

The Society of Recorder Players
NYRO sub-committee

6th meeting on Friday 12 May 2006 at 10.50 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 27 January 2006 were approved as a true record.
2. Matters arising.

Several items had been referred to the SRP committee at its meeting on 5 February 2006. An increased honorarium to Naomi was approved bringing her commitment to 1.5 days per week. (Naomi tabled an updated job description, which was approved by the sub-committee and will be forwarded to the SRP committee). The SRP committee was interested in the proposals for a commissioned composition and for ICRO UK; the NYRO sub-committee is expected to take these forward.
3. 2006 course, Wellington School, Crowthorne, 23-29 July.
 - i. After withdrawals there are 63 players (50 female, 13 male) with 40 allocated to NYRO (35 f, 5 m) and 23 to NYTRO (15 f, 8 m).
 - ii. Music staff are as arranged (two confirmations awaited). A male member of house staff is needed following a withdrawal; possibilities were discussed.
 - iii. The timetable will be similar to the 2005 course. Colin will give a presentation about Dennis Bamforth.
 - iv. Last year orchestra members voted for black T shirts, also shaped versions for females. As well as the NYRO logo in white, they could have a suitable quotation – suggestions are invited. Other branded goods may be made for sale.
 - v. The concert is at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday 29 July in Regent Hall, Oxford Street, London. Recorder teachers at London conservatoires will be sent complimentary tickets (Naomi). The soloist, David Bellugi, will be available on Friday 28th. His fee needs to be paid in cash (Rosemary to arrange, also a cash float for the course).
 - vi. The overlap between the day of the concert and the start of the Recorder Summer School is unfortunate, but it is difficult to see how NYRO could be moved.
4. Extra projects
 - i. Discussion of a location for a day course in Birmingham for spring 2006 had foundered. It will be revived for September 2006 on a self-funding basis (Dianne).

- ii. For ICRO 2006 (Netherlands), Colin has found hostel accommodation for about £100 for three days. He is in touch with a travel company about transport between the hostel and the congress. The congress organiser has asked for a per-member fee which he considers unreasonable and he has made a reduced offer. The proposed visit will not be viable unless the cost, including travel, is kept below £400.
 - iii. Colin is interested in attracting players of conservatoire standard, some of whom are excluded by the age limit of 21. The subcommittee is not in favour of extending the age range. Instead we shall consider forming an additional group, the Collegiate Recorder Ensemble, to meet at Easter time and including non-conservatoire players of diploma standard. Colin will discuss this with Ross Winters and any other conservatoire teachers who attend the concert.
5. 2007 activities.
- i. Discussions about NYRO participation in the 2007 Northern Recorder Course had been well advanced between Colin and the organisers, Justine and David Spence. However Justine has just emailed to say that after consulting key members of NRC, who were opposed, they have withdrawn from the arrangement. Instead, a short NYRO Easter course, without auditions and self-funding, will be investigated for a Tuesday to Saturday. A location will be sought that could remain constant for succeeding years (Colin and Naomi).
 - ii. The Sage Gateshead, hall 2, has been booked for the NYRO 2007 concert on Saturday 28 July. For accommodation, 22-28 July, Barnard Castle is the closest suitable school; Naomi will inspect it at half term.
6. Budget 2006
- Rosemary tabled an updated budget for NYRO 2006 showing a balance for contingency or advertising of about £2500. Various items were discussed; it was felt that savings were likely in several areas. On the other hand income from concert tickets and the selling of advertising space in the programme may not meet expectations. Now that NYRO owns two large instruments, a balance sheet of assets will be required.
7. Newsletter.
- The tabled draft showed in the middle two pages pie-chart analyses of the expenditure in 2005 and the budget for 2006 with explanations.
8. Image.
- i. One of the logos prepared by Jean Macdonald has been used by Dianne in designing leaflets. It is liked by the subcommittee, who agreed to adopt it with slight modifications: addition of GB to the logo and a plural to the text - "National Youth Recorder Orchestras". It should be bold enough to be photocopied.
 - ii. Work on the new website has been slow. Sharon Willerton needs advice on the content (Naomi). The present website is badly out of date and will be updated as a temporary solution (Andrew). The target for the new website will be September 2006.

9. Advertising and marketing

- i. Rhinegold Publishing .are in regular touch to try to sell advertising space. An advertisement has appeared in Early Music Today. A free entry in the Barlines column of Classical Music would be useful; Colin will write something.
- ii. A timetable for advertising will be discussed at the next meeting.
- iii. The leaflets and posters designed by Dianne require the texts to be finalised (Naomi) also the programme (Colin).
- iv. We still need someone to take responsibility for publicity. An appeal for a volunteer will go in the newsletter (Naomi).
- v. The selling of advertising space in the programme will be co-ordinated by Dianne. All to make suggestions.

10. Instruments

Andrew noted that his own contrabass has been serviced at reasonable cost by Küng and is greatly improved. The Edinburgh branch great bass is about to be similarly serviced and should be ready for NYRO 2006. It was agreed that the two instruments owned by NYRO (donated by Jeanette Hipsey) should also be serviced, if possible before NYRO 2006 but after their use in the Scottish Recorder Orchestra concert on June 11th (Andrew). It was also felt that use outside NYRO courses (which are increasing) should be managed by the subcommittee and that a charge of £5 a month should be made as a contribution to maintenance and insurance. The SRP committee will be asked to comment and will also be asked, given the extensive outside use, whether the cost of servicing might be carried centrally. A possible bid for the purchase of additional instruments will be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Insurance

A proposal from Dick Pyper for an Office Insurance at £315 was felt to include many items we do not need. Office equipment is owned and insured personally. CDs, while valuable at selling price, can be replaced at less cost and NYRO could carry that risk. The only item we really need is employer's liability; a quotation for this will be sought (Andrew).

12. CRB checks

It is proving impossible to complete these before NYRO 2006. Staff will be asked to bring passports so that they can be checked as this is necessary when making application. All staff will be asked for copies of existing CRB checks and only those unable to provide a copy will be re-checked.

13. National Association of Youth Orchestras

Jean noted that NAYO is holding an event in Nottingham the following weekend for independent youth orchestras, which she is attending in her other capacity. She will check about NYRO; Naomi indicated she would be able to attend.

14. The next meeting: will be on Friday 29 September 2006, again in Dianne's house.

15. The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m. with thanks to Dianne for her hospitality.