

Southwark & South London Society of Organists

Affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists ~ Registered Charity No. 279537

President: Dr Harry Brama

Chair: Irene Wolstenholme



Newsletter, February 2025

Dear Members,

Greetings on Candlemas. Here's to February and all that brings. We have many events for the year, as listed in the attached document, which is again updated since last circulated (our July event is still being organised). Also included in this month's newsletter are details of recitals, concerts, and more.

Please do send in details of recitals you are giving or organising. Please email southwarksouthlondon@gmail.com by Friday 28 February for inclusion in the March newsletter. We aim to send out the newsletter on the first Friday of the month.

Future SSLSO events

For full details of these and other upcoming SSLSO events, please visit our website: www.sslso.org.uk

Saturday 22 February, at 2.30pm: Our annual **composite recital** will take place at Penge Congregational Church. Please do come to support all our performers, including our young bursary-holders.

Saturday 8 March: Visits to the Guards' Chapel and St Mary the Boltons, with SSLSO member John Ward. Our session at the Guards' Chapel (Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk SW1E 6HQ) is from 10am till 12.30pm, and then we have from 2pm till 3.30pm at St Mary the Boltons (8 The Boltons, SW10 9TB). Do join us for all or any part of the day.

Monday 24 March: AGM, at 7.30pm, at St John the Evangelist, Goose Green SE22 9AT. Callum Orr will give a recital before the AGM.

SSLSO Committee

There will be at least two vacancies on the SSLSO committee as committee members finish their terms of office in March. Please do contact us if you would be interested in joining. We have four or five meetings a year, currently on Sunday afternoons on Zoom, and committee members would be expected to play a part in organising meetings or undertaking specific roles (e.g. education). Please contact secretary@sslso.org.uk if you are interested or would like further information.

Recent SSLSO events

Saturday 18 January: Repertoire session

Irene writes: Five members met at Nicky's house on 18 January to explore music, and some new ideas, for Lent and Easter. Nicky has a four-manual Wyvern, which was brilliant for

demonstrating a wide variety of styles. We also had a chance to stock up on our organ music, as Clare from South London Music came with a seasonal selection to buy.

I would really recommend these sessions; you can find out about a wide variety of music in a relaxed atmosphere. For those of you still thinking about music for Lent and Easter, here is what was played that afternoon.

Krebs	Praeambulum supra Jesus, meine Freude
Buxtehude	Ach Herr, mich armen Sünder
Brahms	Herzliebster Jesu
Parry	Chorale Prelude on <i>Rockingham</i>
Peter Hurford	Chorale Prelude on <i>Wem in Leidenstagen</i>
Francis Jackson	Meditation on <i>Love Unknown</i>
Rebecca Groom Te Velde	Meditation on <i>Herzlich tut mich Verlangen</i>
Healey Willan	Chorale Prelude on a melody by Melchior Vulpius
Colin Hand	Hymn Prelude on <i>Victory</i>

Opportunities

RCO Play the Organ Year 2025: more information at rco.org.uk.

London Organ Day 2025 is **Saturday 1 March**, from 10am. Venues are St Botolph without Aldgate, EC3N 1AB, and the German Lutheran Church, E1 8EB. Speakers and performers include Shanna Hart, William Whitehead, Richard Brasier, and David Franke. Full details and booking at iao.org.uk/london-organ-day.

The IAO Eastern Region Organ Day, to which SSLSO members are invited, is **Saturday 31 May**, 10.30am-4.30pm. For more details and to book a place (£10), please see the attached flyer. Our member Alan Langridge will be the SSLSO organist performing in the composite recital.

Recitals and concerts over the next two months

Sundays at 5pm, at Westminster Abbey: weekly half-hour organ recital, admission free.

Mondays at 1pm, at St Michael's Cornhill: [weekly organ recital](#).

Mondays at 1.20pm, at Southwark Cathedral: weekly lunchtime recitals.

Tuesdays at 1.10pm, [Mayfair Organ Concerts](#) at Grosvenor Chapel or St George's, Hanover Square (free, retiring collection).

Wednesdays at 1.15pm, at Temple Church, EC4Y 7HL: free weekly lunchtime recitals.

Thursdays at 1.10pm at St Margaret Lothbury EC2R 6HH: free [lunch-hour recital with commentary](#)

Fridays at 12.30pm at St Margaret Lothbury EC2R 6HH: free [weekly lunchtime recitals](#), relocated from St Stephen Walbrook. *The concert on Friday 7 February is given by SSLSO member John Webber.*

Fridays at 12.30pm, at St George's, Beckenham BR3 1AX: weekly recital series — singers, pianists, string players and more. Free entry, retiring collection for music at St George's.

Saturdays at 11am, at St George's, Beckenham BR3 1AX: weekly recital series.

Saturday 8 February, at 5.30pm, at the Dutch Church EC2N 2HA: Reitze Smits (the Netherlands) gives a recital of Poulenc, Byrd, J. S. Bach, and Smits, a St Albans International Organ Festival event.

Tuesday 11 February, at 1.10pm, at The Guards' Chapel, SW1E 6HQ: Travis Baker (concert organist) (free, retiring collection).

Sunday 16 February, at 3pm, at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster SW1H 9NH: Joshua Simões Chapel Royal, Hampton Court) (part of the RCO Play the Organ Year).

Saturday 22 February, at 1pm, at St John's, Walworth SE17 1NG: Bexley District Organists' and Choirmasters' Association visit.

Saturday 22 February, at 4pm, at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, WC2H 8EP: Darius Battiwalla (Leeds City Organist) (free, retiring collection, buffet).

Thursday 27 February, at 6.30pm, at The Guards' Chapel, SW1E 6HQ: Matthew Jorysz (Westminster Abbey) (free, retiring collection, wine after).

Friday 28 February, at 1.10pm, at Croydon Minster CR0 1RN: Chingyan Lo (Hong Kong) (free, donations).

Saturday 1 March, at 12.30pm, at the Most Precious Blood, Southwark SE1 1TE: Tom Winpenny (London) (free, retiring collection).

Sunday 2 March, at 4pm, at St Marylebone Parish Church NW1 5LT: Richard Gowers (St George's, Hanover Square) (free, retiring collection).

Saturday 8 March from 9am to 6pm, at London Bridge Station: Members of the Society of Women Organists (SWO) will play "Henry" all day to mark International Women's Day. Come along at any time for as long as you want!

Tuesday 11 March at 1.05pm, at Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission EC1Y 1AU: Chingyan Lo (Hong Kong) (admission free).

Tuesday 11 March, at 1.10pm, at The Guards' Chapel, SW1E 6HQ: Polina Sosnina (Brasenose College, Oxford) (free, retiring collection).

Wednesday 19 March, at 1.05pm, at the Welsh Church of Central London W1W 8DJ: Oliver King (St Mary's, Saffron Walden) (free, retiring collection towards expenses and organ maintenance), Glyn Lang memorial series.

Saturday 22 March, at 4pm, at Hampstead Parish Church NW3 6UU: Geoffrey Webber (Hampstead Parish Church) (admission free).

Saturday 22 March, at 7.30pm, at Smith Square Hall (formerly St John's, Smith Square) SW1P 3HA: Hannah Gill (St Nicholas's, Harpenden) plays organ solos in a concert by the Fulham Symphony Orchestra (Tickets £14, concessions £12, under 16s £9).

Thursday 27 March, at 6.30pm, at The Guards' Chapel, SW1E 6HQ: Steven Grahl (Trinity College, Cambridge) (free, retiring collection, wine after).

Saturday 29 March, at 4pm, at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church WC2H 8EP: Thomas Allery (St Mary-le-Bow and Temple Church) (free, retiring collection, buffet).

Further ahead

Saturday 28 June, 7pm, at the Royal Festival Hall: an organ recital including improvisations by Wayne Marshall. Tickets from £20; details [here](#).

2025 Saturday-morning recitals, at 11am, at St John the Evangelist, Goose Green SE22 9AT. Admission free, retiring collection; refreshments after the recital.

10 May Lucy Morrell (Head of Academic Studies and College Organist, Dulwich College)

14 June Calum Ward (piano)

19 July Dorothea Harris (Organist of the Stadkirche St Michael, Schlüchtern, Hesse)

20 September Peter Wright (former Director of Music of Southwark Cathedral)

2025 Saturday-lunchtime recitals, at 12.30pm, at the Most Precious Blood, Southwark SE1 1TE

5 April Katherine Dienes-Williams (Guildford Cathedral)

3 May Anne Page (Cambridge)

2025 Saturday-evening recitals, at 7.30pm, at St John the Evangelist, Duncan Terrace, Islington N1 8AL. Admission free, collection.

31 May Johannes Skoog (1st prize-winner at the Montreal organ competition)

28 June Gary Sieling

26 July James McVinnie

27 September Katelyn Emerson

Please do join us at an event soon.

With very best wishes to you all,

The SLSO Committee