NIGEL OGDEN was born in Manchester in 1954. After several early attempts at piano lessons he stuck at it from the age of ten. Two years later he was playing the church organ, but, like so many other people, it was a visit to Blackburn’s famous Tower Ballroom which first introduced him to the sight and sound of a theatre organ. Although he had a few Saturday morning sessions on the Odeon and Gaumont Manchester Wurlitzers, Nigel really got to grips with the theatre organ on the Compton in the Davenport Theatre, Stockport. During the next few years he gave a number of concerts at local churches, but it was in December 1970 that he was invited by John Porter of the Lancastrian Theatre Organ Trust to play every night for three weeks at the Odeon, Manchester, and following favourable public comment, was invited the following week to become resident weekend organist at the Gaumont Theatre where he remained until the closure of the theatre. He has since his credit many broadcasts on both local and national radio. He has also made television appearances. He is Musical Adviser to the Lancastrian Theatre Organ Trust, which organised the theatre organ section of the first Manchester International Organ Festival last September, centred around the 420 Wurlitzer which the Trust removed from the Odeon and re-installed in the Free Trade Hall, and on which Nigel’s latest LP record “The Mighty Sound of Music” was made. Having had two years’ experience in both the retail and wholesale divisions of the electronics industry, Nigel has, with his partner, recently opened his own organ retail business in Sale, Cheshire.

DENNIS TOWNHILL combines the position of Organist and Master of the Choirs at St Mary’s Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh with that of Lecturer in Music at the Theological College of the Episcopal Church in Scotland and teacher at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow. He is a former President of the Edinburgh Society of Organists, Chairman of the Edinburgh Organists’ Committee and a Special Commissioner of the Royal School of Church Music. His approach to church music in many parts of Great Britain and in Europe is that the organ is not only a means of worship, but a medium to which all can relate. He has been Invited to develop the Cathedral Choir Schools into St Mary’s Music School — Scotland’s first and only school for children showing outstanding gifts for music, with Yehudi Menuhin as its Patron, and he is currently its Choral Director. He was a chorister and pupil-assistant at Lincoln Cathedral. He holds the degree of Bachelor of Music of Durham University and the LRAM Diploma for Performance. He is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and holds the Choir Training Diploma of the Royal College of Organists and the Archdiocesan of Canterbury’s Diploma in Church Music. He has travelled extensively throughout Western Europe, both as soloist and with his Cathedral Choir of boys and men. In Norway, Denmark, Sweden, France, Holland and Germany. He has been particularly active in fostering good relations through church music with young people of other countries and other religious denominations. He was broadcast regularly since 1957 both as soloist and with his choir.

BARRY ST-JOHN NEVILL would like to express his sincere thanks to all the distinguished guests, managers and also the staff of North London News Group Ltd., The London Sports Car Centre Ltd., Ego Computers Ltd., The Alexandra Palace, The Royal Albert Hall, The Dome, Brighton, The Free Trade Hall, Manchester, The City Hall, Sheffield, The Brangwyn Hall, Swansea, St. Paul’s Cathedral, St. Mary’s Scottish Episcopal Cathedral Edinburgh and also to the following very kind people who helped him in different ways: Judy Abrahams (London Hilton), Tim Batley (Read Manager to Chris Court), Graham Bamber, Ralph Benton, Malcolm Bresnidge, Carl Bratt, John Coldstream (Daily Telegraph), Brian Cutliff, Anthony Cumberbatch (personal assistant to Dr. B. St-John Nevill), Peggy and Ernest Davy, Enny Davies, Emma Dickinson, Eddie Dooley, Robert F. Edmonds, Janka and Alan Foster (who without whose friendship and encouragement it would have been impossible for me to continue to keep the recitalist concerts not have been possible); Margaret and Michael Fryer, Audrey and Ray Gooch, Jimmy Grayson, Robert (Boo) E. Spencer-Brook, Peter Hulter, The Rev. Fr. Brookes Kingsmill Lucas, The Rev. Fr. Robin Mark (Rector of Staines), Tony Moss, Bert Neale (to whom very special thanks), Alan Newton, Herzel and Michael Pearson, Will Primus (London Hilton), Councillor Jenny Riley, Peter Rudge, Mike and Joanna (London Hilton), Dr. George Tholen-Bell, Trinoo Tindle, Veronica Wemyss, Dr. S. R. Wychnon Crichton and Philip Wells.
THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON
General Manager : Anthony J. Charlton
GRAND ORGAN GALA CONCERT
July 16th, 1979
(Britain's biggest-ever organ gala concert)

PROGRAMME

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION to CARLO CURLEY by ROY MASSEY (on the Allen) and BARRY ST-JOHN NEVILL (on the Grand Organ of the Albert Hall)

CARLO CURLEY welcomes the audience and then plays:
"Liberty Bell"  
"Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C-major"

Carlo introduces CHRISTOPHER DEARNLEY, who will play:
"Sonata on the 94th Psalm"

Carlo introduces prizewinning student from the Royal College of Music. (NB: Name of prizewinner not known at the time of going to Press).

Carlo will then introduce JANE PARKER-SMITH, who will play:
"March Pontificale"
"Toccata, Op 12"

INTERVAL

Carlo will play:
"Grand March from Tannhauser"
"A Surprise"

Carlo then introduces ROY MASSEY, who will play:
"Etude Symphonique"
"Prelude and Fugue in D-major"
"Variations sur un Noël"

Carlo introduces JANE PARKER-SMITH, who will play:
"Piece Heroïque"
"Carillon-Sortie"

Carlo and Roy Massey will then play duets.

Please remember that an unstillled cough or sneeze can be most distracting. The artists reserve the right to amend or omit any part of their programmes.

THE ORGAN CONSOLES MAY BE INSPECTED ONLY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONCERT.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED.

(This concert is sponsored by The London Sports Car Centre, Ltd., Gemini House, High Street, Edgware, Middlesex.)
CARLO CURLEY was born in Monroe, North Carolina in the United States of America in 1952. He received his first music lessons at the age of three from his grandmother — a former professor of pianoforte at the New England Conservatory of Music. When he was five, she encouraged him to accompany some church services on the organ. By the time he was eight, he was publicly performing some of J.S. Bach's major organ works from memory! He won a scholarship to the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem (America's first Government-funded school especially developed for gifted children) and studied under Dr. John Mueller. He later studied with or attended master classes with Dr. Arthur Poister at Syracuse University, Dr. Robert Elmore of Philadelphia, the American star, Virgil Fox and with the doyens of the world's concert organists, Dr. George Thalben-Ball, CBE, of the Temple Church and Royal Albert Hall, London. (Dr. Thalben-Ball celebrates 60 years of association with the Temple Church this year.) For some time he was a church organist in Atlanta, Georgia and also in Grand Rapids, Michigan. When he was 19, he was appointed to be Director of the Choral-Keyboard section of the music department of the famous Girard College, Philadelphia where he also acted as College Organist. He has made several records in America and in Great Britain and more records are planned for 1979. He was the first organist to record on the Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ in the concert hall of the Kennedy Centre in Washington, DC, and has also recorded for the Allen Organ Company.

Since his debut, his concert career has included engagements on some of the world's most famous organs. He is particularly well-known in the USA, Canada, Great Britain, Spain, France and Italy. The world's Press have acclaimed his young genius whose musicianship, artistry, consummate technical brilliance and remarkable personality have won him hundreds of thousands of admirers — some of whom must have believed the organ to be a dull instrument, until they heard Carlo. He is one of a handful of famous organists who earn their livings solely from giving concerts, making gramophone records and radio and television appearances.

During his 1978 Tour of Great Britain, Carlo gave 45 concerts from Truro in Cornwall to Oban in the Western Highlands; from Sunderland in Tyne and Wear to Walsall in the West Midlands. He played in concert halls, cathedrals, cinemas, the concert hall of Broadcasting House and churches of all shapes, sizes and denominations. His audiences ranged from 350 to over 4,000.

In 1976, he commissioned the Allen Organ Company of Macungie, Pennsylvania to build him, to his own design and specification, what became the largest portable computerised electronic organ in the world which he bought with the help of his then Patron, the late Mrs. Florence Candler (Mrs. Asa G. Candler, Jr.,) of the Atlanta Coca-Cola family. The instrument which weighs five tons has four manuals, 166 stops, almost 400 speakers, nine computers and 5,500-watts of power. During his tours of Great Britain in 1979, this massive instrument will be used at concerts in the Royal Albert Hall, the Great Hall of the Alexandra Palace, the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea, the Dome Brighton, the Great Oval Hall of Sheffield City Hall and also in St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh for the concert during the Edinburgh International Festival.

Early in 1978, Carlo sold the computerised Touring Organ to Mr. Alan Foster, a London businessman, well-known racing driver, amateur organist and Managing Director of the famous London Sports Car Centre, Ltd., in Edgbaston, Middlesex. Thanks to the munificence of Alan Foster and his firm, they are sponsoring the gala concerts in the Royal Albert Hall, the City Hall Sheffield, the Free Trade Hall Manchester and St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh. The London Sports Car Centre, Ltd., is co-sponsor of the concert at The Dome, Brighton with Mr. R.E. Spence-Grover. The remaining gala at the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea is being sponsored by Mr. Emry Davies, Managing Director of Allen Organ Studios (London) Ltd., Kingston-upon-Thames.

Barry St. John Nevill.
RONALD PERRIN was born in London in 1931, and won an organ scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford (always known as "The House") in 1949 where he read for an honours degree in music. He is now a Master of Arts of Oxford University. In 1951, he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, and after a period of national service in Berlin, he became assistant organist of Leeds Parish Church, from which he went to York Minster as sub-organist. In 1966 he was appointed Organist and Master of the Choristers of Ripon Cathedral in North Yorkshire - a position he still holds. He is the conductor of the Ripon Choral Society and is a popular adjudicator at music festivals throughout Great Britain. He is a well-known recitalist and frequently broadcasts on BBC Radio 3. His records on the RCA VERSA label, Mr. Perrin is a Fellow of Trinity College, London and also on LRAM.

RICHARD PILLNER is 21 and was born in Shrewsbury. He is a student at the Royal Academy of Music. He began to play the organ when he was 14. At 16, he gained his LRAM (performers) diploma and at 17, his ARCO (performers) diploma, with honours. He won a scholarship to the RAM where he studies with Dr. Arthur Willis (Ely Cathedral) and Alan Harverston. He has won several top awards and prizes for playing the organ while at the Academy.

NOEL RAWSTHORNE'S association with the musical life of Liverpool Cathedral spans nearly half the building's history. Over a period of more than 30 years, first as chorister and, later in the organ loft, he has become a prime influence in maintaining and expanding the English Cathedral Tradition of Britain's largest church. At 16, he won a scholarship to the Royal Manchester College of Music (now the Royal Northern College of Music) and returned to cathedral activities full-time three years later when he was appointed assistant organist to the late Dr. Henry Goss Custard. In 1955, when Dr. Goss Custard retired, Noel Rawsthorne succeeded him at the early age of 25, taking over the responsibility for one of the world's most magnificent instruments. In 1956, the Liverpool Philharmonic Society of Arts gave him an award from the Gulbenkian Foundation, which enabled him to continue studies with Fernando German in Italy, and Marcel Dupé in Paris. Following in their footsteps, Noel Rawsthorne is now an internationally recognised artist. He has visited the Soviet Union three times as a recitalist, playing in Moscow, Leningrad, Riga, and other major cities. Performance tours of the United States and Europe have also met with wide acclaim. He has played at all the major venues in this country, and his Liverpool Cathedral recitals attract capacity audiences. In addition, he broadcasts regularly with the BBC, and has made several records. Mr. Rawsthorne is a Council Member and Examiner at the Royal College of Organists. He also lectures at Master Classes and has adjudicated at national organ competitions. A keen knowledge of organ building and design has led him to active as a consultant on major installations and renovation projects throughout the United Kingdom.

CARLO'S 1979 TOUR

July 10 1979
Norwich Cathedral
July 11 1979
The Lister Hall, Biped, N.
July 12 1979
Free Trade Hall, Manchester
July 13 1979
Belfond Methodist Church
July 14 1979
St. Peter's Parish Church, Rawmarsh
July 15 1979
Great Hall of the Alexandra Palace, London, N.Z.
July 16 1979
Sheffield City Hall
July 17 1979
Fortfield Hall, Corby
July 18 1979
Organ Gala, The Dome, Brighton
July 19 1979
Everton Parish Church
July 20 1979
Saint Matthew's Parish Church, Northam, N.
July 21 1979
The Royal Albert Hall, London, Grand Gala,
July 22 1979
St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh
July 23 1979
Gala Concert
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Oct 1 1979
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ARNOLD LOXAM began pianoforte lessons when he was five and made his first broadcast on BBC 2LS (Leeds). Young Arnold was fascinated by church organs, and although he had no experience, he applied for a position and was successful. He immediately found an organ teacher and a year later became organist of a chapel in his hometown of Willey, near Bradford. In addition, he played in local dance bands and broadcast as a solo pianist with small groups. In 1948 he began his 16 years association with the New Victoria Cinema, Bradford, and later with the Odell, Leeds. He has over 2,000 broadcasts on his credit, has made eight LPs with three more due this year. Currently, he has four regular weekly programmes on BBC Radio Leeds, where coincidentally, his 24-year-old son, Keith, is a presenter (and broadcasting organist in his own right). He's well known for his rhythm playing which is nicknamed "The Loxam Bounce", and has been dubbed "Man of Music and Master of Rhythm" by the Press.

ROY MASSEY who was born in the Midlands received his musical education at Birmingham University and under Sir David Willcocks at Worcester Cathedral. He held various church and school appointments in the Birmingham area, including a period as conductor of the Birmingham Bach Society, before becoming Warden of the Royal School of Church Music in Croydon. During this period, he was Organist of Croydon Parish Church and conductor of the Croydon Bach Choir. He returned to Birmingham as Organist of the Cathedral Choir in 1958, and in 1974 moved to his present appointment – Organist and Master of the Choristers of Hereford Cathedral. There, in 1976, he was Conductor-in-Chief of the Three Choirs Festival. He has broadcast regularly since 1969 and has also appeared on BBC and ITV. He has recorded with both his Cathedral choirs and also as a soloist. In 1976, he was one of the guest organists in the Organ Club's Golden Jubilee series and the following year he appeared as a recitalist at the Congress of the Incorporated Association of Organists at Hereford Town Hall. Other recent appearances include St George's Hall, Liverpool, the Royal Festival Hall and a Henry Wood Promenade Concert. He will appear as Conductor-in-Chief at this year's Three Choirs Festival at Hereford Cathedral. Mr. Massey is an examiner and member of the Council of the Royal College of Organists, a member of the Advisory Council of the Royal School of Church Music (who, in 1972, honoured him by awarding him their Fellowship for distinguished services to Church Music) and a fellow of St Michael's College, Tenbury.

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We are very pleased to have been able to offer the necessary sponsorship to Carlo Curle to enable him to embark on a 1972 tour of Great Britain. May we remind you that we are agents for Alfa Romeo cars and that we can offer advantageous terms to any prospective purchaser who contacts us as a result of this advertisement. We operate a nationwide delivery service and always have in stock a very large selection of these fine motor cars.

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ALLAN ORGAN STUDIOS (London Limited)
JANE PARKER SMITH began learning the piano aged four. At 16, she gained her ARCM in piano performing. From 1967 to 1971, she studied organ, piano and harpsichord at the Royal College of Music, obtaining an LTCL in organ playing, winning all the major prizes and several scholarships to continue her studies with Nicholas Wynston and with the blind organist Jean Langlais in Paris. In 1970 she made her debut at Westminster Cathedral which was recorded by the BBC. She has since been a regular performer on all four channels and on many European networks. She made her Promenade Concerts debut in 1972 and was also chosen by the Greater London Arts Association for their Young Musicians '73 scheme. A year later, she won the National Organ Competition in Southport. She has starred in most of the world's major music festivals. Jane gave her first Festival Hall concert in 1975, taking the place of an indisposed Fernando Garrnenti at short notice. She has recorded eight LPs for the past two years recording exclusively for EMI. Her concert tours have included France, Switzerland, Gibraltar, the West Indies, America, Canada, Germany and Finland with forthcoming tours of South Africa and Norway during the next season. Jane has recently been invited to be on the International Juries for the Royal Canadian College of Organists competition at their national convention and the Internationale Orgelwochen in Nurnberg.

WILLIAM DAVIES is an all round musician, conductor, composer, pianist, harpsichordist and organist. After some years as organist in various churches throughout the country, followed by a period as Musical Director for the late Jack Hylton organisation, he joined the staff of the music department of the BBC and spent some eight years there before returning to a free-lance life. He has appeared many times at the Promenade Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall and still broadcasts regularly on such programmes as 'All Kinds of Music', 'Music for You', 'Friday Night is Music Night' and 'The Organist Entertainers'. He has made many recordings on Harpsichord, Organ, Piano and with his orchestra and has composed music for many documentary films for both cinema and TV – a notable success being the Alastair Cooke series 'America'. He spends much of his time on lecture recitals and teaching in addition to his post as organist and chairman of his local church in Sunny. He recently completed a series of TV programmes on organs in Wales.

CHRISTOPHER DEARNLEY, M.A., B.Mus., F.R.C.O., was born in Wolverhampton in 1930. While organ scholar of Worcester College, Oxford, from 1948-52, he studied under the late Dr. H.K. Andrews and Edward Robbins. In 1954 he was appointed Assistant Organist at Salisbury Cathedral, becoming Organist and Master of the Choristers in 1957. He succeeded St. John Dykes Bower at St Paul's Cathedral in 1968. Although his personal preference is for English music of the 17th and 18th centuries, on which he has written two books, his taste ranges widely and he is equally at home with a single psalm from medieval times as he is with the complexity of a contemporary score. His work as organist, choirmaster, composer and historian has brought him an international reputation as a leading exponent of church music. Recitals in Europe, North America and Australia, and recordings on the cathedral organs in Salisbury and St Paul's, have displayed Christopher Dearnley's skill and sensitivity as an organ soloist. Lindley, warmth and musicianship, colourful yet stylish use of the organ, have characterised his performances, and his programmes have been acclaimed for their unorthodoxy and discriminating content as well as for their championship of lesser known organ music.
ROGER FISHER was born in Woodford, Essex, and educated at Benecroft's School. He studied at the Royal College of Music with Harold Darke and Herbert Howells, gaining his A.R.C.M., F.R.C.O. and Ch.M. diplomas during this period. He won the Geoffrey Tinkard Prize for Organ Playing, later becoming organ scholar of Christ Church, Oxford. This gave him the opportunity of working with a Cathedral Choir and he studied with Dr. Sydney Watson and Dr. H.K. Andreas. Having obtained a degree in Music, he moved to Hereford in 1965, becoming Assistant Organist of the Cathedral and Assistant Lecturer in Music at the College of Education. While in Hereford he studied the Flute with Professor Claudio Biglia, formerly of the Royal Manchester College of Music. In addition he became conductor of the Hereford String Orchestra and was closely connected with the work of the Three Choirs Festival. He also found time to build two organs and give a number of recitals and concerto performances on Piano and Organ. Since his appointment to Chester Cathedral in 1967, he has made many recordings and tours extensively as a recitalist in France, Canada and the USA, as well as this country. His recordings have sold in four continents and he has regularly broadcast for the BBC.

PETER GOODMAN tells of visiting a music shop in an unfamiliar town several years ago and being told that his name was Gooden. The assistant's eyes lit up, "Roy Goodman of King's College, Cambridge, 'Measures' fame." He asked, "No, I'm only his father!" was the reply. For the past 24 years Peter Goodman has been City Organist of Kingston upon-Hull where he has given hundreds of recitals on the hall's magnificent Compton organ (the largest in the world) with its 186 pipes (22 more than the massive Allen organ). His repertoire is vast and covers every school of organ music including the Prelude Concerto and the Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony. As a boy chorister he gained a place at New College, Oxford University. He subsequently won a scholarship to the Royal College of Music and then to Cambridge University where he read music, gaining the degree of Bachelor of Music. He is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists with the coveted Choristership Diploma, and is an Associate of the Royal College of Music. His first broadcast in 1958 in Children's Hour on the BBC Theatre Organ is his last recital in Cairo, when he was an army officer stationed there during the war, on the small ten-stop organ at the Garrison Church — a war-time 'tongue' for player and audience. From 1948 to 1951 he was organist at Guildford pro-Cathedral from which he moved to the Parish Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, Hull (one of Britain's largest parish churches), being larger than some cathedrals where he spent ten years. Peter's wife, Mary, and four children (now all grown up) all studied at the Royal College of Music on different occasions, each gaining their Associate diploma. And Roy Goodman? He's now a violinist and has just embarked on a career as a soloist.

PHIL KELSELL at 22 is one of Britain's youngest professional organists. He is the youngest full-time professional organist ever to play for the famous Blackpool Tower Company. He was born in Gloucestershire and started piano lessons aged 11, moving on to the organ aged 14. When he left school, he played in the orchestra of the Blackpool Tower Circus for two years until EMI adopted a new entertainment policy for the Tower. Phil was chosen to play as one of a team of six organists providing non-stop music for dancing. He has already made several records, is regularly featured on radio programmes and has been filmed playing the famous Wurlitzer by both BBC and ITV. All who hear him agree that he is a worthy successor to Reginald Dixon and that he perpetuates the famous 'Blackpool sound'.
ALEXANDRA, PALACE, LONDON

An Evening with CARLO CURLEY
October 12th 1979 - 8.00pm

I
1. Grand Choeur Dialogue ........ Eugène Gigout *
2. Elves (from Douze Pieces, Op. 7) .... Joseph Bonnet *
3. March On A Theme By Handel .... Félix Alexandre Guilmant *
4. Two Pieces for Pedal Piano
   (1) - Moment Musicales in F .......... Franz Schubert **
   (2) - Sketch in F Minor ............ Robert Schumann
5. Fantaisie in E Flat Major ........ Camille Saint-Saëns *

interval (15 minutes)

II
6. Fugue in D Minor ("The Giant") .... J. S. Bach **
7. Concerto No. 4 in C Major ........ Vivaldi/Bach **
8. Chorale Prelude: In Dulci Jubilo (3 verses) .... J. S. Bach
9. Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C Major .... J. S. Bach

interval (10 minutes)

III
10. March from "Tannhauser" .......... Richard Wagner **
    (arr. Lemare)
11. Cantilene ......................... Gabriel Pierné
12. Fastasia and Fugue on the Chorale
    "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" (Op. 40 No. 1) .... Max Reger

* selection available on RCA Records.
** selection available on REDIFFUSION Records.

MR. CURLEY will speak about the compositions and composers during the course of the programme.

The use of cameras and recording devices is strictly prohibited.

Stereo LP, recordings and cassette tapes of CARLO CURLEY will be available for your inspection during the INTERVALS and immediately following the concert.

There are special forms provided this evening at tables throughout the Great Hall for those persons who are not on the CARLO CURLEY mailing list.

MR. CURLEY will greet his friends immediately after the concert at a table located by the South doors of the Great Hall. As is his custom, he wishes to meet as many members of the audience as possible at this time.

Special lighting provided by Christopher Sprague.

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