

SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS President Sir Michael Tippett
EDINBURGH BRANCH President Dr Hans Gal

Branch Secretary's report for the 1983-84 season

There were 51 members during the season, four fewer than the previous season. The Branch met on 33 Monday evenings from October to June in Augustine Congregational Church hall for combined playing. As in the previous season, a group played easier music in the Library during the first half of the meetings and some members practiced one-to-a-part ensembles during alternate meetings. The Junior group was discontinued because of the difficulty of arranging a suitable time and venue; it was expected that the Lothian Regional Council might make an alternative arrangement for players of secondary school age.

The "Christmas evening" on December 19 before an audience of relatives and friends included the first performance by the "Library group".

The annual public concert in St. Cecilia's Hall on Saturday 3 March included works from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries. Guest performers playing other instruments were Linda Howie and Sally Morris (viols), John Tothill (clarinet) and Ruth Heywood (cello).

On Saturday 7 April we held a special playing day in the afternoon and evening with Paul Clark from Birmingham who conducted works by Schein, Josquin and Jacques. We were joined by visitors from the Aberdeen, Hillfoots and Roxburgh branches for a most enjoyable occasion which included a buffet meal prepared by Branch members.

In May Mrs Jenny Taylor attended the National Festival and Annual Conference in Guildford as the Branch delegate.

The season closed on Monday 11 June with the "summer evening" which included songs sung by Eric Gillett and friends.

On Saturday 30 June five members attended a most enjoyable playing day organized by the Aberdeen branch at Balbithan House, an old Aberdeenshire castle. The guest conductor was Brian Bonsor.

I have sent the congratulations of the Branch to the newly-formed branch in Ayr. We hope to meet its members in the near future.

Finally I should like to express the thanks of the Branch to our conductors Eric Gillett, Jim Carey, Joyce O'Riordan and David Cooke for their inspiration and guidance this season and also to Eric Gillett, Jim Carey and David Cooke for preparing their own arrangements and compositions for playing by the Branch.

September 1984

Andrew Short (branch secretary)
10 Russell Place, Edinburgh EH5 3HH