

SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS - EDINBURGH BRANCH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO SEPT. 1980

Memberships of the Branch was unchanged from last years total of 37, new members having replaced those who no longer came to our meetings. ~~f~~ attendances at those weekly meetings have been reasonably good.

Many will regret that the usual enjoyable joint meeting at Kelso with the Roxburgh & Newcastle branches did not take place. It is understood that the membership of the Roxburgh Branch had dwindled to such an extent that its dissolution was contemplated. Fortunately this branch is apparently on the way up again.

We held our usual Christmas and Summer concerts to invited audiences of friends and relations. Their musical content has been fairly fully reported in the 'Recorder and Music' magazine. At the Christmas evening, players and guests enjoyed the singing of the Fairmilehead Quartet & Mrs O'Riordan's

Saturday Club Recorder Group as well as our own
consorts. Guest artists Mr & Mrs McTab, and
Mr & Mrs Gillett graced the Summer evening
with their singing and our audience were roused
by the stirring Scottish fiddle music by the
group of young girls led by Karen Watson.
Our own recorder band & groups were also well
received.

A new departure was the public concert
held in March at the elegant St. Cecilia's Hall,
to which concert, for the first time, a modest
admission charge was made to cover expenses.

This charge covered a refreshment at the interval—
a very palatable glass of wine. Under our two
conductors, the full band responded well and
all enjoyed the playing of the various consorts
of recorders and of viols and the beautiful
singing of Mrs Linda Howie. The response
from our audience was most encouraging and
Thanks are due to all who contributed in any way

to make it a most successful evening, musically and financially.

The main body of the Society of Recorder Players have applied to be registered as a charity in order to enjoy certain tax advantages. At the Delegates conference held in Cambridge last May, new Rules, approved by the Charity Commission, were adopted and now await the approval of the Inland Revenue. If the Society does attain the status of a charity, it becomes obligatory for branches to adopt Rules which conform with the Specimen Rules adopted by conference. The Society hope that for the sake of simplicity, most branches will be able to adopt the Specimen Rules as they stand. As there is little in these Rules inconsistent with our own Constitution, your Committee have decided so to accept them.

Mrs O'Riordan, representing the Branch at the Delegates' conference, was requested to make strong protestations about the late arrival of the

Recorder and Music magazine. Several other delegates had the same complaint. These representations seem to have been effective and the magazine has since been sent to us much more promptly.

Once more I am sure you would wish me to express to our Musical Director, our warm appreciation for the time and effort spent in arranging music for us. We are greatly indebted both to him and to Mr. Carey for the unfailing patience and good humour shown and the inspiration given to us when conducting our playing.