

# LEEDS ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

## UPDATE JULY 2017

*Photos from our events can be seen on the LOA website Gallery*

*(<http://leedsorganists.wixsite.com/loaweb>)*

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### Visits to Studley Royal & Winksley

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017

In the afternoon of mid-summer day, in lovely weather, we visited the famous and magnificent church of Saint Mary on the Studley Royal estate, it is in the care of English Heritage. Saint Mary's is one of two churches built in the 1870s by William Burges, the sister church is only a few miles away at Skelton on the Newby Hall estate east of Ripon.

The church contains a fine two manual & pedal organ of 1875 by T. C. Lewis in an unusual and striking case in the north aisle facing boldly into the nave 'like a medieval house with over-sailing upper storeys'. The instrument is maintained by Harrison & Harrison.

Our President gave an introductory talk with illustrations on the organ, then members were invited to play ~ bearing in mind that the church was very busy with summer visitors. We were made most welcome by the attendants and on departure we expressed our grateful thanks. Hopefully the visitors appreciated our efforts also!!

We then made our way to our next destination at the nearby church of Saints Cuthbert & Oswald Winksley. This church really is a hidden gem and well worth visiting. It is the 4<sup>th</sup> or maybe 5<sup>th</sup> on this ancient site. The church of 1822 needed replacing and was demolished in 1914, its replacement was consecrated 15<sup>th</sup> August 1917 by the Bishop of Ripon. The cost was met by the munificence of Lady Jane Furness of Grantley Hall and her son the RH Lord Furness as a memorial to her late husband Christopher, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Furness. The architects were Cannon & Chorley of Leeds, builders Armitage & Hodgson also of Leeds. The organ was the gift of Daisy, widow of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron, the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Furness.

Now Grade II listed, it is highly regarded for its harmonious design and the quality of workmanship exhibited by both building and contents, the parish is also celebrating the centenary of consecration.

We were made most welcome by the organist of the church, Andrew Roberts, who then introduced us to the organ and gave a brief demonstration. Members were then invited to try the instrument themselves.

The modest two manual & pedal organ in a very handsome case is on the north side of the chancel. Originally by Abbott & Smith of Leeds, and recently rebuilt by Principal Pipe Organs of York.

The ladies of the parish had prepared sumptuous refreshments which were very much appreciated. Our President conveyed our grateful thanks for these and for making us so welcome.

- See the interesting entries on Studley Royal and Winksley in Arthur Mee's 'Yorkshire-West Riding' in 'The King's England' series.

On arrival we were warmly greeted by Mrs Lynne Tebbet at the south transept door to this wonderful building. Of the huge number of monasteries once in Yorkshire, Selby is the only surviving complete monastic church in the county, although much restored.

Following the great fire in 1906, the organ was installed in 1909 by Hill & Sons. The superb organ cases were designed by John Oldrid Scott. This famous instrument really needs no introduction; recently superbly restored by Principal Pipe Organs of York, it now enjoys the benefit of a nave console from Manchester Cathedral.

Members were free to explore the riches of the organ from the console in the Quire. Dr Dee 'opened the batting' with Franck's 'Pastorale', followed by many other members, finally with a fiery delivery of Bairstow's 'Scherzo' by Dr Payne which demonstrated the full the capabilities of this marvellous organ.

After a truly wonderful evening our President expressed our grateful thanks to Dr Tebbet and his wife, Lynne, not forgetting the young ladies who gave up their evening to serve refreshments.

This evening visit completed our programme up to the summer break; we resume in September.

- Currently there is a series of Tuesday lunchtime celebrity recitals in progress until 8<sup>th</sup> August ~ admission free!!

### Miscellany

- It has recently been announced that Tim Gray, former President and Treasurer, will be retiring from his post at Harrogate Saint Wilfrid after completing 40 years faithful service. There will be a special Choral Evensong at the church commencing 4pm on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October, followed by a reception in the church hall. It would be delightful if there was a good turnout of LOA members at this event in support of one of our loyal colleagues on this notable occasion.
- Regarding local (and other) organ recitals, the season is in full flow and as many members will know, full details are readily available on [www.organrecitals.com](http://www.organrecitals.com)

*Who said this about who?*  
'the beginning and end of all music'

*The answer is the composer who said:*  
'My organ stuff is difficult but there is never a note too many'

#### NEXT MEETING

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm**  
**Huddersfield S.Patrick**

Full details will be circulated to members.

### ***Organ Music of Mozart & the French Revolution Period***

Our next event will be in Huddersfield at the Roman Catholic church of Saint Patrick on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm.

We shall extend a warm West Riding welcome Mr Douglas Hollick when his lecture-recital will focus on Mozart's great organ works (K594,608,618) and selected works by C P E Bach, Nicolas Sejan and Guillaume Lasceaux.

Mr Hollick enjoys an international reputation as a performer, he specialises in historical keyboard instruments, and the music composed for them. He has performed throughout the UK and abroad and his CDs have been critically well received.

Douglas currently teaches at Clare & Trinity Colleges, and formerly was an instructor at Hull University and Birmingham Conservatoire.

Members and friends are urged to support this event which promises to be very instructive and, indeed, enjoyable. It also gives us the opportunity to hear the fine SKRBL organ from its west end gallery position.