

... exists to encourage the study of the organ, its history and design and to increase appreciation of its music by the general public.

The society serves as the amenity society for the British pipe organ, working in particular for the conservation and faithful restoration of historic British organs. Many of these instruments are of great musical and visual character; they are part of the nation's heritage and they can teach us much about the work of former craftsmen who built them, of generations of musicians who played them and of composers who wrote for them.

The Council and membership include advisers, archivists, authors, enthusiasts, historians, organ-builders, scholars, teachers and performers. It furthers its aims with publications, including the annual *Journal* and quarterly *Reporter*.

Support has been provided by the Arts Council of England, Birmingham City Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Pilgrim Trust and others.

Registered Charity No. 283936

- To promote objective, scholarly research into the history of the organ and its music in all its aspects and, in particular, into the organ and its music in Britain.
- To conserve the sources and materials for the history of the organ in Britain and to make them accessible to scholars.
- To work for the preservation, and where necessary the faithful restoration, of historic organs in Britain.
- To encourage an exchange of scholarship with similar bodies and individuals abroad and to promote, in Britain, a greater appreciation of historical overseas schools of organ-building.

Membership is open to individuals and organisations supporting the Society's aims.

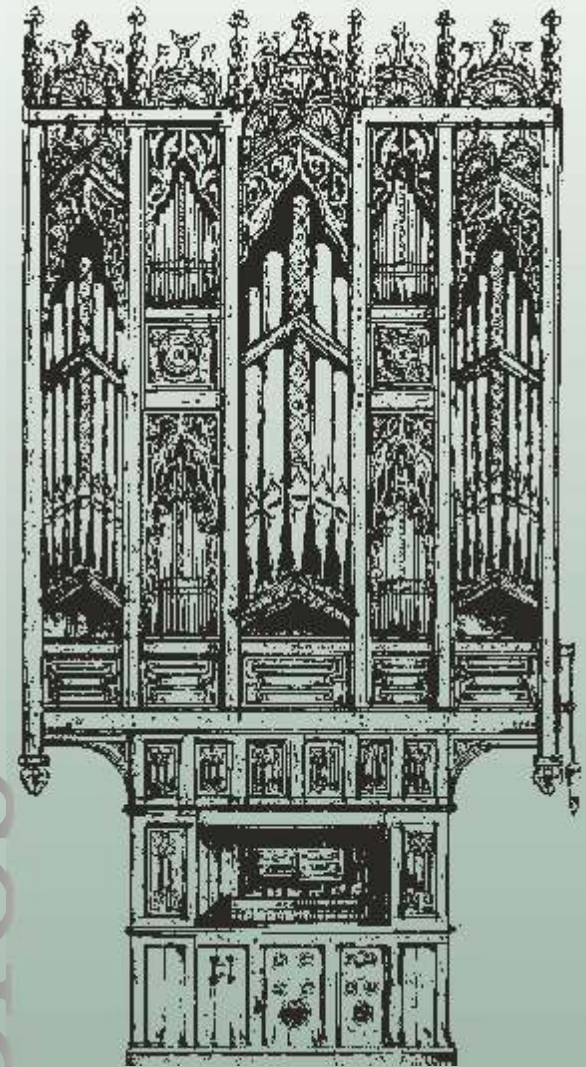
Please send completed membership forms with your subscription, completed standing order or credit card details, to the Membership Secretary and NOT to your bank.

Email list

All BIOS publications are sent in paper form by post. When an email address is provided overleaf, this may be used to send additional information and announcements. If you prefer not to receive such messages, please tick the box below.

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BIOS

Old Radnor

## MEMBERSHIP

The current subscription rate is £30 p.a. with a concessionary rate of £24 for full-time students and the retired who have reached state retirement pension age. Members outside Europe may have publications sent air-mail for a £10 annual supplement.

Subscriptions run from January to December and new members joining during the year receive publications from earlier that year. Payment may be by sterling cheque or postal order, but the use of a standing order or a credit card is recommended. Card charges are made in pounds sterling.

## APPLICATION

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## BIOS provides...

### *the British Organ Archive*

... in Birmingham housing material from the 1820s onwards. There are original documents, organ-builders' shop-books, correspondence, technical drawings and other papers related to those who commissioned, designed, constructed, played and listened to organs. This is complemented by the fiche and microfilm records of many British firms. Unique illustrations exist including the photographic collections of Freeman and Benham as well as a library of books. The archive index is a major research tool and is available on-line.

### *the National Pipe Organ Register*

... which aims to contain details of all British pipe organs. It provides the basis for future scholarship and historic listing and is available on-line along with the Directory of British Organ Builders. There are free MP3 files in the Historic Organ Sound Archive.

### *a casework and conservation resource*

... monitoring organs through education and liaison with other bodies. Organs under threat of redundancy, removal, inappropriate restoration or destruction are identified and the appropriate authorities are alerted. BIOS co-operates with many bodies including the Council for the Care of Churches and English Heritage as well as national amenity bodies such as the Victorian Society.

### *the Historic Organs Certificate Scheme*

... which recognises instruments of historic value, and is viewed as a first step towards the introduction of a statutory listing process to protect our organ heritage. The scheme identifies instruments of importance when certification can help an adviser prevent inexpert alteration, alert a parish to an historic organ in its care, support an application for a grant, or make known rare survivals of technological innovation.

### *Meetings and Conferences*

... taking place throughout the year in many parts of the country, reflecting members' work and interests. Many of these meetings include not only fascinating insight from leading authorities, but also provide an opportunity for younger scholars to present their work to an interested and informed audience.

### *Publications*

... provided free to members include a substantial annual *Journal*, containing articles and authoritative reviews largely, but not only, concerning organs in Britain. There is also a quarterly *Reporter* with news and notices of all events and a biennial *Membership List*.