



Compiled by Simon Rawlings FRMS committee member

## Music Weekend 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### From the Chairman's desk

I write these words amid a welter of last-minute preparations for Christmas. Soon the post-Christmas sales will start, many on Boxing Day, and they are already being actively promoted in the media and particularly on-line. How good a job, I wonder, do the Federation and its affiliated societies make of promoting themselves? As far as the Federation is concerned we have a website, maintained in the capable hands of webmaster George Steele, ably assisted by Ron Mitchell, and which the British Library selected in 2010 as representing best practice as an organisational website. Many of our affiliates have a page on the FRMS website, and several run their own websites. But do we – the Federation or individual societies – make use of other opportunities to publicise our activities? This was a subject I touched upon at the AGM back in 2017, mentioning that societies can make use of local radio, local free magazines and even good old-fashioned posters. But by the time you read these words Christmas, and probably most of the sales, will be over and we will be wondering what 2020 will bring. What programme is your society planning for the year? It's easy to go over the top with significant anniversaries, although programmes built around them go down well with my own society, but one we can look forward to in 2020 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Beethoven. Of course the record companies and radio stations will be making much of it, yet there is still plenty for societies to discover about his life and music.

Finally, this issue of the Newsletter features the forthcoming **Music Weekend at Ilkley in April**. In taking on the organisation of this formerly regional event the Federation is looking to provide an opportunity for music lovers to gather and enjoy music together that was lost when the Daventry weekends came to an end. We hope that it will continue as an annual event but that will depend on a successful outcome. See you there?

Best Wishes for the coming year.

Allan Child FRMS Chairman



Ilkley West Yorkshire

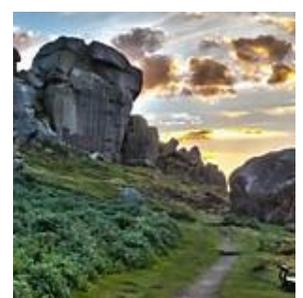


**Craiglands Hotel** (shown above)  
**Cowpasture Road**  
**Ilkley LS29 8RQ**  
**01943 430001**  
[www.craiglands.co.uk](http://www.craiglands.co.uk)

The hotel is situated in the spa town of Ilkley and surrounded by some of the wonderful countryside of West Yorkshire. *Have a look at their website.*



Ilkley Town Centre



Ilkley Moor

See next page for more information →

Previous music weekends have been held here, which have been very well received and appreciated by those who have attended. The West Yorkshire map displayed on the previous page clearly shows that Ilkley is not too far from Bradford and Leeds. There are good rail and road links.



Ilkley Railway Stn.

Currently with services to Leeds & Bradford

## The Music Weekend Programme

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

5.00pm **Reception**

Welcome to the 2020 music weekend!

Join members of the FRMS Committee for a pre-dinner drink and chat.

6.00 – 8.00pm **Dinner**

8.15pm **Chairman's Welcome**

8.20 – 9.50pm **David Patmore**  
**'Great Days at Decca'**

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Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April

7.30 – 9.30am **Breakfast**

10.30am **Coffee/Tea available**

11.00am – 12.30pm **Gary Midgley**  
**'Art for .. Music's sake'**

12.45pm **Lunch**

2.00 – 3.30pm **Tim Lihoreau**  
**'A Day at Classic FM'**

3.30 – 3.50pm **Coffee/Tea**

4.00 – 5.30pm **Brian Newbould**  
**'Schubert and the Age of Virtuosity'**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April (continued)

6.00pm **Dinner**

8.15 – 9.45pm **Nigel Simeone**  
**'British Ballet Music:  
A Musical Diversion'**

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Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April

7.30 – 9.30am **Breakfast**

10.15am **Coffee/Tea available**

10.30 – 11.30am **Paul Corfield Godfrey**  
**'Recording a New Work:  
The Children of Hùrin'**

11.30 – 11.40am **Short Break**

11.40am – 12.45pm **Song Recital**  
**Three singers from Welsh  
National Opera**

1.00pm **Lunch**

2.30 – 4.00pm **Sue Parker**  
**'By the side of the Silvery Sea'**

4.00pm **Closing remarks followed by Coffee/Tea**

4.45pm approx **Weekend Close**

**Please note:** The programme may be subject to change

**Safe journey home or perhaps stay longer and explore the area!**

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**Full details and booking form available from:**

Allan Child FRMS Chairman  
T: 01332 332649  
[chairman@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:chairman@thefrms.co.uk)

Or

Adele Wills FRMS Secretary  
T: 07980 070198  
[secretary@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:secretary@thefrms.co.uk)

The committee wish to acknowledge the assistance of Jim Bostwick (former regional and FRMS secretary), in acting as a local contact and providing continuity in liaison with the hotel and some of the presenters.

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## AGM 2019 – ‘It was indeed a dark and stormy night.’



The forecast for Saturday 2 November indicated that we were in for some rough weather – but nothing could have prepared us for the wind, rain and storms that heralded the 83<sup>rd</sup> FRMS AGM in Weston-super-Mare. Lovers of the sublime had plenty of ‘sturm und drang’ to keep them more than satisfied – and there is no doubt that, from a warm vantage point inside the Winter Gardens, there was something deeply impressive about the sight of thrashing waves and the sound of the roaring wind. Unfortunately, grappling with the elements outside was not so pleasant.

Having said that, there were no apologies because of the poor weather conditions. Members are clearly made of stern stuff!

The Winter Gardens provided us with a comfortable and modern environment for our AGM and the afternoon business meeting went ahead without a hitch. Particular mention must be made of Dianne Board, the Secretary of Weston-super-Mare Music Appreciation Society, who acted as Minutes Secretary for the meeting – not an easy task to take on at very short notice.



Business over, the pleasurable part of the day began with a presentation from Geraint Lewis and David Threasher, speakers well-known to the Weston society. Geraint is a Welsh composer and academic who has worked for Nimbus records; David is a sub-editor of Gramophone Magazine. Their excellent talk was entitled ‘Take 99’ and focused on the way that recordings (most apt for the FRMS) can have such a crucial impact on our appreciation and understanding of music. Both speakers talked about their early musical influences - Haydn, Mozart, Britten – and we listened to some wonderful recordings. We were also treated to William Matthias’ ‘Processional’ played on the organ of St Paul’s Cathedral by the late John Scott, as well as one of Geraint’s own works, ‘The Souls of the Righteous’. All in all, an interesting, informative and varied programme. Talk about the theme – our early musical influences – continued over a lively tea break.



A very pleasant three course dinner followed in Lasseter’s restaurant, which concluded with a recital by The Abbey Quartet, a string quartet based in Glastonbury. We enjoyed a well-judged and varied programme of music arranged for strings, ranging from the ‘serious’: Mozart, Kreisler and

Massenet; to the ‘popular’: Gershwin, Leroy Anderson’s ‘Blue Tango’ and Lennon/McCartney’s ‘When I’m 64’ (although many felt that the title ‘Wish I were 64’ would have been more apt!) Feet were tapping appreciatively by the end of the evening. The highlight for me – and for many others – was an exquisite performance of Britten’s Simple Symphony 3 (Sentimental Sarabande), a fitting connection back to our afternoon talk and the deep and lasting influence of Britten as a composer.

The Weston-super-Mare Music Appreciation Society has done the Federation proud this year. The inclement weather was soon forgotten in the shared enjoyment of music and companionship. We are all looking forward to Leicester next year.

*Adele Wills FRMS Secretary*



# 70th Celebrations!

## OLTON RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY (ORMS)

The Society was founded in 1950 and is celebrating its **70<sup>th</sup> birthday on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

There will be a dinner at Copt Heath golf club and a presentation by Stephen Maddock.

Also there will be a short performance by the ensemble "Clarinet Allsorts" before the dinner.

Partners of existing members will be invited along with past members. With excellent premises, the Solihull Women's Institute Hall, the Society has a stable membership and continues to meet every Thursday. It is to be hoped that there are many more successful years ahead.

*John Futter FRMS committee*

On behalf of the Federation – *Congratulations!*

## Another Anniversary!

Ludwig Van Beethoven



As noted by our Chairman, 2020 will be the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beethoven's birth. Born in Bonn during December 1770 and died in Vienna on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1827 aged 56.



## A request from the Treasurer

Should societies need to contact me - please email, not telephone. I will reply as soon as possible.

Thank you. [paul.godfrey@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:paul.godfrey@thefrms.co.uk)



*Paul Corfield Godfrey FRMS Treasurer*

## The current FRMS committee

### Chairman

Allan Child – [chairman@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:chairman@thefrms.co.uk)

### Vice Chairman & Website manager

George Steele – [webmaster@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@thefrms.co.uk)

### Secretary

Adele Wills – [secretary@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:secretary@thefrms.co.uk)

### Treasurer

Paul Corfield Godfrey – [paul.godfrey@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:paul.godfrey@thefrms.co.uk)

### Committee (in alphabetical order)

Mick Birchall no email access

John Futter [john.futter@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:john.futter@thefrms.co.uk)

Ron Mitchell [ron.mitchell@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:ron.mitchell@thefrms.co.uk)

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David Wherrell [david.wherrell@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:david.wherrell@thefrms.co.uk)

## A special note for society contacts

If you and your society are willing to receive future newsletters electronically instead of hard copies, please let me know. [simon.rawlings@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:simon.rawlings@thefrms.co.uk)

*It is, however, important that newsletters are made available to all your members.*

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## NEWSLETTERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FRMS WEBSITE

*The next newsletter is planned for September 2020. Please send any society news or articles to:  
[simon.rawlings@thefrms.co.uk](mailto:simon.rawlings@thefrms.co.uk)*

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**All members should be encouraged to read newsletters and visit our website – [www.thefrms.co.uk](http://www.thefrms.co.uk)**