



"The Listening Club"

Email Enqr@bokc-news.co.uk

Web www.BOKC-NEWS.CO.UK

Brentwood Organ & Keyboard Club

CHAIRPERSON	Rodger Green	07587 852111
TREASURER	Dave Schuster	01277 822232
SECRETARY	Stephen Morl	01277 823086
BOOKING SECRETARY	Jean Baugh	01277 824380
GENERAL COMMITTEE		

The above reflects the Incoming committee May 2017

Dear Friends **Monthly Newsletter 380/a** April 2017

Club Diary 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Artiste</u>	<u>Doors</u>
May 22nd	Nicholas Martin	6-45 pm AGM
June 26th	Elizabeth Harrison	7-15 pm
July 24th	Matthew Bason	7-15 pm
August 21st	David Harrild	7-15 pm
Sept 25th	Alex Paler	7-15 pm
Oct 23rd	Rod Pooley	7-15 pm
Nov 27th	Mike Sullivan	7-15 pm
Dec 18th	Steve Hubble (7-30pm start) Christmas	6-45 pm

Other Clubs

<u>Club</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Artiste</u>	<u>Doors</u>
CO	May 5th	Adrian Rose	7.45 pm
WA	May 10th	Mark Thompson	8.00 pm
CL	May 10th	Ian Griffin	7-30 pm
CH	May 20th	Dirkjan Ranzijn	8.00 pm

Club contact number

CL- Clacton Tel 01255 428628
 CH - Chelmsford Tel 01245 324930
 CO - Colchester Tel 01787 269458
 WA - Wanstead Tel 02085 303717

Forthcoming Concerts

Visiting us on 24th April 2017 is Paul Roberts

Paul Roberts was born in Warrington, UK in 1960. In his formative years, he studied the piano, classical organ and clarinet. Whilst reading Economic History at Liverpool University he also successfully completed several music diplomas. His tutors have included Noel Rawsthorne (Cathedral and City Organist of Liverpool) and Arthur Hutchings (formerly Professor of Music at Durham University).

For well over thirty years Paul has been a consistently prominent name in the keyboard world. A regular broadcaster in the U.K. (including the BBC) and internationally, Paul has also appeared on TV in the U.K. and the USA and has been a prolific writer for music journals.

Visiting us on 22nd May 2017 is Nicholas Martin B.E.M

Nick began his music career studying the piano at nine years of age. He soon took a keen interest in the organ. A family visit to Blackpool in 1969 (at age five), gave him the chance to hear the Wurlitzer organ being played in the famous Tower Ballroom by "Mr Blackpool" - Reginald Dixon. The sound of this famous organ captivated Nick who became infatuated by it to the point that he learned play the organ. At the age of eleven it became his ambition to perform at this most famous of venues.

Nick's Tower Ballroom ambition was achieved in 1981, he accepted a post as resident organist – and was then just 17. He played there seven days a week during the 1981 and 1982 seasons.

While at Blackpool, Nigel Turner a businessman proposed that Nick became involved in the opening of a new organ entertainments complex - "Turner's Musical Merry-go-Round". The feature piece was to be a Wurlitzer theatre organ; this organ had been installed in the Paramount, later Odeon, Cinema Newcastle. That organ has long been considered as one of the finest in the U.K. It originally came from the Wurlitzer Organ factory in North Tonawanda, New York State, U.S.A.

Nick became the resident Wurlitzer organist at "Turner's", in April 1983, and remained there until its closure in June 2004

Club members celebrations

Happy Birthday to our friends

April Elizabeth Collard, Rodger Green and Dave Schuster.
May Frances Alvarez, Jim Best, Roy Clemance, Maureen Collins, Irene Cousins, John Ellis, Ken Hawkins, Brian Heeny, Brenda Odden, Jack Peppercorn and Joan Steward.

Refreshments

As always we are most grateful for those looking after us with our Tea, Coffee & biscuits.

January Eringa, Christine Brown and Brenda Hutton
February James Eringa, Keith Blackman and Jean

March Janet & Brian Cox and Kathleen Crockett
April Brian & Brenda Odden and one other

Please let Jean know if you are unable to help on the indicated evening.

Notices

AGM

The concert on the night of 22nd of May 2017 will be preceded by the AGM - doors open 6-45pm

SUBS

Annual subs became due on the 1st of April. Please if you wish to continue your membership of the club, ensure you have paid your membership subs for 2017 - 2018

We made an increase last year and with savings that the new committee hope to bring about there will be no increase this year. The annual subscription will be £8.00 for a single membership and £12.00 for a couple at the same address.

The entrance charge on concert evenings will be £5.00 for members and £7.00 for non-members.

Newsletters

These will be printed and available on club nights. Unfortunately the rising cost of stamps makes the continued posting of a newsletter financially unviable without an increase in SUBS.

Website

BOKC now has its own local website. It will be updated with our local club information. You can from the comment box directly send email to the club secretary. Newsletters can be seen on the website and reprinted if required. The web address is:

www.bokc-news.co.uk

Recent Concerts

Concert 27th March 2017 – Ryan Edwards

The first hint of spring, the clocks had gone forward; we welcomed British Summer Time and Ryan Edwards who had travelled to us from Chester. Those of us who arrived a little early did so whilst there was still some daylight in the sky. Ryan began his performance with a spirited rendition of the Light Cavalry Overture by Franz Von Suppe, followed by, 'I wanna be like you' from the jungle book. During the evening between pieces he explained why he had chosen each item of music and there would be a little story often with humour. Amongst the varied program were; Bring him home, Morning in Cornwall, music from Cats, 'Goodbye to love' by the Carpenters, which included of course its faithfully rendered famous guitar solo. There were two pieces from Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells, one of which was 'Portsmouth'. Other varied genres featured a performance of Michel Flatley's 'Gypsy' and another 'River Dance' favourite, 'Lord of the dance'. 'Nice work if you can get it', 'Cocamba'. A piece with fast and complicated looking footwork and Elgar's ninth Enigma Variation, 'Nimrod'.

All too soon we reached the encore which of course was called for after an accomplished evening's entertainment, 'Nessun Dorma' brought the performance to a close. There had been many other and varied items in Ryan's program the detail of which I have missed but his music spanned some classical and the last 60 years (by my reckoning) and had the audience swaying, singing, and toe tapping throughout.

The instrument played by Ryan was a Yamaha Electone EL-900. During the evening he explained that a near catastrophe occurred in the last few days whilst transporting it. The keyboard fell off its trolley and broke its right side panel. Fortunately a family member repaired it in time for the BOKC performance.

Concert 27th February 2017 – John Cooper

27th February 2017, Another cold evening for a concert but we were treated to a comprehensive evening of great musical variety at the hands of John Cooper, hands which he was rubbing together to warm his fingers, two of the heaters in the hall were out of order. At least by the forthcoming March concert we should be moving into spring and perhaps warmer weather? John punctuated his music with a good sense of humour between pieces. As he started to play he slipped off his shoes to operate the pedals in his socks. He didn't want to scratch the pedals... Whilst playing, John's father maintained a projected video relevant to the music as an inset on the screened images of keyboard and pedals.

The evening opened with music in the stile of James last, the Elizabethan serenade, we heard music from Les Misérables, a variety from Disney, Hans Zimmer's pirates of the Caribbean. Further pieces included, The Rose, Hero, Unforgettable, Bring him home, Conquest of Paradise, Palladio, and a very soulful rendition of 'Morning in Cornwall'. Eventually the concert reached the end of the evening and John returned to play 'Time to say goodbye' as his encore.

The instrument John brought with him was a Yamaha Stagea ELS-02C. Apparently these are very rare in the UK perhaps only two models including John's. It seems one can be purchased here for £25,000 or as John did, journey to Japan and bring your own back for about £6,000 or was it £8000? Well out of interest I checked and today you can buy one direct in Japan for 1,036,800 Japanese Yen or in good old GBP £7,862.96p

This and future newsletters will be available to print from our website anytime. You can have it emailed to you if you wish. Send me an email request via the 'comments' box on the website.

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