



St Catherine's Church Stuttgart

English Language Worship for People of all Nations



Lent 2021

ORGAN REPAIRS AND LONG -TERM MAINTENANCE

Dear Readers

However this may have found its way to you, I would be immensely grateful if you would read on. If you then decide this is 'not for you' would you kindly give some thought as to whether there are other persons or groups or churches you know who may be interested and grateful to you for passing this on to them. Thank you.

In June 2011 the Anglican (AC) and Old Catholic (AK) congregations who both worship in St. Catherine's Church, Stuttgart jointly celebrated the dedication of a "new" organ, an instrument which originally served in a church in Somerset. The history of the arrival of an English organ at St Catherine's is not a very long one, but it is interesting and possibly even unique. You may have been involved in the securing of the organ and especially in the journey it made to its present home here in Stuttgart. You can read more about our organ's history, and also listen to it and see pictures, on www.stcatherines-stuttgart.de/organ.

A local organ builder describes it as a temperamental elderly lady:- much still to offer but needing looking after in terms of not only keeping up repairs, but also appropriate handling. This requires an understanding of what this organ will never offer (large concerts) or never again manage (absolute reliability), and an organist who can adapt equally well to its temperament on a cold November morning or on a dusty hot August evening.

By and large, organ maintenance and repairs during the last few years have been well intentioned but carried out merely on a need-to basis. With some new people on board in the two church councils (ACs and AKs) we can now ask the question, 'What do we need to plan for so that this organ will still serve our worship well in 10 years' time (or even 20)?' and in effect work backwards from there.

Currently the pedals have been disabled because urgent repairs, running to approximately €8k, are needed; but these cannot begin until we have some funding (and indeed further quote(s)) in place. Covid-19 is not helping here.

The pandemic has of course greatly restricted our opportunities to worship in church, although both the ACs and the AKs continue to do so as far as possible. But where Covid-19 has unexpectedly been a key player is in encouraging both church communities to offer much more worship digitally and online; to provide music for this, an organ that works well is even more important.

Pounds, Dollars, Euros We are inviting any who have a connection with St Catherine's, however long standing, or even long ago, to consider contributing to this project. Alongside this, we will approach the

Chaplain: Revd Kara K Werner - chaplain@stcatherines-stuttgart.de - 0049 178 5557894

Church - Katherinenplatz 5 / Chaplaincy Centre Office - Olgastrasse 56, 70182
Stuttgart

www.stcatherines-stuttgart.de

Churchwardens: Alison Seyerle and Kingston Kesse

Council Secretary: Susanna Thielecke - Council Finance: Jackie Wellhäußer -
Safeguarding Officer: Vacant

VRNummer 3981 - Friends of the English Church e.V.

local music scene in and around Stuttgart, who may find a joy in keeping an antique English organ on life-support.

I think at this stage of initial 'contact' some simple feedback is enough to aid our planning, and would be much appreciated:

- *Yes, I am interested, please keep me copied in;*
- *No, this is really not for me at this time.*

If you would like to make an immediate donation, funds can be transferred to

Kontoinhaber : Friends of the English Church e.V.

IBAN: DE39 6009 0100 0587 2530 02

Bank: Volksbank Stuttgart

Please clearly label your donation Organ Fund.

If you don't have a German bank account you can donate to St. Catherine's via PayPal
donate@stcatherines-stuttgart.de



Please select Organ Fund as the area of ministry you wish to support.

If you put your address on the transfer form, we can also send you a donations certificate.
Thank you for giving generously.

If you have ideas for a Covid-restriction-compliant fund raiser to support our organ fund we would love to hear from you.

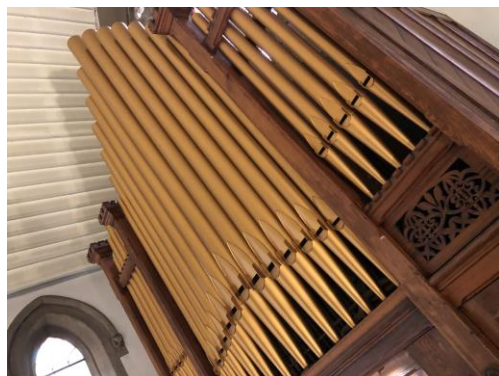
Please e-mail organfund@stcatherines-stuttgart.de with your response.

With all best wishes, and in hopes to soon see as many of you as possible to listen again to our lovely church music,

Christopher Sloan

Chair of the Friends of the English Church e.V.

(on behalf of the Chaplain, Director of Music, Wardens and Council of St. Catherine's Anglican Chaplaincy)



More information and a chance to hear the organ can be found here:

<https://stcatherines-stuttgart.de/organ/>