



August 2020 Newsletter SRP Essex Branch

Dear Essex SRP members,

I would like to inform you of some sad news received from Sheila Robinson and which she asked me to share with you:

On Tuesday 18 August Mo Robinson passed away. After a successful operation to repair the fractured neck of his femur, he tragically developed Aspirational Pneumonia which his lungs couldn't cope with.

We are very sorry to lose a friend and great bass player in him.

As you may remember we have booked a zoom recital with Andrew Collis on 5th September at 2:00 pm, and I would now like to hear from you if you wish to participate in that event. Registration is required in order to send you the link to the event.

Anyone of the Branch members who would like to join the Branch Committee, please let me know as the AGM is also on the horizon and we would like to get prepared.

The Branch committee will have a zoom meeting on 1st September and your suggestions or questions are welcome.

I attended the National Conference of the SRP (in zoom format) on 16 August and have produced a summary report which follows at the end of this letter. The whole conference was recorded and will be made available later. Anyone who would like to read the draft constitution, draft rules and resolutions only has to ask, and I will happily share what information I have.

For the moment the government guidance is still that amateur musicians cannot meet indoors for rehearsals in groups of more than 6 people, so for the time being we hope to continue with zoom meetings.

Finally we received an invitation from Neil Garner as follows (also published on the SRP website) and which you may find of interest:

*I am writing to tell you about a new subscription service which will be starting shortly. [Consorts.co.uk](https://www.consorts.co.uk) is a new business which will be supplying high quality 'play-along' recordings for the recorder playing community. We are launching on the **29th August** to coincide with the UK public holiday weekend and as a replacement for the cancelled SuRF (Summer Recorder Festival) which traditionally runs over that weekend in the UK.*

*As a special opening offer, we will be offering **free access** to the whole Consorts site for that weekend (29th-31st August). At launch we are aiming to have about 80 works available. Each will have a webpage providing some basic information about the piece along with links*

to the score and parts and a complete recording of the piece as well as versions with all individual parts missing as well. This should total around 600 recordings! Ongoing, we intend to add another 10 works each month. We will even offer some content for sopraninos and contras!

Summary report of the Annual Conference of the SRP
16/08/2020

Last year's minutes were agreed. Accounts were agreed. Keith Varney reappointed as examiner of accounts.

Subs for next year: Originally it had been planned to raise the subs, but this will now not happen.

National part of subs will remain unchanged, as all expenses continue, and the only savings were that meetings took place via zoom rather than face to face. Ulli Burchette suggested to leave the Branch part of subs unchanged, and build up a bit of capital as venue hire may go up.

A 25% loss of members is anticipated, but reducing the Branch part of subs would not necessarily change this.

A forum will be set up on the SRP website by April Munday for branch secretaries to discuss what branches are doing and other matters. April will write to branch secretaries about the fees.

This year it is not critical for each branch member to fill in a new form, only new members will need to do so. New forms will be required for the next membership list in the future.

The National Committee cannot help Branches with risk assessments of their venues, as the premises differ for each Branch; the venue should help with this. The general guidance from the government is still that no meetings should take place.

Workshops cannot be run via zoom.

Professionals are allowed to play indoors, but amateurs are not.

Charitable groups of max. 6 people from different household may play outdoors, whilst respecting social distance.

30 -people from 2 different household bubbles may play indoors, while keeping 2 m. apart.

Latest info on guidance can be found on Facebook page of the Musicians Union and on the website of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, section 4: wind players (www.ism.org)

More clarification is needed and Helen Hooker will put info. on the website.

Research on wind instruments (including recorders) is taking place and results are due soon.

The elections took place under the current constitution and the new national committee members will serve under the current constitution (the system changes from a rules-based to a constitution-based society). If the new constitution is approved (after consent by the Charity Commission), the committee elected next year will serve under the new constitution.

The present officers (with the exception of central secretary and training coordinator) were re-elected: Jim Grant- chairman, April Munday- secretary, Ullie Burchette-treasurer, Penny Clarke-membership secretary.

Sandra Foxall is stepping down, candidate Josee Beeson was elected as central secretary. Moira Usher has stepped down as training coordinator; Stephanie Sutherland has been elected.

Editor of SRP pages of the Recorder Magazine, Evelyn Nallen has moved on, Jean Campbell was elected.

Competition administrator: Sarah Langdon

The draft rules and draft constitution were approved.

The resolutions were approved.

West Dorset Branch has now closed.

Anthony Hall (Oxford) elected as honorary life member.

Future Festivals:

Edinburg cannot do a festival in 2021, but has offered to organise the conference in 2023.

Ipswich has offered to organise the conference in 2022.

The intention is to hold another annual conference around 16 April 2021, if it is not possible to meet in person, this will be another zoom conference. 4 weeks-notice will be given.

The meeting was recorded and will be available for interested members.