

INTERNATIONAL CONCERTINA ASSOCIATION

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Table with 2 columns: Location (U.K., Ireland, Europe; U.S.A., Canada, S. America, S. Africa; Australia) and Rate (£5.00; £6.00; £7.00)

Subscriptions are due on the first of January. New members at I/12th of the above rates per month to the end of the year. The Treasurer would be grateful if payments were made in sterling.

Editorial Chuntering

Here we are again. I hope you enjoyed the summer, the weather and the festivals that you may have attended. No such luck here at the editorial residence. What little time I had off was spent doing -jobs around the house while essential maintenance was carried out on the roof. However one thing I managed to do was get the new word-processing programme that I have been talking about for some time, and I am now some way into its intricacies. You can see the results in front of you. I must ask you, though, to forgive any faults you may spot, as I am by no means an expert in the system, and am still feeling my way. The result may be that things do not come out precisely how I want them, and in order to correct them, I will have to delve into a 2-inch thick set of manuals.

This time around, I am under more time pressure than usual, as I want to make sure that you get this Newsletter in time for this year's second Annual General Meeting - an event which you should not miss if you can help it, because we will be debating fundamental change in the I.C.A. See below.

It now remains for me to set the deadline for the next issue, which is:

October 26th 1991

Membership News

Once again it is my sad duty to record the passing of one of the old guard of the membership. Harry Minting passed away on August 18th 1991 after a long illness. The funeral was at Beckenham Crematorium on 30th August. We all send our condolences to Harry's family. If you wish to mark his passing in a more productive form, then a donation to The Chest, Heart and Lung Association, Whitecross Street, London EC1 would be gratefully received. Thank you to Nora Minting for letting me know.

There is only one new member on the books so far:
Philippe Sosman 7 Rue des Plantaporetts, 1205 Geneve, Switzerland.

And an update on the new arrival in the Bibby household. If any of you did not know, and were wondering, the baby has been named Jessica.

Events

Annual General Meeting - I have already mentioned the AGM. above. Don't forget that there will be a new Constitution before the meeting, not to mention debate on other large projects which will affect the future of the I.C.A. The meeting is confirmed at the Working Mens College, Crowndale Road, London NW1 on Saturday 12th October, 1991 at 2.30pm.

Festival - To be held on Saturday 2nd November at Victoria Methodist Church, Westmoreland Terrace, London SW1. The test pieces are as follows:-

Elementary English	Gallopade, anon from Fesca's Favorite Airs
Intermediate English	"All's Well" by Braham
Advanced English	Bells across the Meadows by Ketelby
Elementary Duet	Good Luck Waltz by Prince
Intermediate/Advanced Duet	Spring Song by Mendelssohn

Don't forget that an "own choice" piece is also required.

I am informed by Steve Goodyear, who is the person to contact about entries, that there has not been much response as yet. I therefore think that including the following letter from Frank Butler at this point is appropriate:

"In the matter of the low entry for the I.C.A. Concertina Festival, I must again advance my views. There are good educational grounds for the insistence of the Committee on combining "Own Choice" and "Test Piece" in the same class, but if they were separated the number of entries would immediately be doubled for those classes. It should more than double, for competitors will be tempted to renew their interest.

"I know from my considerable correspondence that competitors have deserted the Festival because of the rule combining entries."

Volunteers to help with the Festival should contact Steve. The winners at the previous Festival should also make arrangements to return the trophies.

Don't forget that the future of the Festival will be discussed at the AGM.

Workshop - On Saturday 16th November, 1991, Dameon Barber will be running a workshop between 11.00am and 12.30pm at 47 Freshfield Road, Brighton. Everyone is welcome, and Charlotte Oliver hopes it will be the first meeting of a South-East concertina get-together of some sort. There is a charge of 2.00 per head for Dameon. Coffee and tea will be provided. Details from Charlotte on Brighton 603633.

You can hear Dameon the previous evening at the Springfield Hotel, Brighton.

For Sale/Wanted

For sale: Lachenal English, 48 key treble, wooden ends, steel reeds, concert pitch. Beautiful original condition. Case. Plays well. 550,

Lachenal Anglo, 32 key C/G, metal ends, steel reeds, concert pitch. 425.

Both available from Steve Simpson, Tel.: 031-555 2477.

Competition Result

I know you have been biting your nails, waiting to find out the destination of the tube of Smarties offered for a suitable "tenth commandment" in the February Newsletter, No. 375. It has been a difficult decision for Charlotte and myself to make, taking a lot of thought and time, threatened legal action and plain forgetfulness. Anyway, enough of me spinning things out. The winner is; Alan Tong. If he will contact Charlotte, she will willingly send him a tube of Smarties.

And for those of you who do not remember, Alan's commandment was; "Thou shalt love thy concertina and covet not thy neighbour's" instrument, but cast out all feelings that his soundeth better, cherishing thine own through despair and despondency, till thou art both drawn up into heavenly union," Better practise your TV manner, Alan.

Questionnaire results

These results will be another of the items to be discussed at the AGM., and we will decide what action to take in consequence.

1. Are you a member of the I.C.A.? Yes: 101 No; 99
2. What sort of concertina do you play? English; 121 Anglo: 66 Duet: 27
Other: 2
3. How did you first become interested in playing the concertina?
Family: 35 Records: 13 Folk scene; 125 I.C.A.: 4 Other: 40
4. Can you read music? Yes; 172 No: 25
5. Do you learn music by ear? Yes: 129 No: 59
6. Have you had music lessons on any instrument?
Lessons - Yes; 139 No; 59
On concertina; 29 Other instrument: 125
7. How long have you been playing concertina?
Under 1 year: 13 Under 5 years: 75 Under 10 years: 82
More than 10 years; 43
8. Do you play Professionally/semi-professionally?: 37
In public and/or for pleasure?: 96
At home or in front of friends only?: 68
9. On concertina, what type of music is your main area of interest?
This information has not been fully analysed yet.
10. How many concertinas do you own? 0: 7 1: 71 2: 48
3 or more: 68
11. Which of the following facilities would you use if the I.C.A. offered them?
Suitable music: 118 Full listings of concertina-related events: 137
Directory of makers, repairers & dealers: 144
Contacts with other concertina players in your area: 108
12. Are you interested in participating in
Regular organised playing meetings: 110
Classes or workshops: 144
Local concertina bands: 71
Competitions: 23

13. Future development?

Local groups: 33 Develop the library: 26
Develop the Newsletter: 45 Regional events: 15

Correspondence

Not all that much has been coming in during the break. I am pleased to record the appearance of "Concertina and Squeezebox" from Joel Cowan.

Frank Butler writes:

"I was disturbed to read in the Balance Sheet the cost of a memorial wreath for Doreen Hunt. Surely it would have been more appropriate to make a donation to the Cancer Research Fund. There are precedents in I.C.A. administration for such a proceeding."

I'm sure the committee will bear this in mind for future similar occasions.

Diary

OCTOBER 12th Annual General Meeting of the I.C.A. 2.30pm Working Mens College, Crowndale Road, London NW1.

NOVEMBER 3rd: W.C.C.P. meeting at Ruishton. 12.00-6.00

NOVEMBER 16th; Concertina Workshop at 47 Freshfield Road, Brighton, 11.00am-12.30pm. Contact Charlotte Oliver on Brighton 603633 or at above address. Cost 2.00 per head.

North East Concertina Players meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month at Gosforth Park Racecourse, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Details from Ian Munro, 17Almond Place, Kilmarnock. Tel.: (0563) 27573.

Scottish Concertina Group meets on 3rd Sunday of the month. Details from Ian Munro, above.

West Country Concertina Players can be contacted through Pauline Wallace. 2 Coles Cottages, Petton Cross, Shillingford, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 9BS. Tel.: (03986) 414.

Members are reminded that their names and addresses are kept on computer. In order to comply with the Data Protection Act, if any member objects to his details being kept thus, please would he or she contact the Treasurer. The details can then be removed from the computer. These details may be passed on to other members, but will not be released for any commercial purpose.

Unless stated otherwise, opinions given are those of an individual, and not of the International Concertina Association.

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