



NWEMF NEWSLETTER



North West Early Music Forum

VOLUME XXXIV NUMBER 1 FEBRUARY 2011

From the Editor

At some point during the year I like to thank the “backroom boys and girls” - those who help to ensure that the newsletter is produced and circulated. So, in no particular order:- Shirley Grimshaw for providing address labels and email addresses; Bob Foster for the Diary of Events; and on this occasion Ruth Stock who is going to try to make my word document into something easier on the eye for those reading it on screen. I would also like to thank the more visible helpers - all those who elect, or get their armed squeezed to write workshop reports.

The last issue was a little later than I like. The printer had an accident with one of her machines and had to go to hospital with a crushed finger. By the time she re-opened and I got to see the finger it was a very interesting shade of blue and yellow. And this issue is also running on a tight, last-minute schedule. Snow (definitely the wrong kind) made us postpone a committee meeting and, as you will read further on, a sudden panic about the summer school venue held us up for a while.

For future on-line issues please think of taking a camera to workshops as pictures would be welcome.

A happy New Year to you all.

Elizabeth Dodd

COPY DATE

Copy date for the April issue will be Monday March 14.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2011 AGM will take place at 1.15pm at St Bartholomew's Church Westhoughton BL5 2BG on Saturday March 12.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2009 AGM and 2009 EGM
 - a. Adoption of minutes
 - b. Matters arising from minutes
3. Officers' Reports
 - a. Chairman's Report
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Adoption of reports
4. Election of Officers and Committee *
5. Any other business

* Officers and committee members are willing to stand again but nominations for members to join the committee are welcome.

FORTHCOMING NWEMF EVENTS (Booking forms available on the website)

Saturday 5 February NWEMF IN CARNFORTH Liturgical reconstruction with Roger Wilkes.

Saturday March 12 "....AND BIRDS DO SING" a workshop for singers: Tutor Martin Westhorp. Westhoughton.

Saturday, 9 April **JUAN ESQUIVEL**: Music from a Golden Age St Mark's Church, Natland nr Kendal, Cumbria. Tutor: Clive Walkley

June 4 Workshop with Paul Spicer Venue etc. tba

July 23 - 29 Summer school of Renaissance music (Note change of venue).



Juan Esquivel: Music from a Golden Age

Juan Esquivel was just one of many cathedral composers working on the Spanish peninsula during the time of the Counter-Reformation – the Spanish ‘Golden Age’. He published three large collections of sacred music but little of this is available in print, and still less recorded on CD. He has, however, been the focus of attention by at least two American scholars and one Spaniard, in addition to my recent study, *Juan Esquivel: A Master of Sacred Music during the Spanish Golden Age* (Boydell Press, 2010).

Many NWEMF members who have previously attended my Spanish workshops, and/or our Summer School, will know that I have championed his work for a number of years, believing him to be one of many unjustly neglected Spanish cathedral composers of his day. He was born around 1560 and died sometime after 1623. His output is large (three volumes of motets, masses, hymns, magnificats etc.) and it was published – a remarkable feat for a peninsular church musician at that time. His music can seem austere, perhaps lacking the warmth and passion of Victoria for example, but he was a fine craftsman and in his choice of texts he faithfully obeys the demands of the Counter-Reformation Church of his time.

This workshop will concentrate on some of the works mentioned in my book. In most cases, they will not have been performed since the early seventeenth century. We shall work on an eight-voice *Missa Ut re mi fa sol la* (scored SSSAATTB), an eight-voice *Magnificat*, and some of the hymns and motets. The music is not technically difficult to sing or play but, of course, it does demand good sight-reading skills and accurate pitching.

If you haven’t encountered Esquivel’s music before, why not come along and bring friends who might be interested?

The workshop is for singers and players of appropriate instruments (see for enclosed). Pitch will be A 440.

Clive Walkley



NWEMF SUMMER SCHOOL – CHANGE OF VENUE!

When I wrote briefly about the 2011 Summer School for the December 2010 Newsletter, I had no idea that, within a month, we would be confronted with an enforced change of venue.

Burton Manor, on the Wirral, our intended base for the event, announced a week before Christmas that it would be closing at the end of March 2011, and that no commitments beyond that date could be honoured. That circumstance obliged me, as Course Director, together with other colleagues, to look at alternative venues, ideally within the Cheshire or Wirral area, which could accommodate up to 80 people including tutors, could provide sufficient teaching rooms of suitable size, and could cater for our other needs, not least good food!

I write this article less than two hours after the final decision for 2011 has been taken. The 2011 Summer School (23-29 July) will be held at Trafford Hall, Ince Lane, Wimbolds Trafford, Chester, CH2 4JP (www.traffordhall.com) – which is situated about 5 miles from Chester. Those on the Summer School mailing list who have email addresses will soon receive further information – though paper copies may take a few days longer to process. The NWEMF web site, of course, will contain the relevant information, together with an application form for intending participants, as soon as possible – possibly by the time that you read this.

Trafford Hall – ironically, only a few miles away from Burton Manor – is very easy to reach by rail or by road, with the M56 and M53 motorways each less than 3 miles distant, and Chester's mainline railway station just 10 minutes away by taxi (though a local bus service stops regularly just outside the Hall).

As I wrote before, anyone interested to have more information about the Summer School should contact me as soon as convenient.

Roger Wilkes

WORKSHOP REPORT

Season's Greetings, from Michael Praetorius

The worst of the icy winter weather relented for a few days in early December to allow a good quorum of NWEMF members and others to celebrate Christmas with the music of Praetorius, led by our seasoned tutor Peter Syrus. The workshop was held on December 4th in Chorley Village Hall (that's Chorley, Cheshire, not



Lancashire), which turned out to be an excellent and friendly venue. A good balanced choir and a dazzling range of string and wind instruments (including recorders, sackbuts, cornets and, memorably, a curtal) created a truly joyful sound.

Peter's excellent accompanying notes gave us the essential scholarly background about Michael Praetorius. Born in Creuzberg an der Werra (not far from Bach's birthplace in Eisenach in south east Germany) around 1571, Praetorius had a career taking him to Frankfurt an der Oder, Regensburg, Kassel, Dresden and Magdeburg. He died, a wealthy man, in Wolfenbüttel in 1621.

Peter took us through three settings of the Advent hymn Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland (two 4 part chorale settings and a magnificent double choir setting). Later, the memorable double choir setting of the great Christmas hymn In dulci jubilo echoed round the hall.

In between, we worked at a range of other settings: Wachet auf, for two choirs in 7 parts, two settings of Ecce Maria genuit and four (yes, four!) settings of Von Himmel hoch.

This workshop was perfectly timed for the start of the festive season. Four participants joined NWEMF as a direct result of the day. Our thanks to Peter and all those who helped to make such a success of the day.

Mark Flinn

DIARY OF EVENTS

Please send information to: fosterrobert@gmail.com

Contacts

Alston Hall, Longridge, Preston, PR3 3BP. 01772 784 661,
alston.hall@ed.lancscc.gov.uk, www.alstonhall.com

Benslow Music Trust, Little Benslow Hills, Ibberson Way, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB. 01462 459 446, info@benslow.org,
www.benslow.org

Beauchamp House, Churcham, Gloucester, GL2 8AA. 01684 276825, holidaycourses@gamusic.co.uk, www.gamusic.co.uk



BMEMF, Hannah Davies, 01432 341154, Hannah@thedavies.f9.co.uk,
www.bmemf.org.uk

Brighton Early Music Festival, www.bremf.org.uk

Cambridge Early Music Summer Schools, Selene Mills, 01223 847330,
info@cemss.org, www.cambridgeearlymusic.org

Canford Summer School of Music, Sherborne School, Sherborne, Dorset,
DT9 3AP. 020 8660 4766, canfordsummersch@aol.com,
www.canfordsummerschool.co.uk

Chalemie Summer School, Headington School, Headington Rd, Heading-
ton, Oxford, OX3. Barbara Segal 020 7700 4293, [mie@thorn.demon.co.uk](mailto:chale-
mie@thorn.demon.co.uk), www.chalemie.co.uk

Dartington International Summer School. 01803 847 080,
info@dartingtonsummerschool.org.uk,
www.dartingtonsummerschool.org.uk

Dolmetsch Summer School, Frensham Heights nr. Farnham, 01428
643235, brian@dolmetsch.com, www.dolmetsch.com

Easter Early Music Course, Geri Coop, 07971 388509,
info@easterearlymusiccourse.org.uk,
www.easterearlymusiccourse.org.uk

EMFS, Margaret Torrance, 01986 660678, [rance@btinternet.com](mailto:margarettor-
rance@btinternet.com), www.emfscotland.org.uk

Farncombe Estate, Adult Learning Centre, Broadway, WR12 7LJ. 01386
854100, enquiries@FarncombeEstate.co.uk,
www.farncombeestate.co.uk

Hawkwood College, Painswick Old Road, Stroud, GL6 7QW. 01453
759034, www.hawkwoodcollege.co.uk

Irish Recorder & Viol Course. 353 (0)1 833 7869,
info@irishrecorderandviolcourse.org,
www.irishrecorderandviolcourse.org

Jackdaws Music Education Trust, Great Elm, Frome, Somerset BA11
3NY. 01373 812 383, music@jackdaws.org, www.jackdaws.org.uk

The Kingcombe Centre, Toller Porcorum, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 0BQ,
01300 320684, kingcombe@hotmail.co.uk,
www.kingcombecentre.org.uk



Knuston Hall, Irchester, Wellingborough, Northants, NN29 7EU. 01933
312104, enquiries@knustonhall.org.uk, www.knustonhall.org.uk

Lacock, Andrew van der Beek, 01249 730 468,
avdb@cantax.freemove.co.uk, www.lacock.org

Leicester Early Music Festival. 0116 270 9984,
mail@earlymusicleicester.co.uk, www.earlymusicleicester.co.uk

Lincoln Early Music Courses. Peter & Kathleen Berg, 01522 527530, kber-
gonang@hotmail.com

Lute Society, Christopher Goodwin, 01483 202159, lutesoc@aol.com,
www.lutesoc.co.uk

MEMF, Gillian Grason Smith, 01926 640203, memf@hemiolanet.co.uk,
www.memf.org.uk

Michael Procter, +49 721 616450, Micproc@aol.com, www.michael-
procter.com

NEEMF, secretary@neemf.org.uk, www.neemf.org.uk

NEMA, jane.beeson@btopenworld.com, www.nema-uk.org

Norvis, Northumbrian Recorder & Viol Summer School, Durham, 01652
678 230, enquiries@norvis.org.uk, www.norvis.org.uk

Opus Anglicanum, 01749 675131, info@opus-a.co.uk, www.opus-
anglicanum.com

Pendrell Hall College, Codsall Wood, nr Wolverhampton, Staffs, WV8
1QP, 01902 434112, pendrell.college@staffordshire.gov.uk,
www.pendrell-hall.org.uk

Pro Cantione Antiqua, 01943 874649

Roger Wilkes, 01565 872650, mostlymusic@btinternet.com, presi-
dent@nwemf.org.uk

Schola Gregoriana of Cambridge, 124 Cambridge Road, Barton, Cam-
bridge, CB3 7AR.

SEMF, www.semf.org.uk

Singers of Note, 01204 692797, martin.westhorp@ntlworld.com,
www.singersofnote.com

Singing Days, 01943 874649, pca@singingdays.co.uk,
www.singingdays.co.uk

Society of Recorder Players, Manchester branch normally meets 1st Friday
& 2nd Saturday of every month. Ros Flinn, 01772 335801, manches-
ter@srp.org.uk, www.srp.org.uk/manchester/index.php



Tallis Scholars Summer School, Oakham School, Rutland, 01223 693281,
helen.poole@tsss.uk.com, www.tsss.uk.com

TVEMF, www.tvemf.org

Verte Musique, La Maison Verte, Languedoc, 00 33 467 24 88 52,
anne.Roberts@easynet.co.uk, www.lamaisonverte.co.uk

VDGS (Viola de Gamba Society), 01904 706959, admin@vdgs.org.co.uk,
www.vdgs.org.uk

Wedgwood Memorial College, Station Road, Barlaston, Stoke on Trent.
ST12 9DG, 01782 372105, wedgwood.memorial@stoke.gov.uk,
www.stoke.gov.uk/wedgwoodmemorialcollege

West Dean College, Chichester 01243 811 301,
short.courses@westdean.org.uk, www.westdean.org.uk

Workshops

February

- 4-5 **Farncombe.** Viol consorts with Alison Crum.
- 4-6 **West Dean.** A course for harpsichord players with Penelope Cave.
- 5 **NWEMF.** Carnforth Parish Church. Liturgical reconstruction with Roger Wilkes.
- 12 **MEMF.** St Peter's Church, Maney Hill Road, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1JJ. Workshop for singers - Lassus *Prophetiae Sibyllarum* with Stephen Rice.
- 12 **MEMF.** Warley Woods Methodist Church, Abbey Road, Smethwick, B57 5LS. A workshop for instruments (A=415) - "Baroque Band" day.
- 12-19 **Lacock.** Cholula, Mexico. Early post-Columbian Mexican Music with Carlos Fernandez Aransay.
- 19 **NEEMF.** St. James's Parish Centre, Low Lane, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5QW. Workshop for dancers & instrumentalists - Dancing & playing for dance - with Ann & Paul Kent & Alan Radford.
- 26 **BMEMF.** Bishop's Palace, Hereford. Lassus motets - workshop for singers with Roger Langford.



March

- 5 **NEEMF**. Hexham Abbey, NE46 3ND. Music for the Chapel Royal of Scotland with Alan & Rebecca Tavener of Capella Nova.
- 12 **BMEMF**. The Community Hall, New Radnor. The music of Robert Carver - workshop for singers & instrumentalists with Border Waits.
- 12 **NWEMF**. St Bartholomew's Church, Westhoughton, nr. Bolton. Singers workshop - And birds do sing - Arcadelt to Vautour with Martin Westhorp.
- 26-27 Ballacottier Primary School, Douglas, IoM. Early Music Workshop (recorder & viol) with Eileen Silcocks. Details from Helen.Kneale@liverpool.ac.uk, www.eileensilcocks.co.uk

April

- 1-3 **West Dean**. Songs to the lute & guitar with Michael Fields.
- 2 **MEMF**. Selly Oak Methodist Church, Langleys Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6HT. Workshop for singers - Victoria *Requiem* with David Hill.
- 12-19 **Easter**. St George's School Ascot. For players of recorders and viols. Small consort groups plus ensembles, chamber groups and multi-choir works with Philip Thorby, Eileen Silcocks, Marion Scott, Emma Murphy, Alison Kinder, David Hatcher, Jane Francis, Andrew Collis.
- 15-17 **Benslow**. Lutefest with Jacob Heringman, Stewart McCoy, Jeni Melia, Ian Harwood.
- 26-1 May **Benslow**. Baroque Oratorio Handel *Theodora* with Julian Perkins & Judy Tarling.

May

- 6-9 **Fort Belan Viol Weekend** "All in a garden green . . .": viol settings inspired by song. Tutors: Ibi Aziz and Hugh Cherry, For all viol players except complete beginners. Contact Clive Tolley for further details, (edit@wordandpage.co.uk) or see NWEMF website.
- 7 **BMEMF**. Leominster Priory Church. Sumer is icumen in - workshop for singers with Leigh Nixon.
- 13-15 **Benslow**. Matters of Style. Baroque performance on modern strings with Judy Tarling.



- 13-15 **Benslow.** Voices & Viols with Alison Crum & Peter Syrus.
 14 **MEMF.** Venue tba. Portuguese with Graham O'Reilly.
 20-22 **West Dean.** Recorder consort weekend With Helen Hooker.
 21 **MEMF.** Venue tba. A workshop for singers & appropriate instruments (A=440) (bassoon, dulcian, viols, violone, continuo) - Portuguese Polyphony with Graham O'Reilly.
 24-29 **Benslow.** Music from the Cradle of the Renaissance with Sarah Stowe.
 27-29 **Wedgewood.** Possibilities of our music . . . marvellously increased. 15th century music for voices & instruments with Peter Syrus.
 27-29 **Procter.** St Augustine's Church, Kilburn, London. *Victoria Missa Vidi speciosam.*

June

- 4 **NWEMF.** Venue tba. Workshop with Paul Spicer.
 11 **BMEMF.** Powys Dance Centre, Llandrindod Wells. Workshop for instrumentalists with Pam Smith.
 11-19 **Procter.** Artigianelli Institute, Venice. A Gabrieli, Hassler, Aichinger, Lassus.
 24-26 **Benslow.** From Venice to Dresden. Schütz & his contemporaries with Peter Bassano & Julian Perkins.
 25 **BMEMF.** Stockenny, New Radnor. The Fairy Queen - workshop for singers & instrumentalists with John Hancorn.
 25 **MEMF.** Warley Woods Methodist Church, Abbey Road, Smethwick, B57 5LS. A workshop for instruments (A=415) - "Baroque Band" day: rehearsal for B minor Mass with Lynn Selwood.

July

- 9-10 **MEMF.** The David Turnbull Music School, Solihull School, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 3DJ. Bach *B minor mass* (A=415) non-residential weekend with John Butt & Lynn Selwood.
 16-21 **Benslow.** International Viol Summer School with Alison Crum, Roy Marks, Ibi Aziz, Peter Wendland.
 23-29 **NWEMF.** Trafford Hall, Cheshire. Summer School.



- 26-31 **Beauchamp**. Adult Early Music course with Philip Thorby & Alan Lumsden.
30-6 Aug **Norvis**.
31-7 Aug. **Cambridge**. Charpentier & French Baroque Music with the Parley of Instruments.

August

- 7-13 **Cambridge**. Renaissance Music for Instruments and Voices with Philip Thorby & Friends.
13-20 **Irish** with Ibi Aziz, Marion Doherty, Pamela Flanagan, Emma Murphy, Marion Scott, Eileen Silcocks, Philip Thorby.

October

- 8-9 **MEMF**. Venue tba. Repertoire tba. Workshop for singers & instruments & master classes for pre-formed groups with Philip Thorby.

November

- 6 **BMEMF**. Town Hall, Kidderminster. Alessandro Striggio's *Missa sopra Ecco beato giorno* with Robert Hollingworth.
18-20 **Wedgewood**. Palestrina & Victoria for voices & instruments with Peter Syrus.

Concerts

Contacts

The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. 0161 907 9000, 0161 950 0015,
www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

Buxton Opera House 0845 1272190, boxoffice@buxtonoperahouse.org.uk, www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk

Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), Manchester Box Office, 0161 907 5555, box.office@rncm.ac.uk, www.rncm.ac.uk

The Spring brochure of concerts from the Royal Northern College of Music is now out. Concerts for the coming season of interest include ones given by Melopoetica with Clare Wilkinson, The William Byrd Singers, Trevor Pinnock, Florilegium with Lynne



Dawson, The Bach Cello Suites as part of an RNCM strings Bach Day.

EXTRA DIARY ITEMS

Verte Musique Singing Courses 2011

1. The Bring Your Own Consort Group week - 25 June to 2 July 2011 For existing small singing groups. Resident tutor, Francis Steele.

2. The Renaissance Consort Workshop Level 1 - 2-9 July 2011 The Renaissance Consort Workshops are week-long opportunities for singers, experienced at both sight-reading and consort singing (one-to-a-part, uncondacted) to immerse themselves in the music of two of the most exciting centuries of composition.

3. The Renaissance Consort Workshop Level 2 - 3-10 September 2011 We accept up to 18 students per course, and work on an overall ratio of 6 participants to 1 tutor. There are two levels of workshop depending on your experience and expertise. If you are unsure which you should apply for, call or email us and we can discuss it with you.

4. The Chamber Choir Workshop - 17-24 September 2011 A week for singers of all levels to participate in 600 years of choral music. Tutors are Francis Steele and Joel Thomas.

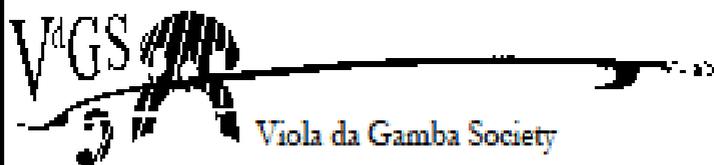
For all courses contact Verte Musique: www.lamaisonverte.co.uk, anne.roberts@easynet.co.uk or call 0033 (0)4 67 24 88 52.

FOR SALE

Renaissance bass viol made by George Stopanni for Northern Renaissance instruments. Details Elizabeth Dodd 01524 781601



V&GS



Viola da Gamba Society

Summer Weekend
for
New Viol Players

9 - 10 July 2011

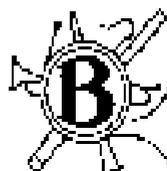
The Bate Collection, Faculty of Music,
University of Oxford

For complete beginners, inexperienced players, and
people who have never played!

Tutors: Andrew Fowler, Alison Kinder,
Jacqui Robertson-Wade

For more information contact

01865 723778 or admin@vdgs.org.uk



The Bate Collection

