

North Queensland Recorder Society Newsletter

May 2013

Next Play Day

The next play day will be on Sunday 19 May, 2.00 – 4.30. It will be held at St Joseph's on the Strand (not St Joseph's Mundingburra) The entrance to the school and hall is in Fryer St: the Music Room is in the large multicoloured building.

The leader for this play day is Heather Coleman. We will be playing music by Marg Hall ranging from traditional Scottish melodies to swing and jazz.

Please bring recorders, music stands, something to share for afternoon tea and payment to cover the expenses of the day (\$5 for adults and \$2 for children).

Twilight Concert

Featuring Spirit of the Voice Massed Choir, "Deconstructing Johann" and the Melaleuca String Quartet

Saturday 11th May 5 pm Civic Theatre C2

Adults \$12.50

Children under 13 \$6

Tickets available through Civic Theatre Ticket office 4727 9797 during office hours, or 24 hour on line bookings at www.ticketshop.com.au

Opportunity to Play in Noye's Fludde at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music 2013

Introduction

The North Queensland Record Society has accepted an invitation from the Australian Festival of Chamber Music to participate in a performance of Noye's Fludde - Noah's Flood - by Benjamin Britten in the Family Concert at 3:00pm on Saturday 3 August 2013.

Britten scored Noye's Fludde to include amateur singers and amateur recorder players, as well as a part for a professional recorder player.

Ruth Wilkinson is playing the professional part and NQRS is providing the players for the amateur recorder orchestra or 'ripieno'.

Requirements

The Society needs to provide up to a dozen descant and treble recorder players for the ripieno, with trebles in the majority, say 3 or 4 descants and 8 or 9 trebles. Some of the treble part may be played on tenor recorder. Prospective participants need to be able to play to a good standard and be available and willing to commit to all the rehearsals (see below) and, of course, the performance. Please note that we will be **on stage** at the Civic Theatre for the actual performance on Saturday 3 August at 3:00pm.

Schedule

Official AFCM Rehearsals

Date	Time
Rehearsals	
Tuesday 30 July	6:00-9:00pm
Thursday 1 August	10:00am-1:00pm
Saturday 3 August	Morning (tba)
Performance	
Saturday 3 August	3:00pm

Unofficial rehearsals may also be arranged in the weeks prior to the first official one on 30 July and Ruth Wilkinson will be available in the days between the Weekend Workshop (27-28 July) and the performance (Sat 3 Aug) for tutoring and additional assistance as needed.

Participation

If you wish to participate, please let us know by email info@nqrs.org.au (or phone Ian Montgomery on 0411 602 737) by 30 June 2013. Priority is being given to members of the Society but we need to know in good time in case it is necessary to look for additional players elsewhere.

**North Queensland Recorder Society presents
Music for Celebration
A Weekend Recorder Workshop with Ruth Wilkinson
Townsville, Sat-Sun 27-28 July 2013**

Introduction

The workshop program has been timed to coincide with the Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM, Fri 26 - Sat 3 August) so that visitors to the city may attend both. Attendance at the Workshop coincides with daytime AFCM events on Saturday and Sunday 27-28 but permits attendance at the AFCM evening concerts on those days.

On the Saturday evening, the choice is between the AFCM Governor's Gala Concert and the informal Workshop Dinner at a local restaurant. On the Sunday, the choice is between a concert given by our lead tutor Ruth Wilkinson and Cynthia O'Brien and the AFCM Sunday Concert.

Workshop Leader

We are delighted to have Ruth Wilkinson as our guest tutor. Ruth is well known in Australia and overseas as an expert recorder and viol player of early music from the 14th to 18th centuries. A skillful and dedicated teacher, she has earned the gratitude and respect of many students at Melbourne University and at recorder workshops throughout the country. This her third time as guest tutor at the annual NQRS Weekend Workshop and we welcome her return with great enthusiasm.



Supporting Tutors

Experienced local tutors Heather Coleman, Valerie Huston and Malcolm Tattersall will alternate with Ruth in leading the sessions of the two workshop streams (beginner-intermediate and intermediate - advanced, see below) so that Ruth will spend half of the time with each stream.

Schedule

Saturday 27 July	
9:00am-10:00am	Registration and morning tea
10:00am-12:30pm	Combined session with break
12:30pm-1:30pm	Lunch and late registration
1:30pm-5:00pm	Workshop sessions with afternoon tea break
6:00pm-8:00pm	Optional dinner for those not attending AFCM Governors' Gala Concert
Sunday 28 July	
9:00am-12:30pm	Workshop sessions with morning tea break
12:30pm-1:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm-3:00pm	Combined session
3:30pm-4:30pm	Show and tell

The Saturday morning combined session will be informal in the sense that the workshop programme will start in earnest after lunch.

Playing Standards

There will be two streams of workshop sessions depending on playing ability and experience in playing in ensembles: Beginner-Intermediate and Intermediate-Advance. Beginner-Intermediate players are expected to be able to play at least one type of recorder (C and/or F) and willing to attempt playing simple ensemble pieces. Intermediate-Advance are expected to be reasonably fluent with at least one type of recorder (C and/or F) and already have experience in playing in ensembles. You will have the option to change level after the first session if you are uncomfortable with your choice.

Registration

You may register either with a digital form or with a manually completed form and you may pay either by direct credit (preferred option) or by cheque or money order sent by post. If you wish to register digitally, download the Digital Registration Form :

http://nqrs.org.au/pdfs/registration_2013_digital.pdf

If you wish to complete the form manually, use the Manual Registration Form, fill it in and post or scan and email it to NQRS:

http://nqrs.org.au/pdfs/registration_2013_manual.pdf

You can obtain both the Digital and Manual Registration forms by download from the NQRS website, or by request by email, phone or post. Both the Digital and Manual Registration forms have options for payment by direct credit or cheque or money order.

Workshop Dinner

There will be an optional workshop dinner at the Reef Thai Restaurant on Saturday 27 July for those not attending the AFCM Governor's Gala Concert. The cost of this is not included in the Workshop fee.

Tea & Coffee Breaks

These are included in the Workshop fee. Local members of NQRS are encouraged to bring biscuits or cakes.

Lunches

These are not included in the Workshop fee, but participants may share a lunch platter for \$5, bring their own, or buy lunch locally. The venue is close to take-away cafes on The Strand.

Accommodation

Participants are advised to book accommodation early as the Workshop coincides with the AFCM and there are two football matches in Townsville on Friday 26 July. The closest motel to the venue is the Yongala Motor Inn in Fryer Street and there is a variety of accommodation on the nearby Strand. Local members are encouraged to provide billeting for visitors, so please contact NQRS if you wish to stay with one of us.

Flights

Owing to the AFCM and two football matches in Townsville on Friday 26 July, flights will be in demand, so book early to get a good choice of flights and fares. If you are planning to fly to Townsville just before the Workshop, the timing of the football matches may make it difficult to get good fares on Friday 26th July.

To allow for this, the Saturday morning combined session will be informal in the sense that the workshop program will start in earnest after lunch. This will mean that interstate visitors may fly in on the Saturday morning without significant disadvantage. There is, for example, a 7:30am Virgin Australia flight from Melbourne that connects with a 9:30am flight from Sydney arriving in Townsville at 12:15pm.

Location

The Workshop will be held at St Joseph's School on the Strand, actually located in Fryer Street (this is a different venue from St Joseph's School, Mundingburra where workshops have been held in the past).

Workshop Fees

Adult member \$100; Adult non-member \$120 includes membership; Under 18 (members and non-members) \$50. There is an early bird discount of \$5 per participant if paid before 30 June, i.e. member \$95, non-member \$115, under 18 \$45. Note that this year there is no option to register for individual days or session: past experience shows that partial attendance seriously disrupts the flow of the workshop sessions.

Tutors Concert

Ruth Wilkinson and Cynthia O'Brien will give their Concert a Deux on the evening of Sunday 28 July. Arrangements for this, including venue and ticket prices are currently being finalised. This is a separate event from the Weekend Workshop, but participants are encouraged to attend and will qualify for discount prices. More details will be available soon.

Diary dates for later in the year

Play day Sunday November 3rd

Cotters Market Busking December 15th

Notes from the Treasurer

John says 'We'd love people to pay us electronically for the weekend session as well as any other payments. The bank details are

BSB 034 212 Account 134217

Notes and Queries

Malcolm was so excited by this recording that he is using the notes and queries column this issue to share his feelings with us.

Genevieve Lacey, recorders; Neal Peres da Costa, harpsichord and organ; and Daniel Yeadon, cello and viola da gamba.3: Trios by Handel, Vivaldi and Telemann

ABC 476 5105

Reviewed by Malcolm Tattersall

With this disc Genevieve Lacey returns to the Golden Age of the recorder, that brief period in which our instrument was regarded as the equal of the flute and oboe. It began and ended within the lifetimes of the composers represented here, opening in the late seventeenth century after the Hotteterre family redesigned all three woodwind instruments and closing in the middle of the eighteenth when the recorder lost its Darwinian battle with the flute.

Vivaldi begins the disc. His *Concerto for two violins in D minor, RV522*, is played in an arrangement which makes the keyboard-player's right hand the second soloist. It works extremely well in the vigorous outer movements, with Peres da Costa playing organ and Yeadon on cello, but less well in the slow movement, with Peres da Costa playing harpsichord and Yeadon contributing an unnecessarily thick continuo from the organ.

Handel is represented by two of his four Op.1 sonatas for recorder and continuo, the *Harmonious Blacksmith* variations (harpsichord solo) and a very effective transcription for "voice flute" (a recorder in D, between alto and tenor) and continuo of an aria from *Tamerlano*.

From Telemann we hear two trios from the *Essercizii Musici* (about 1739) and two unaccompanied solos, the well-known *Fantasia in C*

major for recorder and a sober, richly sonorous *Andante* from a sonata for viola da gamba.

The Vivaldi concerto is all bubbly virtuosity, the Handel sonatas show a promising young composer staking his claim to attention and the shorter items are fine but, well, shorter; but Telemann's trios, substantial works from a major composer at the height of his powers, are highlights of the disc. The sunny outer movements of the *Trio in F* bracket a piercing lament, while the more complex *Trio in B minor* anticipates the expressive innovations usually credited to Telemann's younger contemporaries.

It was natural that the twentieth century recorder revival began with this repertoire, Bruggen and Linde, for instance, both releasing LPs of Handel and Telemann before ranging further afield. As it happens, that was around the time that our present performers were born. Listening to them brings into focus just how far performance standards in early music have risen in their lifetimes, since these "3" play with every bit of the skill, polish and authority that the pioneers liked to claim but, in all honesty, could not always demonstrate.

This review first appeared, in a slightly longer form, in Music Forum, journal of the Music Council of Australia.

Membership of North Queensland Recorder Society

Are you a financial member? The membership year runs from the first of January.

Benefits of membership include

- Reduction in fees for workshops and other Society activities
- Access to the Society's library. (Members can receive a copy of the library catalogue as a CD or as an email attachment on request).
- Guaranteed receipt of newsletters.
- Opportunities to be involved in organising and deciding on Society activities

Membership fees: \$20 (Adult), students free.

Contacts for the Society

General enquiries info@nqrs.org.au

Web site <http://members.iinet.net.au/~mtattersall/NQRS/NQRS.html>

New website <http://nqrs.org.au>

President ian@birdway.com.au

Secretary/Treasurer john@batterham.id.au

Newsletter editor jeandartnall@gmail.com

The North Queensland Recorder Society is an incorporated body,
ABN 26 412 470 674