

BECOMING AN ANGLOPHILE MUSIC LOVER/CRITIC IN JUST 70 YEARS

I am not a professional musician, but I have often been asked how I discovered Delius and English music. It's a long story. At age 7, I was entered into the junior choir at the former Ninth Presbyterian Church in my West Philadelphia Neighborhood. I also began piano study with the choirmaster, David Spratt. We learned solfège in that junior choir, and we "probationers" learned to follow the scores of the anthems we were practicing. If we answered correctly where we were in the score, we were given a nickel (5¢).

Spratt was eventually fired by the minister who was a somewhat fundamentalist Texan because he also played the organ in a Roman Catholic Church! His replacement was Herbert Nanney who became my second piano teacher and who went on to a long career as organist of Stanford University. I remained in the choirs at this church for years, then the excellent choir at Bartram High School where I was often required to accompany the choir and where I received the Music Award (along with the English award) at graduation in January, 1955. Somewhere along the line there I heard the wretched school orchestra murder "Cuckoo". The band, on the other hand was superb. Choir was actually a major subject. That Delius performance was not my Road to Emmaus moment!

Since I had months to kill before entering Lafayette College in September, 1966, I worked as a mail boy in the Atlantic Refining building at Broad and Spruce. Over on the next street, 15th St., there was a record shop in which I bought my first FD LP: Beecham's Columbia recording of the "Hassan" music. I still have it. And of course with the LP era I became hopelessly addicted to records and eventually collected at least 13,000 of them and now thousands of CDs. A lot of these came as review copies. But I'm ahead of the story.

At Lafayette I spent 4 years in the excellent all-male, 80-voice choir under John Raymond who was on the Fred Waring staff in the summer and who conducted the venerable Orpheus Club male chorus in Philadelphia for decades. In college we did some British music, but it was only in the early 60's that I began to be immersed in it. I sang with The Philadelphia Oratorio Choir/Philadelphia Chorale under J. Earl Ness headquartered at First Baptist Church.

There were some British works in the fall and spring seasons of major choral works every Sunday. Then I began singing in Episcopal churches, sometimes as a paid chorister. There I really got into Anglican church music. I also became a member of the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia under Robert Page and others and then the Choral Arts Society under the late Sean Deibler. In the late 60's or early 70's I joined the U.K. Delius Society thanks to a letter in "High Fidelity" by the late Bob Lyons of Pittsburgh who offered information on how to do this.

The Mendelssohn Club in 1973 gave "Songs of Farewell" which has not been heard in Philadelphia since. I became a member of the Music Committee and was able to have MC give Philadelphia premieres of Howells' "Take Him, Earth, For Cherishing" and Elgar's "The Music Makers". In 1974 came the famous Delius Society/New School of Music concert at which Eric Fenby spoke and who played the Third Violin Sonata with Davyd Booth. The Society members all members of the U.K. Delius Society; the Philadelphia Branch was not organized until December 11, 1976.

In 1980 came our Delius Festival in association with Michael Korn, The Philadelphia Singers, and The Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts (now University of the Arts). In addition to some chamber concerts there was a memorable "A Mass of Life" in the Shubert Theatre (now Merriam Theatre) at which Felix Aprahamian was present. Years later I introduced "Sea Drift" to Sean Deibler and Choral Arts gave the only performance to date here in the Academy of Music.

In the early 70's Bob Sellman asked me to be his assistant on making a recording for his Direct-to-Tape Recording Co. At first there were various tape formats and then CDs. I had earlier been Music Editor for J. Gordon Holt's "The Stereophile" where I reviewed LPs and created a column with the very British title of "Crotchets and Minims" similar to "News 'N' Notes" in "The Delian".

Over the years I have joined numerous British composer societies and other organizations and have made 9 trips to the U.K. often in conjunction with Delius Society meetings or festivals such as the Three Choirs Festivals. In addition to being a member of The Music Critics Association of North America and a former member of NARAS (the Grammy Awards organization), I retain memberships in The U.K. Delius Society (now an Honorary Member), The Peter Warlock Society (Life Member), The Elgar Society, Finzi Friends, The Ralph Vaughan Williams Society, The English Song and Poetry Society, The Ivor Gurney Society, Billy Mayerl Society, British Music Society (U.S. Representative), The American Guild of Organists, and The English-Speaking Union. I was also elected to The Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia (Founded 1820). I was formerly a member of the now defunct Delius Association of Florida and the U.S. branch of the Herbert Howells Society.

So over the past 70 years I have evolved into an ardent Anglophile all brought about by my musical training and participation in various choirs and choruses.

Bill Marsh

Are PhilaDelians also Manxians?

For several decades, the Delius Society of Philadelphia has transacted its English financial affairs through the Lloyds Bank of Peveril Square, Douglas, Isle of Man. In its recent May/June 2014 issue, the glossy "Discover Britain" magazine published an article entitled "Opportunity Knox".

It detailed the life and work of Archibald Knox (1864-1933), once a leading exponent of the British version of Art Nouveau. He studied at the new Douglas School of Art, Isle of Man. In 1897 he moved on to London, and soon worked with the luxury shop Liberty in Regent Street.

During his career there, Knox created more than 400 designs for the store, ranging from garden pots to carpets, textiles, to jewellery, including the Liberty Cymric range of silverware and Tudric run of pewterware. Examples of these can be found in the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Knox later left the firm and returned to the Isle of Man, producing hundreds of watercolors. A later visit to New York and Philadelphia is noted, and he returned to his Manx roots in 1913. In his final years he designed bank cheques, music programs and parish war memorial as well as his motifs and the text "A humble servant of God in the ministry of the beautiful."

What links Frederick Delius (1862-1934), atmospheric musician with the enigmatic Manxian Archibald Knox (1864-1933)? An examination of their dates makes them almost exact contemporaries. And Delians everywhere are grateful that The Delius Trust, London, gives us generous support through the Lloyds Bank, Douglas, Isle of Man. From our local society of PhilaDelians to the Manxians. Rejoice!

Arthur Zbinden
17 May 2014

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR FIRST 25 YEARS

1976 December 11. Organizational meeting held in Davyd Booth's apartment on Pine Street. Philadelphia Branch established as an arm of the British Delius Society. Local dues set at \$2.00.

1977 March 11. First Delius Society concert for the public was held at The Curtis Institute of Music. British violinist David Stone played the local premiere of Delius's *Violin Sonata in B Major* with pianist Vladimir Sokoloff. First and only local performance to date of Peter Warlock's *The Curlew*.

November 26, The Delius Society and The Sir Thomas Beecham Society present a preconcert lecture on *A Mass of Life* in Cleveland's Severance Hall in conjunction with the local premiere of the piece by the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by Robert Page (sung in English). Participants included Mr. Page, music critic Robert Finn, and the Orchestra's director of publications Klaus George Roy. Benjamin Luxon was the distinguished baritone in the two performances.

1978 January [?]. William Smith lectures on Beecham, Delius, and The Philadelphia Orchestra at the Art Alliance.

June 3. First Annual General meeting at Valley Forge. Carillon recital by Frank Pechin Law included his own Delius transcriptions. Delius luminaries included William Peirce Randel and John Coveney.

Delius Society-Philadelphia Branch, Inc., incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a non-profit educational institution becoming independent of the U.K. Society.

1979 February 24. Robert and Joan Threlfall visit Philadelphia for the first time. Robert presents a piano recital at The New School of Music.

May 20. Second annual AGM and banquet. Eric Fenby makes his second Philadelphia visit and performs Delius's Second and Third Violin Sonatas with Davyd Booth at St. Peter's Church Parish House.

1980 Ella Grainger and John Coveney Memorial Concert at Philadelphia Art Alliance with baritone Michael Paul Lund. Composer Richard Lane writes a song for the event.

May 9-12. A weekend Delius Festival centering on the local premiere of *A Mass of Life* in the Shubert Theatre by The Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts under Michael Korn's direction. Donald Collup was the successful baritone. Felix Aprahamian attended all the events which included many local premieres including the *Nietzsche Lieder*, *A Late Lark*, and the *String Quartet* at the University of Pennsylvania where a symposium was held on *A Mass of Life* with Michael Korn, Rolf Stang, and Felix Aprahamian.

1981 February 8. All-Delius song recital by Anne Williams Allman at the Art Alliance. Lou Camp writes a first version of his poem, *A Picture of Delius*. Henry Allman presents his oil portrait of Delius to The Delius Society.

May 3. String Orchestra concert conducted by William Smith in association with the AGM commemorating the 25th anniversary of the death of Gerald Finzi. Program included Delius's *Air and Dance*, Warlock's *Capriol*, and Finzi's *Prelude for String Orchestra*, *Romance for String Orches-*

(Continued on page 16)

- tra, Let Us Garlands Bring* (with baritone Donald Collup) and *Dies Natalis* (with tenor Robert Rowland).
- 1982 January 29. A Delius 120th anniversary concert at The New School of Music with cellist Gloria Johns and pianist Davyd Booth. Program included Delius's *Romance* and the *Cello Sonata*.
- May 2. Old Pine Street Church concert included the world premiere (and still the only performance) of Sorabji's *Il Tessuto a'Arabeschi* for flute quintet commissioned for The Delius Society by Norman P. Gentieu of Philadelphia. The program also included the first professional performance in Philadelphia of Delius's *String Quartet* played by Philadelphia Orchestra members and the local premiere (and still the only performance) of Howells', *Piano Quartet in A minor* in honor of the composer's 90th birthday.
- 1983 January 30. Violin recital by Davyd Booth accompanied by George Reeves at the Ethical Society. Complete performance of Delius's *Sonata in B major* and local premiere of the *Légende in E-flat* plus U.S. premiere of Finzi's *Elegy*, Op. posth.
- May 1. West Chester State College Concert Choir under direction of Lois Williams was presented at St. Mark's Church following AGM and dinner. Excerpts from *Songs of Farewell*.
- 1984 May 6. First Longwood Gardens concert followed by AGM and dinner.
- July 28. First summer social at Richard Plunkett's "Haddock House" in Barnegat Light, NJ.
- 1985 January 6. Festive Twelfth-Night Divertissement at Ruth Matt's in Ardmore.
- January 27. Annual Delius Birthday event with baritone Donald Collup and pianist Davyd Booth at The Academy of Vocal Arts. Program included *Song of the Lyre* from *A Mass of Life* and the first set of Butterworth's settings from *A Shropshire Lad*. The surprise of the concert was a "to-be-announced" group of Rachmaninoff songs which found Donald Collup at the piano and Davyd Booth playing violin transcriptions of the songs.
- May 5. Philadelphia premiere of *Sea Drift* by the Choral Arts Society in the Academy of Music. A symposium on "Walt Whitman, Frederick Delius and English Music" featured participants Conductor Sean Deibler, poet Francis Quinn, and Dr. Lionel Carley representing The Delius Trust. Lou Camp moderated the event in the Academy Ballroom. The previous Day, May 4, saw a Fairmount Park "trolley" tour with frequent stops for Whitman readings, refreshments, and plenty of champagne.
- 1986 January 26. A concert in Celebration of the Life of Frank Pechin Law at The Lutheran Church of the Trinity, Norristown, PA.
- March 16. Gala St. Patrick's Day benefit at Ruth Matt's in Ardmore, PA.
- May 4. Return visit to Valley Forge for the AGM. Davyd Booth accompanied by Claribel Thomson played Finzi's *Elegy* in memory of Frank Pechin Law. Paul Weagraff played a carillon recital which included Frank Law's Delius transcriptions plus his own arrangement of *Wanderer's Song*.
- 1987 January 25. Concert at The Ethical Society by the Philarte Quartet and baritone Jonathan Sills. Delius' *String Quartet*, U.S. premiere of the Adagio from Van Dieren's *String Quartet No. 3* (dedicated to Delius) and the Philadelphia premiere of Finzi's *By Footpath and Stile*.

(Continued on page 17)

- March 1. Robert Threlfall presents a benefit recital in Haddonfield, NJ, which included some of his own Delius piano transcriptions.
- May 3. Second gala Longwood Gardens concert, AGM, and dinner.
- Society produces a cassette of Delius organ transcriptions played by Michael Stairs at Longwood Gardens.
- November 1. English program by flutist Deborah Carter accompanied by Davyd Booth at the Ethical Society.
- 1988 April 24. AGM, concert, and dinner at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Centre Square, PA. Guest speaker: Felix Aprahamian.
- September 18. Lois Kunkel, soprano, and other Delius Society members offer a Shakespearean musicale at the home of Dr. Martin Schimmel in Haverford, PA.
- December 28. William Smith conducts the Philadelphia premier of *Eventyr* at a Philadelphia Orchestra concert. At the December 30 performance, Bill was presented with an Honorary Life Membership at a backstage ceremony. An "Eventyr" party followed the concert at John Bogar's.
- 1989 January 29. A Delius film festival at Graduate Hospital.
U.S. premiere of two Norwegian TV films: "From the High Solitudes" and "Paa Vidderne". Rolf Stang introduced the latter.
- June 4. Spring concert by soprano Janice Fiore-Kestler and organist Michael Stairs at The Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA. The AGM following was the last of the line since new bylaws were changed and approved which do not require annual elections. This is consistent with Pennsylvania law covering non-profit organizations.
- 1990 May 20. Third gala concert at Longwood Gardens which featured "A Noë1 Coward Sampler" in the second half.
- 1991 January 20. Don C. Gillespie lectures on Thomas Ward at the University of the Arts. Party follows at home of Richard Plant.
- October 6. Delius Society presents The Wister Quartet at Ursinus College, Collegetown, PA. Guest oboist is Jonathan Blumenfeld of The Philadelphia Orchestra.
- 1992 February 2. Rolf Stang talks on Max Chop at Robert Rosenberger's residence.
- April 25. 15th anniversary concert at Girard College with Michael Stairs, Davyd Booth, Harry Wilkinson and Bruce Shultz.
- October 4. Concert at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Monica in West Philadelphia. Program centers on British music by composers influenced by African-American music. Four Philadelphia premieres. Art exhibit of the Society's collection and reception followed.
- 1993 May 16. Fourth gala Longwood Gardens concert with buffet following at Jack Huston's.
- October 10. Robert Beckhard lectures on Warlock and Delius at Michael Stairs' residence.
- 1994 February 5. Films "A Visit to Grez-sur-Loing" and "Discovering Delius" presented at Graduate Hospital.

(Continued on page 18)

- May 1. Peter Warlock/E. J. Moeran centenary concert presented by Davyd Booth and Michael Stairs at Laurie Wagman Hall, University of the Arts. Two Philadelphia premieres.
- November 20. Major choral concert co-sponsored with the Philadelphia Chapter of The American Guild of Organists featured the St. Peter's Chamber Choir under Martha Johnson with organist Michael Stairs. The program at The Church of St. Anastasia in Newtown Square included the local premieres of several early part-songs by Delius.
- 1995 January 28. Our first Delius Birthday Party which featured many performers from the Society itself.
- October 15. Local premiere of *Appalachia* by the Delaware County Symphony and the Delaware Valley Chorale at Neumann College, Aston, PA. The Society assisted with background on the work, provided a vocal score, and identified funding sources for this important performance.
- 1996 Delius Society attends an all-English recital by Nora Sirbaugh at Trinity cathedral, Trenton, NJ, followed by a supper at Nora's. Neither some snow nor Delaware River flooding deterred our members!
- May 19. Fifth gala Longwood Gardens concert followed again by a buffet at Jack Huston's.
- October 26. Philadelphia premiere screening of the video version of *A Village Romeo and Juliet* at Graduate Hospital. Co-sponsored with the Opera Club.
- 1997 February 2. A gala Delius Birthday Party with "cast of thousands" at Michael Stairs, residence, Rosemont, PA.
- March 4. Dinner and musicale at The New Century Guild, Philadelphia, with guests Helen Faulkner and Felix Aprahamian. Honorary Life membership presented to Helen. Music provided by Nora Sirbaugh, mezzo soprano; Davyd Booth, violin, and Ellen Feldman, piano.
- May 4. Anglo-American cello recital by Lloyd Smith of The Philadelphia Orchestra accompanied by Davyd Booth at the Academy of Vocal Arts. Sonatas by Delius, Barber, and the world premiere of Lloyd's own sonata. Short works by Delius, Murrill, Davies, Bridge, and Foulds.
- 1998 February 1. Choral and organ concert marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry at the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. Organist Joseph C. Jackson, Jr., played and conducted the church's choir. The event was a major one in the 300th anniversary celebrations of this parish.
- April 29. Piano trio program at the Free Library of Philadelphia included the trio version of Delius's *Double Concerto* and works by Herman Sandby. Artists were Davyd Booth, violin; Robert Cafaro, cello; and Charles Abramovic, piano.
- May 3. Area premiere of *Dance Rhapsody No. 1* by the Delaware County Symphony. Holst's *The Planets* was also on the program.
- September 22. Dr. Jeremy Dibble speaks on "Sir Hubert Parry: Composer and Musical Luminary" at the Philadelphia Art Alliance. The presentation was illustrated by some of Parry's songs sung by Nora Sirbaugh.
- 1999 January 23. A Delius Birthday Party at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Centre Square. First local showing of Tasmin Little's "The Lost Child" and a repeat of "Discovering Delius". Selected verse and music presented by members.

(Continued on page 19)

May 16. Sixth gala Longwood Gardens concert with Suzanne Hickman, soprano; pianist Larissa Korkina; and organist Michael Stairs. Dinner following at the Concordville Inn.

October 24. Major concert at the Ethical Society honoring the 120th anniversary of the birth of Cyril Scott. Desmond Scott speaks about his father. Works of Delius and Scott performed by Michael Stairs and Davyd Booth and. songs sung by baritone John David Miles accompanied by Laura Ward.

October 29. Honorary Life Membership presented to Sir Andrew Davis at an on-stage pre-concert talk prior to his Philadelphia Orchestra performance of *Brigg Fair*

2000 January 23. Rare works for organ and harpsichord played by Davyd Booth, harpsichord and Lee F. Milhous, organ at Carmel Presbyterian Church, Glenside, PA. *Dance for Harpsichord* was included on the program.

April 9. English music for voice and guitar by Allen Krantz, guitar and Tamara Matthews, soprano. World premiere of three Delius guitar transcriptions commissioned by The Delius Society. Area premiere of *Songs of the Half-Light* by Lennox Berkeley.

October 29. Charles Abramovic plays a piano recital of transcriptions including several of Delius's music which are featured on the new Delius Society CD of all the piano music of Delius plus some transcriptions (Direct-to-Tape DTR2001). The CD, funded by the Arronson Foundation, was launched at this recital.

2001 February 9. Major choral concert by the St. Mark's Chamber Choir at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Philadelphia under the direction of Dr. Donald Nally. Scott Dettra was the organist. Program included the premiere of Isaiah VI commissioned by The Delius Society, the U.S. premiere of Eric Fenby's *For Music on the Eve of Palm Sunday*, an excerpt from Delius's *Requiem* and works of Howells, Finzi (in honor of his centenary), Warlock, Britten, Moeran, Grainger, and Stanford. The concert marked the 25th anniversary of The Delius Society and the centenary of St. Mark's Lady Chapel given by Rodman Wanamaker.

March 20. 25th anniversary dinner and concert at The Cosmopolitan Club, Philadelphia. Guest of honor: Sir Andrew Davis. Music supplied by The Barnard Trio consisting of Philadelphia Orchestra members Davyd Booth (piano), Nancy Bean (violin), and Lloyd Smith (cello). Sir Andrew with Davyd Booth offered as a surprise encore the 4-hand piano version of Grainger's *Country Gardens*.

October 19. The Delius Society opens the 2001-2002 "Music at Carmel" series at Carmel Presbyterian Church, Glenside, PA, with a vocal recital by Janice Fiore, soprano, and Martha Schrempel, piano. The program includes the four English songs of Delius plus what may be the first complete performance of *Five Songs* set to texts by German poets by Edward Agate. Published in 1911, these obscure songs were dedicated to Frederick Delius.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michael Kulas, Cinnaminson, NJ

Helga James, Port Washington, NY

Norman Jones, Hannover, Germany

David Schulman, Waretown, NJ

THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES —PART I

by Bill Marsh

Many present members were not around in our early years when we offered many exciting, musical events even in the days before grants and with very limited financial resources. Hundreds of photos were taken by various members over the years, and for the next few issues of *The Delian* we shall share some of our 30-year history with you.

The late Frank Pechin Law at the carillon at Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, June 3, 1978. For our first Annual General Meeting, Frank transcribed two Delius piece for carillon. Photo: Bill Marsh

Eric Fenby addresses Delians during the 4th AGM concert at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish House, 313 Pine Street, Philadelphia. Eric and Davyd Booth played the Second and Third Violin Sonatas of Delius. May 20, 1979.



The late Frank Pechin Law at the carillon at Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, June 3, 1978. For our first Annual General Meeting, Frank transcribed two Delius Pieces for carillon. Photo: Bill Marsh

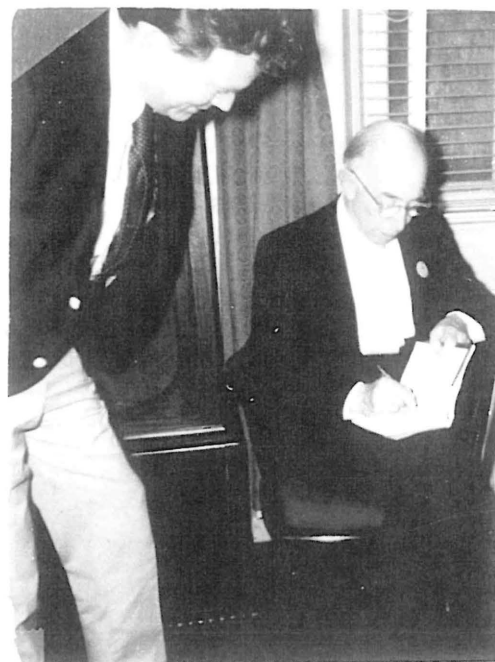


Eric Fenby addresses Delians during the 4th AGM concert at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish House, 313 Pine Street, Philadelphia. Eric and Davyd Booth played the Second and Third Violin Sonatas of Delius. May 20, 1979. Photo: Bill Marsh

Early Years, continued



At a branch meeting at David Litofsky's center city apartment Stewart Manville helps Ella Grainger to some cake, November 11, 1978. Photo: Bill Marsh



Eric Fenby autographing of copy of his book for editor Harold Diamond, May 20, 1979, Parish House, St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Photo: Helen Cornely



Michael Paul Lund and Davyd Booth give the Ella Grainger and John Coveney Memorial Concert at The Philadelphia Art Alliance, February 3, 1980. Program was later repeated for the Grainger Society in White Plains. Photo: Bill Marsh

THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES—PART II

All photos by Bill Marsh



May 10, 1980

Symposium on *A Mass of Life* at Penn's Graduate School of Education. From Left: Felix Aprahamian, conductor Michael Korn who would conduct the first (and still only) performance of the *Mass* the next day, and Rolf Stang. The Delius Society mounted a weekend festival around this performance.



May 10, 1980

At the AGM dinner at Two Street Tavern, from left: Bill Marsh, Peggyi Neely, Felix Aprahamian, Peggy Cornely, and David Duke.



October 12, 1980

Paul Rapoport (left) and Bill Marsh (right) after Paul's talk on Sorabji at Bill Marsh's residence in Newtown, PA.



October 12, 1980

At the Sorabji talk, from left: David Litofsky, David Duke, Dell Hymes, Ginny Hymes, Bill Marsh, Doug Tester.



July 28, 1984

Host Richard Plunkett in the garden of "Haddock House" in Barnegat Light, NJ, at our first summer outing



July 28, 1984

From left: Claribel Thomson, Dick Thomson, and David Duke on the front porch at "Haddock House".



May 3, 1985

A big *Sea Drift* weekend centered on the first (and still only) performance of the work given by the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia under Sean Deibler which included a trolley-bus tour of Fairmont Park with Walt Whitman readings by poet Fran Quinn. First stop was the famous top of the Art Museum steps where champagne and hors d'oeuvres were served. Pete Stukane in the "Delius hat" is second from left with Fran Quinn to his left. The trolley drivers are in costume.



May 3, 1985

Fran Quinn gives a reading at one of the stops.



May 3, 1985

Another reading at Belmont Plateau.



May 3, 1985

Marsh presents Lionel Carley with his Honorary Life Membership.



May 3, 1985

For about a week, Sessler's Bookshop on Walnut Street mounted a window display of books on Delius. The Holiday Inn across the street is reflected in the glass.

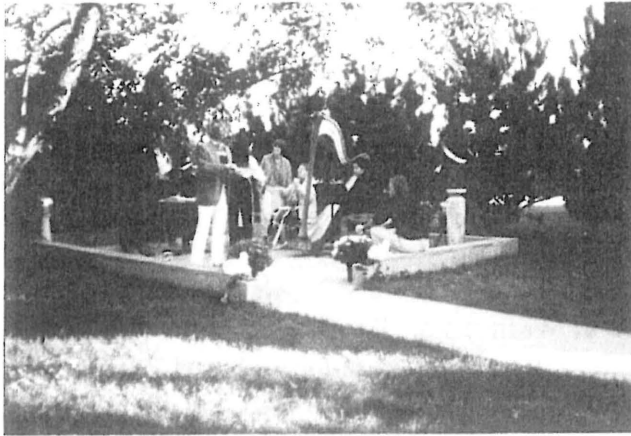


May 4, 1985

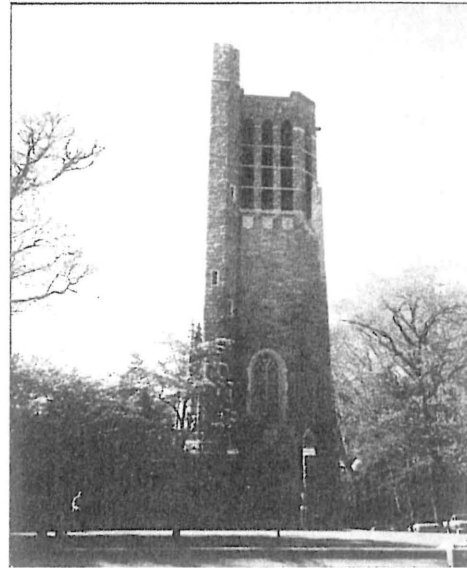
Bill Marsh introduces the panel for the Symposium "Walt Whitman, Frederick Delius and English Music" in the Academy of Music Ballroom. From left: Francis Quinn who read *Sea Drift*, moderator Lou Camp, conductor Sean Deibler who would lead the concert immediately following, and Lionel Carley.

THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES—PART III

All photos by Bill Marsh



September 14, 1985. Zephyrs and breezes in the garden at Richard Plunkett's "Haddock House" in Barnegat Light, NJ. Barbara Crowley is at the harp.



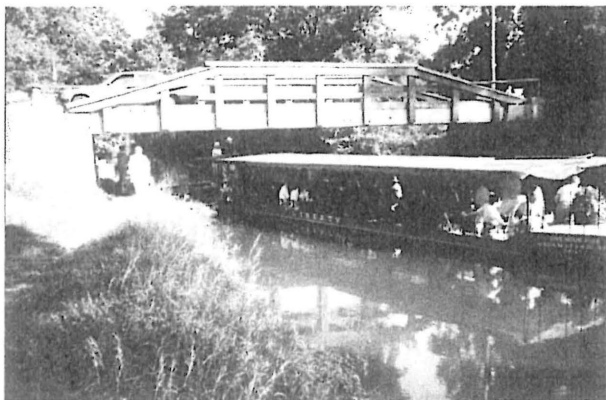
May 14, 1986. The 9th AGM was held at the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge. Photo shows the Carillon Tower.



May 14, 1996. Davyd Booth and Claribel Thomson play the U.S. premiere of Finzi's *Elegy*. Peter Stukane turns pages.



January 25, 1987. 10th Anniversary concert with the Philarte Quartet at the Philadelphia Ethical Society. Baritone Jonathan Sills gave the local premiere of Finzi's *By Footpath and Stile* at this concert.



August 9, 1986. The fondly-remembered New Hope Mule Barge Trip. Dinner was served on board and the cash bar did a booming business.



August 9, 1986 Floating along to the strains of De-lius on the cassette player while the pianist was on break.

EARLY YEARS, CONTINUED



August 9, 1986. Stewart Manville raises his glass.



October 19, 1986. Fall musicale at Davyd Booth's. Davyd at the piano and Peter King with his cello.



October 19, 1996. Peter Stukane played the harpsichord.



March 1, 1987. Benefit gala at Donald Clauser's in Moorestown, NJ. From left: Martin Williams (Delius Trust), Mrs. Williams, Bill Marsh, Joan Threlfall, Robert Threlfall.



March 1, 1987. From left: Rolf Stang, Stewart Manville, Don Gillespie, Robert Threlfall.



March 1, 1987. Delians with Donald Clauser (left).

THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES—PART IV

All photos by Bill Marsh



May 3, 1987. "In England, Merrie England" with the Vocal Express at Longwood Gardens. From left: David Neal, bass-baritone; Elena Clancy, soprano; Mertine Johns, mezzo-soprano; Jeremy Slavin, tenor.



October 4, 1987. Bill Smith speaks on Sir Thomas Beecham and his Philadelphia appearances at Bill Marsh's home. The Allman portrait of Delius is on the wall behind.



April 24, 1988. The 11th AGM at St. John's Lutheran Church in Centre Square, PA. Felix Aprahamian speaks before a concert.



June 18, 1988. Another summer outing at Richard Plunkett's "Haddock House", Barnegat Light, NJ. Carmel Verrastro dances to the music of Delius in the garden.



June 18, 1988. Richard Plunkett as the Muffin Man leads the Delians to the Barnegat Light Museum for a showing of Ken Russell's "Song of Summer"



September 18, 1988. Many Delians and friends gathered at the home of Dr. Martin Schimmel, Haverford, PA, for musicale.



September 18, 1988. Esther and Paul Weil pose in the garden at Martin Schimmel's.



December 30, 1988. Bill Smith is presented with his Honorary Life membership backstage in the Ormandy Room at the Academy of Music in the intermission of the concert at which Bill conducted Delius's "Eventyr". From left: Robert Rosenberger, Deborah Carter Smith, Davyd Booth, Bill Smith, Bill Marsh.



December 30, 1988. Delians and friends at Bill Smith's presentation



December 30, 1988. Surely that can't be Chairman Bill Marsh dressed as a troll at the Eventyr Party at John Bogar's following the concert?

THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES—PART V

(All photos by Bill Marsh)



October 10, 1991. The Wister Quartet plays at Ursinius College, Collegeville, PA. Philadelphia Orchestra oboist Jonathan Blumenfeld also was featured on this program.



February 2, 1992. A Delius Birthday Party, Candlemass, and Groundhog Day all rolled into one. Bill Marsh presents Rolf Stang with his Life Membership Certificate at Bob Rosenberger's, Lansdale, PA.



October 4, 1992. A concert at the Church of St. Andrew & St. Monica in West Philadelphia



October 4, 1992. Michael Stairs, Philadelphia Orchestra flutist David Cramer, and David Booth perform.



October 4, 1992. Rickey Heinze and Lois Kunkel at the church parish hall where The Delius Society showed off its art collection at a lavish reception prepared by church members.



May 16, 1993. Delians gather outside the Longwood Gardens ballroom prior to our "Keep Home Fires Burning" concert.



May 16, 1993. From left: Leander Chapin Claflin ("Biff"), organ; Deborah Carter, flute; Jonathan Sills, baritone; Regina Ottman, soprano; Douglas Tester, piano at Longwood Gardens.



May 16, 1993. Leander Chapin Claflin at the Longwood Gardens Organ Console which has since been replaced.



October 10, 1993. Peter Warlock program at Michael Stairs' home. Robert Beckhard gives talk on Warlock.



October 10, 1993. Doug Tester and Michael Stairs play 4-hand Warlock pieces.



January 21, 1996. Nora Sirbaugh and accompanist Tim Harrell after recital in Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ. Shown in Nora's house. Delians braved ice, snow, and a winter flood on the Delaware to get there.



May 19, 1996. "Three Cheers For Pooh" at Longwood Gardens. From left: Doug Tester, piano; Nora Sirbaugh, mezzo-soprano (with Tigger); David Newman, baritone (with Pooh); Joseph Jackson, organ.



May 19, 1996. Another full house at Longwood Gardens for "Three Cheers for Pooh". Note Alison and Jeremy Dibble from Durham, England, at the extreme left.



May 19, 1996. Delians enjoy a fine party at Jack Huston's after the Longwood concert.



February 2, 1997. Perhaps the longest and wildest Delius Birthday Party ever. Many members performed at Michael Stairs' in Rosemont. Here Murray Callahan with David Booth on accordion (!) perform music hall ditties.



February 2, 1997. Eugene Kaskey goes all out in a Gilbert & Sullivan number.



February 2, 1997. Gary Martin surprised everyone with a bagpipe performance



March 4, 1997. 20th anniversary dinner and concert at The New Century Guild in Philadelphia. Helen Faulkner of The Delius Trust attended with Felix Aprahamian. Here Bill Marsh presents Helen with an Honorary Life Membership certificate.



March 4, 1997. Bill Marsh gives the toast to Delius



March 4, 1997. Lloyd Smith greets concertgoers following his cello recital with pianist Davyd Booth at the Academy of Vocal Arts, Philadelphia. Lloyd gave the world premiere of his Cello Sonata at this concert.



March 4, 1997. Felix Aprahamian chats with Delians including Norman Gentieu to his left.

TWO DELIUS SCORES FAIL TO SELL AT A FREEMAN'S AUCTION

On October 19, 2008 at the venerable Freeman's Auction House in Philadelphia The David Wolman Classical Music Collection was put up for auction.

Lot 154 estimated at \$400-600 was a first edition vocal score of Delius's *Sea-Drift*.

Lot 155 was a 1908 Breitkopf & Härtel first edition of the vocal score for *Eine Messe des Lebens (A Mass of Life)*. This estimate was \$600-900. (The year and publisher are as per the catalog). Neither item sold, and in a recent letter Robert Threlfall agreed with me that these estimates were too high. The Delius Society has a first edition of the *Sea-Drift* vocal score and the 1921 reprint of the *Mass of Life* which is identical to the first edition.

Among the few other English items offered was Elgar's own copy of the vocal score for *The Dream of Gerontius* with his autograph on the cover. Estimated at \$3500-5000, this remained unsold also. In my opinion this figure was way too high also. On the other hand, an autograph letter signed Elgar, Edward, Malvern Sept. 20, 1902 estimated at \$400-600 brought \$850. The original envelope with mourning borders was included.

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THE EARLY YEARS IN PICTURES—PART VI

[all photos by Bill Marsh]



April 29, 1998. Taking bows at a "Delius and His Circle" concert at the Free Library of Philadelphia from left; pianist Charles Abramovic, violinist Davyd Booth, cellist Robert Cafaro, and mezzo-soprano Nora Sirbaugh.



March 1, 1999. Presentation by The Delius Trust of The Collected Edition of the works of Frederick Delius to the Free Library of Philadelphia. From left; Helen Faulkner of The Delius Trust, Paul Savedow, Music Department Head, Kathy Gosliner, Associate Director of The Free Library, Bill Marsh, Kile Smith, Fleisher Collection Curator, and Davyd Booth



October 24, 1999. Desmond Scott reads some of his father's poems at the Cyril Scott 120th Anniversary program at The Philadelphia Ethical Society.



May 16, 1999. Pianist Lorissa Korkina, left, and soprano Suzanne Hickman at "The Paradise Garden" program at Longwood Gardens.



May 16, 1999. Organist Michael Stairs by the Longwood Gardens organ console which has since been replaced.



May 16, 1999. The dinner afterwards at the Concordville Inn.



October 29, 1999. Sir Andrew Davis on stage at the Academy of Music receives his Honorary Life Membership certificate from Bill Marsh, left, and Davyd Booth, center.



April 9, 2000. Soprano Tamara Matthews and guitarist Allen Krantz present an English program at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Doylestown, PA.



March 20, 2001. Cocktail hour in Art-Deco splendor at the 25th Anniversary dinner and concert at the Cosmopolitan Club, Philadelphia.



March 20, 2001. The Barnard Trio at the concert.



March 20, 2001. Sir Andrew Davis and Davyd Booth play the hilarious 4-hand version of Grainger's "Country Gardens".



March 20, 2001. Guest of Honor, Sir Andrew Davis, addresses the diners at the 25th Anniversary dinner.



March 20, 2001. Arthur Zbinden surprises Edith Kohn with a floral bouquet on her birthday at the 25th Anniversary Concert.



March 20, 2001. Board members, Sir Andrew Davis, and performers following the 25th Anniversary concert.



February 2, 2002. Another Delius Birthday/Candelmas/ Groundhog Day celebration at The Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, Jenkintown, PA, hosted by Robert Rosenberger.



February 2, 2002. Peter King as Sir Thomas Beecham.



May 9, 2002. The Delancey String Quartet comprised of Curtis Institute students play works by Delius, Grainger, and Herman Sandby at The Curtis Institute of Music.



October 18, 2002. Scott Dettra signs a program for Bill Marsh following his organ recital at St. Mark's Church. Phyllis Linn looks on.



May 18, 2003. Shelter under the trees at the Longwood Gardens carillon recital by Lisa Lonie on a very cold and wet day. Arthur and Angelika Zbinden are at the extreme right.



September 19, 2003. Bill Marsh introduces Dr. Jeremy Dibble before his lecture on Sir Charles Villiers Stanford at the Philadelphia Art Alliance.