

The Carnwath Scholarship

THIS YEAR'S SCHOLAR is Lucy Parham. She was nominated by Ian Horsburgh, Principal of the Guildhall School of Music, who described her as a young artist of rare quality, technically accomplished, a superb command of tone and colour, and the imaginative gifts to capture her audience's attention.

She was a student on their Advanced Solo Studies Course, and gained the Concert Recital Diploma in July 1989. At 24 she is already an experienced performer, both as a recitalist and concert soloist. Last year she played Chopin's second piano concerto at the Barbican Hall and made her Wigmore Hall debut as a result of her British Gas Scholarship.

Her record of competition successes includes First Prize (piano section) BBC Young Musician of the Year in 1984, First Prize in the 1987 Trianon Piano Competition, Runner-up in the final of the NFMS/Esso Young Concert Artist Award in 1988 and First Prize (piano) in the Royal Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artists' Competition in 1989.

Professional engagements have included concerts with the Guildford, BBC, Ulster and Royal Philharmonic Orchestras, and most recently with the London Mozart Players.

Letter to the Editors

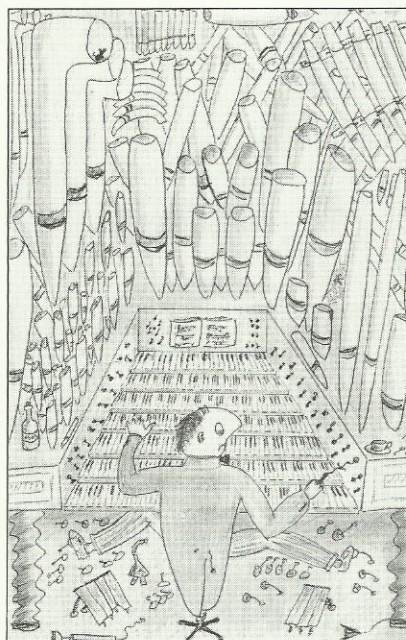
Dear John,
How marvellous it is that the Worshipful Company of Musicians is to launch a Newsletter, and how very appropriate that a member of the Iles family should serve as its Editor.

The genial figure of your grand-father, John Henry Iles, pictured in his robes as Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, looks down on me each day as I carry out my duties as Editor of British Bandsmen, a role he once executed with great distinction, when he was owner of the newspaper and of the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain.

With his passion for journalism and music, and his concern for the future of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, I am sure that he would have been the first to encourage this interesting new project and would probably have had a hand in its production.

I wish the Newsletter every success as it seeks to be a means of communication and a unifying force in the affairs of the Company.

Peter Wilson
Managing Editor,
British Bandsman.



Pulling out the stops!

Dischord

WITH MUCH of Europe in the course of changing tune, it is not surprising that many of us may be casting a more critical eye over our own habits and institutions.

As a Liveryman, is our Company what we expected it to be, and what we would like it to be? Inspiration and input are untapped aspects which often tend to stay hidden amongst our Members. Now, through this Newsletter, you can articulate your theme - it may not be music to everyone's ears - but which composer achieved anything through silence? A case in point is the late Gerald Hoffnung who used Hoovers and Watering Cans in his orchestral renderings, but at least no one could deny the humour.

Internationale or Anthem, Sackbut or Synthesizer, Purity or Pollutant - Why? How? When? - Dischord or Harmony? Your contributions are most welcome. However the decision to publish is at the discretion of the Editors!

WT Best Memorial Scholarship

Adjudication Report 1990

THE ADJUDICATION for this scholarship took place at St. Giles Church, Cripplegate, Barbican on 2nd July 1990 by kind permission of the Rector and we particularly wish to thank him and his staff for their courtesy and assistance in the arrangements for this adjudication.

There were five nominees for the 1990 award. The adjudicators were impressed with the high level of technical competence displayed by all the contestants and, in most cases, by the considerable musicianship displayed by the players.

The adjudicators did find it necessary to remind the contestants that this is a **scholarship** and not a prize and that, therefore, a contestant's plans and scheme of study for the duration of the scholarship are of considerable importance. In the light of this, the adjudicators will continue to attach great importance to the yearly reports on the progress of the holder of the award.

It is the unanimous recommendation of the adjudicators that Stephen Farr should be awarded the WT Best Memorial Scholarship for this year (initially). He was nominated by the Royal College of Organists, having been their Performer of the Year in 1988. It is our further recommendation that Andrew Canning, who was nominated by the Royal Academy of Music, should be awarded the FE Smith Medal and cash prize that accompanies the medal.

L J D Halcrow, HW Brama, SJ Borton
Adjudicators.

THE ILES MEDAL

NORMAN ASHCROFT started to play a brass instrument at the age of eleven and soon became a member of Hebburn Colliery Band.

At the age of nineteen he was appointed Principal Cornet to Harton Colliery Band and, about this time, he developed an interest in the orchestral trumpet, playing with local orchestras in the North East of England. He was often featured in performances of Handel's Messiah and in the concerts given by the Bach Societies in the area.

In 1947 he joined the Carl Rosa Opera Company, but two years later - although still keenly interested in orchestral playing - he returned to the brass band scene as Principal Cornet of the then Fairey Aviation Works Band, a position he held with great distinction for the next eighteen years. In 1967, he decided that it was time for him to step down, but he continued for a time to play in the solo cornet rank of the same band, now known as The Williams Fairey Engineering Band.

Norman Ashcroft was first invited to be a tutor to the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain in 1951. He continued to serve in this capacity until 1959 and he has also acted as tutor at many Summer Schools and Courses organised by Education Authorities.

During 1959 he became conductor of Mirrlees Works Band and, in the space of five years, he brought from Third Section to National Championship standard - a feat he was destined to repeat with the Rochdale Band, of which he was Musical Director from 1966.

Over the years, Norman Ashcroft has taught and encouraged many young players, some of who are now firmly established in first class bands and orchestras. Following such a busy musical career, he is currently enjoying his retirement.

P.G.W.W.