

The Letter Writer (Editorial)

In this issue we publish some of the correspondence between SBG and Gladys Dawe, the organist at Lew Trenchard during the last years of his life. They cover quite a range of subjects and moods - from the enthusiasm for continental travel even in his late seventies, to matters of business in London, through the keen interest in musical technicalities, to the close pastoral relationship with his parishioners, and then the almost pathetic musings and self doubts of a lonely old man. Of particular interest are the comments which reveal the motivation for his book writing.

Although we know that many of his letters have not survived, there are undoubtedly a large number which have, and the Editor would be most grateful to receive photocopies so that other episodes or subjects can be presented in future issues.

The article entitled, 'A Marriage of Opposites' unfortunately contains some errors of fact, but seemed of sufficient entertainment value to include. Its source has not been noted, so that it is not now possible to make proper acknowledgment. However, we are delighted to welcome the contribution of our member Raymond Scott, concerning the novel Cheap Jack Zita.

Pursuing the theme of this editorial a stage further, may I encourage members to write letters themselves for the Newsletter - they can be addressed 'to the Editor' or to the membership at large.

By this means people can express thoughts, ask questions, raise issues, and present facts, when a full-scale article about the matter might not be appropriate.

While on holiday recently I was reading *A Book of Dartmoor* (in its paperback version issued by Wildwood House in 1982) and I can thoroughly recommend it as informative light reading. At the same time my wife and then my daughter read and fully enjoyed *The Shores of Sealandings* (reviewed in this issue). We all three have quite different tastes in reading, and rarely even open the same books as each other! Incidentally, my daughter two years ago finished her studies in the History of Art with the Courtauld Institute at Somerset House, which was also the location of King's College School when attended by SBG for two years from the age of ten.

DPRS