

BIOS ***REPORTER***

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THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES

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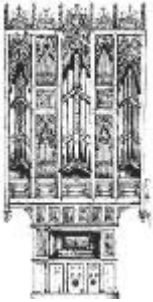
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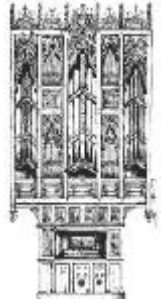
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**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN
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BIOS REPORTER

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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 **Membership Secretary:**

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The cover photograph is the George & Henry Buckwell, St John the Baptist, Hoxton London, photograph by John Norman, see his article for further details

CONTENTS

Editorial	p2
Letters	p3
AGM Report	p6
An Organ of John Rust in Aberdeenshire	p44
Casework Officer's Report	p46
From the Chairman	p51
Meeting Report	p52
For Sale	p53
The Mystery of a Crown and Two Mitres	p54
Conference Notice	p55

EDITORIAL

Nicola MacRae

You will have already noticed that this issue of *"The Reporter"* is larger than usual. Unfortunately this is not as a result of a vast number of printed articles, rather that there is a large amount of material printed from the AGM, together with other regular reports. I apologise to those members who have submitted articles that have not been included in this issue; I convey my thanks to you and assure you that I will be including them in a future edition.

Last week I played a Rushworth & Deaper organ from the mid 1930s, which I always find a joy to play, and brought to mind the fabulous, enormous 4 manual R&D organ in Stirling of 1939 that must be R&D's "opus maximus". After WW2 many firms like R&D could not recover to their former glory and most provincial towns like Glasgow, Liverpool, Hull and Great Yarmouth have all lost fabulous instruments. War has unintended casualties, including our heritage; however peacetime also has unintended casualties, including our heritage.

It is a real pity to read in this edition of *"The Reporter"* of organs under threat, and I must confess an interest in the organ in the former St Stephen's Church in Edinburgh, as I have also played it. It has a Grade I certificate, however this will not currently save it from potential removal, or worse. I take some comfort from the report of Barrie Clark that indicates that one day there may be hope that such certification may help preserve such endangered instruments.

LETTERS

From: Martin Renshaw

Dear Editor,

I have noticed that, in the discussion of the merits or otherwise of historical organs and their restoration, an important element seems to be missing.

From 1711, with John Shore's invention of the tuning fork, English concert (and therefore organ) pitch was fixed for the next 150 or so years at the equivalent of A=426.6 Hz, as is marked on an old fork I have. This fixed pitch made it possible, for instance, for large Music Meetings to bring together players of fixed-pitch instruments (woodwind, brass and organs) from all parts of the country, something not remotely possible in either France or the Germanic states at the time. Those organs I know personally from this period which have not been altered, or which have definite indications of an original pitch, are at around this pitch* – or, in one probably unique instance, at an even lower one.

With the advent of the Germanic insistence that Bach's '48' 'showed' that he favoured equal temperament and various moves to hike up the current pitch in the 1850s, most organs were retuned to a higher pitch with the new temperament from then onwards. Symptoms of this work are the discarding of reed ranks that no longer speak properly when sharpened, of removing soldered-top chimney and other metal flutes, and often cutting shorter the wooden bass and other pipes of Stopped Diapasons and Flutes and/or pushing down their stoppers and/or raising their cut-ups.

The 1795 Gray organ at St Swithun's Worcester, was subjected to some rebuilding as early as the 1830s (when the Great Principal was, atypically, replaced for some unknown reason), losing its Great Trumpet in favour of a Dulciana and possibly some of the original Fifteenth, apparently in a bid to quieten the organ. In a later intervention by Nicholson (who added a Swell and Pedal, with a new reservoir, by April 1845), the organ achieved its present form. By then the metal trebles to the Great Stopped Diapason had been replaced, presumably as a result of a rise in pitch and perhaps a

retuning to equal temperament. The result of this is that the organ is tonally less by Gray than by later builders, especially since the Gray pipes, originally voiced at a lower pitch, have been retuned at a higher pitch, thus losing the focus of their original voicing. Their overall musical effect had also been compromised by an inappropriate temperament until the welcome recent work which (re-?)established the London temperament described by Thomas Young in 1800. But this recent work could not re-establish the original pitch because nearly a majority of the pipework (including a Swell reed stop) was at the higher pitch. So the organ is now at A=440 Hz.

This is understandable, and the result is an organ that is agreeable to listen to. But one should not think that any pre-1840 organ that has had its pitch raised, with every pipe cut shorter than when originally voiced, and has been tuned to equal temperament, sounds any longer as it did originally, even if its original voicing and regulation or wind-pressure have otherwise been much altered. An organ that has been altered and enlarged (as at Worcester) and retuned therefore presents a dilemma. Should one remove the later alterations and additions, or retune these lower to match the pitch of original pipework (as I did in Snetzler's church organ of 1765 at Swithland 26 years ago), or simply leave the original but compromised pipework to sound at the new pitch of the later pipework? In other words, is the oldest pipework to have the priority or not? How does one weigh the potential tonal and musical value of older work against 'the last known/integral state' of an organ?

I have heard some arguments against restoring a low English classical pitch to a whole organ, and these are usually based on supposed difficulties with modern instruments. But there are also arguments in favour of doing this, which include the beneficial effect on choral and congregational singing at a more relaxed pitch. Would it not also follow more closely the BIOS Aim of 'faithfully' restoring an organ? I suggest it might be an a priori for the surviving organs of the classical and proto-romantic periods, in view of the aforementioned tuning fork.

I would also go so far as to say that repitching (and retuning) original pipework is in itself practically and musically equivalent to revoicing it. I know from experience that restoring their lower pitch can restore musicality and

focus to pipes without minimal voicing intervention. But achieving this lower pitch is not done without making difficult decisions.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Renshaw

*The high pitch of the 1723 Jordan organ at Southall (455 Hz) is also unusual. Perhaps since it was made for a City church, might it have been thought unnecessary to follow the general trend?

From: Anthony Shedden

Dear Editor

Wood Small and Co of Edinburgh

I was interested to see the references to Wood Small and Co. This company built an organ for the church of St Mary Gateshead in 1823-24. Tenders were received from, among others, Flight and Robson and John Gray. The contract to build a brand new three manual organ in the west gallery of the church was given to the Edinburgh firm for the sum of £525. But not before someone was sent north of the border on a *recce* to find out if they were able to do the work. The scout returned, satisfied.

Although no record of the specification exists, it can be deduced from later work. The organ must have had about 15 or 16 stops. We know it had a deal case in the Gothic style; that “the organ gave great satisfaction”; and that the organ committee was pleased with its “dignity and intensity of power” and the “sweetness of its tone”. The firm was awarded a £70 bonus, not only for its efficiency, but for providing free of charge a Cornet stop of 90 pipes. It says something about the builder’s musical integrity, but adding stuff beyond what was commissioned must be one of the reasons for the firm’s shaky financial position. David Hawkes gave the opening recital on the 25th January 1824 – “a performance of the most masterly style”. Mr Hawkes, “a prodigy”, had

been blind since he was a baby. He first played for the church's congregation aged 7, in 1798.

Nothing was done to the organ until the mid 1850s when James Nicholson the Newcastle organ builder proposed a scheme of repair. This included the addition of "German pedals". In the mid 1860s the organ was moved to a newly built space north of the chancel and extended. Further remodelling was undertaken in 1895, 1925, and 1966 by Blakett and Howden of Newcastle to provide an organ of some 36 speaking stops. It is reasonable to assume that all of the Wood Small pipework was incorporated.

During this time, a small ivory veneer engraved in black with the Wood Small and Co name and address remained attached to the console. Perhaps those who had a hand in extending and repairing the organ over the years wanted to recognise the quality of the original instrument. Unfortunately, the organ was destroyed by fire in the early 1980s. The church was badly damaged and deconsecrated. It has been restored as a Heritage Centre and remains a prominent feature of the riverside scene, standing as it does between the Tyne Bridge and The Sage.

There is more information about this organ in something I wrote some time ago: "The Organ in the Parish Church of St Mary Gateshead." *The Organ*; April 1971; pp 167-173.

With best wishes

Anthony Shedden


2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2013 Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 20th April at 2pm in The Grosvenor Chapel, 24 South Audley Street London W1k 2PA. The Officer's Reports, Annual Report and Financial Statements are reproduced in this issue.

Elections

Officers and Council were elected in accordance with the Constitution.

The following Officers were elected:

Secretary:	Melvin Hughes
Treasurer:	Adrian Mumford
Meetings Officer:	Richard Hobson
Membership Secretary:	Melanie Harrison
Publications Officer:	Katharine Pardee

The following Ordinary Members of Council were elected:

Nicola MacRae, Colin Menzies and John Rowntree.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012-2013

I would like to start by paying tribute to the work of my predecessor, John Norman, who ran BIOS with typical efficiency and good humour. John had to deal with a number of major issues during his time in the chair, not least in identifying a new home for the British Organ Archive and overseeing its relocation. However I doubt whether even John, as he stepped down from office, could have envisaged the significant events of late 2011 and the year 2012.

The decision of Birmingham City University Library to withdraw the services of Frances Pond as Manager of the NPOR was certainly not anticipated. Mark Venning, now Council's link with the NPOR, will describe more fully the events of the year, which culminated with the NPOR's departure from the Royal College of Music where the site has been hosted since 2008. Luckily Mike Sayers (in technical terms the founding father of NPO) came to our rescue as on previous occasions. How lucky we are to have his constant and enthusiastic support and backup. On the positive side, the new management arrangement with the Royal College of Organists in the persons of Andrew Macintosh (Manager) and Andrew McCrea (member of the Joint Management Committee) is working very well, and longer term plans are now being

investigated for the future enhancement and development of the site.

A rush of new acquisitions into the British Organ Archive meant that, by the middle of the year, the space allocated for us in the Cadbury Special Collections Library at Birmingham was completely full, and no further acquisitions could be accepted. Chris Kearl, our honorary Archivist, has since worked hard at re-housing existing material to avoid wasted space and thus to be able to store more archive material on each shelf; this has resulted in the freeing-up of some more space. Chris and the staff at the Library are now investigating the possibility of storing some of the large number of drawings in digital form; these records take up considerable space, and might perhaps in due course be stored in some other location and made available to researchers via computer screens. A new Joint Management Committee has been formed and work has started on the development of a Mission Statement and an Acquisitions Policy. We are grateful for the interest of the RCO, whose own Library is also housed in Birmingham, at the City University, and are pleased that Andrew McCrea (Director of Academic Development at the RCO) has agreed to join our Joint Management Committee.

It is rewarding to note that awards of a Historic Organ Certificate to any particular instrument are increasingly referred to and taken account of by grant-giving bodies, DACs and diocesan chancellors when considering Faculty applications. An impressive number of organs have now been assessed and appropriate certificates awarded. We are grateful to Paul Joslin for his steadfast work and efficient administration and to David Knight who, for the last ten years, has served as Chairman and has spearheaded development. David has now stepped down and, in expressing our gratitude to him, we at the same time welcome John Rowntree as the new Chairman. The HOCS assessment panel has been greatly strengthened by the inclusion and contribution of two very distinguished organ builders - David Frostick and Mark Venning.

The Historic Organ Sound Archive started its existence as a one-off project, centred exclusively on East Anglia and funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, This laid the basis for an exciting national scheme, but in reality it has proved difficult to develop it further. To try to move it forward a two pronged scheme has been suggested. First to try to develop the content of

the site region by region, with Yorkshire targeted as the next region to be covered. At the same time we hope to encourage 'one-off' recordings of important historic organs around the country, so that we begin to show some vestige of national coverage on the HOSA site map. Anne Page, HOSA Curator, will continue to play a role in the selection of suitable instruments and repertoire, avoiding undue repetitions of the same pieces, and in monitoring and maintaining performance standards.

The public services provided by BIOS are the 'coal face' of how we are perceived by the outside world. In terms of our membership and other activities, it has also been a busy year. In no particular order:

Our publications are aimed mostly at our members, but the Journal reaches further afield to outside researchers and those with a specialised interest in pipe organs. The Journal sets very high standards in content, presentation, editing, and production. Journal 36 is now in print, and our thanks go to Katharine Pardee for her work as Publications Officer in succession to David Ponsford, and jointly to Katharine and David for editing this latest issue which maintains the high standards of the past. May I also extend thanks to John Brennan and Positif Press for the very high quality of printing and binding and for his support for the work of BIOS over very many years. The Journal has without doubt become a collector's item.

Apart from the email circulations that are sent out, our quarterly magazine the BIOS Reporter is the main means of regular communication with our membership. We are very grateful to David Shuker for his work in editing this eminently readable publication in recent years - it is one of those magazines that you can dip in and out of in just the right sort of way in spare moments during the day. David has relinquished his post during the past year and we are pleased to welcome Nicola MacRae as the new Editor.

Our Casework Officer Andrew Hayden has been kept busy with a number of high profile cases as well as with other more routine matters. Of particular significance to BIOS have been separate instances where a Diocesan Chancellor, a Statutory Amenity Society and English Heritage have specifically referred cases to us for an opinion. In another instance BIOS discovered that work had been carried out on a historic organ without the

granting of a Faculty: an approach to the Registry of that Diocese resulted in the Chancellor holding a Consistory Court. BIOS submitted written evidence, which included a suggestion that the Court should also seek a view on the matter from the Organs Advisory Committee of the Church Buildings Council. The Chancellor has followed up that suggestion, and the outcome of the case is awaited. All of which shows that, since its foundation, BIOS has moved to a position where it is increasingly recognised (in fact if not in law) as the amenity society for pipe organs.

Barrie Clark, our Heritage Adviser, has spent years beavering away at the issue of the protection of organs as part of our national heritage. The situation in this country is weakened by the fact that there is no statutory scheme for the protection of the contents of a listed building, no matter how important those contents are in heritage terms, unless they are actually fixed to the building. Items may be mentioned in the List description but are not part of the listed building unless actually fixed, and even then the degree of fixture can be open to legal interpretation. Organs, unbelievably, can be designated as fittings, even though their sheer size and weight suggest that they must be a fixture. Under the last Labour government it looked as if there might have been a chance of getting organs classed as fixtures under the provisions of a new Heritage Bill. Sadly, with the change of government, this was not to be. For the moment our emphasis has shifted towards the general protection of contents of a building that are of significant heritage value. The value of this is that it means that BIOS is uniting itself with other disciplines equally affected by the same issue (e.g. bells, paintings, sculptures etc.). By working together it may prove possible to build a much stronger case of need than if the issue is being raised by just one artistic discipline. In the case of organs it is important to stress, as well as their musical and visual aspects, the contribution they make (particularly during the 19th century) to the history of industrial archaeology. The Welsh government is shortly to bring forward a new Heritage Bill for Wales. BIOS has given notice that, particularly with the threat to historic organs resulting from the widespread closure of churches and chapels, we would like to contribute to the consultation process.

In terms of day to day administration, BIOS is extremely well served by both Melanie Harrison (Membership Officer) and Adrian Mumford (Treasurer). This year Adrian has had the additional task of coping with the arrangements

resulting from our decision to extend the present financial year so that in future the year-end coincides with our subscription year. As banks have made payment by direct debit virtually impossible for small associations like ours, Melanie and Adrian jointly have done much work to enable on-line payment of subscriptions and purchases. We owe them both a great debt of gratitude in a task which has not been helped by the many regulations now imposed on its customers by the banking industry.

I have deliberately left to the end of my report the work of Melvin Hughes. A few years ago Melvin took on the role of BIOS Secretary, whilst continuing to act as Meetings Officer. We owe Melvin a great deal for coping with the work load of two such demanding posts, and for doing it all with his characteristic efficiency. The affairs of BIOS have been very well run and managed, and we have enjoyed excellent meetings and conferences. In 2012 alone we had the very interesting one-day Research Conference at the Barber Institute in Birmingham, the memorable three-day residential Oxford Conference (jointly planned with Katharine Pardee), plus the enjoyable themed day visits to St Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge and St George's, Southall. Melvin has now secured the services of Richard Hobson to be nominated as Meetings Officer. We thank Richard for agreeing to stand for this important position, and thank Melvin once again for his achievements in initiating and planning our meetings during the last seven years.

As BIOS prepares to move towards its 40th anniversary we can feel confident (though never over-confident!) that the organisation is in good heart. We are not, however, without our concerns. Membership numbers seem to be holding fairly level in total, but within the total each year a higher proportion are paying the reduced subscription for retired people, meaning that our income falls. In an ideal world we should be growing, not standing still, so membership recruitment - particularly of younger people - is a subject that we cannot afford to ignore. Equally, on the expenditure side we have to come to terms with the fact that as all the wonderful public services which BIOS has started continue to develop and expand (NPOR, BOA, DBOB, HOCS & HOSA) they demand increasing levels of finance for their ongoing operating costs, maintenance and development. We must think hard about ways of raising more funds for the future. If any members are in a position to make specific donations towards these costs, beyond the level of their subscription,

that would be a very helpful start. Equally, even if it is not a subject that one likes to talk about, perhaps some members will be in a position to leave a bequest to BIOS in their will. Somehow, unless we can move to a position where we have a greatly increased level of membership and raise additional funding that way, I have a feeling that later generations may need help from us in continuing to provide the services that the pioneers have initiated.

Alan Thurlow - January 2013

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2012-2013

Council met four times during the 18-month period ended 31 December 2012 under review, once at the Crown Court Church of Scotland, Crown Court, Russell Street, London WC2B 5EZ and three times at The Diocesan Office, The Diocese of Europe, 14 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QZ.

The HOCS Committee met on three occasions, once prior to each Council meeting.

Melvin Hughes - April 2013

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2012-2013

Overview

This report covers a period of important changes for BIOS, not least the change of our accounting period which will now align with the membership year, a calendar one. This change of accounting date and therefore the AGM reporting period, means the report covers an 18 month period ending 31st December 2012, a time which encompassed major changes in certain of our methods of collecting subscriptions. The membership secretary also acts as publicity officer and the time had come for the website carefully managed for many years by our previous treasurer to be replaced. This aspect of our publicity affects not only our public image but can also be a tool for financial transactions including the sale of memberships, collection of subscriptions

from continuing members, as well as the range of publications BIOS offers for sale.

On-line card processing

BIOS Council felt that for the redesigned website to include trading facilities when it went live in late 2011 was over-ambitious so the information and download website now on line was commissioned and gives a vastly improved window on our work. I am grateful to our webmaster, John Norman for his supervision of this project. It was unfortunate that the end of 2011 was also the time revised rules from the banking system made it uneconomic for BIOS to collect subscriptions from credit and debit cards in the way we had for many years. Card payments had become convenient for many members and the only option for most that are overseas and without a UK bank current account. The creation of a method for on-line card processing took on a great urgency with the imminent need to collect 2012 subscriptions. Establishing a new card processing account required sanction by Council and the implementation of this by the treasurer and membership secretary took until well into 2012. A consequence was that our subscription collection process did not happen smoothly in the early part of the year as we normally aim to achieve.

As we could not conduct the necessary card processing directly on the BIOS website, separate pages were created and hosted on an alternative domain donated until such time as these facilities can migrate to the BIOS website. Once card processing for subscription renewals was functioning by the summer of 2012, it was logical to add the sale of new memberships, back issues of the BIOS Journal, Lefflerfascsimiles, HOSA CDs and conference places. Eventually the main BIOS website will have all these facilities but for now www.phmusic.co.uk/bios/entry.html is a 'portal' through which on-line bookings, purchases and payments can be made.

Membership

The membership figures as reported for the 2011 AGM, at present and some few years earlier are shown below for comparison.

	Jan 05	Oct 11	Mar 13
Ordinary members (excluding concessionary rate payers)	524	453	404
Ordinary members (retirement concessionary)	140	155	156
Ordinary members (student concessionary)	6	6	5
Ordinary members (unemployed concessionary)	1	0	0
Honorary members	8	8	8
Institutional members	16	14	14
TOTALS	695	636	587

This apparently large drop from 2011 to 2013 is not quite as serious as the table suggests because the change of accounting times means that the 2011 figures did not reflect those members about to be classed as lapsed, whereas the 2013 figures have been purged on those who failed to pay a subscription in 2012 and the figures do not yet enjoy the uplift from the new members who will no doubt join during the year.

Nonetheless, we are seeing a gradual shift in our membership towards those eligible for the age concession and retirement from activity in the organ world is frequently cited as a reason memberships are discontinued. Recruitment of new members is a perpetual quest for us all.

Gift aid

The UK tax rebate via the Gift Aid scheme continues to provide BIOS with a helpful supplement to member subscriptions which are the only significant form of on-going income BIOS has. All Gift Aid declarations are now stored electronically rather than in paper form and all members who are UK tax payers are encouraged to confirm to BIOS that they are willing for their payments to be made under gift aid. At the end of December 2012 an

electronic listing was supplied to the treasurer showing that in the 2012 calendar year, 320 members made payments totally £10,018 with gift aid status.

Postage

The narrowing gap between surface and airmail postal costs mean we can no longer offer the lower cost option of surface mail delivery to overseas addresses though this affects very few members.

Melanie Harrison

March 2013

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER REPORT 2012-2013

The various publishing activities of BIOS continue to be a busy and visible outreach of the organisation, and one of which I am honoured to be a part. None of the work of this arm of BIOS would be possible without the expert and valued contributions of my colleagues David Ponsford (co-editor of several recent issues of the Journal), John Brennan (publisher), Nicola MacRae (current editor of the Reporter), David Shuker (her predecessor), David Knight (close advisor), José Hopkins (Leffler Ms.), as well as all the contributors to the Journal and the Reporter, and to the members of the BIOS Council, who are invariably supportive and full of good ideas.

JBIOS

The 2012 BIOS Journal (Vol. 36) was in the hands of the membership in December 2012. The handsome appearance of the issue precipitated several comments this year from readers both within BIOS and without about its high-quality and professional finish, which is owing to the work of the publisher John Brennan of Positif Press. In order to address the problem of small print in the large quantity of tables in Calvert Johnson's article on eighteenth-century voluntaries, the tables were posted on the BIOS website, under "Resources". Interested readers can view them in a larger font there.

JBIOS 37 has a full complement of articles and is in process of being edited. We are hoping to complete it earlier than usual, and release it by September,

thus making the distribution of issues in 2013-14 more even than otherwise possible (see below). Volume 37 is the final journal to be edited jointly by David Ponsford and me.

JBIOS 38 will be devoted to the RFH organ project. The editor is William McVicker. The publication date has been moved up to March so the Journal can act as the main publication for that event and sold at the RFH.

It is our intention that back issues of the JBIOS be made available for sale on the website. Work on this is ongoing and expected to be completed soon.

There has been considerable discussion over recent years about making the content of JBIOS available electronically, whether through a digital archive such as JSTOR, in a special section of the BIOS website, or via other means. While nothing has yet resulted from the discussion, the issue has been recognized as an important one, and a way that BIOS can increase its outreach. In a related matter, JBIOS is finally to be indexed in RILM.

Index for JBIOS16-30: John Brennan and I have discussed this project, and have now agreed that the best and fastest way forward is for me to try to complete it. John has already done the bulk of the work, and I hope to verify in the next few weeks that there is in fact only a little left to do.

Reporter

Nicola MacRae graciously agreed to take over the editorship of the Reporter in January 2012. David Shuker, the outgoing editor, was kind enough to ease Nicola into the task by handing it over gradually. After assisting David for a few issues, Nicola has now produced the most recent two Reporters on her own. Many thanks go to her, and to the contributors to the Reporter, in continuing to produce an outstanding quarterly journal, which is far more than the usual organisational newsletter.

Leffler Ms.

José Hopkins reports that to date 133 copies of the Leffler Ms. have been sold, with 67 remaining. Two copies have been sold this year. José holds the unsold stock in her house, and can be consulted directly about purchasing copies.

Freeman Archive

Preliminary plans are underway to publish excerpts from the Freeman archive in book form, a project which we anticipate will be ready for the 40th anniversary of BIOS in 2016.

Katherine Pardee

April 2013

MEETING OFFICER'S REPORT 2012-2013

This report covers the year from 1 September 2011 to 31 December 2012.

During the year in question Day Conferences were held at St Mark, North End, Portsmouth; Methodist Central Hall; the Barber Institute, Birmingham; St Magnus, London Bridge, and, St George, Southall (see below). There was also a Residential Conference at Oxford (jointly planned with the RCO).

David Knight and Katie Pardee have continued to provide general advice and support – I remain immensely indebted to both of them.

A list of speakers who have addressed the Conferences and Organists who have played for us in the past year is set out below. The number of delegates for each Conference is shown in brackets

SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER 2011 ST MARK, NORTH END, PORTSMOUTH 'THE NEO-CLASSICAL ORGAN IN ST MARK, PORTSMOUTH IN CONTEXT' [32]

- Re-planning the RFH organ and evaluating its impact after 50 years – William McVicker
- Demonstration of organ & Brief history of St Mark's, its organs, organists and musical tradition – Philip Drew
- Demonstration Piece sung by St Mark's Choir accompanied on the organ
- The design philosophy and construction of the St Mark's organ with reference to other HNB work of the period - John Norman

- Congregational singing of a hymn accompanied by the organ
- Maintaining the instrument – Geoffrey Griffiths
- Panel discussion on the St Mark's organ and its effectiveness – All Speakers and Paul Hale
- Recital - Paul Hale (Southwell Minster)

**SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2011 - METHODIST CENTRAL HALL,
STOREY'S GATE, LONDON SW1**

'THE RESTORED GRAND ORGAN AND THE MUSIC OF THE METHODIST CHURCH' [66]

The Grand Hall

- Recital on the Grand Organ– Gerard Brooks
- The History of the New Organ Project – Gerard Brooks & William McVicker
- The Restoration of the Hill organ – Mark Venning
- 'A question of balance' – Mark Venning & William McVicker discuss the issues involved in tackling the organ. Gerard Brooks demonstrates from the keys.

The Chapel

- The Work of the Methodist Advisory Service - Malcolm Starr & Graham Jones
- BIOS Annual General Meeting
- Wesley's Hymns - Revd Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths
- W S Lloyd Webber and other Organists of Central Hall – Martin Ellis

**SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2012 - BARBER INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM**

BERNARD EDMONDS RECENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE [44]

- Investigating the archaeology of the late medieval organ – Martin Renshaw
- Close encounters of another kind (with Smith 1686 casework)? –

Richard Hird

- The papers of Arthur Thomas Corfe (1773-1863) Organist of Salisbury Cathedral 1804-1862 – Christopher Kent
- Who compiled the Leffler manuscript? – José Hopkins
- The explosion of new tone colours in flue pipes in the 19th century – John Norman
- Participation Session - Hymn written and arranged by J H Leffler (with organ interludes) around the Snetzler organ - José Hopkins
- Update on British Organ Archive (BOA) – Chris Kearl
- New light on old Birmingham organs – Paul Tindall
- One ‘of the Old school, solid, & good, and a Gentleman’: William Done of Worcester Cathedral, 1844-95 – Jim Berrow
- Organs at Coronation Services – David Knight

THURSDAY 12 TO SATURDAY 14 APRIL 2012 - RESIDENTIAL AT BALLIOL COLLEGE, OXFORD

ORGANS IN OXFORD:THREE ANSWERS TO THE SAME QUESTION [42]

Thursday 12 April

St John’s College Chapel (The Aubertin organ, 2008)

- Introduction and Demonstration of the Organ - Nigel Allcoat, Ian Ball, and Richard Moore
- Balliol College Chapel (John Norman, Chair)
- The Liturgical Organ - Nicholas Prozzillo
- Organs of Oxford (Slide Show) – John Brennan

Keble College Chapel (The Tickell organ, 2011) Recital - Dame Gillian Weir

Friday 13 April

Keble College Chapel (The Tickell organ, 2011)

- Introduction and demonstration of the Organ - Kenneth Tickell, Leonard Sanderman & Richard Dawson

Balliol College Chapel

- Wider themes and current trends in British Organbuilding - Ian Bell
- The new Dobson organ for Merton College Chapel - Benjamin Nicholas

Lincoln College Chapel

- Introduction and demonstration of the Organ - William Drake and John Wellingham
- The new Richards Fowkes organ at St George, Hanover Square - Simon Williams
- The Changing Sound of Cathedral Choirs - Timothy Day

Conference Dinner - Wadham College Old Library (Speaker: Alan Thurlow)

SATURDAY 30 JUNE 2012 - ST MAGNUS THE MARTYR, LONDON BRIDGE

'A SWELL ORGAN' [24]

- The history of the organ, its present condition and options for restoration - William McVicker and John Eady
- Spurden Rutt: Organ Builder - David Knight
- The history of the Swell organ in England - John Norman and David Knight
- The Jordan Family: an Update - Joan Jeffery
- Organ Recital - John Eady

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2012 - ST GEORGE, SOUTHALL

'THE RESTORATION OF THE ABRAHAM JORDAN ORGAN' [25]

- Demonstration of the Organ - William McVicker
- Abraham Jordan in Southall? - Colin Menzies
- The Organ Restoration from the Parish Perspective, including Community Involvement in the project and the Use of the Instrument in Worship - Margaret Wellington & Paul Southey
- The Restoration Project including the Rationale for Decisions about

- Casework, Action, Pipework and Pedals - John Mander
- The context of the Restoration alongside other recent Historic Restorations - John Norman
 - Panel Discussion - Margaret Wellington, Paul Southey, John Mander, John Norman
 - Aspects of 18th Century Organ Performance Practice: A Lecture Demonstration - William McVicker/John Collins
 - Organ Recital - John Collins

Melvin Hughes
January 2013

Information Services: BOA/NPOR

British Organ Archive

The BRITISH ORGAN ARCHIVE continues to flourish well in its new home. We still receive a steady flow of enquiries each month and the numbers are standing up well against other Collections held at the Cadbury Research Library. Visits to the collection are still rather low in number but the University seems happy with the uptake so far. With the establishment of the oversight committee it is becoming possible for us to formulate a longer term strategy for the future of the BOA in addition to clarifying exactly what the BOA is capable of becoming - set against what BIOS expects out of it.

At the beginning of the year we reached (and for a while exceeded) full capacity of the space that we have been allotted within the "controlled environment" storage facility. By some judicious "re-boxing" and careful re-arrangement of the shelving, I have now been able to get quite a bit more into the same area but we cannot accept further deposits without first removing items from the BOA - and that is one very difficult task which must be tackled over the next year. I would dearly like to remove a number of boxes of post-cards of organs - some only show a few blurred case-pipes peeking out from behind a pillar - and yet within that box of 500 post-cards may well be the only surviving image of an organ case once in a remote country church, or the Nave of a Cathedral for a Choir Festival. The ideal course is to scan them all

onto disc - but time especially and money are in short supply and there are lots of other projects of greater importance - any ideas - on a post-card....please! We are also looking at a means of storing the vast number of Drawings in the BOA Collection in a way which will take up far less space or possibly even establishing a second store at a different location for some of the later material. People have very great expectations of the BOA yet I receive very few offers of practical help and following the sad death of BIOS member Richard Morton last autumn I am now, again, working alone. I should also add that the Osteo-necrosis which has so badly affected my walking has now begun spreading upwards into my spine and so my own 'ability to achieve' is being somewhat hampered at the moment, not least by the pain!

Amongst the new material added to the British Organ Archive this year are:-

- The papers of Ralph Downes [c.1937 to mid 1980's] which contain some interesting information about the way in which his personal views on organ-building and "organ design" developed. Naturally there are a lot of papers and drawings covering the preparations for the building of the Royal Festival Hall organ.
- The second part of the David Pawlyn Collection - a large selection of rolled builder's drawings, mainly covering the 'extension' organs used in Theatres and the like by builders such as Wurlitzer, Davies (Aeolian), Compton and one or two others.
- Out of the blue has come a very interesting deposit from the Jardine-Smith family which includes original documents relating to Charles Woodfield Smith (such as his original "Indenture of Apprenticeship" to Kirtland and Jardine in 1862) and a number of papers relating to his son Edwin's period in charge of the firm. There are also some items to do with the "Player" organs of the 1920's. I reluctantly turned down his personal collection of signed early Gilbert & Sullivan scores!

We have received additions to our collection of rare early organ books and periodicals from the family of a recently deceased BIOS member - including some early copies of "The Choir and Musical Record" of 1862/3 and "Musical

Opinion and Music Trade Review" from 1901-19. It is a mark of the little use so far made of these latter volumes from the years 1901 and 1902 that I have so far been able to decant over 80 competely new 'virgin' surveys for the NPOR from just 24 single pages of newly-built organ specifications listed in these Monthly publications.

The Freeman photographs have now all been placed online as "thumbnails" but the process of opening them up for access by the general public is being severely delayed by the time it takes to identify and label each image (of 1,600) - the amount of time that the Cadbury Research Library can allocate for their staff to spend on the BOA Collection is sadly quite small and there is little that I can do to speed up the process. Please be patient!

Chris Kearn - B.O.A. Honorary Archivist.

National Pipe Organ Register

During 2012 the good ship NPOR maintained her course through unusually turbulent seas. At the end of the year she encountered a typhoon, and some ugly rocks were sighted; the coastguards were alerted when she temporarily vanished from the radar screens. Disaster was averted by the determined actions of Captain Mike and the crew; at the time of writing she has resumed her normal progress, much to the relief of all concerned.

New management

In case the ship's Owners require a more detailed account of events, I have pleasure in submitting my report. My own involvement with the NPOR (other than as an appreciative user) dates only from June 2012 when I was appointed as the link between BIOS Council and the NPOR, so my information for the first part of the year is largely second-hand.

The year 2012 began against a background of enforced change. Following notification that Birmingham City University (BCU) would have to withdraw the services of Frances Pond as Manager of the NPOR with effect from 30 June 2012, it was established that the Royal College of Organists was interested in

taking on the management role in succession to BCU. Discussions took place in the first part of 2012, and a formal Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the RCO took effect from 1 July. It includes the services of a Manager, Andrew Macintosh, for eight hours per week; to be overseen by the RCO's Director of Academic Development, Andrew McCrea. So far, the new arrangement appears to be working well.

BIOS Council was consulted about the implementation of this proposal and at its meeting in June 2012 agreed that the cost of running the NPOR would consequently increase from £4,000 to £5,800 per annum – approaching one third of BIOS's annual income. Our Treasurer noted that this is sustainable in the short term, but we should look for external funding as time goes on. The SLA is “open for review and renewal” by 30 June 2013.

It is clearly understood that the NPOR remains firmly in the ownership of BIOS.

NPOR performance

One important fact which emerged during the above discussions is that the NPOR is well behind with the entry of information – at the time of the handover to the RCO, the backlog stood at about 16 months' work for the existing editors. The Chairman of BIOS has emphasised the importance of addressing this serious problem, and (largely as a result of his initiative) four new editors have been appointed. At the time of writing it is still too soon to assess the effect of this extra manpower, but it is clearly an essential step in the right direction.

On 31 May the existing editors met Andrew Macintosh, the new NPOR Manager, to familiarise him with procedures and discuss future possibilities. On 22 August Mike Sayers hosted a training day in Cambridge at which two of the new editors had sessions with three experienced editors; Frances Pond and Andrew Macintosh were both there to compare notes, and I attended as an observer. This session was very useful, not only initiating the new editors but also giving Andrew and myself an insight into the meticulous work that is involved. Andrew acknowledged the considerable assistance and support he received from Frances Pond during the handover.

The NPOR Joint Management Committee

The Committee met on 9 March and 12 October. The meetings were attended by representatives from BIOS (as owners of the NPOR), the Royal College of Music (as hosts of the NPOR website), and the managers of the NPOR: BCU (March) and the RCO (October). The latter meeting, which I attended, consisted largely of a review of progress, but an important fact which emerged was that it was unlikely that the RCM would want to renew the agreement for hosting the NPOR database when it expired in 2014. This did not come entirely as a surprise, since the RCM had not shown the degree of engagement in the development of the NPOR which had been envisaged when it took over the hosting of the website in 2008. Given this informal warning, we thought we had plenty of time to find a new host. However, any such complacency was rudely shattered by the events of late December (see item 4 below). In the light of those developments, it is assumed that the RCM will withdraw from the Joint Management Committee (the next meeting of which is scheduled for 26 April 2013), leaving the joint oversight of the NPOR to BIOS and the RCO.

The NPOR website

After a long period of trouble-free hosting by the RCM, the first alarm came on 6 December 2012 when the NPOR was arbitrarily taken off line in the course of a routine annual security test (technically, a "denial of service attack"). No warning was given, but later that afternoon the RCM sent an email to say that they were investigating a potential vulnerability in the NPOR system and had "disabled it from external access". Strangely, this information was not addressed to BIOS through the proper NPOR channels but through a volunteer editor.

Mike Sayers then spent three days putting in a defensive code which in his opinion was largely unnecessary. Over the ensuing weekend the NPOR reappeared on the Web, but again without any contact or consultation.

Following consultation between the members of the Joint Management Committee, the Chairman of BIOS wrote to Professor Paul Banks at the RCM drawing his attention to the situation and expressing our major concerns

about the unilateral interruption of service and the procedures followed by the RCM. A courteous response was received on 18 December, but this notified us that in order for the NPOR website to remain under the RCM umbrella, a re-test would be necessary at BIOS's expense, at a cost of £2,700 including VAT. This test would need to be done by the end of the second week in January 2013.

Such expenditure by BIOS was clearly out of the question. There was no budget for it; there was no guarantee that a similar situation would not occur in the future; and there was already doubt about the future of the NPOR's hosting agreement with the RCM.

On New Year's Eve, after full consultation to ensure that an alternative arrangement could be quickly put into place, the Chairman wrote to Professor Banks informing him that in the circumstances BIOS intended to terminate the written agreement with the RCM and move the NPOR to another provider no later than 31 January 2013. An amicable parting of the ways has since been agreed. Providentially, Mike Sayers has offered to return the hosting of the NPOR site to Emmanuel College Cambridge on a temporary basis until the summer of 2014, at minimal cost. We are all hugely grateful to Mike and the College for this public-spirited act, not least because the crisis has caused him much extra work over the festive period.

Plans for the Future

At the meeting of the Joint Management Committee in October 2013 (sic), it was agreed that a small sub-group should consider the future development of the NPOR. Its members are Andrew McCrea, Mike Sayers and myself, and we plan to meet on 14 March.

One important plan which is already in progress is to develop an electronic form for new entries and corrections to be submitted to the NPOR. This will be designed for easy use by the layman. All entries submitted in this way will of course be subject to editorial control. If we can move to this system as the main method of contributing the information which is the life-blood of the NPOR, the editors' task of compiling the entries will be streamlined and our goal of keeping the Register up to date will be easier to achieve.

An essential task for 2013 will be to find a new host for the NPOR from summer 2014.

That concludes my report on an eventful year for the NPOR. I would like to thank the Chairman of BIOS for his help in initiating me into its mysteries, and for confirming the accuracy of this report. It should be noted with appreciation that during 2012 he has devoted a considerable amount of his personal attention to the NPOR. Let's hope we are now entering calmer waters.

Mark Venning
January 2013

NPOR MANAGER'S REPORT

Current activity

Work continues to run smoothly and we continue to receive a regular stream of contributions and enquiries. Many of the latter are not directly connected with NPOR and are farmed out elsewhere - to other BIOS officers or to Chris Kearn at the BOA.

The new editors who were recruited in summer 2012 have settled in well. Their mentors are pleased with their work and they are making a tangible contribution to the Register.

The recent outage at the RCM and the subsequent move of the NPOR server back to Emmanuel College caused only a brief interruption to service. This would not have been possible without the invaluable work of Mike Sayers, who managed the move against a very tight deadline. This meant that editors were able to resume their work very quickly. No complaints were received from external users.

The backlog

The current waiting list of work is about 16 months' worth of contributions, or 800 updates. In terms of the number of items, this is down from the figure of 900 which I reported to the Joint Management Committee in October. My

statistics at the end of the year show that since 1 August 2012 we have received 247 new submissions from users, 312 submissions have been passed on to editors for attention and 322 updates have been completed.

These figures come with the usual caveats. One submission may be a simple correction of an error, or it may open up several cans of worms which take time to sort out. There are also a fair number of duplicates, especially for new instruments or significant rebuilds where we may receive the news from more than one person. Nevertheless, I am confident that we are at least heading in the right direction.

Andrew Macintosh - NPOR Manager
January 2013

HISTORIC ORGAN SOUND ARCHIVE

At the instigation of Alan Thurlow two meetings have taken place with the objective of extending the sound files. The first took place in Cambridge on September 10, 2012 with José Hopkins, Anne Page, Alan Thurlow and Andrew McCrea: the possibilities of further regional schemes and also a strategy for national coverage were discussed. As a result of this meeting David Baker was asked if he might spearhead a regional scheme in Yorkshire. The second meeting was hosted by David Baker in Yorkshire to discuss how this might be achieved. A team of people with the relevant expertise is being assembled and an approach to the local HLF is envisaged.

The development of the archive nationally will depend on an appropriate source of funding being identified. The RCO might be approached to see whether they can help with this.

As Curator of the archive Anne Page submitted to BIOS Council several plans for spending the monies accrued from HOSA CD sales. Two of the suggestions were agreed but the others were referred to a future meeting.

Anne Page
April 2013

CASEWORK OFFICER'S REPORT

The past eighteen months have seen some notable and welcome developments in the BIOS Casework portfolio. Most importantly, BIOS was asked by English Heritage to comment on proposals for the listing of **St Martin's Sandford, Dorset (formerly Sandford School)**.

The organ is an untouched example of work by the short-lived firm of Maley, Young & Oldknow (NPOR N10046). It was built in 1876 for the industrialist and amateur musician, Miles Rodgett, of Sandford House and is housed in a purpose-built music room which latterly became the village school. Extensions to the building allowed the original part to be consecrated as a church. This occurred in 1966-67.

Further to proposals to dispose of the building, these were called in for consultation by the Department for Culture Media & Sport and as part of the consultation, BIOS was asked by English Heritage to act as a consultee. This was accepted and we were able to provide a substantially worded commentary on these proposals.

The result of the consultation was that the building was listed Grade II almost entirely on account of the organ. Furthermore, BIOS and the NPOR were referred to in very generous terms. I think it's fair to say that BIOS is now definitely on English Heritage's radar screen as an authoritative consultee and it would be tempting to feel we might soon be in a position to become a necessary adjunct whenever organs are being discussed by them.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Professor Nigel Webb for his meticulously researched histories of the firm and the organ, Dr Richard Godfrey, and our chairman, Dr Alan Thurlow, for his careful assistance in preparing the submission. Without their input, the task would have been made much more onerous. Of the remaining cases dealt with by BIOS over this period, the following are representative:

St Peter's, Slinfold, W. Sussex N15254

We understand that proposals to add an electronic pedal stop to this grade I HOC organ have been dropped. Instead, the instrument is to be restored as it

stands.

Forfar East & Old Parish Church N01838

This is the instrument made so well known by Willie Bernard, a renowned Scottish organist. The organ was built by Forster & Andrews in 1900 and is widely held to be one of their finest. It has undergone some alteration to the action work and there have been minor changes to the stoplist, otherwise it survives as built.

Further to attempts by the lady minister to have the organ removed, this has now been put in abeyance following a concerted campaign by SFO, BIOS and adverse comment in the local press (some quite unflattering) [**Editor – but some quite flattering**]. I wish also to note the untimely departure of Andrew McHutchinson. In the short period I had dealing with him, I felt we had a real ally in Scotland, very knowledgeable and thorough. He will be missed.

Holy Sepulchre, Northampton N03423

This organ was built by John Stringer ca. 1880 and was awarded a II* HOC in 2003. It is probably the largest surviving organ by him, one of very few, and was written about in glowing terms by Paul Hale in a report of 2002.

We received a request from the priest-in-charge about finding a new home for the organ following a fire-risk assessment by Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. This apparently indicated that the premium on the building could be lessened to the church's advantage if the organ was removed since it was deemed a fire hazard. Informal enquiries had been made with the DAC and it was suggested they would probably not stand in the way if it were decided to rehouse it.

Enquiries with the diocese and EIG pointed to a rather different situation. The church is shared with the Greek Orthodox community who use candles but don't use the organ. The likely reduction in insurance premium appears not so great as to make the removal of the organ a priority even though it was claimed it was never likely to be restored. It was also claimed that while the building was insured, the organ was not; this was refuted.

A site visit has been suggested as a way forward, but in any case, BIOS has written to Peterborough DAC urging it to encourage the parish not to dispose of the organ given its quality and uniqueness. To date, we understand from Peterborough that the case has not yet been made for removal and therefore remains undecided.

One slightly worrying aspect of this case is that negotiations had been commenced by the parish with a German organbuilder about their acquiring the organ before a formal consultation process had begun. The builder asked whether they "have to pay for the organ" which could be construed as a lack of appreciation of its true significance. and highlights, regrettably, the gulf existing between the intrinsic and monetary value attached to organs. BIOS has indicated very clearly that it would not support the export of this instrument.

Portsmouth John Pounds Memorial Church R0055

This organ originally came from Poole Unitarian Church and was built by Bishop & Starr in 1868. It was transferred to John Pounds Memorial Unitarian Church, Portsmouth in 1967 but has remained untouched since. Advice was sort on how best to consider its future. The organ is clearly an historically valuable one and BIOS offered its services regarding an inspection and most likely, an HOC. We were pleased to note the church had decided to retain the organ which has been awarded a grade II HOC.

St. Andrew's Hove D03288

We were referred this instrument by Dr Jeffrey West, Senior Advisor, Statutory Advisory Committee, Church Buildings Council, under a new arrangement whereby BIOS acts as quasi-statutory consultee.

The organ was built by Bishop & Son ca. 1889 with 3 manuals and pedals, detached console and a handsome Italianate case. Regrettably in the late 1970's, following the church being made redundant, the organ was largely dismantled and dispersed leaving the casefront, reservoir, Great soundboard and console. The future of these remains is under discussion and BIOS was asked to draw up a report for the committee. This report has been accepted.

St. Dunstan's, Edge Hill, Liverpool N10819

The organ, built by Father Willis and widely regarded as one of his best in the North West of England, was awarded a Grade 1 HOC in 2009. Through a curious and disturbing chain of events, pipework was removed without faculty and used in various other organs on a 'temporary loan' basis though, we hasten to add, not through the agency of the present incumbent. The organ is currently unplayable and sorely in need of restoration.

An application is being made for a retrospective faculty to cover the removal of the ranks in question: a Corno di Bassetto and a Pedal Ophicleide. BIOS has been involved in correspondence with Liverpool Registry and the incumbent, and has formally written setting out its objections to the granting of the Faculty and asking that the removed pipework be reunited with the instrument to which it rightly belongs.

St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Wealdstone J00142

We were first notified of a threat to this organ in June 2012. It was built by Rothwell in 1955 and survived untouched with a late, complete Rothwell-designed electropneumatic action and patent console.

Despite being awarded a grade II HOC and despite considerable efforts being made by authorities from Westminster diocese, interventions with the Church were too late to prevent it being broken up, we believe, by the organist. It is now stored in tower rooms behind the west gallery but given the manner in which it was dismantled it is extremely unlikely it will ever be resurrected. Soundboards and reservoirs have been used to prop up the speakers of the Makin which is now in use.

BIOS has been assured that events at Wealdstone will not be allowed to go unnoticed and that a reorganisation of the way the diocese handles organ matters is being considered. We await further developments with interest.

Baptist Union Advice Leaflet

We are pleased to report that the Baptist Union's Listed Buildings Advisory Committee has adopted an advice leaflet drafted by BIOS for inclusion in its

section of downloadable documents on how to approach listed church and chapel buildings. The leaflet may be read at "BUC GUIDELINES LB07 Furnishings in Listed Churches (02/2013)".

Other requests for information, advice etc. dealt with include:

- St Paul's Battersea. (Dr Jeffery West) Henry Jones
- All Saints Norton, Wilts. Bates barrel organ
- St Thomas of Canterbury, Chester. Nicholson & Lord (Dr Jeffery West, Paul Broadhurst, Chester DAC)
- Cathedral School organ, Llandaff (Llandaff DAC)
- St Helen's Churchtown, Lancs. Unknown ca. 1800 rebuilt Laycock & Bannister 1929, Pendlebury, 1973.
- St Luke's, Poulton (Wallasey) P. Conacher 1900 (Chester DAC)

Finally, I should like to record my thanks to Council for their support and advice these past eighteen months.

Andrew Hayden
March 2013

HISTORIC ORGAN CERTIFICATE SCHEME

Committee Meetings - January/May-June/September

Dr David Knight (Chair) - (Retired 2012)

Dr Alan Thurlow (Ex-officio)

Richard Hird (2009)+

Nicholas Plumley (2010)

Alan Buchan (2011)

Dr David Frostick (2012)

Paul Joslin (Co-ordinator)

(+Richard Hird retired from the committee - remaining an inspector)

Council listed eighty-four organs on the recommendation of the HOCS sub-committee between January 2012 and April 2012.

'Finds' have included the organs at:

- Our Lady and St Wilfrid Warwick Bridge Cumbria, Hill (1843),
- St Michael and All Angels Aylesham Norfolk a substantial instrument by Norman & Beard (1911) retaining unusual stop control,
- Holy Trinity Wensley North Yorkshire, a magnificent organ by Isaac Abbott (1885), sadly rarely used; the church is now vested in the Churches Conservation Trust.

One of the highlights of the scheme continues to be the significant number of outstanding organs in Scotland, hitherto little known. Dedicated work has been undertaken by Alan Buchan and his team of contacts. Organs have included:

- St Columba's Gaelic Church, Edinburgh, an outstanding large Walcker (1904),
- Stockbridge Church, Edinburgh, (since 1994) a rare Gern house organ (1882) made for the Marquis of Lothian,
- Broughton St Mary's, Edinburgh, an outstanding Lewis (1882); the Grade I citation for Broughton is reproduced in full on the church website,
- The 1908 Norman & Beard in Colmonell Church Ayrshire was particularly impressive visually, with a highly carved case attributed to Robert Lorimer,
- Several fine organs by Scottish builders have been listed including the outstanding instrument by C & F Hamilton organ (1906) in St Mary's Episcopal Kirriemuir Angus.

This important survey is ongoing.

Organs by J.W. Walker are increasingly featured in HOCS. With the added advantage of illuminating reports by Nick Plumley's currently on the committee, there have been some real surprises. These have included Brightwell Baldwin (1843) (a barrel organ) and All Saints Sherbourne Warwickshire(1868/83). Conversely, it is a great pity to find once famous instruments by this significant British builder radically altered by misguided intervention, compromising the integrity of the original concept. This major HOCS evaluation is also ongoing.

A survey of organs in Lancashire with major input by Dr Gerald Sumner has recently commenced.

Many thanks are due to Dr David Knight who retired in September after ten years on the committee, almost all of those as Chair. David's skill steering through what at times could be a lengthy complex agenda, in the allotted time, was always with consummate skill. BIOS has much to be grateful with regard to his time and attention to detail. His contribution will be long remembered. Thank you David.

A master copy of listed organs on Excel is updated regularly by Graham Jones a previous committee member, to whom thanks are also due. Access to this list via the charity website may be a good area for future consideration and development.

Sadly, the award of a certificate, even the highest grade, does not always ensure the long-term future of the instrument. Increasingly organs are under threat. One (which was awarded a Grade II certificate in 2004) was effectively 'lost' in 2012. If the status and influence of the scheme is to be effective in the future, it is imperative that recognition is obtained at the highest level. Recent enquiries by English Heritage (Bristol) have been encouraging.

Two areas, which remain largely unknown, are Northern Ireland and Wales, particularly the latter.

Thanks are due to a small but dedicated team of inspectors and committee members, giving freely of their time, without whom the scheme could not operate.

There is still much to do.

Paul Joslin
(Hon) Coordinator – Historic Organ Certificate Scheme
April 2013

BIOS HERITAGE ADVISER

In March a Heritage Sub Group met to evaluate the large quantity of material which has been generated over the last 10 years in various 'heritage' campaigns on behalf of BIOS and to decide what to do next. The following points were agreed for action:

To seek clarification from the Ecclesiastical Judges Association regarding the uncertain legal status of pipe organs in listed buildings and to explore how a consistent policy can be reached using the current legislation. A question put to the Chancellor of the Diocese of Coventry during the Diocesan Organ Advisers Annual Conference about the unpredictable approach of Chancellors to the problems of fixtures and fittings raised his concern and after some research he was going to raise this issue at the forthcoming annual meeting of Diocesan Chancellors. Although a definitive answer could not be expected our points of concern were certainly highlighted for their consideration as a group.

We also need to explore if there is a consistent policy or common approach within the CBC conservation committees to the protection of contents in historic buildings.

We need to establish the legal status of the Statutory Amenity Societies, how they were set up and their role in the listed buildings consultation process. BIOS would then explore if we could in a similar capacity be able to represent historic organs. This comes under the jurisdiction of the Office of The Deputy Prime Minister.

In 2008, following a meeting with EH BIOS left with them a paper entitled 'Organs in Policy Selection Guides and Policy Circulars'. The aim was a document for non organ users such as conservation officers seeking guidance on a topic they were likely to know little about. We need to find out what use has been made of this. BIOS should perhaps make this as widely known as possible on our website or the websites of other heritage organizations.

Following the demise of the Heritage Protection Bill and the change of government in 2010 it was assumed that there was no obvious opportunity for

BIOS to pursue any changes in the current legislation in favour of a more defined protection of historic organs. However in July 2010 The Penfold Review had proposed changes to listed buildings legislation but it was expected that this would have to wait for a specifically heritage orientated bill. To our surprise in June The Heritage Alliance had noted and alerted its members that the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (Secretary of State Vince Cable) had put forward the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill. In Clause 50 and its related Schedule 16, crucially for BIOS some minor but significant amendments were proposed to the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, the current legislation which covers listed buildings. The intention in this new Bill is that if required for clarification, parts or items of a listed building may be excluded from protection if specifically referred to with this objective in the list description.

The implication of this is that, with current listings, if regarded as a fixture, any organ not actually mentioned in the list (a usual situation) will be included as a protected part of the listed building. The change will only take effect with list descriptions which date from or are revised after the implementation of this Act. However the widely circulated EH model Register entry for a listed church, using as an example St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, while mentioning nearly all the other fixtures and fittings failed to mention the Father Willis organ at all. This may add a new burden as it will be necessary to inspect all new or revised list descriptions where there is an important organ to ensure it is mentioned. The difficulty is how will BIOS be aware of these additions or amendments?

In earlier discussions with DCMS we had been told that the changes we sought could not be made without primary legislation. Although the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill is concerned mainly with other issues this direct reference in one part to listed buildings gave BIOS a small opportunity, as Clause 1.(5) was to be amended by the addition of (5A), to propose a further addition of fourteen words to 1.(5) (a) which currently reads "any object or structure fixed to the building" by adding 'or deemed to be fixed by virtue of its own weight'. This would remove the element of doubt in law that large free standing organs may or may not be part of a listed building. During the second reading of this Bill no MP raised any query about Schedule 16 so while it was before the Public Bill Scrutiny Committee BIOS sent in a

submission for their consideration but it was ignored.

Almost at the same time the Welsh Office had proposed a Heritage Bill for Wales, scheduled for 2014-2015. BIOS put forward its usual points for the protection of historic organs to the Cadw team working on the preparation of a draft for this Bill. It would be a step forward if what we have been seeking for some years could be achieved as part of new and specific legislation rather than just an alteration to existing law intended for perhaps other purposes. We are keeping a close eye on progress so we can at the earliest stage possible propose any amendments we feel are needed to protect historic pipe organs.

If two Bills were not considered enough in one month a third was sneaked in by DCMS with it seems at least the general agreement of EH. This was the 'Improvements to the system of Listed Buildings Consents'. Sneaked is a word the heritage world would not dispute as this took place during the summer recess and given only about a month for consultation, which closed on August 23rd. The Heritage Alliance, National Trust and many other organizations have strongly condemned this. The intention is yet another Bill aiming in general to smooth the conditions for listed building consent in favour of development. There was a small relevant section of this Bill for which BIOS again sent comments.

What BIOS needs is to achieve greater outside support and attention but in that direction there is a little movement. I copied my last submission to Kate Pugh, Secretary of The Heritage Alliance. In her reply she said "I know this has been a long standing concern of BIOS", so we are not forgotten. By good fortune she had a personal meeting with Roger Bowdler, EH's Head of Designation, and raised our concerns over fixtures and fittings with him and it has also been sent to the Joint Committee of National Amenity Societies. Following this unexpected high profile exposure I then copied to Kate Pugh the two previous submissions for the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill and Heritage Bill for Wales to enlarge the range of slightly differing arguments we had put forward. She then followed this, obviously having read these papers, by a request for the specific reference to fixtures in the current 1990 Bill. This meeting between two high profile heritage people had for us a useful outcome as both suggested BIOS should consult the EH Legal Director

Mike Harlow. Kate has spoken to him on our behalf (kindly commenting “BIOS knowledge of legal decisions seems to me pretty good”). He expressed a willingness to speak to us about the BIOS concerns and dates for a meeting are now being discussed.

The Heritage Alliance has just become a member of Europa Nostra. Their specialist on Europe is John Sell, known to our Chairman, so perhaps the Granada Convention and Britain’s lack of adherence to its obligations, in particular the inclusion of fittings as part of a listed building, could be pursued from a different and perhaps more influential position. The Heritage Alliance has direct access to a number of influential people. Regarding this matter of influence, advice from several larger heritage bodies is that directing our approaches to government departments of either persuasion is not likely to get a result but we should concentrate on raising our profile and obtaining some influential champions in high places. The BIOS membership must collectively be able to summon up a formidable number of possibilities. For instance, in 2003 Lord Wilson a former Cabinet Secretary, was able with little effort but considerable influence to arrange a personal interview for one of our members with the DCMS Permanent Secretary.

I raise a question, is all this activity justified or does BIOS need to rethink its activities on the ‘heritage’ front and rather than regularly trying to have legislation altered in our favour should we be concentrating more on raising our national image? However this may be difficult in conjunction with the other essential BIOS Council work. My role is merely as Heritage Adviser, but in conjunction with my parallel activities it often seems like a full time job. I have been concentrating on the legal aspects of heritage for at least 25 years.

I should be happy to continue to advise but maybe some of this activity would be more efficiently dealt with by others with better computer skills? One can over a long period of time become stale and jaded.

Barrie Clark
March 2013

The British Institute of Organ Studies Annual Report and Financial Statements for the 18-month period ended 31 December 2012

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 18-month period the following served on the Council:

Alan Thurlow (Chairman from 19 Nov 2011)	David Knight
John Norman (Chairman up to 19 Nov 2011)	Colin Menzies
Melvin Hughes (Secretary)	Katharine Pardee
Adrian Mumford (Treasurer)	David Ponsford (up to 19 Nov 2011)
Barrie Clark	David Shuker
Melanie Harrison	Mark Venning (from 19 Nov 2011)
Andrew Hayden	Nicholas Watkins (up to 19 Nov 2011)

The Council met four times during the 18-month period.

Independent Examiner: Michael Black

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

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

Financial Review of the Year

The 18 months period under review is a one-off event and brings the financial and membership years in to alignment from 2013. As a result, figures are skewed and more difficult to compare with the prior 12-month period. The most obvious extra cost is in respect of there being two BIOS Journals in this 18 month period. However, the net surpluses on Conferences (7 in all) considerably helped to abate what would otherwise have been a larger deficit, the out turn on Unrestricted Funds being a £1,740 loss.

There is little activity in restricted funds, the key source of income being sales of the Leffler manuscript (in the HOSA Fund) and allocated investment fund income.

Closing Unrestricted Funds reduced to £50,279 (while still amply meeting the Reserve Policy) and total Restricted Funds (of which the Endowment Fund is by far the largest) grew to £36,844.

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

I am giving my report on the accounts of the British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS) for the 18 month period ended **31 December 2012** which are set out on the following two pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

or

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



Michael Black BA

Dated 21st February 2013

British Institute of Organ Studies
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
for the 18-month period ended 31st December 2012

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2012 £	Total funds 2011 £
Incoming Resources :					
Subscriptions	2	19,477		19,477	17,739
Sales	3		667	0	1,870
Investment Income		1,051	653	1,704	999
Conferences	4	10,425		10,425	2,917
Tax recovery on Gift Aid	5	5,209		5,209	13,604
Donations		375		375	0
Total Incoming Resources		£36,537	£1,320	£37,190	£37,129
Resources Expended :					
BIOS Journal (two editions)		11,660		11,660	6,117
Reporter (6 editions)		7,597		7,597	3,665
National Pipe Organ Register		4,879		4,879	4,000
British Organ Archive		404		404	4,397
Council & sub committees		879		879	1,025
HOCS and surveys		1,043		1,043	1,330
Bank charges		188		188	280
Conferences	4	7,190		7,190	1,721
Publicity and website	6	3,751		3,751	1,005
Insurance		472		472	
Other costs		214		214	325
Total Resources Expended		£38,277	£0	£38,277	£23,865
Net incoming resources		(1,740)	1,320	(420)	13,264
Prior year correction				0	3,355
Balance brought forward		52,019	35,524	87,543	70,924
Balance carried forward		£50,279	£36,844	£87,123	£87,543

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 2012

	Notes	2012 £	2011 £
Tangible fixed assets	7	0	0
Current Assets			
Short term deposits and Cash at Bank		84,514	85,169
Stocks and debtors	7	2,759	2,374
Less Accruals: amounts falling due within one year		(150)	
Net Assets		£87,123	£87,543
Funds			
Unrestricted General Funds		50,279	52,019
Restricted Funds	8	36,844	35,524
Total Funds	8	£87,123	£87,543

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 of amounts actually received during the 18 month period to 31 December 2012. No attempt is made to reconcile this figure to the membership year although this is anticipated with effect from the new financial year.

3. Sales

Sales substantially relate to the Leffler Manuscript; approximately 12 were sold during the year. There was a small amount of income in respect of CD sales.

4. Conferences

Conferences are budgeted to break even. However, there was an exceptional surplus arising out of the joint Conference with DAC Organ Advisers' in September 2011 (£1,732) and modest surpluses from other Conferences netting a further £1,653. The largest event in the period was the residential Conference in Oxford in spring 2012 with a turnover of £5,474.

5. Gift Aid

Gift Aid on all subscriptions and donations in respect of 18-month period was £5,209 of which £2,759 is a computed debtor receivable in early 2013. The comparative figure for 2010/11 included amounts claimed and received in respect of the period 2006 to June 2011.

6. Publicity

Publicity costs are significantly above those of 2011 representing the cost of a new website which has cost £1,596 to date.

7. Assets

It has been Council policy fully to write off tangible assets in the year of acquisition which included the cost of printing the Leffler manuscript. Stocks of approximately 80 manuscripts (and a number of CDs) exist at the year end.

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	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance
	at 1/07/11				at 31/12/12
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Unrestricted Funds:</i>	52,019	36,537	(38,277)	0	50,279
<i>Restricted Funds:</i>					
HOSA and Leffler	4,936	757	0		5,693
Endowment	30,539	562	0	0	31,151
Total Funds	£87,543	£37,856	(£38,277)	£0	£87,123

AN ORGAN OF JOHN RUST IN ABERDEENSHIRE

DAVID WELCH

John Rayment Rust operated as an independent organ-builder based in Chelmsford, Essex, for just twenty-four years. Born in 1817, he worked for Gray & Davison before setting up his own business in 1848. He built quite few organs, most of them for small local chapels and churches. Several openings of Rust organs are recorded in the Essex Standard: they were, with respective issue dates, for Widford (26 Apr 1850), Springfield (Trinity Chapel) (22 Nov 1850), Springfield (All Saints) (25 Apr 1851), Rettenden (11 Jun 1852), Witham (St Nicholas) (10 Dec 1852), West Hanningfield (14 Nov 1855), Moulsham (9 Apr 1858), Witham (All Saints) (22 Feb 1860), Boreham (19 Apr 1861), Widford (St Mary) (16 Jul 1862), Great Waltham (3 Jul 1863), Chelmsford (Baddow Road Congregational) (24 Jan 1868), and Great Maplestead (10 Jun 1868).

Rust died in August 1872 at Chelmsford. His son, also called John Rayment, appears to have carried on the business for some years; he is recorded in the 1881 Census as a 32-year-old organ-builder and tuner, and was still living then in the same Chelmsford road where his family had been recorded in the 1861 and 1871 censuses. There is no evidence that this John Rayment actually built any organs.

Only one Rust organ is apparently still functioning in Essex, in Ipswich SDA Church, formerly a Methodist chapel, but surprisingly one remains in Aberdeenshire. This two-manual 13-stop organ has recently been restored to good working condition by Sandy Edmonstone, Perth. It was installed in St James` Episcopal Church, Cruden Bay, probably in July 1849, since it is reported in the August 1849 issue of the *Scottish Magazine and Churchman`s Review* as recently erected. Although moved around St James` several times, from west gallery to chancel and back to the gallery, the organ seems to have been little altered. This could be said with greater confidence if we knew more about other Rust organs.

The Cruden Bay organ has several noteworthy features: the Great drawstops are on the left jamb, with the Pedal Bourdon drawstop above and the Great to Pedal coupler below; the Great and Swell have 54 keys CC-f3; the Pedal

Bourdon comprises just its 12 lowest notes and the 13 higher pedals function by coupling to the Great; two foot controls alter the Great composition; there is a notched Swell pedal; and the drawstops are ivory with copperplate writing. The specification is appended, with spelling as on the drawstops and in order from the jamb top:

Great		Swell	
[Bourdon]	16	Viole d`orchestre Sw	8
Fifteenth	2	Principal Sw	4
Flute	4	Dulciana Sw	8
Stop Diapason Treble	8	Stop Diapason Sw	8
Principal	4	Double Diapason Sw	16
Open Diapason	8	[Copula Sw - this couples Swell	
Stop Diapason Bass	8	to Great]	
Clarable	8		
[Great to Pedal coupler, now			
lacking a name]			

When Sandy Edmonstone initially examined the instrument in 2010 he believed that the straight pedalboard was a replacement for a German short pedalboard, probably made by Ernest Lawton 90 years ago, and that the Viole d`orchestre had replaced an Oboe stop; SE at that time considered the organ dated from about 1825, the 1849 date of installation not having been found, and this early dating possibly affected his thinking. However, the Springfield organ installed in April 1851 was reported in the Essex Standard as having "German pedals" along with two rows of keys.

The Rust organ was given to St James` by the Hay family, Earls of Erroll, and they and some church members believe the organ came originally from an Italian cathedral and is older than 1849. The present church was erected for the congregation in 1843, and I suspect that an Italian organ might have been used in this new church prior to the arrival of the Rust organ, or possibly it served in the previous church.

We can only speculate on why the Hays bought an organ from John Rust. Tantalisingly the Church of Scotland minister of Slains, the parish containing the Hays` residence, Slains Castle, was Rev James Rust, and although this is

an uncommon surname in Scotland we have no evidence of a link to Essex. Indeed the Slains minister inducted in 1840 was educated in Aberdeen, and there are James Rusts born in Aberdeenshire back into the eighteenth century. The Essex John Rayment Rust was very probably a child of Thomas Rust, born 1782 in Fobbing, Essex, and Jemima Rayment.

I thank the following people for various forms of help in putting this article together: Alan Buchan, Marna Cruikshank, Stuart Donald, Sandy Edmonstone, José Hopkins, the late Jim Inglis, Peter Wood, and Rosemary Lund (organist of St James`).

CASEWORK OFFICER'S REPORT

ANDREW HAYDEN

This issue of The Reporter is a rather special one regarding Casework since I am pleased to report what amounts to the listing of an historic instrument by English Heritage.

The background concerned the fate of St. Martin's Sandford, formerly Sandford School, in Dorset. Previous issues of the Reporter have carried reports of the possible sale of the building by the Diocesan Board of Education pending the erection of a new primary school on adjacent playing fields. The School houses a rare and highly significant example of the work of Maley, Young & Oldknow (NPOR N10046).

The fate of the organ was unknown and, had the sale of the school proceeded, it is possible it would have been destroyed. It is a matter for regret that the team vicar was reported as being "dismissive of the wish to retain the building and the feelings of the community".

How the threat to school and organ were brought to BIOS's attention arose from an application by Wareham St Martin Parish Council for statutory listing of the premises. The application stated,

"It is the Parish Council's firm belief that St Martin's Church and Vestry with its very important Church Organ constitutes a rare survival, a building and rare musical instrument illustrating the following aspects of

English social history; (a) The efforts that may have been necessary for a newly arrived North Country industrialist to assert his importance and gain status in an area dominated by historic families and their estates, some with aristocratic roots; (b) The extent to which for philanthropic reasons and as a benevolent gesture a landowner would make generous provision for the educational, spiritual and cultural wellbeing of his workpeople; (c) As an example of a 19th century estate. Church and school were complemented by the buildings of Sandford House, Home Farm, Workers Cottages and other ancillary buildings constituting a single totality of community and settlement; (d) The extent to which an enthusiastic amateur musician would indulge his passion and attempt to broaden aesthetic awareness and an appreciation of music among his workfolk."

It went on to say,

"The Parish Council contends that the St Martin's organ, which is of a piece with the building and is its principal *raison d'etre*, has great significance, witness its certificated Historic Organ status. Also this serves to reinforce the case for Listing."

At this point, we understand it became clear to English Heritage that the HOC awarded to the organ in 1999 was a factor in determining grounds for listing and BIOS was approached by their Senior Designation Adviser - West, Jill Guthrie, asking for comment. In so doing, BIOS was able to draw on the extensive research undertaken by our member Dr Nigel Webb, Organist of St Martin's, Sandford and Honorary Secretary to the Dorset Association of Organists.

His research shone a spotlight on the brief yet highly significant partnership of Edward Maley, Robert Young and Alfred Oldknow, all three trained by Bevington, and the activities of the wealthy mill owner, Miles Rodgett who settled at Sandford in the mid-nineteenth century from Lancashire. Rodgett was a keen and accomplished amateur musician playing both the organ and the violin. His purchase of the organ from this firm was intended as a gift to his parish church of Lady St Mary in Wareham. They, however, declined his offer so Rodgett decided to keep the organ and had a music room built on his

estate to house it. This building was used both as a chapel to Sandford House, Rodgett's country seat, and as the village school.

Rodgett was clearly philanthropically minded since, notwithstanding the rejection of his offer of the organ to Lady St Mary's Church, Wareham, the family paid for the completion of the East window there and another organ, also by Maley, Young & Oldknow. They also presented an organ by the same firm to the church of St John the Evangelist East Holme.

The Sandford organ is significant because it is the largest surviving, is intact save for electric blowing, and is among the first, if not the first, to have been built by the partnership. It also contains two ranks of pipes by Cavallé Coll. The effect of the organ is widely regarded as nothing short of stunning. The reasons for listing of the building and organ by English Heritage are as follows:

"St Martin's Church, Sandford of 1876, originally built as a school, chapel and music room, containing a contemporary organ by Maley, Young and Oldknow is recommended for listing for the following principal reasons:

- **Artistic interest:** the church contains an organ which displays craftsmanship of the highest order and which retains its original decorative scheme;
- **Historic interest:** the organ epitomises a period in British organ building that was strongly influenced by the significant French organ builder, Cavallé Coll;
- **Architectural quality:** the Gothic Revival architecture of the church, whilst not of intrinsic special interest, forms an ideal, simple foil to the organ;
- **Interior:** aside from the organ, the interior is of modest quality, with minimal decorative treatment and standard features and is not of special interest."

English Heritage also noted that,

"The organ in St Martin's Church was awarded an Historic Organ Certificate in 1998 and although it is un-graded, since grading was not

introduced until 2002, the British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS) consider it to be a Grade I instrument, that is, an organ of outstanding historic and musical importance in essentially original condition. It is acknowledged that the certificate is a mark of the national importance of an organ and helps to raise the profile of the instrument, the award, however, affords it no statutory protection."

From these remarks, it is beyond doubt that English Heritage felt the case had been made to recognise the value of the HOC scheme as a means of drawing attention to important organs and to underpin it with the statutory protection afforded by listing. It remains to be seen how far this might be extended. Nonetheless, BIOS can feel reassured that an important marker has been set regarding protection of organs in this country.



St Martin's Sandford (picture courtesy of Debbie Weller)

OTHER CASEWORK NEWS

Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College, Leicester (formerly Wyggeston Boys' Grammar School) NPOR D07877

BIOS received notification of the impending redevelopment of the Great Hall necessitating, we were told, the removal of the organ. This is the Walker organ of 1932 which, coupled with a superb acoustic, is reckoned one of their best instruments of the period. John Scott Whiteley who learnt on the organ and has written for it has been active in trying to save it but it seems likely it will be sold abroad since there is no statutory listing of the building which might have afforded protection or at least required further consultation.

Queen Street United Reformed Church, Middlewich, Cheshire

The organ is by Alexander Young, built in 1892, and was notified to us following proposals for its reconstruction based on what appear needless grounds. Reports suggest it is an organ of high quality in essentially good condition, untouched and merely requiring an overhaul. We understand plans have been put forward for its electrification based solely on the estimate of one local builder. We further understand that no independent advice was sought. This is, very regrettably, not the first instance involving this denomination which has been brought to our attention; shortcomings were highlighted in a Casework paper presented at the recent Barber conference. BIOS has written to the Church twice but so far without reply.

St Stephen's, Edinburgh N11977

This building, now known as the St Stephen's Centre is home to a Father Willis of 1880 which carries a grade 1 HOC. The organ is original to the church and is widely regarded as one of Willis's very best. Plans have recently been circulated regarding the future of the centre and hence the organ. BIOS has written to the trustees of the Church of Scotland who currently own the building, expressing the hope that all will be done to safeguard the organ for the future. Replies seem to indicate the Church of Scotland is aware of the organ's significance. **[Editor – this building has now been sold.]**

Other requests for information, advice etc. dealt with include:

- St Mary's, Bitton, Glos. R01028 (Bevington chamber organ)
- Oxenhope, Hawksbridge Baptist Church H00890 (Laycock & Bannister, one of their earliest).
- St Andrew's, Thongsbridge, West Yorks. Binns (no NPOR entry)

Church in Wales Consultation

BIOS was recently canvassed regarding the Church in Wales's faculty procedures. This gave an opportunity to suggest how the process might be improved, in particular, the need for consultation at the earliest stage possible where a likely relocation of an organ is concerned. We also pointed out how, in one case, the parish seemed to be receiving next to no guidance on the resolution of a long-standing organ problem. An acknowledgement that our views had been received was forthcoming but the results of the consultation are still pending.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

ALAN THURLOW

A month or so ago several of our members contacted BIOS to express concern that they had heard from reports on the radio that the parishioners at St Stephen's Church, Ambridge, are considering replacing their pipe organ with an electronic. The details of the organ at St Stephen's are not yet entered on the National Pipe Organ Register, but their Diocesan Organ Adviser has apparently described the instrument as 'historic'. Having consulted his fellow Officers the Chairman wrote, c/o the BBC, to the Reverend Alan Franks, Vicar of St Stephen's, to enquire further about the details of the instrument and to encourage the parish to consider retaining it in use, suitably restored if necessary. BIOS has also suggested that, if it seems that the organ might qualify, the parish might consider applying for a Historic Organ Certificate.

We are pleased to say that we have now received a response from Carole Solazzo of the BBC, writing on behalf of the Revd Franks. The letter informs us that our concern *'is shared by the Revd Franks and many of his*

parishioners'. She hopes that BIOS members who listen to *The Archers* will enjoy the storyline as it develops over the coming weeks!

MEETING REPORT

St Swithun, Worcester - Conference 11th May 2013

Melanie Harrison

Andrew McCrae, curator of the organ, welcomed twenty nine attendees to the church which is owned and cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust. As with the other interior fittings, which include box pews and a three level pulpit, care has been taken to retain an authentic period heating system that made a number of those attending regret they had not adopted Georgian mid-winter dress.

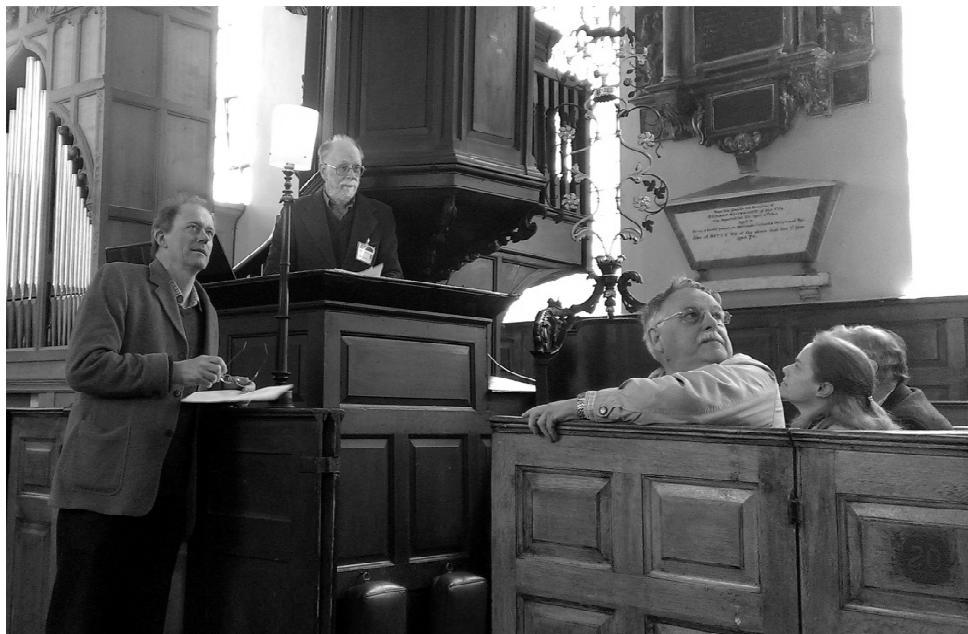
Local historian, David Whitehead delivered the first talk and provided an overview of the architecture and "ordered classicism" of various Georgian churches of Worcester, many of which remain. The efforts adopted to maintain a hygienic approach to organ consoles used by a range of twenty-first century players different players was given a deeper meaning when Jim Berrow explored the significance of the one-time insanitary conditions of the city and the impact of cholera on worship and music. Jim's wit included the memorable quote *veni, vidi, velcro* (I came, I saw, I stuck), and the talk had musical illustrations from the organ provided by Andrew McCrea. These were slickly fitted to clearly planned word cues with a precision that reminded the listener of a well produced radio programme.

The fact lunch was imminent caused no lack of attention for Nicholas Thistlethwaite's review of what is known of the origins of the Gray company, founded by brothers Robert and William. Lunch provided by the convenient next door bistro set us up for an authoritative presentation from Dominic Gwyne and his business partner Martin Goetze whose company completed the organ restoration in April 2010. Dominic's remark "why would you change a trumpet for a dulciana for God's sake" struck this listener and Martin pointed out the hollowing of keys by dirty hands and their policy decision to retain this distinctive key surface wear.

The final talk was from Andrew McCrae exploring questions of what might have been played on this organ. He considered if harpsichord music used though period sources suggested it was judged unsatisfactory. Evidence of

choral music arrangements were rarely found and he showed music extracts illustrating the changing use of pedals & left hands.

Tea provided refreshment before a superb recital by Andrew McCrea including music by John Stanley, John James, Vincent Novello, W A Mozart, John Adams and Samuel Wesley. In a first for a BIOS conference report, two pieces of music from that concert can be heard by going to the locations <http://tinyurl.com/qxdnrrw> (Samuel Wesley - Voluntary in G) and <http://tinyurl.com/q3sb3tc> (Mozart - from Clemenza di Tito).



Dominic Gwyne and Martin Goetze at St Swithun, Worcester
Photograph courtesy of Melanie Harrison

FOR SALE

Complete run of "The Organ" magazine from 1921 to date. Best offer will be accepted. Buyer to collect from West Midlands address.

Roy Williamson [REDACTED]

THE MYSTERY OF A CROWN AND TWO MITRES

John Norman

The church of St John the Baptist, Hoxton, London, is a noble classical structure designed by Francis Edwards, a pupil of Sir John Soane. Started in 1824 and opened in 1826, it was originally provided with a two manual organ of 10 stops by the local firm of George Buckwell, based in the Hackney Road, and costing £120.

This instrument was presumably not grand enough, as it was sold back to Buckwell eight years later for £130. St John's then paid George & Henry Buckwell £308 4s for a larger two manual of 17 stops, installed on the west gallery and opened on 13th October 1834. The original organ went to St Philip's, Bethnal Green, where it was, in turn, replaced in 1905 by an instrument by Norman & Beard.

The 1834 organ was moved in 1914 by Thomas S. Jones & Son of Finsbury Park to the east end of the south gallery. In 1934, Henry Speechly of Dalston enlarged the instrument to three manuals, incorporating materials from the 1862 Robson organ in the then recently demolished St Stephen's Church, Spitalfields. After the war the instrument was returned to its original position on the west gallery.

But the organ case is a mystery. It is recorded that in 1934 "the old case was reused" and the NPOR dates it to the Buckwells' work in 1834. But this cannot be correct. As can be seen from the photograph [Editor see front cover], the case is not only far too grand for a minor organbuilder like Buckwell but is of a style more appropriate to the 1760s than the 1830s. Furthermore, it has a fine crown and two mitres on the towers, a political statement relevant to the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 that persisted for a hundred years but not further.

So the organ case is older than the church. But where did it come from? Did the Buckwells acquire it second-hand, or did it arrive later? Can anyone enlighten us?

**BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES
DAY CONFERENCE AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WEST CROYDON
SATURDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2013**

THE VICTORIAN ORGAN CASE: ITS DESIGN AND CONTEXT

- 10.00 am Arrival and registration
- 10.15 am Michael Hall “G. F. Bodley and the Aesthetic of the Late 19th Century Church Interior.”
- 11.25 am Coffee
- 12.00 pm Christopher Moore “The Organ Cases of G. F. Bodley – an overview”
- 1.00 pm Lunch (in St Michael’s Hall) included in the conference fee
- 2.00 pm Christopher Moore with contribution from Fr Anthony Symondson SJ “The Organ Case before and after Bodley – Scott, Pearson (father and son), Comper, Dykes Bower – et al.”
- 3.00 pm Recital on the Willis/Mander organ of St Michael’s by Andrew Scott (Director of Music at St Michael’s and Head Voicer of Harrison and Harrison Ltd.)
- 3.30 pm Tea (in St Michael’s Hall)
- 4.00 pm Discussion/open forum with panel
- 4.45 pm End of Conference

(A visit to nearby Croydon Minster – 4m Hill/Harrison – may also be possible)

St Michael and All Angels Church (J.L. Pearson with furnishings by Bodley, Cecil Hare, Comper, etc.) is easily reached by public transport. The church is adjacent to West Croydon bus station and very near West Croydon railway station. The street is Poplar Walk, adjacent to the Whitgift shopping centre. The Tramlink also passes very near the church (West Croydon stop). From East Croydon St Michael’s is a ten to fifteen minute walk. Arrival by car is not advisable.

BOOKING FORM - BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ORGAN STUDIES

DAY CONFERENCE: S MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WEST CROYDON

SATURDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2013

THE VICTORIAN ORGAN CASE

Cost for the Day Conference is **£25.00**, with cheques made payable to '**BIOS**'.

Name (including title)

Address

.....

Post Code

Telephone (daytime) (evening)

e-mail

Please note any dietary requirements

Notes: 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.
Please fill out a separate form for each person.

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

Richard Hobson,
BIOS Meetings,

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BIOS MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 2013/2014

Saturday 21 September 2013

Day Conference at St Michael, West Croydon – Victorian Organ Cases. See pages 55 & 56.

Saturday 22 February 2014

Bernard Edmonds Research Conference at the Barber Institute, University of Birmingham.

27 September 2014

Joint BIOS/RCO/IAO Day Conference at Birmingham Town Hall

Day Conferences are being planned at:

- *St Margaret of Antioch, Crick, Northampton*

Residential Conferences are being planned at

- *Cambridge in 2016 to celebrate the BIOS 40th Anniversary.*

For further information please see the BIOS Website or contact the Secretary, whose contact details are on inside front cover.



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.