

Tayside Organists' Society

Visit to Fife Electronic Organ Society

St Columba's Church, Glenrothes

20th March 2019

Review by Kevin Veal

For this meeting, some 15/16 members of the Society travelled to St Columba's Church, Rothes Road, Glenrothes, Fife, where the membership of Fife Electronic Organ Society, (the only Electronic Organ Society remaining in Scotland), were holding their March meeting. The numbers attending from FEOS were, not unsurprisingly, significantly higher than TOS, who were the visitors.

We were all treated to a first-class recital by Steve Hubble, (from Weymouth), who is well known in the Electronic Organ World, and who has played in previous years for the Fife Society. He played on his Yamaha Tyros 3 instrument which was coupled with an M Audio Midi Keyboard. These instruments produced a wide range of different organ sounds, and Mr Hubble's programme was designed to – and did very much – please and satisfy the whole gamut of musical tastes. Mr Hubble was able to demonstrate and highlight the very wide extent of organ tones and colours available to the recitalist playing on this instrument.

The programme consisted of the following pieces: -

First Half: -

A selection of music from the film "The Sound of Music"

Come Fly with Me (a Frank Sinatra Hit)

A Neil Diamond melody

S' Wonderful, S' Marvellous

The Wind beneath My Wings

A selection from the musical and film "My Fair Lady" (including On the Street where you Live, I Could Have Danced all Night, and Get me to the Church on Time)

A melody by John Barry

A Michael Bubl  song

Melody from the musical, "Grease".

Wichita Lineman - a song made popular by Glenn Campbell

The Impossible Dream

The Radetzky March

Second Half after the interval

Variation on the Toccata and Fugue in D Minor by J S Bach.

Misty

The Blue Danube (Johann Strauss)

James Last - The Lonely Shepherd

“Greased Lightnin” from the musical "Grease"

Once upon a time in the west

Apache – (made famous by "The Shadows")

A selection of music from the 1920's

New York, New York - (another Frank Sinatra hit)

For his Encore, Mr Hubble played "Duelling Banjos".

This was a very different, but musically very satisfying, evening for Tayside Organists' Society, which demonstrated that music from Electronic Organs is wholly dependent on the skill and acumen of the performer. Steve Hubble's ebullient and charismatic personality shone through as he introduced each piece, and he very quickly developed a warm rapport with his audience.

TOS members much enjoyed this evening, and the opportunity to speak with FEOS members over a cup of tea at the interval.

The whole evening was suggested and facilitated by Mr Norman Milne, a member of the Committee of FEOS, who is also a Committee member of FOCHO, (the Friends of the Caird Hall Organ).

Because of the great success of this evening, the membership of both Societies hope to collaborate in future years, and maintain ongoing contact. This will be done with the intention of supporting each Society's programmes, whenever that may be possible.