

THE INTERNATIONAL CONCERTINA ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Secretary: Mr. J. Harvey, 42, St. Barnabas Street,  
London, S.W.1

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NO. 165

APRIL 1969.

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There will be no Meeting on  
Saturday 26th April, 1969.

This is to enable members to  
attend the

FESTIVAL OF CONCERTINA PLAYING

organised by:-

Captain P.W. Burn, Commanding  
Officer of the West Norwood Corps  
of the Salvation Army to take place  
in the West Norwood Citadel, Norwood  
Road, S.W.2. from 3-30. to 5 p.m.

There will also be an evening  
programme (see notes below)

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Nearest station, Tulse Hill.  
Trains run every half hour from  
Blackfriars or Victoria. Journey  
takes seven minutes. Bus No.2.  
passes the door.

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PLEASE BRING YOUR CONCERTINA AND STAND
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AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

This will be under the direction of Brigadier  
Eric Russell of the Salvation Army and I.C.A. and will  
include solos by leading players and groups; a.  
concertina  
"quizz" (bring your questions), and impromptu massed  
playing for which music will be provided.

EVENING PROGRAMME

This will be a concert by the Plymouth Congress  
Hall Concertina Band, (Leader - Miss W. Tucker.)

A cordial welcome is extended to I.C.A. members and  
friends.

Tea can be obtained at cafes and restaurants in the  
neighbourhood.

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REPORT OF THE MARCH MEETING

There were seventeen people present. The meeting opened with a trio.

VENA McDOUGALL

A. CROOK

J. HUTGHERSON playing Ivor Novello's -  
Rose of England

A. CROOK then played a most unusual solo.  
F. Chopin's - -Funeral March.

This was played as a tribute to bandleader Billy Cotton who died recently. Mr. Crook says that he had difficulty in practising at home as it is not the sort of tune you want the neighbours to hear.

A. REALF

W. HARTFORD

played the Nun's Chorus from  
'Casanova' - Johann Strauss  
and as an encore, Just a Little  
Love, A Little Kiss.

Mr. Realf travelled all the way from Bognor to attend the meeting.

FRANK BUTLER

then played the advanced test piece for the I.C.A. Festival. Capriccioso -  
Haydn.

He followed this by the test piece for the Intermediate class,  
Gavotte by W.A.Mozart.

F. GARNHAK

gave us a solo, Canzonetta - Luigi  
Boccherini.

J. HUTCHERSON

VENA McDOUGALL

TOM MEEKHAM

RUTH WARE

played Venetianisches Gondellied -  
F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

BILLY HARTFORD

gave us Lily the Pink and  
Ob-la-di, Ob-la-da.

Billy makes a practise of memorizing the top ten pops, but complains that these days the top pops do not stay in the charts very long and so he is constantly having to learn new pops. How he does it I don't know, as most of them sound alike to me.

He then gave us a piece of nostalgia,  
The Cobbler's Song from Chu Chin Chow.

He ended his selection with If I were  
a Rich Man from Fiddler On the Roof.

GEORGE CRATHERN played Georgia - Hoagy Carmichael,  
and then When Somebody thinks You're  
Wonderful - Fats Waller.

George has a wonderful gentle touch, with a swing reminiscent of the old jazz players.

CONCERTED All players got together under the baton of Frank Butler to play Prayer by Scotson Clark and then Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar. This piece will be played at the S.A. rally meeting at West Norwood.

TOMMY WILLIAMS played a waltz of his own composition which has no name.

He followed this with Sanctuary of the Heart - Ketelby.

Tommy was going off after the meeting to play at a concert with Harry Crabb.

CONCERTED Melodies by Joseph Haydn, which is another piece that will be played at the S.A. Festival.

This was followed by Minuet from Samson - G.F.Handel, this will also be played at the S.A. Festival.

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CORRECTION TO MARCH NEWSLETTER

PETER HONRI'S address was incorrectly given, It should have been Hawthorne House, 32, Complins, Hallybourne, Alton, Hants.

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NEW ADDRESS

PETER JONES, 66 Pinewood Avenue, New Haw, Weybridge, Surrey.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

Two reports have been received from members about our President THE REV. KENNETH LOVELESS.

Firstly, Mr. Hutcherson sends a cutting from

NEWS OF MEMBERS (CONT)

the Kentish Times describing a visit our President made to the first ever Scout and Guide Folk Festival to be held in the Kent area, at St. Mary's Hall, Welling, Kent. It described the performers and ended up with

"Probably the oldest instrument used was the Victorian concertina of Father Ken Loveless. His forte performance made the microphones redundant."

Secondly, Frank Butler writes that he attended the Annual Service of the International Circus Clown's Club, which is held every Mothering Sunday at the Holy Trinity Church, Dalston. Father Loveless was present in his capacity as Rural Dean of Hackney.

The clowns and their friends walked round the church and laid a wreath on the memorial to Grimaldi, one of the greatest clowns of all times. After the service, the clowns gave a concert.

If anyone is interested, there is a portrait gallery of clowns at the church, which is open for anyone's inspection.

Many clown's are musical clowns and some include concertinas in their acts. We have one such member CYRIL JACKSON. It would be nice to have some more clown members.

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R. BULL has sent a welcome donation to I.C.A. funds. Thank you very much.

A. CLEMENTS of 17 Woodside Avenue, Boothville, Northampton, NN3-1J1, writes to say that his district is bsre of concertina players and so he does not get many opportunities of playing with others.

HARRY MINTING sends a donation and says that his shop keeps him very busy and prevents him from attending meetings.

T.W.PRINCE of Co. Durham sends a donation and says that he is looking forward to the I.C.A. Festival and to meeting his friends there.

NEWS OF THE MEMBERS (CONT)

MRS. UPSON of Bognor Regis, says that although she is not an active member, she enjoys reading about those who are.

TOM MEEKHAM played in a Banjo band at a club in Edgware in March. He says that the turn was one of the highlights of the evening because people seem to be getting tired of 'pop' and the Banjo is a Novelty. Tom also plays a Hawaiian Guitar and a Mandolin, as well as being a very able concertina player.

HENRY DANIELS of Kings Norton, Birmingham, 30, would like to hear members' views discussed in the Newsletter on the relative merits of the Triumph system and the McCann system in Duet-Concertinas.

He wants to buy a Duet-Concertina and feels that the Triumph system would be better for him, because he wants to arrange Scarlatti's Harpsichord Sonatas for the Duet-Concertina.

If any members have any views on this matter, would they please send them to me for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

LEONARD LAIESKI of New York, writes to say that he receives his Newsletter and finds it very interesting.

It would be nice to hear further from our American member and to learn something of his musical activities and interests. How about it Mr. Laieski?

J. BEATE of East London, Republic of South Africa, writes that he doesn't seem to be making much progress on the Concertina as he doesn't seem to be able to find time to practice.

Unfortunately, this seems to be the problem of many of our members.

FRANK BUTLER retired from work on the 31st March, after 48 years with the same firm. From a humble beginning, by intelligence and hard work, he rose up to a managerial position.

Amongst the gifts he received from his colleagues, were a Tape-Recorder, and Historical Atlas of Music, and Percy Scholes Oxford Companion to Music. His gift card, which had hundreds of signatures, was in the shape of a Concertina.

We hope that Frank will now have plenty of time to devote to actual playing.

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CONCERTINA MUSIC

I took the liberty of looking into Frank Butler's copy of OXFORD COMPANION TO MUSIC and looked under the heading CONCERTINAS.

I was directed to look under the heading REED FAMILY, and there I found that the Concertina used to be a very popular instrument in high circles of British Society and possessed several professors of virtuoso ability. The British statesman, Lord Balfour, a great authority on Handel, was during the early and middle part of his lifetime, an ardent performer on the concertina.

There are concertos for the Concertina by Molique and Regondi (one of the greatest exponents), sonatas have been written for it and it has had music provided in which it formed a part of various chamber music combinations with stringed instruments.

Tchaikovsky included four concertinas in the score of his second orchestral suite, op. 53- Percy Grainger and one or two other more recent composers have also made use of it. Edward Silas was a very active concertina composer; his works included an Adagio for eight concertinas, trios, a quartet and a quintet for combination of concertinas, strings, and pianoforte, and many works for concertina and pianoforte, including, two sonatas.

WHERE IS THIS MUSIC NOW?

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QUESTION

Who played the Concertina in the Film OLIVER?

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OBITUARY

Member W.J.GOULD of Chicks Grove, Tisbury, Wilts, passed away on January 20th. His sister writes to say that he received his Newsletter in hospital.

Our sympathy goes to his family.

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