6 pence due to him in Arrears of his Sallery which still remains unpaid and unsatisfied and also desiring that the same may be paid him before he begins to work on the said Organ and further proposing to this Vestry that when he hath fully completed the said Organ According to the Order and Agreement of the last General Vestry that he would annually Tune and Cleanse the same during the Term of One and Twenty years. [The Vestry] do hereby Order the present Church Wardens to pay the said Mr

Jordan the Sum of Ten pounds a peice part [sic, half each from the Freedom And the Lordship] of his said arrears upon his beginning upon the said Organ and ... Twenty Three pounds Two shillings and Six pence ... when he shall have completed and finished the said Organ.

27 September 1726

Ordered that Mr Samuel Grisold of this parish painter doo Gild the front Organ pipes ... and pay him One and Twenty pounds for the same.

21 July 1730

Mr Jordan the organ builder Appearing and Moving this Vestry that he might put ye organ in Repair Upon the Conditions he offered and which are more particularly set forth in the Order of this Vestry bearing date the 25th day of May 1726. And also Acknowledging the fault in neglecting to repair the said Instrument in ye time he contracted for with this Vestry at that time. And he now offering to Covenant and Article with the said parish to fully repair the said Instrument in 3: or 4 Months find [subject?] to Censure from this time. It is Ordered that the present Churchwardens do Accordingly Enter into Covenant with the said Mr Jordan to put the said Organ in full repair.

From April 1732/3 the Parish of St Luke's starts its own Vestry, and the Minutes of St Giles transfer to MS 6048 volume 2

[14 May 1734: resolved to elect a new organist]

22 August 1734

Ordered that Mr Jordan be given Notice to Attend this Vestry on Wednesday next at three in the afternoon to Treat about repairing the Organ

28 August 1734

Mr Jordan the Organ Builder appeared and made a proposall [no further details-further consideration deferred till the next meeting, but no mention is made until the following 10 March]

10 March 1734/5

Ordered that the Churchwardens do Receive proposalls from such organ builders as shall Offer themselves to repair the Organ of this church, & that they visit the same. An Account of what is now contain'd therein and also what is still wanting and necessary to be Done thereto and what such Alterations or stops will severally amount unto & to deliver such their severall Proposals in Writing at the next Vestry.

Ordered that the Organ be shut up at Lady day next in Order to be Repair'd

14 April 1735

Mr Jordan and Mr Bridge appearing with their proposalls for the mending and new repairing the Organ and adding several new stops and Mr Jordan requiring the sum of one hundred and ninety pounds for the said work and Mr Bridge proposing to do the said work for the Sum of one hundred and seventy pounds this Vestry do Agree with the said Richard Bridge and do Order that he do perform the said Work accordingly.

Ordered that the Churchwarden do pay to Mr Jordan the sum of twenty seven pounds eleven shillings and three pence being the half of the Sum of fifty five

pounds two shillings and six pence Arrears due to him for looking after the Organ at Lady day 1734

11 July 1758

Thomas Griffin and Mr George England being candidates for looking after and keeping the Organ in repair in the Room of Mr Bridge deced the said Thomas Griffin was chosen by a Great Majority and he is to have the Sum of eight pounds per year being what was paid to the said Mr Bridge.

5 June 1771

This Vestry proceeded to the choice of a Person for looking after keeping the Organ in repair and the Candidates being Mr Geo. Griffin, Messrs. Byfield & Green, Mr Geo. England and Mr Parker Mr George Griffin was chosen by a great Majority ... eight pounds a year being what was paid to the late Mr Griffin

NOTES:

1. Mary Martin Fund, 66,538. Bought from 'a London Dealer' in 1966
2. Libin, L., 'A Nineteenth-Century Album of English Organ Cases', *Metropolitan Museum Journal* vol. 24 (1989) (Essays in Honor of Helmut Nickel), 275-84
3. *pace* Libin. The date '1878' added to No. 42 ('Allhallows Barking) is the only exception.
4. Details of organs by the England and Russell families seem particularly accurate, though none of the Russell instruments whose dates of opening are pinpointed by Leffler (Colchester, Winchester Catholic Chapel etc.) is included
5. Libin's No. 7
6. Jeffery, J., 'Organ-builder history from fire insurance policies', *JBIOS* 26 (2002), 81
7. *idem*, 83
8. No. 12
9. Elkin, R, *The Old Concert Rooms of London* (London, 1955), 71
10. Bames, A. & Renshaw, M., *The Life and Work of John Snetzler* (Aldershot, 1994), 112
11. Bumey, C., *An account of the Musical Performances in Westminster Abbey and the Pantheon...An Commemoration of Handel* (London, 1785), 46
12. *BIOSRep* XXX 4 (October 2006), 22
13. *idem*, 21
14. No. 14
15. No. 26
16. No. 30
17. No. 34
18. No. 48
19. Langwill, L. and Boston, N., *Church and Chamber Barrel Organs*, 2nd edition, Edinburgh 1970, 50
20. *Doane's Musical Directory for the year 1794*
21. Olleson P., 'The Organ-BUILDER and the Organist: Thomas Elliot and Samuel Wesley', *JBIOS* 20 (1996), 116, 123n
22. Edmonds, B.B. and Plumley, N., 'Thomas Elliot, Organ Builder', *JBIOS* 12 (1988), 62-4
23. Sperling gives 'Elliot 1817', but the date is clearly wrong
24. Edmonds & Plumley, 58
25. Jeffery, *op. cit.*, 110-11
26. No. 49
27. No. 51
28. No. 79
29. Dawe, D., *Organists of the City of London ;666-1850*, ([London,] 1983), 60
30. *idem*, 104-5,
31. Leffler, Sperling
32. *idem*, 105

33. Goetze, M., *St Helen Bishopsgate 1743 Thomas Griffin Organ*, The Harley Foundation// Technical Report No. 12 ([Welbeck,] 1997), 3-5
34. Goetze, 2
35. Plumley, N.M., *The Organs of the City of London*, (Oxford, 1996), picture, 191
36. idem, 183
37. though flat-towered, like Bread Street
38. Jordan was paid £300 in 1723, the year of the first election of an organist, so he was almost certainly the builder. (Dawe, 42). Griffin is named as tuner in the accounts from 1756, and given as builder by Leffler, *Organographia* and Sperling
39. Wilson, M., *The English Chamber Organ*, 1st edition (Oxford, 1968), 51
40. *The Macmillan Dictionary of Art*
41. Will proved 6 April, PRO B 11/1077, f. 206
42. Jeffery, J, 110
43. Wilson, 51-2, *BIOSRep* XXIX, 4 (October 2005), 16
44. Piper, A. Cecil: 'Organ in the Parish Church of Richmond, Surrey' *The Organ* 78 (October 1940), 80-84
45. New Churches in London and Westminster, 9 Anne c.17
46. The same day as St John Horselydown, by the same architects, and with an equally unusual steeple. Hart, V, *Nicholas Hawksmoor// Rebuilding Ancient Wonders* (New Haven and London, 2002), 100
47. Noorthouk, John, *A New History of London: Including Westminster and Southwark* (1773): book 5, 'the suburbs of the City', 747-68
48. L-Gh MS 6048 volume 1
49. At the end of the volume is a separate set of deliberations of a committee which oversaw the major repair and remodelling of the church which took place in 1704 and 1705
50. L-Gh MS 6048 volume 2
51. London Borough of Islington Local History Centre, Finsbury Library, shelfmark L335. It is a surprise to find that the extensive records of this important church have not yet been properly catalogued.
52. Hopkins, E.J. and Rimbault, E.F., *The Organ, its History and Construction*, 2nd ed.(London, 1870), Rimbault's section: the History of the Organ, 139
53. Presumably Richard Buckley 'Brewer of Old Street', Will proved 26 September 1753, PRO B 11/804
54. op cit, *An Account of British organs*, 464
55. f. 28r. The whole entry is in pencil, and may be a draught, or a slightly later addition. Not in the index.
56. Pearce, C.W., *Old London City Churches, their Organs, Organists and Musical Associations* (London) [n.d., but c. 1907], 38
57. Pearce's quotes
58. Royal College of Music MS 1161, f. 70v
59. volume 1, 59
60. Niland, A., 'St. Luke's Church, Old Street, London', *The Organ* No. 124 (April 1952), 181
61. Note 7
62. Also organist of the Middle Temple 1737-49, Dawe, op cit 151
63. Dawe, op. cit., 86
64. Joseph Baildon, d. 1774. Also organist of Fulham in 1762. Dawe, 76
65. Lupton Relfe?, d. 1805, Organist of Greenwich Hospital. Dawe, 137
66. William Courtney?, d. 1785, organist St Giles Cripplegate 1782-5 Dawe, 90
67. Perhaps the Redhead who was at St Katherine Coleman 1771-2 [Dawe, 137], Related to Richard Redhead 1820-1901, organist of All Saints, Margaret Street? The latter 'organist at Margaret Chanel St Marylebone' is spelled 'Readhead' in the *British Critic*, January 1841.
68. John Keene? Joint organist St Leonard Shoreditch 1757-1800 when he died. Dawe, 119
69. Baddeley, J.J., *An Account of the Church and Parish of St Giles without Cripplegate* (London, 1888) 12, misreads the minute (understandably) as 'Mrs Charnock', but then alters 'him for his affection' to 'her for her affection.' This is unsustainable.
70. This is evidently a transcription of a legal agreement.
71. Jeffery, J., 89-90

BIOS MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 2007/08

SATURDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2007

**BERNARD EDMONDS RECENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE,
BARBER INSTITUTE,
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM.**

A Programme and Booking Form are included on p. 41/2 of this issue.

THURSDAY, 12 APRIL TO SUNDAY 15 APRIL 2007

RESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE

sponsored jointly by the Oxford University (Faculty of Music Betts Fund) and BIOS: **'The Organ in Britain to the Death of Elizabeth I: Its Music, Technology, and the Wider Role'**. Please see details on p. 43 of this issue, which include a Weblink for booking forms.

NOTES

1. The Day Conference 'Restoration of the James Davis Organ in St George's RC Church, York' originally planned for October 2006 has been postponed to 2007 (date to be confirmed).
2. It is hoped to schedule, during early or late summer 2007, a Day Conference on the Welte & Söhne Philharmonic Organ at Canterbury Christ Church University (Salomons), nr Tunbridge Wells. This unique organ consist of a Grand Organ and an Echo Organ placed far away from the Great organ. The organ is playable from the three-manual-and-pedal console or from the Philharmonic and Orchestrion roll-playing mechanisms. It has recently been fully restored by Mander Organs and A. C. Pilmer Automatic Music Ltd.
3. A Day Conference is being planned in North Wiltshire in either late 2007 or early 2008. The subjects of interest will be the Trost-inspired organ by Peter Collins (2002) in the Chapel of Bowood House and the instrument by William Allen recently moved from Addlestone to the workshop of Peter Bumstead. This organ is expected to be moved to St Martin's Church Bremhill. The day will also enable members to see the fine Brice Seede case in Chippenham Parish church.

Further details will appear in the *Reporter* in due course.

Ideas for future conferences are always welcome. For further information please contact:

The Meetings Officer, Melvin Hughes



THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES
and OXFORD UNIVERSITY BETTS FUND

THE ORGAN IN BRITAIN
TO THE DEATH OF ELIZABETH I:
ITS MUSIC, TECHNOLOGY,
AND THE WIDER ROLE

A RESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE
BASED ON THE ENGLISH ORGAN PROJECT

NEW COLLEGE and ALL SOULS COLLEGE, OXFORD

THURSDAY, 12 APRIL (1.00 pm) to SUNDAY, 15 APRIL (12.45 pm) 2007

• This is the first of four conferences exploring the 'Organ in Britain'.

• Papers are expected on subjects relating to English organs, organ literature, construction, related technology, and performance practice up to the beginning of the seventeenth century.

• Participants include:

John Caldwell, Eamon Duffy, Jane Flynn, Dominic Gwynn, John Harper, Diarmaid MacCulloch, Kimberly Marshall, Peter Williams, Magnus Williamson, and others.

The Early English Organ Project will be in Oxford at Easter 2007, when the two organs will be in the chapels of New College and All Souls respectively.

The Conference will be residential at New College, although accommodation will be in various Oxford Colleges. Day rates (accommodation not included) are also available.

More information is at: <http://www.music.ox.ac.uk/organconference>
Further information can be obtained from:

Dr Katherine Pardee, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Booking forms are available from <http://www.music.ox.ac.uk/organconference> or the Forthcoming Conferences and Events Page on the BIOS Website: www.bios.org.uk.

A non-returnable deposit of £50 is required: the balance is due by 9 March 2007.

These should be returned to:

Melvin Hughes, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**THE BERNARD EDMONDS
RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

**THE BARBER INSTITUTE,
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
SATURDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2007**

Draft Programme (Subject to Change)

10.30 Registration and Coffee

11.00 Dominic Gwynn The Father Smith Organ at Christ Church, Oxford

11.30 David Shuker Herschel, Snetzler and the Two 'Messiah' Organ Concertos
of 1767

12.00 Joan Jeffery The Samuel Green Organ in Canterbury Cathedral
— Who built it?

12.30 Martin Renshaw E. J. Hopkins And The Death Of The English Organ

13.00 *Lunch*

14.00 Jim Berrow Architectural Illustrators 'The less seen the better'... a case study

14.30 Barrie Clark The Extraordinary Diversity of Organ Cases in Western Europe

15.00 David Smit A Century of British Organ-building in Africa 1837-1937

15.30 Melvin Hughes A Survey of Organs and Organists in Victorian Literature
(Part 2: Poetry)

16.00 *Tea and End of Conference*

Jim Berrow extends an invitation for delegates to return to his home in nearby Edgbaston at the end of the conference for light refreshments and an opportunity to see and hear the Robert Shaftoe house organ (IIP/6, 2002).

The Barber Institute is a five-minute walk from Birmingham University Station; travel information may be found at <http://www.barber.org.uk/visitors.html> A map and leaflet with details of Birmingham hotels may be found at www.beinbirmingham.com

The cost of the meeting is £20, including lunch and refreshments.

BOOKING FORM

FOR

**BERNARD EDMONDS RESEARCH CONFERENCE
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
SATURDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2007**

Please return this booking form (or a copy) to:

**Melvin Hughes,
BIOS Meetings,**

Please reserve for me... place(s) at £20 each for the BIOS Day Conference at the Barber Institute, University of Birmingham, on Saturday, 24 February 2007. I enclose a cheque for **£..... payable to 'BIOS'**

Name(s).

Address.

tel.:..... e-mail:.....

Note: Acknowledgements will be sent by e-mail. If you do not have an e-mail address, and require an acknowledgement, please send a SAE with your booking form.

AIMS OF BIOS

To promote objective, scholarly research into the history of the organ and its music in all its aspects, and, in particular, into the organ and its music in Britain.

To conserve the sources and materials for the history of the organ in Britain, and to make them accessible to scholars.

To work for the preservation, and where necessary the faithful restoration, of historic organs in Britain.

To encourage an exchange of scholarship with similar bodies and individuals abroad, and to promote, in Britain, a greater appreciation of historical overseas schools of organ-building.