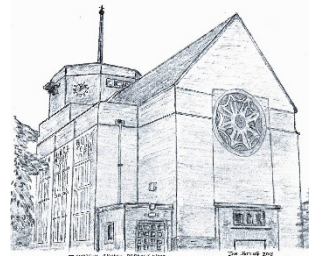




SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS

WEALD OF KENT BRANCH

NEWSLETTER ● AUGUST 2026



PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS FOR 2026/27

I hope that you may all agree that we have had an excellent range of conductors and music during our branch playing sessions for the past year. Thank you for continuing to support us. We hope that you will want to continue to support us. Miriam Monaghan from "Pallisander Recorder Consort" will be joining us as our guest SRP visiting Conductor for our playing day in November.

We will need to hold an **Annual General Meeting** of the branch and this will take place during our October meeting. Anyone may attend but only branch members may vote on motions and for membership of the committee. Further details will follow nearer the time.

The programme of meetings arranged for the Branch for 2026/2027 is shown below. We look forward to welcoming you to our sessions.

✚ Dates: Meetings normally take place on the third Saturday of the month, September to June.

✚ Venue: We meet in the Wallis Room apart from the November playing day which takes place in the Winter Room, at St Andrew's Anglican and Methodist Church, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6DZ.

✚ Times: Afternoon meetings run from 2.30pm to 5.30pm and includes a refreshment break. The annual playing day this season takes place in November 2026 and runs 10 am to 4.30pm, for which you need to bring a packed lunch or go to the town centre nearby for items.

✚ Costs: The Committee has been covering increased costs from hall-hire and conductor fees from branch reserves. However, having reviewed our accounts, it has been agreed that we are able to maintain the fee structure at the same level as before. The Central SRP contributions have been kept at the same rate as last year. If you plan to come to most sessions, it is more cost effective to consider annual membership of the branch plus Central SRP. We need a completed membership form that can be handwritten and passed back to us, posted or scanned & emailed to our branch email address. If you will only be coming intermittently, then paying per session as a visitor may be more suitable for you. The visitor rate will be £15 (£2 if a student aged less than 30 years and in full-time education) per afternoon). We prefer bank transfer, otherwise exact cash on the day. We are unable to give change or accept card payments. Where appropriate, a current Gift Aid form would be appreciated.

Music stands: Please remember to bring your music stands and pencils to all meetings. The programme and any changes to it, will also be shown on the Branch's page of the SRP website at www.srp.org.uk/wealdofkent. We continue to operate a bookings scheme made in advance via wealdofkent@srp.org.uk. Booking opens about two weeks before each event (except playing day – via booking form) when the reminder email is circulated.

2026	
19 th September	DAVID BURGESS , conducting
17 th October	KATHERINE JONES , conducting
21 st November	MIRIAM MONAGHAN , SRP Visiting Conductor: PLAYING DAY 10am – 4.30pm
19 th December	HARRIET OLIVER , conducting
2027	
16 th January	KAREN BARTON-HOLMAN , conducting
20 th February	KATHERINE JONES , conducting
20 th March	DAVID MOSES , conducting
17 th April	REBECCA AUSTEN-BROWN , conducting
15 th May	MARION SCOTT , conducting
19 th June	MARION SCOTT , conducting

DAVID BURGESS		KATHERINE Jones		MIRIAM Monaghan		HARRIET OLIVER	
KAREN BARTON-HOLMAN		DAVID MOSES		REBECCA AUSTEN-BROWN		MARION SCOTT	

CONDUCTORS

David Burgess

David was born, educated and trained in Hampshire and was one of the early recipients of a County Music Exhibition. He read music and education at King Alfred's College, Winchester, also studied the organ with Christopher Gower and David Thorne at Portsmouth Cathedral. David holds Diplomas in piano performing, teaching and accompaniment and teaches piano, recorder and class music in four local schools as well as running a thriving private teaching practice. He is a member of the SRP and has conducted the Wessex Branch (incl. playing days) in addition to regularly conducting at the London, Guildford and Dorset

Branches. David directs the Upham Recorder Orchestra, affectionately known as 'URO'. This is a community venture which provides an opportunity for adults and children to make music together.

Katherine Jones

Katherine has always played both oboe and recorder to a high standard and feels that one inspires the other. Whilst being a Principal Study Oboist, she has continued her recorder studies at the Royal Academy of Music (RAM) with Pamela Thorby and Anna Stegmann. She was previously taught by Marion Scott and under her guidance gained an ATCL Diploma with Distinction in 2012. Katherine is a former member of the National Youth Recorder Orchestra which included performances in Birmingham Town Hall, the Sage Gateshead and the Adrian Boult Hall to name a few. She was also accepted onto the Gifted Young Recorder Players course supported by the Walter Bergmann Trust, part of the Society of Recorder Players. This was run by Tom Beets, a member of the former Flanders Recorder Quartet. Katherine has taken a very active role in the RAM recorder department, playing in masterclasses with Daniel Bruggen, Peter Holtslag, Susanne Fröhlich and María Martínez Ayerza. She has given chamber performances at Handel House and the Greenwich Early Music Festival. She also performed with the RAM consort at Buckingham Palace. Her recorder chamber music performances include the première of *In Feyre Foreste* by Robin Haigh for which he became the youngest ever recipient of the British Composer Award. Katherine has also given a solo performance at the Greenwich Early Music Festival in conjunction with the Centre for Young Musicians and a concert with the Kent Society of Recorder players which included solo and chamber music works.

Miriam Monaghan

Katherine has been described as an 'incredible player' (Classic FM) Miriam Monaghan (née Nerval) leads a varied career as a recorder player, conductor, composer/arranger and teacher. Since graduating from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, she became the first recorder player to be profiled in BBC Music Magazine's Rising Star: Great Artists of Tomorrow feature; has recorded for Disney at Abbey Road Studios; won a City Music Foundation award for soloists and was asked by Classic FM to give a recorder lesson to former Top Gear presenter, James May.

Miriam is a founding member of Palisander recorder quartet. The ensemble tour internationally and have received several awards for ensemble playing. Miriam acts as the group's music director, curating programmes and arranging or composing much of the Palisander's repertoire.

A passionate educator, Miriam is keen to share her love of recorder ensemble playing. As well as conducting at the SRP National Festival (2024), she is the recorder tutor at Morley College (adult education) in London, tutors for the Recorder Summer School and directs playing days with Palisander, including their newly established residential playing course at Hawkwood College. She is also a tutor for the National Youth Recorder Orchestra, and Head of Recorder and Music Makers (KS1) for Richmond Music Trust. She is one of the Course Tutors for the Recorder Summer School in West Yorkshire.

Harriet Oliver

Harriet is an experienced recorder player, teacher and conductor. She regularly attends courses led by Bart Spanhove, Tom Beets, Saskia Coolen and Matthias Maute, amongst others. She is a member of Tutti Flutti, led by Philip Thorby, with whom she has lessons and plays with Recorders Incorporated, previously conducted by Eileen Silcocks. Harriet currently conducts and tutors eleven adult recorder ensembles in the Woking and Guildford areas, teaches in a primary school once a week and gives individual lessons. She regularly conducts the Guildford branch sessions as well as conducting at other SRP branches.

Karen Barton-Holman

Karen studied at Trinity College of Music for five years where she won the Chamber Music Prize. When she graduated in 1993, she pursued a busy and exciting career and began to teach for the Inner London Education Authority, The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Kent Music and Canterbury Christchurch University. She also began to perform nationally: venues include Rochester, Canterbury, Chichester, Bury St Edmunds cathedrals, the Royal Festival Hall and the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Karen also enjoys conducting and has been the musical director for the Society of Recorder Players Kent branch (1997-2007) and is currently the musical director for Kent Youth Recorders and the Kent Schools Recorder Orchestra. These groups have had the pleasure of performing nationally, internationally and playing for royalty. Karen conducts many recorder festivals throughout Kent which included conducting more than 300 children together at Maidstone's Mote Hall. She is also director of music for Kent's annual recorder summer school held at Benenden School. She is frequently asked to coach ensembles and play the piano for the choir 'Energise'. From 2009 until 2013, Karen was head of Medway Towns' Music Centre and she is now a peripatetic music teacher.

David Moses

Throughout his musical career, **David** has written songs, instrumental compositions and arrangements for the various jazz, folk, rock and popular music projects with which he has been involved. His enthusiasm for solo and ensemble recorder playing have provided opportunities for compositions which reflect the wider historical and geographical aspects of his passion for music. He is a member of the London Recorder Orchestra, which has provided David with first-hand experience and insights about the exciting possibilities and some of the limitations associated with large recorder ensembles. An increasing number of his pieces have been played by the National Youth Recorder Orchestra as well as other recorder orchestras in the United Kingdom and further afield. He has also been asked to write music for a one to a part chamber orchestra employing almost the entire range of recorders from sopranino to sub contra bass. Regular attendance, both as player and conductor, at S.R.P. massed playing sessions as well as much smaller consort gatherings, means that recorders are playing an ever-increasing part in David's busy musical life. Many of the more recent pieces reflect an understanding of the need for music, which is interesting, imaginative and enjoyable without being too technically challenging.

Rebecca Austen-Brown

Rebecca studied in the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, specialising in recorders and early fiddles. As a performer, Rebecca has recorded and toured with many ensembles; most recently The Sixteen, Dufay Collective, The City Musick, I Fagiolini and La Nuova Musica and is a founder member of the Fontanella Recorder Quintet and Bardos Band, with whom she has recorded for BBC TV, Radio 3 and 4.

She has toured with Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and the Young Vic. Having developed an obsession with electronics in recent years, she is devising a solo programme exploring the sounds of historical instruments with loop pedals and effects. She is a regular film session musician and can be heard on soundtracks including The Hobbit, Les Miserables, Grand Hotel Budapest and Mary Queen of Scots. Rebecca has given classes in the Royal College of Music, Oxford University, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Birmingham University and Conservatoire, and as well as frequently examining in the UK conservatoires, is in demand as a regular guest adjudicator in Hong Kong and the UK.

Marion Scott

Marion studied recorder, baroque oboe and piano at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She performs and records with all the leading early music specialist orchestras, including English Baroque Soloists with John Eliot Gardner and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. She has been fortunate to perform as a recorder player across the world. Marion also plays the recorder for contemporary compositions, performing with the ensembles such as BBC Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philharmonia Orchestra. Marion has a busy teaching practise, with students at all levels, from beginner to tertiary and beyond. As Professor of Recorder at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama she taught both junior and senior students and has also taught at Trinity College of Music and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Marion was a founding Committee member and tutor with the NYRO and she was also Director of the Kent Youth Recorder ensemble. As a conductor she works with groups across the country for the Society of Recorder Players and Marion is the music director for the Kent branch of the SRP. She taught regularly on a variety of courses and summer schools, including the Easter Early Music Week, Irish Recorder and Viol Course, Baroque Week and Recorder Summer School. In Kent, Marion directs her own recorder Chamber Orchestra, working with advanced players on a wonderful mix of repertoire styles.

SRP NATIONAL AND BRANCH SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2026/27*

The SRP national fee has increased while the branch subscription rates have remained the same as last year. ***Please note, the total membership fees consist of SRP plus Branch fee).***

The rates for 2026/27 are therefore:

SRP		plus	Weald of Kent Branch	
Individuals	£30.00		Individuals	£ 75.00
Students	£10.00		Students	£ 15.00
Households	£42.50		Households	No separate rate
			Visitors	
			Student visitors	£ 15.00 per session
			(under 30 yrs)	£ 2.00 per session
				or free if with

accompanying
adult player

** There is an additional fee for attending the November Playing Day: see separate flyer and application form.*

GIFT AID FORMS:

If you are a UK taxpayer and have not previously completed a form, we would like to encourage you to complete a new Gift Aid Form. As a registered charity, we are able to claim an extra 25% contribution for each subscription from HMRC at no cost to you when we hold a completed current Gift Aid Form.

Ian Jutting, Branch Secretary

☎ 01732 770661 e-mail: wealdofkent@srp.org.uk

Weald of Kent Branch – The Society of Recorder Players

Paula Marsh, Chair

Ian Jutting, Branch Secretary

Jim May, Honorary Treasurer

Brenda Farr, Membership Secretary

Sheila Brown, General support

Anna Picken, General support