

# CLIVE MORLEY HARPS

THE EARLY BUSINESS of repairing harps and musical instruments continues now on the Oxford/Gloucestershire borders though it was established by George Morley in 1817 at 95 High Street, White Chapel. In 1820 the business was expanded by a partnership with Charles Morley to include Pianos and piano tuning.

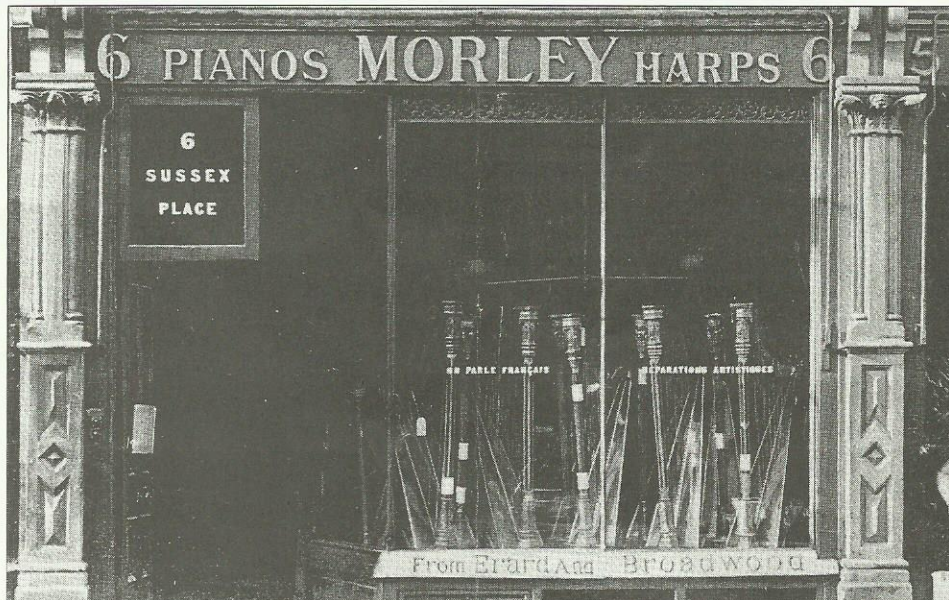
By 1830 the partnership had disbanded with George Morley continuing as a Harp Maker and Musical Instrument Dealer at 6 Sussex Place, Kensington and later the Old Brompton Road, whilst Charles Morley traded from 63 Sun Street, Bishops Gate.

The Harp's most important development was Erard leaving France just after the French Revolution and setting up his world famous workshop which made nearly 7000 harps between 1800 and 1890 in England.

By 1890, the Harp had been superceded by the Piano and was no longer in fashion. George Morley purchased the stock, record books and music from the old Erard business and continued harp manufacture maintaining the family line. John Sebastian Morley (late Pastmaster) added to this important collection.

On the retirement of John Sebastian Morley in the 1960's the Harp business was incorporated in Robert Morley and Co Ltd at Lewisham where both John and Clive Morley (Brothers) shared in developing the growing popularity of the

*The new showroom*



*The old Morley Shop. Note the name Broadwood. The Late Capt. E.T. Broadwood M.C. was a Pastmaster of the Company*

clavichord and harpsichord.

In 1988, with a demerger, the Harp business was transferred to Clive Morley Harps Limited at "Goodfellows" Filkins near Lechlade, Glos.

"Goodfellows" was originally a manor farm with deeds going back to 1615. In later years it was the home of Sir Stafford Cripps.

The stable block has been developed to provide a work shop for harp building/repair, showrooms and Music Library.

The grounds and showrooms give an ideal setting for musicians to enjoy harps

and music. On Sunday September 15th the "Clarsach Society" will have their Summer Meeting (ceilidh) at "Goodfellows". If any member would like to visit please telephone (0367) 860493

CRM

## Plus ca change?

The Prime Minister has received a letter from an irreverent trumpet player which put the value of the referendum ingeniously into perspective. Thanking Mr Wilson for his kind offer to influence the nation's future he wrote:

"Regretfully I must decline your invitation and have taken this opportunity to return the polling card, the reason being that I have not had the time to study in detail the full implications to Britain on this matter, and also that my copy of the Treaty of Rome has not arrived.

"Perhaps, though, you could help me on a small technical problem, when playing the high B natural on my Vincent Bach Stradivarius model trumpet in C the note sometimes tends to sound flat in inclement weather in the pit of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, but only in lightly scored works. Is there any reason for this, or maybe an alternative fingering you could suggest?"

Perhaps this will now be covered in the Citizens Charter or even the National Curriculum Music Working Group report. Try changing key to J Major.

*(Daily Telegraph 1965)*