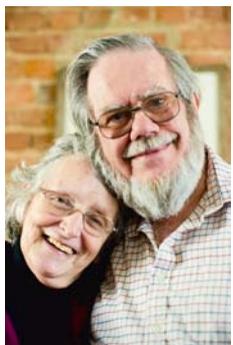


The Joanna Leach Foundation

Summer Newsletter 2015

Catch-up



Liz & Mike

I realise there has been an enormous gap between our last Newsletter in 2013 and today. Those of you familiar with 'the story' will realise that during 2013 we were dealing with Liz's cancer in the mistaken 'certainty' that Liz would be 'cured'; only to discover, come November, that it had defeated the best that our technology could throw at it and was unstoppable. Liz's death within 3 years of Jo's was, as you can imagine, personally devastating, and a major setback for the Foundation. Her contribution has been invaluable. Liz is remembered at *The Beehive*. The room where Town Council meet has been named the *Liz Tirard Function Room*.



2013: John Burgess, Cllr. Peter Halse, Mike Beville, Michael Teare, Cllr. David Foster, Andreas Boyde, Liz Tirard

Opening Celebrations at the Beehive

Nevertheless in April 2014 we saw the Opening of the *Beehive*, when Andreas played a brilliant

recital and named the main hall *The Joanna Leach Auditorium*. The Foundation funded the artiste and the piano hire, while *Friends of the Beehive* funded the buffet. It was a free evening and an exciting celebration of the Beehive's opening; the hall filled with local dignitaries and Beehive supporters.



Liz Tirard-Beville Memorial Concert

On the 4th October 2014 our new relationship with **Roger Hendy's ISCA Ensemble** (actually a 60-piece orchestra comprising retired professionals and amateur players) enabled us to offer a concert in the *Beehive*. **Emmanuel Bach** played to a standing ovation, the Brahms Violin Concerto. Emmanuel being the son of **Jenny Stern**, who was for many years Jo's duet partner. It was Liz who brought about this link-up.



Emmanuel Bach - Brahms Violin Concerto with the ISCA Ensemble at The Beehive

Joanna Leach Memorial Concert

Due to delays in completion, the major planned fully professional orchestral Beehive opening had to be deferred and was finally given on 3rd Nov 2014 with **Andreas Boyde** playing two piano concertos with the *Brandenburg Sinfonia*, conducted by **Robert Porter**: Beethoven's 'Emperor' Concerto

coupled with the *Choral Fantasia* and a Mozart *Missa Bevis* with the Axminster Chamber Choir directed by Judy Martin.



Brandenburg Orchestral Concert / Andreas Boyde soloist

2015

Following our sponsorship of Emmanuel Bach, the Foundation offered to fund a professional soloist each year for the *ISCA Ensemble*. In 2016 it will be Korean violinist **Joo Yeon Sur**. In turn, the Trustees were delighted when **Roger Hendy** accepted our invitation to become one of our **Music Advisors**. Roger immediately organised two recitals in April.



Roger Hendy, ISCA Director

Emmanuel Bach & Jenny Stern

These two recitals funded by the Foundation, were given to great acclaim in Exeter at Southernhay Congregational Church and Sidmouth at St. Michaels Parish Church, in aid of *Children in Need* and Church works.



Foundation Web-site

Much of this year has focussed on re-organising the web-site and putting together the supporting materials. The functionality of the site is down to a long suffering Charles Pegman, who has worked tirelessly to get us 'up and running'.

As will be seen Roger has been busy organising events into 2016 and beyond. We recently visited Powderham Castle and there is every likelihood of sponsoring concerts there in their beautiful recital room with its Bechstein Concert Grand.

Shute Open Gardens 2015

This year all the gardens at Shute were open to invited friends, with Jo's Memorial Garden at Annie's looking really fine. As it was Saturday 4th July (a significant day for Annie) we hired in a Jazz Band that played outside. The weather was perfect with a strong sun and a cool breeze. (see web-site)



Annie's Memorial Garden for Joanna

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