

Recorders and Early Music Union

NEWSLETTER

April 2024

remu.org.nz@gmail.com



This REMU Newsletter is intended for recorder and early music players (especially *hobbyists*) and supporters throughout New Zealand.

REMU

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Saturday 16 March. It was a particularly important AGM because it agreed a new constitution as required by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies to ensure that we comply with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

The new Constitution has a new, additional purpose:

advancing participation of all manner of people in music making by providing opportunities for creation, performance and concerts featuring early music, recorders or other styles of music the Society chooses;

This was added to make it clear that REMU is a community music organisation and not one that is primarily commercial or professionally oriented. Nonetheless REMU will continue to support early music and recorder performance - professional or amateur - as we have done in the past.

Other changes to the Constitution include a register of possible conflicts of interest, obligation and rights of members, a complaints and disputes procedure, documenting new members' consent to join REMU, and Officers of REMU meeting the requirements of the Act, for example, not being bankrupt, over the age of 16, nor convicted of a financial crime.

REMU will continue to be managed and organised by the Committee. The Committee now comprises four Officers; 'Officers' as defined by the Act. The Act does not specify roles such as President, Secretary and Treasurer but REMU has included them in the Constitution in general terms such as the Treasurer's overseeing the Society's finances.

The Committee include the Officers and up to four ordinary members. 1

REMU's 2024 meetings

Big Blow at 2 pm on Saturday 20th April 2024 with Kamala Bain At

Johnsonville Uniting Church, Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville, Wellington

A chance for you to indulge in massed playing for recorder. You will need to be able to read music comfortably, but need not be an expert, as there will be many players on the same part. This is a great way to ease back into playing after a long break.

This event will be led by Kamala Bain.

Saturday 25th May 2024: Our first Soiree of the year

2pm to 4pm Johnsonville Uniting Church, Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville, Wellington
- the venue for all REMU Wellington meetings

The soiree is an afternoon of music where consorts play to entertain each other. Soloists and small groups are welcome.

The meetings later in the year will be:

Saturday 22nd June: Big Blow 2

Saturday 27th July: Our second Soiree of the year

Saturday 7th September: Big Blow 3

Strathean

Friday morning 11th October 2022 to Sunday afternoon 13th October.

Strathean is REMU's annual, three day weekend, residential workshop held at the Strathean Retreat Centre between Otaki and Te Horo on the Kapiti Coast.

This year we are excited because our primary tutor will be **Simon Borutzki**, artistic director and conductor of the *Berliner Blockflöten Orchester* (<https://www.berliner-blockfloeten-orchester.de.html>). He is a graduate of the University of Music and Performing Arts in Frankfurt, the University of the Arts in Berlin and the University of Music in Berlin. Simon has recorded with the *Vocalconsort Berlin*, the *Athesinus Consort*, the *Lautten Compagney*, and the *Schola Stralsundensis*, among others. His own CDs have received international acclaim, winning Gramophone Magazine's Editors' Choice and a nomination for the International Classical Music Award. You are welcome to email remu.org.nz@gmail.com to ensure that you can register as soon as the online form is available.

2

Consorts' news

Dulcis Tibia

In 2023 Dulcis Tibia (Tessa Coppard, Katrin Eickhorst, Roger Palmer and Rachel Patrick) performed again at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul, in their **Thank God it's Friday** (TGIF) series and at St Mark's Lower Hutt in the Hutt City Council's concert series. At the last minute, Dulcis was called in to play at the St Andrew's on The Terrace

Wednesday lunchtime institution. All concerts were received with interest, particularly as the large instruments were used frequently in the programme of Renaissance, Baroque and 20th Century music.

Dulcis is working on its 2024 programme of Bach, Marcello, Marini, Monteverdi and Mozart. Concerts have been scheduled (TBC) in the same three series as last year, as follows:

St Andrew's, 31 July, 12:15pm;

St Paul's TGIF, 4 Oct, 12.45pm; and

St Marks, Lower Hutt, 20 October, 12:15pm.

Keep an eye on the Dulcis Facebook page and the next newsletter for updates of changes and additions to performances.

Three Blind Mice

This new trio comprising Katrin Eickhorst, Roger Palmer and Rachel Patrick formed in

2023 with the intention of performing some of the exciting music from the recorder trio repertoire. Their first concert will be at the Cathedral of **St Paul, Wellington, on 19 April at 12:45pm.**

The group will play two rarely heard works by New Zealand

composer, David Farquhar (*A Folk Song Trio* and *Obsessions*), the recorder trio favourite, New Braun Bag, Hoffmeister's *La Gallina, Il Cucco, L'Assino Terzetto* (The Hen, the Cuckoo and the Donkey), as well as rounds and some of Bach's Goldberg variations.



Jongleurs

Mid 2023, the painful decision was made to disband the Jongleurs consort. This arose from Bernard Wells (our long-time leader) wanting to follow other musical interests, and some dissatisfaction with where we were going and how to get there. Jongleurs were established in the mid 1990s as a tutored consort.

Ron McNulty joined in late 1990s, and remained a member until the end. Bernard was always the leader, but over the years there were many changes of personnel. The following is an incomplete list: Ron McNulty, John Durnsford, Cynthia Growden, Kate Smart, Danica Hetherington, Hamish Nelson, Suzanne Burkhart and Monika Smith. We

all owe Bernard a big vote of thanks for encouraging our musical interests.

Light winds

Out of the rubble of Jongleurs, Monika and Ron asked John Lister to form a new trio Light Winds. They have met regularly for several months in 2023 and we expect to play at the next REMU Soiree. They are on the lookout for a fourth member, so if you are a competent SATB player and can play one to a part, please contact them.

Mistral

The 11 members of Mistral rehearsed every week throughout 2023. They presented items at all REMU soirees. The consort played magnificently in three rest homes before Xmas, at the Ngaio Community Christmas Service and Christmas Carols at the Railway Station in early December. It was good that Ron Ward from Valley Players joined for those performances. Playing his great bass added a strong tone to all the group's sound.

Many members in the group are now upskilling to play a recorder which they are not familiar with, e.g. bass, tenor and alto, which means all members have a chance to play different lines on any piece.

Mistral will continue to work on the *Lachrimae* series by John Dowland over the year, there will be a review of fun jazzy favourites and a lot of new pieces along the way. 2023 has begun well focusing on Holborne Quintet and some of the *Lachrimae* pieces.

4

Rare Byrds

This Dunedin-based group continues to meet regularly for practice sessions in a four-person recorder consort and a six-person mixed consort, the latter currently consisting of two recorders, a spinet, bass viol, nyckelharpa, and the recent addition of a learner lutenist. Their concert schedule hasn't yet recovered from the combined effects of covid and individual health issues within the group, but we have a few gigs pencilled in for 2024, including in Dunedin's historic First Church, where they performed a programme of Holborne's music late last year. Some of them are very much missing regular contact with recorder friends in Wellington, but getting away for extended breaks, or even short ones, can be tricky at the moment. Music they're playing and enjoying at the moment includes Purcell Trio Sonata No 2, Josquin's La Spagna, and pieces from a collection of Czech Renaissance dances that one of their members recently bought home from a work trip to Prague.

SuBreMo Trio

A fairly recent addition to recorder consorts in the Wellington region is the “SuBreMo Trio”, where Susanne Burkhart, Brenda Vale and Monika Wells meet fairly regularly to play with or without continuo. The trio is at present working on a new piece by Samuel Berkahn (hot off the press!) which they hope to present at the next REMU soiree.

Valley Players

Over 2023 Valley Players shrank from 5 to three. Helen Willberg found the pressure of her many services to church and music education too much to continue to participate. Fortunately, John Lister was able to make up a trio with Diana Barnes and Ron Ward. Ron has amassed considerable numbers of trios over the years. The consort prepared a Haydn Baryton trio arrangement for the last soiree of the year, but had to replace one player on the day due to covid. They were very fortunate to have Michelle Greenwood take over the most challenging part. Valley Players continues to meet weekly on Tuesday Mornings.



5

Matangi Recorder Hui

The (almost) annual Hui was held in February 2024. We think it was the 9th one. Twelve players from Auckland and around the Waikato met just outside Hamilton for a weekend of music-making, fun, friendship and feasting.

Much of the music and all the conducting was provided by

Simon James, as usual. Thank you Simon! For 4 or 5 hours each day we played an eclectic mix of pieces from 2 choir Palestrina to klezmer on instruments ranging from sopranino to contrabass, and



enjoyed shared lunches in the garden in the shade of a massive copper beech.

Saturday

night dinner with 'significant others' at a Turkish restaurant was followed by dessert at the nearby renowned Duck Island icecream shop. Amazingly, we were sufficiently recovered to continue playing on Sunday morning and well into the afternoon until the Auckland contingent had to head home.

Thank you all for coming.
Pam Witten

Auckland Recorder Ensemble - Starting soon!

Rory Brunton asks: Are you interested in seriously playing the recorder? Do you enjoy original Renaissance/Baroque repertoire? Do you live south of the Auckland CBD and north of Hamilton?

Then, consider yourself part of the Auckland Recorder Ensemble!

We are looking for recorder enthusiasts, most likely of ages 13-18 (although we can make exceptions), to join either our less serious, more social orchestra, or our consort,

6

for intermediate to advanced players. Any recorder size is welcome, especially bigger ones.

We are a work in progress!

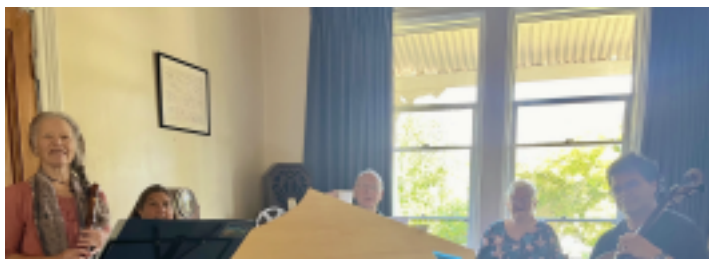
Contact Rory Brunton for more information and if you desire to sign up. email: brunton.rjl@gmail.com

Hoping to see you at our first meeting!

Rory's music includes: six part *In Nomine* (Anon.); *Sonata* (Corelli) (SATB); *O Magnum Mysterium* (de Victoria) for the recorder orchestra; and *Concerto for Four Violins* (Vivaldi) (SATB)

Rory is also interested in playing baroque music with flautists, violinists, violists, cellists, viol players; and pianists/harpsichordists.

News from Bob and Jenny Cross



Inégal

Our Baroque group Inégal performed at Havelock North on 7th February. It was the first lunchtime concert of 2024 and organiser Ken Keys was thrilled with the capacity audience turnout and what he described as a 'magical' concert.

We played a *Trio Sonata in Gm* by John Loeillet of London. (Opus 1, no 3). Inégal members are Bob Cross baroque oboe, Jenny Cross alto recorder, Karen Edwards spinet and Quentin Maioha cello. It was a delightful way to start our year!

Our group also enjoyed a coaching session in February with Christopher Hainsworth who is an internationally regarded organist, harpsichord player and pianist. Chris had



7
been visiting Central Hawkes Bay and we spent a couple of hours with him learning about continuo accompaniment and playing music together.

Inégal's next performance is at the Hastings Music Society's afternoon concert, Sunday 10th March at 2pm. The Loeillet *Gm Trio Sonata* is on the programme along with a J C Schickhardt *Trio Sonata in Am* (Opus 16, no 8) for two treble recorders. We will also play the well-known Italian Ground with Jenny on alto recorder, Bob playing baroque guitar and Quentin providing a ground bass.

All in a Garden Greene

Bob and Jenny (All in a Garden Greene) have played at several events in recent months. The Kingsridge Weekend Garden Festival in November was a highlight and we also provided music for St Mary's Church Fair and the Waipukurau Market.

Norvis 2023

Last August we were excited to be in the UK and at Norvis! Norvis is a week-long early music course held at Barnard Castle College. We had wanted to include an early music

course in our UK travel plans and Norvis turned out to be perfect!

Norvis tutors were outstanding and the event was so worthwhile! We were well accommodated and there were plenty of opportunities to get to know other musicians. Norvis has tutored group work each morning (e.g. orchestra, recorder ensemble, choral, lute, viols) and a range of elective 'delights' each afternoon. Jenny chose a recorder technique class and a choral group, and Bob played baroque bassoon with the orchestra. He also had fun playing shawms and other loud things with a group of like-minded musicians!

Norvis participants played in ensemble groups each morning with input from tutors. Our group included Sarah Kirk (REMU's treasurer) on recorder and baroque flute, Elizabeth Brown on spinet and Jonathan Holt on baroque violin. Jonathan visited us when he travelled to NZ in September!

We both benefitted musically from our week at Norvis and enjoyed being immersed in a friendly, encouraging and varied early music experience. The three evening concerts where participants and tutors performed were a highlight! The beautiful venue and lovely meals were also appreciated. We would highly recommend Norvis to anyone travelling to the UK. Registrations are open now for Norvis 2024, 3-10th August.

Jenny Cross

8

Society of Recorder Players

Frank Carpay Scholarship

The Society of Recorder Players (New Zealand) is offering a competitive scholarship, from the Frank Carpay Memorial Fund (1917 – 1985; a Dutch-born Auckland industrial designer and potter).

The SRP(NZ) invites organisations, students and suitably qualified or experienced people, in Auckland, to apply for a grant up to \$5,000 for study, research or performance of early music. Applications by anyone who is not resident in Auckland but for support of concerts in Auckland will be considered.

Early music is "music for which a historically appropriate style of performance must be reconstructed on the basis of surviving scores, treatises, instruments and other contemporary evidence" and was composed in the 18th century or earlier.

Applicants are requested to provide a description of how they will use the grant (no more than 500 words), along with a budget (including any other sources income) and biographic (or equivalent) information about the applicant(s). At least one external reference, for example: a letter of support from the research supervisor, or performance teacher, an independent critical performance or recording review, supporting the application is required,

The Society of Recorder Players (New Zealand) decisions on the scholarship and its distribution will be final. The Society may determine that it has not received any applications suitable for the scholarship.

Applications should be addressed to The SRP(NZ) Frank Carpay Scholarship Committee, % REMU (remu.org.nz@gmail.com) by **5 April 2024**.

Instruments for sale

SRP(NZ) is disposing of its collection of recorders. The Society has two consorts of matching wooden instruments in various woods. There is also an early baroque / late Renaissance consort. There are individual instruments such as a wooden tenor, a Moeck alto, and a Moeck tenor.

If you are interested in any of these please email (remu.org.nz@gmail.com with *SRP Instruments* in the subject) and we will send you some more details of particular instruments. Alternatively let us know what you're looking for and we will see if we have something that might interest you.

Concerts

Duetting Basses

Saturday 6th April 7:30
Koha

Study Group House
Wellington Meditation Centre 31
Hobson Crescent Wellington

Michael O'Loghlin is a professional musician, educator, historical musicologist, and editor of music. He is a graduate of Sydney University and in Vin Germany he studied viola da gamba, double bass, and performance practice with Nikolaus Harnoncourt. He also has a PhD from the University of Queensland. He has played with Queensland Symphony Orchestra, most of the Australian symphony orchestras, as well as orchestras and specialist early music ensembles in Germany and Austria. He is a founding member of Brisbane's ensemble for Baroque music on original instruments, and the Badinerie Players. Michael comes to

Duetting Basses

Michael O'Loghlin Robert Oliver
bass viols
Douglas Mews
Harpsichord

Music by

Marais

Sainte

Colombe

Graun



Wellington at the invitation of Robert Oliver to host a workshop for viol players over Easter weekend.

For more information contact Robert with this email: chant4robert@gmail.com.

NZbAROK

Cellomania

**7:30 pm May 10 2 pm and 7:30 pm May 11 2024,
St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland**

Mime Yamahiro Brinkmann, the soloist in this concert, is described as a baroque cellist, soloist and chamber musician. She will perform three varied baroque cello concertos with NZ Barok.

10

Other news and information

Where do you get your recorders?

If you want or need a new recorder, what are your options? *Woodenrecorders.co.nz* is the only dedicated recorder dealership, and provides recorders from the workshops of Mollenhauer, Moeck and Kung. They hold a stock of the more commonly sought models, and can get anything from these makers, usually within 3 weeks. They are happy to send out up to 3 recorders at a time on trial, because they know it is important to try before you buy. You can visit to try out more recorders, but only if you fancy a trip to the Far North! www.woodenrecorders.co.nz

An alternative is Orpheus Music (see below) in Australia. They are highly recommended by many NZ players. They hold stock from other makers, as well as a large library of printed music. You can also sign up for a monthly email with news and information, which is often very interesting. <https://orpheusmusic.com.au/>

Further afield, Lazars and others in the USA, together with the Early Music Shop in the UK and Thomann in Germany, are able to send instruments overseas. These outlets will be able to provide a bigger range, but you can't try out an instrument before buying it, and returns are at your cost.

When buying from overseas, there are also shipping and import costs to take into account. There is no duty on musical instruments, but if the value of the parcel is more than \$1000 GST plus administrative fees will be charged by the Customs service. GST is 15%, and the fee is usually around \$50. The process of getting your parcel through customs can take a week or two.

Orpheus Music

Australasian Recorder Festival 2025, January 12-17 Armidale NSW Australia

The Festival is a celebration of the recorder in all its splendour – playing, listening, exploring. A festival of full immersion for players of all ages. Six days of technique classes, ensembles and special interest topics and concerts. There will be a separate Youth Section with multiple groups for players under 30.

11

Sarah Jeffery (UK) of *Team Recorder* on YouTube, is the first tutor that Orpheus has announced.

Details are on: [Recorder Festival](#)

The Australasian Recorder Competition 2025

Orpheus Music will accept video Auditions from the 1st of July 2024 and entries close at 12.00pm on 1st of October 2024.

The 2024 FINALS will be on January 10 2025.

There are 5 sections: solo recorder open, solo recorder 18 and under, solo recorder 12 and under, recorder ensemble 18 and under and recorder ensemble, open. All entrants in both the Preselection and Finals must be enrolled in the Orpheus Music Australasian Recorder Festival 2025



Orpheus photo - Simon Borutzki conducting at a past festival

Details are on: [Orpheus 2025 Competition](#)

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