

Welcome to the **second e-newsletter** of the British Harpsichord Society.

Since the last newsletter, the membership has more than doubled to nearly 160 members. The website has continued to grow and many more links have been added. If you haven't seen it recently, click on the "keys" above and have a look. We now attract about 20 visits per day.

We are starting to attract good search engine ratings which will bring us to more people's attention. If you have a website and can link to us this will help us grow.

Your [Feedback](#) about this newsletter will help to improve future issues. Please send any news you would like publicised: performances, publications, recordings etc.

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## **Broadwood Harpsichord Competition**

Congratulations to David Wright on winning the 2003 Broadwood Harpsichord Competition. Join us at Fenton House, Hampstead, London on August 21st to hear his Prizewinner's recital.

## **Forthcoming Events**

Several recitals coming up which we will be attending:

[14th August 2003, Oxford, Kah-Ming Ng Solo Recital](#)

[21st August 2003, Fenton House, London. David Wright, Broadwood Harpsichord Prize Recital.](#)

If you are going to either email me and we can arrange to meet up.

William Mitchell, a long established British maker, has very kindly offered to host **a musical afternoon for the Society** at his home near Bournemouth on Sunday 5th October 2003.

Instruments available will be a Franco-Flemish double, based on the 1636/1763 Ruckers-Hensch, (now part of the Cobbe Collection at Hatchlands, a National Trust property near Guildford, Surrey) as well as a rare treat, the Claviorganum. This extraordinary instrument combines a double manual harpsichord with a single manual chamber organ, which achieves a remarkable sound.

There is no formal programme. The idea is for members to come and play and listen and share their enjoyment of harpsichords. All standards are welcome or you can come and listen. We hope that many people will be prepared to play something.

Please support this occasion which is the first that has been organised specifically for the Society. Offers to host other events are also very welcome. Advance booking is essential as space is limited.

### **Featured Book and CDs**

In this newsletter we review the recent book "The Benton Fletcher Collection at Fenton House - Early Keyboard Instruments" by Mimi Waitzman, with accompanying CD by Terence Charlston.

We have also reviewed "Instruments from the Russell Collection", a CD by John Kitchen, released on Delphian Records

### **Future Developments**

We are working on a number of developments for the future. One of which is a project, suggested by a member, to begin listing the baroque keyboard repertoire by composer as extensively as possible.

This is a huge task but spread between the membership it begins to look feasible to make some impact on it. Let us know if you would like to participate.

A good source of information is the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians which is available in many public reference libraries. If anybody has access to the online version this could make research very much easier.

Have a look at the Repertoire page to see how far we have got.

## **Restoration of a 17th Century Italian Harpsichord**

A detailed, illustrated account of this unusual instrument by Franco Facchini.

Do you have any material that we could publish in this way? Comments.

## **Harpsichord Offered on Loan**

I have just received the following message from Paul Simmonds, regarding a very generous offer:

Someone I know has a two manual Michael Thomas harpsichord, made by Dave Law, probably after Wilbrook, which he is prepared to let someone have on a loan basis - it just needs a home, and he needs the space. There's an option to buy. It was working and sounding well up to a year or two ago, when it was given to the EMS to sell, it may need some work doing on it, but is basically fine, and a handsome instrument. If anyone is interested, and would like a photo of it, contact David Watkin on 01273- 607995.

## **Recital Offers**

One of our aims is to introduce harpsichord music to a wider audience. We would like to encourage members to offer recitals to audiences near them. Some venues can be made available for a nominal contribution, either from ticket sales or a retiring collection. If anybody is interested in performing or helping to arrange a recital, please email me

## **Guestbook Requests**

The Guestbook is a new feature in response to member feedback. Some members have posted requests for information on specific subjects to see if other members can help. Click on the Guestbook key on the home page to have a look and add your own comments.

## **Harpsichord & Fortepiano**

Harpsichord & Fortepiano has a new editor: Neal Peres da Costa  
Please Email him with any material suitable for publication.

### Subscription information

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Once again, please let me have your feedback with any suggestions or contributions for future issues.

Thanks

William