



## Newsletter - September 2023

Hello Folks,

The Silly Season is coming to an end and 'normality' is returning!

Along with it are a whole host of recitals and other interesting happenings.

### Forthcoming Events

Andrew Chadney writes:

The SSLSO has four very diverse events between now and Christmas - please make sure they are prominent in your diaries - especially as the first is imminent!

**Saturday 2 September - Workshop and recital with Prof Mark Miller - 2.30pm at All Saints West Dulwich**

Prof Miller is visiting the UK from New Jersey and is looking forward to meeting some English organists! There will be a workshop on sacred music at 2.30 and a recital at 4pm.

This is a joint event with All Saint's West Dulwich and the Lambeth Methodist Circuit - see more details attached.

**Saturday 23 September - visit to Friern Barnet and Southgate - from 11am**

We will be visiting All Saints Church Friern Barnet at 11am and St Andrew's Southgate at 2.30pm. Both have 2 manual organs with interesting features. All Saints has Nightingale, Cymbal Star and Heraldic Trumpet stops and St Andrew's is a Father Willis originally built for the second Duke of Wellington. I'm sure you can all find some appropriate repertoire!

***Please see further details from John Webber below.***

### **Saturday 14 October - Annual Dinner at Chancery Lane - evening**

Further details to follow but you can probably guess what this will entail...

### **Saturday 4 November - Christmas Repertoire! - 2.30pm at Nicky Jones' house (Forest Hill)**

The plan here is for members to come with a piece of organ music for advent or Christmas - preferably one that's not too well known.

Nicky has a 4-manual Wyvern in his house, which should be able to accommodate most styles of music - so come and show us what you like to play at Christmas and pick up some good ideas to extend your repertoire!

It being a private house we're not putting the address on the website but if you ask one of the committee we will let you know where it is.

All of these events are on the SSLSO website at [Events | The Southwark and South London Society of Organists \(sslso.org.uk\)](https://www.sslso.org.uk/Events)

Finally, our member [Ashley Valentine](#) has just returned from a trip to Ukraine where he has given a recital at Lviv Hall (yes, really!) and given music lessons to displaced children. If anyone would like to donate to his JustGiving page to help buy music and a piano for the children, the link is here:

[Crowdfunding to buy music books to take on a trip to Ukraine & use them to give lessons to displaced children. Surplus funds will go to makeitpossibleua.org on JustGiving](#) . Ashley has had a remarkable time and he will tell us about his trip in the New Year.

### **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.

St Dunstan's Bellingham

2 September 2023

2.00pm

Organ Recital

Marilyn Harper

Toccata - Georgi Mushel (1909-1089)

Overture of Camilla - Giovanni Bononcini (1670-1747)

Slow-Fast-Slow-Fast

Adagio in G minor - Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1750)

Invoking memories for seniors:

Telstar - Joe Meek (1929-1967)

Elizabethan Serenade - Ronald Binge (1910-1979)

The Liberty Bell March - Philip de Souza - (1854-1932)

Organ Concerto in Bb - George Frederick Handel (1685-1750)

Largo-Allegro- Largo- Allegro

Toccat and Fugue in D minor BWV 565 - Johann Sebastian Bach -(1685-1750)

Carillon de Westminster- Louis Vierne -(1870-1937)

*Originally from Lancashire, Marilyn Harper is still Organist at Christ's Chapel Dulwich after 23 years and is into her second stint as Organist at St Augustine's Honor Oak Park. She is an Accredited Teacher of Organ for the Royal College of Organists, and also teaches part time at James Allen's Girls' School in Dulwich, despite retiring from school work there in 2012.*

*In recent years she has given many recitals, mostly in London but also in the Midlands, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Surrey. Choirs have often invited her to accompany them on foreign tours and to UK cathedrals as a visiting organ accompanist.*

## Grand Organ Festival

## Westminster Cathedral

### **Discount for SSLSO members!**

In September 2023, four of Europe's most distinguished and talented organists will give recitals at Westminster Cathedral as part of our Grand Organ Festival.

Colleagues from the Southwark and South London Society of Organists are invited to buy their tickets for £10, a discount of 33%.

The Grand Organ of Westminster Cathedral is considered by many to be the greatest achievement and crowning glory of Henry Willis III, one of England's finest organ builders. **"The sheer impact on the listener is unforgettable" - Stephen Bicknell.**

### The series features:

#### **Simon Johnson**

Simon's latest recording, B-A-C-H Anatomy of a Motif (Chandos), was described as "one of the most significant releases for the organ...for a long time", demonstrating his "empathy, clarity and first-class musicianship".

### Peter Stevens

Peter has been our Assistant Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral since 2011. He previously held positions at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, and King's College, Cambridge.

### Martin Schmeding

Martin is professor at the University of Music and Theatre "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" Leipzig and Director of the European Organ Academy. He has won the Prize of the German Record Critics three times, most recently in 2020.

### Johann Vexo

Johann holds the distinguished position of Choir Organist at Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris. He was a prize-winning student at the Paris Conservatory, where his teachers included Olivier Latry, Thierry Escaich and Philippe Lefebvre.

The recitals take place each Wednesday in September, beginning at 7.30pm. Each performance lasts 75 minutes without an interval.

Tickets are available on the door. Members should present the email (which will be sent with this Newsletter) on arrival to purchase their tickets for £10.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September

St Paul's Cathedral

6.30pm

Kimberly Marshall

Tickets        £12

Concessions   £8

Works by Mendelssohn, Henry Purcell, Connor Chee, Sharon Willis, William Grant Still and Franck

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

Christ's Chapel, Dulwich

7.45pm

David Goode

International concert organist whose acclaimed recordings include the complete organ works of JS Bach.

This recital is not to be missed.

Free recital, generous collection at the end.

Christ's Chapel, Dulwich

Sunday 8th October

7.45-8.30pm

Rosemary Evans (St Alphage, Burnt Oak)

Admission Free, retiring collection.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024

7.45-8.30pm

Lucy Morrell ( Head of Academic Music and College Organist, Dulwich College)

Admission free, retiring collection.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

St John's, East Dulwich

11.00am

Matthew Dunn (All Saints, Blackheath)

Recitals at St Paul's, Clapham

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September

Charlie Warren

3.00pm

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Alan Saggerson

6.00pm

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Richard Pilliner

3.00pm

Please find further information on the pdf attached to this email.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Fairfield Halls

1.30pm

Marilyn Harper

Programme includes works by JS Bach; Tomaso Albinoni (transcribed by M Harper); William Byrd; Georgi Mushel; Percy Whitlock; Medley: Joe Meek, Ronald Binge, John Philip Sousa; Guy Scott Turner.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Royal Festival Hall

4.00pm

Carol Williams

Please find further information on the pdf attached to this email.

Choral Evensong at Southwark Cathedral

Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2024

John Webber writes:

Dear Singer,

I am inviting you to join me to sing Choral Evensong at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup>. and January 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 [maggielandjohn1@gmail.com](mailto:maggielandjohn1@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.*

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Penge Congregational Church

2.30pm

### Composite Recital

This is a recital given by members of the SSLSO.

Practice times will be in the morning.

More details to follow.

## Past Events

### Ulster Organ Competition

Peter Smith has kindly sent this link through which you can find more details of the event.

<https://slippedisc.com/2023/08/germans-win-ulster-organ-contest/>

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