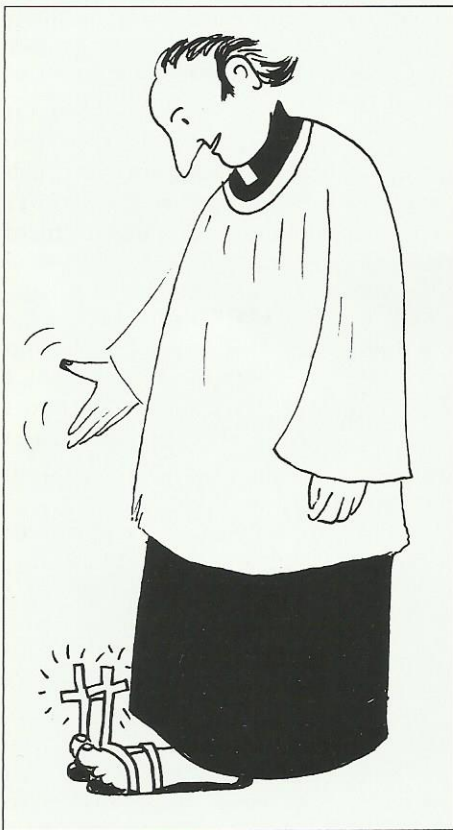


Challenge - RCM

increasingly aware of the need to train musicians to meet the challenges of an ever-changing profession. As is generally acknowledged, few students currently studying in conservatoires can look forward to an exclusively solo career. It is no longer enough simply to teach students to sing or play an instrument to a high level; musicians of the future need to be responsive to change. The training we offer must encourage students to develop a wide raft of skills to enable them to respond to new challenges – even to create work opportunities where none exist. This means learning to communicate not just through the voice or chosen instrument, but through words, spoken and written, to the widest range of audiences. In addition to the impulse for change from within the artform itself, the interplay with arts and sciences taking place all round us has proved a vital trigger for curriculum development.

Apart from regular weekly lessons, students have the opportunity to work with professionals. We have a strong

ENLIGHTEN YOUR SOLE WITH ECCLESIASTICAL SANDALS!



In the last issue's 'Fanfare for Noel' I attempted to refer to his delight in ecclesiastical scandals. This was printed as 'ecclesiastical sandals'. My wife Sheralyn was inspired to picture them!

Assistant Jonathan Rennert.

network of links with major orchestras and ensembles including the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the London Sinfonietta, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Sinfonia 21 as well as with the London Symphony Orchestra through its valuable String Exchange Scheme. The association goes beyond simply individual and ensemble coaching. Students have the opportunity to sit alongside the professionals in rehearsal, and occasionally in performance. to work with the ensembles in projects in schools, libraries and in the wider community beyond. They are fortunate to have such a range of platforms on which to put into practice all that they are learning. Contacts made at this stage are proving invaluable for future career development.

Just as individual's training is now geared to flexibility and versatility, our courses and programmes are constantly being updated and extended to meet the current - and future - demands of the profession. The RCM enjoy cross-fertilisation of ideas with the Royal College of Art and especially with Imperial College - the BSc degree in Physics with Studies in Musical Performance consistently attracts students of extremely high calibre. This collaboration, established several years ago, has proved a significant model for the developments that are taking place in South Kensington. As the only dedicated musical institution in the Albertopolis area, the Royal College of Music is strongly placed to be a key player in the exciting developments in the future.

But to return to the cranes; the building work is set to continue for at least another five years. Meanwhile life at the College goes on, apparently much as before, with the sound of scales and arpeggios wafting from every room down to the street below where it competes with the occasional burst of pile driving or the whine of a drill. Developments at the College may be less noisy than those of our neighbours, and less immediately obvious, but they are there nonetheless, strongly present in the attitudes of those of us who work and study here. We can never forget our heritage; the spirit of the past is our foundation stone, an ever-present influence on our development. But we are proud of the gradual reshaping of our traditions and the new directions we are exploring both within the College and more widely with our neighbourhood partners.

There has never been a more exciting time to be a student at the Royal College of Music.

DONATIONS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The following appeals, funded by the Benevolent Fund, have been agreed:

Musician Benevolent Fund	£100
Incorporated Society of Musicians	£100
Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy	£100
Royal Society of Musicians	£100
Organists Benevolent Fund	£100
Music Trades Benevolent Society	£100
Sheriffs & Recorders Fund	£100
City & Guilds	£250

The following grants were made from the Allcard Fund:

Beacon School	£100
Jewish Music Heritage	£1,200
Anglo Dutch Piano Platform	£250
Smithills School Senior Brass Band	£250
National Youth With Orchestra	£500
Cambridge Symposium	£1,200
Defeating Deafness	£250
Peter Warlock Society	£250
Beethoven Society, Europe	£500
RNCB	£250
Toynbee Hall	£250
The Lord Mayor's Appeal	£250

DYSPEPTIC LINES

In the restrooms of the Wigmore Hall, it has been observed that the management have provided relief for musical indigestion as follows: Anadin and Bisodol.

Maisie Lewis Committee please note!

JAZZ NOTES

Dame Cleo Laine was the popular choice for the Silver Medal for 1998.

The outright winner of the Bronze Medal was Steve Brow. He is being asked to provide a group of musicians for the next Jazz Evening at Pizza on the Park on Sunday 18 July when he will also be publicly presented with his medal.