

THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sunday, 24 April 2005

Brentwood County High School, Shenfield Common, Brentwood CM14 4JF

(With Revised pp.1/2)

PRESENT:

Officers, Committee & Musical Advisers:

Andrew Short	Chairman	Ulli Burchette	Committee
Alistair Read	Secretary	Sandra Foxall	Committee
Brian Fraser-Hook	Treasurer	Margaret Shearing	Committee
Moira Usher	Training Co-ordinator	Paul Clark	Musical Adviser
Helen Hooker	MA on Comte	Alyson Lewin	Musical Adviser
Madeline Seviour	Branch Review Editor	Eileen Silcocks	Musical Adviser
Andrew Collis	MA on Comte	Evelyn Nallen	Musical Adviser
David Scruby	Committee		

Branches

Aberdeen	Edward Friday	Newcastle	Joan Reeve
Beds & N Herts	Elaine Lawrence	Norfolk	Charles Levien
Birmingham	Robert Hoffman	(Observer	Audrey Illingworth)
Bristol	Val Giltrow-Tyler	North Cotswold	Anne Childs
(Observer	Rhona Hurst)	Nottinghamshire	Peter Sturgeon
Cleveland	Sandra Foxall	Nuneaton	Vivien Goode
Cornwall	Angela Dumbreck	(Observer	Philip Goode)
Cumbria	David Beare	Oxford	Helga Bogisch-Francis
(Observers	Helen Beare)	Plymouth	Nicola Parsley
	George Thorp)	Sheffield	Jane Ellin
	Bob Berry)	Somerset	Joyce Rudall
Devon	Jeanette Hipsey	South Downs	John Williams
Dorset	Noreen Johnson	(Observer	Phoebe Williams
Durham	Anne Stoddart	South London	Paula Marsh
Edinburgh	Eileen Finlayson	(Observers	Margaret Crocker)
Essex	Derek Duck		Denis Bloodworth)
Glasgow	Bill McCormack	Suffolk	Chris Westren
Guildford	Rosemary Whisson	Warwick	Helen Jones
(Observer	Dick Pyper)	Weald of Kent	Carol Dawson
Kent	Ulli Burchette	Wessex	Lorraine Curtis
Leicester	Sylvia H Davidson	(Observer	Mary Steele
Lincolnshire	Kenneth Garfield	West Riding	Tony McCann
London	Bob Horsley	York	David Grosvenor
Manchester	Margaret Shearing	(Observer	Ann Grosvenor)
Mid-Herts	Graham Danbury		

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

1. Apologies for absence were received from John Allen, Brian Bonsor, Jim Rowley, Mary Tyers, Colin Martin, Peter Sturgeon, Layton Ring, Anthony Rowland-Jones, Colin Touchin and Theo Wyatt (Officers, Committee and Musical Advisers); and from the following branches: Bath, Cambridge, Cheltenham & Gloucester, Hillfoots, Ireland, Isle of Man, Milton Keynes, North London, Nottinghamshire, Peterborough, Roxburgh, South Staffs and West Dorset.

2. Minutes of last Conference

There were no corrections to the minutes. Ulli Burchette (Committee) proposed and David Grosvenor (York) seconded the motion that the Minutes of Conference 2004 be adopted as a fair record of those proceedings. Carried *nem con.*

3. There were no Matters arising

4. Election of Officers and Committee

4.1 The Chairman said all Officers were prepared to stand for re-election with the exception of John Allen (Membership Secretary). The current Officers (except John Allen) were proposed *en bloc* by Graham Danbury (Mid-Herts); seconded by Joyce Rudall (Somerset) and ELECTED *nem con.* by Conference for a term of one year. Margaret Shearing (Committee & Manchester) was elected Membership Secretary, proposed by Brian Fraser-Hook (Treasurer); seconded by Helen Hooker (MA on Committee).

The resignation of David Beare as NYRO (National Youth Recorder Orchestra) Project Manager and the creation of the role of NYRO sub-committee and its election were carried out under agenda item 7.

4.2 Committee Members: As Peter Sturgeon (Nottinghamshire) was due to retire this year; Norma Herdson (East Berks) had resigned in October 2004 and Margaret Shearing (Manchester) had been elected to the post of Membership Secretary, the following nominations had been received to fill two three-year term posts and one two-year post:

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Proposed and seconded by</i>
Beryl Craven (Leicester)	Central Committee
Helen Jones (Warwick)	Central Committee
Steve Marshall (Chelt/Glos)	Central Committee
Dick Pyper (Guildford)	Central Committee
Joan Reeve (Newcastle)	Central Committee

In the ensuing election, Beryl Craven and Helen Jones were ELECTED to serve on the Committee for three years; and Dick Pyper was ELECTED to serve for two years.

The Chairman thanked the retiring members of the committee for their work and welcomed the new members of the committee.

4.3 Under the Society's amended Rule 5(i), Colin Touchin succeeds Colin Martin as Musical Adviser on Committee.

5. Officers' Reports

The Chairman reminded Conference that written reports from most Officers had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. The Treasurer (Brian Fraser-Hook) circulated his report at the conference. The Chairman thanked the Officers for their work during the past year. Some Officers added to their reports or answered questions:

5.1 The *Training Co-ordinator* confirmed that the one-day workshops she organised were of five hours' duration. Courses presently offered would be appearing on the website shortly and in the next edition of *The Recorder Magazine*. If any branches wanted any of the courses on offer, or different ones, they should contact Moira Usher.

5.2 The Chairman took the opportunity to remind delegates that they were welcome to send publicity for their branch activities to the *Web Editor* (Ashley Allerton); he also said that it was the responsibility of branches to see that time expired information was removed.

5.3 *Treasurer's Report*

5.3.1. In his opening remarks Brian Fraser-Hook said that the accounts for 2002–03 had now been lodged with the Charity Commissioners and that we had been exceptionally lucky not to have been investigated by them for being so late in doing so. He went on to say that accounts for 2003–04 were nearing completion although Bath Branch still had not lodged their accounts, nor had NYRO supplied him with all the information required. He emphasised that these accounts had to be lodged with the Charity Commissioners by the end of June 2005. Conference

5.3.2 Conference AGREED to the Treasurer's request to approve the 2002–03 accounts. Proposed Jeanette Hipsey (Devon); seconded Dick Pyper (Guildford) and carried *nem con*.

5.3.3 Conference also AGREED to the Treasurer's request that 2003–04 accounts be devolved to the Committee's May 2005 meeting for approval. Proposed David Grosvenor (York); seconded Sandra Foxall (Committee/Cleveland).

5.3.4 In concluding his report, the Treasurer said that the deficit in 2004–05 would be greater than he had originally anticipated. Warwick Branch still had not paid in their subscriptions for the current year. It was with regret that Conference learned that Brian gave notice of his intention to retire as Treasurer at Conference 2006.

5.3.5 Brian Fraser-Hook (Treasurer) proposed and Alistair Read (Secretary) seconded a motion that Robert Harrison be appointed Independent Examiner for a further year. Brian, in giving notice of his own retirement from post at Conference 2006, said that Mr Harrison would also stand down as the Society's Independent Auditor.

Helen Hooker (MA on Committee) proposed and David Grosvenor (York) seconded that the Officers' Reports be approved. Carried *nem con*.

6. Child Protection Policy

The Chairman said this item would be referred back to the next Committee meeting for further consideration.

7. National Youth Recorder Orchestra (NYRO)

The Chairman said that, with the resignation of David Beare from the post of Project Manager, the Committee had agreed to NYRO's administration being undertaken by a paid administrator. Sandra Foxall (Cleveland) proposed and Jeanette Hipsey (Devon) seconded a motion of thanks to David Beare for his work on behalf of NYRO. Carried *nem con.* It was now PROPOSED that NYRO be run by a sub-committee, headed by Andrew Short as chairman assisted by three members, two of whom had been co-opted from outside of the Society, and a treasurer who was an SRP member. Helen Hooker (MA on Committee) proposed and David Grosvenor (York) seconded that a NYRO sub-committee be approved. Carried *nem con.* A motion that capital from the Arthur Ingram Fund be used to subsidise NYRO applicants' fees was defeated by a majority vote. The use of the Walter Bergmann Fund was still available to applicants in hardship cases. Notice was given of the formation of a NYRO Training Orchestra was given, under the direction of Andrew Challinger.

8. Future Festivals

The following arrangements were noted:

- 2006 Cumbria Branch 1/2 April at Kirkby Lonsdale [Easter 14/16 April]
- 2007 York Branch (subject to venue confirmation)
- 2008 Glasgow Branch (provisional offer)
- 2009 No bid received
- 2010 Suffolk Branch

Bill McCormack (Glasgow) informed Conference that the 2005 Scottish festival was to be held on 14 May in Glasgow.

9. Resolutions to Conference

A resolution consequent upon Minute 8 of Conference 2004 abolishes the Certificate of the SRP. Rule changes were proposed by the committee with the effect of altering the title of the post of Examinations Secretary to Training Co-ordinator and amending the remit accordingly.

In Rule 4(g)(ii) delete "Examinations Secretary" and substitute "Training Co-ordinator". Delete the text of Rule 5(q) and substitute the following:

- 5(q) The Training Co-ordinator shall be nominated by the Committee and shall take office when the nomination is endorsed by a Resolution duly passed at an Annual Conference. The Training Co-ordinator shall, subject to the directions of the Committee, be responsible for organising training and instruction for Branches and Members of the Society and such others as the Committee shall from time to time determine. The Training Co-ordinator may be removed by a Resolution of the Annual Conference at any time.

David Scruby (Committee) proposed and Alyson Lewin (MA) seconded a motion that the rule changes be adopted. Carried *nem con.*

Following discussion, it was AGREED that non-members of the Society should be eligible to join the Panel of Visiting Conductors. This would be enabled by the following amendment to Rule 8...

Delete "members of the Society" and substitute "persons".

Moira Usher (Training Co-ordinator) proposed and David Grosvenor (York) seconded a motion that the proposed change to Rule 8 be adopted. Carried *nem con.*

In the matter of NYRO, rule changes as under were proposed by the Committee:

Representation of NYRO sub-committee on main committee. Rule 4(g)(viii), delete “NYRO Project Manager” and insert “Chairman of the NYRO Sub-Committee”.

Rule 5(h). Delete “NYRO Project Manager” and move “and” before “Branch Review Editor.”

Rule 5(t). Delete existing Rule and amend to read... “The Chairman of the NYRO Sub-Committee shall be nominated by the Committee and shall take office when the nomination is endorsed by a Resolution passed at an Annual Conference. The Chairman of the NYRO Sub-Committee may be removed by Resolution of the Annual Conference at any time.”

Non-members on sub-committee. Rule 4(i): after “such members of the Society” insert “and other persons.”

David Scruby (Committee) proposed and Ulli Burchette (Committee) seconded a motion that the rule changes be adopted. Carried *nem con*.

A resolution submitted by Plymouth Branch... “That this conference approves the replacement in the Rules of the Society of Recorder Players of the whole paragraph 7(j) with the words ‘Every branch representative shall cast his or her vote or votes according to the wishes of their branch members and in the best interest of the society’ ” was rejected by a majority vote on a show of hands.

10. Payment of Professional fees to conductors

The Chairman introduced his paper on the payment of professional fees to conductors. It is a long-standing custom that conductors usually act without fee, although there are now some exceptions. In particular, members of the Panel of visiting conductors have been expected to donate half a day without fee. The Committee sought guidance from Conference on whether this custom should continue.

After discussion, Eileen Silcocks (Musical Adviser) proposed and Alyson Lewin (Musical Adviser) seconded a motion that members of the Panel should be entitled to charge a fee for their whole visit if they so wish.. Carried by majority vote on a show of hands.

11. Any other business

11.1 Retirement of John Allen as Membership Secretary. The Chairman said that, having held the post for some 32 years, John had resigned. In recognition of his and Beryl’s outstanding contributions to the Society, the Committee suggested that joint honorary life membership be bestowed on them. Proposed by Jeanette Hipsey (Devon) and seconded by David Grosvenor (York). Carried *nem con*.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared Conference closed at 11.55 am.