

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2007

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the latest newsletter. I was delighted by the response from members to my gentle plea for sponsors. Several of you have pledged financial support which is still to be discussed. Coral Gould has offered to sponsor a third prize of £100 for the Junior Recital Prize and two joint members who wish to remain anonymous have sent £200 to be used as the Association wishes. Another surprise, however, was to open the post and find a cheque for £500 from Catherine Lambert, to sponsor the first and second prizes for the Junior Recital Prize. Not only that, but, in her letter Catherine pledged to fund the Prize for five years. Because of this immensely generous gesture the Junior Recital Prize will now be named after her for this period.

Details of the Competitions and the AGM & Dinner are given below. Please attend if you can do so. Pat Williams's survey results, collated from the annual subscription questionnaire, show that masterclasses/talks come high on the list and it is hoped to organise a spring event, given by our President, Dr. Robert Saxton on 'Setting Words to Music', perhaps in Oxford. An autumn concert of the works of Betty Roe is also being devised, featuring many AESS members. The Association wishes to become more regional: any member who has an event, outside London, which could be performed under the AESS banner should contact me, or a member of the committee.

I would like to draw the attention of members to the information available on the website. It would appear that many members do not access the site. All events are listed there in addition to reviews of past events. The committee and contact details for the chairman are there and forms can be downloaded for membership or for competition applications. Both competition prospectuses are there in full. Past newsletters have been recently added in addition to an informative history of the evolution of the song competition by Catherine Lambert. Please visit aofess.org.uk and see what you think. Any feedback is welcome as would be an offer from a computer literate member to run the site!

The Association would like your views on saving the cost of printing and posting the newsletter by having it sent by email. At present, about 170 are sent out twice a year. Simple mathematics means this is 340 second class stamps, 340 envelopes and about 1000 sheets of paper, plus label printing and envelope stuffing!

FUTURE EVENTS

THE CATHERINE LAMBERT JUNIOR RECITAL PRIZE – November 25th 2007

The final of the Catherine Lambert Junior Recital Prize will be held at Trinity College of Music, in the Peacock Room, on Sunday 25th November 2007 beginning at 2.00pm. The judges will be Catherine Lambert and Teresa Cahill. The Trinity Junior Barbershop Ensemble will perform during the deliberations of the judges.

THE PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE NATIONAL ENGLISH SONG COMPETITION – May 14th 2008

The final of the Patricia Routledge National English Song Competition will be held at the Royal Academy of Music, in the Duke's Hall, on Wednesday 14th May 2008 beginning at 7.30pm.

PERFORMING AUSTRALIAN MUSIC COMPETITION – March- April 2008

For those members with Australian voice students, there is the opportunity to prepare a programme of song – Percy Grainger et al – for this competition with £15000 prize money.

Details are available from www.amcoz.com.au/pamc

SARAH LEONARD CONCERT – December 6th 2007

On Thursday December 6th. at 7.30 pm in the Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, SW1, AESS Committee member **Sarah Leonard**, soprano, with **Malcolm Martineau**, piano, will be performing Rachmaninov's 'Vocalise' and 'Six Songs Op. 38' together with songs by Mars, Liszt, Parry, Elgar, Ireland, Howells, Quilter, Joe Cutler and Richard Rodney Bennett.

Tickets are £12 - £24 Box Office 020 7730 4800

BETTY ROE CONCERT – September 2008

We are planning a concert in September 2008 to illustrate the wide-ranging composing talents of **Betty Roe**. She particularly enjoys setting words, so from her early days in intimate revue to her children's musicals and from her church music to art songs there is plenty to choose from. Watch out for further details.

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MICHAEL PILKINGTON

In recognition of his immense contribution to English Song and for his years of commitment to the work of the AESS in many guises, **Michael Pilkington** has been made an Honorary Life Member of the Association.

AGM & DINNER – Early Warning

The AGM and Dinner will be held at the Royal Overseas League on March 16th (Palm Sunday) 2008. The entertainment given by two young singers last year proved extremely popular and this, hopefully, will be repeated. Application forms will go out in the New Year. The cost of the tickets will remain the same: £37.50, but more wine will be provided on each table as a slight profit was made last year!

NEWSLETTER SURVEY – please e mail your preference to mailines@liloni.fsnet.co.uk or by post to Marian Lines, 101a Cambridge Gardens London W10 6JE

I would like to continue to receive the newsletter by post

I would be happy for the newsletters to be emailed to me at _____

I will read the newsletters when I access the AESS website aofess.org.uk

