

# World famous musician mourned

ALAN Hacker, a world-famous musician and conductor who had lived at Broughton for 17 years, has died.

In his third year at the Royal Academy of Music he joined the London Philharmonic Orchestra and was made a clarinet professor at the Academy at just 19 years old.

But it was a spinal blood clot above the level of his chest that put him in a wheel chair and out of the London Philharmonic in 1966.

In classical music Alan was a pioneer of restoring and playing on classical instruments.

Benjamin Britten supported his playing in the English Chamber Orchestra and at the Aldeborough Festival.

His playing was sort after by film makers; he is a virtual soloist in the historic Thames Television World at War series for which he still received royalties.

As important as anything else was his restoring of Mozart's Concerto and Quintet to its original basset clarinet line along with reconstructing the forgotten Mozartian instrument in the 1960s.

After spending eight years at York University he embarked on a conducting career. The last two operas he conducted were Handel's Alcina at the Edinburgh Festival with the Stuttgart Opera Company and Birtwistle's The Io Passion that he scored for Alan's basset clarinet and string quartet. He was awarded the O.B.E. in 1988 for services to music.