

THE INTERNATIONAL CONCERTINA ASSOCIATION

No. 280

NEWSLETTER

Oct.

1980

President: Rev. Kenneth Loveless, V.R.D., F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot.,
Hon. R.N.R.

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Assistant Secretary: S.F. Green, 141 Howarth Road, London S.E.1 O.U.W.

Notices

The next meeting will be on Saturday 25th October, at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London, from 3.00pm to 5.00pm. There will be a committee meeting at 2.00pm as usual. For those of you who, I hope, are making your first visit to a meeting, the nearest Underground station is Holborn.

Don't forget to return nomination forms to the Assistant Secretary as soon as possible, so that we have time to organise a postal ballot, if necessary. In case you have forgotten, the forms were sent out with the last Newsletter.

News

First of all, I have had a letter from Arthur Clements of Northampton telling me of the death of his wife. I understand from his letter that it was something of a merciful release, after years of suffering. Some of you may remember her visiting some Festivals. But every cloud has a silver lining, and Arthur is interested in people calling on him, but please telephone first, the number is Northampton 44944, and he is also interested to hear of any competitions and festivals, and offers his services to arrange concertina music.

My latest information on our Secretary, Jim Harvey, is that he hopes to be back with us soon.

Don't forget the Christmass Social, which is confirmed for 6th December at Montem School, Hornsey Road, London N.7. I hope to give you the time in the next Newsletter. However, what I can give you now is a cry for volunteers to help with the catering. In case you have forgotten, we lost our tower of strength on the catering side, Mrs. Crabb, earlier this year, and her place will be a hard one to fill, so get cooking, baking, etc., and let your Assistant Secretary know of your efforts.

Another date for your diary is the Annual General Meeting, which will be on January 31st at the Conway Hall. More details later.

The committee would like to hear from anyone who knows the whereabouts of the concertinas and music of the late Bill Link. I seem to remember one of our regular attendees visited him, so if that gentleman is coming to the next meeting, be prepared to face the inquisition!

Further sad news is that of the death of the Duet player, Herbert Green. Your committee has contacted his son, Peter, to express its condolences. Peter will be writing a brief account of his father's life, for an early issue of the Newsletter, and is willing to answer any questions. His address is 13 Westhill Road, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Speaking of addresses, we have another change for Denys Wickens. He is now at 22A Third Avenue, Walthamstow, London E17 9QJ.

Harking back to the June Newsletter, F.J. Collings of Little Windsor, Rainham Close, Park Bottom, Redruth, Cornwall, was offering a 20-key Anglo in exchange for a McCann Duet. Apparently, I forgot to mention it had 90 steel reeds. So, Mr. Collings has not had a reply yet, and his instrument is still available. For further details, see the June issue of the Newsletter. What do you mean, you threw it out!

That's more like it! Now I AM editing a Newsletter! Keep it up.

The September Meeting

This took place on Saturday 27th September at the Conway Hall. Once again, I was unable to attend, due to a previous commitment 50 miles away, so the following account was written by our Assistant Secretary, Mr. Stephen Green.

Proceedings started with two folk tunes, the Mucking o' Geordies Byre and the Old Rossin Beau, from Mr. Blakeman.

Mr. Jevons next with the Cradle Song by Czerny (a pupil of Beethoven), Sarabande, and two tunes from Tchaikovsky, Dance of the Cygnets and Swan Lake.

Concerted music, The Curtsy and Minuet from Harold Perry, and another minuet, A Stately Measure, by Charles Woodhouse.

Two jovial characters that go by the names of Billy Hartford and George Crayford played duet two pieces in remembrance of Herbert Green, and finished with a tune called September Song.

Mr. Hailes gave us two songs, Juanita (I think I've got that right) and Keep Right on to The End of The Road.

Now for something completely different from Mrs. Bishop - Tom Cat Blues by Jelly Roll Morton.

Vena played Gavotte by Gossec and one of the more popular folk dance tunes English Country Gardens.

This was followed by Steve Green who played Laudrum Bunches, a Headington Quarry dance tune on a Jeffries Anglo.

At this point we were very honoured to have Harry Crabb playing us an old song which he first played in a tavern competition back in 1931, where he was pipped into third place by a young boy called Max Bygraves! Who'd have thought it. It was here that Harry met the young lady that was later to be his wife.

The only bandoneon player there, Mr. Robson, gave us Dreams of Youth. Charlie Jeffries played L.Rallercario, Punch and Judy and Hobotuen which in my opinion was one of the best performances of the afternoon.

This was followed by Mr. Herbert Lome, who said he hadn't played for ages but nevertheless managed Song of Sleep by Henry Stanley without any troubles.

Mr. Hutcherson chose a Bohemian waltz, and then with Vena, played a tune from Songs My Mother Taught Me.

Lastly, concerted music - a Polka from Schwanda the Bagpiper, and a Gavotte from Mignon.

Sixteen turned up for the meeting, and we can only hope that this attendance is kept up.

The meeting ended at five.

Late News

Welcome to new member:

Mr. P. Morrison, 2 Molden House, Creekside, Deptford.

And now, some not so late news which follows up a news item in the last Newsletter:

Following his article in the East London Record, Frank Butler has been asked to give a lecture on concertinas at Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, in the early spring of 1981. Obviously, he will take a concertina with him, but will use a tape recorder to demonstrate the versatility of the instruments. All examples will be very brief, as it is pointed out that the occasion will be a lecture, not a music hall performance.

I think that rounds things off nicely. I hope to produce a larger Newsletter next month, to last you through the Christmass holiday.

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