

SRP COMMITTEE
MINUTES

1989-1994

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Committee Minutes

October 19 89 -

April

May

June

October

November

December



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 15 October 1989

at "Hafren", Coxcombe Lane
Chiddingfold, Surrey GU8 4QF

Present:

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Mr Herson |
| Prof. Parkin | Treasurer | Mrs Mason |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Miss Newton |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Miss O'Kelly |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Miss O'Sullivan |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Miss Seviour |
| Dr Dolmetsch | | Dr Short |
| Mr Evry | | Mr Wyatt |

The Chairman welcomed the three new members of the Committee, Mr Evry, Miss Newton and Dr Short.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Hunt.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
3. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
4. Officers' reports

Wend (a) The Secretary reported the new Edinburgh Branch Secretary, ~~Mrs~~ Eileen Finlayson. An enquiry from Adam Dopadlik, a teacher in Cambridge, about forming an SRP group of a number of recorder pupils, had been received and she had advised that this should be referred to Cambridge Branch for possible affiliation.

(b) The Treasurer said he was holding the books open as he had not yet received the final accounts for the Alva Festival this year and also SRP sales at the Exhibition of Early Musical Instruments last month; but he could report that there seemed a reasonable surplus so far. Suffolk Branch had been given a £150 float for next year's Festival. Committee agreed that the 1990 Scottish Festival should be allowed a float; and also agreed that the 1988 Scottish Festival should be granted £50 from Central Funds since the Society had reaped the benefit of its profitable meeting. The Chairman reported that National Savings Investment Accounts are to be withdrawn from Charities. In view of this, and although interest rates may be lower, the Treasurer was authorized to make suitable arrangements with a Building Society.

(c) The COS Secretary reported that so far for 1989/90 127 have renewed their membership, but there are 72 laggards to be reminded, of whom she expects some 48 will renew. There have been 14 new members since Conference in June, and 30 since October 1988, although 7 have resigned since October 1988 and 4 have transferred to Branches. She also reported that £120 had been

contributed to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund by COS members with their subscriptions this Autumn. Mrs Reddaway has been handling the mailing lists for the workshops and she would now like someone else to take over. It will be necessary to retain only the non-Society members on the list, since Branch members will get information at Branch meetings; and, further, there need only be one mailing a year, as the details are to be contained in an annual leaflet in future. The mailing up to date has been done "by hand", and Mr Wyatt suggested that this new list could well be put on computer with facility to print sticky labels, as he had done for London Branch membership, and this was agreed. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the excellent card index compiled by Mrs Reddaway.

(d) The CSRP Secretary reported that their committee had met in September to revise the syllabus. The contents, while similar, are to be more clearly set out; it will be shorter, more concise and with a different lay-out. Every applicant is to have a copy of the Teacher's Guide and notes on arranging; where relevant the committee will liaise with course organizers. With the resignation from the committee of Jane Ward, Mrs Martin suggested that the examiners be now kept at 4 instead of 5, so that the vacancy could be used to co-opt a member in a local area of an examination. Some members felt that this might be viewed as a means of favouring the local candidate, though it was agreed that such a decision by the CSRP committee should be sanctioned by Central Committee; and it was further suggested that a list of possible people to co-opt could be drawn up by the CSRP Committee for approval by Central Committee. The CSRP Committee would bring suggested rule changes to the next Committee meeting. Miss O'Kelly reported that the American Recorder Society had produced a Player's Guide, which she was at present trying out in her evening classes and, if successful, she might consider working on a similar UK guide. There was a short discussion on whether the Certificate should be open to non-SRP members, and it was agreed that, while the fee for non-members should be higher than that for Society members (£10 difference at the moment) and that, at the same time, they should be encouraged to join the Society, they should not be discouraged since other degree/qualification-giving bodies do not all limit them to their own members, and also this might be a way of promoting the Society if outsiders become interested in the examination.

(e) The Membership Secretary said the present figure was 1642. There had been a large amount of correspondence to the Officers of the Society from Mr R. Shuttleworth, who first proposed the new Branch of West Suffolk and became its Chairman, over the question of membership of more than one Branch. While the tenor of the Rules is that you can only join the Society once and that there is no specific mention in the Rules of associate or special membership (where full members of a Branch also wish to participate in another neighbouring Branch), Mr Shuttleworth had requested that a formal proposition be put to Committee: "That the practice of the Society should be changed to allow membership of more than one Branch." One of his complaints was that these "special" members are not recorded in the "adoptive" Branch list - in the case of West Suffolk only the 16 new full members were listed in the latest membership list, whereas 23 people had actually joined the new Branch, the 7 omitted being already full members of Cambridge and Suffolk (as well as being the office bearers of the new Branch). The Chairman felt that there should

be a rationalization of what has been done in these circumstances on an ad hoc basis, and also as there was the consideration of whether "special" membership should allow equal rights and privileges. The Committee agreed that the Society's existing Rules do not permit a member to join the Society more than once. The Chairman then proposed an optional Branch (not Society) Rule 1(e): "The Branch may admit any member of the Society as an Associate/Special member. Associate/Special members shall pay such Branch subscription as the Branch Committee shall determine and enjoy the same privileges in relation to the Branch as the Branch members unless the Branch Committee resolve otherwise." It was agreed that this be proposed to Conference to be put in the Specimen Branch Rules, and that existing Branches could adopt the additional rule if they wished. In considering how this would affect the Members List, the Chairman said that members would continue to be placed in their main Branch only; but, on request, for any specific reason, could be allowed to appear, with an asterisk, in the Branch lists of which they are Special members. Committee agreed.

5. Pastoral Visits

The Chairman queried whether the Society could continue offering free pastoral visits, since many conductors on the panel are professionals and have to forgo teaching etc. time to give free services to the SRP and sometimes perform services that would otherwise be income-producing; and he therefore wondered whether payment should be considered. Dr Dolmetsch and Mr Wyatt were both reluctant to depart from the voluntary status, especially since the Society is a charity. Miss O'Kelly explained that "popular" conductors now have waiting lists because professionals cannot give up teaching commitments (i.e. income) in order to undertake voluntary conducting, so have to limit themselves to a restricted number of invitations a year. She also felt that to some degree the free offering of services which normally are paid for was a down-grading of both their profession and professional qualifications. Not all members agreed and Dr Dolmetsch and others said they treated their paid and unpaid services equally. Dr Short suggested that Branches might negotiate a fee with the conductor which they would pay, while Central Funds would bear the travelling expenses as usual. No decision was arrived at as this matter would come up for discussion again.

6. Future Festivals

1990 Ipswich. The Treasurer considered that this was a more adventurous Festival than most. The budget has been for an attendance of 300, with a £9.50 ticket for the two days. A Festival work has been commissioned from Andrew Charlton, and in lieu of a fee the Festival Committee has taken a half-page advertisement in the Magazine advertising both the work and the composer. Mrs Usher, the Festival Organizer, has assembled a lot of Suffolk tourist brochures, maps and accommodation lists etc. being sent to Branch Secretaries. There will be a creche available. The Conference will be held in the 6th Form Common Room of the School.

1991 North & South Staffs. No further information received.

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7. Visiting Conductors List

Mr Ian Wilson had suggested two members of Glasgow Branch as worthy additions to the panel: Mrs Rosemary McGillivray and Mrs Ethel Allan; and the Committee suggested Miss Margaret Simpson of Hillfoots Branch and Mr James O'Malley of Edinburgh. The Committee agreed and the Secretary was asked to invite them to join the panel.

8. Moeck and Schott Competitions

The Chairman reported that Mr Hunt wishes to relinquish the administration of these two competitions, and the Committee was very pleased to accept Miss O'Sullivan's offer to take over the task. The Chairman explained that the entrance fees may need to be increased in the future because Mr Hunt never charged a fee for adjudicating and provided the harpsichord (plus cartage and tuning) gratis. The low candidature for the Schott competition and ways of increasing interest were discussed: broadening the advertising as it seems at the moment to be rather London-based, and it may be possible to work it up as a higher-class workshop. Miss O'Sullivan will discuss these matters with Mr Harper at Schotts. Mr Wyatt wondered how this competition compared with Bruges; but it was pointed out that Bruges is international and our two competitions are only for the UK and should remain so.

9. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Workshops. Five workshops are planned for 1989/90 in the new venue, Christchurch Primary School, London SW2, costing £150 per day; this cost, however, should be balanced by the increased fees of £20 for SRP members and £30 for non-members. Membership of the SRP would be encouraged, and even a year's subscription of £7.50 is obviously less than the extra non-member fee. There will be no age bar for this season's workshops. After Christmas Miss O'Kelly will commence planning the 1990/91 season. It was reported that Norwich Branch was planning a workshop.

(b) Mr Herson reported that the Teacher's Guide was approaching the 4000 mark. Suggestions and comments always welcome.

(c) It was decided that a further 5000 SRP brochures should be ordered with one or two amendments, and Mr Wyatt agreed to approach the printers. These would be available to Branches free of charge.

10. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

With a team of volunteers Miss O'Kelly ran a stall for the Fund at the London Exhibition of Early Musical Instruments on 29 September-1 October, which was sponsored by the Early Music Shop (Bradford). She had commissioned an SRP T-shirt for it, on sale together with recorder bags, stands, sheet music of Bergmann arrangements etc. The SRP brochure was displayed, and amongst many enquiries about 30 were for the Society itself. The sales produced £250 profit for the Fund. It was agreed that the income and expenditure for this activity would be accounted for in the Society's general fund. The profit from the activity, as calculated in Miss O'Kelly's accounts and agreed by the Treasurer, will be transferred to the Memorial Fund. Miss O'Kelly felt that the stall had been very worthwhile.

Of the T-shirts 100 of the 150 ordered were sold, and it was decided that more would be ordered for the 1990 Festival. The Treasurer said that c.£3300 had been received for the Fund last year, of which c.£2000+ were donations, c.£1000+ sale of Walter's music, £46 interest and £37 royalties. The total paid out so far is £162 to three recipients: (1) a Glasgow student to attend the Leeds course, (2) purchase of a better recorder for a student and (3) fee for another student to take a grade examination. With the new handbill, displayed at the Exhibition, Miss O'Kelly is prepared to undertake a major promotional exercise with Branch Secretaries, colleges and teachers. She reported that Schotts were prepared to give a covenanted donation to the Fund. Miss O'Kelly would be pleased to hear of any worthy recipients of Fund assistance.

11. Any other business

(a) It was reported that Mr Hunt is beginning to think about a successor as Editor of the magazine. The word "music" is to be dropped from the title and from March 1990 it will be "The Recorder Magazine".

(b) Mr Hersom reported that on the request of Freda Dinn's companion, Ivy ~~Mabbutt~~, he had begun sorting Freda's music, which she wishes the Society to have. With few exceptions it is all single copies of recorder music, some strings etc. as well as many out-dated primers and now defunct music magazines. He said he would eventually liaise with other Committee members about pricing and disposal.

(c) Mr Wyatt's survey of plastic instruments to appear in the December issue of the magazine has had references to a number of Korean instruments removed to obviate the possibility of libel action by the various manufacturers.

(d) Both Miss O'Kelly and Miss O'Sullivan felt that the Teacher's Guide, though continuing in popularity, might better reflect its worth by being printed rather than duplicated, since often printed matter commands more attention and is held in higher regard than when it is duplicated. Miss O'Sullivan also felt that a more realistic price than 25p (when ordering multiple copies) could be charged. Mr Hersom said that in its present form it is very easy to up-date as well as being possible to achieve wider dissemination by being free; and the Treasurer pointed out that printing requires large print numbers to be viable, even though it might make more impact in a printed form for library shelves. It was suggested that it could have a printed cover while retaining its duplicated contents. The matter was left for further discussion.

(e) Mrs Martin reported that she had been able to get into contact with Frau Charlotte Zimmermann, Walter Bergmann's former secretary in Germany, a lady probably now in her 80s and who seemed surprised but delighted to be consulted about her old employer.

12. The date of the next meeting was fixed for Sunday 4 February 1990 at the home of Mr Wyatt at 10 for 10.30 am.

Dr Dolmetsch proposed a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Martin for their warm hospitality, and the meeting closed at c.3.00 pm after a break for an excellent lunch.

ASL
04.02.90



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 4 February 1990

at 8 Wilton Grove, London SW19

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Mr Hunt |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Mrs Mason |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Miss O'Kelly |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Miss O'Sullivan |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Miss Seviour |
| Dr Dolmetsch | | Dr Short |
| Mr Hersom | | Mr Wyatt |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Newton, Mr Evry and Mrs Reddaway (COS Secretary).
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record with the following corrections: p.5 Ida Mabbett not Ivy Mabbutt; p.7 Miss Eileen Finlayson not Mrs.
3. Matters arising

Item 7. The Secretary reported that Mrs Ethel Allan, Miss Margaret Simpson and Mr James O'Malley had agreed to serve on the panel of Visiting Conductors, but Mrs Rosemary McGillivray had declined for family reasons.

Item 9(c). Mr Wyatt reported that the printer of the present brochure, Bob Brand, had agreed to run another print with alterations, but in the meantime he and Mr Hersom had produced a duplicated version for consideration by Committee, a comparison of cost being: present printed leaflet cost c.£285 for 5000 copies, whereas the duplicated one would be £32 for 5000. There followed a discussion on the relative merits of each presentation: some members felt that printing looked more professional and could be a more attractive influence, but printing requires a print of 5000 to be viable; while duplicating, besides being cheaper, can be done as required and also altered or up-dated more easily, and can be done on any coloured paper. On being put to the vote, a majority of members voted for the retention of the present brochure and for reprinting with alterations. Mr Hunt asked that Schotts be given a supply of the brochures.

Item 11(b). Mr Hersom reported that he had now sorted Freda Dinn's music and all string and piano works had been given to the Junior Department of the Royal College. There remained the task of dealing with the recorder music from a money-making angle: educational matter (textbooks etc.), single copies of scores, amongst which is a complete set of the old SRP/Schott series and the manuscript copy of the Bains Fantasia. Mr Wyatt

and Mr Kenworthy had helped with the disposal of Walter Bergmann's music and he asked that he be given some assistance with the present music, for which Mr Hunt and Mr Danbury volunteered.

4. Officers' reports

(a) The Secretary reported that she had recently received four Overseas enquiries about membership.

(b) The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the year ending 30 September 1989, having now received the awaited 1989 National Festival accounts, pointing out that the new format showed receipts and expenditure together for each item. While the profit from the sale of T-shirts was included, it had not yet been transferred to the Bergmann Fund. He said the situation was similar to last year, and explained the slight drop in subscriptions as being due to one Branch having been late in submitting their returns. There was a small surplus on activities, and he felt we would probably break even next year. The principal funds had now been transferred from the National Savings Fund to Barclays, but the CSR funds remained with Bradford & Bingley. It was then proposed by Mrs Martin and seconded by Mrs Mason and Committee agreed that the audited accounts as presented be accepted. Mr Hunt reported that Schotts were not contemplating any increase in the magazine price. Subscriptions had remained steady since 1986, also the price of the magazine. If the situation stays the same, although there may be a small loss next year, the Treasurer felt there was no call yet for an increase in subscription rates, only should there be some big planned expenditure within the Society.

(c) The COS Secretary's report was submitted in her absence. There are 174 paid-up members, of whom 33 are new: 127 in the UK, 17 in Europe and 30 world-wide; with renewal awaited from 38 members (31 UK, 4 Europe and 3 world-wide). There have been 4 transfers to Branches and 8 resignations since the new Members List came out. Of the 33 new members, 6 joined through attending workshops, 2 joined at the Early Musical Instruments Exhibition and 2 at Horsforth Summer School. Following her report to the last meeting, she had weeded out from the workshops mailing list all the SRP playing Branch members, of which there are about 50, leaving a manageable number of 54 individuals on the list, which she said she was willing to cope with should no-one else want to take on the job. It had been agreed at the last meeting that this list could be put on computer with facility to print sticky labels.

(d) The CSR Secretary said the revised syllabus contained the same basic content but endeavoured to clarify what is expected of candidates. The Examination Sub-committee were delaying final printing of the syllabus until the various points were considered in light of experience. Mrs Martin reported that they had received an enquiry from an SRP member in Singapore, who was told that only a visit to the UK could secure him an examination.

(e) The Membership Secretary reported that so far only half the number of Branches had submitted their returns, of which half showed gains and half losses. He said he had received a request from Notts Branch to have a permanent membership card to which would be attached an annual subscriptions receipt,

instead of issuing a fresh card each year. Provided every member received a card (required by our charitable status), the Committee agreed that Notts' request could be granted.

5. Conference arrangements

(a) A Conference Agenda was agreed.

(b) Mrs Usher, the Ipswich Festival Co-ordinator, had reported to the Secretary that the number of direct enquiries for Festival information she had received from various Branch members made her suspect that Branch Secretaries had failed to supply their members with both Festival information and the application forms already sent to the Branches to expedite applications. Committee agreed that a paragraph be included in the Conference letter urging Branch Secretaries to rectify this omission if necessary.

(c) Elections

i) All Officers were willing to stand for re-election.

ii) Committee. Miss O'Sullivan was due for automatic retirement and, to make the necessary two vacancies available, Mrs Mason would also be retiring. With reference to Miss O'Sullivan, it was proposed by Mr Hersom and seconded by Mr Hunt that she be invited to attend Committee meetings as the Administrator of the Moeck and Schott biennial competitions, with the right to speak but not to vote, and Committee agreed. Branches would, as usual, be invited to submit nominations for the two vacancies, but should none be forthcoming, Committee should have some in hand, and the following were proposed:

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|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Michael Sharman | <u>proposed</u> | Mr Hunt | <u>seconded</u> | Mrs Martin |
| Moira Usher | .. | Prof. Parkin | .. | Dr Short |
| Peter Sturgeon | .. | Mr Hersom | .. | Miss O'Kelly |
| Margaret Simpson | .. | Miss O'Sullivan | .. | Dr Dolmetsch |

and the Secretary was asked to invite them to accept nomination.

iii) Musical Director. Mr Hersom was due to retire and the Secretary was instructed to ask the members of the Musical Director pool whether they were willing to stand for election to the vacancy.

iv) Hon. Life Membership. West Riding Branch wished to suggest the nomination of Sister Mary Austin, their former Chairman and Musical Director, who retired in 1988 after having been a driving force in the Branch for a great number of years, and Committee agreed with pleasure to put her forward for election as an Honorary Life Member at the Conference.

6. Future Festivals

1991 - no further details to hand

1992 - Branches would again be asked for volunteers for this year, pointing out that if there were no offers, the 1992 National Festival would have to lapse.

7. Visiting Conductors List

Miss Seviour suggested Bruce Pennick as a suitable conductor. Committee agreed and the Secretary was asked to invite him to join the panel. Miss O'Kelly felt that the panel should include more young conductors, not just as far as age is

Not -
voting
member

concerned, but because they might well have new ideas to present to the movement; but she pointed out that various suitable professional musicians were engaged in income-producing commitments in the weekends, for which most conductors are invited and on which most part-time teachers rely: this again raised the question of payment of fees for such pastoral visitors as a means of superseding their regular income. It was further suggested that there could be a separate conductors list containing professionals requiring a fee for conducting (but still needing to be Society members) or be included in the general list with an indication that a fee is required. It was agreed that this should be put to Conference and Miss O'Kelly would prepare a draft list of names to present.

8. CSRP Examination Sub-committee

Mrs Martin suggested that the Committee should have power to approve a list of additional examiners, including Musical Directors of the Society, who could be asked to act at any examination when necessary. She was given permission to approach members to serve in this capacity. The Committee felt that there should be a minimum of 2 examiners for each examination. The Chairman proposed the following amendment to Rule 5(p) to be put to Conference:

"The Committee may at any time nominate an Examination Secretary and not more than five Examiners (all of whom shall be members of the Society) who shall be the members of the Examination Sub-committee. Remainder of Rule as before: 'Any Examination Secretary so nominated...any substitutes are appointed in their place.' ADD: "The Committee shall have power to approve other members of the Society whom the Sub-committee may appoint as additional examiners to assist at any examination."

Committee agreed that this amendment be put to Conference.

9. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Miss O'Kelly reported that she had been working on the American Recorder Society's Education Programme Guide for Adults, in her own classes in the last three months (one section a week) and her students had found it useful to get an overall picture of music theory (especially aural exercises, rhythm, etc.); and she therefore felt there is a case for preparing such a guide in this country and suggested that the SRP might prepare a parallel syllabus. The impact of the new Schools' Curriculum on music can be considered. It was reported that the Early Music Centre have already prepared a GCSE pack. Miss O'Kelly said she was too busy to prepare such a guide, but Mrs Mason is at present working on a guide for schools for her Authority and said she was willing to do an SRP guide for groups, evening classes etc.

(b) Mrs Martin reported that she ^{hoped she would} ~~will~~ be attending a course organized by HMIs at Keele University for those involved in primary school education to consider the impact of the National Curriculum on Music in schools, and the Chairman said the SRP would be willing to support her as it is important for the Society to know what is going on.

(c) Workshops. The Chairman reported that Dorset were organizing recorder workshops on 17 February (Baroque), 5 May

(Exploring the Oriel Library - recorder music for the amateur), 7 July (20th century music - Staeps to Dopplebaur), 20 October (The Leaves be Green). Miss O'Kelly reported that of the 5 planned 1989/90 workshops, the first in November 1989 had to be cancelled through under-booking (Alyson and Greg Lewin on how to start an early music group), the January one on Dowland was most successful, for the third in February (modern recorder music for novices) there was certain criticism of the "novice" label, Renaissance music in March seems to be very popular, and the fifth in April on 20th century English recorder music is already half full. The new venue has proved very accessible. The coming Oxford workshop in May was also reported.

(d) Competitions. Miss O'Sullivan had talked to both Mr Wood and Mr Harper of Moeck and Schott about the future of the two competitions. The Moeck solo is to continue in its present form. It was felt that the Schott ensemble needs to be adapted to something like an advanced workshop/master class, it would have to be decided whether to use an audition or tapes for the first selection, and the prize would not be a Wigmore Hall concert but perhaps a workshop conducted by some well-known player (possibly from the Continent). Birmingham has shown some interest in moving both competitions outside London, as in helping to organize them the Birmingham Music School could offer definite bookings at reduced fees and give access to their mailing lists. Advertisements in "Early Music News" (4 insertions for £100), for example, might mean an increase in fees but would increase coverage.

(e) Mr Hersom said he was working on a revised edition of the Teacher's Guide for mid-summer, and it would have a new cover.

(f) It was reported that Schott might be interested in distributing all the magazines to SRP members. At the moment Office Aids collect from Schotts and send out the magazine to individual members, but those sent in bulk to Branches are packed at Schotts (mostly by Mr and Mrs Wyatt) which sends the packets out from there. Mr Wyatt was asked to explore this further - in the event Schotts would not acquire the full Society membership list (which is exclusive to the Society and its members), but only those who take the magazine.

10. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Mr Hersom showed the leaflet prepared for and displayed on the Fund's stand at the recent Early Musical Instruments Exhibition, which he also sent to Branch Secretaries with a letter encouraging continuing donations, which had already produced a contribution from Sheffield and Mrs Robinson, a very long-standing member of the Society. £600 has been paid out so far in the first year to recipients, and 5 applicants for grants have already been received last week. This means that applications are coming in faster than extra funds, so the Fund may well need more interest to meet demands. Miss O'Kelly said that there was no precise form of assessing the applicants, as so far the Fund committee have relied on the reputation of the recommender/teacher/sponsor, all of whom have been known to them. Fund-raising items, in addition to the T-shirts designed for the Exhibition (4 sizes to be available for the coming Festival), recorder bags, etc., were suggested such as mugs, music folders with Society logo, cards and notelets. It was questioned whether part of the Society subscriptions should go

to the Fund and whether such a proposal should be put to Conference. Some members were against such a compulsory levy whereas others felt that such an obligatory donation could be looked upon as furthering the aim of the Society to promote the recorder. It was therefore proposed by Mr Hersom, seconded by Miss O'Sullivan and agreed that the following proposition be put to Conference:

"The Committee feels that new activities undertaken over the last few years have been commendable and they wish to continue them, which will necessitate increasing each subscription rate by £1, except for students."

11. Any other business

Dr Dolmetsch drew attention to the 50th anniversary this year of the death of the Society's first President, Arnold Dolmetsch, whose life and work will be celebrated by an exhibition and festival (of 4 lunch-hour recitals and 8 evening concerts) at St. John's Smith Square in May, when performers will include the Guildhall String Ensemble, The King's Singers, Melvyn Tan etc. and the presenters will be Richard Baker, Anthony Hopkins and Steve Race.

12. The next meeting was planned for Sunday 14 October 1990 at the home of Mr Wyatt.

The meeting closed at 2.45 pm after a break for an excellent lunch provided by Mrs Wyatt. The Chairman thanked the retiring members of Committee for their contributions to the work of the Society, and Mr and Mrs Wyatt for their warm hospitality.

Chairman

~~22.10.90~~

14. 10 90 Signed in error at 1990 Conference



12

THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 14 October 1990

at 8 Wilton Grove, London SW19

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Mr Hunt |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Miss Newton |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Miss Seviour |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mr Sharman |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Dr Short |
| Dr Dolmetsch | | Mrs Usher |
| Mr Evry | | Mr Wyatt |

The Chairman welcomed the two new members of Committee.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Clark, Miss O'Kelly, Miss O'Sullivan and Mrs Reddaway.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting. Mrs Martin asked for an amendment to item 9(b) from "will be attending a course organized by HMIs..." to "hoped she would be attending...". The Minutes were then accepted by Committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Item 9(a) Miss O'Sullivan and Mrs Helen Mason had been authorized to investigate the impact of the new Schools' National Curriculum on music and submit a paper on behalf of the Society, but Committee had not yet received a report from them. Mrs Martin felt that in the draft there was too much emphasis on the recorder merely as a means of teaching music. At the instigation of Miss O'Kelly, Miss Seviour had taken the American Recorder Society's Education Program Guide to adapt it for the SRP as a "Player's Guide". Having produced a first draft she sent it to about 20 people with teaching experience for their consideration, of whom about half had responded, including Paul Clark who had submitted detailed comments on all aspects of the 3-stage programme. Miss Seviour is now preparing a second draft incorporating these comments and this will again be sent out for further consideration. Mrs Usher felt that it was too much like an examination syllabus and that, while players on the whole want to be given a way of learning and improving, she did not think that this programme was suitable for many SRP members. She suggested that instead of producing all the aspects of technique, theory, harmony etc. as one progressing whole like graded music examinations, it might be better to prepare separate information sheets on all these different topics, which could be made available at a small cost to players. Mrs Martin said that many people coming late to music lack musical background and such a guide would

provide it. There was much pertinent information in the "Teacher's Guide" which could be incorporated in a "Player's Guide" and which could be used as a basis for new players - if produced in a series of pamphlets and sold in shops and at schools etc. would also serve as promotion for the Society. Mr Evry felt that a player could not follow the proposed guide as at present laid out without the aid of a teacher, and Mr Wyatt voiced the fears of players who might well be frightened off by a seemingly academic course on the theory of music. Mr Hunt explained that the American Recorder Society had produced their comprehensive guide because the States have no equivalent of, say, Trinity College and the Associated Boards. It was decided after discussion that Mrs Usher would prepare draft pamphlets on various topics and Miss Seviour would continue with her revised second draft.

Item 9(f) Mr Wyatt had written to Schotts about the possible distribution of the magazine instead of Office Aids, but had not yet received a reply. He would pursue negotiations with Mr Allen of Schotts.

4. Officers' reports

The Chairman and Secretary had nothing to report.

(a) CSRP Secretary. Mrs Martin reported that one candidate had failed on conducting. A number of candidates were ~~awaiting~~ ^{preparing} examination ~~and there was some interest~~ in Cambridge. *for the including*

(b) The Treasurer reported that both Scottish and National Festival accounts had been delayed beyond the normal end of the Society's financial year, but had now been received. He read a letter from the Essex Branch Treasurer criticizing the increase in subscriptions and the apparent subsidy of magazine-taking members by those not taking it.

(c) Membership Secretary. Dr Allen reported that there is a loss of no more than 20 on the year: 23 Branches showed a gain in membership, 19 a loss and 4 remained the same, the difference being about 20. He reported that Mrs Ena Pick was hoping to form a new Branch in Winchester. It was agreed that a new Members List should be produced in 1991, in which the cross-index would be improved and dual membership of Branches noted in some fashion to be decided. Dr Allen and Mr Wyatt would collaborate on the new List, which would be produced on the new size B4 paper.

(d) Mr Hunt reported that the December issue of the magazine would be his last as Editor. Miss O'Kelly, the new Editor, now in Ireland, would not be undertaking as much as he has done, but would be dividing tasks with Mr Clifford Caesar in London. He reminded Committee that Schotts must inform the Society 12 months before their Spring meeting of any change in the price of the magazine.

5. Pastoral Visits.

No further action had been taken on the discussions at the last Conference (Item 7).

6. Visiting Conductors List

The Secretary reported that Mrs Rosemary McGillivray (Glasgow) was now able to join the panel. When the list was up-dated

in 1987/88 the following were invited to join but declined for various personal reasons obtaining at that time: Miss Jane Ward, Mrs Christine Holliman and Miss Patricia O'Sullivan. Committee agreed that they again be invited. On the recommendation of Mr Hersom, Committee asked Mrs Moira Usher whether she would be willing to join the panel, and she agreed provided that she could indicate a geographical limit to invitations, which Committee accepted. Mrs Petrina Lodge was also suggested and the Secretary asked to write to her. Mr Evry was asked to sound out Mr Alex Ayre. Mrs Martin suggested that professional musicians might subscribe (by a small fee) to advertise their services (but not pastoral visits) in the magazine in a list similar to the check-list of courses. Mr Hunt said that such a list should be in the Society pages and therefore payment should be made to the Society and not to Schotts. The Committee will discuss this further, as it has not yet been decided whether there should be a separate conductors list for professional services in addition to pastoral visits.

7. Moeck and Schott competitions

In the absence of Miss O'Sullivan, Administrator of the competitions, Committee was unable to receive a report.

8. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Workshops. The Chairman reported for Miss Penrice that 5 workshops had been organized for London on 25 October, 15 November (1990) and 20 January, 10 February and 10 March (1991). There has been good bookings for the first ones. The price structure had been arranged to encourage students to attend and also to become Society members. A number of new people were attending this year as opposed to return participants. Oxford runs an annual Contemporary Music Workshop; Manchester has a workshop for juniors each year, also Cambridge; Guildford is planning a regular playing day.

(b) It was reported that Mr Hersom was preparing a further print of "The Teacher's Guide", and it was suggested that Mr Wyatt might offer to print it on his new machine for greater clarity.

(c) With the reprinting of the Society brochure, the Secretary was asked to advertise this in the next Branch letter as being available to Branches free of charge.

(d) The need for more young members was brought up. Mr Evry suggested lectures, recitals etc. in schools, and Mrs Martin suggested that the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools might be asked to include the recorder in their summer music courses. Mrs Usher pointed out that we tend to lose the 11-18 age group: very good young players do not want to attend Branch meetings and the younger ones get bored. She felt that there was too much emphasis by the Society on providing for the young, whereas she considered that the Society was for adults and should concentrate on them, especially the 20-30+ age group, the workshops tending to be levelled more at the 'younger' adult. Some Branches, e.g. Bath, have a good age spread. Mrs Martin pointed out that many very good young players tend to be soloists and need experience in sight-reading and playing with others, so the Society could well encourage young players to become members. Miss Seviour said that

Essex had tried to attract the young without much real progress and that there does not seem to be an adequate demand for primary children to carry on with the recorder when progressing to senior school. However, the Stockport Recorder College is a notable exception. Dr Short said that Edinburgh Branch have a thriving junior section meeting on Saturday mornings. The Secretary said that from the number of bodies catering for the retired who ask for SRP information there seemed to be an assumption in some quarters that the recorder was an old-age recreation. Mrs Usher went on to suggest that the Society should look seriously at advertising and where it is placed - just through educational outlets generally targets schools, whereas information in magazines, periodicals, local papers, parish magazines etc. would be levelled more at adults. Also small groups playing in shopping centres or other 'unexpected' places would allow people to hear what we do and not just read about it. She said that 500 copies of the Suffolk Branch Newsletter had been given to their library service which would be distributed to all libraries within its jurisdiction. It was agreed that Branches could well explore these avenues and they should be encouraged to have an Advertising Secretary. A paragraph stressing the importance of publicity would be put in the next Branch letter.

9. Financing of workshops

At the last Conference Cambridge Branch presented a resolution without advance notice (Item 9b). It was pointed out that for Miss O'Kelly's workshops Central Funds give an advance, take any profit and underwrite any loss. Mr Sharman reported that Cambridge do not charge for attendance at their children's playing days but ask for local sponsorship. They are well advertised with the schools and there is a great take-up, c.200 for their next play day. Cambridge wanted to know whether these occasions (and similar ones put on by other Branches) could be made a part of an SRP promotional budget - up to date Central Funds have made up any deficits but this is passive rather than active support by the Society. Some members felt that there is no need for such treatment since any loss is always covered by Central Funds. The Treasurer explained that with Festivals the host submits a 'break even' budget and the Society covers any subsequent loss. Mr Sharman felt that there should be a block grant and also asked whether the Society regarded such events as simply a Branch activity or something undertaken under the general umbrella of the Society. However, the Committee felt that the existing policy should be maintained - Branches could submit a budget just before the event and be guaranteed against loss, but it would not be part of Society activities.

10. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

The sub-committee met in the Summer and had to refuse some requests owing to lack of funds. The Treasurer would like a separate Fund and to be administered by someone other than the Society Treasurer, and the sub-committee would consider this. The Fund is still part of the Society, managed by the committee on behalf of the Society; and though the public at large has been asked to support the Fund, it has to remain part of the SRP in order to retain charitable status. There was some complaint that the profits from merchandise were not clearly

distinguished as between the Society itself and the Fund as recipients of profits; and it was agreed that this would be precisely stated in future. The Chairman suggested that the availability of assistance from the Fund should be made known to a wider range of teachers etc. and that applications should be addressed to Mr Hersom, the Secretary of the sub-committee. Dr Dolmetsch pointed out that the Dolmetsch Foundation also offers similar assistance to young players.

11. Future Festivals

1991 - Staffs - no further information received.

1992 - Cambridge: a 2-day event on 9/10 May, to be held at the Sixth Form College, Long Road, Cambridge, the Festival Organiser being Patricia Davies.

1993 - West Dorset had withdrawn their tentative offer, so Branches would be asked in the next Branch letter to consider hosting this year.

12. Any other business

(a) Darlington Branch has been dissolved, owing to falling numbers and increasing expenses. They had asked that their funds might be transferred to Cleveland Branch, to which many of their members also belonged. While the Rules state that such funds should revert to Central Funds, the Chairman had replied that the Committee would treat their request sympathetically. However, in the meantime, Cleveland suggested that "the funds should go to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund and the music to Central Library". Committee agreed that the funds should be disposed of in this manner, but as the Society had no central library, Committee were also agreeable to Darlington selling their music to members.

(b) Mr Sharman reported on the Cambridge Junior Recorder Club and their play day held on 22 September, for which there was an entrance fee of 50p. Bath Branch also have a junior group. The Rules provide for affiliation of such groups to Branches.

(c) In the absence of a central library, but where most Branch libraries are available for loan, it was decided to up-date these lists and circulate to Branches.

(d) The sources of SRP merchandise are advertised in the magazine.

(e) Mr Wyatt reported that the future of Jerry Jerrome's Avon Music was still unresolved. He had approached Mr Jerrome's daughter, Mrs Ruth Dicks, to help her continue but had had no response. He had thought of asking the composers/arrangers to transfer their works to the Oriel Library, with the idea of printing them as a "Jerry Jerrome Collection", but is unable to proceed at the moment.

12. The next meeting was arranged for Sunday 10 February 1991 at the home of Mr Wyatt.

The meeting closed at c.3.00 pm after a break for Mrs Wyatt's usual delicious repast. The Committee are most grateful for the Wyatt hospitality.

At
24.03.91



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 24 March 1991

at 8 Wilton Grove, London SW19

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Mr Clark |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Mr Hunt |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Miss Seviour |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mr Sharman |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Mrs Usher |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Mr Wyatt |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Dolmetsch, Mr Evry, Miss Newton, Miss O'Kelly, Miss O'Sullivan and Dr Short.

2. Minutes of the last meeting. Mrs Martin asked for the following amendment to Item 4(a) CSRP Secretary's report, sentence beginning "A number of candidates...", delete "awaiting", and substitute "preparing for"; delete "and there was", substitute "including"; and delete "interest". The sentence should read: "A number of candidates were preparing for the examination, including some from Cambridge." It was then proposed by Mrs Usher, seconded by Mrs Reddaway and agreed that the Minutes be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Item 8(b) Teacher's Guide. The Chairman read a report from the Editor Mr Hersom, wherein he explained that the fourth edition had been disappointing in production because, in order to issue it in time for the last Festival, he had had to use an inferior and unfamiliar duplicator as his own was out of commission. In the latest fifth edition, however, quality had been restored. Suggestions for improving the contents are always welcome. He intends to consult with Mr Wyatt when the time comes for the next edition.

Item 10. Mr Hersom also reported on the present position of Society merchandise. The early items (badges, car stickers, cotton T-shirts all with the SRP logo) were regarded as a publicity exercise rather than as a fund-raiser, the price being set to cover a little over the cost, sale of goods being handled by him. In the same way the Teacher's Guide was not a money-maker but rather an extension of Society activities. When Miss O'Sullivan started fund-raising for the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund other goods were devised (mugs, T-shirt etc. with a new design) for sale to boost the Fund and the prices made more realistic; but the income from the two is kept separate in the Society accounts and the goods handled by two different people. Mr Hersom feels that it is more sensible to not only pool the income but also have all the goods available from one person, and he has therefore passed the remaining badges and stickers to Miss O'Sullivan (when re-ordering these items the price may need to be increased): this makes it easier for the

Society Treasurer as well as for members wishing to order a variety of goods. (Woollen sweaters are still handled by Miss Palmer in High Wycombe.)

Item 12(e) Present position of Avon Music. Mr Wyatt reported that he had been able to print 6 items in the Oriel Library, but was unable to obtain the other 6 originals from Ruth Dicks (Jerry Jerrome's daughter), so that he could not continue with the printing of the "Jerry Jerrome Collection" in Oriel.

Item 3.9(f). Mr Wyatt reported that Schotts were now handling all magazine distribution, lists having been supplied by the Membership Secretary; but there appears to have been considerable delay in receipt experienced by some Branches. Dr Allen would look into this matter.

Item 4(c). Mr Wyatt reported that he had now received the new Members List on floppy discs from Dr Allen, and he promised to have the new List ready for the coming Festival.

Item 3.9(a). Following the "Player's Guide" suggested by Miss O'Kelly based on the American Recorder Society's Education Program Guide undertaken by Miss Seviour, after discussion at the last Committee meeting it had been agreed that Mrs Usher should produce a set of separate papers, and the headings she proposed are as follows:

- i) "How fast does it go?" - explanation of tempi in general, with specific reference to dance movements, etc.
- ii) Selection of "standard repertoire" for various ensembles
- iii) List of recorder publishers
- iv) Recorder composers/arrangers
- v) Ornaments - alternative and trill fingerings
- vi) Different types of recorders
- vii) Discography - music available on tapes/discs etc.

After discussion it was agreed that Mrs Usher should proceed with the scheme and the following members agreed to undertake the preparation of the various papers:

- i) Mr Clark would deal with tempi in general
- ii) Mrs Martin would take on the listing of the recorder repertoire, where it was also agreed that current prices should be included, even though later out of date, so that an indication could be given of the price range. Later on it could be decided whether to expand this list to include solo works, trio sonatas etc.
- iii) Mrs Usher would handle the list of publishers and consult with Mr Herson
- iv) Suffolk Branch were already working on a list of composers and arrangers. Mr Herson would be able to confirm whether Freda Dinn had also compiled such a list which could be consulted. It was decided that not too much personal detail should be included, and that there was no risk of infringing copyright as long as material was not lifted verbatim from, say, Grove. A list of sources could be added or a disclaimer as to accuracy. Mr Clark pointed out that there needs to be more research on modern composers.
- v) Mr Clark would also do the section on ornaments, with a possible later paper on "ornamentation" as opposed to standard ornaments specified in the score.
- vi) Mr Wyatt would consider what could be incorporated in this paper, since his published assessment of various makes had only been of plastic instruments.

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vii) Miss Seviour had already investigated the repertoire on records for Essex Branch and, as a sample, had made a 90-minute tape of such records, not all of which are now extant. She would continue her search for more recordings and hopes to obtain a current catalogue to check availability.

The question of printing/distribution/size/cost was considered. Mr Sharman suggested a printed cover for the set, all of which could be sold at music shops etc. for, say £2. But Mr Wyatt, who would be prepared to do the printing, said he could print 4 or 5 pages for 10p and was all for cheapness to attract customers. He also felt that prices at commercial outlets for distribution can never be kept low since, for one thing, music shops could require a fee to handle the goods and so on. However, the Chairman felt that prices could be considered later on. Mr Hunt wondered whether this material could be subsequently reproduced in the magazine, since there had already been some articles on ornamentation etc., but no decision was taken here.

Mrs Usher drew Committee's attention to the "Open Forum" programmes on Channel 4 and suggested that the SRP might well be put in one on musical societies, and the Chairman agreed to look into this.

She also reported that the two Staffs Branches, although hampered by printing delays, were experiencing the same trouble as Suffolk had in that Branch Secretaries were failing to pass to their members information on the Festival, and the Chairman agreed to mention the matter at Conference. (In view of this, it was felt that it might be unwise to rely on Branch Secretaries in the advertising and distribution of the proposed "Player's Guide" pamphlets.)

4. Officer's reports

(a) The Secretary reported that the new Wessex Branch was viable and Committee agreed to put it forward for ratification by Conference. At the request of Mrs Pillatt, Secretary of Northampton Branch, she had sent her the papers on forming a new Branch at Milton Keynes, as there might be enough interest in that district to re-launch the old Branch, but nothing heard from her so far. These papers were being revised and would be re-printed by Mr Wyatt, as stocks are now low or exhausted.

She reported that she had been approached by the Policy Studies Institute to supply Society information for their research project on "Amateur Arts in the United Kingdom", the findings of which are to be presented to a conference in May, and which they hope will influence the policies of the four UK Arts Councils, local authorities and the new Regional Arts Boards.

She also reported two complaints from members, one about treatment at meetings and the other of poor service in supply of magazines and merchandise. A lady from Sheffield found the Branch "unwelcoming and unfriendly" to herself and, in particular, when she took a guest. The Chairman felt that Sheffield should be told of her comments, and Mr Roscoe was surprised at, though regretted, the complaint, and said that most members bringing a guest would introduce them. Members of Committee did agree that sometimes perhaps not enough attention was paid to new members or guests, and the Chairman said he would make some mention at Conference of the need to make some effort to obviate criticism of this nature - perhaps Branch committees might delegate the job to a member. The other complaint was from a COS member who joined last July but received neither the September nor December magazines and had had to request them

from Mrs Reddaway. Dr Allen confirmed that her membership was in order. The Secretary had told her that her complaint of non-receipt of Society merchandise should be addressed to Miss O'Sullivan direct, from whom she had ordered the goods.

(b) The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year ended 30 September 1990. He reported that the accounts showed a healthy surplus on the Central Fund, due mainly to the increase in interest received. This increase is attributable to higher interest rates generally, plus the transfer of Society funds to a high street bank account earning even higher rates, with quarterly interest payments. He forecast a return to more normal levels of interest receipts in 1990/1.

The merchandising activities have now been transferred to a separate account under the stewardship of Miss O'Sullivan. The Central Fund loss on merchandising of £393 in 1988/9 was recovered in 1989/90 and a final surplus of £294.14 credited to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund.

Nett income to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund was an increase on the previous year, after grants totalling £1050, and the Fund now stands at around £9,000. The Central Fund stands at over £14,000. By keeping the two Funds in one bank account, both can benefit from the higher rates of interest that can be earned on large deposits. It was proposed by Mr Sharman, seconded by Mrs Reddaway and agreed that the accounts be accepted.

Professor Parkin went on to discuss the question of ex-gratia payments to Festival host branches. It was decided that there should not be a fixed rate for such payments, e.g. proportion of profit, but should be at the discretion of Central Committee. It was agreed that Suffolk, for its successful and innovative 2-day National Festival, should be given £200 and that Alva be given £50.

The price of the magazine is to be increased by 30p to £1.80 from January 1992. The question again arose of whether the resultant extra price should be incorporated in the general subscription rates, where non-magazine takers subsidize those who do take it, or whether the increase should only be borne by magazine takers. He said he does not need to raise subscriptions before 1992, so this question can be considered later on. The magazine, in its new format, will receive extra promotion at the coming Festival by Miss O'Kelly and/or Mr Sharman.

The Treasurer said that he had had to ask the Staff Branches to elucidate their draft budget of £1650 expenditure. He had received no report of workshop accounts, and the Chairman will ask for such accounts for the Conference.

(c) The COS Secretary reported that she had 212 members, of whom 17 had not yet renewed their membership.

(d) The CSRP Secretary has received a number of enquiries, one candidate is ready for examination, but of the 10 people entered from Cambridge, two had withdrawn, one of whom had asked for a refund of the entrance fee. After discussion of this request and the possible recurrence in the future and since there is no mention of withdrawal/refund in the brochure, it was agreed in the present two cases of withdrawal that there should be a refund made to both people of half the fee, i.e. £12.50 each, and that the new brochure should include the clause "In the event of non-completion of the course, there will be no refund of the fee" or "The non-refundable fee for the course is £25."

(e) The Chairman took the opportunity of thanking Mr Hunt for

his many years of devoted service to the Society.

(f) The Membership Secretary reported that membership at the moment is approaching 1639. The Society has lost 16 members, but there is the new Wessex Branch to boost numbers. Cleveland has gained 9 (4 from the defunct Darlington Branch), Nuneaton has doubled in size, South Wales is doing well, High Wycombe has increased from 4 to 6 members, but Ayr & District is down to 4 and would probably wind itself up shortly.

He said the new Members List was under way and would have multiple memberships listed. The new Branch Rule, agreed by Committee in October 1989, regularizing the membership of more than one Branch (i.e. Associate Membership of a second or more neighbouring Branches), which was intended to be put to the 1990 Conference for agreement was overlooked at that time (although it was put to Branches in the January 1990 letter), and will now be put to the coming Conference. The Secretary reported that she has received notice of adoption of the Rule from 5 Branches to date.

Dr Allen took note of some discrepancies in the new distribution arrangements with Schotts, the March issue being the first they have handled. Charges to Schotts had not yet been settled. He reported on the sad troubles of the family firm of Office Aids and the doubtful continuance of the business, following the death in February of the proprietor's widow of leukemia. Dr Allen was instructed to inform Office Aids of our change to Schotts for magazine distribution and that the Society would give a donation of £25 to leukemia research in memory of Mrs Polden and in token of many years' service.

5. Conference arrangements

(a) The Conference Agenda (agreed by the Chairman and Secretary) had already been sent out with the Conference letter, since they could not wait for this meeting postponed from February.

(b) Elections

i) All Officers were willing to stand for re-election.

ii) Musical Directors. Mr Wyatt is to retire as one of the three serving on Committee and Miss O'Kelly has asked to retire as she is now living in Ireland. The Secretary had written to the "pool" of Musical Directors (excluding Mr Bonsor who does not wish to serve) asking whether they were willing to stand for election to the two vacancies. So far Dr Coles had declined due to his health, Mr Hersom and Miss Nallen had agreed to stand, but no reply to date from Mr Martin.

iii) Committee. Miss Seviour is due to retire after 3 years' service, and to comply with the Rule that 2 members should retire each year, Mr Evry (in alphabetical order from the next appointees) has to retire after only 2 years' service. Since there have not yet been any nominations from Branches, the Committee decided that the following should be asked to stand for election and the Secretary instructed to write to them:

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Peter Sturgeon | <u>proposed</u> | Mr Sharman | <u>seconded</u> | Mr Danbury |
| Nigel Coulton | .. | Mr Clark | .. | Mrs Blackman |
| Margaret Simpson | .. | Mrs Martin | .. | Mrs Reddaway |
| Eric Chapman | .. | Miss Seviour | .. | Mr Wyatt |

6. Festivals

1991 The Secretary reported on the difficulties that the Staff

organizers had had over the apparent ad hoc agreement between the music shops over which one would exhibit at the Festivals. The Chairman said that the Society was not prepared to regulate on such matters and that host Branches should be free to invite whomever they wished, especially since some Branches (e.g. Cambridge) may have local shops who also may be interested and that Early Music and Saunders were not the only ones in the field. The Secretary also reported the trouble Staffs had had over the venue for the Festival, where the County controllers of the Cauldon College (excellent facilities) had been dilatory and misleading over hiring costs - "today's prices" quoted in September 1988 with possible increase in line with rate of inflation, were virtually tripled when a final rate was at last elicited by 'phone (letters remaining unanswered) in December 1990, which was completely beyond projected budget. They had therefore to negotiate a more reasonable charge for a not so convenient locale at the Trent Valley School.

1992 Cambridge. Arrangements well in hand by the Festival Organizer Pat Davies for the 9/10 May 2-day event at the Sixth Form College.

1993 1992 Still no offers.

7. Visiting Conductors List

As there are now many alterations and additions to the panel, the Secretary is in the process of up-dating for reprinting. All 42 members of the panel had been asked in February whether they wished to remain on the panel and whether any alteration of the potted biography was required, not all of whom have yet replied. Committee suggested that the laggards should be given a dead-line of end April, after which non-reply would be taken as refusal. At the same time the Secretary had re-approached 3 invitees of 1987 who had declined at that time: Jane Ward was again unable to accept, Patricia O'Sullivan still did not feel it was her forte and Christine Holliman had moved, address not known. The Secretary had received a request from Dr Virginia Brookes, Chairman of the new Wessex Branch, to join the panel. Committee considered her request and, although they had no way of assessing her capacity as a conductor (despite her impressive musical CV) decided to invite her to join and the Secretary was asked to write to her accordingly. Mr Evry had reported that he had approached Alex Ayre as requested and had ascertained that Mr Ayre would be glad to join the panel: the Secretary would also write to him.

8. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Workshops. No report had been received and the Chairman would get into touch with Miss Penrice.

(b) Moeck and Schott competitions. Miss O'Sullivan had reported to the Chairman that she did not feel it would be possible to hold the competitions in May as there were very few entries, not all of competition standard. She had written to Moeck and Schotts suggesting that the competitions be postponed to coincide with the Early Music Exhibition in November and was awaiting their replies. However, Mr Hunt said that the idea was to hold the competitions in the Spring and put on the concert prize at the time of the Exhibition. He suggested that under the present circumstances they be postponed for 2 years. While Miss O'Sullivan said that she had plans for wider publicity, members wondered whether this poor response had resulted from restricted

publicity or a real paucity of suitable applicants. Mr Wyatt suggested that as the competitions were the responsibility of the Society they should perhaps be administered by a group rather than one individual, who may well have restrictions on time available for the necessary organization. Mr Hunt said that on his retirement from organizing the competitions he had left very detailed instructions to his successor. The Chairman said he would speak to Miss O'Sullivan, also saying that there was insufficient standard to hold the competitions this year.

(c) Mr Clark suggested that the Society might make contact with the Chamber Music Competition for Schools Trust and advertise the SRP in their programme. Although Mrs Martin understood that this Trust was not much interested in recorders, Mr Clark said that his school groups were well treated; and that he would provide information on this annual event for the Committee and also bring the Trust to the attention of the competitors at the coming Festival.

(d) Mrs Martin announced that the coming Guildford Playing Day would be having a children's morning.

(e) Mr Wyatt mentioned the twice-yearly summer string courses for promising child players and wished that similar ones could be organized for child recorder players of high standard.

9. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

The Chairman presented the report from Mr Hersom. The Sub-committee, consisting of Graham Danbury, Eve O'Kelly, Patricia O'Sullivan and Herbert Hersom, meets thrice yearly in February, May and October. As Miss O'Kelly is no longer available, Miss Paula Marsh (South London Branch Treasurer) had been invited to take her place. The Chairman therefore proposed her appointment and Committee agreed. Miss O'Sullivan had opened a deposit account with a building society solely for receipt of merchandise payments, for purchase of further such goods and her own expenses. Mr Hersom had checked with Dr Allen that recipients of grants had joined the Society and he had written to some doubtfuls. Recent recipients had been asked what the grant had meant to them, asking for a photograph for a magazine feature - articles appeared in the December and March issues. The Sub-committee felt that it would be difficult to enquire into home financial circumstances in most cases, though any information offered would be taken into consideration: the application form has been modified to elicit such information. Priority should probably be given to the middle age group rather than primary school children or older students who had been "out of work". Grants totalling over £1650 have so far been made plus an interest-free loan of £200 (partly repaid), and a few applications are pending. Some donations had come direct to him, from £5 to one of £1000. Over £200 had been received in memory of David Tattersfield, a deceased Cheltenham member. £140 was raised at the Leeds Summer School by the sale of Arthur Ingram's music (former SRP Treasurer). Other sums have come from Branches, among them Bath, Beds & North Herts, Cambridge, Cleveland, Guildford, Kent, Sheffield, who had given concerts, sold second-hand music, taken collections or sent donations from funds.

10. Any other business

(a) Mr Sharman reported on the Junior Recorder Group in Cambridge. He referred to a letter from Martin Whitaker (Cambridge Secretary) asking whether the Society would support the group, which

was needing £35 to break even (covering monthly meetings) and also asking for a grant from the Bergmann Fund. Cambridge gave them £30 to cover two meetings to start them off. The attendance is not very high so the income from the meetings (50p each) is not sufficient, and thus income from some other source is needed. The group is affiliated to Cambridge Branch, and is run by Patricia Davies as Musical Director and a committee of parents and Branch members. There followed a discussion on whether the Society should support such groups with regular funds and a certain amount of publicity, and it was finally proposed by Mr Hunt, seconded by Mrs Reddaway and agreed that the Society should give them £50 to keep going until the end of the Summer, by which time they should be self-sufficient. Mr Whitaker will report to the Chairman on progress.

(b) Miss O'Kelly had written to the Chairman asking for reactions to the new format of the magazine, and it was agreed that the Society "notables" and officers should head the Society pages as before. Miss O'Kelly had told Mr Sharman that she wanted the magazine to be the Society mouthpiece, so that anything newsworthy from the Society should be published. Members questioned whether this would mean the demise of the separate Newsletter, which is supplied to all members and not only to magazine-takers: if all SRP news was to go into the magazine, this information would no longer be available to the whole membership. It was also felt that if too much of the magazine was taken up with "parochial" items, it might well reduce its interest to the general public (the Society take-up of the magazine is only a part of the distribution of each issue). While Committee considered that we should be in control of the last four pages of the magazine for Society use, it was of equal importance to continue Branch news as a separate Newsletter, with anything of more general interest being published in the body of the magazine. The general distribution of the Newsletter is proposed to be undertaken by Schotts, but it is not yet known whether they will take it on in addition to those copies included with the magazine. Miss O'Kelly wanted to keep the Spotlights, and Mr Sharman had been exploring the medium of telephone interviews for profiles of interesting people.

(c) Miss Seviour reported that she had prepared a second draft of the originally suggested "Player's Guide" and sent it to Miss O'Kelly and Mr Clark, but neither copy had reached its destination. She will now send further copies of the draft to them for comment.

(d) Members were informed that Carl Dolmetsch will be 80 in August, and Mr Hunt said that his sister Enid will also be 80 this year, in July.

11. The next meeting of Central Committee will be on Sunday 20 October at the home of Mr Hunt.

The meeting closed at 3.30 p.m. after a welcome lunch provided by Mrs Wyatt. With Mr Wyatt's retirement from Committee this year, the Chairman voiced Committee's sincere thanks to Kitty and Theo for many years' hospitality.

20. 10. 91



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 20 October 1991

at 95 Salisbury Avenue
St. Albans, Herts AL1 4TY

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Miss O'Sullivan |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Mr Sharman |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Dr Short |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mr Sturgeon |
| Mr Hersom | | Mrs Usher |
| Miss Newton | | |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Chapman, Mr Clark, Dr Dolmetsch, Mr Hunt, Mrs Martin, Miss Nallen, Mrs Reddaway.

2. The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Item 3.9(a). Mrs Usher reported that a dead-line of the end of January had been fixed for completion of the recorder information papers, some being already done, for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

Item 7. Mrs Usher asked what was the vetting procedure for appointing Visiting Conductors, and the Chairman explained that anyone may make a recommendation to Central Committee which, after discussion, makes its decision.

4. Officers' reports

(a) The Secretary reported that she had received an enquiry about forming a new Branch in Sussex, from Mrs Maureen Haines, based on the Arun Recorder Group of which she is Musical Director, and which meets in Worthing. Committee felt a Branch in this area would be welcome. No further news to date. Mrs Usher said that she had been invited privately to conduct this group.

She reported that Mr Wyatt had printed an up-to-date list of Branch Secretaries for the Society brochure, but two new changes had since been received: South Staffs (John Dunn) and Cheltenham/Glos (Susan Webb).

Mr Roy Corbishley had written to the Secretary requesting that Committee consider recommending Layton Ring to Conference as a Musical Director: he wrote "Layton was a tutor on the Recorder in Education Courses at Roehampton from 1955 until he formed the NORVIS courses. He keeps the Newcastle Branch going, is a very talented musician, arranger and composer, and is popular with the many Branches he has visited and with Festival organizers. Is still active at 69 and will be 70 at the next Conference." Mr Hersom said that Mr Ring had done a lot in the recorder world and had worked with Carl Dolmetsch

for the Universal Edition. Mrs Usher asked what was the role of the Musical Directors and what do they "direct"? The Chairman quoted Rule 5(f) which says that "Musical Directors shall be responsible for advising and assisting the Committee as to the musical affairs of the Society", and gave a short resume of how the post had since evolved. A discussion followed on the two questions of (a) whether we appoint people as Musical Directors if they now do not have the specific role they once had (though two of the latest appointees, Evelyn Nallen and Eve O'Kelly, are professional musicians and as such provide a source of expertise for the Society as well as adding to the status of the Society); and (b) whether if appointment as a Musical Director is a method of acknowledging service to the Society, would this not be better achieved by appointing such people as Honorary Life Members? It was decided that the present role of Musical Directors will be reviewed at the next meeting, and that the views of existing Musical Directors would be sought. Mr Corbishley would be advised that his recommendation would be considered at the next meeting.

The Secretary reported that the latest Visiting Conductors List had taken longer than expected to compile due to slowness of reply from members of the panel. Finally it had to be printed by Mr Wyatt lacking replies (after three letters) from Jim O'Malley and David Cooke. However, she had since received apologies from Mr O'Malley and regrets that at present he is unable to continue on the panel. Alan Davis and Monica Coles wished to retire. It was then proposed by Mr Hersom, seconded by Miss Newton and agreed that Mr Danbury be included in the next list of Visiting Conductors.

The Secretary drew Committee's attention to an article in the "Times Educational Supplement" in July describing "the mixed fortunes of the recorder in schools", for which she had been asked by the author for information on the Society, as well as the Dolmetsch Foundation, to be included. As a result she had received some 20 odd enquiries, not about joining the Society but for help in teaching (both at school and adult level), for finding teachers, and for the information contained in the "Teacher's Guide". Mr Hersom said that he also receives many enquiries of this nature. Miss Newton reported that she had been asked to help to instruct teachers how to play, particularly peripatetic teachers having to take on the recorder under the National Curriculum. Mrs Usher suggested that the Society should perhaps have a fund for, say, running courses of instruction for teachers and for adult beginners, especially since LEAs were now cutting recorder courses for adult education. Musical Directors could run a day or weekend course two or three times a year. It was pointed out that our members have to be able to play (at whatever standard) ~~to~~ to join the Society; we do not undertake teaching itself, which has been left to private teachers, schools or adult classes. Private tuition can be expensive, and both schools and adult education are now cutting back on music in general and often recorders in particular, though districts do vary. Mrs Usher felt that there was therefore a need for the Society to think of a broader missionary aim: as children, teachers and adults all need to be taught, concentrating on ~~adults~~ adults is not enough. Miss O'Sullivan said that the Walter Bergmann Fund made grants to young people up to age 30, but the Fund may be able to be extended to embrace adults by funding such courses of instruction. Mr Hersom mentioned the several present-day courses,

Feb/Mar 3 27
e.g. Recorder in Education started at Roehampton, which had been first formed by the Society, but participants had to be able to play; though the Northern Recorder Course and the Recorder in Education Summer School at Leeds now have beginners' classes. Dr Short felt that the Society should try and fill the gaps left by decreasing LEAs, especially for teachers, though Miss O'Sullivan considered that the Society should not be responsible for teaching teachers, which should be provided by local authorities. It was agreed, however, that adult late-starters and teachers were two different categories with separate problems and solutions; and it was decided that the Musical Directors should be asked their opinion on the following proposition: "On the suggestion of Mrs Usher, the Committee is considering the provision of assistance for training teachers and, separately, adult beginners."

The Secretary reported a letter from Peter Roscoe of Sheffield Branch giving his plan of a more satisfactory grouping of STRTB around the conductor for mass playing instead of that usually used in blocks in front of the conductor, and Mrs Usher said that his grouping had been used at the Ipswich Festival; and members agreed, in response to his criticism of inability to hear the speaker in a large auditorium that it was not only necessary to speak more loudly but also more slowly.

The Secretary also reported that Mr Wyatt was in the process of printing in booklet form an up-dated version of the various papers provided for setting up a new Branch.

(b) It was reported from the COS Secretary that there were now 157 paid-up COS members (UK 114, Europe 19 and Overseas 24) with 3 resignations.

(c) The Treasurer reported that merchandise for resale on behalf of the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund had been purchased as follows: Xmas cards £1312 and T-shirts £441. The Cambridge Branch had asked for a donation to their Schools Playing Day on 24 January and it was agreed to sponsor this event up to £100 from the Bergmann Fund. Members of the Committee were invited to attend. He also reported that the Recorder in Education Summer School had made a donation to the Fund.

(d) It was reported from the CSRP Secretary that she had got into touch with Trinity College of Music with reference to their Courses for Teachers (Teaching the Recorder) next January, February and April, and that Trinity would be prepared to credit approved courses leading to the CSRP as part of their Diploma course. These courses were advertised in the magazine, and Trinity had asked Mr Herson whether they could be made known to Society Branches.

(e) The Membership Secretary reported that Society membership now stood at 1652. He said he had not yet heard whether Schott will charge for handling enclosures with the magazine, though they had sent out the membership list and Branch Newsletters without query.

5. Future Festivals

1992 Cambridge, 9/10 May. Mr Sharman reported that plans were under way for a 2-day Festival (plus Conference) in which coaching sessions were to be offered to soloists and groups, with professional musicians for which a fee would be charged. There would be a Saturday evening concert by the Seaview Quartet and Classic Buskers, and there were to be no competitions.

Mrs Usher remarked that members of the Society do not now seem to enter for the competitions, competitors being from colleges and schools, so wondered whether the SRP should continue to hold competitions. Dr Short said that at the yearly Alva Festival competitions were limited to secondary school pupils, as giving an impetus to enter and also getting the experience of performing to an audience. Miss O'Sullivan thought that adult groups could have some adjudication sessions rather than competitions. Although Branches are free to decide on the matter of competitions and are not bound by what other Branches do, it was decided to bring up at the next Conference whether or not to have competitions of any sort at Festivals.

1993 Nothing further had been heard from Wessex Branch.

6. Extension of SRP activities

(a) The Chairman reported that he was not aware of any coming workshops since Miss O'Kelly's return to Ireland, but he would ask Vicki Penrice of any developments. Dorset and Oxford have undertaken some workshops of their own.

(b) Mr Herson reported that he had sent 50 copies of the "Teacher's Guide" to the Irish Branch, who are undertaking some courses; and that copies will be available at the coming Early Music Exhibition as SRP publicity. If it is to be reprinted, Mr Herson said that there is need for revision, especially in the music and publishers lists - the planned pamphlet by Mrs Martin could be used here. He also asked for any suggested additions etc. so that it could be prepared in time for the next Festival. Committee agreed that the Guide should be reprinted and thanked Mr Herson for all the effort he had put into its production. 4000 copies have so far been distributed, each copy costing about 12p to produce.

(c) Mr Sharman reported that Miss O'Kelly is not in favour of the separate Branch Newsletter, as she prefers either all Branch news to be printed in the body of the magazine or in a separate newsletter printed in the house style. The merit of a separate newsletter is that all Society members get it and not just those who take the magazine. Although Schotts have not yet charged us for despatching extras with the magazine, Miss O'Sullivan said that Schotts had quoted her £300 for inserting a notice about the Bergmann Fund Xmas cards, whereas the Early Music Shop in Bradford charged her £150 for a 7000 mail-shot for them. Mr Sharman explained the beginning of the Schott/SRP collaboration in 1967 for a magazine when the Society's "Recorder News" was incorporated in "The Recorder and Music Magazine", so that our mouthpiece became a professional publication. In the beginning there was an editorial board, now defunct. With 4 pages devoted to the Society and its affairs, it was felt that a magazine with a wide readership outside the Society could be a powerful recruiting medium; so that the impression given these readers of the Society and the likelihood of them becoming members, would depend on the quality of the Society's pages. Mr Herson served on this board and continued as Editor of the Schools Section until the recent change in editorship. There followed a discussion on the merits of a separate newsletter versus Society news in the body of the magazine and whether there should be more room made available for Society material. It was decided that this could be further considered at the next Committee meeting for subsequent

discussion by Conference; and agreed that either separate newsletters or reports in the magazine should be of interest to all recorder players, remembering that all such reports and Spotlights should be written with an eye for an outside readership and not just for Society members. Schotts have now agreed to fund visits to Branches by Mr Sharman to gather information for future Spotlights: there are no conditions attached to this arrangement, so neither Mr Sharman nor the Society would be compromised in any way. It was reported that at present Schotts are making a loss on the magazine, but they consider that this would be balanced if all Society members took the magazine. However, the meeting felt that circulation is really Schott's responsibility as a commercial undertaking. Nonetheless, it was agreed that the Treasurer should ask Mr Harper whether a deal could be struck if all members took the magazine and what Schotts would then charge us per copy. It was agreed that it would be a great pity if Schotts decided to discontinue publication rather than run it at a loss. The Treasurer would report his findings to the next meeting, and the question of making the magazine compulsory could also be discussed in the light of his report.

7. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Mr Hersom reported that to date the Fund had received 41 applications (not all granted) and £2400 had been disbursed in sums mainly of £75 or £100, generally for purchase of instruments, with one or two examination fees and/or course fees. Miss O'Sullivan said that with merchandising she had tried to tie up new goods with Festivals or the Early Music Exhibition, e.g. teapot stands, pencils, music cases etc. However, when once the initial demand is over she did not wish to continue a line and thus tie up money in unsold stock; the Fund hopes to carry on with supply of Xmas cards, mugs, stickers, badges, T-shirts, recorder bags, music stands. She said that there are now a considerable number of orders - Magna Music had ordered £100 worth, and orders were coming from abroad, especially America. She said that the stickers and badges were still SRP items, where price just covered cost. The Fund will have a stand at the forthcoming Early Music Exhibition in November, which will be manned by recipients of grants from the Fund as well as some SRP members. Both Miss Newton and Mrs Usher questioned why no goods are sold for the benefit of the Society, all profits now going to the Fund; and it was explained that the early items (badges and stickers) were designed as a publicity exercise rather than a fund-raiser, the prices covering a little more than cost. The "Teacher's Guide" was regarded in the same way. Mrs Usher strongly disagreed with money going, apparently, to middle-class adolescents (practically all college or would-be college students) rather than adults and children in real need of help, who could benefit from the charity; and she expressed particular disquiet over the whole tenor of the article in the March issue of the magazine on the recipients of grants, none of whom appeared to be in real need, e.g. one, already a flautist, given a grant to buy a renaissance tenor in order to play recorder consorts as he had become interested in early music; and another, a child, for a sopranino in the hope, presumably, that he might play the other instruments if and when his fingers were big enough. Mr Hersom explained that the flautist only received £12 towards the instrument, but the extent of assistance is not conveyed in the article. The Chairman explained

that the Fund committee tries to give money where most badly needed. There followed an animated discussion on the whole purpose of the Fund, which is the only one for the recorder, there being other funds for music students in general; and young people were chosen, as being close to Walter's heart - although, of course, he ran evening classes for adults. Dr Short, in underlining that the Society is an educational charity, felt that a missionary activity of the Society should be for the recorder itself rather than boosting the Society. There seemed to be a specific educational niche to be filled with the present decreasing opportunities for learning/playing the recorder in both schools and adult education. It was generally felt that if any need arose for helping adults to attend courses or even organize these for them, the Fund may be able to help if Central Committee agreed. It was suggested that a general article on the Fund should be written for the magazine, setting out its purpose and possible expansion to benefit recorder players of all ages, so that it could serve adults and not just children and adolescents. Miss O'Sullivan would be pleased to receive any comments (adverse or not) on the handling of publicity, merchandise etc.

8. Schott/Moeck competitions

Miss O'Sullivan explained that the competitions were not held in March owing to insufficient entries and/or talent. She has been able to get more publicity out for the Moeck competition on the Sunday of the Early Music Exhibition, achieving 6 very good soloist applicants and Marianne Zebruggen as adjudicator (fee now a professional £300). The prize concert may be at the Lufthansa Baroque Festival in May 1992. The expenses are shared more or less equally between Moeck and the Society, though Moeck in the past have been generous. There is no Schott ensemble competition this year, even as a workshop.

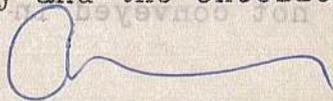
9. Any other business

(a) Mr Hersom reported that Schotts have sold Eulenberg to Fabers, who are not now reprinting the Eulenberg 1978 revised edition of Edgar Hunt's book "The Recorder and its Music". Both he and Roland Jones have complained to Fabers, and consider that the Society should also write to Fabers, pointing out that this book is a valuable part of recorder literature and should be preserved, since other recent books do not cover the same ground. Miss Newton proposed, seconded by Mr Sharman and Committee agreed that the Chairman should write to Fabers registering the Society's concern, and individual members should be encouraged to write.

(b) Mrs Usher complained about the exorbitant charges Schotts are now making for its music. She felt that these prices might well wipe the recorder from schools, where budgets are already depleted. It was therefore proposed by Mr Hersom, seconded by Miss Newton and agreed that the Society should express its concern at the effect of pricing and marketing policy by Schotts on recorder playing in schools, and the Chairman would write.

10. The date of the next meeting was fixed for Sunday 16 February 1992, at the home of the Chairman.

The Committee expressed grateful thanks to the Chairman and Mrs Danbury for their hospitality and the excellent lunch provided by our hostess.

 16.02.92

Society



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 16 February 1992

at 95 Salisbury Avenue
St. Albans, Herts AL1 4TY

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Mr Danbury | Chairman | Mr Clark |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Mr Hersom |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Dr Short |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mr Sharman |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Mr Chapman |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Mr Sturgeon |
| Dr Dolmetsch | | Mrs Usher |
| | | Miss O'Sullivan |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Hunt, Miss Nallen and Miss Newton.

2. Minutes of the last meeting. With the following correction, 4(a) Secretary's Report, p.2, 2nd last sentence: "Mrs Usher felt that...concentrating on adults is not enough", for "adults" read "children", the Minutes were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Item 6(c). Branch Newsletter would be dealt with as a separate item under item 10: Any other business.

Item 9(a). The Chairman reported that he had written to Fabers expressing the Society's concern that Edgar Hunt's book "The Recorder and its Music", the rights to which they had recently acquired, was out of print, and had received a somewhat meaningless reply that a decision on the matter would be taken by Faber's Music Book Editor who has not yet been appointed.

Item 9(b). The Chairman had also written to Schotts about what the Society felt were exorbitant prices for their music, and Schotts had replied that they are a commercial concern and therefore have to make a profit, so intend keeping the present prices.

Item 6(c). (Additional note) Following the discussion on the merits of a separate Newsletter and the report that Schotts were making a loss on the magazine, and, also, considering Committee's general feeling that New Style Branches had been a mistake, it had been agreed that the Treasurer should ask Schotts whether a more beneficial price could be arrived at if all SRP members took the magazine. He had approached Mr Harper but was still awaiting a reply.

4. Officers' reports

(a) The Treasurer reported that the accounts have become more complicated with additional activities such as merchandising

and workshops, which are run by third parties. He had to enlist professional support in preparing the final accounts this year and thus, together with lateness of submitted accounts from third parties, led to delay in completion. The accounts are now with the Auditor for checking.

The National Festival account was received too late to be included in the 1990/1 year, but shows as surplus of £188 after return of the float. The Alva Festival account is still awaited.

Merchandising is managed by Patricia O'Sullivan. The Central Fund account of merchandising has been prepared from the bankbook kept by Miss O'Sullivan, and accepting her suggestion that the profit from merchandising be taken as £1000 for transfer to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund. The Treasurer pointed out that Miss O'Sullivan should have cash and stock in hand now to cover the deficit of c.£1700 shown in the accounts.

As forecast last year, the interest income has returned to a lower level, partly as a result of lower interest rates and partly because last year's interest included 5 quarters following transfer of the accounts. The interest on the Higher Rate Business Account is divided equitably between the Central and Walter Bergmann Funds by reference to the average of their opening and closing balances.

The overall outcome of the accounts is satisfactory, and no change is proposed to the subscription rates.

It was proposed by Mr Sharman, seconded by Mr Clark and agreed that the accounts be accepted subject to audit, and that thanks should be conveyed to the anonymous professional help enlisted by the Treasurer. In reply to a query, the Treasurer said that the accounts period was geared to the academic year (1 October) which is also the commencement of the Society season. The Chairman voiced thanks to the Treasurer.

(b) The Secretary reported:

i) that she had received an encouraging enquiry about forming a new Branch in Chipping Norton, from an Oxford member Rosalie Cornwallis; and 2 further enquiries: Bill Stewart in Norfolk who felt he may be able to form a group in Downham Market (Norfolk Branch too far away); and from Averil Cheg-widden of Truro, who had just joined as a Country member, is a teacher of piano and recorder and thought that there was a possibility of a future group in Cornwall. No further word had been received from the two enquiries last year about possible Branches in Milton Keynes and Bognor.

ii) A request had been received from Andrew Collis of Southgate, London, to be considered as a Visiting Conductor, and who had written on the advice of Mr Clark. Having read his "credentials" to the Committee, it was agreed by several members that he was a good performer and seemed a successful conductor, with a very loyal following in London classes. It was therefore proposed by Mr Clark, seconded by Miss O'Sullivan and agreed that the Secretary should write inviting him to join the panel, pointing out that as pastoral visits are a free service rendered to the Society by its members, he should therefore join the Society.

iii) The Secretary said that she was concerned that not all the courses she forwards to the magazine Editor are being published in the check-list, i.e. the later dates are being omitted. Miss O'Kelly had told her that sometimes items have to be left off for reasons of space. The check-list is a

service for all recorder players and she felt it is therefore important that a full list, when available, for the coming months should be available to players planning their holiday courses, and the information should not be limited by space restrictions, especially in view of the now very spacious format of the whole magazine; and further, as the Secretary is responsible for forwarding courses for the check-list, she feels it is a reflection on her when items submitted to her for inclusion do not appear. The Committee agreed that all available courses should be published at all times, and Mr Clark undertook to take the matter up with the Editor.

(c) The COS Secretary reported the membership figures as at the day's date, giving 200 paid-up COS members (UK 151, Europe 22 and Overseas 26). There have been 5 resignations, and David Cooper of the Isle of Wight had recently died. She had had to send out c.50 subscription reminders in January, of which there are 22 remaining laggards. Grateful thanks were expressed to Mrs Reddaway for the care she takes of her members, in spite of illness during last year.

(d) The CSRP Secretary was delighted to report that a candidate, Sheila Richards, had successfully completed the CSRP examination on Saturday 15 February at Guildford, when the examiners were Graham Danbury, Anne Martin and Herbert Hersom. She also reported that as 2 candidates had now completed the new Syllabus, she would write an article for the magazine and investigate further promotion of the CSRP. Mrs Martin suggested that the CSRP sub-committee should consider running a weekend course specifically aimed at candidates preparing for the examination, which could also form a credit (or half credit) towards Trinity's Certificate and Diploma in Education. It was agreed that the CSRP sub-committee should meet to discuss a replacement for Eve O'Kelly from the ranks of the examiners and the possibility of running a CSRP course.

(e) The Membership Secretary reported that the 1990/1 membership had to be revised and reduced because of mis-reporting of South Wales membership, so that Society membership is now down to 1631. The present 1991/2 position is: 10 Branches have not yet sent in returns (Aberdeen, Cheltenham/Gloucester, Cumbria, High Wycombe, Ireland, Kent, Leicester, Mid-Herts, North Staffs and Nuneaton). Of those returns received, 11 show a gain (+ 51), 8 no change, 16 a loss (- 77), but overall Dr Allen expects little change. He reported that the number of magazines being taken by New Style Branches is a little up. In reply to a question he said that Family Membership counts as 2 members, or more if members are named.

5. Conference arrangements

(a) The Conference letter to Branches this year will have the Chairman's resignation as well as the retirement of 2 members of Committee (Miss Newton and Dr Short) and 1 Musical Director (Mr Clark).

(b) Musical Director. The Secretary is to write to Colin Martin and Theo Wyatt inviting them to stand for election to the one vacancy, as the others in the "pool", Mr Bonsor, Dr Coles and Miss O'Kelly, do not wish to stand for election to Central Committee.

(c) Committee members. Although Branches are asked for nominations, Committee agreed the following nominations, to have people in hand, and the Secretary to write inviting them to accept nomination:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Philip Evry | <u>proposed</u> | Mrs Usher | <u>seconded</u> | Mrs Reddaway |
| Douglas Haston | ... | Dr Short | ... | Mr Hersom |
| Alyson Lewin | ... | Mrs Martin | ... | Dr Dolmetsch |
| Marion Panzetta | ... | Mrs Usher | ... | Mrs Reddaway |
| Petrina Lodge | ... | Mr Sharman | ... | Mr Chapman |

It was also agreed that should Douglas Haston decline, we should approach Sheil Wright, Madeline Seviour instead of Marion Panzetta, and Patricia Davies instead of Petrina Lodge.

(d) Chairman. It was pointed out that the qualification for chairmanship does not rely on what one has done for the SRP nor musical attributes, as the post is not a musical figure-head, but merely requires a strong chairman/leader. After discussion the following members of Committee were persuaded to stand for election:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Michael Sharman | <u>proposed</u> | Dr Dolmetsch | <u>seconded</u> | Mrs Martin |
| Andrew Short | .. | Mrs Usher | .. | Mr Sturgeon |
| Moira Usher | .. | Prof. Parkin | .. | Dr Short |

6. Future Festivals

1992 Cambridge 9/10 May

Mr Sharman explained that arrangements had been held up by Patricia Davies' illness, and that while she remains in overall charge, various duties have now been delegated to Judy Bailey, Jill Upjohn and Christine Gibbons, with Mr Sharman attending to printing etc. The Festival pamphlet and order form will be going out to Branch Secretaries and Committee members this week, giving a general outline of activities, but unfortunately without details of conductors and the music chosen for sessions. The Conference and all meals will also be in the Sixth Form College. Mr Sharman promised to speed up the programme arrangements, as it is very important to have this information well in advance as well as for attracting participants. The Chairman thanked Mr Sharman for the endeavours so far and hoped for an early release of the programme.

1993 Wessex Branch are the hosts. The Festival will be on Saturday 17 April at St. Swithen's School, Winchester, though the Conference on the Sunday may need to be held elsewhere.

1994 Although Mr Sharman had approached other Branches to host this Festival, they were unwilling; so this year will have to be passed unless a host is found. The Secretary will mention this in the coming Conference letter to Branches.

7. Musical Directors

At the last Committee meeting the whole question of the past and present role of Musical Directors came up with Roy Corbishley's suggestion that Layton Ring should be appointed a Musical Director, apparently in recognition of his service to the Society. Committee had discussed the merits of acknowledging service to the Society, either past or present, by either election to a Musical Directorship or Honorary Life Membership, and it was agreed that the present role of Musical Directors would be reviewed, and in the meantime existing

Musical Directors would be asked their views on the matter. The Chairman reported the gist of the replies received: Theo Wyatt felt that since the development of Branches (with their own musical directors) the Society role of Musical Directors has no real purpose.

Brian Bonsor likened the Society's various posts (President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Life Members and Musical Directors) to the Civil Honours List and felt that these were becoming an "hierarchical structure of recognition", which should be watched carefully. He felt on the whole that the Society would not lose out if the post were abolished. He was very pleased to be made a Musical Director, but looked upon it as a recognition of services.

Dick Coles was very proud to be made a Musical Director but looked upon it as a recognition of service rather than a specific post, and felt therefore that Hon. Life Membership was a better form of "thank you".

Edgar Hunt said that the Society needs a Committee to manage its affairs, and felt that the Committee should include some professional musicians as Musical Directors; but considered that service to the Society would best be rewarded by Hon. Life Membership.

Eve O'Kelly considered that a Musical Director is an active role while Hon. Life Membership is a passive one, and felt that Musical Directors should have some place in the Society. Herbert Herson regarded the Committee as an important part of the Society and Musical Directors should have a function for guidance and advice on it.

The Chairman put three possibilities for consideration:

- i) retain Musical Directors as a positive function
- ii) use the post as a form of appreciation of services
- iii) abolish the post all together

Dr Dolmetsch felt that it is better to have Musical Directors as part of the structure of the Society (making a dividing line between Musical Directors and Visiting Conductors) as it looks more professional.

Mr Clark pointed out that the first four Musical Directors were all professionals concerned with musical direction of the Society, for both advice and conducting meetings. The present Committee gives administrative direction. Visiting Conductors should be professionally competent people.

Musical Directors belong to the Visiting Conductors but not vice versa. He felt that there is a need for musical consultants, and he would like to see Layton Ring as a Musical Director as a good professional.

Mr Chapman saw a place for a pool of professionals available to all Branches for consultation, as there is a need for a body of expertise in the musical field accessible for advice.

Mrs Usher felt that the role of Musical Directors needs to be defined more clearly to Branches, Rule 5(f) being an attempt to do so.

Mrs Martin pointed out that Musical Directors have provided a link between the amateur and the professional.

Mr Herson reminded Committee that important ideas have come from the Musical Directors, e.g. Mr Clark started the idea of the Annual Festival, Philip Thorby and Dick Coles produced the video, Brian Bonsor started the annual Scottish Festival, "The Teachers' Guide" was first produced by Paul Clark and himself, and the workshops were launched by Eve O'Kelly and Evelyn Nallen.

Miss O'Sullivan felt that Musical Directors should be more

accessible to Branches, and Professor Parkin considered that Musical Directors added to the status of the Society.

There followed a discussion on whether "Director" should be changed to "Consultant" or "Adviser" (though some members felt "Director" adds credibility and status and "Consultant" implied outside help rather than inside responsibility and commitment), and also whether Rule 5(f) should be rewritten. It was finally proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs Usher and agreed that Conference should be asked, first, to accept the change of title "Musical Director" to that of "Musical Adviser". Secondly, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs Usher and agreed that an amended Rule 5(f) should be put to Conference thus:

"The Musical Advisers shall be responsible for advising and assisting the Society, its Branches and Members on musical matters."

But there would be no change in the composition of the Committee, with Musical Directors, at present.

It was then proposed by Mr Clark, seconded by Mr Sharman and agreed that Layton Ring should be proposed to Conference as a Musical Director, and the Secretary to write to him inviting him to accept nomination.

8. SRP activities

(a) SRP booklets. Mrs Usher reported on the following titles and showed specimens of 2 of them:

- i) Ensemble music (compiler Anne Martin)
- ii) Discography (Madeline Seviour)
- iii) Tempi etc. (Paul Clark, who is also preparing a paper on ornaments and ornamentation)
- iv) Guide to composers (Suffolk SRP - at present about 1348, but may need to be edited and reduced to about 500 ultimately)
- v) List of publishers (Moirra Usher - not enough to make a separate booklet so will be added elsewhere)

It was agreed that Mrs Usher should act as the series editor, with assistance if needed. Miss O'Kelly favoured professional production; this, however, would add to the cost, but could then also be sold outside the Society (otherwise they could be photocopied) - Mr Hersom said that if "The Teachers' Guide" were printed professionally it would cost c.£5 per copy. The printing would depend on whether the booklets, as an extension of SRP activities, are intended just for the Society and its members or for the public at large and to promote the Society. Central Funds would pay for the printing at c.£1 each (sale price c.£2.50), but this would not be principally a money-making venture, and selling through bookshops would make it far too expensive (especially taking into consideration the booksellers' mark-up price). However, it might be sensible to send review copies to would-be purchaser, e.g. colleges in general, Trinity College (for its courses) etc. Mrs Usher said there were now 4 booklets on the way and will be part of a series, and the question of a suitable cover and logo was discussed. It was agreed that each booklet would have a similar cover, but of a different colour; and Mr Hersom will send Mrs Usher a selection of logo designs (originally produced by Ross Winter's mother) to choose from, as it was generally felt that a new venture needed a different motif from the Society logo (not liked by everyone) and the Hotteterre playing hands on "The Teachers' Guide".

Mrs Usher will proceed with the printing of 200 copies of each as soon as ready, plus an order form/leaflet. Thanks were given to Mrs Usher and her Branch for their hard work.

(b) Provision of assistance for training teachers and adult beginners. Musical Directors were also asked for their views on this. The Chairman summarized the following views: Mr Bonsor was not prepared to comment until such a proposal was made more specific.

Miss O'Kelly was in favour of the provision.

Mr Wyatt felt that the Society has not got the resources.

Dr Coles felt it was a good idea, but teachers so employed must be paid a professional fee.

Mr Hersom pointed out that some Branches already do a great deal to help teachers and beginners, and could well advise others on starting such schemes. However, he felt that no national scheme could succeed unless followed by all the Branches.

It was generally felt that the scheme would largely depend on what Branches can do within their budgets, but could be funded to some degree by the Society, as is done for Branches who run workshops. The idea could be promoted by an article in the magazine and/or Branch Newsletters, also giving a survey of what is already going on, and Dr Short agreed to write it.

9. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Miss O'Sullivan reported that the Fund's stand at the Early Music Exhibition had been rather disappointing but that she had received many orders for merchandise up to Xmas as a result of the stand. Mr Hersom reported that 9 applicants were to be considered for grants, all recommended by teachers. The question of age limit was again discussed and whether it should be raised, but it was pointed out that the Fund was designed for young people. The workshops, however, did cater for 30 and over. As music is losing support in the present education climate (both in schools and adult education) the Society could well have a role here and also for group activities (whereas the Fund is support for individuals); but Dr Short felt that any decision should wait on the result of his article on training adults and teachers.

10. Any other business

(a) The separate Newsletter will continue while the two different types of Branches exist. It was reported at the last meeting that Miss O'Kelly was not in favour of the separate Newsletter, preferring such material to be incorporated in the body of the magazine; but since not all members take the magazine, the idea of the separate Newsletter was born, and if to be continued, Miss O'Kelly would prefer it to be published in the house style (much more expensive). However, any decision on the continuation of the Newsletter material (which some of the Committee feel is rather parochial for a magazine designed also for appeal outside the Society) will partly depend on the outcome of the Treasurer's approach to Schotts about securing special rates to us if all members take the magazine. The matter would be discussed again when more information is available.

(b) Mr Hersom brought up the question of dissemination of SRP brochures, and suggested that Branches could do more by undertaking to supply their local music shops and libraries etc. (in some areas County and Borough librarians will

distribute leaflets through their own network). It was also suggested that Branches supply copies of their own Branch newsletters for display at the Festival. In addition, the Festival could have a bring-and-buy music stall.

- 11. The next meeting was arranged for Sunday 18 October 1992 at the home of Mrs Anne Martin.

The meeting closed at c.3.30 p.m. after a delicious lunch provided by Mrs Danbury, for which members voiced their appreciation. A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for his services as Chairman of the Society, and to him and Mrs Danbury for the hospitality of their home for the last two meetings.

M. > C
18 Oct 1992
Chairman

9. Walter Bertram Memorial Fund

Mrs O'Sullivan reported that the Fund's stand at the Early Music Exhibition had been rather disappointing but that she had received many orders for merchandise up to Xmas as a result of the stand. Mr Herson reported that 9 applicants were to be considered for grants, all recommended by teachers. The question of age limit was again discussed and whether it should be raised, but it was pointed out that the Fund was designed for young people. The workshops, however, did cater for 30 and over. As music is losing support in the present education climate (both in schools and adult education) the Society could well have a role here and also for group activities (whereas the Fund is support for individuals); but Dr Short felt that any decision should wait on the result of his article on training adults and teachers.

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(b) Mr Herson brought up the question of dissemination of SMP brochures, and suggested that Branches could do more by undertaking to supply their local music shops and libraries etc. (in some areas County and Borough librarians will



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

39

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 18 October 1992

at 8 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold, Surrey GU8 4SF

Present:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mr Sharman | Chairman | Mrs Lewin |
| Professor Parkin | Treasurer | Mrs Lodge |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Miss Nallen |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Miss O'Sullivan |
| Mr Chapman | | Mr Sturgeon |
| Dr Dolmetsch | Musical Adviser | Mrs Usher |
| Mr Haston | | Mr Wyatt |
| Mr Hersom | Musical Adviser | Musical Adviser |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Allen, Mr Hunt and Mrs Reddaway.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting. Both Mr Bonsor and Dr Short had asked for a correction to Item 7, p.5, second last paragraph ("Mr Hersom reminded Committee..."): the statement "Brian Bonsor started the annual Scottish Festival" was incorrect as it was Dr Short, Secretary of Edinburgh Branch, who proposed a Scottish Festival (in addition to the Society's annual National Festival) and organized the first in 1985; it is held annually except when the National Festival should be in Scotland. It was decided to delete the words "Brian Bonsor started the annual Scottish Festival" and with this amendment the Minutes were taken as read, proposed by Dr Dolmetsch, seconded by Mr Chapman and Committee agreed that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. Officers' reports
 - (a) The Secretary reported that she had had an enquiry in August from Mrs Carol Dawson (of Kent Branch) about forming a new Branch in Tonbridge, but nothing further heard from her. The new North Cotswold Branch had adopted the Specimen Branch Rules, but instead of a Musical Director wished to have a rota of visiting conductors and a librarian, to which Committee agreed. The Secretary reported that Dr Dick Coles wished to withdraw from the panel of Visiting Conductors. Mention was made of the strictures imposed, by reason of space, on the number of courses to be included in the magazine checklist, and that the Editor, Eve O'Kelly, had added a note on this to the instructions heading the checklist page.
 - (b) Membership Secretary. In Dr Allen's absence the Secretary gave the following information: 1991/92 membership stood at 1613, showing an overall decrease of 18. Of the Branches, 9 had no change, 18 had gains and 20 had losses. The actual gains were 66, losses 100 but there was a new Branch with 16

members. The 18 Branches with gains gave 66 new members, the 20 Branches with losses accounted for 100, plus the new Branch with 16. Dr Allen asked whether a new membership list should be produced for 1993, and Committee agreed, to be printed by Mr Wyatt. The Chairman suggested that Branches might try to compile lists of recorder teachers (not necessarily Society members) in the area covered by their Branch, for the benefit of both members and outside enquirers. Although this would probably be difficult covering large areas in some cases, the Committee on the whole thought it a good idea and worth pursuing, and Mr Chapman volunteered to write the requisite notice to go into the next Branch letter (later this year). It was also suggested that membership forms should bear the T (teacher) and C (consort player) and also might have symbols for Musical Directors and Conductors. The Membership Secretary would be asked to note this in his correspondence with Branches.

(c) The Treasurer reported that last year's accounts were not yet finalized and he was still awaiting the Scottish Festival accounts from June. The Cambridge Festival accounts showed a surplus of £1132, arising probably mainly from budgeting for 200 tickets and actually selling 400, though Miss Nallen felt that the point of a Festival is to break even, to provide just what is paid for, and not aim for a profit for the Society. As it has become customary to give an ex gratia payment to any profit-making Festival Branches, it was proposed by Mr Wyatt, seconded by Mr Hersom and agreed that an ex gratia payment of half the surplus should be made to Cambridge Branch, which Miss Nallen assured Committee would be gratefully received and wisely used.

(d) The Chairman wished to thank the Society for honouring him with the Chairmanship and was determined to fulfil the post to his best ability.

(e) Mrs Reddaway had sent a message to Committee to say that COS Membership was flourishing.

(f) CSRP Secretary. Mrs Martin reported that there was one candidate in hand. She was pursuing the possibility of getting Trinity College to agree that attendance at the Recorder in Education Summer School (Leeds) would qualify as a credit towards the Certificate or Diploma in Education. Mr Bonsor and Mr Hersom were also interested in this idea. Mrs Lodge reported that some people were not happy about the music chosen for arrangement for the CSRP and wondered whether candidates might choose their own music. Mrs Martin said that a chorale and a keyboard piece were usually chosen, as these indicated the candidate's understanding of the relationship between the instruments, particularly with regard to the pitch at which they sounded. Appropriate music was set for candidates who stated they would work either with children or with adults.

5. Future Festivals

1993 Nothing further heard from Mrs Pick. Mrs Martin reported that while Guildford Branch were prepared to provide accommodation for delegates, they could not share the running of the Festival. Mrs Pick would be writing to Branches at the end of this month.

1994 Mr Haston said that Aberdeen Branch were still prepared to host this Festival, and could offer accommodation in the homes of his pupils. He suggested 2 July as this was during University vacation, when campus accommodation would also be available. The Treasurer pointed out the high cost of getting delegates to Aberdeen for the Conference, and it would be as well to make the Festival a 2-day affair for people going so far. The Treasurer estimated that a fare of c.£100 for c.40 delegates would cost the Society c.£4000, and therefore wondered whether the Conference might be held elsewhere to reduce the travel expenses; but the Chairman pointed out that somewhere else at a different time would entail another Branch having to host it. Mr Hersom suggested that Society reserves might cover these costs, which could also be reduced by Conference Rail Excursion fares, or organizing a bus. The Chairman agreed to write to Branch Secretaries suggesting that delegates to the 1994 Conference in Aberdeen might like to combine their visit with a holiday in the area and thus make a smaller claim for expenses.

1995 Mrs Martin said that Guildford Branch would be prepared to host this year if they found a suitable venue.

6. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Mrs Usher produced typeset (but not proofed) copies of the 4 completed SRP booklets on tempo, ensemble music, discography and the guide to composers. Mr Hersom, having lectured on and written an article on the art of conducting, was prepared to contribute this as a further booklet in the series. Mrs Usher showed the proposed covers, of different colours but similar design, with a short paragraph about the Society together with the Society logo to go on the back. It was proposed to print 200 copies of each title, and the Treasurer said that Central Funds would cover the printing costs of £1000 for 200 of 4/5 booklets (c.£1 each), but the print cost of £1, for instance for the larger list of recorder composers, having a mark-up price of £2.50 was not feasible, and the profit motive was not all-important. There followed a discussion of the relative merits of printing using offset litho, photocopying and duplicating and whether there should be a bigger print run than 200 copies. While the cheaper production methods of the Oriel Press and the Teachers Guide are able, through low cost, to reach large numbers of recorder players (Mr Wyatt said he would sell less if printed commercially), Mrs Usher was anxious that the booklets present a professional quality image of Society publications, particularly for supply to libraries, colleges, music shops etc.: she felt that there would be no appeal in this area if the booklets looked "home-made" however well done. The Committee on the whole felt that not many would be sold by music shops etc., and that such distribution would be a problem and outside buyers would need to be approached personally. It was questioned whether it was important to get into the retail trade and whether there was any importance in the profit motive. The question of copyright and publisher's name and address on the booklets was touched on. Mrs Usher said that she did not want to be the publisher but was willing to be the distributor. However, it was agreed that a first small run should have a "professional" high quality look, at a price of 50% mark-up on cost. Mrs Usher would undertake the task of

advertising to Branches and possibly in the Society pages in the magazine and, although time was short, to prepare a leaflet launching the booklets to go out with the next Festival programme.

(b) Schott/Moeck competitions. Miss O'Sullivan had not had much time to carry on with the next competitions, due in November 1993 or whenever the next Early Music Exhibition is to be held, possibly in September or December of that year. She said that she was anxious for someone else to take over the running of the competitions, and Mrs Lodge suggested that either Patricia Davies or Gill Upjohn (Cambridge Branch) might well be willing, and she undertook to approach them.

(c) Yamaha/SRP schools competitions. Miss O'Sullivan said that she had been unable to contact Gordon Higginbottom of Yamaha and so was unable to get an advertisement in the September issue of the magazine or make any further progress. Yamaha were not going to put much money into the scheme and the Society was expected to provide a lot of free work. Any further approach should be for cooperation and not for an apparent sponsorship.

(d) Financing workshops etc. The organizers of the workshops aimed to break even and the Society gave floats to them. Although they were commercial undertakings (i.e. tutors were paid professional fees), they also had the additional aim of propaganda for the Society and thus spread Society influence and enlarge membership, and were rather different from the workshops run by Branches. Underwriting losses and giving floats have been done on an ad hoc basis, and following the article by Dr Short in the Society pages of the September issue of the magazine and correspondence with Eve O'Kelly (both Editor of the magazine and joint-organizer of the workshops), it was felt that this custom should be regularized. Mr Wyatt held that if the Society underwrites losses for workshops, the Treasurer/Society should have to approve the aim and see the proposed budgets, as with Festivals, and that the Treasurer and Chairman should sign approved indemnity. It was therefore proposed by Mrs Usher, seconded by Miss O'Sullivan that the Committee confirm the present policy for financing such events in the Society's name in the following words, and Committee agreed: "At this Committee meeting it was decided that a float or indemnity against loss may be available, on presentation of an acceptable budget to the Society's Treasurer. The aim should be to cover all costs. In the event of a surplus of income, this is all to be paid to Central Funds in return for indemnity against loss."

7. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Mr Herson reported that the sub-committee had 8/9 applications to consider at their next meeting, in general keeping grants to c.£100 at the most. He said thanks were due to Miss O'Sullivan for her efforts raising money at summer schools etc. for the Fund; and 4 or 5 Branches have sent donations from their funds or playing days. Covenanted gifts would be welcome. Miss O'Sullivan said that the turnover for this financial year will be in the region of £10,000, and whilst there is not yet a lot of profit to show for it, she felt the Fund was on course to make a healthy profit next year on most of the merchandise. Stock unsold at present is about £3000.

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She expressed concern about the trading status of charities and wondered whether she should set up a separate company for trading purposes, which donate all profits to a charity. Annual turnover for the previous year of c.£2000 could be considered a small activity, but £10,000 could not be ignored when accounts are examined by the Charity Commissioners. The situation was different when sales of SRP merchandise were to Society members; but the Fund goods are now sold to about 50% of people outside the Society, since she takes Fund goods to courses etc. It was agreed that this matter should be looked into; but rather than approaching the Charities Commission (thus revealing the Fund and Society situation) it was decided that the Chairman should first contact John Turner (who had handled the Society's application for charitable status) for advice.

8. Schotts and The Recorder Magazine

The Chairman had received a letter from Schotts saying that customers were coming into their London store and asking for discounts as members of the Society. Mr Hersom pointed out that in the past Branches buying in bulk for sale at meetings would be given a discount on the music by Schotts, but members were never free to demand a discount on individual purchases from the shop. The Secretary was asked to inform members of the situation in the coming Branch letter. The Treasurer reported that he had received no reply from Schotts on the question of securing special rates to us if all members take the magazine. Miss O'Kelly had written to all Branches asking them to become Old Style Branches, where all members take the magazine. It was reported that Northampton had changed to Old Style and that West Suffolk and Guildford were considering changing. Miss O'Kelly is under pressure to increase magazine circulation, but it was felt that if all Society members took the magazine it would still not make the publication profitable. "House journals" are not out to make a profit, but the magazine is not just a Society magazine, and would therefore need more public support to prosper.

9. Public liability insurance

Ian Wilson and also Glynne Parry (at the last Conference) have asked whether the Society had public liability insurance to cover Branch meetings. What enquiries that had been made showed that it was unlikely that this could be done centrally, that insurance companies would be unwilling to give blanket cover for the many different premises the Society Branches use but do not own. However, Mrs Usher offered to investigate from her husband, an insurance underwriter, what sort of policy could be procured to cover all Branches and the premises they use. Further, Committee felt that all organizers of meetings etc. should be warned about hiring halls from newly opted-out schools, for instance, as their insurance cover may now have been reduced, and that cover should be considered for specific events. The Secretary was asked to put a note to this effect in the next Branch letter.

10. Changes to the Charities Act were not discussed further as some details were covered under Item 7.

11. Any other business

(a) Ena Pick and Jackie Fletcher had asked Central Committee to consider inviting Eric Chapman to join the Visiting Conductors panel. Committee members had been asked to consider this and the Chairman had pleasure in proposing, seconded by Mrs Lewin and Committee agreed that Mr Chapman be so invited and the invitation was accepted.

(b) The Treasurer announced that he did not wish to continue in office after the next Conference and that he would approach two possible successors, Brian Fraser-Hook (Mid-Herts) and Roy Simons (Essex). He explained that Society activities were now more complicated with administering extra Society functions, and asked whether the Society would consider employing a part-time professional administrator, as many societies now do. He said that at the moment the Society depends on the goodwill of individuals, but if we had this sort of system, it could lead the way to better and wider expansion of activities: the American Recorder Society has such a structure. The part-time salary would be c.£4000 p.a. and the job could be done at home. No decision was taken, but there was a generally favourable reaction.

12. The next meeting was fixed for Sunday 7 February 1993 at the home of Peter Sturgeon.

The meeting was interrupted for lunch and closed at 3.45 p.m. Dr Dolmetsch moved a vote of thanks to the Martins for their hospitality and the delicious lunch provided by our hostess.

7 February 93

M. J. S.

Chairman

45

THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippet

Registered Charity No 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 7 February 1993

at 32 Main Street

Burton Joyce, Notts NG14 5DZ

Present:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Mr Sharman | Chairman | Mr Haston |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Mr Hersom |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mrs Lewin |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Mr Sturgeon |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Mrs Usher |
| Miss O'Sullivan | | Mr Wyatt |

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Chapman, Dr Dolmetsch, Mr Hunt, Mrs Lodge, Miss Nallen and Professor Parkin.
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting were taken as read, and it was proposed by Mr Hersom, seconded by Mr Sturgeon and agreed that they be signed by the Chairman as a true record.
3. Matters Arising.

Item 4(f) Mrs Martin reported that one candidate was ready to take the CSRP examination. She had been in contact with Mr Bonsor, Chairman of the Recorder Summer School, to see if it was possible to link this course and the CSRP to credits for Trinity College of Music's Certificate and Diploma in Education, and ~~Trinity College had approved of both.~~ *delete*

Item 9 Public Liability Insurance by the Society to cover Branch meetings. Mrs Usher had offered to investigate this with her husband (an insurance underwriter). She reported that a basic public liability policy would cover damage or injury to a third party (not SRP members) as well as the property of the hirers. Only hired premises would be covered, not private homes as these are deemed to be insured by the owner. This would include church halls, for instance, where a donation was made as this would be taken to be an intention to hire. There would only be liability where negligence could be proved. The premium quoted was approximately 10p per member, with a minimum premium of £150. There would be an excess of £100 to avoid small claims and much higher premiums.

It was proposed by Miss O'Sullivan, seconded by Mr Hersom, that Public Liability Insurance should be taken out for the whole Society on these terms, and that Mrs Usher should pursue that matter on our behalf. It was suggested that a separate letter be sent to Branches on this, also pointing out that if, for instance, a Branch set fire to its hired premises, any excess might have to be found by that Branch. The whole matter of insurance would be presented at the coming Conference.

4. Officers' Reports

(a) The Secretary reported the formation of a new Branch, the Cornwall Recorders, with 19 members, and Dr Allen confirmed that a second Branch in Tonbridge, Kent, which has been on the way, was in fact now established as the Weald of Kent Recorder Players, with 26 members. Committee were pleased to accept both for ratification by Conference provided the Weald of Kent Branch confirmed that they had adopted the Specimen Rules. The Secretary also reported that she had received an enquiry from Miss Diana Porter (a member of Bristol Branch) about forming a Woodspring Branch in the district.

Mr Wyatt told the Committee that under the Charities Act every Society document (including cheques) should bear our registered charity number. It was agreed that this requirement should be included in the coming Branch letter about the Conference which should point out that the number can be hand-written or rubber-stamped, and that such rubber stamps would be available for sale at the Conference.

(b) The Membership Secretary reported that he still lacked returns from 15 Branches and that 2 had sent no membership lists. Six Branches had gains (+21), 8 no change, 18 had a loss (-77), making a net loss of 56, but the new Weald of Kent Branch of 26 members reduced the net loss to 30. The new Cornwall Branch had still to submit their returns. COS membership was not included in these numbers. Dr Allen reported that magazine-takers were up by about 70, and that 1100 magazines in all were taken and could be circa 1200 this year. Birmingham, Durham and Northampton had become Old Style Branches. It was agreed that a new membership list should be undertaken this year, and to this end Dr Allen would make one more appeal for returns and try to get the list out for the coming Conference, to be printed by Oriel.

(c) The Treasurer's Report was circulated in Committee. No information had been received on merchandise activities, and Professor Parkin had prepared for Committee unaudited accounts with the merchandise balance of the previous year. The recorded expenditure for merchandise activities represented only those in which the Central Fund had been directly involved. The income side was £1,000 remitted by Miss O'Sullivan in January and April 1992, and £50 returned

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deposit on Christmas cards. The present situation was that the Society needed a further remittance from Miss O'Sullivan of £2,841 to restore a break even position on the Central Fund Merchandising activities over the past two financial years. He said that until this payment was made and figures were received he could not recommend any further transfer to the Walter Bergmann Fund.

Due to an oversight on Schott's part some distribution charges were overlooked in 1990/91 and have been charged in 1991/92, which explains the increase in Magazine and Distribution. The remainder of the account showed a surplus on the Central Fund of £1,914.47 bringing the reserves to £16,702.08, and a surplus of £218.83 on the Walter Bergmann Fund, bringing the reserves to £11,733.57. He forecast a drop in interest income for 1992/93, possibly by 50%. There is also an exceptional donation in 1992/93 of £566.14 relating to the Festival surplus 1991/92. If all other factors remained the same, the Treasurer felt this would lead to a very small surplus to transfer to the Central Fund and a very small deficit charge to the Bergmann Fund. The Committee's decision on the magazine might have a significant impact, as might the need to retain a healthy position to finance the Annual Conference in Aberdeen the following year. Apart from these considerations there would be no need for a change in the subscription rates.

Mrs Usher proposed, seconded by Mrs Lewin, a grateful vote of thanks to Professor Parkin, who will be resigning at the coming Conference, and Committee agreed.

Miss O'Sullivan produced some figures for the WBMF merchandising account which showed that she had spent £6,041.69 on merchandise and £2,133.14 on expenses including printing, postage and advertising. Further expenses paid for out of the proceeds of sales amounted to £831.36. From these figures Miss O'Sullivan calculated that her turnover had been £9,201.55. At a stock-taking on the 7th September 1992, Miss O'Sullivan reported she held £2,575.85 stock at cost. She also admitted that she had used a total of £521.57 from the merchandise account for running the Moeck Competition and that this had yet to be reclaimed from Messrs Moeck.

(d) The COS Secretary reported her membership as at 6 February 1993 to be as follows: UK 173 (laggards 20), Europe 23 (laggards 3), worldwide 23 (laggards 4), totalling 219 paid-up and 27 still awaiting reply. There was one transfer to a Branch and 7 resignations (including Lewington Music Store in Shaftesbury Avenue). Mr Wyatt reported that he was selling a large quantity of Oriel music in Germany and that he would be agreeable to include with such sales a slip about becoming COS members of the Society (not the Society brochure) or even forming a local Branch of the Society, and Committee agreed with the idea.

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(e) The CSRP Secretary reported that the Recorder Summer School is now a recognised credit-bearing course for Trinity College of Music Certificate and Diploma in Education. The Summer School Brochure makes specific reference to the CSRP and the application form asks if the applicants are working towards it.

A small leaflet about the CSRP was sent out with the Summer School Brochures and through this Mrs Martin received 10 enquiries and 1 applicant. A candidate is taking the practical examination on March 20th. On the recent reprint of the examination syllabus a sentence was added stating that candidates are welcome to submit examples of their own arrangements in addition to the examination arrangement pieces. Since the demand for places at the Recorder Summer School exceeds the supply, Mrs Martin wondered whether the Society should run a week or weekend course of its own.

(f) The Chairman had nothing to report.

5. Conference Arrangements

(a) The Treasurer is resigning and it was reported that Mr Brian Fraser Hook was willing to accept nomination for the post.

(b) Committee members. Under the Rules two ordinary Committee members must retire each year, one of whom this time will be Mrs Usher, appointed with Mr Sharman in 1990. However, since Mr Sharman resigned to become Chairman in 1992, we have to retire the next longest-serving member in alphabetical order, who will be Mr Chapman, appointed in 1991 with Mr Sturgeon. Although Branches are always invited to submit nominations for vacancies, they rarely do so, and Committee must approach possible nominees. The following were proposed:

Ena Pick (Wessex) prop Mrs Blackman, sec Chairman:
Marion Panzetta (Essex) prop Mrs Usher, sec Mrs Lewin;
Denis Bloodworth (S London) prop Mr Wyatt sec Mrs Martin:
Mary Halliwell (Suffolk) prop Dr Allen sec Mrs Usher.

The proposers would first sound out the nominees and inform the Secretary who, if they were agreeable to stand, would then send them the formal letter of invitation.

(c) Musical Advisers. One to retire from the 1991 appointments; but in this year there were 2 elected (Mr Hersom and Miss Nallen) to replace two Advisers (Mr Wyatt to retire and Miss O'Kelly resigned), so that Mr Hersom alphabetically is the one to retire. However, since Miss Nallen has only been able to attend one meeting since her election due to her professional commitments, the Chairman agreed to ask her whether she was willing to continue on the Committee, and the person to retire would

rest on her decision. The Secretary would then ask the 3 members of the Musical Advisers' pool (Mr Clark, Mr Martin and Mr Layton Ring) if they were willing to stand for the one vacancy.

6 Future Festivals

1993 Wessex Branch. The Chairman had been assured that they would have enough helpers for the Festival, and Oxford, North Cotswold and Guildford were willing to help. The Conference is also to be held at St Swithun's School and Mrs Lorraine Curtis is to be in charge of overnight accommodation for delegates. The Festival booklet/application form was being sent to Branches this week and a supply had been sent to the present meeting for Committee members. Mrs Pick had worked on the expectation of 300 participants at the Festival and expected to break even at 200, though 400 could be accommodated.

1994 Aberdeen. Mr Haston said the two-day Festival (and the Conference) would be held at St Machar Academy, Aberdeen, on 2/3 July, with an Early Music Concert on Saturday afternoon. He said that the Branch had arrangements well in hand.

1995 Guildford planned the Festival in May at the Royal Naval School for Girls in Haslemere.

1996 Branches to be asked to think about hosting this year.

7 The Recorder Magazine

Schotts will cease publication of the magazine with the March issue. It was reported that Schotts' losses exceeded £10,000. Miss O'Kelly had suggested to Schotts that the Society might take over publication and ownership of the magazine, and Schotts would help with advice etc but not be co-owners. All Committee members and Musical Advisers had been asked for their views on the future of a Society magazine or newsletter and the Chairman had received a number of replies, which he summarized:

Mr Bonsor was against continuing a magazine in its present glossy and expensive form and suggested a bulletin-type journal printed offset.

Mr Clark was unhappy about a deterioration to a typescript form of presentation. He felt any publication should be professionally published and suggested that the Society should approach Roy Brewer, who publishes his work as well as being a musical journalist.

Mr Hunt gave a very full history of the relationship between Schotts and the Society. He wants a magazine to continue and suggested seeking a partner in the enterprise, though the Society should retain control. (Further, he deplored the institution of B Style Branches).

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We Mrs Martin felt a Society magazine was essential for COS members and as a means of advertising courses etc. It should be professionally produced but not of a glossy nature.

Mr Layton Ring suggested consulting Bernard Thomas.

Mr Wyatt felt such a publication should be free to all members. If desk-top publishing were to be decided upon, he would undertake to do the printing. He said that Longmans publish many minority magazines and if the Society could guarantee the numbers taking it, they might take it on. If the Society produces a magazine it will be "parochial", but not if Longmans etc publish it, and a commercial publisher would have to have a guaranteed readership. However, the Chairman reported that Longmans had declined to take it on as they felt they were inappropriate being "educational" publishers, and also Fabers were not interested.

Professor Parkin pointed out that Schotts offered fees for every contributor, while Mr Hunt only paid for commissioned articles. He advised against the Society taking it on itself but to try other publishers.

20 Tues
We Mrs Usher queried whether we wanted a "Recorder" magazine or an "SRP" magazine. She felt an outside publisher would want it to be a "universal" publication and that the magazine as at present was not really this as there was too much concentration on England, with courses in England, and Society affairs.

Schotts had supplied figures for distribution of the present magazine to the Chairman: SRP took 1100 copies at 30% discount, 306 sold to individuals and 210 supplied to retail shops (£700 sales). The Chairman pointed out that as a charity the Society cannot publish a magazine as a commercial operation, only for supply to Society members. If costs are kept down, then all members could have it, and he suggested a format similar to that before it was taken over by Schotts when it was known as "Recorder News". It was felt that with March as the last issue of the present magazine, there was a great need to cover the rest of the year with some sort of publication, to include courses, Branch news etc. (though we would lose the advertising revenue), and planning for a June issue should be undertaken now. It was reported that Miss O'Kelly and Clifford Caesar would both help if the Society went ahead. Also Miss O'Kelly had a number of articles lined up for the rest of the year and, with the authors' permission, these could possibly be incorporated, though it was also felt that the Society could not do the whole thing itself, only if we could get some publisher to print - and volunteers to handle distribution to members. The Chairman will approach Roy Brewer for an in-house publication and Bernard Thomas for a more generalized magazine, for quotes, and will also investigate other suggested printers. It was therefore agreed that for June and September the Committee would aim

to produce an in-house journal, to be called "The Recorder News", to be distributed to all members via Branch Secretaries. And, further, it was proposed by Mrs Usher, seconded by Mr Hersom, and agreed that the Committee should appoint a sub-committee composed of Mrs Martin, Mrs Lewin, the Chairman and Mr Hersom to produce the issue in June.

9. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Mr Hersom reported that 10-11 applications were considered by the sub-committee last week and that over £5,000 had been disbursed to date with a further £750 to come. It was reported that a 4-year covenanted donation of £1,000 pa had been received. Miss O'Sullivan asked Committee to consider whether we wanted the Fund to continue or to be run down after 10 years as had been first envisaged in 1989 (the general consensus was for continuation), or whether we wanted a trading outlet for the Fund, where the benefits were also publicity for the SRP in that merchandise was sold to outsiders (a long-term PR exercise) and where goods were progressively more profitable. Miss O'Sullivan said she was happy to continue looking after merchandise but pointed out that if we do continue trading it would need to be legally constituted under our charitable status. In fact such trading was outside our charitable status and we could be liable for tax on the profits according to the Charity Acts.

There were in fact, three options:

- 1) to cease trading;
- 2) to set up a company limited by guarantee (with shareholders) to buy and sell merchandise for the benefit of the Fund;
- 3) to set up another unincorporated charity whose main object would be to raise money for the SRP.

The Chairman agreed to take the third option further with John Turner and ask for an estimate of his fees for advice/setting up such a company - the Society would be prepared to spend £200 on fees. Such a company would need a whole new committee as a new Charity, with Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and Miss O'Sullivan said she would sound out people to form this new committee. The Chairman said he would inform Committee members of the result of his consultation with John Turner and, if necessary, call a separate meeting to consider it.

8. Extension of SRP Activities

(a) Mrs Usher said that Suffolk Branch had now completed the list of composers (except for a few still to be tracked down) and the list was on computer (other titles were also on computer). She hoped that leaflets would be available for the Festival and hopefully some of the booklets.

(b) Moeck Competitions. Miss O'Sullivan said she would wind up the 1991 Moeck Competition and would then retire from administering the Competition. Patricia Davies would be interested in taking over the administration, though there was little time to make arrangements for this year's Early Music Exhibition (12-14 November). The demise of the magazine removed an avenue for advertisement, though something could perhaps appear in our new June Newsletter. It was reported Mrs Davies had further ideas for publicity. Miss O'Sullivan would inform Moeck of her successor. As nothing further had been heard from Yamaha, it could be assumed that this competition was now defunct - likewise the Schott ensemble competition.

delete

(c) Mr Hersom said that a new edition of the Teachers' Guide was awaiting the fate of the magazine, but further copies of the current edition would be ready for the next Festival.

10. Any Other Business

(a) Although Miss O'Sullivan was retiring as administrator of competitions, it was proposed by Mr Hersom, seconded by Mrs Reddaway and agreed that as Chairman of the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund Sub-Committee she be invited to attend all meetings.

the general list

(b) In the past, three lists of Branch libraries available for borrowing (London, Mid-Herts and a general Branch list) had been prepared for distribution to Branches. It was now felt not to be worth revising ~~these lists~~, but the following statement should be included in the next Branch letter: "Many Branches have libraries and most of those who do have them are willing to lend such music to other Branches."

(c) It was proposed by Miss O'Sullivan and agreed that the Chairman should write to Miss O'Kelly thanking her for her work as Editor of "The Recorder Magazine".

(d) Mrs Usher on retiring from Committee said that she had much enjoyed her period of service and would be willing to serve again in the future.

11. The Next Meeting was fixed for Sunday 17 October at the home of Mr Wyatt.

The meeting closed at 4.45 pm.

The Chairman moved a vote of grateful thanks to Mr and Mrs Sturgeon for the splendid hospitality of their home and the delicious lunch provided for the members.

March 1993

M. D. L.
Chairman

17/10/93

Society

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29 30

May/June 1980
53
Thursday 29



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 17 October 1993

at 8 Wilton Grove, London SW19

Present:

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Mr Sharman | Chairman | Mr Haston | |
| Mr Fraser-Hook | Treasurer | Mr Hersom | Musical Adviser |
| Mrs Blackman | Secretary | Mrs Lewin | |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Mrs Pick | |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Secretary | Mr Wyatt | Musical Adviser |
| Mr Bloodworth | | Mrs Davies - ex officio | |
| Dr Dolmetsch | Musical Adviser | (Administrator SRP/Moeck competitions) | |

The Chairman welcomed the new Treasurer, Mr Brian Fraser-Hook, and two new Committee members, Mrs Ena Pick and Mr Denis Bloodworth, and also Mrs Patricia Davies, the new Administrator of the SRP/Moeck competitions, who had been invited to attend.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Dr Allen, Mr Clark, Mrs Lodge, Miss O'Sullivan, Mr Sturgeon and Mr Hunt.

2. The Minutes of the last meeting. There were the following corrections:

3. Item 4(f): delete "and Trinity College had approved of both".

(Mr Bonsor had drawn attention to this error and pointed to the correct situation in the Conference Minutes of May 1993 Item 4(e): "The Recorder in Education Summer School is now a credit-bearing course for Trinity College Music Education diplomas and also offers preparation for the CSRP...")

8(c): delete "further copies of the current edition".

10(b): delete "these lists" and substitute "the General List".

With the above corrections, it was proposed by Mrs Reddaway, seconded by Mrs Martin and agreed that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Mr Wyatt reported that he had produced copies of the London Branch Library and the lists were being sent to all Branch Secretaries and members of the Visiting Conductors panel (further to Item 10(b) of the last Minutes).

4. Officers' Reports

(a) The Secretary reported three enquiries about forming new Branches:

i) Mr Colin Martin had suggested that such information be sent to a Dr Simon James, of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Liverpool, who runs several recorder groups and whom Mr Martin thought might be interested in forming

Friday 30

Friday 31

Sunday 1

a Branch in an area which would be welcome since there are a number of players known to be there. Nothing further had been heard from Dr James and the Secretary was asked to write to him again.

ii) Mrs Norma Herdson (Oxford Branch) was interested in forming a new Branch in the Maidenhead/Windsor/Slough area. The Secretary reported that a new Branch was already well under way, with a promise of 14-18 members, and to be called the East Berks Recorder Branch.

iii) Mr R. Warford, Head of Music, Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School, had asked about forming a new Branch, and in replying the Secretary had pointed out the possibility of affiliation to a nearby Branch if he thought of starting a Branch at the School. The Secretary then heard from Miss Jane Ward that Mr Warford had written to the Lincs Branch Secretary, Mrs Drake, asking if there was such a thing as "school membership" and the possibility of sharing/exchanging the School and Branch music libraries. Nothing further had been heard from Mr Warford and the Secretary was asked to follow up this matter.

Mr Hersom and Mrs Martin suggested that a leaflet about the workings and benefits of affiliation should be prepared and sent to Branch Secretaries, and they agreed to write this.

The Secretary was asked whether anything further had been heard from Miss Diana Porter of Bristol, who had expressed an interest in forming a Woodspring Branch of the Society in the district. Nothing further had been heard from her and it was felt that this idea had been dropped.

The Secretary reported new Branch Secretaries: DEVON, Mrs Jackie Fletcher; W.SUFFOLK, Mrs Angela Mead; ESSEX, Mrs Annita Lemon van de Kooij; and the change of address of the Treasurer.

(b) The Membership Secretary's report was read by the Secretary. Two late subscriptions (after the May Conference) meant revised 1992/93 membership figures as follows: 21 Branches had gains (+102), 9 Branches no change and 18 Branches had a loss (-65), making a net gain of 37. The two new Branches (Cornwall and Weald of Kent) produced 40 new members, thus making a total gain of 77 and a total membership of 1690. To date Dr Allen had received 1993/94 membership returns from London Branch only.

(c) The Treasurer presented his first report on the accounts to 30.9.93, which are at present provisional, as some items are still awaited. He said the subscription income was marginally higher than last year, and the Bank interest covered the pastoral visit expenses; but there was a deficit on sales of note-paper and rubber stamps, and the SRP booklets of Moira Usher (to date) also increased cost of 'phone, post and printing. This left a deficit for the year of £1800. The workshops activity had ceased, so the account had been closed and funds transferred to Central Funds. The Winchester Festival showed a surplus of £588: as there is a precedent that half a surplus is returned to the host Branch in the form of an ex-gratia payment, the sum of £294 was to be sent to the Wessex Branch. No firm accounts for the Alva 1993 Scottish Festival have been received, but their provisional accounts show a surplus of £246: this will appear in next year's Accounts when the figures are received. He saw no record of our returning half this surplus to Alva, but he proposes to do so ~~in~~ time. Mr Haston had

thus

had requested a float of £200 for the Aberdeen Festival next year, which will be granted. The Treasurer said we have yet to see what the effect of the unified subscription rates will be on membership numbers and the related income, but the Society is committed to a further five issues of the magazine. At present membership level the cost per issue is £1900, equaling £7600 p.a. It is significantly less than magazine costs this year, but similar to previous years. However, there is a possibility that VAT will be imposed on magazines and Peacock Press would have to pass this on. It has been suggested that Peacock invoice the Society before Budget Day for the 5 issues at present copy quantities. The Society would then be credited for any short-fall or invoiced (+ VAT) for any increase. This arrangement would not have any effect on our accounting system, since we only record a transaction on payment. The Treasurer recommends that we accept the offer.

With reference to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund merchandising activities, passbook details had been received from Miss O'Sullivan, and the results of her transactions are summarized in the Accounts, which show a surplus of £852.75 on sales of £2697. There are no supporting vouchers to cover the amounts that Miss O'Sullivan has withdrawn from the Account, which has a balance of £1184.22. She has sent the Treasurer a cheque for £1800, and will shortly close the Account and send him the balance. She has also sent the Treasurer a list of stock she holds, which has a cost value of £1686. The Treasurer said he did not propose to include this amount as an asset of the Society, but to take its value on sales only. The Treasurer referred to the appointment of an Auditor and said he would be happy to have Robert Harrison re-appointed since he is aware of the recent problems with the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund merchandising activities. He sees no reason why we should not continue merchandising within the Society but did not feel it was worth attempting to extend it to potential outside business, which would obviate any need to have a separate company for selling goods outside the Society. There was a need to have someone to take over merchandising, and Miss O'Sullivan, Mr Hersom and the Treasurer would discuss this. The Chairman said that he had written to Miss O'Sullivan about £521 borrowed from the Bergmann Fund for the Moeck competition which had not yet been claimed from Moeck.

(d) The COS Secretary reported that there are 160 paid-up members including 134 (UK), 18 (Europe) and 8 (worldwide). There have been 12 UK transfers to other Branches, 15 resignations (14 UK and 1 worldwide) and up to date there are still 91 laggards (62 UK, 10 Europe and 19 worldwide). Mrs Reddaway also reported that 2 teachers in the COS had now joined ERTA and wondered whether ERTA might refund the magazine cost; but Mrs Martin felt that this would be refused and these members might resign from the SRP.

(e) The CSR Secretary reported that 1 candidate took the examination in March 1993 and failed, as she needed more conducting experience and a sounder recorder technique - she was encouraged to gain more conducting experience and have some recorder lessons and then consider re-taking the examination. Mrs Martin said that failed candidates were given a very full report on what is needed and what was lacking. She reported that the link with the Recorder Summer School had worked well and she

hoped it would continue. The slips about the CSRSP sent out with the Summer School brochure had resulted in some enquiries.

She felt it was important to bring the Certificate to the attention of teachers through the magazine, for which she would like to write an article; and she considered, further, that a weekend course would be considered.

5. Conference discussions and decisions

The Chairman explained that this item had been put in to allow Committee the opportunity of thinking afresh on some matters, including that of the new rates and abolition of New Style Branches. Mr Wyatt recalled the early source of friction about having to take the magazine; Mr Herson deplored the decision to have New Style Branches, and both he and Mrs Martin pointed to the fact that a magazine is part of the subscription of most other societies. But Mr Wyatt felt that it was not appropriate to compare the SRP with other societies in that people join the SRP to play rather than to receive the latest information on the recorder, whereas with other societies the receipt of a relevant magazine is often the principal gain from membership; though others felt that should the SRP dispense with the magazine, it might well continue only as an ERTA journal or just as one other of the Peacock Press publications. However, Mr Sturgeon, on behalf of Nottinghamshire Branch, in a letter to the Secretary, expressed concern from various of his members over the fact that everyone is now obliged to take, and pay for, the magazine, when previously they were able to exercise a free choice in the matter. He said many had indeed done so in previous years by choosing not to take the magazine or ceasing their earlier subscription for it. He said approximately a third of Notts membership previously took the magazine. Whilst generally appreciating the reasons for the Conference decision and having adopted the new rates, and agreeing that the new increased subscriptions are still good value for the money, he said that members had requested that their views and concern be recorded. Dr Allen had received a few enquiries about the new subscription rates, some expressing concern over possible resignations.

The Chairman read a letter from Eileen Finlayson of Edinburgh Branch, received earlier this year, about whether there is a special reduction in subscriptions for pensioners, as for students. He had pointed out that while there was some discussion at the 1993 Conference about the inclusion of pensioners and unemployed in the student rate, nothing was changed and the concessionary rate remained only for students. However, the special amendment carried at the 1982 Conference is still operable for hard-pressed pensioners to be allowed to apply through Branch Secretaries to the Treasurer for the student concession, which is thus not an automatic privilege for all pensioners but only allowed at the Treasurer's discretion. Mrs Pick suggested that if a Branch Secretary knows of any hard-pressed pensioners, they could reduce their own Branch fees rather than making a change in basic rates.

6. Future Festivals

1994 Aberdeen, 2 days from 10 a.m. Saturday to 4 p.m. Sunday 2-3 July, with a Ceilidh on Saturday night. The School is charging £278 for 2 days; but school meals at £10 a head is

far too expensive and University meals at £6.50 will be looked into. The University is charging approx. £25 per night B/B for single rooms. Mr Haston hopes that Delegates can be accommodated with the few available Branch members and in the homes of his students. He said that he would send out with the Festival notice lists of B/Bs and hotels in the area, including youth hostels for sleeping-bag visitors, also relevant Aberdeen Tourist Board brochures. He hoped to have the final costing very soon.

1995 Saturday 27 May at the Royal Naval School for Girls, Haslemere, hosted by Guildford Branch. Mrs Martin said they were considering a small session on Sunday morning. While the lunch offered is £3.50 each, the hire of the School is much greater than Aberdeen. There is not much parking space at the School. As it will be half-term there may be some overnight accommodation in the boarding section, though there is doubt whether it will be available.

1996 Mr Hersom said he may approach the Mid-Herts Branch.

7. The Recorder Magazine (and editorial sub-committee)

The sub-committee has had only one meeting so far. It was initially formed to bring out the SRP June issue, but it was decided to keep it in being to assess the Peacock Press and to act as adviser, which has so far proved an amicable arrangement. The sub-committee members are: Anne Martin, Alyson Lewin, Michael Sharman, Herbert Hersom and Paul Clark. Mrs Reddaway said that she had received enthusiastic comments from many of her COS members. The Secretary would continue to receive checklist items, but Andrew Mayes, the Editor, would be free to add items sent direct to him and the Secretary would liaise with him on this so as to keep her information up to date for any enquirers. Mr Hersom said that Peacock Press would welcome suggestions for articles. It was agreed that Branch meeting days and times would be replaced in subsequent magazine issues. Dr Dolmetsch mentioned that next year would be the seventieth Haslemere Festival, the oldest in the UK. Mrs Martin reported that Jeremy Burbidge had asked her if he could receive a copy of the new SRP Discography pamphlet, and Andrew Mayes had also contacted her about the series. Peacock Press publish a number of School Year Books and Mr Burbidge is planning to include flyers about the magazine (and hence, also, the Society), hoping to gain more readers amongst teachers. She said that the Editor is keen to have a strong educational element in the magazine; he had asked her to write an article on recorder teaching in primary schools and the National Curriculum, and Peter Bowman of ERTA had also been asked to write for the magazine. She said that Mr Burbidge was going out of his way to include the Society in the new magazine and the SRP should find writers for this section - if the SRP does not do this, she felt ERTA might well do so. The question whether Peacock Press could try and lure non-specialists with a specialist magazine was, in fact, proved possible when Edgar Hunt and Herbert Hersom did so with the educational section, dropped under Eve O'Kelly's editorship; and if re-instated, the section need not appear in every issue. Mrs Martin is very much against ERTA taking over an educational section since the SRP have always been involved with teachers and teaching. If ERTA are also going to be involved with the new magazine, it was questioned whether the Society pages should

always be in the back pages. The fact that ERTA are also offering the magazine as part of their subscription entitlement, there was a general feeling that members of both organizations would just have to accept the two copies involved (if members are teachers, two copies could be an advantage), but if members do feel entitled to demand a refund for one unwanted copy, they should approach Peter Bowman of ERTA.

8. Extension of SRP activities

(a) Samples of the four completed SRP booklets being produced by Moira Usher were displayed:

Tempo in Recorder Consort Music (Paul Clark)

A Discography of Recorder Music (Madeline Seviour)

A Guide to Ensemble Music for the Recorder (Anne Martin)

The Useful Address Book (Moira Usher)

There are two more titles to come. Members were not too happy with the Society statement on the back of the booklets and felt it should be re-written to better convey the aims of the Society or omitted altogether: it was decided that the Chairman and Mrs Martin would produce a more precise statement of Society aims for the print run, and that complimentary copies of "A Guide to Ensemble Music for the Recorder" should be sent to the 14 music publishers listed in it. It was originally the majority decision, following Moira Usher's wishes, to have the booklets printed professionally. Mr Wyatt pointed out that his Oriel Press (now with more sophisticated equipment) could produce copies much more cheaply; but the Chairman reminded Committee that since Mrs Usher was prepared to undertake the task of producing the booklets, her wishes should be complied with, and the Society could well be grateful for her endeavours, and for the moment wait and see how the booklets sell.

(b) The Society brochure. There are still quite a large number of the yellow leaflets in hand. There need to be several alterations in a reprint, but Mrs Davies (who will be organizing a Society stall at the coming Early Music Exhibition) felt that she would be able to dispose of the remainder there. Mr Wyatt showed some of his more recent leaflets with the new equipment, and it was agreed that Committee would consider a revised reprint by Oriel Press when present stocks are finished.

(c) Competitions. Mrs Davies reported that the next Moeck solo competition would be held at the time of the Early Music Exhibition in 1995. In view of the changes at Schotts (being merged with Universal etc.) it was questioned whether Schotts should be asked to sponsor another ensemble competition. There was a 3-way funding of competition organization between the Society, Moeck and Schotts to begin with (hire of halls for auditions, fees to adjudicators etc.), but with only the Moeck extant the expenses incurred have to be half each for the SRP and Moeck, while the prizes are provided by the sponsor. Although the Schott competition response last time was poor, Mrs Davies was prepared to approach Schotts again. Mr Wyatt questioned whether the expenses in advertising etc. were justified if, again, there were no applicants or unsuitable ones. Mrs Davies would approach all colleges that offer music (c.70), all music magazines and general music courses. As the SRP is now an international organization and since it was never intended to restrict these competitions to British nationals, she wondered whether the competitions should be made international

June 59
Thursday 19

and advertised abroad. It was generally felt, however, that such an approach would need greater facilities than one honorary worker working from home, though it might at some later stage be possible to publicize the competitions, say, at Arras. Mrs Martin suggested that Jeremy Burbidge might be approached as a sponsor. The Committee felt that Mrs Davies should approach Schott/Universal again, and she did not think that there was much more work in organizing the two than in one. Mrs Davies asked that the Committee should now decide on the adjudicators, who and how many (which would affect the entry fee) and what sort of music should be chosen, and how many pieces should be included in the cassette to be submitted with the application. Although previously there were 6 items on the cassette, of which 3 were to be performed at the adjudication, it was decided that the running time be limited to 45 minutes and that there should be a free choice of pieces of a cross-section of both recorders and repertoire. It was agreed that 3 adjudicators were the best number, of which (a) one should be internationally known, (b) one a recorder player and (c) one a general musicologist of the period. Kees Otten was suggested for (a) as continuity with previous competitions, Robert Ehrlich or other competition winner for (b), and Anthony Hopkins, for instance, for (c). Dr Dolmetsch considered that both his daughters were both experienced performers and judges. Mrs Davies, in consultation with other Committee members, would make a choice of possible adjudicators to approach and the fee to offer. Mr Sharman was to make the presentation on behalf of the Society to the 1991 winner Ashley Solomon at his Wigmore Hall prize concert next Sunday. Mrs Davies promised to write an article on what has happened to past winners of the competitions. Although there had been no time to arrange a competition for this year, Mrs Davies has arranged a stall at the forthcoming Early Music Exhibition on 12-14 November for both Moeck and the Society which will publicize the 1995 Moeck Competition as well as the SRP. It was decided that the only merchandise for sale would be the Christmas cards and the new booklets.

9. Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund (and associated matters)

Mr Hersom reported that the Fund committee (consisting of Miss O'Sullivan, Mr Danbury and himself) had met shortly after the last Central Committee meeting and is due to meet again on 1 November. Eight new applications were considered, and grants totalling £450 were made to five of them. There are six applicants for attention at the next meeting, with the possibility of four others to whom forms have been sent following recent enquiries. A number of welcome donations have been received from individuals and Branches, including £160 from the sale of instruments belonging to a past member Ronald Fea, £25 from the sale of music from the late Molly Flatman, and £50 proceeds of the festival run by the West Suffolk Branch; also two recorders were given, a tenor and a bass. Walter's daughter Erica Bendix continues to display interest in our activities.

The possibility of setting up a fund-raising subsidiary was discussed. The Chairman, having had considerable discussion with John Turner, and a great deal of help from him, freely given, for which we are most grateful, had been invited to the meeting, also the new Treasurer, Mr Fraser-Hook, who would have

(b) The Secretary had also received suggestions for additions to the Visiting Conductors panel: (1) Patricia Davies (by Christine Gibbons, Cambridge Branch) and (2) Christopher Burgess (by Ena Pick, Wessex Branch). It was then proposed by Mr Fraser-Hook, seconded by Mr Wyatt that Patricia Davies be invited to join the panel, and Mrs Reddaway proposed, seconded by Mrs Lewin that Christopher Burgess be invited. The Committee agreed to both proposals. After a short discussion on the question of choosing applicants for the Visiting Conductors panel, it was agreed that we should have personal knowledge of the applicants' capacity as a conductor before accepting them as pastoral visitors.

(c) The Chairman reported that, in reply to an enquiry from the Irish Branch, he had informed Mrs Flanagan that the Republic was not covered by the Society's insurance policy.

(d) Mrs Martin reported on the inauguration of a British branch of the European Recorder Teachers' Association, set up by Peter Bowman, and that Anthony Rowland-Jones had been asked to draft a constitution for it (having been supplied with the SRP Rules for reference). It is hoped that the SRP and ERTA will work together and complement each other where appropriate, rather than come to compete with each other. There was some feeling amongst the Committee that there might be little competition with the SRP, since the Society is still for playing (unlike ERTA) as well as promoting the recorder; but Mrs Martin felt that ERTA's attitude towards the Society seems to be slightly ambivalent: it seems to be giving the impression that it is the only body working in recorder education; and she expressed the opinion that it is important that the Society does not become complacent about its own role and ignore ERTA. Hence it is particularly important that the SRP work in education is written about and continues, particularly through The Recorder Magazine.

(e) Mr Hersom reported that he had sent a ~~long~~ list of possible writers to Mr Mayes, Editor of the magazine, but had received no response as yet. The Society editorial sub-committee should put pressure on members to write articles on educational topics.

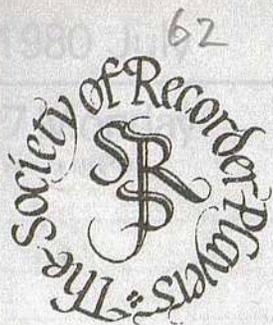
(f) Mrs Lewin drew the Treasurer's attention to a recent radio programme which hinted that Inland Revenue may demand branches of bodies such as ours to pay corporation tax, even though the society is a charity. She promised to send details to the Chairman and Treasurer, who will discuss the matter. However, the Treasurer pointed out that the Society's Central Fund Account does not protect the Branches, which are self-supporting; but the Branches only budget for their expenses, and if there be a surplus, this is "owned" by individual members of the Branch as over-payment of subscriptions.

11. The next meeting will be held on Sunday 20 March 1994 at the home of Mr Wyatt.

The meeting ended at 5.15 p.m. The Chairman moved a grateful vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Wyatt for their generous hospitality.

M. J. L.
Chairman
20 March 1994

Thursday 3
Friday 4
Saturday 5
Sunday 6



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday 20 March 1994

at 8 Wilton Grove London SW19

Present:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Mr Sharman..... | Chairman | Mr Hersom..... | Musical Adviser |
| Mr Fraser-Hook..... | Treasurer | Mrs Pick | |
| Dr Allen | Membership Secretary | Mr Hunt | Vice President & MA |
| Mrs Martin | Examination Secretary | Mr Wyatt | Musical Adviser |
| Mrs Reddaway | COS Secretary | Mr Collis | |
| Mr Bloodworth | | Mr Read | Acting Secretary |

The Chairman welcomed Mr Collis, as representative from the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund committee, and Mr Read, as Secretary Designate.

(1) **Apologies for absence** were received from Mrs Blackman, Mr Clark, Mrs Davies, Dr Dolmetsch, Mr Haston, Mrs Lewin, Mrs Lodge and Mr Sturgeon.

(2) **Minutes of the last meeting:** There were the following corrections:

4(c): *Last line, page 2* - substitute "this time" for "in time."

10(e): *First line* - delete "long."

With the above corrections, it was proposed by Mrs Reddaway, seconded by Mrs Martin and agreed that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

(3) **Matters arising**

The Chairman confirmed that he had now written to Miss O'Sullivan, thanking her for her services to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund (further to Item 9 of the last Minutes.)

(4) **Officers' Reports**

(a) On behalf of *The Secretary*, Mr Read said that

(i) Mrs Herdson had now formed a new East Berkshire Branch, although Mrs Blackman had received no formal notification despite a written request. Dr Allen confirmed that he had received subscriptions and undertook to speak to Mrs Herdson when they meet shortly to remedy the matter. In the meantime it was agreed that a proposal for the new branch be ratified by Conference.

(ii) The Secretary had again written to Dr James of Liverpool University, asking if he was still interested in forming a Branch. Despite enclosing s.a.e., nothing further had been heard.

(iii) The Secretary had also written, as above, to Mr Warford of Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School and had heard nothing further.

(iv) The South Wales Branch is now disbanded. Mr Wyatt said Peter Powell had volunteered to act as a "clearing house" for enquiries from former members.

(v) Michael Muskett's request that the Society reply to an article in the Guardian did not find favour with the Musical Advisors, save Mr Clark, although no one present had seen a published response. **Matter dropped.**

(b) *The Membership Secretary* reported

(i) there were now 48 branches. There were no changes in six branches; 16 branches had increased their membership; 26 branches reported a decrease; with the demise of South Wales Branch there was a loss of 11 members; and East Berkshire had 14 new members. Net loss 19 members. The total paid-up membership stood at 1,655 (1,691 last year). Dr Allen pointed out that subscriptions to the Recorder Magazine had increased by 400.

(ii) There then followed a general discussion with regard to concessionary (student) rates. Mrs Martin said Guildford Branch charged children on an "as and when" basis. It was thought this should be recommended to the Branch Secretaries.

(iii) It was agreed that the next Membership List should be published in 1995 bearing in mind that STD telephone codes, and in some cases subscribers' numbers, are scheduled to be altered, on 16 April 1995.

(iv) A suggestion that the Examination Secretary's name be inserted on the inside front cover of the Membership List was agreed.

(v) It was agreed that a collating team for the next Membership List be discussed at the next committee meeting.

(vi) The merits of changing the system of *Recorder Magazine* issue. By a vote of 10 to 2 it was agreed to put a resolution to Conference that magazines should start with the December issue, provided, however, that members had paid their subscriptions. (Those that paid late would have to make arrangements for supply of missed issues.) It was also agreed that the Chairman, Membership Secretary and Treasurer would write a form of words to affect this change, stressing that subscriptions should be paid by November. The Chairman undertook to advise Peacock Press of the proposed changes and to seek their views.

(c) *The Treasurer*

(i) circulated copies of the Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1993 and said that, as there were still one or two loose ends to be tidied up, they had not yet been audited. Additional copies were also made available to the Secretary for distribution to the Branch Secretaries. In view of the healthy state of the Society, Mr Fraser-Hook recommended that subscriptions should not be increased in the forthcoming year. He went on to say that Ayr, Lincoln and Ireland have not yet sent any subscriptions for the current year; and that 24 Branches still have not sent copies of their 1992/93 Accounts.

(ii) Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund. Miss O'Sullivan has still not returned vouchers and covering documentation with regard to the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund merchandising operations. The Treasurer said he had not received the outstanding balance of £184 or Pass Book on the Nationwide Account. Treasurer to write to Miss O'Sullivan again.

(iii) On figures so far available the WBMF merchandising activity produced deficits for the years 1990/91 and 1991/92 and profits for 1992/93 and 1993/94, giving a surplus of £1,023.00. A loan of £1,000.00 from Central Funds to purchase stock had been repaid. Trading profits on a turnover of £16,000 amounted to only 6%. Donations were still the main source of income.

(iv) The matter of authorisation and payment for Pastoral Visits was raised in view of the fact that some branches appeared to be unaware of the procedure. The Treasurer said some branches were simply deducting from the subscriptions collected the conductor's expenses and he had no way of knowing whether or not it had been previously approved by the Secretary. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to the Branches advising that they should either use the existing system or they could, if they so wished, deduct the expenses from the subscriptions only provided that they forward precise details to him **and** to the Secretary.

(d) *The COS Secretary* said that there were 221 paid-up members (UK, 166; Europe, 26 and World, 27). There had been 12 transfers to Playing Branches and 28 resignations (UK, 23; Europe, 2; World 3; and 1 death). There were still 21 laggards (UK, 18; Europe, 2; and World, 1). COS Membership had declined by 41 as at 19 March 1994.

(e) *The Examination Secretary* said there had been no candidates for examination since the last meeting. She proposed she should attend the Music for Youth Conference, to be held on 4/5 July 1994 and that the registration cost be shared between her school and the SRP. Mrs Martin also informed the Committee she was now one of four representatives on the Music Committee of the Society of Assistants Teaching in Preparatory Schools (SATIPS). She also reported she is writing an article for the *Record Magazine* on The Recorder in the National Curriculum.

(5) **Conference Arrangements, election of officers**

(a) Having given 14 years' valued service, the *Secretary* is retiring. It was agreed that Conference should approve honorary life membership and that Mr Wyatt should sound out Mrs Blackman with regard to a gift. Mr Read is willing to accept nomination for the post. Proposed, Mrs Blackman; seconded, Mr H Prosser (Guildford Branch).

(b) All other officers were prepared to stand.

(c) *Committee members* Under the Rules two ordinary Committee members must retire each year, of whom one will be Mr Sturgeon, the other is Mrs Lodge (on health grounds). Although Kent Branch has nominated Mr Hault, no other branch has put forward any names. The Committee wishes to approach the following nominees:

Andrew Collis (London) prop Mr Hersom, sec Mrs Reddaway

Ann Lyall (Bath) prop Mrs Pick, sec Mr Hersom

Martin Evans (Newcastle) prop Mr Wyatt, sec Dr Allen

The proposers would first sound out the nominees and inform the Secretary who, if they were agreeable to stand, would then send them the formal letter of invitation.

(d) *Musical Advisors* Mr Hersom retires this year. From the six Musical Advisors eligible to serve the the committee chose Colin Martin, prop Mr Wyatt, sec Mrs Reddaway. As less than half the total number of Musical Advisors wish to attend committee meetings, it was agreed that two names be added: Mrs Martin proposed Mrs Alyson Lewin (South Staffordshire), seconded by Mr Hersom; and the Chairman proposed Mr Anthony Rowland-Jones (Cambridge), seconded by Mr Wyatt. Mr Wyatt's suggestion that Musical Advisors were no longer needed was rejected by the committee.

(e) *Auditor* It was agreed that the Secretary should write to Mr Robert Harrison to see whether he was willing to continue acting as The Society's auditor.

(6) **1994 Festival Arrangements and Future Festivals**

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Joan Wilson and Douglas Haston and that 250 people were needed to attend the forthcoming Aberdeen Festival for it to break even. Sponsorship was being pursued. Delegates would be staying almost exclusively in the University accommodation. The premium, previously charged, would be refunded to delegates. Three drafts had been sent for approval, but owing to unforeseen circumstances the Secretary had been unable to take delivery of the registered package in which they were sent. It was agreed that delegates could claim reasonable travel expenses and up to two nights bed and breakfast accommodation. Lunch was provided free on the Sunday. These reimbursements applied equally to officers and members of the committee. A copy of the List of Private

Accommodation is included with the above registered package. Mr Hersom said he had received a Draft Programme, which he circulated.

Mrs Martin requested a float for 1995 and would liaise with the Treasurer. She said there would be a link with Purcell, also Michael Tippett, who will be 90 on 2 January 1995.

Suggestions for 1996 included Sheffield, Norfolk and Durham. The Chairman undertook to take soundings at the forthcoming Conference. Mid-Herts would consider organising a festival, but not before 1997.

(7) **Extension of SRP Activities**

(a) *Society Booklets* Mr Kenworthy's comments on the booklets were noted and have been passed to Mrs Usher. In *The Useful Address Book*, p.3: Fentone's postcode should read NN17 2SN. The print-run for the booklets was thought to be 500. It was thought that further promotion through the Branch Secretaries should be encouraged and a display should be set up at the Aberdeen Conference. Mrs Usher advised the Committee that her booklet *A Recorder Player's Guide to Composers* was complete. It was thought that it would run to 74 pages and cost £2.50. A printing of the master-copy was being undertaken during the forthcoming Easter holiday. Mrs Lodge had advised the Secretary that her booklet *Arranging for Recorders* was under way.

(b) *Society Brochures* It was agreed that a fresh edition would be published after the new Secretary had been appointed.

(c) *Competition* The Chairman reported on behalf of Mrs Davies. The shortlist of adjudicators for the 1995 Competition are Evelyn Nallon, Peter Holtslag and Alan Davies. The SRP Competition account had now been open with GIRO and, at the Treasurer's suggestion, it was agreed that any one signature of three could transact the account business. Mrs Martin suggested that, once the draft rules and programme had been vetted, they should be circulated to Music Departments of Universities, Colleges and Schools. There were ten enquiries made at the Early Music Festival last autumn. Schotts had twice been written to with regard to the ensemble group but no reply had been received. It was understood that Mollenhauer had showed interest. The Committee felt it would like to see the Rules say "A Recorder Recital." Mr Hunt suggested that the Rules be published in the *Recorder Magazine*. It was agreed that Mrs Davies and Mr Collis should vet the Rules before publication.

(d) *Norfolk Branch Video & Audio Tapes* The committee felt it had very little information as to what items were to be on these tapes and Mr Hunt suggested that there could be implications of Performing Rights and royalties. Whilst the committee was, in the main, favourably disposed toward giving a cash float for the project, it felt more information should be sought.

67

(8) Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund

Mr Collis presented the report of the sub-committee. There had been two meetings of the sub-committee, Mrs Davies and Mr Collis having been co-opted.

Mr Hersom said there were something of the order of 1,700 Christmas cards still in stock; the committee thought Aberdeen might be a suitable venue to dispose of them. He also said he still had a number of XL shirts, which could also be taken to Aberdeen. Mr Danbury had been appointed Chairman of the sub-committee.

(9) Honorary Life Membership

At Mrs Hazel Pillatt's suggestion, the committee readily agreed to nominate Dick and Monica Coles be made Honorary Life Members, which should be put to the vote at Conference.

Committee proposed Anne Blackman also be made honorary life member, also to be put to the vote at Conference

(10) Any other business

(a) Mrs Martin pointed out that the Society's President, Sir Michael Tippett, would be 90 years old in January 1995 and suggested that it should not go unrecorded. Possibly an article in the *Recorder Magazine* might be appropriate.

(b) The committee felt that a new booklet along the lines of *Forming a Branch*, called *How to Run a Branch* should be published and sent out periodically. A further suggestion was a booklet on *Notes for Guidance of Branch Officials*. Whilst no one at the meeting offered to write these, it was felt that when eventually they were written the Committee should review them before publication.

(c) Members of the Committee expressed dissent over the SRP'S rôle as set out in the booklets. The Chairman and Mrs Martin agreed to readvise the wording for consideration at the next Committee meeting.

(11) The next Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, 16 October 1994 at 8 Wilton Grove, London SW19.

The meeting ended at 3.40 p.m. The Chairman moved a grateful vote of thanks to Theo & Kitty Wyatt for their generous hospitality.

M. D. L.
Chairman
16.10.94



68

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
 Sunday, 16 October 1994
 at 8 Wilton Grove, London, SW19

Present:

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Mr Sharman | Chairman | Mr Martin | Musical Adviser |
| Mr Read | Secretary | Mr Wyatt | Musical Adviser |
| Mr Fraser-Hook | Treasurer | Mr Collis | |
| Mrs Martin | CSRP Sec | Mrs Lewin | |
| Mrs Davies | Competition Sec | Mrs Lyall | |
| Mr Hunt | Vice Pres & MA | Mrs Pick | |

The Chairman welcomed Mr Martin, Mr Collis and Mrs Lyall to the Committee following their election at Conference in Aberdeen.

- (1) **Apologies for absence** were received from Dr Allen, Mr Bloodworth, Mr Clark, Dr Dolmetsch, Mr Haston and Mrs Reddaway.
- (2) **Minutes of last meeting:** There were the following corrections:
 8: *Second para, line 1:* substitute "packets" for "cards."
 9: *Add:* Committee proposed that Anne Blackman also be made honorary life member and that this should also be put to the vote at Conference.

With the above corrections, it was proposed by Mrs Pick, seconded by Mrs Martin and agreed that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

(3) Matters arising:

Mrs Martin suggested that the wording of the Society's rôle should be as set out on the back covers of the series of booklets, but with the following amendments:

- (1) substitute "national with international members" for "international" and
- (2) substitute "Cornwall" for "Devon." (Minute 10(c), 20.03.94, refers)

Mrs Martin said she had written a piece on Sir Michael Tippett for publication in *The Recorder Magazine's* December 1994 issue. It was agreed that the Secretary should send greetings to Sir Michael Tippett for his 90th birthday on 2 January 1995.

(4) Officers' Reports

(a) *The Secretary* reported that

- (i) he had received a letter from North Staffs. Branch intimating that they were considering disbanding but that they were open to suggestions as to how

to remain a viable branch. Mrs Lewin undertook to discuss matters with the Branch;

(ii) Essex Branch has a new Secretary, Mrs G E Clode, 35 Upper Park, Harlow, CM20 1TW ☎ (01279) 431704;

(iii) he had written to members of the Visiting Conductors' Panel, asking them if they wished to remain on the list and inviting them to revise their biographies. To date he had received about 50% of the replies. The Committee agreed that the new list should be published with a 1995 dateline;

(iv) correspondence between the Secretary and David & Ann Grosvenor intimated that a Branch may well be formed in York. (Mr Martin said that Merseyside were still considering whether to form several small groups into a Liverpool Branch. The Chairman wondered if Musical Advisers and Musical Directors, as well as Mr Martin, could encourage the venture.)

(v) Roxburgh Branch proposed and Committee agreed that Mrs Mary Bonsor be invited to join the Visiting Conductors' Panel. Mrs Pick also proposed and Mr Collis seconded that Mrs Ann Lyall also be invited to join the Panel, to which the Committee was happy to agree.

(b) On behalf of the Membership Secretary Mr Wyatt said so far only two Branches had made returns for the 1994-95 season. It was hoped to be able to publish a new Membership List before the Guildford Festival and Annual Conference. With his Branch Treasurer's hat on, the Secretary said that London Branch were prepared to undertake collation of the List, which Mr Wyatt gratefully accepted. There then followed a discussion as to whether or not county names should be dropped from members' addresses in order to save space. By a majority vote it was agreed that they should.

(c) *The Treasurer* reported that he had now finalised the Society's annual accounts for the year 1993-94. The salient points were as follows: Income, £16,041; expenditure, £14,320; surplus, £1,721. Subscription income was £13,923 (£3,000 higher than the previous year.) Magazine costs, £7,668. Although the cost of the Aberdeen Festival and Conference was not yet available, Mr Fraser-Hook said he expected it would break even. If there was a surplus, this would be split 50/50 as on previous occasions. Sales of the Society booklets had realised £650, with cost of production and postage being £415, giving a surplus of £235. Bank interest was £498. £1,000 had been transferred from the Walter Bergmann Memorial Fund against previous loans for merchandising. The Society's accumulated funds currently stood at £16,959. In concluding, the Treasurer said he could not anticipate any large items of expenditure.

(d) *The Country & Overseas Secretary* had nothing to report.

(e) *The Examinations Secretary* said there were four candidates actively involved. She hoped to promote the examination further once the Guildford Festival and Conference were over. Mrs Martin went on to say that, despite a very short drafting pe-

let the Central Committee know definitely whether Newcastle could host the 1996 event before its next meeting in March 1995.

(c) Mrs Martin said that the Guildford Festival was now at an advanced stage of planning. The venue was booked, as were most of the conductors. She said to break even an attendance of 200 would be necessary.

(9) *The Recorder Magazine*

The Chairman said he had received a letter of apology from the publishers in respect of the five branches that did not receive their copies of the September 1994 issue. He went on to say that he still hoped that the publishers would apologise to the branches individually. The letter pointed out that, although the proofs had originally been corrected, due to human error the incorrect disks had been forwarded to the printers for production. The Chairman added that it was to be hoped that, for the future, galley proofs would be produced for contributors to check and correct.

(10) **Extension of SRP activities**

(a) **SRP Brochure**

Mr Hersom had submitted a revised edition of the Society's Brochure [the yellow leaflet], of which Mr Wyatt had computer-set and made a small production run on both white and yellow paper. The Committee unanimously agreed that this should be published and that the majority decision was that it should be produced on white paper. It was felt that, as the Branch secretaries' names now appeared as a constituent part of the leaflet, only sufficient need be printed so that any alterations to secretarial information could be amended on an annual basis. Mr Wyatt said he would be happy to produce the leaflet. The cost would be of the order of 2p each, as opposed to the commercial one of 6p!

(b) **Publicity Officer**

The Committee was grateful to Mr Hersom's written submission that a Publicity Officer be recruited to advertise the Society's existence. It was agreed that Mr Bob Horsley be approached to undertake such duties. Mr Wyatt said he was happy to discuss with and encourage Mr Horsley into taking on the task. The Chairman considered the postholder should not automatically be given a place on the Central Committee.

(c) **SRP Christmas Cards**

It was reported that Mr Danbury, Mid-Herts. Branch, had now organised the packing of the Society's various Christmas cards into assorted packets of 10 and which were to be offered for sale at £1 plus postage per pack. Branches are particularly urged to order as many as they can as soon as possible directly from Mr Danbury at 95 Salisbury Avenue, ST ALBANS, AL1 4TY. The Chairman undertook to write to Mr Danbury, expressing the Society's grateful thanks.

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