



The Friends of St Cecilia's Hall & Museum

Annual Report

2019

This report was presented at and passed by the Annual General Meeting of the
Friends of St Cecilia's Hall, 23-11-2019

Signed on behalf of the meeting:

Dr Eleanor Smith, Chair

Bursary Awards

The Friends of St Cecilia's Hall and Museum offer annual student music awards known as 'St Cecilia's Bursaries' to assist with costs of travel, research, conference attendance and professional preparation in connection with early music and early music instrument technology. The Friends maintain a dedicated Bursary Fund from which awards are made - this is sustained by donations and by fund-raising activities. There were five applications to the Fund in the 2019 round, two of which complied with the regulations. These two applicants were given awards. At the time of the 2019 round, the Fund stood at £6457; awards totalling £1550 were made. Bursary winners also receive one year's free membership of the of St Cecilia's Hall and Museum. A review of the Bursary regulations and the guidance for applicants was undertaken and minor changes made.

Arnold Myers

Concerts

The Friends of St Cecilia's Hall and Museum organised 5 concerts during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

The Sir Nicholas Shackleton Memorial Concert featured Andy Saunders playing the 1840 Courtois horn with a programme including the Brahms Horn Trio. Then we had a harpsichord recital with Masumi Yamamoto playing suites by Handeland Muffat. John Kitchen, Gerry McDonald and Anthony Robson played virtuoso concerti for woodwind and harpsichord by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, Telemann and Corelli to a large and enthusiastic audience. The Spinacino Consort played repertoire from Venetian traditions in the Pamela Jackson Memorial Concert (the group have previously received support from the Bursary Fund). Finally, tenor Stuart Murray Mitchell performed songs by Gordon Ferris, accompanied by the composer who also played guitar music by Dionisino Aguado.

We were helped by volunteers from the Friends of St Cecilia's Hall and Museum and were pleased to attract a total of 436 people including some students and children who were admitted for no charge as part of our aim to promote Early Music performance to students.

We also must thank Ruthanne Baxter, Jonathan Santa Maria Bouquet, Sarah Deters, Raj Kaur, and all the staff at St Cecilia's Hall for the hours of effort preparing the instruments used in the concerts, as well as their help with setting up the concert hall for each concert, putting out posters, and organising all the practice arrangements with artists. Our particular thanks also to Jenny Nex for also organising another fantastic Shackleton Memorial Concert.

In addition, the Friends of St Cecilia's again supported the Syper Summer Concerts by organising the provision of interval refreshments. The 2019 Series was of particular high quality, thanks to the superb programme put together by Moira Landels.

Carola Bronte-Stewart did an excellent job of coordinating volunteers for both the Syper Series and for the Festival Fringe Concerts, as well as giving out a record number of flyers and

bookmarks, and the Chair would like to extend personal thanks to Carola and to all those who helped make these events possible.

Carola Bronte-Stewart/ Eleanor Smith

Publications

This has been a busy year for the plucked and keyboard instruments publications department with 24 orders from across the globe, our latest being a series of 5 harpsichord drawings sent to Japan. Setting aside holidays and Festival Time, we attend on a weekly basis to fulfil orders and to do some housekeeping.

Members may note that expenditure for publications has risen from £621.00 last year to £979.00 this year ending. This is because we have run down the stocks of paper drawings, which we now order on demand from Edinburgh Copyshop and also, we have had to buy more postal supplies to fulfil growing orders.

We are very grateful to Professor Arnold Myers, who handles wind instrument drawings and EUCHMI publications, who is has also been kept busy with these enquiries, 14 this year.

A proposal to raise our prices by 5% next financial year was approved by the Committee at a meeting on 26th September. Prices have not gone up to anyone's recollection and this modest increase we feel will increase revenue, whilst not deterring scholarship.

Graeme Lyall and David Jenkins

Soundboard

In 2019 we have produced two editions of *Soundboard*, with continued support with layout and design from Erica Schwartz.

The Winter Edition as usual feature reports from three of the bursary awardees (the fourth presented his research in person at the AGM). Martin Hillman produced a report of the November meeting, and there was information regarding the first *Harpsichord en Fête* – a harpsichord festival organised by the *Institut Français d'Ecosse* in collaboration with St Cecilia's Hall.

The Summer Edition had a report of my own visit to Sweden to the inaugural recital of the Göteborg Baroque long-action claviorgan, as well as articles by Fringe Festival performers giving information about their forthcoming recitals.

Eleanor Smith

Treasurer's Report

I have pleasure in submitting this Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet for the period to 31 July 2019 to the AGM of the Friends of St. Cecilia's Hall and Museum. The Balance Sheet has been considered and approved by the Committee at its meeting on 26 September 2019. The accounts were submitted for assessment and approved by the Independent Assessor on 11 October 2019.

During the financial year, three people joined the Society as Life Members. In addition, forty-four people took out or renewed Annual membership. During the year, the membership list was reviewed and updated to ensure that members' details are current. The review established that many members are happy to receive communications and Soundboard by email. This will make the mailing process much easier, as well as saving the cost of postage. The Committee would be grateful if members would notify any changes to their membership details.

In February 2019 the Friends received a bequest of £375,000 from the estate of the late Pamela Jackson. As most members will be aware, Pam was a dedicated Chairman of the Society for many years prior to her sad and untimely death.

The terms of Pam's will state that this very generous bequest must be used:

"to provide for the endowment of a Post Graduate Scholarship in early keyboard music performance and will enable the preservation and enhancement of the building's eighteenth century character".

The Committee is seeking legal advice and guidance, and has had preliminary discussion with Edinburgh University on how to fulfill Pam's wishes.

The total assets held by the Society increased during the year from £28125 to £33904, an increase of £5779. These figures exclude the legacy from Pamela Jackson's estate, which as previously stated are restricted for a particular purpose. The attached Balance Sheet shows the income and expenditure of the Society during the past year and the assets available to enable the Society to carry on meeting its charitable objectives.

The Society awarded two bursaries during the year, totaling £1550. Fewer bursaries were awarded than last year (when we awarded five bursaries) with an associated reduction in expenditure (£2043 was awarded in 2017-18). The Society will continue its commitment to awarding bursaries to all suitable applicants in the future. As reported elsewhere in the Annual Report, the bursary rules have been reviewed and action will be taken to publicise the availability of bursaries as widely as possible.

During the year, the Society received a number of donations to the Bursary Fund. The Society is very grateful for these donations and thanks the donors for their generosity. In order for the Society to continue to award bursaries in future years, it is important that the Bursary fund is well endowed and the Committee is exploring ways to support the fund for the future.

Sale of publications, instrument drawings, CDs and other material continues to be a major source of income for the Society. I wish to thank those members who have acted as the sales team for this important activity. The Committee is considering whether to commission new drawings of instruments in the museum's collection. This will assist in promoting the collection to the wider music community, as well as producing additional income for the Friends' activities.

The Festival Fringe concerts are quality musical performances, which publicise the activities of the Society and promote St. Cecilia's Concert Hall, as well as providing income to the Society. I would like to thank all performers and supporters who contributed to the success of these concerts.

As reported in the Annual Report last year, the Committee agreed to match-fund with the University's Music Department up to a maximum of £6000 for the purchase of replica musical instruments to provide students with more opportunity to play on historical instruments. This was not progressed further by the University last year, but funding from the Friends remains available, if and when the University decides to proceed.

The AGM 2018 agreed that subscriptions for membership of the Friends would increase from 1 January 2019, as the rates had remained unchanged for many years. The revised subscriptions agreed were as follows:

Life membership:	£150
Annual membership:	£15
Student membership:	£10.

The Committee proposes no change to the subscription rates for the coming year.

The Committee intends to send out subscription renewal notices to appropriate members before the end of this year.

The AGM 2018 approved the appointment of Alison Lawson as the Independent Assessor of the Society's accounts. On behalf of the Society, I wish to thank Alison Lawson for carrying out the task of Independent Assessor this past year and propose that she be appointed for a further year.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for all the help and support they have given to me in my role as Treasurer.

Andrew Mackie

Treasurer

THE FRIENDS OF ST CECILIA'S HALL AND MUSEUM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at St Cecilia's Hall, Edinburgh,

on Saturday 24rd November, 2018, at 2.30pm.

Present: Eleanor Smith (Chair), Paula Allison (Minutes Secretary), Carola Bronte-Stewart, Christopher Field, Gill French, Roger French, David Gerrard, Martin Hillman, David Jenkins, Graeme Lyall, Nicola MacRae, Arnold Myers, Jenny Nex, John Raymond, Erica Schwarz.

1. Welcome.

Eleanor Smith warmly welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance on a very wet windy afternoon.

Apologies were received from: Ann Bond, Toni Bunch, Lilian Cameron, Rosemary Carter, Charles Coventry, Thelma Edwards, John Kitchen, Peter Julian Newman, Grant O'Brien, Peter Schwarz, Peter Smalley, Jean Starr, Heather Stubbs, Claudine Tate, James Tate, Paula Woods.

2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM.

The Chair identified some errors which would be rectified in the official record kept in the Friends' archive: the name of Grant O'Brien had been mis-spelt, the date at the top of the Minutes was incorrect, the printed version of the Minutes available at the AGM was missing the last few paragraphs. With the above proviso, the Minutes of the 2017 AGM were accepted as an accurate record (Proposer M. Hillman, Seconder C. Field).

3. Matters arising from these Minutes.

Tree of Life: The Chairman reported that the committee had made a donation last December in memory of the late Pam Jackson and that two Friends had attended the lighting up ceremony in Charlotte Square. She thanked M.H. for organising this tribute to Pam.

Letter from Dr Elaine Kelly: in response to the concerns expressed at the 2017 AGM by some Friends specifically over a perceived lack of scientific research in the music department's approach to organology and to a more generally expressed feeling of unease over the loss of one academic job at St Cecilia's and a consequent reduction in the amount of academic research that could be undertaken there, it was agreed that the committee would arrange a meeting with the Head of Music Dr Elaine Kelly, and James Cook Of the Music Department. M. Hillman organised this meeting in April 2018 and there is a full report of it in the Spring/Summer 2018 edition of Soundboard. At the meeting, E.K. agreed to write formally to the Friends to clarify future directions for music at the University; it was also agreed that E.K. and J. C. would be placed on the invitation list to all Friends' Committee meetings in order to facilitate better communication between the University and the Friends.

Pamela Jackson's Will: E. S. informed the meeting that she had had no information from Pam's solicitor either of the size of Pam's bequest or when it might be made available to the Friends. She promised that she would keep Friends informed of all future developments connected with the Will and declared her intention to write a strongly worded letter asking for clarification in these matters.

4. Chairman's Report.

Reporting on her appointment as Chair of the Friends, E.S. was pleased to describe her first year in post as "fun-packed". She informed the meeting that the Chairman's report would from now on incorporate the OSCR return which had morphed from a straightforward request for the Treasurer to supply details of finances to a much more detailed form asking for an analysis of all areas of the Committee's involvement with St Cecilia's. This she now presented to the AGM, as she would also do in future years, for approval before being sent off to OSCR.

E.S. was delighted that this new return highlighted the extraordinary amount of volunteering work undertaken by the Committee. She added that it had been decided that the Committee members in charge of specific areas would complete the appropriate part of the form, and these responsibilities had largely been incorporated into the Agenda under the headings of: Treasurer's report, Constitution, Sales, Soundboard, Website. E.S. signalled that she herself would bring to the attention of the AGM the account of the Bursary Fund which had been so ably written up by Professor Arnold Myers.

The report had described the sources of funding for Bursaries: donations, fund-raising and gifts. It had also outlined the range of assistance given: costs of travel, research, conference attendance and professional preparation in connection with early music and early musical instrument technology and the number of Bursaries awarded in 2018 which was 5 -- 4 to former students of the Reid school of Music and 1 to the Kellie Concert. A.M.had stated that from time to time Bursary regulations and guidance for applicants were reviewed and that one such review would be undertaken before the announcement of the 2019 round.

In reviewing the success of the 2018 Festival Fringe concerts, E.S. was profuse in her thanks to Carola Bronte-Stewart who had taken over the organisation of volunteers at the concerts, and who had led the efforts to publicise the concerts which had resulted in audience figures being significantly higher than in previous years. E.S. also thanked M.H. for designing flyers and bookmarks for the concerts; Dr Sarah Deters, Raj Kaur and all the staff at St Cecilia's for promoting the concerts; and Dr Jonathan Santa Maria Bouquet, John Raymond and Willie Hendry for the hours of effort preparing the instruments used in the concerts.

E.S. outlined changes that had been made to the format of the Fringe concerts, namely that they would last for one hour and that no refreshments would be served. She added that Curator Jenny Nex had offered to organise one concert in every series to honour Nicholas Shackleton whose world-renowned collection of clarinets was donated to the University in 2006; the

Committee of the Friends had also made the decision to allocate one concert each year to feature a young musician in memory of their late Chairperson Pam Jackson who had taken a keen interest in all the young applicants for Bursaries from the Friends.

Lastly, E.S. reported that the friends had continued to provide refreshments at the Syper Concerts and at the memorial concert for Peter Williams, former Head of the School of Music.

5. Curatorial Report.

In presenting her report on the first full year of the re-opened St Cecilia's hall, Dr. Jenny Nex was delighted to record many initiatives and successes. She reported that in the year May 2017- April 2018, St Cecilia's had exceeded its targets for visitor numbers, income generation and visitor experience rating. She thanked the new VoluME team (Volunteer Marketing and Events), led by Ruthanne Baxter, Museum Services Manager who had provided valuable support in marketing St Cecilia's. She also paid tribute to the many volunteers, organised by Laura Beattie and Dr Sarah Deters who had contributed greatly to all aspects of museum activity.

J.N. highlighted the ever-expanding public engagement programme at the Hall since the Redevelopment Project and brought the attention of the Friends to programmes and events relating to dementia and student welfare. She indicated her particular pleasure in the St Cecilia's Day Big Celebration which had been a day of non-stop free music of many genres. She promised more developments, singling out the Three on a Thursday series which would consist of three young artists performing trios on the third Thursday of every month.

After describing a year of music making and music enjoyment at St Cecilia's, J.N. focused on its role as a centre of academic teaching and research. She described her involvement in a new, successful Masters course in Collecting and Curating Practices and her role in developing new courses to form a Musical Instrument pathway at Masters level. She noted that 2 PhD students were based in the Collection, partly supervised by herself, and that both she and the Conservator Dr Jonathan Santa Maria Bouquet had given academic papers at conferences.

J.N. ended by informing the meeting that St Cecilia's keyboard instruments currently in store at the Reid Concert Hall would in future be stored, to their great benefit, at the University Collections facility.

6. Committee Changes.

Retirals : E.S. announced two retirals from the Committee and gave sincere thanks to Willie Hendry for all his dedicated work with the instruments in the Collection over the years and to Martin Hillman for his many years of service to the Friends as Chairman, Publications Officer and, in the past year, Deputy Chair.

Co-options: E.S. declared herself delighted to welcome two co-opted members on to the committee, namely Ingrid Uglow and Tilly Edwards, a long-time volunteer at Fringe Concerts.

7. Festival Fringe Concerts.

E.S. was pleased to report that planning was already underway with some dates booked. The format would be the same as in 2018 with concerts lasting one hour with no interval. The programme series would again include a Pam Jackson Memorial Concert hopefully featuring Anne Marie Klein Uglow; a Shackleton Memorial Concert; one concert in partnership with The Early Keyboard Trust; and one concert with Fringe favourites John Kitchen and Gerry McDonald. In addition, J.N. mentioned the possibility of sharing an artist with someone from Fenton House Fletcher Collection of Early Musical Instruments for another concert performance. She indicated that she would keep committee members up to date via the website and Soundboard with negotiations over this matter.

E.S. was happy to confirm that the Syper Concerts would take place as usual in June 2019, with the first and last Saturday already booked and one other date to be confirmed.

8. Treasurer's Report.

Submitting his report in absentia, the treasurer Dr Andrew Mackie was pleased to announce that the accounts had been submitted to and approved by the independent assessor in October 2018. He confirmed that the total assets held by the Friends had reduced during the year from £31,004 to £28,125 due to a further and final payment of £3,977 for a new blower and fittings to the organ, now fully restored in the Syper Concert Hall.

A.M. announced that five bursaries totalling £2043 had been awarded during the past year but noted that while awarding bursaries remained a central commitment of the Friends, the money in the Bursary account was reducing and the Committee were exploring ways to boost the fund.

A.M. was delighted to report that two main sources of income, namely the series of Festival Fringe Concerts and the year-round sale of publications, CDs and musical instrument drawings were thriving. He wished to thank all concerned for their continuing success.

A.M. announced his intention to review and update the membership list to ensure that members' details were up to date and explained that a pro-forma had been included in the AGM for this purpose. During the most recent financial year, 12 people had joined the friends as Life Members and 40 people had taken out Annual membership.

M.H., speaking on the Treasurer's behalf, informed the meeting that an identified source of increased revenue would be raising membership fees which had stayed the same for 21 years. The proposed new fee structure would be: £150 for Life membership; £15 for Annual membership; and £10 for Student membership. This proposal by M.H., seconded by R.F., was unanimously approved, with the caveat proposed by D.J. that the decision should be re-visited at next year's AGM.

E.S. announced that Alison Lawson had been re-appointed as Independent Assessor of the Friends' accounts. She went on to thank Malcolm MacRae who had done sterling work in this

role for some years. However, the appointment of his wife to the Committee meant that he could not be regarded as wholly independent. The Treasurer also wished to extend sincere thanks to Malcolm.

9. Constitution.

Martin Hillman reported that he had felt the Constitution of the Friends needed updating to reflect recent changes and that consequently at the September Committee Meeting of the Friends he had suggested setting up a sub-committee consisting of the Chair, Depute Chair and Treasurer to consider any changes they felt necessary. He presented the resulting Draft Constitution to the AGM and asked for its approval of the following:

Clause 2a: substituting the new name of the hall.

Clause 2c: Deleting the words “to be housed at the hall” as no longer applicable.

Clause 3: The final two sentences should standardise the membership year.

Clause 4: New descriptions of the ex-officio members of the committee in view of changes in titles since the previous constitution were approved in 2006. The references to “ fulfilling equivalent functions” is intended to cover any changes of titles in future.

Clause 5: Extra words to clarify that co-opted office-bearers and committee members will be eligible to stand for election to keep their posts.

Clause 7: Extra words added to cover any possible changes within the university to the title of the person presenting the report, as in Clause 4.

R.F. proposed (G. L. seconded) that the AGM approve this amended Constitution. The meeting unanimously agreed.

10. Publications report.

Sales: Graeme Lyall and David Jenkins reported that they had had a satisfactory year of selling a variety of items for the benefit of music scholars. These included technical drawings of instruments in the collection which are used in the study of the construction and also the actual making of replicas of these unique items. They added that books on the history of music in Edinburgh and Scotland as well as scores of early music and learned articles on musical topics had sold steadily, as had CDs featuring instruments from the collection.

Soundboard: E.S. gave a resume of the highlights of the 2017-2018 issues of Soundboard, noting that the Winter 2017 edition had carried news that the edition of Winter 2016 had won the top prize in the newsletter competition organised by the British Association of Friends of Museums. The winter 2017 edition had carried photographs of the formal re-opening by the Princess Royal of St Cecilia’s after a two-year-plus refurbishment. Both Winter 2017 and Spring 2018 editions had carried tributes to Pam Jackson. In addition, Bursary winners had contributed reports on their projects ranging from: research into the mandolin repertoire; lute improvisation workshops in Leipzig; research into early Church music composed by women;

to building a replica of a 19th Century guitar. Recent editions of Soundboard had been greatly enhanced by the award winning layout and design skills of Erica Schwarz.

Website: Presenting his report, Roger French confirmed that the website had been running smoothly. He informed the meeting that a new facility had been added to the site, namely a private area to which only Friends had access by means of a password. He asked for the views of the meeting about a request for a link to the St Cecilia's website from G. O'Brien who runs another website which offers instrumental drawings, albeit of different instruments from the ones offered by the Friends. This was felt to be perfectly in order.

E.S thanked sincerely all concerned with sales, Soundboard and the website .

11. Any Other Competent Business.

J.N. announced that she had been contacted by the French Institute which was planning a harpsichord festival in March 2019 which they hoped would involve co-operation with St Cecilia's.

G.L. requested that the University/Friends should lobby Edinburgh council over placing a brown fingerpost at the top of Niddrie St pointing down to St Cecilia's. He also emphasised the need for clear signage on the side of the building. J.N. informed the meeting that Ruthanne Baxter was pressing for improvements to the entranceway.

12. Date and Time of 2019 AGM:

Saturday, 23rd November at 2.30pm in St Cecilia's Hall.