

FRMS Newsletter

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Compiled by Allan Child, FRMS Chairman



OUR NEW PRESIDENT

We are delighted to announce that distinguished cellist Julian Lloyd Webber has accepted our invitation to become President of the FRMS in succession to Lyndon Jenkins. Julian recently retired from the concert platform as a soloist, but he continues to conduct and is also Chairman of Sistema England, the music education charity inspired by El Sistema in Venezuela. We are therefore greatly honoured by his acceptance of our presidency.

AGM 2014

The Federation's Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 8th November at the Royal Clifton Hotel in Southport, where our hosts were the Southport Gramophone Society. Thanks are due to the Southport society for the excellent organisation. Apart from receiving and approving reports the principal business on this occasion was the election of the committee. There are some changes in membership following the sad loss of Colin Dancer and Roger Apps, and the retirement of Graham Kiteley. Paul Corfield Godfrey (Cardiff RMS) has been elected Treasurer in succession to Graham, and we also welcome John Hardie of Southport Gramophone Society as a new member of the committee. The full line-up for 2014 to 2015 is:

Allan Child – Chairman
Ron Beech – Vice-Chairman
Jim Bostwick – Secretary
Paul Godfrey – Treasurer
Mick Birchall
George Steele
Denise Beech
John Hardie

In addition to the elected members, Paul Astell and Philip Ashton are Bulletin Editor and Technical Officer respectively and their appointment was confirmed by the committee at their recent meeting. However, there are still two vacancies on the committee, which we hope to fill soon by co-option.

DAVENTRY 2015

Plans for the annual Music Weekend in 2015 are well in hand and we have an impressive line-up of presenters including pianist Martin Jones, composer Richard Blackford and *Arts in Residence* founder Terry Barfoot. Our star attraction for the weekend will be the Sunday morning live music recital by violinist **Chloë Hanslip** and pianist **Danny Driver**.

The dates for the weekend are 24th to 26th April and the event will be once again at the Daventry Court Hotel, Daventry, Northamptonshire. More details and booking forms will be sent out in January. Previous participants and Friends of the FRMS will receive these automatically but if you would like to be added to the mailing list please provide contact details to the FRMS Secretary, Jim Bostwick (address below).

STAYING IN TOUCH

Communication with its affiliated societies is an important part of the Federation's activities, but it can be an expensive business. The basic cost of a second class stamp, 53p, means that simply sending this newsletter by post to all our affiliates and other recipients would cost the Federation over £90, so it is being sent by e-mail where possible. We would encourage all affiliates to provide us with an e-mail contact address if possible, but whether communication is by post or e-mail it is important to advise any changes promptly to ensure that you continue to receive information.

CAN YOU HELP?

As noted already there are two vacancies on the committee and we would be pleased to co-opt anyone who feels they could make a contribution. Each committee member has a specific responsibility; some members have more than one, so any offer of help is welcome. Jim Bostwick (01484 717865, e-mail secretary@thefrms.co.uk) will be happy to give you further information.

SOCIETY SECRETARIES – Please make sure your members get to see this Newsletter!