



Society of Recorder Players - Nottinghamshire

Annual General Meeting: Saturday, 12th October, 2013.

Venue: Our Lady of Victories RC Church Hall, Southwell.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sarah Allen, Patsy Fletcher, Tessa Rolph, Margaret Small.

2. Minutes and matters arising from the 2012 AGM held on 13th October 2012

These were approved

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the 13th October 2012

These would be dealt with in the meeting

4. Committee reports

Sarah Allen, Acting Chair

Sarah was unable to attend the meeting and had sent notice of the following:

- Thanks to Terry Gill for the time spent organising music and conducting the monthly meetings
- Thanks to Bridget for organising refreshments and also for making sure that everything ran smoothly on the recent playing day
- Thanks to Tessa Rolph who had resigned from the committee after several years of service

Sarah also pointed out that we had some interesting activities during the year including the technique workshop with Eileen Silcocks, the pastoral visit from Adam Dopadlik and the recent playing day.

Sarah Allen, Acting Treasurer

Sarah was unable to attend the meeting and had sent notice of the following:

Membership of the national SRP had increased from £22 to £23

The cost of the venue for the coming year would increase

The committee had agreed the following:

- An increase in Branch subscription to £35.00
- The schools group subscription would be £30.00 with the additional £5.00 appropriated from the schools group account
- Visitors' fees would increase to £4.00

Sarah also reported that the 2013 Christmas raffle had raised £32.00 which had been donated to the Walter Bergman fund.

The summary of accounts which had been circulated to members by email had been approved by the committee and verified by an independent auditor.

Allyn Richardson, Acting Secretary

Venue

Trebeck Hall was not available for much of the coming year and the venue for 2013/14 would be the RC Church Hall. It had been reported at the committee meeting that this would be more expensive but it had been agreed that the benefits of a free car park and a fixed venue made the RC hall the best option. Allyn would contact members in the new year regarding preferred arrangements for 2014/15

Email list

If members became aware that they were not receiving emails which others were, they were asked to contact Allyn.

Gift Aid

The committee had agreed at their meeting of 25th April to suspend the gift aid claim pending further guidance. Advice from central SRP was that gift aid should be dealt with by individual branches and there was not a national agreement for SRP branches to claim gift aid on membership subscriptions where membership was considered a benefit when compared with visitors' fees. The guidelines from H.M. Revenue and Customs were open to interpretation by Branches and HMRC. Therefore the claim remains suspended.

Terry Gill, Musical Director

Terry's report is attached.

5. Election of officers and new committee members

Nick Wynne was voted in as Chair
Sarah Allen was voted in as Treasurer
Allyn Richardson was voted in as Secretary
Gwen Bragg was voted in as a committee member
No other nominations or applications had been received

Tessa Rolph had resigned

Allyn urged all members to consider joining the committee and pointed out that duties, though necessary, were not arduous and asked anyone who might be interested to contact him directly.

6. Plans for 2013/14

Pastoral Visit

Steve Marshall would be the pastoral visitor in May. It was agreed that AR would contact Steve about the possibility of arriving earlier and conducting a separate morning session which attendees would have to pay an additional charge for. It was suggested that this might be a bass technique workshop.

Technique workshop

A Tudor and Stuart Dance workshop may be arranged in Sept/Oct 2014 on a non branch meeting day

7. Schools Group

Patsy Fletcher was unable to attend the meeting. The attached report was read out at the meeting. It was noted that some assistance would be welcomed by Patsy with the administration for the group and anyone who was interested in helping was asked to contact Patsy directly.

8. Any other business

Publicity cards

Lorna Coleman agreed to produce some publicity cards for members to pass to anyone who expressed an interest in joining or visiting the branch

Refreshments

It was noted that Bridget would not be able to provide refreshments or open up the hall in November and December. Terry agreed to open the hall. Anyone who could assist with refreshments was asked to contact Bridget directly. Mary and Sheena have offered to deal with this.

8. Next meeting

Saturday 11th October 2014.

Musical Director's Report October 2013

I am always amazed at how rapidly this comes around and always somewhat uncertain as to what to say. During the year we have played a wide range of music from the very ancient to the recently composed. As nobody has voiced any complaints, I assume that there is a general level of approval as to the choice of music presented. This is not the case with every branch if the report from the SRO is anything to go on. We have started to keep a record of the music played at each meeting – mainly for my benefit so I do not have to strain to remember what we did last time – but with the added bonus that we can advise visiting conductors so they will not choose to play music we have rehearsed recently.

I have always avoided telling the branch what we will be playing next time, partly because

- a) I don't know and have not got around to deciding yet and
- b) I worry that people will look at the list and decide to give it a miss on whatever grounds

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However, the multi-part playing day was pre-advertised and was well supported (though I was a little worried that it replaced a monthly meeting) and we had some visitors from other branches.

Today, as you know, I have been experimenting with the idea of a themed program. If it meets with general approval I will try it again – I am open to suggestions. Perhaps someone would like to suggest a choice of music for me to conduct for a whole session? Next meeting I intend to devote the first part of the program to music composed by Nick Wynne including one of his latest compositions. I hope that will not put anyone off! Any further ideas are welcome.

I am pleased with the change of venue, although there are some problems with lighting, but acoustically it seems to be excellent.

I am aware that the position of Director of Music is the only committee place which is not voted on. I wonder sometimes if a change would be good for the branch and would welcome any ideas or comments on that. However, I will continue until such time as I feel a change would be desirable – at least until after Christmas!

Terry Gill

Schools Ensemble October 2013

The 12 members of the group have had a busy year. Rehearsals have been at Mildred Penfold's and we thank Mildred for her hospitality.

During the last academic year we have performed at 16 schools, 6 care homes and My Sight in Nottingham.

The increase in care homes has been the result of school cancellations and special requests. We aim to play at 20 schools each year.

Alan Smith has now arranged an Animals programme to add to the Around the World, Tudors, Infants, Care Homes and Christmas selections we have available. We appreciate Alan's hard work and enjoy having different pieces to play. Alan has also prepared powerpoint presentations for each of the programmes.

The children are very receptive to the concert and, thanks to Richard Tanner are able to experience the sound and sight of the contra bass and great bass.

Concerts last about 40 minutes and Patsy Fletcher organises the venues. Schools are given a questionnaire which most return and some give a donation.

Patsy would like someone else to take on the organising of the schools and would help anyone who takes over.

If any members of the Society have contacts in schools it would be good if they could use that to offer a concert - a personal touch is very useful.

Thanks to all the members of the Schools Group for their commitment.

Patsy Fletcher