

# Newsletter



January 2012



## New Year Greetings to everyone!

2012 will go down in history as a special year.

We host the Olympics in the Summer and the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen, our beloved Federation Patron, take place in June, and many will be involved in these celebrations.

The year that has passed – our ninetieth, was also a special year for some. Yorkshire and Humberside celebrated the biennial Championship with a memorable concert in the Kings Hall Ilkley, when thirty six talented musicians, dancers and speakers performed throughout the day, striving to win the ultimate shield and bursary. They were supported by Bradford Metropolitan District Council. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

Congratulations also to Alderley Edge and Southend Festivals, who both celebrated their One Hundredth Birthday. It was my privilege to attend both of these occasions – unforgettable experiences.

During our Formal Saturday evening dinner at Conference, Fellowship Awards were presented to six Adjudicators – on this occasion two from each discipline. Marilynne Davies, Colin Touchin, Timothy McCarthy, June Rayner, Patricia Snowdon and Chris Hocking. Any future Fellowships will be awarded by these six founding Fellows.

At Conference we also welcomed Timothy McCarthy as the newly elected Vice Chairman. Congratulations Tim! I look forward to working with you.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2012, and hope to see some of you at Haileybury at the EYSM.

Dates? – 28th July to 4th August.

*Margaret*

Margaret Venables  
Federation Chairman

## EUROPEAN YOUTH SUMMER MUSIC 2012

Haileybury College, Hertford, 28 July to 4 August  
[www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/EYSM.html](http://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/EYSM.html)

Symphony Orchestra  
Wind Orchestra  
Chorale

Solo Singers  
Ensembles  
Sing with the Orchestra

Composer in Residence  
6 places for Composition students  
Write for the Orchestras  
Ensembles, Juniors, Singers

Improvisation and Creative Music  
Jazz and Big Band  
World Music

CONTACT:  
EYSM, Festivals House  
198 Park Lane  
Macclesfield SK11 6UD  
[liz@federationoffestivals.org.uk](mailto:liz@federationoffestivals.org.uk)



## Could your festival offer a bursary or part-bursary to European Youth Summer Music this year.

Lots do! and find that it stimulates interest and entries. Contact:

[liz@federationoffestivals.org.uk](mailto:liz@federationoffestivals.org.uk)



Haileybury & Imperial Service College  
Hertford SG13 7NU

**Congratulations!** To Mary Webster **MBE** of the Harrogate Competitive Festival for Music, Speech & Drama. Mary has been awarded the MBE in Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee Year for services to music and education in her own village and in Harrogate. She was given the honour after a career that started in 1950 at St Peter's Primary School in Harrogate and All Saints' Primary School in Kirkby Overblow, where she still holds recorder classes, even after retiring in 1989. "It is an amazing surprise" she says "Teaching is the most rewarding job in the world and I have never thought about doing anything else."



## MARKSHEETS

Your Festivals Council recently agreed that all festivals should follow the rules on copyright of the name of Her Majesty The Queen and of the Federation in terms of the mark or category sheets you use. However, in recognition of how difficult it can be to ensure that your festival uses only Federation adjudicators they agreed a way to enable you always to use Federation mark sheets. All festivals are asked to include these words, directly under the place where the adjudicator signs your mark-sheet - see page 3.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Adjudicator**  
**Adjudicator Member of The British & International Federation of Festivals**

In this way, if it is impossible to use all Federation adjudicators, then those who are not members can cross out the words and make it clear that the Federation is not responsible for anything which s/he may write on the sheet. If sheets appear in examination folders, or for other types of assessment - or, worse scenario, when someone makes a serious complaint - then it is clear from the start who is, and who is not an Adjudicator member.

One last thing. Please do remember that, it is only the subscriptions of Federation adjudicators and their willingness to support festivals that keeps the Federation office open and festival subscriptions as low as possible.

## Conference 2011

Conference at the Renaissance Hotel in Manchester began with a Civic Reception at Manchester Town Hall, where a talk by the Mayor and a trip around the building yielded both surprises and treasures. Thank you to Mary Goss from the Newry Festival for the interesting record in photographic form.

The photographs show the Mayor's Reception and some of the wonderful sights and textures of the Manchester Town Hall. The presentation of awards for new Fellows of The British & International Federation of Festivals. A new award for adjudicator members and the new Vice-Chairman, Timothy McCarthy, holding his Fellowship Award. The cake made by Federation Chairman, Margaret Venables, to celebrate 90 years, being cut by Margaret and Festivals' Vice-President, Marilyn Stewart. Toastmaster, David Fonville. Some views of the heart of Manchester, right by the hotel and, of course, some very happy people, enjoying the friendship and networking that conference brings.



**Conference 2012** will be in BRISTOL from 28-30 September. More information in the next Newsletter in March

## Website

Federation adjudicators' photographs and biographies are on the website and, as you know, Festivals House can back this up with even more information. Adjudicators are also welcome to call to hear positive comments from festivals. As stated on all subscription forms, festivals are asked for positive comments only, or to leave the space blank. Negative comments are dealt with by the Councils through the complaints procedure.

## Adjudicator ID - #1

We all know that ID is an important matter nowadays and Federation adjudicators should arrive at festivals with lanyards and photo ID and lanyards should always be worn, throughout festival work.

If festivals wish to provide further ID, that is fine, but it must be worn additionally.

## Adjudicator ID - #2

All Federation festivals and adjudicators have been sent a copy of the new request for the setting out of marksheets so there can be no confusion in case of complaints and so that any sheets used for examination purposes clearly state whether the words were supplied by a Federation member. It is important that non-Federation adjudicators cross out the membership wording on adjudication sheets. See below. ***This has been recommended and agreed by your elected Councils and festivals are asked to revise their mark sheets accordingly.***

## Adjudicator ID - #3

Your elected Councils have asked for festivals to please check the current Year Book re membership status of adjudicators before requesting their availability.



**One in a Million stickers**

If you would like to order "1 in a million" stickers for your 2012 festival, contact IAN at Festivals House (see below).

**What are they?** Stickers for every performer saying "I'm one in a Million!".

**What does it mean?** That s/he is one of the one million performers taking part in Federation Festivals in 2012!

## Staffing update:

Liz Whitehead will, hopefully, be moving to a 4 day week soon. Meanwhile, Clare Thornborough (Accounts) and Mark Whittaker (CRB and other) are in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ian Ventris has just begun as the one full-time staff member. We welcome Ian, who is in his second week.

## Online entries

We are frequently asked about online entry systems and, in particular, online payment. A festival has pointed out that there are two aspects to on-line entry that should be considered. Firstly to make it easier for people to make entries and for the recipient festival to read. Secondly to make payment easier. It isn't a pre-requisite to include on-line payment, but it is clear from the web some festivals do. Yet, enquiries from other festivals usually go unanswered.

***Is any festival willing to share a success story re an on-line payment system?***

Please send answers to:

[response@federationoffestivals.org.uk](mailto:response@federationoffestivals.org.uk)

**Your Festival Name**


which is affiliated to  
**The British and International Federation of Festivals  
for Music, Dance and Speech**  
**Patron: Her Majesty The Queen**

Performer (s) ..... Class No .....

Performance Items: ..... Entry No .....

Adjudicator's remarks: .....

**Blown up in size to show the signature requirement**



**Adjudicator**  
**Adjudicator Member of The British & International Federation of Festivals**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>75-77 FAIR</b>	<i>A performance limited in its communication</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>78-80 MODERATE</b>	<i>A performance showing development of technique and/or communication</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>81-83 MERIT</b>	<i>A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>84-86 COMMENDED</b>	<i>A convincing performance technically and artistically</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>87-89 DISTINCTION</b>	<i>An excellent performance technically and artistically</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>90+ OUTSTANDING</b>	<i>An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically</i>

© The British and International Federation of Festivals

## ADD TO YOUR YEAR BOOK

John Foster, GNSM,LRAM,PGCE  
Cecilia House, Carperby  
Nr Leyburn, N Yorks DL8 4DA  
[john\\_joanfoster@hotmail.com](mailto:john_joanfoster@hotmail.com)  
01969 663368 / 07855 491416  
**cfdba Gen**

Joan Foster, GNSM,ARCM,PGCE,PGCA  
Cecilia House, Carperby  
Nr Leyburn, N Yorks DL8 4DA  
[joan\\_m\\_foster@hotmail.com](mailto:joan_m_foster@hotmail.com)  
01969 663368 / 07855 491415  
**dcabf Gen**

## Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Book

**Will your festival feature?  
Are you sending a page(s)?**

A number of festivals have said that they do not want to participate, but the number who do will give a snapshot of the festival year which we are sure Her Majesty will be delighted to see.

An intern student will be coming to put the contributions together and will start the work in early March. The sooner you can send your page(s) the better. It is a good idea to set your own design, which we will hope to retain as the book must reflect both the variety and individuality of Federation festival members.

Unsure of anything? email  
[response@federationoffestivals.org.uk](mailto:response@federationoffestivals.org.uk)  
and mark your email ROYAL BOOK

Renowned Inverclyde Music Festival's president praises organisers



# Success of festival worth every penny



**FINAL** preparations are being made for Inverclyde Music Festival — and more financial backing would be welcomed.

The festival runs from 25 January until 4 February, and this year a display will be mounted in Greenock Town Hall to outline how much it costs to run the annual event — a total of £220,000.

President Isabel Laird said she would like to see evidence of how much was involved in putting on the festival.

She said: "We are very grateful for the £10,000 grant which Inverclyde Council gives towards the cost of staging the festival."

"The general public have no idea of the costs involved in the fact that many people work unpaid for many months to ensure it is such a success."

"People have asked why they have to pay to get in to the performances and

**By Eric Baxter**

where the money goes to. It wasn't on the committee, I would probably ask the same question myself."

"This is because we have never really highlighted what is involved."

Ms Laird, who is in her second year as president, added: "We think the festival is worth every penny. It is one of the foremost in Scotland, if not in Britain."

A team of 30 people donate their time to the festival for two weeks, as well as making preparations from March onwards. It is a large amount of work.

Secretary Anne McGregor has a particularly hard job. I have a much worse

one as president. I would also like to mention the invaluable contributions made by treasurer Roger Lee and by David Conn, who organises all the awards.

"It is a labour of love by all of the team."

"It is very professionally done, and that makes people think that we must be paid to do it." She said the festival has attracted the attention of the BBC, but they would not be in her from anyone else who would like to support it.

Ms Laird added: "Trousers were for the final concert and when their names in the programme."

**What a great success story! We'd like to see more, please!**  
(If you'd like to read a full-sized copy of this cutting contact Anne McGregor at Inverclyde)

## Special celebrations!!

In 2011, the Southend Festival celebrated 100 years and the Federation Chairman was there to join in the celebrations. Please let us have details of your special celebrations and remarkable achievements!



# AESS

The Association of English Singers & Speakers

Sir Thomas Allen CBE Michael Chance CBE  
Sir Nicholas Hytner Graham Johnson OBE  
Dame Cleo Laine DBE Niven Miller  
Patricia Routledge CBE Professor Robert Saxton  
Registered Charity No. 1106279  
www.aofess.org.uk

## Centenary 1913-2013

Graham Trew, Chairman of the AESS and Adjudicator Member of BIFF writes:

To commemorate the Centenary of the Association and to highlight our core aim of 'encouraging the communication of English words, in singing and speech, with clarity, understanding and imagination', the committee would like to offer a trophy to the first twenty festivals to apply, for an AESS Class, for younger performers, to be held in 2013.

The class would consist of a 'themed' recital of two songs and a piece of poetry or prose, plus a spoken introduction.

All should be memorised and all aspects of the performance would be judged from the moment of stepping onto the stage to leaving it. The trophy could be awarded outright or the festival might like to consider holding the class annually and re-awarding the trophy.

tel/fax: 01547 510327  
graham.trew@virgin.net

## PRS for Music Charity & Community Event Discount Scheme

PRS for Music, which represents 80,000 songwriters and composers across the UK, has announced that 461 charities have benefited from its Charity & Community Event Discount Scheme since its launch and has encouraged more community and charitable organisations to take advantage.

The scheme is now being publicised. PRS for Music has extended its open period indefinitely, so as many charities as possible can benefit. It provides a discount of up to 100% in the licence fee payable for both large and small charities.

All that PRS for Music asks is that its support is recognised in any promotional material.

Keith Gilbert, Director of Public Performance Sales at PRS for Music, said: "Music is at the heart of so many charity and community events. Our scheme ensures that those who want to use music for the benefit of others can do so in a fair and reasonable way. The application process is simple, and we want organisers to take advantage of it for the benefit of their good causes and communities."

For more information or to apply online, organisers can visit:

www.prsformusic.com/charityandcommunity  
or call customer services on 0845 3093090

## Amend your Year Book

Please amend your 2012 Year Book

- PAGE 11:**  
Linda Lawson, DARLINGTON  
terence.lawson@gmail.com
- PAGE 35:**  
DAVID FONVILLE  
Speech Adjudicator  
dfcoms@yahoo.co.uk (missing 's')
- PAGE 39:**  
JUNE LANCELYN-GREEN, MBE

## Accompanists!

We asked Federation accompanists to write about themselves and their work. This is the first in a short series

### STEWART DEATH

Alongside my work as an accompanist, I perform over 200 concerts a year with the multi-instrumental duo 'Travelling by Tuba'. Recently, we have performed at music clubs from Bude to Invergoron and annually we travel many thousands of miles. Our education programme involves children from four years upwards and has won many awards. We have devised a special show for 2012 with an Olympic theme.

I remain busy collaborating with other musicians for performances in a variety of venues including a prison, where I had my wallet stolen! A policeman did ask if there were many suspects!! The great thing about being an accompanist is the variety of work that you get to do, you never know what might happen next.