

THE PETER WARLOCK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION.....

It was suggested recently that not enough was being done to keep members informed of the Society's activities and Warlock news generally. Hence this newsletter, which we intend will appear quarterly. Contributions will be welcomed by the editor, whose name and address appears above.

ACM ON FEBRUARY I

The Society's next ACM will be held on Saturday February I, 1969, at the Arts Theatre Club, London, beginning at 2.30 pm. We hope as many members as possible will come along, although we realise that in many cases a long journey is involved.

HON. SECRETARY'S NEW ADDRESS

Our Hon. Secretary, Bernard J van Dieren, has moved office recently and can now be found at 91a, Grosvenor Road, London S.W.1 (01- 834 2858). All correspondence to do with the Society should be sent to that address, except subscription renewals, which should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. I. Copley, at 3 Great Wilkins, Falmer, Brighton, Sussex.

'MERRY-GO-DOWN' AND CONCERT

Early December saw a burst of activity by the Society, with the 'Merry-go-down' on December 3 and an all-Warlock concert on December 6. As a result, Society funds have benefitted by about £20.

For the Merry-go-down we were lent a cosy studio in Kensington, which was ideal for the kind of informal evening of music-making that had been planned. Wine on arrival helped to get everybody in the mood and then followed about an hour's music, mainly made up of lesser-known Warlock songs, some of them unpublished. The main body of singers were brought along by committee member Fred Tomlinson from a cast he has been rehearsing for a BBC television programme and they covered themselves with glory in such concerted items as The Lady's Birthday. The programme included some songs with chorus, and with the aid of the song-sheets provided we joined in enthusiastically. Neilson Taylor was a most spirited baritone soloist and other highlights came from Fred Tomlinson and Malcolm Rudland, who as piano duettists made much of the former's arrangement of the two 'Codpieces', Beethoven's Ring and The Old Codger. Among those present it was particularly pleasant to see E. Arnold Dowbiggin, to whom Warlock dedicated six of his songs.

CONCERT INCLUDED 'THE CURLEW'

Recently co-opted to the committee is Malcolm Rudland, a student at the Royal College of Music and a most enthusiastic lover of Warlock's music. He arranged a concert consisting of The Curlew and some of the Warlock Christmas music at

St Augustine's Church, South Kensington. The performers were the Prosdocimus Players: a group of young professionals and music students, and they gave us a most satisfying evening. Stephen Adams was a very satisfying soloist in The Curlew, which is certainly not an easy work to bring off. We would like to congratulate Malcolm Rudland on his enterprise.

ARGO RECORD STILL AVAILABLE

The December 1968 edition of Gramophone magazine's catalogue is supposed to list all classical records currently available in this Country. We looked up Warlock and were somewhat surprised to find that the Argo disc containing 12 of his songs and The Curlew, sung by Alexander Young, was not there. However, Argo say that the record certainly is still available.

WARLOCK AND MOORAN PLAQUE

After long discussion it now seems fairly certain that next May a plaque will be unveiled on the house at Eynsford in Kent where Warlock and E.J. Moeran lived for a year or so. The ceremony will be conducted, it is expected, by Professor Eric Fenby. More details in the next issue.

WARLOCK LECTURE IN DUBLIN

Committee member Professor Ian Parrott has been invited to give a lecture on Warlock at the University of Dublin on February 1.

DR COPLEY IN PRINT

Dr Ian Copley, the Society's Treasurer, has been very active recently on the Warlock front. The December issue of The Musical Times carries his article about Warlock and the Brass Band, and the November issue of The Music Review carries a long article about Warlock's writings. Music and Letters recently featured another of Dr. Copley's articles, on Warlock and Delius.

Dr. Copley's full-length book The Music of Peter Warlock: A Critical Study is now in the press and it is expected that it will appear in the spring. The publishers are Dennis Dobson.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We are shortly to begin an intensive drive for more members. This will be directed particularly at professional singers, who will be receiving an appeal through the post. Meanwhile, may we ask all existing members to do everything they can to help us find more members.