

The next meeting will be
on Saturday, the 29th
March from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
(Committee meeting at
2.15 p.m.) at Conway Hall,
Red Lion Square, Holborn,
W.C.1.

LONDON MUSICAL COMPETITION FESTIVAL

Members are reminded that the concertina
classes for the above festival are on
April 16th at Whitefield Memorial Hall,
Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1.

It is still not too late to send your
entry to Kenneth S. Ranger, 52, Mayfair
Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey.

This will be Mr. Ranger's last year as
Hon. Organising Secretary, so it would
be a nice gesture if as many members
as possible would enter for the competition,

Classes are as follows:-

ENGLISH CONCERTINAS
OWN CHOICE

<u>CLASS</u>		<u>ENTRY FEE</u>
92	Elementary	7s. 6d.
93	Intermediate	7s. 6d.
94	Advanced	7s. 6d.
95	Duet - Elementary	7s. 6d.
96	Duet - Advanced	7s. 6d.
97	Two Concertinas	7s. 6d.
98	Groups - Prize Roden Challenge Cup	10s. 0d.

REPORT OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Fourteen members attended this meeting and it turned out to be a very easy and friendly meeting with practically everyone taking part.

FRANK BUTLER jumped in at the deep end and played three consecutive solos. They were his suggestions for the advanced level test piece for the I.C.A. Festival.

1. Capriccio - J. Haydn
2. Menuetto - B. Milandre
(Both from Alte Weisen Book II published by Schott, from which, test pieces were chosen for the 1965 and 1967 Festivals)
3. Study for English Concertina in related Keys. (This was written for the I.C.A. and if chosen will be issued by the Festival Committee).

It is to be hoped that Frank will play these three pieces at the March meeting so that a decision can be made.

MR. W.T.COURT volunteered to follow Frank, which takes some courage and he played Memories of Tauber. followed by Humoresque - Dvorak.

A quartette of players was then organised, although, in actual fact they played a trio.

VENA McDOUGALL, MR. F. WATTS, MR. T. MEEKHAH and MR. F. HUTCHER.JON played A Dance Measure - Adam Carse. Extremely well played.

The test piece for larger groups for the I.C.A. Festival was then tried out by a group of players.

Gavotte from Mignon, No. 24 in HSS Series obtainable from Boosey and Hawkes, arranged for orchestra by Charles Woodhouse.

TOMMY WILLIAMS then played Tout pas - Alexander Prince and followed this with his own composition which was unnamed. Very delightful to listen to.

MR. F. HUTCHERSON then press-ganged OLIVE LINDSELL and FRED WATTS into playing a trio with him. Romance from Sonatina in G - Beethoven

Two items of concerted playing followed.

1. Minuet from Samson - G.F.Handel arranged by Reginald Hunt.

2. Minuet and Trio - Charles Woodhouse.

These items, as were all the concerted items, were conducted by FRANK BUTLER. All the Players were very responsive to his direction.

VENA McDOUGALL volunteered to play a solo, a piece that she had just bought and had not had time to try it out. With Frank accompanying her on the piano, and Mac protesting that the piano needed tuning she bravely tackled Songs My Mother Taught Me - Anton Dvorak. Although Vena expressed disappointment with the piece and said that it was not what she was looking for, the audience demanded an encore, and got it!

We then enjoyed a solo by F. WATTS who played Alter Refrain - Fritz Kreisler on a Tenor Treble. This instrument has a particularly pleasant tone. Mr. Watts said that some years ago, when he decided to buy a concertina, he went into Wheatstones and asked for an instrument that had some low keys and some high keys and he was sold a Tenor Treble. He has never regretted his purchase. Mr. Watts is one of our out-of-town members who looks upon the last Saturday in each month as his "day's outing". Which is a good thing for the I.C.A. as Mr. Watts is also a Committee Member.

MR. W. COURT played The Lost Chord - Sullivan and demonstrated his ability to play without music. He certainly didn't lose any chords.

The one and only duet of the evening was played by F.HUTCHERSON and TOM MEEKHAM. Minuet from Berenice - Handel. This is a great favourite of Mr. Crook who unfortunately wasn't there to hear it.

TOMMY WILLIAMS held us enraptured with a Pot-pourri which consisted of:-
Vienna City of Dreams, I'll See_ You Again,
Where is Your Heart from Moulin-Rouge,
Who's Sorry Now, Roamin' in the Gloamin',
Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Oh, Oh, Antonio.

He then played Woodland Flowers - Barn Dance. It is quite fascinating to watch Tommy's fingers, they seem to fly over the keys like lightning.

The last solo's of the evcnins came from F. HUTCHERSON. MR. BUTLER accompanied on the piano.

1. Le Tambourin - J. Ph. Rameau
2. Rondeau - G.B. Buononcini

The evening was brought to a close with the concerted playing of Menuetto from the 5th Symphony - Schubert.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

FOR SALE. MR. ROWCLIFFE of 5, Grosvenor Cottages, Margate Hill Acol, Nr.Birchington, Kent has a 56 Crabb Duet in Leather Case as new, Plated Metal Sides, 8 Bellows, £20. o.n.o.

He .also has a 56, Wheatstone Duet, Ebony sides, in brown Leather Case, as new, Silver keys, 8 bellows £20. o.n.o.

WANTED. PETER HONRI, 28 Josephine Avenue, London S.E.2. is looking for a Wheatstone, 12 note, English Miniature; a 72 key Duet Concertina, which should be post-war with the latest Duet-fingering, but could be metal or wooden ends. Mr. Honri is also interested in similar size Duets.

WANTED. MR. JULIAN PILLING of 126, Railway Street, Nelson, Lancs, is trying to trace the whereabouts of the relatives of MR. PRESTON of Oldham.

He thinks that some of his concertinas may still be for sale and he says a friend of his would be interested in them.

MUSIC SUPPLEMENT

Mrs. D. Hunt has written requesting that the Committee should recommence the production and enclosure of a music supplement with the Newsletter.

The Committee are quite willing to do this, but point out that it will cost quite a few pounds to print and distribute a supplement. Before they take money out of the I.C.A. funds they would like to know how many members would welcome the re-introduction of the supplement. If enough requests are received, the Committee will take action.

In the meantime, may we remind members that there is an I.C.A. Music Library which is looked after by Mr. F.Hutcherson.

I.C.A. DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

The Directory was last produced in 1966 and the Committee feel that it is time we had a new one. It will take some months to prepare, and we ask Members to let us know change of address, telephone number or any additional information you feel should be added. For example, it would be interesting to know:-

- a) Type of concertina played.
- b) Any other instruments played, and what they are.

Please write in with any information you feel would be relevant.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MISS HELEN E. ROSS is now at 54, Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

MR. JAMES FLOYD of Bristol writes that he will be 81 in April and still keeps the 'Tina' active. He remembers happy meetings at Battersea and recalls the days of Desmond Hart and the social at the Mayfair Hotel.

MR. H. HATTON of Haydock, Lancs, writes that he has been in hospital for ten weeks. We all hope that he has now fully recovered.

We are sorry that MR. FRED READ of West Bronwich is not enjoying good health and has been 'under the weather' for the past few months. We hope the next letter he writes will contain brighter news.

We are glad to hear that MR. W. DUNCAN of Bristol is feeling well. Mr. Duncan was at the last Hitchin gathering and proved to be a very outspoken and humourous person. He writes now that he thinks out-of-London members should pay less subs, than those in town.

DAVID HAXTON of Glasgow writes that he is a lifelong player of the Concertina in Gospel Work and hopes that the Concertina will yet be restored to popularity.

A very long letter from WILFRED PEARCE on behalf of the Northern Group, which unfortunately will not be able to make an appearance at the I.C.A. Festival this year. The Burnley members will be engaged at their own Festival on the same date.

We hope that they will have an enjoyable time but are sorry that we shall not be seeing them.

Mr. Pierce also writes that his wife has been ill for some months and this prevented him from attending the Hitchin Weekend Course, but he thinks that she is now beginning to be a little better.

MRS. FIRTH who is an essential member of the Northern Group is also ill and this has prevented the group from practising as they meet at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Firth. We all hope you get better soon Mrs. Firth.

WILLIAM J. LEWIS of Northallerton, Yorks, has just celebrated 50 years service to the Brass Band movement and feels very strongly about the astronomical figure of 43½ per cent purchase tax which is levied on instruments and equipment in use by Brass and Military Bands.

Mr. Lewis would appreciate help from anyone who feels as he does, and suggests that they contact their M.P. and ask him to protest at this iniquitous tax which is proving to be such an obstacle to so many 'men of music'.

CONDOLENCES TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS

Members of the I.C.A. who met Mrs. Eva Tyson at meetings and at the Course at Hitchin will wish to extend their sympathy to her on the death of her husband in the latter part of February, and hope that she finds courage to face a future so suddenly blank.

Continued overleaf...

We heard with sorrow from our member-
artiste Helen Bland, that her husband died
last Autumn, and in consequence she had been
seriously ill. Their partnership had
commenced in childhood, but not until recent
years had they combined in a stage show, which
from their great love of children, had become
a special act for the very young.

Helen is now performing again, her single
act being already well booked, but with some
summer vacancies. The sympathy and good
wishes of the I.C.A. are with her.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

CONCERTINA BANDS

Would members please let me have any
information on any bands that they know
about, including the address of the Secretary,
or Leader.

WALTER LINTON (The Concertina Expert). Does
anyone know anything about him? His name was
mentioned in 'The World's Fair' amongst a list
of old time entertainers. It would be
interesting to learn something about this
speciality act.

This Newsletter is edited and produced for the
I.C.A. by Mrs. Ruth Ware, 65 Byron Road, Wealdstone,
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