

Tea Club

The aim of the Ladies' Tea Club is to promote friendship among the University Staff wives and women members of Staff. Those who are new to the University are especially welcome, and while every endeavour is made to contact such people, it would be appreciated if Departments could pass on to the Secretary, Mrs G. A. Shepperson, 23 Ormidale Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 6DY (Tel: 337 4424), the names of ladies whose husbands have recently joined the staff and of ladies who have recently taken up appointments.

Next Session the Club will meet on Tuesday, 18 October in the Talbot Rice Art Centre, Old College, at 3.15 p.m. and on Wednesday, 16 November in the Upper Library, Old College, at 8 p.m. for a coffee party to welcome newcomers to the University, and also on Wednesday, 23 November in the Tea Club Flat at 5 Buccleuch Place at 10.30 a.m., when there will be a crèche for young children.

In order to cater for a wide variety of interests the Club has a number of smaller groups for Badminton, Tennis and Keep Fit, and there is a Book Club, a Bridge Group (including beginners), a Choral Group, a Garden Group, a Collectors' Group, and a Young Mothers' Group which meets fortnightly with children for coffee. For members with young children the Club arranges a Christmas Party at the end of the Autumn Term, and for older children there is a Teenage Dance in late January.

The annual subscription is £1 and there are small additional subscriptions for the groups.

R.M.S. Symposium

The Royal Medical Society is to hold a symposium in the University's George Square Lecture Theatre on Friday 28 and Saturday 29 October on the subject "Current Thinking in Rheumatology". The registration fee is £6.50 (£2 for students) and applications should be sent to the Symposium Convener at the Royal Medical Society, Bristo Street, Edinburgh by 21 October.

Music in the University 1977-78

In recent years it has become the normal practice to give Edinburgh University Concerts a particular theme or 'face'. Thus there has been an 'American' season, an 'Italian' season and a season in which the emphasis has been placed on music by *Scottish* composers. It is appropriate that during the current celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee, the attention of both musicians and audience should be drawn to the achievements of *British* composers, and so, most of our programmes this season contain at least one work by a notable creative artist of this country.

Owing to the inevitable economic pressures of the present time the number of orchestral concerts by the Reid Orchestra has been reduced to three, but we are pleased to announce that this long-standing institution (one of the oldest in the country) will continue to function.

The opening concert, October 13, a violin and piano recital by Miles Baster and Peter Evans is characteristic of the series, in that it will include two important sonatas by Walton and Elgar. The second concert, October 20, on the other hand is quite different and is presented with the financial support of the Scottish Arts Council. A distinguished group of young musicians—The 20th Century Ensemble of London—will perform an international programme which contains two outstanding pieces of 20th Century music—Le Marteau sans Maître by Boulez and Berio's 'Differences'.

Continuing with the British theme, Elgar, probably the greatest creative genius ever produced by these islands is further represented by performances of his Introduction & Allegro and organ sonata in G. The Edinburgh Quartet will be making a very special and important contribution by including in their programme all three of Sir Michael Tippett's quartets, as well as one of Britten's last works, the third quartet.

John Blow is the earliest British composer to be represented in this series, but a more recent and now increasingly fashionable generation, shows its face in works by John Ireland, Arthur Bliss and Gerald Finzi. No concert series would be satisfyingly complete without a number of first performances and in this field we present three new works by Simon Bainbridge, Edward Harper (Fantasia No. 3 for Brass Ensemble) and Kenneth Leighton (Improvisations Opus 76 for harpsichord).

The latter will be performed by the composer in a harpsichord recital to be given in combination with Peter Williams in St. Cecilia's Hall.

Nor is British music of the 19th Century absent. In the first concert under Michael Tilmouth, the Reid Orchestra will be joined by Denis Matthews in a performance of the Piano Concerto No. 3 by John Field, and an overture by Sterndale Bennett is also included.

The organ recitals in the McEwen Hall will continue to take place on Friday lunchtimes in the hands of a distinguished series of players and our University Musical Society (purely students) will perform Haydn's The Seasons in February. The students of the Faculty of Music will also be playing a more important role than ever before, in the form of three concerts; and the highly successful University Opera Club will present a comparative rarity in Bizet's Don Procopio.

It is hoped that the series as a whole will strike a happy balance between great classics of chamber and orchestral music and home grown products.

K. L.

The proceeds from two of the concerts—those on 13 October and 17 November—which figure in the customary public programme of music presented by the University's Faculty of Music in the forthcoming session are to be donated to the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal. Tickets for each event cost 70p (40p for students). They may be obtained in advance from either the Edinburgh Bookshop or the Concert Office, Alison House, or at the door on the evening.

(See Coming Events for location and starting times).