



APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our next meeting is on Saturday 4th May at St Mary's Hinckley LE10 1DW .

Our next meeting will be on Saturday May 4th at St Mary's Church Hinckley, by kind invitation of Peter Harris. This is very much a hands-on event. The Church will be open from 1.30pm for about an hour if you want to have a play on the 3 manual pipe organ rebuilt by Rodger Fifield in 2003.

At 2.30pm, Peter will give a brief explanation of how Hauptwerk works, and then you are welcome to give it a try! Peter has a 4 manual and pedal setup with the Hereford Cathedral sound set.

The church has a car park for about 20 cars, so parking shouldn't be a problem, and the address is:

St Mary's Church Church Walk Hinckley LE10 1DW

To gain access to the church, enter via the double gates and cross the car park, keeping the church on your right. Pass the double north doors and you will see a light brown single door into the Coffee Bar. light refreshments will be available.

On Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 1.00pm, Peter Harris will be giving his annual organ recital at St Mary's Church, using the Hauptwerk set up as above.

Looking ahead:-...

On June 1st, we have an invitation from Mike Spencer and Keith Chambers to visit Newbold and Ryton. More details will be sent out soon, but mark the date in your diary. We'll meet at Newbold at 10.30, lunch has been arranged at Ryton (I will need numbers) and then we can see and play the newly restored organ.

There is a date for Alveston now – **July 20th**, probably in the afternoon. Richard DS will run a workshop on 'Trios' – repertoire, registering, etc. You'll also be able to play the rebuilt Nicholson. Please keep the date.

GIFT AID

You may recall that in my last newsletter I sent out a request for a new Gift Aid Certificate. Ian is anxious to have a good basis for claims to HMRC, and our old paperwork is largely photocopies, rather than original documents. I've attached to this email the form he needs. Please date it January 1st 2024 so that he can include your 2024 subscription in his next claim. Either

- Complete electronically and send back to Ian over the airwaves (easy, if you know how!)
- OR: print the attachment off, fill it out and post back to Ian
- OR: call me or Ian and ask us to provide you with a form

Remember, provided you are paying UK tax, you can 'gift aid' to many organisations at **NO COST TO YOU**, and we can get a supplementary payment from the Government. If you'd like further explanation and reassurance, do give either of us a call.

Other News:

The Committee met on April 6th, and our attention was largely focussed on the programme for this year and next. I've updated the programme at the end of this letter. We've decided the lunch in November will be at the Leonardo on Hinckley Island, and we've booked the hotel and the Guest Speaker.

We've looking into a summer date for an evening social occasion with a guest speaker, and we're hoping to have this at a central venue near the M6/A5.

I've at last arranged a visit Alveston in the summer, which will be on July 20th.

I have been in contact with Thomas Trotter, and we are hoping to have a special visit to one of the September Town Hall recitals in Birmingham.

In other matters, Geoff and Gillian continue with their specialist work. Please make use of the Website, and the Library – both excellent resources, and encourage other interested parties to have a look. It's a public website, and a great shop window for our organisation.

Allen Organs, and Church Organ World

We have received an invite to visit Allen Organs and see their latest products available for home and church use. We've decided not to arrange a formal visit, but if anyone would like to visit their showroom in High Wycombe, if you let me know, I can connect you with any others in the Association and you could arrange a carshare at a mutually convenient date.

Similarly, you may be interested in a roadshow with **Church Organ World** who are once again staging an event in St John's Kenilworth CV8 1HY: Friday 6th September 17:00-19:00 /Saturday 7th 10:00-15:00 September 2024, when they will have organ demonstrations, music for sale (they've taken over Allegro Music remember) and organ master shoes.

WEBSITE

Geoff is constantly adding items and links to the website.

The RCO is now producing a monthly podcast, with interviews with Organ Builders and notable players. Very interesting 'interview' on the latest one with Thomas Trotter, who is celebrating 40 years as Birmingham City Organist. They're about 30 minutes long, and you can click through from the link on our website, or search on Spotify, or the RCO website.

Geoff has also compiled a list of 'local' organ recitals in date order, which is an excellent and convenient way to see what's happening when and where. Have a look at the website link:

[240414 Local Organ Recitals.pdf - Google Drive](#)

And please keep using the website – Geoff is constantly adding information.

PROGRAMME 2024

lead organiser initials annotated:-

May 4th A working Hauptwerk in St Mary's Hinckley (PH)

From 1.30pm; talk/**demo** 2.30pm; **open console from 3.00pm**

May 18 th	3.00pm Hinckley URC, recital by David Saint (LDOA) LE10 1NL on the 1867 Holdich organ. £5.00
June 1st	10.30am Newbold, and Ryton, lunch provided to order (MS/KC)
June 12 th	Leamington Spa Music Festival Organ Class (AM) 7.00pm Holy Trinity Church CV32 5RE
July 20th	St James Alveston, workshop on Trio's by Dr Richard Dunster-Sigtermans. Opportunity to play the newly re-built Nicholson. Time tbc
August 3rd	A composite recital in Rugby area of young and aspiring Members/pupils (PL)
September	Visit to Birmingham Town Hall <i>tbc</i>
Oct 5 th	<i>Midlands Organ Day, St Peter's Wolverhampton (MROA)</i>
Nov 16th	Annual lunch with speaker (EG/PH) The Leonardo, Hinckley Island