

The Society of Recorder Players
NYRO sub-committee

4th meeting on Friday 21 October 2005 at 11.00 a.m.
at 2 Regent Close, Edgbaston, Birmingham B5 7PL.

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

1. The Minutes of the meeting on 24 June 2005 were approved as a true record.
2. Matters arising from the Minutes.
 - i. (Minute 2.i). Yamaha-Kemble have not replied to our request for sponsorship. Two people have become Friends.
 - ii. (Minute 2.iii). Before proceeding with a new website Sharon Willerton requires a definition of what is required (Naomi).
3. 2005 course
 - i. Naomi tabled a summary of 30 evaluation forms returned (18/31 NYRO, 12/17 NYTRO). These are regarded as overwhelmingly positive. Some dissatisfaction was expressed by one or two members of NYTRO who felt they should have been in NYRO. The same view is expressed in a reasoned letter sent by a parent to Colin.
 - ii. There was a bigger gap in standard than expected between NYRO and NYTRO. The NYRO standard was much improved, in part because it did not have any "passengers".
 - iii. Tutors felt that for NYTRO sectional time and technical tuition was too limited.
 - iv. About 15 minutes needs to be omitted from the recording to fit on a CD. Colin is discussing this with Andrew Challinger. It is hoped to have the CD ready by December. Complimentary CDs will be sent to composers, arrangers, course staff, subcommittee members and the SRP honorary president.
 - v. Management of the concert requires more staff.
 - vi. A family in the concert audience had included small children who were a nuisance, audible on the recording. It will be necessary to prevent such things in future.
 - vii. There was some dissent about concert dress. A firm policy will be agreed at a future meeting.
4. 2006 course
 - i. 43 applications have been received for audition before Christmas. There is a closing date of 17 February 2006 for auditions in the Easter holidays.
 - ii. David Bellugi has informally agreed to be soloist. He would need to leave the Dolmetsch summer school early. With NYTRO he may play a Vivaldi or Sammartini concerto, with NYRO a concerto by David Bedford, Steve Marshall or Colin.

- iii. The invitation to Eileen Silcocks to conduct NYTRO was confirmed. Colin and Andrew had discussed the role with Eileen in Glasgow on 5 October. Helen Hooker, Marion Scott and Ross Winters will again be invited as tutors. Patrick Richmond or Grace Barton will be invited as a student tutor. All invitations will state that continuity is expected from year to year but there will be a review of structure and staffing after each course.
- iv. Fees offered will be musical director £1000, NYTRO conductor £750, soloist £750, tutors £600, student tutor £300. (Naomi).
- v. Wellington School in Crowthorne appears to have the right facilities at £25 per person per night with no VAT required. It will be inspected by Naomi in the next week. The only other offer, from Epsom College, is less satisfactory because of building work.
- vi. For the concert, the only offer is Regent Hall at 275 Oxford Street, London at £600, again with no VAT. Naomi has inspected and it is suitable, with only minor drawbacks.
- vii. The following will be invited to be house staff (for expenses only). Dianne, Judy Sherwood, Barbara Johnson, Sharon Willerton-Gill, Jules Prosser, Alex Emerson, Richard Ash, Nigel Martin. Jean will assist on the day of the concert. (Naomi).
- viii. A matron/nurse will be sought and offered a fee of £300 plus expenses with accommodation provided. (Andrew).
- ix. Mike Skeet will be invited to be recording engineer, with production by Paul Arden-Taylor. (Naomi).
- x. A child protection policy will be drafted, based on a model supplied by Jean (Naomi).
- xi. Criminal Record Bureau checks will be made before NYRO 2006 on all staff and volunteers at likely costs of about £22 for volunteers and £45 for staff. CRB certificates will be accepted in future years if less than three years old. (Naomi).
- xii. An accident book will be provided (Naomi).

5. Regions suggested for future courses.

- 2007 North-east England, possibly with the concert in the smaller auditorium of The Sage, Gateshead. A search for suitable accommodation and concert venue should start soon, given the shortages experienced for 2006. (Naomi).
- 2008 English Midlands
- 2009 Scotland

6. Finance.

- i. Rosemary presented the financial outcome for NYRO 2005 (a surplus of £1274) compared to the budget (predicting a deficit of £3303) and went through it in detail.
- ii. Rosemary tabled a preliminary draft budget for NYRO 2006. This will be changed considerably by information now available and decisions made at this meeting. She will update it.

- iii. Rosemary tabled a list of known transactions in financial year 2004-2005 for inclusion in the SRP accounts. Unfortunately these did not include transactions before February 2005, leaving a discrepancy of £828.89, as financial records from September 2004 to February 2005 have not yet been supplied by David Beare. It is understood that David has recently returned from Africa and we hope that the records can now be completed.
 - iv. The “business” bank account with Alliance & Leicester is unsatisfactory because it is automated and lacks human contacts to sort out problems, of which there are several. It was agreed that Rosemary could transfer SRP/NYRO to a new account with the Royal Bank of Scotland or NatWest.
7. Tutors’ and subcommittee meetings. A tutors’ & conductors’ meeting is scheduled for December 10th in London. At a previous tutors’ meeting a question had been raised about the involvement of tutors in management decisions (see Minute 4 of 24/06/2005). On the other hand, this question was raised again at a meeting on the 2005 course of tutors, conductors and subcommittee members and no dissatisfaction was expressed. It was agreed that a document should be prepared describing the present arrangements and this will be circulated to tutors and others along with subcommittee papers. Comment will be invited. (Andrew).
 8. The proposal at the last meeting (Minute 5 of 24/6/2005) for one-day “reunion” sessions will be followed up. Dianne agreed to investigate, and if feasible organise, an event in conjunction with Birmingham Conservatoire in the spring of 2006 through the connection with Ross Winters. (Dianne).
 9. Repertoire. Colin thinks there is a danger of running out of good repertoire. The SRP committee will be asked to consider commissions for orchestras of the standard for NYTRO or a regional youth recorder orchestra. More detailed proposals will be considered at the next subcommittee meeting for submission to the SRP committee in February 2006.
 10. Advertising and promotional literature. At present advertisements are placed reactively after approaches by journals and have cost £325 in the last few months. Promotional literature is of photocopy quality at minimal cost. There should be a more considered and proactive policy on advertising. Literature should have a more professional style comparable with, for example, the Woodhouse recorder week. Both these developments will require the allocation of a significant budget. Decisions will be made at the next subcommittee meeting (all members to consider). Rosemary will provide an estimate of the financial benefit (contributing to fixed costs) of recruiting an extra member (course fee less the cost of an extra person).
 11. NYRO/NYTRO should have the opportunity to perform at SRP festivals also have a stall with promotional literature and CDs and memorabilia for sale. The SRP committee will be asked to include these requirements in the Festival guidelines. (Andrew).

12. International Congress of Recorder Orchestras. Following ICRO 2004, Norbert Kunst and the Dutch Recorder Orchestra Praetorius have announced ICRO 2006 in October 2006, associated with Rembrandt 2006, the 400th anniversary of the painter's birth. In principle NYRO should attend, but this would need to be at lesser cost than in 2004, probably with coach and ferry travel and hostel accommodation. This should be investigated and considered at the next subcommittee meeting (Colin ?).
13. Naomi tabled a draft of the next newsletter, which will be published in the next week or two.
14. The next subcommittee meeting will be on 27 January 2006, again in Diannes's house. The agenda will include course details for 2006, concert dress, the budget, advertising and promotional literature, the 2007 course.
15. The meeting closed at 4.15 p.m. with thanks to Dianne for hospitality.

Action list.

- Invite NYTRO conductor, tutors and house staff for 2006 (Naomi)
- Inspect and report on Wellington School (Naomi)
- Book Regent Hall (Naomi)
- Auditions in December and applications for Easter holiday auditions (Naomi)
- Recruit matron/nurse (Andrew)
- Book recording engineer and CD production (Naomi).
- Draft child protection policy (Naomi).
- Arrange CRB checks (Naomi).
- Provide an accident book (Naomi)
- Update the budget for 2006 (Rosemary)
- Look for venues for NYRO 2007 (Naomi)
- Contact David Beare (again) about missing financial information (Andrew)
- Complete 2004-2005 accounts (Rosemary)
- Arrange independent examination of accounts by Sandy Young (Rosemary)
- Transfer to a new bank account (Rosemary)
- Write a description of management and circulate papers (Andrew)
- NYRO/NYTRO reunion day in Birmingham (Dianne)
- Alert SRP committee to forthcoming proposal for commissions (Andrew)
- Consider policies on advertising and literature (all members)
- Financial benefit of recruiting extra players (Rosemary)
- Ask SRP committee to include NYRO needs in festival guidelines (Andrew)
- ICRO 2006, feasibility and arrangements (Colin)