

AN EVENING WITH SIR NICHOLAS KENYON

The Music Club was delighted to welcome the Managing Director of the Barbican Centre, Sir Nicholas Kenyon, on 5 May, at the home of Sir Vernon Ellis. There can be very little in the world of music that Nicholas has not done: from a bassoon player in his younger days, after graduating from Cambridge he worked for the English Bach Festival and as a freelance writer. From 1979 to 1982 he was a music critic for *The New Yorker*. On returning to the UK he became music critic for *The Times*, then Chief Music Critic of *The Observer*. He was also Music Editor of *The Listener* and Editor of the journal *Early Music*. In 1992 he was appointed Controller, BBC Radio 3, and was appointed Director of the BBC Proms from the 1996 season. In 2000 his title changed to Controller BBC Proms, Live Events and Television Classical Music. In February 2007 he was announced as the Managing Director of the Barbican Centre, in succession to Sir John Tusa.

Interviewed by Sir Vernon Ellis, Chairman and fellow Board member of English National Opera, Sir Nicholas proved to be not only a marvellous raconteur but a gold mine of fascinating stories and insights about the world of music. Many of us were dumbfounded when he stated that he and one assistant planned the entire 50 concerts for a Proms season! During his time there and at the Barbican he has succeeded in maintaining traditional repertoire as well as exploring both music: witness the fact that more than 1000 items were

During a lively question and answer session with the training in this country for Music Administrators.

Michael Bousfield

