



# ULSTER SOCIETY OF ORGANISTS AND CHOIRMASTERS

President: Philip Stopford

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## NEWSLETTER ~ May 2008

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### ~ MAY EVENT ~

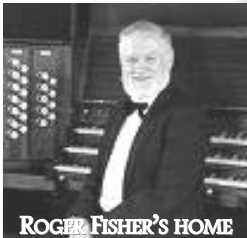
Saturday 3rd ~ Monday 5th May

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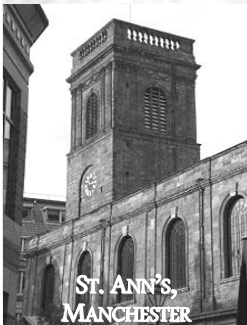
## 2008 BANK HOLIDAY TRIP TO CHESTER, LIVERPOOL & ENVIRONS



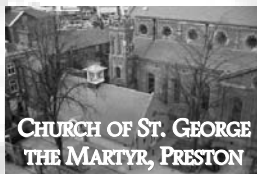
CHESTER CATHEDRAL



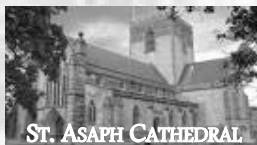
ROGER FISHER'S HOME



ST. ANN'S,  
MANCHESTER



CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE  
THE MARTYR, PRESTON



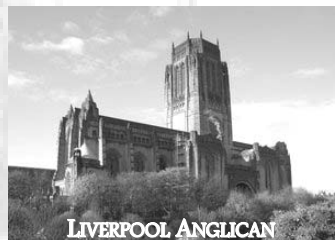
ST. ASAPH CATHEDRAL



ST. JOHN'S MINSTER, PRESTON



BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL



LIVERPOOL ANGLICAN

## 2008 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**MAY, Saturday 3rd - Monday 5th**

**BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND TRIP TO LIVERPOOL, CHESTER & ENVIRONS.**

*Full details are in the trip booklet (available on the USOC website soon).*

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**JUNE, Saturday 14th**

**VISIT TO PORTADOWN**

The district of Portadown is home to quite a few historically significant organs, and reliable sources indicate that our last visit was in the 1950s. It is likely that we will visit the following venues with a break for lunch.

- ◆ St. Mark's Parish - 3 manual, 52 stop Walker (1948), rebuilt 1982 Rushworth & Dreaper.
- ◆ Drumcree Parish - 2 manual, 17 stop Abbot & Smith (1907)
- ◆ First Portadown Presbyterian - 2 manual, 23 stop Conacher (1909), substantially rebuilt 2003 Wells Kennedy.
- ◆ Thomas St. Methodist - 2 manual, 18 stop Robson (c.1800), rebuilt 1860 Conacher, 1985 Wells Kennedy.

The final itinerary for the day will be in the June Newsletter, but to enable us to ascertain numbers for lunch (a deposit of £10 per person is required), please return the enclosed booking form as soon as possible.



**SEPTEMBER, Saturday 20th**

**"COME & SING" ALL DAY CHORAL WORKSHOP** conducted by John Rutter



USOC is honoured to host this very famous composer, presenting one of his legendary "Come & Sing" days at Campbell College. If you intend to come along but have not yet booked your ticket(s), please do so as soon as possible, using the booking form opposite.

The event will be advertised soon to school choirs and non USOC members, and we expect there to be a great demand for tickets.

**TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS**

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**OCTOBER, Saturday 18th**

**USING THE INTERNET FOR MUSICAL RESOURCES**



3:00 p.m. St. John's Malone, Malone Road, Belfast BT9 6SX

Donald Davison will show us what the internet can provide in terms of free resources for church organists, from organ and choral viewpoints.

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**NOVEMBER, Saturday 15th**



An event to celebrate the centenary of Olivier Messiaen's birth (10th December, 1908), presented by Colm Carey in conjunction with Belfast City Council.

*Full details will be confirmed in due course.*

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SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008

10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Come & Sing

# CHORAL WORKSHOP

conducted by John Rutter



CENTRAL HALL, CAMPBELL COLLEGE, BELMONT ROAD, BELFAST BT4 2ND



## BOOKING FORM

“COME & SING” CHORAL WORKSHOP WITH JOHN RUTTER

Saturday 20th September

10:30 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.

Central Hall, Campbell College, Belmont Road, Belfast

♦ I would like \_\_\_\_ free tickets for myself and \_\_\_\_\_  
(This person must be a member)

♦ I would also like \_\_\_\_ (non USOC member) tickets at £5.00 each

I enclose a **cheque** made payable to USOC for the correct amount ☐

I also enclose a **stamped addressed envelope** ☐

Numbers of ..... *Soprano* \_\_\_\_\_ *Alto* \_\_\_\_\_ *Tenor* \_\_\_\_\_ *Bass* \_\_\_\_\_

TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED ON A STRICTLY FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this completed form and cheque to the Treasurer :

Mr. Philip Walden

**FRIDAY 9TH MAY**

**7:45 P.M.**

**£ TBC**

**ST. FINNIAN'S PARISH CHURCH, CREGAGH, BELFAST**

# RENAISSANCE

*Renaissance, directed by Ian Mills*  
with **Richard Campbell** (organ)

An evening of popular choral music introduced by Rev. Canon Noel Battye

**SATURDAY 10TH MAY**

**7:30 P.M.**

**FOC**

**ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, ST. PETER'S SQUARE SOUTH, BELFAST BT12 4BU**



## CHORAL MASS

**St. Peter's Cathedral Schola**

*Schola is the newly formed boys' choir of the cathedral, directed by the cathedral's recently appointed Director of Music, Nigel McClintock.*

**WEDNESDAY 14TH MAY**

**7:00 P.M.**

**FOC**

**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, HIGH STREET, BELFAST**



## "BACH PLUS"

Colm Carey, Belfast City Organist, along with students from the Belfast School of Music, presents **"BACH +3"** - the last in this series of concerts. Admission is free.

Suggested donation to church funds, as retiring collection: £2

**FRIDAY 16TH MAY**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Minimum Donation £10**



Charity Registration Number: 207994

## **MARIE CURIE 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**

Fisherwick Church, Malone Road, Belfast

**Melisma**, *directed by Philip Stopford*, **Festival Brass**,  
*conducted by Alan Corry*, and soloist **Elizabeth Ross & Guests**

The proceeds from this concert will help our member Neale Agnew to raise sponsorship for the Marie Curie 'Bike the Baltic' Cycle Challenge across Europe - which will raise £1m for Marie Curie Cancer Care services. The concert is in memory of Neale's mother, Marie, who died at the Marie Curie Hospice in 2007.

Tickets from: Matchetts Musical Instruments (9032 6695); Fisherwick Church Office (9066 6683); and Lesley Wright, Community Fundraiser (9088 2046)

**FRIDAY 30TH MAY**

**8:00 P.M.**

**£10**

**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, HIGH STREET, BELFAST**

*Melisma, directed by Philip Stopford*  
with **Nigel McClintock** (organ)

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Mass in E Flat for Double Choir by Rheinberger  
'Valiant for truth' by Vaughan Williams  
plus music by Stanford, Tallis, and Sumsion  
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Tickets will be available at the door, or for reservations call 9029 0567



What's on ...

**SATURDAY 7TH JUNE**

**7:30 P.M.**

**TBC**

**ROSEMARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD, BELFAST**



**Carlo Curley** .....

will be playing an inaugural concert for the recently  
installed Allen Organ.

Tickets will be available at the door.

**SATURDAY 7TH JUNE**

**7:30 P.M.**

**£10/£8**

**ST. ANNE'S CATHEDRAL, DONEGALL STREET, BELFAST**



The Cathedral Choir's 6th  
**"Annual Summer Concert"**

with guest soloists

**Philipp Dawson** (baritone) and **Lynda Barrett** (soprano)

Featuring the music of Bairstow, Chilcott, Whitlock, and also  
'Hope' by Philip Stopford, which was first performed at the  
Consecration of the Spire of Hope in September 2007.

Tickets are available from the Cathedral Office - tel. 9032 8332

**SUNDAY 15TH JUNE**

**3:30 P.M.**

**FOC**

**BANGOR ABBEY, NEWTOWNARDS ROAD, BANGOR, BT20 4BW**

The **Priory Singers** will make their final appearance (under the direction of  
**Harry Grindle**) when they will sing Evensong in Bangor Abbey, accompanied  
by **Phillip Elliott** (organ). Bishop Edward Darling will be the preacher and the  
music will be largely by composers associated with the Abbey.

## **FRIDAY 20TH ~ SUNDAY 29TH JUNE**

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### **PIPEWORKS ORGAN FESTIVAL, DUBLIN**



From its beginnings in 1980 as the Dublin International Organ and Choral Festival, the Pipeworks Festival has brought to audiences a diverse programme of music-making with the organ at its centre.

An important feature of the festival is the International Organ Competition in Christchurch Cathedral which attracts young virtuosi from all corners of the world. The competition jurors this year are Thomas Trotter (UK), Hans Fagius (Sweden), David Higgs (USA), Margareta Hürholz (Germany), and Daniel Roth (France).

Further information about the festival from [www.pipeworksfestival.com](http://www.pipeworksfestival.com)

By post: Pipeworks, St Catherine's Church, Thomas Street, Dublin 8

By 'phone: 00 353 8 5786 8860

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## **WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE**

**7:00 P.M.**

**£ TBC**

### **ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, DUNDALK, CO. LOUTH**



Pipeworks juror Daniel Roth, organist of the famous Parisian church of St Sulpice, presents French symphonic masterworks on the superb Father Willis organ in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dundalk. This recital concludes a day of events in Dundalk featuring this magnificent instrument. Special travel arrangements by rail are available for Pipeworks friends and sponsors.

See above for contact information.

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## **SUNDAY 20TH JULY**

*More details in future newsletters*

### **ST. COLUMB'S CATHEDRAL, LONDONDERRY**

**David Briggs**

"Phantom of the Opera"

Silent Movie Improvisation Concert

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# COMPETITION

We are still accepting entries for the April competition - B A C H, A L A I N etc. etc. ...., so don't give up yet! And remember, you can send them to the Secretariat by post, 'phone, text, email or whatever means .....

All contact details on the back page.

# FISHERWICK • PRESBYTERIAN • CHURCH

MALONE ROAD, BELFAST

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: NEALE AGNEW

News

## ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2008-2009

Fisherwick Church is seeking to appoint a new Organ Scholar from 1st September 2008. The scheme, which has been running very successfully since 1999, places a strong emphasis on organ playing and choral direction. Past organ scholars have found this opportunity to be a valuable step in their musical careers and the last two have been offered Organ scholarships at Oxford Colleges.

Under the terms of the scholarship, organ scholars will receive:

- ♪ A bursary of £1000 per annum, paid monthly.
- ♪ Free weekly organ lessons from the Director of Music.
- ♪ Use of the Fisherwick Organ for practice.
- ♪ Experience of the management and training of a choir and the programming of music for the liturgical year.

The scholarship is awarded for one academic year, but may be renewed annually.

Further details can be obtained by contacting the church office (9066 6683), or by contacting the Director of Music, Neale Agnew, directly at either xxxx xxxx or mobile, or neale<dot>agnew<at>ntlworld<dot>co<dot>uk

## MESSAGE FROM THE HON. SECRETARIES

### **JUNE NEWSLETTER:**

Items for this to be with the Secretariat by Friday 23rd May please.

Remember that the June newsletter will be the last one before the summer break, so if you know of any events that will take place in July, August or September, please send details of these too.

### **FLIERS:**

We are happy to enclose fliers for events of interest along with the monthly newsletters. There is a nominal charge of £10 for this service, which should be included with the fliers - please send to us by the 20th of the month - at the address on the back page.

Size of flier: A6, A5 or ½ A4 as we use A5 envelopes.

Circulation: we print 200 newsletters at present.

The event will also be advertised in the usual way in the newsletter.

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## AUDIO ARCHIVE

Alistair McCartney is compiling an audio archive of organs past and present in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

So far he has collected several hundred hours of material ranging from the 1950s to the present day. This represents just under one hundred organs and includes instruments which have long since disappeared. These not only consist of solo performances but also include the organ in the context of choir accompaniment and broadcast services.

Aside from private recordings, details of over sixty published recordings on LP, Cassette and CD can be seen at

[www.organ.dnet.co.uk/niorgan/recordings.html](http://www.organ.dnet.co.uk/niorgan/recordings.html)

Members are encouraged to look at this list and advise of any omissions or errors. Pipe organs specifically are the intention, and the quality of performance or recording is not considered. If any member has recordings, in any format, including reel to reel, and thinks they would be relevant to the archive, please contact Alistair by telephone on xxxx xxxx or email [al<at>dnet<dot>co<dot>uk](mailto:al@at.dnet.co dot uk)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HON. TREASURER

Thank you to all members who have already paid their subscriptions, by whatever means, for 2008. However, I would be delighted to receive subscriptions from those members who have still to pay.

Members paying their subscriptions this year have again shown generous support for the Arthur Beggs Fund by making a supplementary donation. This Fund is now in a very healthy state and attracting interest payments such that we need to take care to avoid tax liability. Therefore I am asking that members refrain from making further donations for the time being, while steps are taken to promote the intended use of the Fund's resources. However, those members who have enhanced standing orders may leave them, as more expense would be involved amending them.

The current annual subscriptions are:

Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland	£20	Mainland Great Britain	£10
International Overseas Member	£7	Full-time Student	£10

Please contact the Treasurer if you have any queries in this regard.

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CONTACT

HONORARY SECRETARIES:

Stephen & Carolyn Hamill

07714 023964

[usoc<at>phoenix-organs<dot>co<dot>uk](mailto:usoc@phoenix-organs dot co dot uk)

HONORARY TREASURER:

Philip Walden

[philip<dot>walden<at>btinternet<dot>com](mailto:philip dot walden at btinternet dot com)

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