

St Jude's Proms - the best yet

The small organising committee Susie Gregson, Richard Clegg, Paul Hartley and John Wheeler under the chairmanship of Rev Alan Walker and with David Honeyball as artistic

director are to be congratulated on a really successful season that provided a series of musical events for Suburb residents to enjoy and an opportunity for them to contribute

in no small measure to local charities. Sums raised were £5,500 for the Hospice, £4,300 for the Dame Henrietta Barnett Fund and £1,300 for the organ fund.



Alan Walker, Vivienne Bellos and Susie Gregson at the Alyth concert



Humphrey Lyttelton signs for Jackie and Ron Norman



John Marshall talks jazz with Michael Levinson



Enjoying drinks in the sunshine during an interval

The Celebrity Recital at 7.30pm on June 18...

...brought together Lesley-Jane Rogers (soprano) and Christopher Ross (piano). This was a well-matched partnership, sensitive to the variety and mood changes of the programme. The songs, all from this century, ranged in style from drawing room ballads and folk song arrangements to songs from the great American musicals. It was a delightful selection.

Benjamin Britten, Frank Bridge and Percy Grainger from this side of the Atlantic, and George Gershwin, Jerome Kern and Frederick Loewe from America, all rubbed shoulders comfortably with lesser-known composers such as Harold Fraser-Simson, whose song 'The Raindrop and the Rose' was light, delicate and English to the core, while the American Charles Ives' bold and brash 'Circus Band' was full of American flavour.

Lesley-Jane Rogers' voice was crystal pure and true, a flexible instrument at ease whether in romantic or vivacious mood, and Christopher Ross' accompanying and solo playing was masterly throughout. The concert began slowly - only because the spoken word didn't carry and the audience was unsure where and when to clap, because the songs were introduced in groups. But after the interval the artistes set their own pace and the concert ended triumphantly.

Humph at the Proms - Sunday evening, June 20

Apart from being an outstanding jazz trumpeter, Humphrey Lyttelton is also a witty raconteur. But his words of witticism, once again, melted into a fuzzy distortion of sound at the back of the hall. There's nothing more frustrating for an audience than to hear laughter in the front row, and to know they are missing an integral part of the programme.

The music, thank goodness, was unaffected and the joyousness of jazz rang out from the internationally famous musicians who make this band a legend, brought together by Humph, the Pied Piper. Tonight we heard Jimmy Hastings (alto and tenor sax, clarinet and flute), Pete Strange (trombone and arrangements), Ted Beament (piano), Paul Bridge (bass) and Adrian Macintosh (drums). Kathy Stobart was indisposed and replaced by Jimmy Tomlinson (Sax), if I heard correctly....

Old favourites were matched with less familiar numbers. There were Duke Ellington numbers; 'Satin Doll' made a popular appearance, but for me the showstopper was 'Ludo', a real tour de force. Together the artistes and audience almost raised the roof as the band played on to its rousing finish. This was a great evening.

But organisers of future concerts should really turn their minds to overcoming the problem of the spoken word reaching the back of the hall. After all, you could hear every word there when the Vicar spoke! So it should be possible.

VERA SEGAL



David Honeyball conducts the joint choirs of Alyth Choral, Free Church a



Susie Gregson gets into the swing during the Humph concert



There was lunch at the lunchtime concerts too

Calder Group

SYMPATHETIC RENOVATIONS,
RESTORATIONS & STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS
TO PERIOD PROPERTIES

Working exclusively in London north of the Thames up to Hertford town,
Calder is a family business providing a wide range of services for period properties.

CALDER TRADITIONAL BUILDING SERVICES

- Structural Alterations & Repairs
- Lime Mortars, Plastering, Rendering, Limewash
- Wrought & Cast Iron Work

CALDER TRADITIONAL ROOFING SERVICES

- Traditional Slating & Tiling
- Lead, Copper & Zinc Work
- Asphalt Roofing, D.P.C. & Tanking
- Roof & Lantern Lights • Classic Rainwater Products

CALDER PRESERVATION SERVICES

- Damp & Decay, Wet & Dry Rot • Damp-proofing, Tanking Treatments
- Timber Infestation Solutions • Structural Timbers Engineering
- Sovereign Approved Contractors • 30 Year Protected Guarantees

Calder est 1966

Woodhurst, Cattlegate Road, Crews Hill, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 8AU
FREECALL 0808 100 CALDER (225337)

Hotblack Dixon & Co

Incorporating J. BROWN OGDEN

Estate Agents

Do talk to us when you are thinking of moving.

It's no great secret that we have had a successful business in the Suburb for many years now. If you yearn for the 'non-pushy' and friendly, professional approach, we are your Agents.

17 Market Place
Hampstead Garden Suburb
London NW11 6JY

0181 458 8411