

The Society of Recorder Players
NYRO sub-committee

10th meeting on Friday 8 February 2008 at 9.45 a.m.
at 12/6 Woodburn Terrace, Edinburgh EH10 4SJ.

Present: Andrew Short, Naomi Winterburn, Rosemary Byde, Colin Touchin, Jean Murray.

Apology: Dianne Charles,

1. The Minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2007 were approved as a true record.
2. Matters arising.
 - (9) The proposed youth recorder orchestra in Scotland is now on hold as one of the organisers has withdrawn.
 - (10) Instruments have been ordered from Blockfloetenshop.de in Germany, who quoted the best price, for collection in May 2008. The price advantage has since diminished as the exchange rate is now less favourable. It was agreed that payment would be made as soon as possible. Because of the difficulty of foreign currency transfers from a dual-signature account, Rosemary agreed to route the payment through her personal bank account.
 - (11) Revised job descriptions for Chairman, Treasurer, Administrator, Musical Director, NYTRO conductor, Music Tutors, Assistant Music Tutor, Matron and House Staff were discussed in detail. Further revisions will be brought to a future meeting, together with a draft constitution for the sub-committee.
 - (12.2) Comments on draft letterhead designs have been made to Jean Macdonald and discussions are continuing.
 - (13) The payment to Ross Winters for BlockWork 2007 was agreed as £100 and would now be paid.
 - (13) a case will be made to the SRP committee for an amendment to the Rules to allow a single signatory for cheques, with safeguards, therefore also internet banking and BACS transfers to UK and overseas accounts.
 - (14) Nigel Hess is delighted to have been approached about a composition but is too busy to undertake it until 2010 at the earliest.
3. 2008 Easter course, 1st to 5th April at Bromsgrove School.

There are 14 UK applicants and 13 from a South African touring group with three musically-qualified staff. The latter group's presence makes this event viable. The decline in UK applicants may be related to there being no dates when all schools are on holiday. The age range is from 10 to 18. Applications have been received for the student assistant post; one of these is promising and will be offered the post. The concert will be at the school on Saturday 5th April at 2.30 p.m.
4. 2008 Summer course, 27th July to 2nd August, Abbots Bromley School, Staffordshire

The price is £27 per person per night. All accommodation and facilities are under one roof. 39 applicants have been accepted; about 15 are still to be auditioned. Applications have been received for the Assistant Tutor post; one of these will be offered the post. House staff will be Dianne, Sharon Willerton, Judy Sherwood, Amy Hutchison and Frances Dodd (Matron). A professional photographer will be sought. The concert will be in the Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire, on Saturday 2 August at 2.30 p.m. costing £827 plus 10% commission on tickets and sales. The ticket price will be £10 and £7 concession. The school may also be suitable for future Easter courses.

5. Playing days 2008
 - i. A free venue has been found in London but it has not been possible to engage music staff for the available date so it appears unlikely this year.
 - ii. The Birmingham playing day has been agreed as Sunday 19th October, tutored by Colin and Ross.
6. Courses 2009
 - i. Easter, 14th to 18th April in either Bromsgrove or Abbots Bromley
 - ii. Summer course, 26th July to 1st August. A location in the East of England is still to be found.
7. The ERTA-Germany conference 26-28 September 2008 in Dinkelsbühl has the theme of Recorder Orchestra and Colin suggests that NYRO might be represented by BlockWork, 11 players with Ross and Naomi. Colin will visit briefly to make a presentation but will otherwise be elsewhere. In about a month we shall know whether a BlockWork performance is acceptable.
8. Fundraising
 - i. The ERTA-Germany conference 26-28 September 2008. Naomi has estimated a cost of £3500 using budget air travel and youth hostel accommodation. If players pay £200 each there would be about £1500 to find. This may be sustainable out of an annual surplus if grants can be found for other purposes.
 - ii. Naomi will review trusts (information supplied by Jean) to look for opportunities to apply for support instrument purchase, compositions etc.
9. Publicity
 - i. Jean advised that we should place advertisements for NYRO in Music Teacher and Classical Music magazines.
 - ii. Other suggestions include Bauer & Hieber music shops (who have offered space for London auditions), Recorder Music Mail (with music sent out as well as the magazine), the Making Music website, Facebook, ABRSM forum, TES teachers' site.
10. Finance.
 - i. Rosemary will prepare the budget for the 2008 summer course now that numbers and costs are known approximately.
 - ii. To enable publicity for 2009 courses to be available at the 2008 summer course, it is necessary to fix 2009 fees now. These were agreed at £215 for the Easter course and £425 for the summer course.
 - iii. The cap on music staff travel costs was removed and replaced by "reasonable UK travel expenses".
 - iv. Rosemary pointed out that, although production and distribution of CDs is a valuable and necessary activity, it still does not cover its costs. All are encouraged to take CDs for sale at relevant events.
11. The next meeting: will be on Friday 16 May 2008, again in Andrew's house in Edinburgh.
12. The meeting closed at 3.45 p.m. with thanks to Andrew.