

Columns

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THE FRIENDS OF CHRIST CHURCH SPITALFIELDS
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 276056

Columns is the newsletter of the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields who are leading the restoration of Nicholas Hawksmoor's church, one of the most important Baroque churches in Europe.

Please support us by subscribing or making a donation. Use the form with this issue to make a donation, or telephone the Friends' office on 020 7859 3035, or visit our web site www.christchurchspitalfields.org.

Award for 'a glorious restoration'

The work at Christ Church has recently been recognised at the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust's Building of the Year Awards 2005 with a special award for 'A Glorious Restoration'. The Commission's award recognizes the ambitious scale of the restoration project at Christ Church, the determination and hard work of all those involved and the superb results.

On 16 June 2005, the Friends, Rector and PCC of Christ Church Spitalfields received the special award marking the successful restoration of the church at a ceremony celebrating some of the most exciting building projects completed in the UK during the last twelve months.

The annual award from the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust, sponsored by British Sky Broadcasting, is made to a new building or building scheme of outstanding architectural merit. The panel of judges is chaired by the Lord St John of Fawsley. Each year there is an overall winner and there are also special awards for commended buildings. This year's awards were presented by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey of Clifton.

A film showing all the buildings nominated and the eventual presentation of awards can be seen on Sky Artsworld channel on Thursday 28 July at 7pm and will be repeated on Friday 29 July at 2pm.

Other news

English Heritage recently chose Christ Church as the venue to launch the first definitive report on heritage skills, *Traditional building craft skills: assessing the need, meeting the challenge*.

The report was presented by David Linford, Chairman of the National Heritage Training Group, Simon Thurley, Chief Executive of English Heritage and Peter Lobban, Chief Executive of CITB-Construction Skills. The detailed report sets out, region by region, the present and expected demand for different traditional crafts; it attempts to



Detail of the Richard Bridge organ case at Christ Church

address how these demands can be met by increased focused training provision and the sort of funding which will be required to support this.

Christ Church was the ideal venue for such an event as so many of these specialist skills had been utilized in the restoration of Christ Church with the results there for all to see.

Dates for your diary

Open House London 2005

Saturday 17 September 10am–5pm,
Sunday 18 September 1pm–4pm

Christ Church is participating once again with over 500 venues in London for this weekend festival of architecture. Open House London provides the chance to see inside significant buildings not generally open to the public. Supporters may be interested to know that on the Saturday morning there will be bell ringing demonstrations organised by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and an opportunity to visit the ringing chamber.

Tour of Hawksmoor's London churches

Demand for the tour that the Friends organised in May was so great that we have decided to

arrange a second one for this year on Saturday 24th September. We are delighted to have as our expert guide Andrew Martindale, formerly senior caseworker with the Georgian Group and currently Director of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland. We look forward to seeing many of our supporters at all these events.

Support

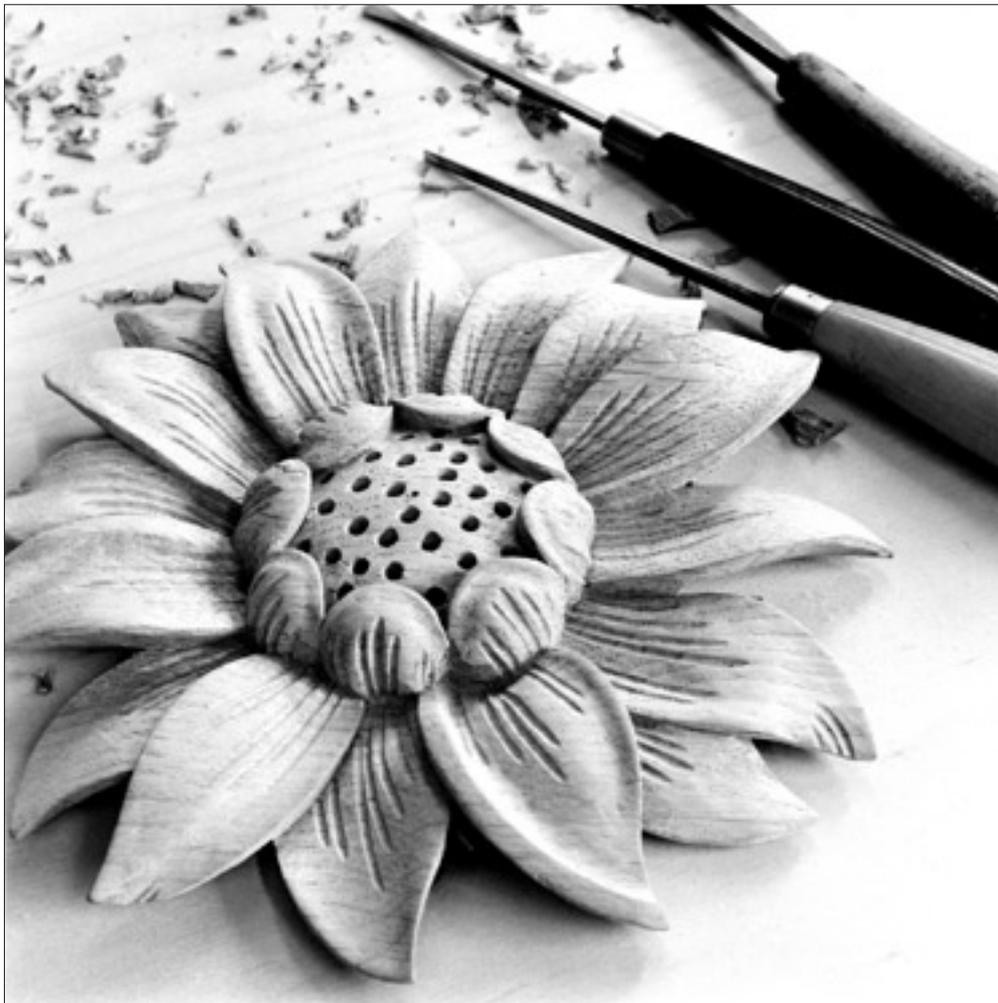
Although the restoration of the nave of the church is now complete, there is still vital work to be done: the complete restoration of the fine 1735 Richard Bridge organ; refurbishment of the crypt area to support the work in the church; and other

smaller items such as restoring the monuments and buying suitable church furniture.

If you would like to support the ongoing work of the Friends, please consider making a donation by filling in the form enclosed with this newsletter. Every donation counts and is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Cards and booklets published by the Friends

Enclosed with this special edition of *Columns* is an order form for the cards, books and leaflets currently available from the Friends. All proceeds go towards the restoration work at Christ Church.



S R B HUMPHREYS

Sunflower for the new south door case carved in oak by the workshop of Gonzalez & Harms in Chard: a fine example of the traditional crafts instrumental to the restoration of Christ Church.

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How to support the Friends

To become an acknowledged Supporter of the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields please make a minimum annual donation of £25 (£30 for overseas). You can contribute towards the restoration of Christ Church or the Richard Bridge Organ. Supporters receive the Friends' newsletter *Columns* and advance notice of tours, lectures and other special events that the Friends organise.

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Or, by completing the appropriate parts of this page:

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- by bank or CAF **cheque**.

Please pay to the Royal Bank of Scotland plc of 62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8LA, sort code 15-10-00 for the credit of The Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields Account No. 13075487 the sum of:

£ each month quarter year starting on dd/mm/yy (no earlier than one month from today, please) until further notice. This donation is in addition to*/replaces* previous Standing Orders, if any, in favour of the Charity. We will process Standing Orders and forward them to your bank. **delete as applicable*

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Please allocate my donation towards the restoration of:

- Christ Church Spitalfields
- The Richard Bridge Organ

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Thank you. Please return the completed page to:
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