

INTERNATIONAL CONCERTINA ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R

No.137

NOVEMBER 1966

The last meeting of 1966
Saturday afternoon, 26th
November, at the Conway
Hall, Red Lion Square,
London W.C. nearest
Underground Station, Holborn.

2 to 5 p.m.

Please enquire on entry in
which room the meeting is
being held.

THE I.C.A.'S ELEVENTH FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON APRIL
29th 1967. A FULL SYLLABUS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED WITH
THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER.

Some warning words about the
Festival Test Pieces, for which
Pianoforte Accompaniment will
not be permitted.

All Minuetto, by Adam Carse

This is a fairly straightforward piece. It could be
taken slower than the metronome indication. Pay great
attention to the expression, the slurring and staccato,
and the three beats rest on line seven.

Alter Refrain by Fritz Kreisler

The small notes are cues to the piano part. Start at
p "gesanglich" on the second line, from the note C
at the end of the page, play from dolce on the next
page without counting the 5 bars rest. The adjudicator
will have been warned. The following German terms may
not be familiar:

gesanglich : song like - with a singing tone

drangend : urging forward - hurrying

wienerisch : Viennese. A reference to the
style of the piece.

Contre-Tanz by Beethoven

Except that this piece is more difficult than it looks,
there are no problems. The section in A flat needs
practising slowly, but then most pieces benefit from
great care in the early stages. The likely unfamiliar
term is sehr ruhig, meaning very peaceful. This would
imply that the sign "allegretto" at the beginning must
mean not too fast.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ISSUED FOR THE I.C.A. BY THE SECRETARY
FRANK E BUTLER, 60 MAYFIELD CRESCENT, LONDON N.9. ENGLAND

REPORT OF THE OCTOBER MEETING (contributed)

A small attendance, but every one present was a player. So, they all occupied orchestral seats and laid their coats on the chairs intended for an audience.

First on the scene, Frank Butler and John Hutcherson started playing Mazas Duets. As they arrived others joined in until parts were doubled, trebled and quadruplicated. The whole book of six duets each in three movements was completed in just under one hour.

The Treasurer, also a first arrival had up to now contented herself with taking the money and her interminable knitting.

By request, there was a coaching session for the Intermediate Test Piece.

A. Bull a recent recruit, gave his first solo on his Duet concertina, and was deservedly encored. A restrained and musicianly performer who is welcomed, and should go far.

A. Crook surprised us by playing four concertina studies by F.E.Butler, which were issued with the Newsletter in 1960.

J. Hutcherson's delightful solo was the Ballet Music from Faust, and later he joined Olive Linsell and Frank Butler in the Soldiers Chorus from the same opera.

Mrs. Fordham playing valiantly all the evening, was persuaded to render "Perchance to Dream" with some unobtrusive partnering.

The concerted items Farandole, Gavotte Celebre, Moment Musical and Rakocsy March were as popular as the concerted items always are.

Finally, we acquired and welcomed an audience - Mrs. Hutcherson, and a newcomer, Mrs. Fordham's daughter, who added grace to beauty by coming to escort her Mother home.

CONCERTINAS FOR SALE

Two Wheatstone English concertinas, including a Baritone, 64 keys, eight fold bellows, ebony ends, brown leather case. Both in excellent condition. Offers to:

Mrs. Newham,
15 York Street,
Accrington, Lancs.

THE KENSINGTON GROUP AT HOUNSLOW

The Kensington Group competed in the Hounslow Music and Drama Festival on October 29th, in a class entitled "General Ensemble".

Other groups included a string quartette, a clarinet quartette, a flute quartette, and others of assorted instruments, all playing music from a classical repertoire. Kensington played Five Waltzes by Schubert.

The audience gave the concertinas quite an ovation. The Adjudicator, David Martin, F.R.A.M. said "What a pleasure to hear and see this group making music". He spoke of fine rhythmic playing, excellent ensemble and splendid balance, awarding 85 marks, with which they tied for fourth place among nine groups competing.

A splendid effort, spreading the "gospel" of concertina playing among those musicians whom we are anxious should be aware of its possibilities.

THE ANGLO CONCERTINA

We are greatly indebted to Mrs. N. Pegg, of 48 Digby Drive, Marston Green, Birmingham, for the following information about tuition for the Anglo Concertina:

Francis & Day publish "Anglo Chromatic Concertina Tutor" by Dudley E. Bayford at 3/-d. Also "Folk Songs for Anglo Chromatic Concertina" at 5/-d. In the First Step Series, published by Keith Prowse, there is "How to play the Anglo Chromatic Concertina" by J. Wetstone, price 2/6d. Boosey and Hawkes will still supply on request, the catalogue of Concertina Music formerly issued by Wheatstone & Co.

She says that the only chances of tuition appear to result from enquiries at the local Variety Artistes Club, an Accordion Club, or the Salvation Army, but she describes the prospects as "gloomy".

NEWS OF THE MEMBERS

Tommy Williams tells us that he has a recording of Mr. Holland, of Crows Nest, Dorset, and has never in his life time of experience heard such excellent angle playing. Hr. Holland is reported to have a perfect legato phrasing, quite devoid of the jerky accents which are a characteristic of angles. Tommy says the sound is indistinguishable from that of a good "English" player. Hr. Holland plays a 40 key Anglo and does not read music.

J.W. Young reports plenty of activity with the N.D. Concertina Band. He also extended a welcome to Frank Butler to join them at rehearsal, but yet again this did not prove possible on Frank's recent Newcastle trip.

A welcome letter from John Gibson, and we extend thanks to him for advising us on the Duet Test Piece for the Festival. Equally, we thank Hr. Stanley for arranging it, and writing the necessary copies. All duet players are happy to compete with a Stanley arrangement.

Mr. & Mrs. Mercer are settling down in the Isle of Han, and send good wishes to members. They hopeto get more playing in the winter evenings.

Vena McDougall has had a short spell in hospital for a varicose operation, and has not recovered mobility as quickly as she hoped. The I.C.A, expressed its good wishes with flowers, and continue to wish her better very quickly. It is a tribute to Vena's loyalty that she addressed and stamped all the envelopes ready for despatch of the Newsletter while she was laid up.

W. Duncan of Bristol has sent his entries for the 1967 Festival. He was, most unfortunately, too late for the Hitchin weekend, and is determined not to be too late again. Bravo!!

John Beckett, 6 Marmont Park, Belfast 4, Northern Ireland, is heartily welcome as a new member. He has both Anglo and Duet Concertinas, and we shall hope to record more of his activities as he progresses.

The I.C.A, regrets to announce the death of Mr. G. Newham, of Accrington, a player of the English concertina for more than forty years, and a member of the I.C.A, from its early days.
