

Dear Mr Gowers,

I am appalled about the proposal to extend copyright.

For over 10 years I have been collecting 78rpm recordings of Highland Bagpipes recorded before 1940 and transferring them to CD for ease of listening.

By accident, I discovered through the Newsgroup that almost none of these recordings by important Pipe Majors of the past have been re-issued. That is for over sixty years the owner of the copyright has done nothing to preserve these important recordings and make them available to the Bagpipe community.

The reason being that probably less than 100 people in the world have any interest in this subject.

However, I have sold copies of the CDs that I have made on the internet for some years and the feedback from those few people has been positive. One person even used these recordings as the basis of his Ph.D thesis.

If the copyright law is changed then my hobby will become a criminal activity.

I believe that 50 years is enough time for a company to make their product available if they have failed to catalogue a single record by PM Henry Forsyth for 50 years then they do not deserve the protection of copyright.

95 years of copyright is far too long and would result in a poorer less diverse musical world.

Yours Faithfully  
Mr A. S. Langford