# **ERTA NEWS**

#### Chris Orton

## Conference 2024

Our next in-person event will be part of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Recorder Festival, held in Birmingham at the Conservatoire, on Sunday 14th of March. More details to come!

## **ERTA UK online**

ERTA held their first online event of the academic year in October, where Wieke Karsten presented her research via Zoom to a membership of ERTA UK and ERTA Switzerland members. We are looking forward to working together with ERTA Switzerland to share more online events and resources in 2024.

## **Summer Highlights**

2023 highlights included summer schools for adults, including an outstanding course and set of concerts at the NORVIS Summer School, now held in Barnard Castle School. This course provides wonderful opportunities for recorder playing, Baroque strings, viol consorts, early winds, Baroque woodwind and vocal classes, choir, and orchestra. Woodhouse Recorder Course with Annabel Knight presented another excellent opportunity for recorder players to really push and explore their technical capacity, in the modern setting of Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, including the chance to study on Adrian Brown consort recorders. A Paetzold workshop with Jo Kunath as a special guest took place, which gave me a chance to perform an old favourite of mine, Seascape by Fausto Romitelli, and the Running Duo for contrabass recorder and tenor with live electronics by Maurizio Pisati. The Recorder Summer School, arguably the largest recorder summer school in Europe, SURF with Pam Smith, and HISS also took place. For younger players, NYRO celebrated its 21st birthday, including former NYRO members playing in the final concert.

Member **Alyson Elliman** first attended Dartington Summer School as a teenager in 1967:

"David Munrow had run courses on medieval music that I was fortunate to attend 1968-1971. In 2005 I signed up to the recorder course with Emma Murphy, and from 2009-2011 with Jill Kemp. My contrabass caused quite a lot of interest when I played it in Robert Hollingworth's course and performance of Striggio's 40- (and 60-) part mass in 2010.

Recent attendances in 2022 and 2023 caused FOMO (fear of missing out), as making choices is a challenge. This year I signed up for two vocal sessions, and chamber music, which was skilfully arranged/rearranged on the hoof by Rhiannon Evans, who provided basso continuo on Baroque cello as required. I was very fortunate to be in a group with a young professional recorder player and a harpsichordist, with tuition from Mirjam-Luise Münzel.

I would have loved to stay on for further weeks, where Tabea Debus was running a course and performing, and Jill Kemp gave a recital.

# Music Resource Spotlight – Rondo Publishing

The books that I have used in my own teaching recently include Manfred Harras's edition of Georg Phillip Telemann's Duo in G major from Der Getreue Musikmeister. This is presented in very easy-to-read print, and different recordings at both 442hz and 415hz pitch, played at different tempi. This is a resource that I find works really well for students moving between grades 5-6, where they are starting to develop greater technical and stylistic awareness, as well as tone and concepts of sound production. Another favourite is the Anthony Holborn Pavans and Galliards Almain 1599, also edited by Manfred Harras, which here is

arranged for one melody instrument and keyboard. These arrangements are great for introducing less experienced players to this great repertoire, in a manner that would probably occur for them in their learning environment – arranged for recorder and keyboard/piano. They can be performed as concert pieces, and with keyboard reductions and arrangements by Rosemary Robinson, they are flexible and accessible also to recorder teachers who may be competent keyboard players, but not necessarily advanced players. I also use the Consort for Five book published in 2021, compiled by Alison Crum and arranged by Roy Marks. For me, these resources are invaluable for young and adult learners of a range of ages.

In 2005 Jacqui Robertson-Wade founded Rondo Publishing with the core ethos of music education, whether it be for viols, recorders, modern strings, or cello ensembles. In later years, Rondo started publishing Passamezzo Editions for Tamsin Lewis which are seasonal collections of historical instrumental and vocal music. In addition to Viol Player books in English, Viol Player is now available in USA, French, and German editions.

When she founded Rondo Publishing, Jacqui was seven years into teaching viols in schools for Warwickshire County Music Service, and part of the wider picture for playing opportunities for the viol included the Tudor Band which included music for recorders and modern strings – where the symphonic numbers of Tudor Band matched the County Youth Orchestra. It gave those children who played Early Music a place in a large group and a consort. It also provided an opportunity for younger children to see what possibilities lay ahead for them, watching and listening to the older children.

For the Tudor Band, Alison Kinder and Jacqui devised My First Tudor Consort Book for multiability viols/recorders and violin family. This book has seven pieces in two formats; one with divisions and the other a simple version that can be played alongside each other. For those children wanting to improvise, examples of Divisions are provided in three different clefs. The recorder edition has three versions: 1. D.Tr.Te.B with written-out divisions; 2. Easy Version D.T.Te.B; 3. Easy Version D.D.Te.Te.

After a second book of Tudor Consorts, Jacqui started compiling music within a similar standard (always tricky) for a new series of books, Consorts for 5, published for viols or recorders. Again, these books can be used by different families of instruments. Unlike the Tudor Consort books that are published in score and come with stickers to identify each line, Consorts for 5 are published with parts. There are now four books in this didactic music series for recorders or viols.

When Tamsin Lewis approached Rondo to publish Passamezzo editions, Jacqui made sure that parts for some editions were available for viols and recorders. A Christmas Gift by Richard Payne, which has fragments of traditional Christmas Carols secretly interwoven in Holbornesque harmonies, has parts for viols, recorders, brass, and strings and these are available on CD or as a download, with a Licence to print one copy.



2023 Catalogue

2021 Rondo Publishing made the decision to digitise all editions as well as offer hard copies of all their editions. This has proved very popular, especially since Brexit has made it more expensive for European customers to receive music with paying import duty. Books and audio files can be automatically

downloaded from the Rondo Publishing website. www.rondopublishing.co.uk

#### Join us

As always, for further information regarding ERTA UK or to tell us about your events, email Chris Orton at admin@erta.org.uk