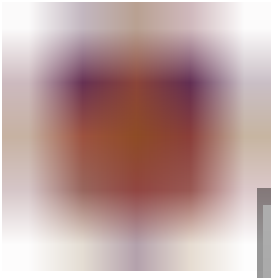


Newsletter – May 2023



Hello Folks,

Welcome to the first newsletter to come from the Pilliner printing press!

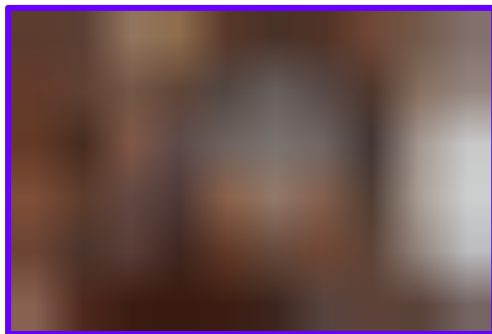
Forthcoming Events

Excursion to Whitstable

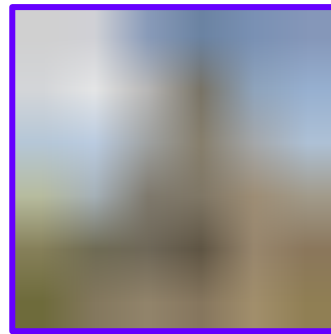
SSLSO member Michael Cooke has organised a day at the seaside!

We will meet at All Saints, Church Street at 11am on Saturday 13th May.

Lunch is at The Monument pub (opposite) at 12pm (menu attached to the email). Please place your orders asap after you know you will be joining us, so that they can be prepared in advance and thus save time.



2.00pm St. Peter's



3.30pm St. Alphege's

Bring your music, but be aware there will be limited time available as others will be wishing to play.

John Webber says: the best train to Whitstable for our May 13th outing would be the 9.27am from Bromley South; change at Rochester; arrive at Whitstable 10.39am. Trains from Victoria via Beckenham Junction will link to the Whitstable-via-Rochester-train at Bromley South.

Saturday 20th May

2.30pm

Our event on the 20th will be a recital and Q&A session with Gilbert Rowland, whom the British Harpsichord Society describe thus: '*Gilbert Rowland is one of Europe's most senior and accomplished exponents of the harpsichord*'. He has also recorded numerous CDs.

The recital will take place at 2.30pm at St Augustine's, Honor Oak Park (also known as One Tree Hill) - up the hill from Honor Oak Park Station. Local buses: 122, 171, 172, P4, P12.

His programme will include music by JS Bach, GF Handel, WA Mozart, D Scarlatti, A Soler and J Mattheson.

If time permits, there will be a Q&A session.

RCO Summer Course

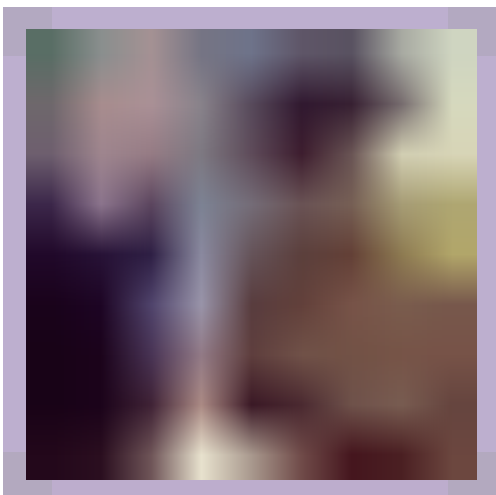
This was formerly known as the St Giles International Organ School.

RCO Summer Course for Organists

Monday 31 July, 14:30 - Saturday 5 August, 12:30

Based at St Giles Cripplegate Church and using many other organs in Central London

It's not too late to book your place on the RCO's famous Summer Course for Organists which offers individual and group tuition to players of all ages and stages. (Please note that under 18s must be accompanied by an adult at all times.)



Directed by Andrew Cantrill-Fenwick, the teaching team includes Gerard Brooks, Robin Harrison, Anne Marsden Thomas, Simon Mercer, Gerdi Troskie and Nicholas Wearne, all highly experienced teachers dedicated to bringing out the best in students.

Each day starts with an Organ Studio, where students meet in the same graded group to study different areas of the repertoire.

This is followed by graded Skills classes (keyboard musicianship, liturgical playing skills, improvisation and aural).

After lunch, there is a choice of individual lessons or workshops to choose from, followed by a whole course activity at the end of the afternoon.

Presenters include Hannah Gill, William McVicker, Daniel Moulton, Helen Smee and a recital from the IAO/RCO Organ Playing Competition winner 2020 Wenying Wu). After dinner you are encouraged to participate in a student concert. Visit <https://conference.rco.org.uk/> for full details and online booking.

Further SSLSO Events

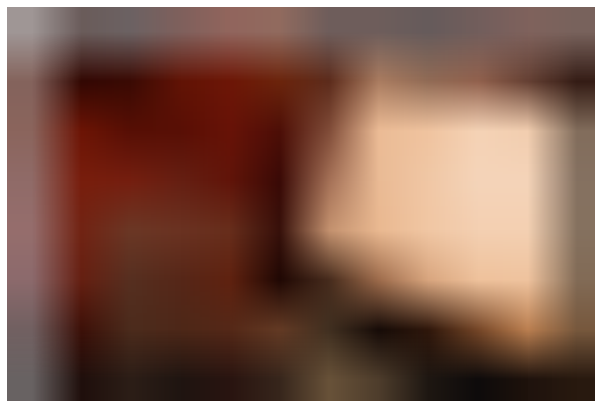
Saturday, June 17th

Not strictly an SSLSO event, but with our link with its Congregational Church, Alan Langridge and I thought that you might care to offer a piece (or more) for the Penge Festival, which includes a recital on the lovely three-manual organ there at 2.30p.m.

Please contact Alan if you would like to take part.

Sunday, August 6th

To help you to keep the Feast of the Transfiguration, we've organised another Summer Social in the Crypt of St. Giles's Church, Camberwell Church Street, SE5 8RB. This will be at what seems to be our set time for most events, 2.30pm.



Saturday, September 23rd

A visit at 11.00am to All Saints, Oakleigh / Totteridge / North Whetstone and, after lunch, at 2.30pm, to St. Andrew's, Southgate. This will be held jointly with the Enfield and District group. I have to fix a date to walk around the area with Terence Atkins (of said group) to plan the meeting soon.

Saturday, October 14th

6.30pm for 7.00p.m. Annual Dinner; venue to be fixed; guest speaker: Ven. Jonathan Sedgwick, Archdeacon of Southwark.

Outing to Friern Barnet and Southgate, North London

Saturday September 23rd

John Webber writes:

This will be a joint event with the Enfield and District Association. Travel to Arnos Grove Station on the Piccadilly line of the Underground. On leaving the Station, cross the road to bus stop A to catch a 34 (destination "Barnet Church"). This route is frequent and you need to get out at the Myddelton Park stop; the first church is a few yards further on, on the left.



[11.00a.m. All Saints Church, 122 Oakleigh Road, Friern Barnet / North Whetstone, N20 9EZ](#)



The organ by Bryceson (1883) is (I think) still in the building but not used / usable. It was replaced by an instrument from Church and Co. of Newcastle in 1984. It has two manuals and 29 speaking stops, including a Nightingale and Cymbal Star on the Great and Heraldic Trumpet on the Swell.

At about 12.15p.m. we finish at All Saints. You may use the churchyard to have a packed lunch, but it may be warmer to eat at one of several places near our second venue.

Cross the road at the traffic lights near All Saints and use the Myddelton park bus stop going south. Take the 125 (showing

destination "Winchmore Hill") and get out at the stop just after St. Andrew's Church in Southgate, which will be on your left. Between the Church and the bus stop are a Wetherspoon's, Pizza Express and an Italian restaurant called "Fantozzi". There are plenty of other places, too. Nothing is booked, but if small groups go to various eateries we ought to be fine.

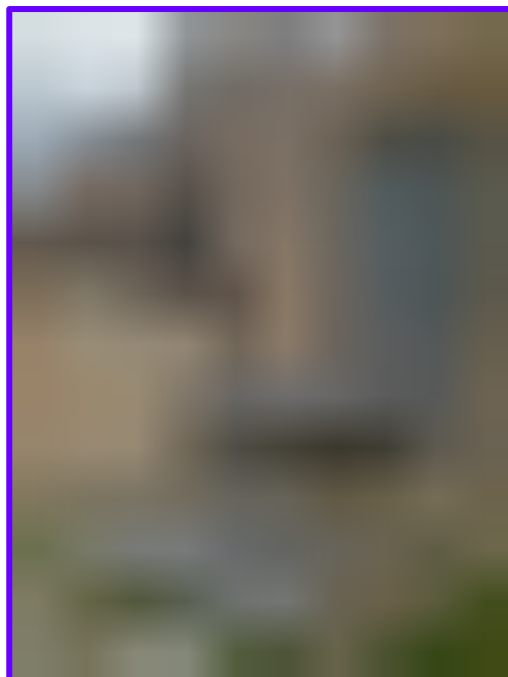
[2.30p.m. St. Andrew's Church, Chase Side, Southgate, N14 5PP](#)

The Vicar, Fr. Edward Turner is very friendly and is expecting to welcome us. He taught the flute before ordination, so understands musicians; he is delighted that we are coming. The atmosphere is friendly and the building is light. The organ is in a gallery above the choirstalls; it is narrow just before you reach the console.

The instrument dates from 1887 and is in good condition. From the leaflet produced by the Parish: "The organ was originally built by the famous "Father Willis" in 1867 for the second Duke of Wellington and stood for nearly a hundred years in the church on his estate in Berkshire. After being removed to Christ Church, Albany Street (redundant since 1989) the organ was offered to St. Andrew's. It is a two manual and although intended as a house organ, it fills the church and has a wonderful tone.

From St. Andrew's, turn left out of the Church and you will soon see Southgate tube Station (Piccadilly line still) on the other side.

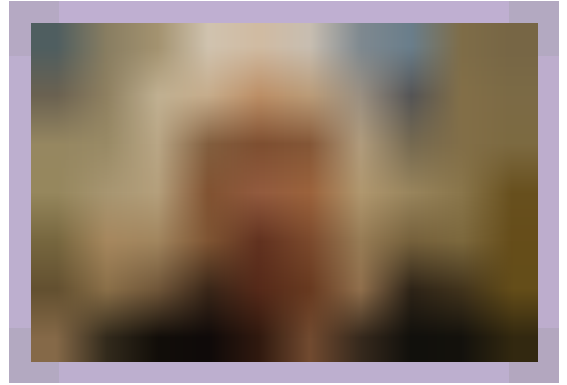
I imagine that we can stay until 3.30-4.00pm.



John Webber writes:

Dear Singer,

I am inviting you to join me to sing Choral Evensong at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, January 13th, 2024 at 4.00pm. As always, our organist will be Graham Powell, from Limpsfield Church. There will be a rehearsal on the day, hopefully from 2.00pm. There will also be two rehearsals at St. John's Church, East Dulwich Road, SE22 9AT on Sundays, October 15th. and January 7th, both from 2.00pm for two hours.



This will be continuing our tradition of a Cathedral Evensong every two years since 1999, except the three year gap caused by "you-know-what" from 2019-2022!

Please spread the word and invite your friends. To take part, please e-mail maggieandjohn1@gmail.com with your name and contact details, plus the names of other singers that you've invited, with voice parts. If you are part of a church choir, it would be helpful to know which one.

You will need to obtain the following music in time for the October rehearsal:

Canticles (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis): setting by T Tertius Noble in B minor. Available as a download; also published and easily available.

Responses: Richard Ayleward; freely downloadable. There are several choices; the version by Andrew Sims is well laid out, it's only four sides and in my preferred key (opening choir chord E flat major).

Anthem: "Star of the East" – Alan Bullard; it's in the "New Oxford Easy Anthem Book" at page 198, or you can buy it as sheet music; the book is ISBN 0-19-353318-9; I have a spiral bound copy, which is ISBN 0-19-335578-7. Also published separately by Oxford. This link will help for the sheet music version:

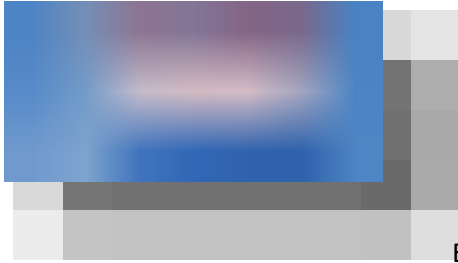
<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/star-of-the-east-9780193364707?q=star%20of%20the%20east&lang=en&cc=gb>

Psalms and hymns will be selected at a later stage.

Robes will be worn. If you don't have any, please discuss this with other singers at the two advance rehearsals, as we always resolve the matter easily.

At one of the advance rehearsals, please let me have a donation of £2 per singer.

I hope that a recording can be made, for which copies would be available at a reasonable price. *Is there someone out there who can offer to make the recording at the Cathedral and to turn it into CD format with a nice cover? Please let me know as soon as possible.*



Recent Events

Trip to the Netherlands

Eight members of the Society went to Groningen in The Netherlands in late March to visit some churches and to play their magnificent organs. The group consisted of Michael Cooke, Sarah Best, Alan Langridge, Marilyn and Norman Harper, Nicky Jones, Ian Clifford and me. Our genial host was SSLSO member Pieter Shaw, who lives in the Netherlands and who was brilliant in sorting out the details of our trip well in advance.

The buildings which we saw were a mixture of Lutheran and Calvinist. To many of us they were austere, with imposing pulpits but little sign of an altar table. Several of the churches date from the thirteenth century, so – as with our own ancient places of worship - were originally intended for what we now consider Roman Catholic services.

We visited churches by bus, train and Pieter's car in remote rural places and in Groningen city centre. There was a masterclass and there was more gentle tryings-out of the organs, which ranged from small chamber organs to large three manual ones.

A much fuller report will appear on our website in due course, complete with photos. Members will be told when it is available to see.

[John Webber](#)

[A message from Pieter Shaw:](#)

Good morning all,

An email to welcome you all safely back home and just to say thank you for your visit. Hopefully you all had a good night's rest and will start to settle back into your various routines.

It was a great pleasure for me to welcome you here to this part of the world and make it possible to see some of the wonderful instruments on offer here. Everyone involved in the various visits here found the group delightful and it was really very nice to have your company!

I want to say thank you for your lovely gesture to me, it was not necessary but really appreciated nevertheless. I am going to use the money towards my organ lessons with Peter so I will think of you all as I sit at the console of the Schnitger organ in Noordbroek!

Incidentally I gave an interview on local radio this morning primarily about the organ in Bellingwolde and our upcoming concert series but mention was also made of the South London organists who came to visit! Word gets around and you are all now famous here in the provinces of Groningen, Friesland and Drenthe!

Keep well all of you and my very best wishes,

Tot ziens in Groningen!

Pieter

[Website](#) – please do look regularly at sslso.org.uk. Our webmaster updates it frequently and there is much to see.