



Bexley & District Organists' &  
 Choirmasters' Association  
 NEWSLETTER  
 BDOCA website: <http://bdoca.myzen.co.uk>  
 Patron: Daniel Moulton



Affiliated to the  
 Incorporated Association  
 of Organists

## New Financial Year...

October 2015

Last publication August 2015

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 2015 –2016

A reminder to all members that subscription fees should be paid before the 1st September.

The Treasurer would appreciate prompt settlement. BDOCA's Fees remain unchanged at £20 for members (£15 for over 60s; £5 for students). Payment can be made as follows:

- (a) cheque payable to BDOCA sent to G Hempstead, 4 Windsor Place, East Grinstead RH19 4RP
- (b) cash or cheque (payable to "BDOCA") at any event;
- (c) via bank 'Faster Payments' mode to BDOCA's bank = sort code 09 01 54 account no. 56371087  
 (must state your name for reference)

Newsletter co-ordinator:  
 Lydia Gray—contact details  
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### 57th Annual General Meeting

The BDOCA 2015 AGM was held at Geddes Place United Reformed Church on Wednesday 9th September.

There were 14 BDOCA members present out of a total membership of 44. The meeting was also attended by the Mayor of Bexley, Cllr. Sybil Camsey, who herself is a musician and one of the organists at this church.



The President's report was read by him and has been circulated to membership.

The Financial report for 2014-15 was presented by the Treasurer and is included on page 3 of this newsletter.

Sue Moore resigned as Secretary as of the AGM, and Linden Morris was elected to take up the post.

Members gave a short organ recital before the AGM.

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## The day of the WOOFYT

On a bright and unusually warm Saturday morning in October, something amazing was about to take in Bromley Parish Church. To the casual bystander, the only hint that anything was different was a large, green and heavy plastic bag. Propped up by the office's outside door, it was to form the wind reservoir for possibly the most unusual organ in the world: the WOOFYT.

If you weren't there, you might not know what a WOOFYT is. But 15 excited (and wonderfully behaved) children and teenagers were to descend to the bowels of the church, and see the WOOFYT brought to life by its creator, Jeremy Sampson.

Whilst Jeremy worked his magic and captivated them all with his musical and participatory workshop, the other half of the group went to the cinema in the lady chapel. Here (and admittedly without any popcorn), they sat transfixed with a film compiled by Reg, as Howard Goodall and others brought the organ to life in a vibrant and kaleidoscopic way.

But more adventure was to come. Once the groups had swapped so that everyone had been Woofyted and cinemaed and lunched, it was time to be bold. Single file, we ascended the narrow spiral staircase and braved the innards of the Bromley Parish Church 1994 Walker organ. Swell shutters opened inches away from heads, the intrepid stood mere centimetres away from high voltage boxes and the less adventurous contented themselves with watching trackers move as one of us played.

The enthusiasm was palpable and everyone sat glued to another screen, this time set up by Nik, watching Alex Fishburn's fingers and feet deliver an expertly played and enjoyable 15 minutes of music making. Only one lucky member won the quiz, but everyone took part. The rumours I spread of a million pound prize proved to be unfounded, but certainly added a frisson as people completed their quiz sheets.

So what was the outcome? Fifteen young people left inspired and excited by the organ and its music. Some or maybe all of them will be future audiences.

A few of them want to start organ lessons as a direct result of the day.

Wow! This is what we should be about as a community. It was an honour for me, as your patron, to be involved with this inspirational day and to compère proceedings. Reg, Linden and others put a huge amount in to it all, and we owe them a large debt of gratitude. I think it was worth every last second.

I hope we all support this sort of venture in spirit. Perhaps we could support it in person ourselves in future or send young people we know along? We are all busy people, but it was a shame that only a few of our members lent support and came along. Are we a vibrant, forward looking association promoting the organ and drawing in more people to our love of this instrument and its music? Or are we beige, complacent and unconcerned, paying our subs but only turning up when food is involved? See you at the next one: what a brilliant BDOCA fixture for us all to get behind!

Daniel Moulton (BDOCA patron)





## 2015-16 Events Diary

15th Nov 2015	Evensong at St Paulinus' Church, Crayford (see details on previous page)
Date TBA	Hauptwerk Digital Organ Demonstration
11th Jan 2016	New Year Meal Sophie's Choice
9th April 2016	Choristers' & Choirs' Competition at St Paulinus' Church, Crayford
Date TBA	Spring Organ Crawl - hoping to visit Oxford again to go to Merton college to see the new Dobson organ, and 3 nearby college chapel organs. A small coach may be arranged.
Date TBA	Celebrity Recital
Date TBA	Summer Organ Crawl
30 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	Treasure Hunt

Please contact committee members for further details.

### **We welcome your views, comments and items of interest to our members.**

Please submit material to the Newsletter Co-ordinator, Lydia Gray :

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01322 551286 or e-mail [lg35@lydiagray.plus.com](mailto:lg35@lydiagray.plus.com)

### **Letter to the Editor**



### **DON'T FORGET.....**

BDOCA has a long standing commitment to support youngsters financially who are learning the organ. Contact the secretary for details, giving as much information as you can.

## Your Committee

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