

**THE SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS**  
**NYRO Sub-committee**

9th meeting on Friday 28 September 2007 at 11.00 a.m.  
at 8 Mendip Drive, Nuneaton CV10 8PT.

Present: Andrew Short, Naomi Winterburn, Rosemary Bye, Colin Touchin, Jean Murray,  
Dianne Charles,

1. The Minutes of the meeting on 22 June 2007 were approved as a true record.
2. Matters arising.  
Our application for a NAYO Allianz award to support instrument purchase was unsuccessful. Allianz has now ended its sponsorship of NAYO.  
(8.i) Birmingham Conservatoire declined to pay the fee for the great bass. It has now been allocated to EROS if required.
3. 2007 summer course, 22 to 28 July, Pocklington School, Yorkshire.
  - i. The course evaluation forms were generally positive, with a variety of comments that will be considered. 16<sup>th</sup> century music was the least popular with votes against Hassler and Tallis.
  - ii. Colin considered the concert to have been the best yet.
  - iii. The contents of the CD have been agreed; the booklet is still to be finalised.
  - iv. For the first time the concert shows a surplus (of about £400). This has still to be paid by The Sage, having been delayed by VAT issues.
  - v. For future courses applicants to NYRO will be required to play a set piece on bass recorder as well as treble. Applicants to NYTRO will have the opportunity to do so.
  - vi. Chris Orton was well received as a new tutor.
  - vii. The house staff team had settled well but would have benefited from an extra member.
4. Playing day, Priory School, Birmingham, 23 September 2007.  
This was directed by Colin with Ross Winters. The standard was good, although the attendance was down at 17. The date was a rather short interval after circulation of the flyer with dates of 2007-2008 courses. For 2008 it will be delayed to the first weekend in October. Because of the lower attendance there would be a loss of about £160. A parent had asked if a programme for parents could be included. It may be possible to provide a room at cost for adult players but direction would not be offered.
5. London playing day 2008  
Naomi will investigate locations and dates.
6. 2008 Easter course, 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> April at Bromsgrove School.  
Six applications have been received so far. Colin and Ross will tutor again. There will be an attempt to recruit one or two student assistants to help with chamber music and other duties. Accommodation will be provided but not fees. Colin and Naomi will look out for suitable candidates.
7. 2008 Summer course, 27<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August.  
There are currently 24 applications, more than at this stage in previous years. One is a new applicant. A school has not yet been found. Naomi has sent a second round of enquiries and replies are awaited. It is still not known whether the CBSO Centre will be available. A provisional booking of the Adrian Boult Hall remains in place.  
It was agreed that the 2007 staff would be re-invited, including Chris Orton. Marion Scott will be asked if she wishes to remain on the panel of tutors for future events. Patrick Richmond will not be available as assistant tutor but is willing to return in future years. After discussion of a possible stop-gap solution it was agreed that we should aim to widen the pool by finding a new assistant tutor. Colin and Naomi will take this forward.

8. 2009 Summer course, 26<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August and future courses

Although the previous meeting had considered Edinburgh as a location, a discussion at the 2007 course raised doubts about its viability when not many players attend yet from Scotland. Interest should be raised first with playing days or short courses.

It was agreed to investigate instead a location for 2009 in the East of England, around Cambridge or Norwich. For 2010 a northern location is desirable. Areas discussed for following years were Basingstoke, Hampshire and Kent. It was noted that there would be a particular problem in 2012 because of the Olympic Games.
9. It was noted that Alex Emerson and Sharon Willerton are planning a youth recorder course in Scotland conducted by Eileen Silcocks. It was agreed that NYRO would offer support with publicity, mailing list and instruments.
10. Instrument purchase.

Suppliers of instruments in UK and Germany had been invited to tender over the summer and musical staff had been consulted. There is a clear consensus in favour of Kung Superio great basses and Paetzold contrabasses. Prices in Germany are significantly lower than those in the UK. One German shop is offering a particularly attractive discount; another has only just been contacted.

It was agreed that tenders would be invited to supply two Kung Superio great basses and two Paetzold contrabasses, all with cases and stands for delivery by May 2008. Three instruments will be funded by the allocation from the SRP Committee and one, a Kung GB, from the NYRO accumulated surplus. The proposal would be circulated to musical staff for comment, particularly on whether they have any views on cherry wood as opposed to plywood Paetzolds.
11. Draft job descriptions of music, administrative and house staff were tabled by Naomi and Colin. These will be consolidated (Naomi) and considered at the next meeting. Andrew will draft a job description for the NYRO chair.
12. Publicity
  - i. An attempt will be made to identify recorder specialists in local authority music services to target with NYRO packs. An experiment may be tried in recruiting a team of student callers to contact them.
  - ii. Jean Macdonald, the designer of the NYRO logo, will be asked advice on the design of a letterhead.
13. Finance

Rosemary reviewed the accounts for 2006-2007, which cannot be finalised or audited yet because of outstanding transactions. There were some variations in both directions against budget, the outcome being a surplus around £1000.

Increased fees were agreed to be offered (previous levels): Musical Director £1050 (£1000), NYTRO conductor £790 (£750), tutors £630 (£600), day rate £130 (£125), half day £90 (£85). Ross Winters will be offered a retrospective supplement for Blockwork.

Dual cheque signatures mean that internet banking is not possible, so payments cannot be made by bank transfers. We should investigate whether a single signature would be acceptable, provided that we have our own procedures for checking and approving payments. This will be discussed with the SRP Treasurer.
14. Other business. Colin is to have a discussion with Nigel Hess about a possible composition. He has discussed one-handed recorder with Michaela Tuckwell and Suzuki recorder with Nancy Daly.
15. The next meeting: will be on Friday 8 February 2008 in Andrew's house in Edinburgh.
16. The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m. with thanks to Naomi for her hospitality.