

CONCERTINA WORLD

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONCERTINA ASSOCIATION

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Music making doesn't just
belong to people with talent;
by biological heritage it
belongs to everyone."

Frank Wilson

DEAR ALL,

I had such a good time at 'Kilve' that I'm full of enthusiasm for playing the concertina at the moment. I only hope it'll last a good few months yet.

It was so exciting to meet new players making their first squeaky struggles and to see more than a few players who'd been struggling away for years and yet were still moving on and learning new tricks.

Happy

playing!

CHARLOTTE.



Alistair Hunt

The W.C.C.P.'s 10th Birthday Concertina Weekend

FOR THE FIRST TIME at Kilve it looked as if the weather might be more promising than the previous 2 years. The house and grounds looked really lovely and the surrounding hills and beaches so typical of the beauty of the West Country.

On our arrival on the Friday afternoon at 3.30 pm, we were greeted by some of the early arrivals; from then on it was a steady stream of happy faces arriving, many of them we have seen before and who we look forward to seeing each year, even though we only meet once a year it's like meeting old friends. Then there are the new faces - who come with some trepidation, but this is soon dispelled after a very short time because they are quickly included and welcomed into this happy and generous crowd of people.

This year we had 72 residential students and an additional 14 day visitors. Our tutors this year were **Douglas Rogers** on the English, **Keith Kendrick** (Anglo and English), **Reuben Shaw** (McCann Duet and **Glad Thorp** (beginners).

Extra tutors were amongst our own membership and included **Claire Greenhow**, **Brian Hayden**, **Rollo Woods**, **Peter Trimming**, **Ian Munro** and myself. **Colin** and **Rosalie Dipper** ran the maintenance workshops which were packed on each session; they give their knowledge and time so generously.

Douglas ran the advanced band which played an intense and emotional piece of music by Ravel, this was extremely well held together, from past experience I found this a very difficult piece of music to play. He also tried out some light hearted pieces including some German dance tunes. This year was the first time that we have had any help with the cost of putting this event on, the I.C.A. very generously gave some sponsorship money which enabled us to pay for Keith Kendrick to run the Anglo workshops, this he did in a relaxed and easy manner. So many have passed their thanks for this excellent set of workshops. Keith is a multi-talented man who can teach song accompaniment on both Anglo and English, do basics with the beginners on



Douglas Rogers gives it some welly!

Anglo and lots more. What a joy it was to have Reuben Shaw running the McCann duet workshops, his knowledge of the instrument and the music for the Duet is vast, his memories of the great players of the past was interesting and his instruction excellent. Our dear friend and staunch supporter of the W.C.C.P. ran the beginner English workshops again this year. It is quite amazing when you look round a gathering such as this to think that this remarkable lady had started possibly 80% of those present on the road to playing the concertina.

Who am I talking about? - It could only be Glad Thorp, I am so pleased that she will be calling a dance on her 100th birthday. We owe much to Glad, her generosity is unsurpassed. It is unbelievable that any one person can give so much. Glad travels all the way from Kent down to the West Country for most of our local meetings to teach even more beginners. It was especially good to welcome players from America and France and hope we may see them again next year.

Rollo Woods ran the 'Music for Dancing' and led the band for the ceilidh which was jolly good.

The **Butleigh Court Concertina Band** were invited to play in the formal concert on the Saturday evening alongside Douglas Rogers, Keith Kendrick and Reuben Shaw. We had several spots

during the ceilidh which included **Greg Powlesland** who played jazz on a Jeffries Duet and **Paul McCann** who played some Swedish and a Shetland tune. Tuneswaps were in full swing in the bar for those who don't like dancing, and these sessions were run by Peter Trimming and Ian Munro.

Claire's intermediate band excelled themselves by playing a piece originally played by the advanced band. Well done!

The prize for perseverance goes to **Charlotte**, who broke down en route, didn't arrive until 3 a.m., then slept in her car because she didn't want to disturb anybody. *(I think Pauline made that bitt up, surely no one's quite that crazy? -Ed)*

Grateful thanks to **Ray Hancock** and his staff who worked extremely hard and made us so welcome, also thanks to everyone who made this an enjoyable weekend, especially the W.C.C.P. committee members who did much of the running about and shifting of furniture.

PAULINE

P. S. We will be at Chippenham this year, venue T.B.A. - Also at Sidmouth.

We are in need of extra help of various kinds; if anyone can offer practical assistance with the workshops or who have any tutor type instruments available, please contact me (0823-673021).

HENRY STANLEY was without a doubt a master in arranging for the duet, he himself played a 72 key McCann.

He made many arrangements for the English; quite a few English players I have met over the years have said they found his arrangements too difficult, but this all comes back to the question of constant practice.

I may be misunderstood when I say that I have found most of the Duet players I have met are either 'ear players' or attempt to play from piano copies.

The beauty of the Duet lies in the left hand with those marvellous extended chords and lovely hanging harmonies whilst the the melody is dealt with by the right hand and Stanley had this off to a fine art.

Just after the war, having begun playing the English, my father and uncle (both English players) advised me to take up the McCann Duet.

They took me to nearby Nottingham to meet William Sutherland, the brother of Alexander Prince (Prince being his stage name). After hearing him play "Colonel Bogey" etc., I was convinced this was the instrument for me.

Having obtained a Duet, W. Sutherland gave me three lessons on learning the keyboard, then I was on my own trying to play from piano copies.

Prior to the formation of the I.C.A, I corresponded regularly with a Mr Travers of Bridgewater who with others managed to get an article printed on the concertina printed monthly in the "Accordion Review".

It was from this that I learned of Henry Stanley of Birmingham and his Duet arrangements, I well remember his first piece - "Somewhere A Voice is Calling" (price 2/6d.)

Having had a number of solos written for me, he suggested that I visit him for lessons, this I did - this entailed two bus changes to Derby, a bus to his home Altogether the round trip took from 8 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Henry Stanley was without doubt the finest arranger of any composition for the duet - he knew just what to leave out in the bass clef and how to make use of extended chords etc, thus avoiding the overpowering of the melody.

He arranged for concertina bands, groups, etc - treble and baritone, his writing was in the most beautiful hand, a pleasure to read.

My late friend Wilfred Pearce and I would visit him regularly, upon Stanley's death aged ninety plus. Wilfred attended his funeral (I was too ill to attend) and his sister passed on to Wilfred all the existing arrangements of Stanleys. These were treasured by Wilfred who died in 1982, they were then passed on to myself. There are just over 680 arrangements from marches, ballads, entracte's, overtures etc by Rossini, Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Verdi and many others.

Just one example - his arrangement of "Moonlight Serenade" by Glenn Miller is really superb and if heard by non-believers of the concertina would greatly alter their image of our much maligned instrument.



Reuben Shaw at "Witney 92".

FOR SALE

*** BASS FOR SALE! ***

Early Wheatstone, brass reeded, from low C to high G.

Eight sided, six fold bellows (new, by Colin Dipper). £550.

010 32 259 464622 (France).

● *It was good to see hordes of concertinas for sale at 'Kilve', I'd never seen so many!*

It looked as if they were all sold, but if anyone still has concertinas for sale, do let me know and I'll tell everyone.

The service is still free to members, however it helps the funds if you can shell out £5 for an advertisement.

COMPETITION TIME

SACKFULS OF ENTRIES are still pouring in for our last competition, but if you really can't think of any good reason why a concertina player should be changing a lightbulb, don't despair!

See the 'Review Time' section for news of our latest easy to enter competition.

REVIEW TIME

THE CLASSICAL COLLECTION

(magazine and either tape or CD.)
£2.99 fortnightly.

Available from newsagents,
back issues from 0424 755755.

For overseas information write to me
and I'll put you in touch with your
nearest distributor where possible.

A SLIGHTLY UNUSUAL subject this
time, because this publication is
available at most big newsagents,
and by subscription.

I'm drawing your attention to it
because I think at £2.99 a throw, it's
brilliant value (the C.D.s have been
digitally recorded and digitally
mastered). Each issue deals with
one particular composer's work and
takes you through the recorded
music track by track, giving you
pointers as to what you could listen
out for. There's even a piece of
music included each time with
helpful teaching points.

Speaking as a folkie who enjoys a
bit of classical music every now and
then, this mag has certainly helped
fill a few gaps in my knowledge.

I only caught up with the
publication at Christmas, and was
so impressed that I wrote to Orbis
publishing asking if they'd be
prepared to donate some prizes to
'Concertina World'. They kindly
sent eight copies of the cassette
version and therefore all you have to
do is send in your name and address
on a postcard to the editor. The first
eight subscribers whose names get
pulled out of the concertina case on
1 st July 1993 are the winners.

*(I was going to set my favourite
music trivia question - Where did
Debussy compose 'La Mer'? But
decided against it. If you do want to
add the answer to your postcard I'll
throw in an extra prize of a
concertina-playing frog, how's that for
generosity?)*

MORE FREE FUN FOR EVERYONE!

WE'VE DECIDED to celebrate
the I.C.A. fortieth birthday in
style with a free playing day for
members.

The time table isn't finalised yet,
but so far, I can tell you that there
will be a day of workshops and a
concert at the Sherwood Com-
munity Centre in Nottingham.

The main guest will be Tim
Laycock. In the evening Tim will
be the guest at the local folk club,
which again will be free to I.C.A.
members.

All you have to do is write in
(by September 1st please) to
Peter Trimming, 20 Geary Place,
Peterhead, AB42 6RG, enclosing
an S.A.E. for your free (non
transferable) ticket.

If your non I.C.A. mates wish
to join us, they're very welcome.
Tickets for them will be available
on the door only at the bargain
price of £6 for both events.

COMMITTEE BITS

○ WE'D LIKE to mark the fortieth
birthday of the I.C.A. in style, so if
you are a founder member, please
get in touch with me and say so.

It will be to your advantage I
promise!

GOSSIP

POOR Pat Robson was given a
sad farewell in the pages of the
Midland Group newsletter.

I was, therefore most suprised to
see him as sprightly as ever at the
'Kilve' concertina weekend.

He even won a gallon of
'scrumpy' in the raffle.

If he can survive the imbibing of
that fiendish brew, I'm sure he can
survive being 'killed off by the
Midland group!



SUBSCRIPTION TIME

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now overdue
folks. I know it's gone up yet again,
but we're digging into surplus funds
this year so that we can really get
the archive and the library back on
its feet.

We want to promote the concertina
and look after concertina players'
best interests - and the most
important way we can do that is to
have as many members as possible.

You've got a committee full of ideas
and enthusiasm this year, so please
send your cheques in with a merry
smile!

Just to remind you, it's:

- £8 for U.K. membership,
- £9 for Europe,
- £10 for the rest of the world.

Please send your subscriptions in to
John Wild (address on front cover)
as soon as possible.

Thank you.

For Sale

English Wheatstone "Mayfair"
concertina - 1950's. 30 key,
v.g.c. £250 o.n.o.

Gwilym Davies 'Sweets Of
May" ,39 Buckles Close,
Charlton Kings, Cheltenham,
Glos. GL53 8QT

(No phone number included)
Gwilym also mentions that a
Wheatstone Concertina Trio
has been formed, 'Our main
target will be local socials ,
after dinner entertainment,
etc. Any one interested in
contacting / joining should
ring Steve Rowley on 0453-
763181 The concertina trio
aim to be a local point of
contact for English players in
the area.

For Sale

Wheatstone English system.
'Jubilee ' model (circa 1876) 48
metal (nickel silver) keys+
six fold bellows (leather)
Rosewood ends with inlay
decorative brass scrolls.Price
£485.00 o.n.o.

Interested parties can contact
me at 25, Birkin Close,
Tiptree, Essex.C05 0PB
0621-817497 Frank Horn.

For Sale

Lachenal Edeophone
7 fold bellows, 55 keys.£650
[concert pitch].
also Crabb anglo 1982
40 keys, tuned G/D. 7 fold
bellows, raised metal ends
Brass reed frames-Tim
Pearson. 0532-
558032(Answerphone) prices
not negotiable.

Music

Archive [non commercial recordings]

This very important topic has
been discussed by I.C.A.
members for at least five

years now. The I.C.A. does
not yet have an archive of
recorded concertina music,
but it will have.

Initially, I'd like to know from
anyone who would be willing
to help in this important
project, which recordings
they have, and in what
format. At present please
don't send any recordings to
me, but notes would be
helpful[as comprehensive as
is practical] However if like
me you have several dozen
recordings, some without a
list of who's playing what,
don't hold back, we can
always try and fill in the gaps
later.

Even if you only have a
recording of yourself playing
in the bath, let me know
about it!

Peter Trimming

**-Just in case there's any
confusion , Peter would like
information about
recordings that you have
made and *may* be willing to
put into our archive once it
is established, and I am
looking for recordings of
your good selves that I can
put on tapes and flog to
other unsuspecting
concertinoids (which will
help pay for the archive) If
you feel like giving a copy to
both projects I'll personally
present you with a cream
bun at the 40th birthday
bash!-Ed**

Reviews

At last a few kind souls are
sending in their efforts for
review purposes.
Unfortunately. I'm running
out of space in this issue, so
I'll have to keep you in
suspense until next time.

Here's a list to be going on
with though-

Lea Nicholson has re-
released some of his best
work on 'The Concertina
Tapes' -available on cassette
from Lea 0332-40075

Harry Scurfield's band Bayou
Gumbo have come up with a
c.d. called 'Bald on the
Bayou' 0934-465436

Pippa Stanford has sent in a
copy of 'Fiddle Favourites' -
0525-375794.

Last but not least those
enterprising North East
concertina players have
produced a cassette of tunes
played by various members
of their riotous assembly.
0563-27573.

These contributions will all
get reviewed as soon as
possible . If anyone feels like
throwing money at me I'll be
able to make the magazine
even bigger next time Go
mad, pay for an advert!
[1/8th page=£5.

Whole Page= £30
Anything else = phone me up
and I'll get confused for you.
'For sale' and 'Wanted' ads are
still free as a service to
members, but no more than
two concertinas at a time
without placing an ad please.
[Obviously, if the baliffs
knocking and you *need* to sell
a few boxes in order to eat,
I'll make an exception].

Good News!

Jean Megly , our faithful
artist friend in France has
just become a daddy for the
first time.

His little son is called Evan
Jamil. Congratulations to all
concerned!



DIARY

May

10th-15th or 17th or 18th!

North London Music

Festival Class E40 Solo

Concertina.own choice, time limit 5 mins. Arthur Clements cup will be awarded. Details 0404 762646.

29th-31st *Chippenham*

Festival (with Alistair

Anderson) includes

workshops run by W.C.C.P.

Contact Pauline 0823-673021

June

13th *North Eastern Group*

Meets 2pm

July

4th Ruishton

17th *Folk weekend at Romsey*

.including a Concertina

workshop run by Rollo

Woods .2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Details from Rhona Jones,

Fairhaven ,East Meon,

Petersfield. Hants.(S.a.e.

please.)

August 2nd-5th *Sidmouth*

festival including concertina

worshops run by

W.C.C.P.Details from

Pauline-0823-673021.

September

5th Ruishton (W.C.C.P.)

11th Redditch Alistair

Anderson takes part in a

workshop at the White Hart

pub at Headless Cross ,

Redditch 2-5pm.He's also

booked at the Four Fools

Folk Club in the evening (also

at the White Hart). Details

from Angie 0527-545247

12th North Eastern Group

meets 2pm. That intrepid

Yorkshire group might be

going to meet up with them at

a hotel near Penrith . more

details later.

19th *Yorkshire Concertina*

Club will be joining up with

Otley Folk festival,pester

Harry for details.John

Kirkpatrick will be at the

festivities and running

workshops.

25th-26th *Concertinas at*

Witney, with John

Kirkpatrick, Tim Laycock and

Dave Townsend. Details from

Jenny 0272 629931 Over half

the tickets have been sold

already, so be warned!

November

7th Ruishton

13th I.C.A 40TH Birthday

Party! At Sherwood

Community Centre,

Nottingham with *Tim*

Laycock Free to I.C.A.

members/ Peter 0779 77936)

February (1994)

4th-6th Geoff Burns is

running a concertina

workshop in Giggleswick.

Details -when someone lets

me know a bit more !

Even
More
Concertinas
For
Sale

Crabb Anglo, 30 key C/F
£675.Mr Tarbuck0304
362862

For Sale -Wheatstone Aeola
.48 key , ebonised ends,
unusual fretwork.C P . 6 fold
bellows. Excellent condition
C. 1903 £875

Wanted Lachenal 30 key
anglo C/G . Rosewood ends
any condition, any Henery
Harley, also unusual and
early 20 key Anglos-
Andrew Norman - 0825
713551

For Sale

Wheatstone English tenor
treble aeola, concert pitch, 6
fold bellows no.25759, lovely
instrument £ 850

Wheatstone English tenor
treble aeola, concert pitch, 6
fold bellows, 26771, lovely
instrument £850

Wheatstone english
concertina, extended treble,
wooden ends with brass
buttons and matching brass
inlays on all comers, 4 fold
bellows, quiet tone (suit
neighbours) no 19752 £750
Lachenal Baritone english,
raised ebony ends, 6 fold
bellows, concert pitch No
50,0044 £450 If interested
contact Steve Goodyear-
0902 742037

Reminder!

✓ posted
24/3/93
+ newsletter



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to the address below - Cheers! Charlotte.