

THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

Edinburgh Branch.

Secretary's Report 1982-83.

Dear Branch Member,

This year has certainly been a busy and successful period for the Branch. The committee met on five occasions to organise ( as well as ordinary business ) our end of term concerts, a Pastoral Visit and a celebration Public Concert. Andrew Short, who accepted the responsibility for reorganising the Branch Library last year, updated the Library list over the Christmas holidays and copies were made available. Early in the year the committee decided to compile a "Calendar of Events" and this was finally distributed in February, giving information up to this year's Christmas concert(1983).

I am happy to report that once more the number of members in the Branch has increased and because of our 'Junior section' and 'Library' group we made full use of the Church hall.

On Monday 25th October members present were treated to a Pastoral Visit and our visiting conductor was Mr. Dennis Bamforth (Musical Director of the Manchester Branch SRP) who ,despite the falling masonry of the Church steeple, reciprocated his enjoyment of the meeting.

The Autumn term ended with our Christmas concert on Monday 20th December and, along with the Pentland Viol Consort, the Edinburgh Recorder Consort and our Junior section, the evening was brought to a seasonal close when our invited audience joined in the Carol singing.

The Branch resumed its weekly meetings on the 10th January 1983 for what was to be the busiest, and for many the most enjoyable, session of the year.

This year we decided to pay tribute to our Hon. President, Dr. Hans Gal, at our 25th Year Celebration Concert which was held in St. Cecilia's Hall on Saturday 12th February. The programme for the first half of the concert consisted entirely of works by Dr. Gal for Recorders and Recorders with other instruments and those playing were joined by Graham Cumberland (guitar) and the St. Oswald's Strings (leader Colin O'Riordan). During the interval our Chairman Mr. Ian Inglis gave a brief history of the Branch and added to the celebration by mentioning Miss May Whitby's acceptance of Honorary Branch membership. The second half of the concert consisted of works and arrangements for Recorder Band and the Junior section debut. The culmination of the second half occurred when the Branch joined forces with the St. Oswald's Strings to play Jim Carey's specially commissioned work "Music for a Celebration". From all reports afterwards the concert was an exceptional success.

This year's National Recorder Festival was held in Leicester on May 14th and our Musical Director, Eric Gillett attended as our Branch delegate.

I regret being unable to report on this year's Summer Evening as I was absent because of sudden illness.

To conclude I wish to thank Mr. Eric Gillett and Mr. Jim Carey for their work, musical Direction and guidance throughout the year.

W. Davidson  
Branch Secretary.