



THE COMPANY OFFICE

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Essential dates

14 November 6.30pm	Installation Dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall
6 December 6pm	Carol Service at St Michael's, Cornhill
19 February 2002 12.30pm	Phyllis Barrett Lunch
10 March 7.30pm	Jazz Bronze Medal Competition at Pizza on the Park, Knightsbridge
11 March 7.30pm	Maisie Lewis Recital at Wigmore Hall
21 May	Livery Club visit to British Piano Manufacturing Company, near Stroud
26 June	Mid-summer Banquet
8 July 7.30pm	Jazz at The Globe
3 September 12.30pm	Phyllis Barrett Lunch
6 November 6.30pm	Installation Dinner

How I intend to serve 'the high purpose of the Company'

A message from Master-Elect Gavin Barrett

"What do you want to be when you grow up, gentlemen?" – a question put to me and my fellow students at about age 15. One wit answered "A beachcomber in the South of France, sir!", and received a look of contempt for his pains. I, less bold, could only fudge a response, suggesting something that might be both businesslike and yet close to my passion for music.

Now, some 40 years later, I can see the attraction of beachcombing, especially in the South of France, but have no doubt at all that my associations with music have been richly rewarding in terms of friendships built, spiritual development, and the discovery of the amazing creativity that lies within so many people.

These associations, mainly early in my career, have included periods in music publishing (Novello) and record production (Decca), and as a press officer (London Philharmonic, N P Mander Ltd *et al*), a composer (Boosey), a broadcaster (BBC2) and an amateur musician (organist and choral conducting).

In more recent times, my life as a partner in a leading consultancy group has allowed me to look, somewhat forensically, at the "art and science" of music – seeking to understand whether the complexities, ambiguities,

duplications, "turf wars" and periods of high emotion are inevitable and necessary aspects of the UK's rich musical environment, or impediments to it.

As I look forward to succeeding the Mastership of David Hill, distinguished by much progress and consolidation, I plan to spend significant time getting to know the people and institutions with whom our great Company works, looking for ways in which we can make more of a difference – though always within our means. And this will mean taking the message about the Company in person to audiences old and new, adding to the lustre of *Preserve Harmony* and developing our incipient channel of communication, the Musicians' website.

It will also mean making sure that the actions that your Court has committed to – such as the three-year support of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Great Britain (subject to annual review), just started – are as effective in promoting our interests as they should be.

Masters come and go, but the high purpose of the Company merits stability, and, together with my Wardens and successors, Nigel Tully and Jonathan Rennert, I aim to build on Funding A Future, making sure that we continue to honour our ancient traditions while reaching prudently for new.

I very much look forward to serving you, our Company and our many friends in the coming months.



Master-Elect Gavin Barrett
and his wife Susan