

Officer's Reports

SRP Committee meeting 7th February 2010

Secretary's report

Just nine pastoral visits have been authorised since the October meeting, all but two in 2009-10. Forty-six pastoral visits were made in calendar year 2009 which is only six less than the total number of Branches that hold regular meetings.

There have been several amendments to the details of Branch Secretaries, shortly to be reported in The Recorder Magazine.

NB Personal details redacted 2/6/2022 V.Giltrow-Tyler Hon.Sec.

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Bob Whitmarsh

Treasurer's report

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2009

This table is a summary of the Central Fund accounts for the year 2008/9 and a forecast of the figures for 2009-2010.

INCOME	2008-2009	2009-2010
Subscriptions including Corporate Subscriptions	25,593.02	25,000
Festival 2009 Surplus	0	
Scottish Recorder Festival Surplus	0	
IR gift aid (allocated to AIF)	0	
Bank Interest (10.75% of Total Received)	910.15	160
Royalties	20.01	10
Music Sale		300
Total	26,523.18	25,470
EXPENDITURE		
Magazine	12,358.50	13,000

Annual Conference	5,025.47	4,500
Conductors Visits	3,082.06	3,600
Committee Expenses	2,422.56	2,500
Printing, Stationery & Membership List	610.26	350
Phones & Postages	183.51	250
Publicity	154.00	160
Ex-gratia payments to Kent branches incl. Dunorlan, WBF	398.70	0
Ex-gratia payments to Glasgow – Scottish Festival	10.20	0
2008		
Subscription to Making Music	389.20	400
Audit	190.00	150
Internet Presence	56.99	50
Sheet Music Insurance		175
Liability Insurance	1,105.00	1,105
Employers Liability Insurance	135.08	
Trustee Insurance	267.00	
Miscellaneous (Sheet music)	300.00	25
Total	26,715.53	26,265

The deficit for the year was £192 leaving the fund at £26,720 on the 31st August 2009. We would have seen a small surplus had we not spent £300 on sheet music; but we hoped to benefit members by the purchase of the music and selling it on, perhaps even at a slight profit. Subscription income rose by just under £400 compared with 2007/08. We received Royalties from Forsyth covering 3 years (£20). Income from bank interest was considerably lower than in the previous year (down by 30% or £535). The cost of the Annual Conference was up by about £1,500, the cost of conductors' visits up by £165. Committee expenses were up by £530. The cost of the Magazine was identical to the previous year. – I had assumed that the increase in mileage by 5p would add around a sixth to pastoral visitors, committee and conference, in fact it was rather more mainly due to conference and committee expenses.

The Walter Bergmann Fund received £1,612 in donations, and £1,568 share of bank interest, £199 share of the 2008 SRP festival surplus and £129 in gift aid refund. It made grants totalling £4,290. The year's loss was £812 leaving its fund at £40,533.

The Arthur Ingram Fund received £5,988 share of bank interest and £7,931 in Inland Revenue gift aid (2 years' claim). Its main expenditure was the NYRO management fee (£6,000), the competition (the reception at the winner's recital £790 – cost offset by entrance fees for 2009 competition), commission of a piece of music by Gavin Bryars (£575,) and workshops (£318). The overall fund amounts to £185,383 up by £6,967.

The falling income from low interest rates is a matter of concern as in the past bank interest income has bolstered the income of the central fund, has been a major source of income for the Walter Bergmann Fund and the main source for the Arthur Ingram Fund. The cost per copy of the Magazine has gone up 15p per copy from September 2009, an increase of 7.38% (to £2.20 per copy), or £912 for the year.

In order to prevent a large increase of subscriptions next year I again propose a modest increase of 50p person. This means the rates would rise to £19 per full member, £29 per household membership and £14.50 for students. This is unlikely to be enough to avoid a loss next year but it'll help.

I received most branch accounts by 30th November and almost all on the official return form, which made my task of collating them a lot easier. Just a handful of branches were rather late, as was NYRO. I would like to bring the deadline for branch returns forward to 15th October, 15th November for NYRO, as late returns interfere with Christmas, something neither the auditor or my family appreciate, and don't leave much time to consolidate the accounts. There is no reason why branch accounts cannot be submitted within a couple of months. Payments are to be treated as per cashbook, so no need for them to show on the bank statements that would cause delay.

The NYRO treasurer sent me an amended version of the NYRO accounts about a week ago. By this time the auditor had signed off the accounts and we were in the process of filling in the forms for the Charity Commission. I have not been able to incorporate these changes into this year's accounts.

I wish to thank Keith Varney, our Independent Examiner, for his helpful advice and efficient handling of the auditing of the Society's accounts.

This concludes my report. (1/2/2010)

Ursula Burchette

Membership Secretary's report

By January 2010 all 52 geographical Branches had submitted initial membership lists and subscriptions, and several had also submitted updates and further subscriptions for new and rejoining members. I thank Branch Secretaries and others for their constructive approach in helping to ensure the accuracy of membership information and in responding to my queries. When I have transferred all the current membership records to a database, probably by April or May, I will be sending each Branch a copy of its entries for checking and as the starting point for the 2010-11 returns.

To date 1,259 people in the 52 geographical Branches have paid £22,559 in subscriptions for 2009-10: 1,108 individuals, 62 households covering 130 people, and 21 students. This compares with a total membership of 1,297 for the 51 Branches in 2008-09. The 2009-10 figures are provisional, but if confirmed will show a fall of 38, or 2.9%, equivalent to 0.75 of a member per Branch compared with 2008-09. In due course I hope to have data for membership turnover – i.e. how many members from 2008-09 did not rejoin for 2009-10, how many did rejoin, and how many are new. These data may help to indicate where best any recruitment drive should be focused.

I have had an initial discussion with Jeremy Burbidge of Peacock Press about the process for updating the *Recorder Magazine* mailing list. At present this involves both me and Peacock Press entering updates by hand, which is very time consuming for both of us, but there may be scope for a more automated system once the membership database is fully populated. This may make it possible for new members to start their subscription with the Winter issue in the year they join rather than the Spring issue of the following year. It should also reduce the scope for transcription errors and generally make the system respond more quickly to changes in membership information.

Mike Wilkinson

C&O Secretary's report

Members of the Branch at 1 February 2010:

	Britain	Rest of Europe	Worldwide	Total
Ordinary	65	13	3	81
Household	12	2	0	14
Student	2	0	0	2
Life	6	0	1	7
Totals	85	15	4	104

Total is 29 less than as at February 2009, but I am sure there are still a number of members who will still pay their subscriptions.

Affiliated Orchestras and Groups : 13

Affiliated Corporate Members: 3

NYRO members: 41

Sandra Foxall

Walter Bergmann Fund report

We had three applicants last October and assisted two to purchase new recorders. We gave £250 as Third Prize in the Moeck/SRP Solo Recorder Competition 2009. NYRO are to receive the great and contra basses we have for use on their courses. A donation of £1000 has been received as a result.

Andrew Collis

Moeck Competition report

The finals in November 2009 were a great success with an extremely high standard of performance from the three finalists. There was a good audience and enthusiastic response to the hard work of the performers. The adjudicators worked well together and had a difficult decision to separate the top two places. Pernille Petersen was chosen as the winner and will return in November 2010 to perform a recital at the Early Music Exhibition, Greenwich. Thanks to Dick Pyper and Ulli Burchette for their support. A list of possible adjudicators is being drawn up for the 2011 competition.

Andrew Collis

Training Co-ordinator's report

The article in the magazine stirred up some interest and there are 2 bookings for 2010 already. I have had a request from one of the tutors for an increase in the amount paid for the day in line

with her usual daily rate. Personally I think £150 plus travel and accommodation if needed is fine but I would welcome the view of the committee.

I had a request from Edinburgh that Marion Doherty do a conducting workshop on the day after she comes to conduct them. I made attempts to contact her to set it up but received no response. I now gather that Edinburgh are paying her themselves under a private arrangement.

I have been asked to run another theory course locally and will set one up later this year.

I will print more leaflets for the 2010 Festival where we hope there will be a number of non-SRP recorder players who may want to take advantage of the workshops.

Table of SRP workshops organised or planned to date

Date	Course	Tutor	Branch	Organiser
Feb 2003	Intm. Conduct.	MU	Edinburgh	A Short
Nov 2004	Intm. Conduct.	MU	Bristol	S. Davies
Sept 2005	Intm. Conduct.	MU	Winchester	R. Whitmarsh
Jan 2006	Intm. Conduct.	CT	Edinburgh	A Short
June 2006	Technique	HH	Bristol	S. Davies
March 2007	Technique	HH	Essex	S. Walker
Nov 2007	Theory	MU	Suffolk	M. Usher
Sept 2008	Technique	HH	Leicester	B. Craven
May 2009	Technique	ES	Lincoln	D. Knight
June 2009	Unbarred	ES	Cambridge	J. Sinclair
Sept 2009	Technique	HH	Wessex	M. Steele
June 2010	French Baroque	ES	Devon	P. Fitzpatrick
Nov 2010	Unbarred	ES	Kent	U. Burchette

Moira Usher

NYRO Sub-Committee report

The minutes of the subcommittee meeting on 29 January 2010 accompany this note (Annex 2).

The deficit for 2008-2009 was considerably less than previously feared, although still substantial. The reserve could withstand another similar deficit but not much beyond that.

The main adverse trend affecting NYRO in both its artistic and financial aspects is the level of recruitment, which declined in 2009 and shows no sign so far of improving in 2010. Other organisations are similarly affected. The National Association of Youth Orchestras has ceased its activities.

We continue to pursue cost savings, but what we most want to do is increase the number of players. We think that for the age group we aim at we need to improve our impact in electronic media. The present website is clean and efficient as an information resource but lacks the visual impact of many modern websites. It needs a re-design and also links with social networking sites such as Facebook.

We are in touch with a professional digital design company whose work is good and prices reasonable in comparison with others. The cost obviously depends on the facilities required: the first three options for a re-design had prices of £3985, £6985 and £9,985 (all plus VAT).

A more realistic option of a re-design with a content management system and on-line enrolment and sales would be £2595 + VAT. A sketch of a possible design is attached.

Would the SRP Committee be able to support a re-design?

Andrew Short, NYRO chair