

BIOS *REPORTER*

Volume 35 No. 1

January 2011



THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES

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THE BRITISH ORGAN ARCHIVE (BOA)

Special Collections, Cadbury Research Library, Muirhead Tower, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT; e-mail: special-collections@bham.ac.uk; tel.: 0121 414 5839. Open Mon 10.00–17.00; Tue, Wed & Fri 09.00–17.00; Thu 09.00–19.00. Closed Sat and Sun

Specialist enquiries: Chris Kearl, Archivist, details above.

THE HISTORIC ORGAN CERTIFICATE SCHEME (HOCS)

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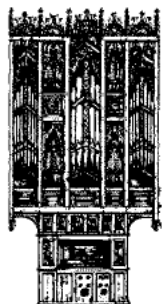
THE NATIONAL PIPE ORGAN REGISTER (NPOR)

<http://www.bios.org.uk/npor.html>

The NPOR Database Manager, Library Services, Birmingham City University, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2SU; [REDACTED]

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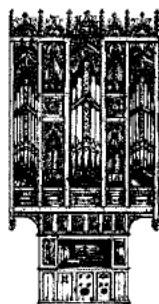
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THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES

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BIOS REPORTER

Opinions expressed in the **BIOS Reporter** are those of the respective contributors.

Editor: Professor David Shuker



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For inclusion in the April 2011 edition of the *Reporter*, copy must be received by **Friday, 18 March 2011**

Submit material to the Editor by post or e-mail.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

Melanie Harrison,



The cover illustration is of the new organ built into an existing case by Kenneth Tickell at St Mary le Bow, Cheapside, London. Full details of this organ can be found on the church website

<http://www.stmarylebow.co.uk/#organ-project/4535373291> where there are links to a series of photographs taken during various stages of the building by the consultant for the project, John Norman

(Photo: John Norman)

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EDITORIAL

This first issue of the second decade of the **twenty-first century** includes news of a significant development in the work of BIOS—the **re-location** of the British Organ Archive (BOA) to its new home at the Cadbury Research Library at the University of Birmingham. The Archive is now housed in state-of-the-art facilities with a handsome research room in which to peruse documents. The task of preparing for the move fell to our indefatigable Honorary Archivist, Chris Kearn, who had to sort and pack a wide range of documents to a standard commensurate with the high level of archival storage offered by the Special Collections of the University of Birmingham. By the time this issue arrives on your doormat the BOA will be up and running again—see p. 5 for more details of the new access arrangements.

It is also time to reflect on the groundwork for the current BOA that was laid down by our founder members including, most notably, the late Michael Sayer (see p. 4) who assembled to first stage of the Archive at the University of Keele in the early 1970s. Over the past thirty-five years or more, BIOS has depended on the support and participation of a whole gamut of individuals from the dedicated amateur to the most erudite academic, as well as the views and experience of professional organ builders and restorers. What strikes me as remarkable is, that after all this time, the amount of work to be done in charting the history of the British organ remains prodigious. It is one of the counterintuitive consequences of research generally, and certainly contrary to the view of research in the public mind, that the more one discovers, the more one is acutely aware of how inadequate is our understanding (of anything, let alone the history of the organ).

By a strange quirk of fate, one of the organs by Samuel Renn that so engaged Michael Sayer, the 1836 organ at Bollington, now urgently needs a home and a thoughtful restoration (see back and inside back cover). This organ, and many others, are a continual reminder to us that such instruments will disappear without trace unless we take an even more proactive stance in recording and promoting their virtues.

FROM THE SECRETARY

MELVIN HUGHES

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Church of St Mary-le-Bow, London EC2V 6AU, the setting for the Day Conference on 27 November 2010, was also the venue for the 2010 Annual General Meeting. The Officers' Reports are reproduced in this issue, and Officers and Council were elected in accordance with the Constitution.

The following Officers were elected:

Chairman: John Norman
Treasurer: Adrian Mumford
Secretary: Melvin Hughes
Membership Secretary: Melanie Harrison
Casework Officer: Andrew Hayden

Colin Menzies and Alan Thurlow were elected as Council members.

NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST 2011

Congratulations to Colin Menzies on the award of an OBE for services to the Church of England.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

MELANIE HARRISON

It is a slightly unhappy quirk that BIOS has to begin a New Year by demanding money but all subscriptions became due for payment on 1st January. The membership secretary and treasurer work closely together and I would like to publicly thank Richard Hird for all his help over many years, keeping me informed about payment receipts, and sometimes failures! It does help us enormously if subscriptions are paid promptly without requiring me to send reminders. Having a credit/debit card on file with BIOS means the payment gets charged automatically each year but those who do this do need to let us know if your card gets updated to have a new number, perhaps because you changed banks, or had a lost card replaced.

With continuing rumbles that we are moving towards a time when paper cheques may cease to be a payment option, the annual renewal form sent to those without a standing order in place or a card on file, now shows instructions for payment by on-line banking.

We continue to attract new members and the following will appear, along with the existing members, in the new directory of members when it is published later this year

Nigel Allcoat [REDACTED]

John Dillistone NDD ATC ARCO:
[REDACTED]

John L E Eady BMus MMus FRCO
LRAM LTCL AKC: [REDACTED]

Ronald Hall BSc: [REDACTED]

Cameron Luke MA(Oxon) ARCO:
[REDACTED]

Ian W Major GRSM FRCO:
[REDACTED]

Peter A McCormick MB ChB DCH
DTM&H: [REDACTED]

Richard Mark Platt [REDACTED]

William Whitehead BA FRCO
MMUS ARAM:
[REDACTED]

I am sorry to have to report the deaths of T E Baker of Church Stretton, Shropshire who had been a member since 1986, Eric Impey of Cambridge who had been a member since 1982, Leslie Matthews of Newton, York who had been a member since 1999 and (just before Christmas) Philip Rogers of Sandy, Bedfordshire who joined in 2006.

MICHAEL SAYER (1934–2010)

JOHN BOWLES

Michael Sayer's death on 23 October 2010 has lost us a founding member. His setting up and developing the British Organ Archive went a long way towards gaining prompt credibility and scholarly respect for the Institute, such that ten years later BIOS chairman Donald Wright wrote that the Archive 'now represents the most important source centre for research in this field which exists in the country'.¹



Michael Sayer at the Tram Museum at Crich in 2004
(Photo: Brenda Sayer)

The stimulus for the Archive was Michael's research into the organs of Samuel Renn and successors Kirtland and Jardine found in churches and chapels of inner Manchester in his 1950s student days. He was fascinated by the early form of industrialised building which they, and their cases, revealed, soon followed by playing three in succession regularly over several years.

Research led to *Samuel Renn: English Organ Builder* (1974), gaining him his MSc in

History of Technology and then registration as a PhD student on broader themes, which Michael described as being 'all thoroughly academic and quite useless'. Reviewing Renn's output in the light of the restoration of the Great Budworth organ and findings after 1974, David Wickens wrote that the book on Renn 'has a wide appeal because it takes the view of the player rather than the organ builder, studying the organ as a musical instrument rather than as a 'wondrous machine''.² Michael had been happy to show how Renn's organ building

fitted into its period, and to carry the reader along. As an example, think of the interplay of ideas, if not more, with Renn's workshop a few doors from that of Richard Roberts — inventor of the self-acting spinning mule, the metal planning machine, and the gas meter.

Michael's interests were essentially practical; playing for services, rescuing the records were part of the whole. He strove in vain to secure Renn's 1829 Chester Handel Festival organ after its later home at St George's, Hulme, closed. Fortunately its dismantled case awaits the right re-use.

Previously he had rescued the unaltered console of Renn's 1837 organ at St Saviour's, Plymouth

Grove, Manchester. Follow-up papers on technological aspects of Renn's work appeared, notably those in *The Organ Yearbook* (VII [1976] 909-100) and the *BIOS Journal* (4 [1980] 90-99) exploring ideas put forward in his 1974 book.

At this time when the Archive completes its move to the University of Birmingham, we recall afresh Michael Sayer's solid achievements and contributions to the founding and early years of BIOS.

¹ BIOSJ, 10 (1986) 4

² BIOSJ, 32 (2008) 163

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVE

CHRIS KEARL

The British Organ Archive has now moved to join other Special Collections housed in the new Cadbury Research Library on the Edgbaston campus of the University of Birmingham.

The Cadbury Research Library is situated on the Lower Ground Floor of the Muirhead Tower. Entry is at ground-floor level with full disabled access throughout. Once inside the entrance hall press the lift button for the Lower Ground Floor (LG) and this will show you the correct lift to take you down to the Cadbury Research Library (there are no buttons within the lifts themselves). Most of the Primary and Secondary source collections currently held by BIOS are available for research, many on fiche, film or disc.

Full location and transport details can be found at www.special-coll.bham.ac.uk and information about the British Organ Archive and other Collections will eventually be found at www.calmview.bham.ac.uk although it may take a little time to set up the full online catalogue and the 2011 British Organ Archive Handlist.

Contact the Cadbury Research Library at special-collections@bham.ac.uk or 0121 414 5839

A limited search facility is available through the Library and advice can also be sought from the BIOS Archivist [Christopher Kearl] at [REDACTED] should you wish to check that the information you are seeking is currently available within the British Organ Archive prior to making a visit.



Chris Kearl (BIOS Archivist) and Sue Worrall (Head of Special Collections) in front of some of the BIOS archives in their new location in Birmingham
(Photo: David Shuker)

Opening hours are from 09.00 until 17.00 from Monday to Friday with a later opening time on Monday morning of 10.00 and a later closing time on Thursday evening of 19.00. *The Cadbury Research Library is closed on Saturday and Sunday.*

In order to use the Cadbury Research Library you will need to be issued with a Special Collections Card which is specific to this establishment. On your first visit please bring with you two forms of identification which contain your name, printed address and signature, for example, a driving licence. The blue County Archive Research Network Reader's ticket is not valid for use at the Cadbury Research Library.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2009–2010

First, I would like to remind us all of the aims of BIOS:

Firstly: 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.

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

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

Fourthly: 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.

It is good to report once more that it has been a very active year for BIOS. We have again seen important progress in our efforts to fulfill these aims.

We started the year with the one-day research conference at Birmingham University, which continues to give public space to interesting research papers. This was followed by the fourth and final residential conference at Merton College, Oxford, with its study of the many developments in the twentieth century. Important material from all the Oxford conferences are to be published in the Journal. It was appropriate that Oxford was followed by the conference held at St Mary's Collegiate Church, Stafford. Here we concentrated on the preservation challenges presented by late 19th-century and early 20th-century instruments with tubular pneumatic actions. In July, a Wiltshire conference looked at the c.1810 William Allen at Bremhill, with its nags-

head swell, and the Peter Collins organ in Bowood House based on the work of the early 18th-century German builder T.H.G.Trost. Then, only last month, we were at the De Montfort Hall in Leicester, where a regional organbuilder in the shape of Stephen Taylor produced his 1913 magnum opus, an instrument of quite unexpected quality.

In the publishing area, we are all delighted to see the 34th edition of the BIOS *Journal*. We are still looking forward to the publication of the updated index. Its compilation has proved a worthwhile but non-trivial task. The *Reporter* continues to go from strength to strength; a tribute to David Shuker's editing and production skills. The facsimile edition of the Leffler manuscript of c.1800 has achieved significant early sales. Only 200 were printed but José Hopkins still has, I believe, some left for those still without copies.

Barrie Clark has continued his contacts with English Heritage to press for better protection for historic organs. Sadly, the political situation has put the whole issue of Heritage Protection on the back burner. We have asked for a meeting with the Minister in the new government but so far without avail. BIOS was consulted by the Department of Media, Culture & Sport over the possible withdrawal of VAT relief on organ repairs and also lobbied Cabinet Minister Theresa Villiers on the matter.

Sadly, the relief was continued for church building repairs but not for organs and bells. My letter lamenting this turn of events was published in the Church Times. Overall, it does seem now to be accepted that BIOS is effectively the amenity society for organs, just as SPAB (Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) is in the architectural sphere.

Andrew Hayden has continued to seek out cases where advice from BIOS will prevent the destruction of our heritage. Sometimes we are successful, as at Ranworth in Norfolk, where proposals for unnecessary alteration were dropped, sometimes less so, as at Hay-on-Wye where we were called in too late but were able to point out that the perpetrators had broken an important rule over conflicts of interest.

During the year we have continued to press ahead with the Historic Organ Certificate Scheme (HOCS), expanding it as rapidly as we can so that all significant historic instruments can be listed before too long. This is now giving increased credibility to the whole scheme and grant-giving bodies are taking notice of certificate listings. However the expansion of HOCS does place a significant strain on the volunteer effort needed to make it happen and I want again to pay special tribute to Paul Joslin, David Knight and all the members of the committee for their efforts.

Members continue to make active and growing use of the British Organ Archive, with wonderful support from Chris Kearn. BIOS has now signed a contract with the University of Birmingham for the archive to move from Birmingham Central Library to the new Cadbury Research Library and the physical transfer will take place within weeks. A joint committee of BIOS and the University will have its first meeting before Christmas to oversee policy in the new archive's new home.

As members know, the NPOR now runs on the computers of the Royal College of Music, with back-up from Imperial College. The NPOR attracts nearly one and a half thousand file searches every day, a fact that continues to amaze outsiders. One of the biggest justifications for BIOS's charitable

status must be this widely-used free public service. As ever, BIOS is very grateful to the NPOR volunteer editors. As its accuracy improves so the NPOR's reputation improves with it. We are very grateful to Mike Sayers, who has continued to maintain the present software, and also to Nicholas Watkins and Professor Paul Banks for their support and work to map out the way forward.

As always, one of the most impressive things about BIOS is the enormous amount of work being undertaken by so very many willing volunteers. I have already mentioned the HOCS committee, the NPOR editors and Chris Kearn's work at Birmingham and David Shuker's work on the Reporter.

To these I must add all the work by the Publications committee that has gone into the Journal, plus our particular thanks to Melvin Hughes for his splendid work in organising this year's public events, coupled with the name of Katie Pardee for the Oxford conference.

After over twenty years as Treasurer, Richard Hird has handed over to Adrian Mumford. We owe Richard a big debt of gratitude for all his hard work, coupled with a welcome to Adrian for coming in to pick up the mantle.

Melanie Harrison has done sterling work as Membership Officer, handling our advertising publicity as well. Finally, I must thank Melvin for all his work as Secretary. He continues to keep the Chairman in order - a very necessary task.

I must not finish without remembering the names of members whom died since the 2009 AGM; T.E.Baker of Church Stretton, Shropshire, Anthony Bennett of Alveston, Avon, Eric Impey of Cambridge, Leslie Mathews of Nawton, North Yorkshire, Geoffrey Watson of Newburn, Newcastle-

upon-Tyne, sadly, Dr. David Sanger, and finally, most recently, founding member Michael Sayer.

In closing, I again thank the members of BIOS Council for their support during the year and the friendly and constructive tone of Council meetings. If re-elected, I look forward with confidence to the twelve months between now and the next AGM.

John Norman

November 2010

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009-2010

Council met three times during the year under review, each time at Crown Court of Scotland, WC2. The HOCS Committee met on three occasions prior to each Council meeting.

After 25 years in the role, Richard Hird stepped down as Treasurer in July 2010. Adrian Mumford was co-opted by Council to take over as Treasurer following notice given at the 2009 AGM.

Two specific matters that arose during the year seem worthy of mention here.

First, the V&A Musical Instruments Collection: where there was an exchange of correspondence with Sir Mark Jones, the Director of the V&A expressing our concern at the loss of a display of the musical instrument collection in a dedicated space in the Museum devoted to this type of object. We set out our belief that this will have a negative effect on scholarship and on performance practice derived from access to the collection as well as on public perception and understanding of musical instruments.

Three specific organs in the Collection were highlighted:

- (i) 17th century Table Organ (with pipes made of paper) - this would be a priority for new galleries although plans were at an early stage;
- ii) Crang Organ (c1750) from Fonthill Splendens (Via Towcester PC) - the Museum had been seeking a home for this organ for some years and would like to see it restored in a place where it could be appreciated. The case had undergone some conservation and the playing parts were in store with Goetze & Gwynn. BIOS has been asked whether we could suggest institutions that might be interested in providing suitable space for it,
- (iii) Prior Chamber Organ (1786) - this was not, in fact, stored in the Museum basement as we thought but in store with other pieces from their furniture collection at Blythe House, close to Olympia.

Secondly, Ranworth PC where a letter had been sent to the Registrar of the Diocese of Norwich giving our opinion that the organ should be simply overhauled and no mechanical or tonal alterations permitted. In particular, the incorporation of electronic player devices would compromise the mechanical integrity of the organ and the substitution of a 4' Principal on the Swell for a 4' Flute would compromise the tonal integrity. It was understood that the donor had subsequently withdrawn the offer of financial support for the proposed changes.

I am grateful to the Chairman and all members of Council for their help and support during my first term of office.

Melvin Hughes

October 2010

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009–2010

Statistics

The membership figures in November 2010, with some from 2005 to 2009 are shown for comparison in the table below.

The 10% drop since 2005 shows the need always to proselytise whenever opportunities arise. It is hoped by the next AGM to have on-line membership application and payment options in place and keeping the administrative processes in-line with twenty first century business practice is a priority. As a first step, we hope to offer methods to facilitate payment of 2011 subscriptions, due in January, by on-line banking systems. To ensure such payments are correctly credited, be sure to obtain quote your unique membership number which the membership secretary will be pleased to email to anyone requesting it.

Advertising

BIOS advertises in the *Organists' Review*, *Choir & Organ* and *The London Organ Concerts Guide* and they do appear to generate a steady number of new membership

applications. During 2010, adverts have evolved to have not only a recruitment message but also to offer for sale the two resources BIOS offers for sale, facsimile reproductions of the Leffler manuscript, and a CD of music from the Historic Organs project in East Anglia; a disc that provides music that has an appeal, even to those who might not be organ specialists - a good Christmas stocking filler for friends!

Contact details

The membership list is continually updated and a new edition will be made available to members during 2011. Please ensure your contact details are kept up to date.

The PO Box used for membership and other correspondence will soon cease to be available. Please delete it from your notes and instead use the Longsight Road, Ramsbottom Street address for sending 2011 membership renewals. These will continue at the same rates that have applied since 2006.

Melanie Harrison

November 2010

	Jan 05	Sept 07	Oct 09	Nov 10
Ordinary members (excluding concessionary rate payers)	524	465	458	451
Ordinary members (concessionary rate due to retirement)	140	146	152	152
Ordinary members (concessionary rate as students)	6	1	5	6
Ordinary members (concessionary rate as unemployed)	1	3	2	0
Honorary members	8	8	9	8
Institutional members	16	16	16	15
TOTALS	695	642	641	632

**PUBLICATIONS OFFICER REPORT
2009–2010**

This year has proved to be highly significant for BIOS and its publications, a year that may prove to be a catalyst for further initiatives in the future.

**LEFFLER MANUSCRIPT FACSIMILE
EDITION**

Firstly, we have seen the successful publication of the Leffler Manuscript facsimile edition. BIOS is extremely grateful to Mrs José Hopkins for seeing through this wonderful project, and to Professor Peter Williams for writing the Introduction. Not only is it the most valuable source of information about a plethora of English organs c1800, but the facsimile edition itself is beautifully produced at a really very economic price. At present, there are about 100 copies still for sale, and members are encouraged to purchase these (£48 + £4.50 p. & p.) before stocks run out. Mrs Hopkins has appended the following report:

A total of 108 copies have been despatched since the end of April 2010, as follows:

Complimentary copies:

Legal Deposit libraries 6

British Organ Archive 1

Project personnel 2

Review copies (2 US/2 Dutch) 4

Copies sold 95

Total as at 4.11.10: 108

The Treasurer will have the total of accumulated profit to date, which would not have been possible without a grant from The Mercers' Company. Every effort must be made to make inroads into the second hundred copies, but the project has undoubtedly brought the image of BIOS to a wider international audience. It is hoped that the US reviews will in due course add to the overseas sales.

José Hopkins 4 November 2010

JOURNAL

The last two issues have been somewhat larger than expected, a sign that scholarly activity is healthy and even increasing. The scope of articles in Volume 33 was perhaps wider than I can remember in previous *Journals*, and it has proved to be a fascinating issue. I would like to thank Dr Christopher Berry very sincerely for his editorship of this *Journal*, which I know made serious inroads to his professional life in Earth Sciences. In addition to its breadth of interests, the depth of research is outstanding—a hallmark of BIOS publications that is the envy of similarly-minded organ associations across the world.

Vol. 34 has just gone to press. This will be first of a series of *Journals* edited by Dr Katharine Pardee, which will incorporate some of the valuable papers given at the four Oxford conferences in addition to research papers submitted independently. It promises to be a most interesting issue, and I am most grateful to Dr Pardee for her tireless enthusiasm and hard work on behalf of BIOS. As per normal practice, the submission dates for the following *Journals* are as follows:

Vol. 35 (2011): 31 December 2010.

Vol. 36 (2012): 31 December 2011

Vol. 37 (2013): 31 December 2012

REPORTER

I am very grateful to Professor David Shuker for continuing to nurture the *Reporter*, which is now a most attractive and interesting publication. The quantity of authors' submissions has gradually increased, so that articles sometimes have to wait their turn for publication. Next year, pagination of the *Reporter* will run contiguously throughout the year, making referencing easier—normal practice for most scholarly journals. May I continue to

encourage members to contribute frequently to the *Reporter* on relevant matters, and even take part in debates.

INDEX

This has been a major (voluntary) exercise over a period of years, but, at the time of writing, publication is planned to be achieved by the end of 2010. I am most grateful to John Brennan and his assistants for their contribution to this much-awaited publication.

Whilst 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 ideas and suggestions.

Dr David Ponsford *November 2010*

MEETINGS OFFICER REPORT 2009-2010

This report covers the year from 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2010. During the year in question Day Meetings were held at St Dunstan in the West/ St Clement Danes; the Barber Institute, Birmingham; St Mary, Stafford and there was a Residential Conference at Merton College, Oxford (see below). The number of delegates for each Conference is shown in square brackets.

Katie Pardee was lead organiser for the Oxford Conference and David Knight has continued to provide general advice and support—I remain immensely indebted to them both.

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

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2009

GUILD CHURCH OF ST DUNSTAN-IN-THE-WEST, 186A FLEET STREET, LONDON EC4A 2HR & ST CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, LONDON WC2R 1DH
ENGLISH ORGAN BUILDING POST WORLD WAR TWO AND THE 10/15 YEARS BEYOND [64]

St Dunstan in the West

Demonstration of Organ - *Adrian Gunning*

Restoration of the St Dunstan organ and the context of post War shortages that influenced the 1947 Willis rebuild - *Ian Bell*

Losses and gains: City organs and the Blitz - *David Knight*

Noel Mander and post-war London, the rescuing of organs and getting them into churches - *John Mander*

St Clement Danes

AGM

Organ Recital - *Peter Long*, (St Clement Danes)

SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2010 -
BARBER INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

BERNARD EDMONDS RECENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE [37]

Young's Temperament: 'The Actual Practice of the Best Instrument Makers' - Where did it come from? - *David Shuker & Martin Renshaw*

Peterborough Fragments - *Hilary Davidson*

Norwich Cathedral Organ: A Short History - *John Norman*

A 'fruitful source of quarrels and differences...': the Revd Sir Frederick Arthur Gore Ouseley (1825-1889) as organ adviser - *Jim Berrow*

British Organ Archive (BOA): An Update - *Chris Kearl*

Anneessens in England - *José Hopkins*

The Changing Relationship between Organists and their Employers during the Nineteenth Century' - *Nigel Browne*

Haworth Organs at the time of the Brontës and subsequently - *Richard Hird*

William Sweetland - A Hundred Years on - *Gordon Curtis*

Q & A (Chair: *John Norman*)

15 – 18 APRIL 2010 - MERTON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
OXFORD ORGAN CONFERENCE 2010
THE BRITISH ORGAN IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AND BEYOND

[57 across the 4 days]

Joint Residential Conference - BIOS & Betts Fund of the Music Faculty in association with the Royal College of Organists

Thursday 15 April

Afternoon Session Chair: *Nicholas Thistlethwaite*

The Royal Festival Hall and the Organ Reform movement - *William McVicker*

The Organ Reform movement - *Dominic Gwynn*

Lady Susi Jeans: retrospective appreciation - *Christopher Kent*

'Place aux dames'? Female Organists in Edwardian England and Beyond - *Judy Barger*

Keynote speaker: Thoughts of a lapsed organist - *Professor Peter Williams*

David Sanger Recital, Christ Church

Friday 16 April

Morning Session Chair: *Paul Hale*

The English organ sonata at the turn of the twentieth century - *Iain Quinn*

Stanford's Three Preludes and Fugues Op. 193, 1922 - *Jonathan White*

English organ improvisation in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries - *Ronny Krippner*

Fela Sowande: Nigerian Fellow of the RCO - *Calvert Johnson*

The Frobenius at Queen's College - *James Dalton*

Recital, Hertford College Chapel, with music demonstrating the morning's lectures

Session Chair: *David Shuker*

The last rose of summer: English late romanticism at the organ - *Wayne Leupold*

Alan Wicks - *Joan Jeffrey*

Anglo-French links, then and now - *Martin Renshaw*

'Life at the coal face': being a church organist in the later part of the Twentieth Century - *Martin Firth*

Panel Discussion with RCO on the future of the Organist; chaired by *David Sanger*

Recital, New College - *Anne Page*

Saturday 17 April

Morning Session Chair: *David Knight*

To see or not to see, the organ case in the twentieth century - *Barrie Clark*

Twentieth-century actions and playing aids - *John Norman*

Robert Hope-Jones contribution to twentieth century organ building - *Andrew Hayden*

The Willis Dynasty - *Jonathan Ambrosio*

Afternoon Session Chair: *John Norman*

Oxford's 'choral' organs: a fall and rise? - *Paul Hale*

A screen organ for Manchester Cathedral - *Jim Berrow*

The Llandaff Cathedral project - is this the shape of things to come? - *Andrew Moyes*

The Organ Reform Movement - *Peter Collins*

Grant Degens and Bradbeer Ltd - *Martin Goetze*

The shift of emphasis of the firm from his father's post-war work to the late-twentieth century work - *John Mander*

Panel on the Future of the British Organ, chaired by *Jonathan Ambrosino*, with *John Mander, Andrew Moyes, Martin Goetze, Peter Collins*,

Conference Dinner: Speaker - *Allan Chapman*

Sunday 18 April

Morning Session Chair: *Richard Hird*

Old fogeys and young fogeys - past and future - *John Rowntree*

J S Bach and the Classical revival in England, esp. Geraint Jones - *Nicholas Prozzillo*

The long-awaited dawn: the influence of the Organ Reform Movement on organ music in Australia - *Ann Blore*

The nature of the *Orgelbewegung* in Germany - *Rolf Claus*

Continental counterpoint (exploring the restoration and reconstruction of historic organs, and the requirements of the player) - *Jaap Jan Steensma*

SATURDAY 22 MAY 2010 - ST MARY, STAFFORD

PNEUMATICS OR NEW-MATICS: RESTORE OR REPLACE?

THE VEXED QUESTION OF HISTORIC PNEUMATIC ACTIONS [34]

Outline of the liturgical and musical needs of the parish. *Prebendary Graham Fowell, Rector of Stafford.*

A local organ history - *Ian Miller.*

Pneumatic actions, how they work and why they may not work - *John Norman*

The Geib organ, a short history - *John Norman*

Recital on the Hill, Norman & Beard - John Geib organ by the Director of Music, *Harry Hitchen* (as part of the Stafford Festival).

The commissioning and history of the Harrison instrument - *Mark Venning*

Other experiences - *Paul Hale*

Significance, conservation and choices: CBC advice and funding for pneumatic action organs - *Dr David Knight*

Panel discussion and questions, Difficult choices - appearance, actions and budgets.

SATURDAY 3 JULY 2010 - NORTH WILTSHIRE

BOWOOD HOUSE, BREMHILL & DRAYCOT CERNE

[15]

Bowood House

Introduction and demonstration of the Collins/Trost (2002) organ in the Chapel - *Christopher Kent & Michael Whytock.*

Bremhill

St. Martin's Church, Bremhill: Introduction of demonstration of the large organ by William Allen ca. 1810 (ex-Addlestone, Surrey) newly overhauled and restored by Peter Bumstead - *Christopher Kent*

Draycot Cerne

St. James's Church, Draycot Cerne significant organ by Hunter (ca. 1900), for which Sir Walter Alcock was the consultant - *Geoffrey Morgan* (Demonstration)

Melvin Hughes

October 2010

**INFORMATION SERVICES:
BOA/NPOR**

British Organ Archive

It has been a difficult year for the British Organ Archive with the proposed move to the University being delayed again and again due to problems with the new building. The latest deadline on 30th November has now been put back a few weeks due to an

unexpected hitch at the University end but I hope that by the end of this year we will at last be operating out of the Cadbury Research Library on the main Birmingham University campus. The Archive is now due to be moved to the University on Tuesday 14th December. Full details will be published once we are *in situ*!

Enquiries have continued to pour in at the rate of about 4 or 5 a week both from BIOS members and from researchers abroad. I have endeavoured to keep this down to a maximum 2-week turnaround time which is much better than the service provided by many other PRO's. I have also been working more closely with the NPOR to ensure the accuracy of some of the surveys.

My main maintenance task for this year, in addition to the preparations for the move, has been the cataloguing of the Jardine Contract and Correspondence files. This is a collection of around 3000 envelopes of correspondence relating to the organs built by F W Jardine & Co, in its various incarnations, between 1850 and 1967 which has never been fully indexed. Each envelope has had to be opened, the contents read and recorded, all metallic staples, clips and other harmful material removed and the contents then placed into a new acid-free, pH-neutral, conservation envelope to prevent further deterioration. It has taken nearly a year to work through these but the task is now almost complete and the results are being added by David Wickens to the main BOA database for the next update at the end of the year. We have also managed to index some of the *Memoires on organs* of John B Dalby and the G B Taylor notebooks.

New additions to the archive collections include the remaining Primary source documentation from the firm of Noterman & Co. and an interesting collection of

leaflets and other items relating to the firm of J W Walker & Son. I have also accepted a first edition of the book on *Scudamore organs* by Rev John Baron and a first edition copy of Hopkins and Rimbault of 1855 which I have managed to purchase for the archive from ebay.

Smaller items of interest are still being received from the public along with a number of enquiries about possible future deposits.

Chris Kearl *BIOS Honorary Archivist.*

National Pipe Organ Register

Work continues on developing a way forward for the NPOR and re-development plan. Frances Pond and Nicholas Watkins are currently working on a generic document to use for funding applications, with the assistance of a fund-raising specialist at Birmingham City University. We now need to attract potential sponsors and supporters and this work will begin in earnest in the new year.

We have also commenced work on the high-level redevelopment plan and seeking a suitable development partner. With the recent announcements of major cuts to higher education funding external funding partners are absolutely necessary to move the project forward. Members of BIOS and NPOR users are invited to contribute. Please do let us know if you can suggest any good suitable funding sources or would like to contribute yourself to this very worthy cause. The NPOR needs your support! Backlog currently running at around 7 to 8 months still, but the editors are, as always, working hard and doing an excellent job. And, as always, we appreciate the support of our many contributors towards improving the accuracy and coverage of the database.

Nicholas Watkins and Frances Pond
November 2010

CASEWORK OFFICER'S REPORT: YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 2010

Over the year, the workload has shown a noticeable and in many ways welcome increase with enquiries being received on a regular basis, on average one each week. Many concern rehousing of instruments which are already redundant due to churches or chapels closing and which can therefore be advertised on the IBO website.

We continue to receive enquiries from the Baptist Church which is gratifying. The outcomes of decisions made by their listed buildings advisory committee suggest, tentatively, that our dialogue is leading to some interesting results. Dereham Baptist church is a case in point where permission was granted for the organ to be removed while the pulpit was to be retained. However, removal of the organ was conditional on it being found a new home so it seems that a condition of stalemate might easily arise since the organ effectively forms a tester for the pulpit and was cleverly combined with the structure. In this respect, it is worth noting that the 1884 Alexander Young organ at Chard Baptist church, Somerset, (Casework Report 1/09) is still *in situ* and apparently being played.

Below are listed the most noteworthy cases dealt with this past year:

Harrogate Baptist Church N02917

This was originally a 2mp by Hill built in 1884 and then rebuilt as a 3mp by Binns in 1898. The specification is enlightened and, suitably restored, would be an excellent example of how two eminent builders' work resulted in the instrument currently in the church.

Regrettably, it is also an example of how the question of the next generation of organists is being left unanswered until it

becomes pressing if not almost unanswerable. No further correspondence has been received following a reply from BIOS that the church would be well advised to retain the organ and use it to enthuse and inspire the next generation of church musicians.

St Mary's, Hay on Wye

This represents one of the worst instances I have encountered during my spell as Casework officer. Briefly, the 11* Bevington/Hill organ in Holmer church, Herefordshire, was acquired by St Mary's, Hay-on-Wye to replace a botched amateur reconstruction of a 2mp Gray & Davison. The Bevington house-organ of 1883, to which a Choir manual was added by Hill in 1904, survived untouched in a magnificent neo-baroque case. Sadly, it has been comprehensively divested of its character and originality following a 60s-style electrification and reconstruction on the instructions of the incumbent of Hay-on-Wye who is also the diocesan organ adviser. This has put the value of the Historic Organs Certificate into question further involving BIOS in moves to open a dialogue with the relevant authorities given the implications which a reevaluation of the organ's status must have.

Woodbridge Quay Street Baptist D06912

The fate of this organ, if not the sole, certainly a rare, surviving instrument by J. Lincoln built in 1789, hangs in the balance pending the likelihood of reordering plans for the chapel receiving the go-ahead. Equally concerning is the degree of interest being shown from abroad following the speculative advertising of the organ in the IBO redundancies lists. A close watch is being maintained though as yet, the chapel has not received permission to begin work.

Stowmarket United Reformed Church H00695

The threat of redundancy which was formerly very real appears to have been lifted for the moment following the apparent abandonment of plans to redevelop the church site. The church is home to a beautifully finished example of a late Henry Willis III 2mp, recently awarded a II* HOC. At present, efforts to have the building listed have failed. This is an organ deserving to be better known, its wealth of tonal effect belies its modest disposition.

Organ Exports to Europe

As previously noted in D01692, the presence of important organs advertised in the IBO redundancies list is coming more and more to the attention of foreign buyers. While there is probably little BIOS can do until such times as organs become listed items within English Heritage's ambit, this trend needs careful monitoring and where at all possible, our efforts redoubled to alert relevant authorities.

As Casework officer with responsibility for redundancies, I receive enquiries from abroad which are increasingly at odds with our stated aim, *'To work for the preservation, and where necessary, the faithful restoration of historic organs in Britain'*. Whereas we might be resigned to see the export of organs of no great quality or historic interest, it begs the question how BIOS can best express its stance regarding the threat of disposal of important organs overseas. The Woodbridge Lincoln; R02125 (Forster & Andrews 1868, St John's, Castle Douglas) Staffordshire; P00637 (Christ Church, Biddulph Moor, Staffs., Renn & Boston 1824) are cases in point; none of these organs should be exported.

Of perhaps only marginally less concern is the practice of churches advertising organs via the IBO website on a speculative basis

leading to the inevitable display of interest where an important instrument is concerned and so creating the impression that the best way forward is for the organ to be rehoused when, in fact, the reverse is really the better option. We continue to work with interested parties including the IBO, to ensure that organs are only accepted for listing where the necessary written permissions have already been obtained. At least that way, we can be sure that some degree of consultation had been entertained before finally committing the instrument to be removed.

Andrew Hayden

November 2010

HISTORIC ORGAN CERTIFICATE SCHEME ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Committee Meetings -
January/May/September

Dr David Knight (Chair)
John Norman (Ex-officio)
Andrew Hayden (BIOS Casework officer) (2007)+
Graham Jones (2008)
Richard Hird (2009)
Nicholas Plumley (2010)
Paul Joslin (Co-ordinator)
(+Andrew Hayden retires from the committee this year - remaining an inspector)

During 2010 the work of the Historic Organ Certificate Scheme has continued to increase. Council listed one hundred and seventy one organs on the recommendation of the HOCS sub-committee between January and September 2010. This is an all time record since the inception of the new scheme during the autumn of 2002. This accreditation has now become a requirement for many grant applications for restoration.

BIOS HERITAGE ADVISER REPORT 2009- 2010

Highlights and 'finds' this year have included many smaller organs of considerable significance including an outstanding chamber organ by Elliott in Bristol, two Willis house organs, one belonging to Dr W.H. Monk of London and a Henry Bevington organ c1800 in a delightful Regency case. One organ, hitherto unknown to BIOS, by Postill of York in Tuxford, Notts was awarded Grade I in September. It is one of this builder's largest surviving instruments in near original condition. This was due largely by the prompting of the diocesan organ advisor.

At the other end of the scale the 'house' organ in Blenheim Palace was re-accredited and one of the most significant large organs by Hill & Son (4 manuals, 54 stops) in Oldham has alerted the parish of the national importance of this instrument. Contact with this church continues.

On an administrative point, would BIOS members please note that all applications must be accompanied by a completed form which can be found on the website as nomination form. This will greatly assist in ensuring the smooth running of the scheme. To date, external organisations comply with this request when sending documentation. As from 2011, paperwork for organs without this form will not be processed.

This scheme could not operate without the unstinting efforts and time of a dedicated team of inspectors and committee members for which thanks is due.

There is still much to do.

Paul Joslin *Honorary Coordinator-
Historic Organ Certificate Scheme*

Since the last Annual Report there has been nothing of consequence to report. The survey I participated in with the National Audit Office into 'English Heritage's Lead in the Heritage Sector' was published but made no specific reference to BIOS or any other similar body. The focus was primarily on:

- Black and Minority Ethnic groups
- People with limiting disabilities
- Lower-socio economic groups.

In these circumstances it was surprising that we were asked to participate at all, and to attend an interview. At least we received a hearing and our concerns were listened to even if subsequently not recorded in the Report. Our comments are no doubt filed away somewhere.

There was much Parliamentary activity regarding the draft PPS 15, on which BIOS has previously commented. Members in both Houses asked a lot of questions about this and showed considerable disquiet about the great body of informed criticism (BIOS was one of the 500 who commented) which regarded that document as inadequate. This position must be watched and we must take advantage of opportunities when they arise.

Following this strong criticism of the draft PPS 15 the previous government agreed to examine it again. The result was that without further public consultation a rather changed version was issued and renamed PPS 15. As far as pipe organs are concerned this made no difference to our concern about the need for 'fixtures and fittings' to be clarified and resolved.

In a speech last October Jeremy Hunt, when Shadow Minister for DCMS, supported in principle the Heritage Protection Bill, but put forward one of his

own with a slightly different emphasis titled 'Museums and Heritage Bill', but which he said would incorporate the other bill's important elements.

The government announcement about a severe and prolonged reduction in public spending does not suggest any rapid progress for our cause, and no bill involving heritage issues is tabled for the current session of Parliament. We can only wait and hope that when one is drafted it will be an improvement on the Heritage Protection Bill. Baroness Anelay, who in the past has tried to help BIOS with draft legislation is now Chief Whip for the Lords, which might be useful if a bill is tabled while she is still in office. In the mean time we take any opportunity which arises to remind DCMS and EH that the protection of historic pipe organs has so far not been addressed.

The most recent activity has been several letters, the first written in May by the Chairman to the Jeremy Hunt, now Secretary of State for DCMS to congratulate him on his appointment and taking the opportunity to bring the activities of BIOS to his attention. A request for a meeting with him was made. After some delay and a telephone apology a reply from his office reported that our letter had been passed to John Penrose, Minister responsible for Heritage. Due to pressures on his time no meeting can be offered at this time but at least he is now aware of us.

The Chairman has also been in communication with his MP Teresa Villiers concerning the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme and the proposed withdrawal of the recoverability of VAT on grant cases. This has also generated letters between her and Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for DCMS and John Penrose, his Junior Minister, who is

responsible for both Tourism and Heritage, with copies back to BIOS. No concessions have been offered but those at the top are aware of us and our particular interests and concerns.

I have also sent a letter to the National Lottery Distribution Policy Branch as a reply to the Consultation on the National Lottery Shares which surprisingly Government intends to restore to its former level of grants. BIOS has over the last few years endeavoured to respond to opportunities offered to ensure that even if our cause is not so far being addressed, Government is aware of what we stand for and hope to achieve.

Barrie Clark

November 2010



John Norman making a presentation to Richard Hird at the AGM (Photo: José Hopkins)

**The British Institute of Organ Studies
Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010**

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

Council

During the year the following served on the Council:

John Norman (Chairman)	Richard Hird	David Ponsford
Melvin Hughes (Secretary)	David Knight	Nigel Stark
Barrie Clark	Adrian Mumford (co-opted)	David Shuker
Melanie Harrison	19 June 2010)	Nicholas Watkins
Andrew Hayden	Katharine Pardee	

The Council met three times during the year.

Independent Examiner: Michael Black (co-opted during the year)

Bankers

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

It is our policy to invest surplus funds in to our higher-earning Standard Life account.

Reserves Policy

To be determined by the Council.

Financial Review of the Year

Unrestricted income is close to the prior year, excepting tax recovery due on Gift Aid and a drop in investment income in line with depressed market rates. There was a small surplus on Conferences overall. Expenditure was close to budget with only small changes from 2008/09. The customary £1,000 transfer to the Endowment Fund resulted in a £198 overall loss.

In restricted funds, the printing of the Lefter manuscript was the largest single cost (in the HOSA Fund) although sales and a £5,000 grant resulted in a surplus for the year. Archive costs in the year have halved the amount available for future activity to £1,640.

Closing Unrestricted Funds were £36,711 (representing around one year's turnover) and total Restricted Funds (of which the Endowment Fund is by far the largest) totalled £34,213.

**Independent Examiners' Report
to members of the British Institute of Organ Studies.**

I am giving my report on the accounts of the British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS) for the year ended 30 June 2010 which are set out on the following two pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

Basis of independent examiners' report

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

Independent examiners' statement

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

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

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

or

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

Michael Black BA

Dated 7th October 2010

British Institute of Organ Studies
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
for the year ended 30th June 2010

Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2010 £	Total funds 2009 £
Incoming Resources :				
Subscriptions	2	18,968	18,968	18,814
Sales	3		3,404	1,689
Investment Income		622	580	2,066
Conferences	4	13,734	13,734	12,337
Tax recovery on Gift Aid	5	0	0	2,464
Grants	6		5,000	0
Total Incoming Resources		33,324	42,308	37,370
Resources Expended :				
Journal and Reporter		9,634	9,634	9,822
Other printing	7	639	7,207	523
National Pipe Organ Register		4,159	4,159	4,130
British Organ Archive			1,872	784
Council & sub committees		1,219	1,219	1,096
HOCS and surveys		1,276	1,276	1,050
Bank charges		551	551	869
Conferences	4	13,577	13,577	11,404
Publicity		1,367	1,367	1,270
Other costs		100	100	1,346
Total Resources Expended		32,522	41,601	32,294
Net incoming resources		802	(95)	707
Transfer to Endowment Fund		(1,000)	1,000	
Balance brought forward		36,909	33,308	70,217
Balance carried forward		£36,711	£34,213	£70,924

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June 2010

	Notes	2010 £	2009 £
Tangible fixed assets	7	0	0
Current Assets			
Short term deposits and Cash at Bank		71,669	70,217
Stocks and debtors	7	0	0
Less Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(745)	0
Net Assets		£70,924	£70,217
Funds			
Unrestricted General Funds		36,711	36,909
Restricted Funds	8	34,213	33,308
Total Funds	8	£70,924	£70,217

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policy

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis (except see note 2) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

2. Subscriptions

The figure for subscription is a record only of amounts actually received during the 12 months to 30 June 2010. No attempt is made to reconcile this figure to the membership year which is to 31 December.

3. Sales

Sales substantially relate to the Leffler Manuscript: approximately 70 were sold during the year. There was a small amount of income in respect of CD and card sales.

4. Conferences

Conferences are budgeted to break even. There was a small surplus from the Oxford Conference, the largest event in the year with turnover of £11,023.

5. Gift Aid

There is Gift Aid on subscriptions and donations unclaimed in respect of membership/calendar years 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. It is expected that these claims, in so far as the new HMRC rules on past Gift Aid recovery will allow, will be made during 2010/11.

6. Grants

A Grant of £5,000 was received from the Worshipful Company of Mercers towards the publication of the Leffler manuscript.

7. Assets

It has been Council policy fully to write off tangible assets in the year of acquisition. In 2009/10, this included the cost of printing 200 copies of the Leffler manuscript. Stocks of manuscripts (and CDs) exist at the year end, but at zero value.

8. Funds

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

Analysis of Funds:	Balance				Balance at 30/06/10 £
	at 1/07/09 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	
Unrestricted Funds:	36,909	33,324	(32,522)	(1,000)	36,711
Restricted Funds:					
HOSA and Leffler	2,295	8,329	(7,207)		3,417
Archive	3,362	150	(1,872)		1,640
Endowment	27,651	505	-	1,000	29,156
Total Funds	£70,217	£42,308	(£41,601)	£0	£70,924

DAY CONFERENCE IN LEICESTER: SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER 2010

RICHARD HIRD

The Legacy of Provincial Organ-Building in the East Midlands provided an all-embracing, if arguably unachievable, title for a Day Conference in Leicester organised for the most part by **David Shuker** and **Chris Gray**. In fact, the focus of the day was on the Taylor organ-building firm of that city, with enticing forays into the area's other musical associations and activities.

On a crisp autumnal morning, delegates from far and near gathered first at the De Montfort Hall, New Walk, to see and hear the Stephen Taylor & Sons 3m showpiece instrument, of 1913, restored in 1996/7, many of us had heard about but never before seen. Curiosity was amply satisfied, although with preparations afoot for an evening concert, full frontal views of the bold screen casework (draped above the tiered staging across one end of the Hall) were somewhat compromised by a large screen and lighting gantries. Restorer **Richard Young's** guided tour of the spacious interior of the organ showed us the wide but shallow layout, the blowing chamber below (with Taylor-made engine), majestic 32 ft Open, meticulous planning and implementation of the tubular actions, and quantity as well as quality of the pipe-work. This was demonstrated in a splendid impromptu airing by **Geoffrey Morgan** in pieces by Hollins, Guilman, and Whitlock, coping admirably with the "button" stop-heads in a single line above the Swell keys of the sumptuous walnut console. From the raked seating down the body of the Hall the organ's fine qualities were immediately apparent, though some wondered if the volume might be a little restrained (and we were in an otherwise unpopulated space).

Leaving the Hall staff to their preparations, the conference adjourned, some on foot, to St Peter, Highfields, a fine G.E. Street building of 1875 with spire, in an inner city suburb east of the Railway Station. Although the area and church have experienced changing fortunes in phases of incomers over 150 years, a more certain future for the church now seems to have returned in a regenerating and more settled community. The church is the proud possessor of a 4 manual Taylor organ in a large chamber north of the chancel (re-building in 1910 of the earlier 2m Joshua Porritt instrument, whose case fronts remain), with Historic Organ Certificate, which is solidly conceived and built. It continues to serve, but has suffered from water damage and might be said to have seen better days. Hopefully the Conference helped highlight its importance so that support and plans for careful restorative treatment will be encouraged.

Chris Gray, as incumbent organist, welcomed the conference and then spoke about the St Peter's organ in the wider context of Leicester organ-building. Later in the day, **Richard Young** was able to amplify the Taylor family and firm's origins and history. Particularly interesting were the technical innovations devised and introduced by the firm, which seem to have been very much their own practical solutions, not relying on or imitating other builders' methods.

David Shuker has spoken at previous events of his researches into 18th and 19th century Leicester organists, and was able to reveal more, in particular about the women musicians with west gallery organs, and family successions of organists in this thriving Midlands centre. A new choral tradition, and the move of organs from their galleries, brought big changes in the 19th century.

The hour allowed in the programme for lunch in the adjoining parish rooms was unavoidably prolonged to thoroughly partake of, and enjoy, the seemingly unending courses of parish-prepared viands. The lunch break also provided an opportunity to view what is claimed to be the earliest of fan blowers (with new motor) in the cellar.

Other presentations in the fore-shortened nave of the church after lunch allowed **Martin Renshaw** to talk about *Organs, personalities and Festivals in 18th and early 19th century Leicestershire*. The county was very rural but there were organs in some key churches by the 18th century, and Festivals notably at Kings Norton, and Church Langton. Revd William Hanbury's idea of planting a wood to raise timber and thereby sustainable income for a village Festival might provide an example for enterprise today? In the last of the talks,

Peter Collins reviewed the place and results of local organ-building (including his own) in the county itself in the 20th century through to today, leaving "some thoughts as to a future" perhaps only of exports.

The Conference closed with a recital to show the capabilities of the organ (3 of the 4 manual divisions, the Solo other than Tuba being unusable) by **Peter Harris** (St Mary, Hinckley). The clarity of line with solid Great flue chorus, relatively stringy diapasons and clear Pedal, yet a powerful reed contribution (voiced by W.C. Jones) were evident. A much weaker secondary (Swell) chorus and calm strings it seems were other notable features of this builder, supplying capable organs to churches in and around Leicester.

There could be more to be squeezed from the title of this Day Conference of interest to BIOS members on another occasion.



The De Montfort Hall console with characteristically small Taylor stop-heads. The single traditional knob to the lower right controls the wind. (Photo: John Norman)

BIOS STUDY DAY AND AGM: ST MARY LE BOW, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON SATURDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2010

JOSÉ HOPKINS

Delegates were welcomed by **Alan Wilson**, Organist of the Church, who explained the connection between St. Mary le Bow and the former Church of All Hallows, Bread Street, where John Stanley had been organist. This made clear the inclusion of a paper by John Collins on Stanley's published and unpublished sources in the day's proceedings.

John Norman outlined the history of organs at Bow Church beginning with Hugh Russell in 1802 who had installed an organ in a west gallery, up to the 1880 Walker organ which was destroyed as a result of the Blitz on 10 May, 1941. In the rebuilt post-War church Rushworth & Dreaper had built an organ using some remains of the Walker organ in a case thought to have been designed by an associate of the church architect Lawrence King. The case may have had associations with Arlesheim or Ebermunster in Germany. The pipe feet in the former organ were too long in proportion, and in the planning for a new organ at Bow Church, the solution offered by Ken Tickell for solving this problem, namely adding to the casework, had contributed to his bid being successful.

Ken Tickell in turn outlined the project culminating in a two manual organ with pedals of 30 stops, including a Cymbelstern, labelled 'Bow Bells' on the organ (see front cover). He had used French construction for the reeds, and the organ was tuned to a slightly amended Vallotti temperament. As a versatile organ builder he demonstrated the colours of the organ himself.

David Knight followed up his paper at the 2009 AGM on the wartime loss of organs in the City of London with a survey of postwar organ building. He included in his definition of new organs, some which contained re-used material as well as those with a substantial amount of new material. It was clear from the survey that Manders, the 'local' firm had built a large proportion of the new organs, and also that the numbers had increased during the five decades from just two in the 1960s to eight in the first decade of the 21st century - almost as many as in the previous forty years. All but one had mechanical key action. Out of the total of 19 new organs, five had Historic Organ Certificates by virtue of the retention of significant historic material, and five were totally new organs. There were three instruments by overseas builders.

John Collins spoke of his research into the manuscript and printed editions of John Stanley's compositions outside of the 30 published voluntaries. The manuscript sources consisted primarily of the John Reading MSS at Dulwich College Wodehouse Library, the Southgate MS at the RCO Library and Add MS 71210 at the British Library. He presented a comparative analysis of movements from printed sets of voluntaries with versions in contemporary MSS and demonstrated items on the organ. This research will obviously bear further fruit in due course.

After the AGM, the day concluded with a recital by **Alan Wilson** demonstrating the versatility and range of the organ with pieces ranging from Orlando Gibbons, Frescobaldi, Clérambeault, Bach, and Pachelbel to a composition by the organist himself. The instrument well repaid listening both in quiet passages and full organ.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

John Norman, in his recent book on organ cases (Norman, John, *The Box of Whistles, The History and Recent Development of Organ Case Design*, [London, SPCK, 2007], 9), has a chapter on the various design choices for façade pipes. He suggests that one can also decorate the front pipes by embossing the metal and notes that a number of 17th-century organs in Britain by the Dallam and Harris families are treated in this way. As a modern example he lists the Mander organ in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, but when was this decoration re-introduced in Britain and by whom?

Although an example from 1876 exists in the Rev J Gibson/Liddiatt organ at King's Stanley, Gloucestershire, I had thought that the 1872 Rev FH Sutton/Walker organ in Old Radnor was the earliest. I now see the organ in the church of St Andrew the Less, Cambridge (which I believe has some similarities with the later King's Stanley case) has front pipes of plain metal with the largest one embossed and this was apparently in place by 1854. According to C H Davidson in his book on Sir John Sutton (Davidson C. H., *Sir John Sutton, A Study in True Principles*, [Oxford: Positif Press, 1992], 95-98), this organ is possibly (the first?) by George Dawson of Cambridge, although the case may have been designed by Bethune and made in his workshops at Gand, Belgium. Davidson also mentions that the church was restored under the supervision of the Cambridge Architectural Society and it may be relevant that the Rev J Gibson chaired the Society in 1854 and was one of Sir John Sutton's circle. John Gibson was '*man of many accomplishments; an artist, a musician. He had travelled, and knew most of the mediaeval masterpieces of Europe, both of painting and*

architecture. A chief study with him was the architectural treatment of organ cases'.

The Cambridge and King's Stanley façade pipes follow continental practice with no ears. The Old Radnor, Walker, façade pipes have ears in the British fashion and some internal pipes (see RJ Morton *B IOSJ*, 24 [2000] 122) have been attributed to 'Tygat'. (The 1881 census records, as transcribed for the DBOB under Tygal [also Tygar and Tygal], list him as an organ metal pipe maker living in Kentish Town Road, Camden Town, London and in 1872 would have been aged 25). So, who was making embossed façade pipes in Britain at this time? Was it trade suppliers such as Violette, or the Courcelle's (who had worked for Bishop's and became Alfred Palmer's), or did Bishop or Walker make their own embossed pipes, or were all the early examples imported from the continent?

Philip J Wells



Sir,

Following the appearance of St Andrew, Monkwearmouth in the July 2010 listings of HOCs, readers may not be aware that not all of the Forster & Andrews (F&A) pipework of 1868/9 went from St Wulfram at Grantham to Roker in 1907. Furthermore, F&A maintained the Grantham organ from May 1845 until the Norman & Beard job in 1906. Two rebuilds took place in their time—first in 1851 and again when the instrument was removed from the central screen (when this was demolished during the extensive internal changes during the 1860s) and rebuilt in 1868/9. So it is perfectly possible that the Roker pipework could be as early as 1851.

Other work that may affect the dating of Roker pipework happened at Grantham in 1878 (Pedal Trombone - £55!); and 1889 (Clarion replaced Cornopean, Voix Celeste replaced Flageolet). All would depend on a knowledge of the actual stops at Roker which are believed to be by F&A. Nine hundred and twenty new pipes were put in the organ in 1851/2—increasing compass, new stops, etc., so it would seem more likely that some new pipes from this time ended up at Roker as well as some from 1869 (the organ was opened in April that year) or later. For example, a Great Twelfth of 54 notes was new in 1851—if Roker has such a stop, that is more than likely it! Then, of course, it could have been used for something else! If Roker think they have the 1878 F&A Pedal Trombone, they haven't—it is to the best of my knowledge still at Grantham.

St Wulfram's Norman & Beard of 1906 kept sixteen ranks from the old organ in that church with, I believe, eleven of these being by F&A. As might be expected, four (probably five) of these were on the pedal organ. Perhaps all the remaining F&A pipework went to Monkwearmouth the next year? This could be a total of ca. twenty-four registers available to Roker from the Grantham organ of 1900, BUT probably not all this number were used in any case by F&A.

The pedal organ at Grantham is itself a minefield for the historian. F&A supplied a new five-stop pedal in 1868 and probably

took the original "octave of Pedal Pipes" which I believe was supplied by John Gray (thirteen pipes added in 1833). However, there remain painted wooden pedal pipes in the present instrument which were presumably decorated to stand outside the case on the nineteenth-century galleried organ. These are most likely F&A's "lowest seven notes only" added in 1851. The Trombone was of course added to this in 1878.

Grantham's instrument has 18th-century pipework still sounding (and also—at least in 1998—stored on the floor of the instrument), one rank of which is likely to be by Byfield in 1736 (Leffler p. 47). Furthermore, some of the casework from the 1869 F&A instrument—*'a tender of December 10th, 1868 was accepted in the sum of £453 3s 3d'*—is now placed around the Choir vestry at the west end of the building with its door being the old console position! Recycling again...

St Wulfram's is a beautiful organ; some day, someone will actually have time to unravel its precise story. If someone from St Andrew's Roker reads this, do get in touch. We could make history...

On another point, Grantham's existing magnificent cases from 1906–1913 were designed by Walter Tapper, R.A., as was the 1916 Norman & Beard organ of St Mark, Whiteley, Surrey.

Ian W Major
[REDACTED]

EDITOR'S NOTE: INDEX

The online index to the *Reporter* has not been updated since 2005 but efforts are underway to bring this very useful resource up to date. From this issue onwards a cumulative annual index will be prepared which will be available for downloading from www.signofthepipe.com/BIOSReporter_index. In order to simplify referencing, the page numbering of each volume of the *Reporter* will run contiguously throughout the year. It is hoped to fill in the gap 2005-2010 before too long so that all issues of the *Reporter* have an index.

TUDOR CATHEDRAL ORGANS AND CHOIRS

JO HUDDLESTON

I am grateful to Keith Wright, sub-organist of Durham Cathedral — who recently recorded some very enjoyable Gibbons and Weelkes on the 10 5 2-1/2 1-1/4 Wetheringsett organ — for an extensive correspondence on early 17th century cathedral music MSS at Durham. Keith has also been good enough to help with the present jotting, which amounts to a series of suggestions for research.

The Durham music copies date from the 1620s–1630s, so — a bit like our precious Mulliner Book — may have an editorial agenda now lost to us.

Durham was a proud and rich establishment in Tudor and earlier times. The 1555 Statutes from London authorities have even been taken to imply that the Durham 'prince bishops' had been marked out for their independence. Further, there are hints that the musical establishment respected Durham standards rather than, say, London ones. There are documents confirming five organs at Durham, three of them high up in the Choir:

1539–?1540s a ?small organ at the "Jesus Altar"

1539–?1540s a ?small organ in the "Galilee Chapel"

1539–?1589 a "Principal Feasts" ?large organ over the choir door

1539–1622 "The Cryers", a ?large, ?boldly-voiced instrument (north)

1539–1636 the "White Organ", a ?large gallery instrument (south).

Today we still enjoy the sonorities of flue-work originating in the 1630s–1690s (e.g., organs at Gloucester and Tewkesbury). It is easy to believe that two or more of

these five Durham organs in place in 1539 had been there a century by the 1410s–1430s (when Durham spent £27 on two or more apparently new instruments), almost certainly following designs which had bored city builders for ages. Unprovable, of course.

It can be very dangerous to compare English Counties and German States over the period 1460s–1580s, the weight of documentary evidence being that the English put choral music above all else, the Germans enjoying reeds and mixtures and pedals. Put another way, and simplifying, the English told the organ to mind its liturgical manners (from alternatim through "Genevan jigs" to early verse anthems), the Germans granting their organs freely individual *tours d'horizon* with chilled white wine. They had 8 4 2 etc for musical pleasure; we retained 10 5 2-1/2 etc based on male vocal ranges.

Praetorius's 1619 tome is not error-free; for example, on one 8ft pipe drawing, he put length marks turning it into a nine foot. He also scribbled about instruments he could not play. Nonetheless, he (and Schlick, 1511) bear witness to earlier days when C was the lowest key on some organs, F was the lowest on some others. Presumably this had held across the Catholic world for some centuries. Certainly by 1542 (Gyllains' wording) and very probably before 1513 (Exeter Cathedral ?10ft contract) we had either combined two early organ traditions, or come up with one of this island's steady stream of free-thinking musical inventions. We had a liturgical voice (to teach or to help or to rest the singers) starting at C/F, a 5ft open flue sounding around 100Hz (depending on plate width, winding, mouth design/voicing etc).

Many experts—and I owe a particular debt to John Caldwell here—have pointed out

the difficulties of dating papers, inks, paper stains, bindings. This hardly lessens the complexity of dating music and performance notes on that music. It would be of no surprise if we had on the island:

- original material, untouched, from the 1480s on
- copy material, for an old C organ or F organ still in place
- copy material, transposing early F organ material for use on Tudor C/F principal
- copy material, reminding later Stuart players that the Tudor C/F Principal did a transposing job
- copy material, struggling to move from the 10 5 2-1/2 era to the 8 4 2 era
- performance notes on any of the above with a century's date mismatch.

A further difficulty is that some copyists have clumsy notation habits, and may thwart understanding of the original music MS.

From the wealth of documentary evidence which Keith Wright is studying, a minimum of examples will illustrate the complexity of the Durham case. One copyist has written a piece so it now fits the 5ft C/F Principal, at reading, rather than having to be transposed live. In the Weelkes Trebles Service, a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis are written as if transposed for different choir-tessitura reasons (one down by a fourth, the other down by a fifth). A Service organ part (Batten) changes "clef" whenever the choir enters or leaves the structure. There are myriad places with performance notes such as 'play ye right hand chorus an 8 hier' (Giles) or 'play this next verse as it stands in re' (Tomkins), which might be about choice of octave for colour or simply to stay inside the left-hand end of the keyboard.

There is clearly much to understand, and it would be good to have more hard evidence from readers, to help clear this up, if only a little. Further, we desperately need a Cathedral-size "Tudor" 2-decker, so we can explore the music for which we are world famous.

CLASS OF 2000

DAVID HEMSLEY

The Class of 2000 is a small group of mature students that attended the MA Organ Historiography Course at the University of Reading under the tutelage of Dr Christopher Kent. 2010 was the occasion of the Class's tenth anniversary, so a celebration was appropriate. Most of the Founder Members were present and took luncheon at *The Trout* gastropub near Oxford on 20 October—a favourite watering hole of Chief Inspector Morse, where a pre-prandial toast to Christopher Kent was drunk in champagne.

Prior to the lunch, more serious business took place at St John's College, Oxford when the organ was inspected, played and discussed with the permission and support of the organ scholar, Richard Moore. Most of the Class were somewhat bemused by the choice of Bernard Aubertin as the builder for an English college chapel organ. The 2008 instrument had a typical stop layout of the eighteenth century with a straight pedal board and all the other characteristics of the French baroque period. The stop labels were in vellum and scripted by Aubertin himself. In spite of some doubts, it was an excellent experience for the Class, who look forward to further opportunities for consort in 2011.

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES
BERNARD EDMONDS RECENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE
THE BARBER INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2011**

Draft Programme (Subject to Confirmation)

- 10.00 Registration & Coffee
10.25 Welcome
10.30 Organ Culture in England at the Start of the Reformation Period - *Martin Renshaw*
10.55 Heinrich Scheidemann's Magnificat Settings - *Karin Nelson*
11.20 The Bridge-Byfield-Jordan-Harris Partnerships of the early 18th Century - *Dominic Gwynn*
11.45 Q & A (Chair: *John Norman*)
12.00 Update on the British Organ Archive (BOA) - *Chris Kears*
12.15 Visit to Cadbury Research Library (Muirhead Tower): Home of the British Organ Archive (BOA) - *Sue Worrall*
13.00 Lunch
13.45 University of Birmingham: New Concert Organ in the new Music Building - *John Whenham*
14.05 Henry Jones of Folkestone: The Overlooked Organ-Builder - *Chris Kears*
14.30 The Canterbury Cathedral Organ of 1886 - Some Aspects of its Purchase and Construction - *David Hemsley*
14.55 A One-Off Organ (1883) in the RC Church at Houghton Le Spring - *Richard Hird*
15.20 Samuel Barber and the Organ - *Iain Quinn*
15.45 Q & A (Chair: *John Norman*)
16.00 Close

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BOOKING FORM

Please reserve a place at the BIOS Day Conference at the Barber Institute, University of Birmingham, on Saturday 26 February 2011 at £25.00. Cheques should be made payable to 'BIOS'.

Please fill in a separate booking form (or photocopy) for each person

Name (including title).....

Address.....

Tel No (Eve)..... Tel No (Day).....

e-mail:.....

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

Please return this booking form (or a photocopy) to:
Melvin Hughes, BIOS Meetings, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BIOS MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 2011

Saturday 26 February 2011

Bernard Edmonds Recent Research Conference, Barber Institute, University of Birmingham. A Programme and Booking Form is included on p. 28 of this issue

Tuesday 30 August to Friday 2 September 2011

Residential Conference, St Chad's College, Durham. Planning is in hand for a joint DOAs/BIOS Residential Conference. Further details will appear in the April 2011 issue of the *Reporter*.

Future Conferences

Day Conferences are being planned at:

St Mark, North End, Portsmouth

St Swithun, Worcester

St Margaret of Antioch, Crick, Northampton

St George, Southall

Ideas for future Conferences are always welcome.

For further information please contact:

The Meetings Officer, Melvin Hughes



Rear cover: The 1836 Samuel Renn organ at St John the Baptist, Bollington, Cheshire is still in its original position on the west gallery. Although the organ was enlarged somewhat, and the original action replaced, by Nicholson and Lord in 1909, most of the Renn pipework and the Great GG soundboard has survived intact. Except for some extension to the rear the casework is also original. The church has been disused since 2003 but the organ has been carefully maintained. However, the church building is soon to be sold for redevelopment and a new home must urgently be found for the organ so that this rare survival of an early-nineteenth century organ can be preserved and restored.

(Photo: David Shuker)



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.