



THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

President: Sir Michael Tippett

Registered Charity No. 282751

Edinburgh Branch- Secretary's Report for the Year 1981-82.

It is with both a sense of regret and purpose I start my report by noting the death, last year, of Mr. ~~TERRY~~ Millar. He had been a subscriber and regular member of the Branch since 1976, and all who knew him were saddened by the event.

Membership of the Branch increased by one this year making the overall total 43, compared with 42 the previous year. These figures do not reflect the turnover of members and as well as losing some old friends we were very pleased to welcome several new members.

The committee was reasonably active throughout the year attending mainly to the more usual Annual events but also we hoped providing a focal point through which members suggestions could be collated and acted upon. Fairly early on in the year it was suggested that a Branch Membership List should be compiled. This was done to coincide with the annual return of membership details to Central Funds, and has been found by many to be worthwhile and it is hoped to continue the practice annually. Later on in the year the Branch Library came under scrutiny and I am glad to report that an enormous amount of work has recently gone into sorting it out. I am sure you would all like me to express our gratitude to Andrew Short for undertaking this mammoth task and we look forward to enjoying the easier use of the Library thanks to his efforts.

This year also saw the start of the "Junior Section" (under the direction of Joyce O'Riordan, Jim O'Malley and David Cooke) and we look forward to hearing a Progress Report from David.

The AUTUMN term culminated in our Christmas concert given to an invited audience of friends and relatives. We were joined in this event by a section of the Edinburgh Chamber Orchestra to play an arrangement of Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise" for Recorders and Strings and as well as other works, already reported in the Recorder and Music Magazine, the concert ended with all present taking part either singing or playing Christmas Carols.

The Spring term reconvened, and despite inclement weather, weekly meetings were once more well supported. We immediately set about working towards what has now become an Annual event, our Public concert in St. Cecilia's Hall. This year the programme emphasised the wide variety of instrumental music from the 16th to the 18th that is suitable for recorders both as solo instruments and as a band. Once more we were pleased to join forces with our friends from the Edinburgh Chamber Orchestra to play two Canzoni by Gabrieli.

This year's National Recorder Festival was held at Hatfield Polytechnic and our Branch was represented by Eric Gillett at the Delegates Conference. The Branch was also represented in the Festival Competitions by the Edinburgh Fluters who came third in the Consort Section.

The year ended with our Summer evening and as well as a varied programme of Recorder music and arrangements we were all treated to the music of Vaughan Williams by our guest artist, cellist Hugh Keith accompanied by Eric Gillett at the piano.

A varied and full year - successful, I am sure you will all agree, thanks mainly to the amount of work and effort our Musical Director Eric Gillett, assisted by Jim Carey, has put into each and every Branch Meeting.