

FRMS NEWSLETTER



Issue No 6

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PLEASE NOTE!

CONTACT DETAILS WITH FRMS HAVE CHANGED

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ROCHDALE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

Rochdale Gramophone Society is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Is there another society which is older than or even as old as us? If so we would like to hear from you. We have already had a celebratory lunch last November with a special guest which will be reported in full in a future Bulletin. Another event is planned for 21 April 07.

A message from George Steele, newly elected FRMS committee member

As a new member of the FRMS committee I would like to develop contacts with other societies in the Lancashire/Greater Manchester area. A few of you I know already but I would welcome others contacting me. I am happy to be your channel of communication with the Committee but also as a member of Rochdale Gramophone Society I would welcome learning about your organisations.

INTERNET

Recently I have found out about the BBC Action Network which offers the opportunity to publicise your society and any events you may be holding. The website is

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/actionnetwork/>

This service is completely free. A handful of societies have already registered and added their details and ideally I would like to see all Recorded Music Societies follow suit. You will notice that this is an underused resource and as you know, underused resources have a habit of being taken away! It is easy to register and enter your details. You are asked under which headings you wish to be listed – my society, Carnoustie is listed under Music, Culture Media and Sport, Angus and Scotland.

John Maidment

Sarah Polfreman (final year student BSc. (Hons.) Management course at Worcester College of Technology) has submitted her project investigating the perception of declining Music Society membership among Societies.

She writes: -

A big thank you for the help given towards my BSc. (Hons) Management project: investigating the perception of declining membership among Societies.

I am delighted that over half of the Society Secretaries responded to the 'data gathering' questionnaire, and many sent additional information, giving valuable insights into FRMS work and local circumstances. The good wishes expressed for my studies and future career has touched me greatly.

The project report has been submitted for assessment, and anonymity has been respected where Societies have requested it. A 'practical version' will be available to the FRMS around the beginning of February with the academic content removed, e.g. vast swathes of references and appendices.

The findings are that 'membership decline' is largely a misconception, and the principal difference between 'successful' and 'failing' Societies lies within the Societies, not their external environment. It is for FRMS to study the report and use the findings as it sees fit.

Thank you again, all of you! Sarah Polfreman

The FRMS committee thanks all societies for their co-operation and we look forward with eager anticipation to reading this important report.

FRIENDS OF THE FRMS

Are you unable to attend meetings of an affiliated Society?

There could be many reasons:

- Work commitments;
- Lack of transport;
- No Society in your area;
- Even, regrettably, your local Society has disbanded.

The FRMS Committee is aware that there are a number of people who, for various reasons, are not able to join an affiliated Society but who retain a keen interest in the Federation and its activities. Many of these people maintain contact with the Federation by subscribing to the *Bulletin*, and the Committee is keen to foster such contacts. So, following the acceptance of a proposal at

WILL SECRETARIES PLEASE ENSURE THAT MEMBERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE DISPLAY AND/OR PHOTOCOPY

the 2006 AGM, we are offering the opportunity to become **Friends of the FRMS**.

For an annual payment of £5.00, as a Friend of the FRMS you will receive not only two issues of the *Bulletin* but also the Newsletter (normally sent twice a year to affiliated Societies) and advance details of the annual Music Weekend and the AGM. Friends will be welcome to attend the AGM (as observers) and the usual accompanying entertainment. In addition you can also request details of regional events.

A further possibility is to be put in touch with other Friends in your area, should you so wish. Who knows, if a few Friends get together they could end up starting another Society!

If you would like to become a Friend of the FRMS, or would like more information please contact Allan Child. Contact details are inside the back cover of the *Bulletin*.

YORKSHIRE REGION MUSIC WEEKEND

The Yorkshire Region are looking forward to their annual Music Weekend which will be held in the Crown Spa Hotel, Scarborough, from Friday 30th March to Monday 2nd April.

The main theme will be British music and Elgar will be the featured composer (to mark the 150 anniversary of his birth).

Among the contributors are:-

Dennis Clark, the Regional secretary, who will present 'Elgar's Yorkshire'

Raymond Wood with a light-hearted meander through the Savoy operas of Gilbert and Sullivan

Allan Tongue, a former BBC television producer will give an illustrated talk with DVD's featuring the Leipzig Gewandhaus and the USSR symphony Orchestra.

Graham Kiteley FRMS Treasurer will feature the lives of four notable English composers, all born in 1905, William Alwyn, Constant Lambert, Alan Rawsthorne and Michael Tippett

Michael Dutton the founder of Dutton Laboratories will play examples from his remarkable work in restoring and transferring old originals.

Professor Brian Newbould will explore Elgar's music in the context of his lack of formal musical education.

The cost of the basic weekend - from after lunch on Saturday 31st March to lunch on Monday 2nd April - is £145.50.

The cost of the full long weekend is £189.00 excluding Saturday lunch.

The Conference Fee is £20.

There are very few places still available but all bookings must be now made directly with the Hotel.

Write or phone

The Crown Spa Hotel, Esplanade Scarborough YO11 2AG –

Tel: 01723 357400

FRMS MUSIC WEEKEND

13-15 April Daventry Hotel, Daventry

Among the contributors are:-

Richard Baker the well-known personality of radio and television, actor and writer of several books. Former BBC newscaster and panellist on "Face the Music", and presenter of "These you have loved"

Antony Hodgson, music critic and writer with a long career as recording producer currently working with the Royal Scottish National Symphony Orchestra and various chamber groups in Scotland.

Peter Alward who was until recently President of EMI Records. He has been regarded in the industry as the successor to the legendary Walter Legge. He will be in conversation with Federation President, Edward Greenfield OBE.

Marianne Olyver the founder and musical director of the orchestra that bears her name. Her music follows the rich tradition of the salon orchestras and personalities such as Alfredo Campoli, Albert Sandler and Max Jaffa. She regularly broadcasts on BBC Radio 2 and Radio 3

Edward Greenfield Federation President and well known writer and broadcaster

Paul Westcott Press Officer for Chandos records and author of biography of Richard Bonyngue

Allan Child, Chairman of Derby FRMS and FRMS committee member.

Residential charges including all meals are:-

Shared occupancy (double /twin) £160 pp

Single occupancy £180

Conference fee is £35

Day rates are Friday £10, Saturday £30, Sunday £20

Additional specific information

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Society Secretaries please note that full Daventry Music weekend information has been sent to those on the subscribers list.

As notified in the AGM papers Secretaries wishing to have a copy for their society should contact FRMS Secretary (please note change of address, telephone and e-mail)

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