

# THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

Registered Charity No. 282751

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sunday, 27 April 2003

William Hulme's Grammar School, Spring Bridge road, Manchester M16 8PR

### PRESENT:

#### *Officers, Committee & Musical Advisers:*

Andrew Short	Chairman	Eileen Silcocks	MA on Comte
Alistair Read	Secretary	David Beare	Committee
Brian Fraser-Hook	Treasurer	Denis Bloodworth	Committee
John Allen	Membership Secretary	Margaret Shearing	Committee
Mary Tyers	Competition Admin.	Sylvia Davies	Committee
Sandra Foxall	Training Co-ordinator	Peter Sturgeon	Committee
Graham Danbury	Chairman, WBF	Helen Hooker	Musical Adviser
Bob Horsley	Publicity	Anthony Rowland-Jones	Musical Adviser
Alyson Lewin	MA on Comte	Colin Touchin	Musical Adviser
Colin Martin	MA on Comte		

#### *Branches*

Aberdeen	Douglas Haston	Mid-Herts	Moira Fraser-Hook
Beds & N Herts	Glynne Parry	Newcastle	Martin Evans
Bristol	Ellen O'Gorman	Northampton	Sheila Marlowe
Cambridge	Anne James	North Cotswold	Anne Childs
Cleveland	Sandra Foxall	Nottinghamshire	Peter Sturgeon
Cornwall	Angela Dumbreck	Nuneaton	Philip Goode
(Observer	Jenny Orpwood)	(Observer	Vivian Goode)
Cumbria	Helen Beare	Oxford	Helga Bogisch-Francis
Devon	Jeanette Hipsey	Peterborough	Jan Theedom
Durham	Flora Pitt	Plymouth	Su Watson
East Berks	Lizzie Hewitt	(Observer	Nicola Parsley)
Edinburgh	Eileen Finlayson	Somerset	Joyce Rudall
Essex	Ella Hassall	South London	Denis Bloodworth
(Observer	Marion Panzetta)	(Observers	Margaret Crocker &
Glasgow	Susan Hill		Paula Marsh)
Guildford	Margaret Davies	South Staffs	John Dunn
(Observer	Sue Pluthero)	Suffolk	Chris Westren
Isle of Man	Suzanne Rose	Warwick	Helen Jones
Kent	Ursula Burchette	Weald of Kent	Anne Trevillion
Leicester	Sylvia H Davidson	Wessex	Lorraine Curtis
Lincolnshire	Paene Birch	(Observer	Shirley Batterley)
(Observer	Sandra Hardman)	West Riding	Hilary Oliver
Manchester	David Scruby	York	Matthew Taylor

**The Chairman** welcomed the Committee and Delegates to the Conference and congratulated Manchester Branch on the success of the Festival.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Brian Bonsor, Paul Clark, Andrew Collis, Norma Herdson, Evelyn Nallen, Jim Rowley, Madeline Seviour and Theo Wyatt (Officers, Committee and

Musical Advisers); and from the following branches: Birmingham, Chelt. & Gloucester, Hillfoots, London, Milton Keynes, Norfolk, Roxburgh, Sheffield, South Downs and West Dorset

**2. Minutes of last Conference**

With the under-mentioned corrections Graham Danbury proposed and David Beare (Cumbria) seconded the motion that the Minutes of Conference 2003 be adopted as a fair record of those proceedings with the following correction. Carried *nem con.*

Min (7) line 2: *should read...*17/18 April 2004

**3. There were no Matters arising**

**4. Endorsement of Committee nomination**

In recognition of Graham Danbury’s service to the Society as its treasurer, chairman, secretary, Walter Bergmann Fund and finally chairman, WBF, Conference was asked to endorse the committee’s nomination for an honorary life membership of the Society upon his resignation as chairman, WBF. Carried *nem. con.* In accepting the award, Graham paid tribute to the work undertaken by the present chairman and treasurer, which he said was now out of all proportion to that undertaken by him when he was in post.

**5. Election of Officers and Committee**

5.1 The Chairman said all Officers were prepared to stand for re-election with the exception of Graham Danbury who had resigned as chairman, Walter Bergmann Fund. On the WBF sub-committee’s recommendation, the committee had nominated Andrew Collis to be the next chairman. He would be combining this with his existing post as secretary, WBF. The current Officers (except Graham Danbury) were proposed *en bloc* by Marion Panzetta (Essex); seconded by Colin Martin (MA) and ELECTED *nem con.* by Conference for a term of one year. Andrew Collis was ELECTED *nem con.* by Conference for a term of one year as Chairman, Walter Bergmann Fund proposed by the Committee.

5.2 Committee Members: As Sylvia Davies (Bristol) and Margaret Shearing (Manchester) were due to retire this year, the following nominations had been received:

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Proposed by</i>	<i>Seconded by</i>
David Scruby (Manchester)	Manchester Branch	
Dick Pyper (Guildford)	Guildford Branch	
Pam Smith (Chelt & Glos)	Sylvia Davies	Alistair Read
Ursula Burchette (Kent)	David Beare	Brian Fraser-Hook

In the ensuing election, David Scruby and Ursula Burchette were elected to serve on the Committee for three years.

Under the Society’s amended Rule 5(i), Andrew Collis succeeds Eileen Silcocks as Musical Adviser on Committee

**6. Officers' Reports**

The Chairman reminded Conference that written reports from all Officers had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. He thanked the Officers for their work during the past year. Some Officers added to their reports or answered questions:

6.1 Whilst the Secretary said he had nothing to add to his written report, it was AGREED that documents for distribution by electronic means should be plain text.

6.2 On behalf of the Branch Review Editor, the Secretary confirmed that the Society had an agreement with the publishers of *The Recorder Magazine* for four pages per issue. He agreed that on occasions the publisher used some of this space for display advertisements. Anthony

Rowland-Jones suggested, and Conference AGREED, that the editor of *The Recorder Magazine* in future be invited to attend the annual conference. Proposed Anthony Rowland-Jones; seconded Mary Tyers.

6.6 The Training Co-ordinator confirmed that no one had been in touch with her during the course of the last 12 months with regard to the CSRP. The Chairman confirmed that discussions were ongoing in Committee with regard to training generally and conducting courses in particular.

6.7 In addition to the late report appended to the officers' reports, John Allen circulated an analysis, by branch, of branch membership. He reminded Conference that the 2003 edition of the Membership List was also available on CD ROM and he emphasised that it was for internal use and not for publication. He confirmed that it was more up-to-date than the printed list. John also reminded delegates that problems with mailing the magazine should, in the first instance, be directed to him. The Chairman then took the opportunity to welcome Plymouth Branch to the Society. Conference ratified the Committee's nomination, proposed by Colin Martin; seconded by Alyson Lewin and carried *nem con*.

6.8 The Administrator, Moeck/SRP Solo Recorder Competition confirmed that a venue for the finals of the competition, to be held in October 2003 at the Early Music Exhibition in Greenwich, had still to be decided. Mary Tyers said it was both necessary and rewarding that an audience attend the competition and she would make publicity available as soon as the venue was known. She went on to say that a decision was awaited from the adjudicators on the names of the four finalists. In answer to a question, she said she would enquire whether members of the public would be admitted, as in the past, without having first paid to attend the Early Music Exhibition.

6.9 The Chairman extended to Ashley Allerton, the Website Editor, his thanks for reorganising the Society's web pages and to Douglas Haston for creating a database of four branches' music libraries, now visible on the website. Douglas Haston said he would be pleased to add any other branch library lists, preferably in Excel 97 format, although he was prepared to work from Word lists in table form or text files in comma-delimited format provided that the text fields did not themselves contain commas. On the matter of Edgar Hunt's music, the Secretary undertook to circulate with Minutes of Conference, a list of music sufficient for branch playing purposes. (Action: Secretary)

6.10 The Treasurer said he had little to add to his report save apologies to Nottinghamshire Branch, who had paid their subscriptions in February, and to Milton Keynes Branch whose subscriptions were received on 24 April (after the report had been written). All subscriptions were now in, totalling £22,008, i.e., £258 more than forecast, so deficit likely to be reduced to £1,829. Accounts for 2001–02 were now to hand with the exception of Milton Keynes. Brian went on to report amended figures for the NYRO 2002 course. These should now read: 69 applications, 52 auditions, 48 course members. This compares with a list originally produced as 84, 52 and 51 respectively.

6.11 The Chairman said he had successfully concluded negotiations with "Making Music" the National Foundation of Music Societies and that the SRP was the first national society to join its ranks. He went on to say that they published a wide range of leaflets, covering matters from performing rights, copyright and instrument loans to programme note banks, VAT and recording. The Secretary undertook to circulate details, including the access code to 'Making Music's' website. (Action: Secretary)

**7. Future Festivals** The following arrangements were noted:

- 2004 Wessex Branch: St Swithun's School, Winchester 17/18 April [Easter 11 April]
- 2005 East Berks. Branch have withdrawn their offer [Easter 27 March]
- 2006 Cumbria Branch (Date and venue to be advised) [Easter 16 April]

The Chairman appealed to Conference for offers for 2005 and 2007, to be received in time for the Committee's October 2003 meeting.

**8. National Youth Recorder Orchestra**

After David Beare had given a resume of his written report, Colin Touchin read a prepared statement, a copy of which is attached to the Officers' Reports as an appendix and circulated with Conference minutes. David then covered a number of topics, ranging from whether or not NYRO should be separate from the SRP, if funding after this year should be met by unsubsidised fees from players, to the possibility of the SRP should use its funds from the Arthur Ingram legacy. The Committee's view is that NYRO should continue as core SRP activity fulfilling out charitable objectives, also that if possible it should be funded without further recourse to the Arthur Ingram Fund.. Anthony Rowland-Jones said that NYRO is the most important activity that the SRP has undertaken and should be fully supported. The Conference agreed with Anthony Rowland-Jones and did not dissent form the Committee. He also said that NYRO 2003 would give its concert on Saturday, 16 August at 2.30 p.m. probably at the Royal College of Music, South Kensington. He confirmed that as part of its outreach plan, all players would get membership of the SRP for twelve months (which would be a section of the Country & Overseas Branch) and they would be urged to attend their local branches .

**9. Branches Information Pack (Pilot Study)**

Helen Beare said that, as a condition of the grant received for NYRO, there was a condition that outreach work should be undertaken. To this end she was in the course of preparing an information pack to be given to all those audited for NYRO (whether successful or not), and she was of the opinion that such a pack could be adapted for branch use. It was AGREED that a prototype of the pack would be sent to branch secretaries for assessment.]

**10. CSRP** was dealt with under Officers' Reports

11. There were no resolutions to Conference

**12. Any other business**

Colin Touchin proposed that there be a National Recorder Orchestra, working over a weekend without limit of age to provide top-level orchestral experience for adult players including those who had been members of NYRO. There was support from delegates, preferably on a roving basis throughout the country. Colin Touchin undertook to prepare a paper for the Committee to discuss.

The Conference closed at 12.00 pm