

## IN THE BEGINNING ...

During our trip to Oberammergau one of our members, **Bea Ringrose**, told me about a reference in a book she had been reading to the **London Music Club**, which existed in the 1920s-30s. The author was somewhat scathing, suggesting that the members were more interested in the social side of the Club, enjoying nothing more than donning evening dress and going to socials and concerts involving light music only – none of yer Wagnerites here! I have been unable to discover anything more about this Club but I thought members might be interested in the origins of our own Club.

### **Editor**

When I first came to London knowing very few people, I saw an advertisement for, and joined, the London Symphony Orchestra Supporters' Club. As well as, obviously, attending concerts, etc., there were also a small number of talks, outings and social events. As time went on and numbers grew, it became clear that there was an increasing demand for these, and for concerts other than those given by the LSO, and an Extraordinary General Meeting was held at Conway Hall on 16 March 1968 to decide on the future of the Club and, more specifically, its finances. After a somewhat heated discussion, the only option really seemed to be a split and for a new group to be set up. Hence, the **Music Club of London** was born, with Keith Lilliman as its Organising Secretary.

For a time I, and quite a few other people, belonged to both, but work pressures finally forced a choice, and the wider range of activities offered by the Music Club and the friends I had made in it – one or two of whom I still have to this day, though they no longer live in London – made that my choice.

### **Margaret Wood**