

# Preserve Harmony

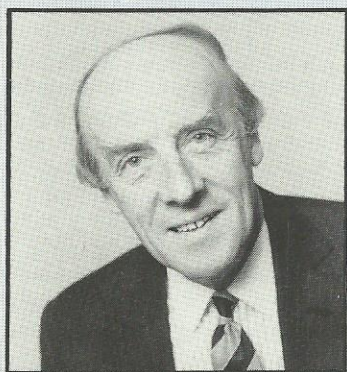


ISSUE 1 September 1990

Editors: Adrian Davis & John Iles

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF MUSICIANS

### From the Master



I am delighted that the first issue of the journal should appear during my year as Master although I claim no credit whatsoever for its production. It does seem an ideal opportunity for members of the Livery to make a contribution to the life of the Company and therefore become more involved in its work, particularly the education and encouragement of young musicians. I hope that you will all feel that from time to time you can contribute to this journal and so make it a worthy addition to the ideals of this great Company of Musicians to which we all belong. I wish it every success.

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## EDITORIAL

### A little more knowledge need not be sorrowful...

OF THE LATE Sir Henry Wood - and why wasn't he a member of the Company? - it has been written that "it was as if he had been conditioned from birth by the sombre warning of Ecclesiastes that he who increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow."

For the benefit of those readers who were unable to attend the Annual Midsummer Banquet at the Stationer's Hall in June, you would have heard the Master, Malcolm Hubble, announce that after much thought your Court of Assistants had given their earthly blessing to this auxiliary publication whose principal objective is to increase the awareness, interest and support of our members whilst any sorrow is confined to the misfortune that we had not commenced sooner - something which our long association with the Worshipful Company of Stationers perhaps might have propagated, in other words, putting pen to paper.

### Celebration

With due modesty, and without the benefit of a market survey your editors have assumed that perhaps, like themselves, and more years ago than they might wish to admit, having initially read and partially digested our "Short History", knowledge and active involvement in the current activities of The Company are prone to evanesce! Yet in ten years time, 2000 AD, it is generally agreed that we shall be in a position to celebrate our 500th birthday!

Let us dispute with Ecclesiastes and show that a little more knowledge is not sorrowful (nor dangerous); and that additionally a desire to enquire and provide has also been promoted. We feel it is worth mentioning that some seven years ago, Pastmaster Ficker observed that "From conversations with fellow Liverymen I have become convinced that it is far from being the majority's wish that the growing stature of the Company should be left to the Master of the day and a handful of devoted members of the Court to sustain."

To our readers may we simply ask you to help us "Preserve Harmony."

## Looking Ahead

ON APRIL 24th, 1469, His Majesty King Edward IVth was pleased to grant a Charter to the Brotherhood of the King's Minstrels. This event was commemorated with a Feast in the hall of the Middle Temple in 1969.

From these Royal Minstrels derived the City Minstrels, who in the year 1500 received a Charter from the

Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London. This 500th anniversary coincides with the millennium. For this an appropriate celebration will record the occasion. As certain types of events have to be planned well in advance initial ideas are already being discussed.