



Canberra Recorder and Early Music Society

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<http://www.rkmedia.net/crems>

NEWSLETTER — 2008/10

October 2008

Edited by Diane Williamson

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Committee meetings – Members are welcome to attend. Meetings are usually held prior to orchestra rehearsals –

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2008 PROGRAM

Sunday 16 November –3-5 pm rehearsal St David's Church, Red Hill.

Sunday 23 November – 1.45 pm House Concert Dress Rehearsal, St David's Church, Red Hill (**This is compulsory if you wish to play in the House Concert**)

Friday 28 November –Blow in – 45 Wattle Street, O'Connor 5.30 pm to 8pm.

Sunday 30 November – 3.00 pm **House Concert**, Wesley. **Orchestra call is 1.45 pm at Wesley**

Friday 12 December End of year Ball –Renaissance Dances from both streams of classes at the Black Mountain Guide Hall, Clianthus Street, O'Connor, at **7.45 pm for an 8.00 pm start.**

Sunday 14 December – 2-5 pm **Christmas Celebration** – Mulloon Road, Braidwood (just out of Bungendore) – see below.

2009 PROGRAM

Wednesday 21 January 5.30 pm Beyond Q Bookshop (downstairs) Curtin Shops, Carruthers Street, Curtin. Informal get together and play Australian music Refreshments can be bought at the Bookshop

Sunday, 22 February 1.45 pm Orchestra resumes

Sunday, 29 March 1.45 pm Orchestra

Saturday 18/Sunday 19 April - Bundanoon

CREMS ORCHESTRA

The dress rehearsal for the House Concert is on **Sunday 23 November at St David's Church Hall at 145 pm for 2.00 pm...** If you would like to play in the orchestra at the House Concert, you MUST be at the dress rehearsal but you don't have to wear your black gear

Attendance at this rehearsal is compulsory if you wish to play in the House Concert. However, if you have been attending rehearsals regularly, know your parts and really cannot get to the rehearsal, please contact Barbara on 6231 4832 barbara_jerjen@hotmail.com or Robyn on 6295 9432 or 0406 375 154 robyn.mellor@environment.gov.au)

Cost: Adult \$10, Child/Health Care Card Holder \$5. Family (1 or 2 adults, 2 children \$15). Please make sure your CREMS membership is current also.

HOUSE CONCERT

Sunday 30 November – 3.00 pm

Wesley Uniting Church Hall, National Circuit, Forrest

The **House Concert** will commence at 3.00 pm. However, the **Orchestra** is required at Wesley at 1.45 pm for a run through before the concert. Please remember to wear black and bring your own stand, instruments and sheet music. Put your name on your stand too. Please bring-a-plate for afternoon tea after the concert. TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. Entry for everyone over 12 years is \$5.00. This helps defray the cost of hiring the hall and paying our professional conductors.

CREMS DANCE GROUP – RENAISSANCE DANCE CLASSES

Renaissance Dance Classes – Arbeau, Old Measures, 15th century Italian, Playford

Fortnightly dance classes for 2008: 14 and 28 November

End of year Ball 12 December – Dances from both streams of classes

Cost: \$60 adult \$40 concession (members)

\$68 Adult \$44 concession (non-members)

Renaissance Dance Classes – High Renaissance Italian Court dance s eg Caroso, Negri

Fortnightly dance classes for 2008 7 and 21 November

5 and 12 December

End of year Ball 12 December - Dances from both streams of classes

Cost: \$60 adult \$40 concession (members)

\$68 Adult \$44 concession (non-members)

The classes are held on Friday evenings at the Black Mountain Guide Hall, Clianthus Street, O'Connor, at 7.45 pm for an 8.00 pm start.

Enquiries: Estelle Canning (02 4845 0228) or Libby Case (02 6286 4361).

CREMS BLOW-INS

The first blow-in was a great success. Ten people came to Mary's home in Macarthur. We spent the first part of the evening practising music for the Christmas function in December. We played the Corelli "Christmas Pastorale", Manfredini Christmas Concerto" 1st movement, Handel's "Sinfonia Pastorale" from the oratorio "Messiah" and finally "The Twelve Days of Christmas". There was some difficulty reading this score and parts so more work has to be done clarifying which parts are played six or seven times.

After a pleasant meal contributed by everyone, Mary talked about the handling of wooden and plastic recorders and what can happen if you don't oil a wooden recorder or twist the instrument the wrong way, what oil to use and how to do it. \$17.30 was raised towards our Great Bass!

The next Blow-in will be at Ian Scott's home, 45 Wattle Street, O'Connor on Friday, 28 November, starting at 5.30 pm. Please contact Ian on (6249 8032) joanian@bigfoot.com or Diane (6254 4468) wildia@grapevine.com.au by Wednesday 26 November if you are able to come. Once again, the blow-in is for adults only. Because of space, numbers are limited. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring a contribution for afternoon tea. Entry is by gold coin donation which will be put towards the purchase by CREMS of a Great Bass.

We would like to hear from other people who are prepared to run a blow-in. We'd also like some ideas for "topics" such as a talk about a particular composer and play some music. These evenings or afternoons will be in addition to the CREMS orchestra.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday 14 December 2pm

220 Mulloon Road, Braidwood

Fay D'Elmaine and Ingrid Baas Becking are providing their home for a CREMS Christmas celebration. It is easy to get there and directions will be sent to you. The Committee is delighted that we will be able to celebrate in such a lovely spot. There will be more details available at the House Concert and on your e-mail. If you have particular Christmas music you would like to play, please contact Mary Burbrook who is co-ordinating the music.

If you would like to attend the Christmas Celebration, please contact Fay (043 9430740) fay.delmaine@bigpond.com or Diane on 6254 4468 wildia@grapevine.com.au.

VALE PHIL MARKS

At the time of writing, all that I know is that Phil Marks died on 16 September 2008 aged 65. He composed recorder music which CREMS members have played over the years. I am endeavouring to get more information, probably for the next newsletter. Diane – Editor

CONCERT INFORMATION

Salut! Baroque Concert Diary 2008

Concert 4: Something Borrowed – Friday 21 November 8pm **Llewellyn Hall**

Enquiries 6251 6522 or 9555 7442 salut@baroque.com.au

BUNDANOON WEEKEND

(from "The Sydney Recorder")

Bundanoon turned on wonderfully warm weather for the workshop. A group of 40 recorder players from the Sydney area and from Canberra and Goulburn enjoyed a stimulating two days of music making under the expert guidance of our tutors, Hans Dieter Michatz, fresh from the wilds of Alaska, Kamala Bain from New Zealand and Lance Eccles from Goulburn. Each tutor brought a special approach to the music of the Iberian Peninsula with music from the 16th Century right up to the music which Lance had composed specially for the weekend, based on Spanish folk tunes.

The weekend started and ended with mass playing, conducted by Lance and Kamala. Lance gave us his 5 part arrangement of *La Folia* and Kamala challenged us into 8 parts in two choirs. We finished the weekend with a bang.

The Saturday evening dinner in the village hall provided an opportunity for everyone to mingle and we really appreciated the magnificent playing by the tutors. Our caterers, David and Bron from the Yallabee guesthouse, provided Spanish style food including pork and beans and a Spring vegetable paella.

We welcomed several newcomers to the Bundanoon weekend, as well as many who have been coming for years.

FUND RAISING

Since we want to buy a Great Bass for CREMS, we need to raise some extra funds to supplement our funds. The CREMS Committee is looking for ideas for fund raising, and the first success has been the Blow-In at Mary's (\$17.30). However, there is a way to go. So, we have decided to raffle a hamper for Christmas and this will be raffled at the House Concert. What we need now is for YOU to bring a contribution for the hamper to the rehearsal on Sunday 23 November.

There are other fund raising ideas such as busking, giving concerts at schools, T-shirts with the CREMS logo which could be worn at concerts. Do you have any ideas? Editor

OILING WOODEN RECORDERS

Recorders made of maple, boxwood, ebony, granadilla, olive, palisander, plum or rosewood need to be oiled to maintain their quality. Instruments made of maple and pearwood do not need to be oiled if they have been impregnated with paraffin. However, oiling wont do them any harm.

How often do you need to oil your recorder? Instruments differ and there is no fixed rule. However, the bore should always be slightly greasy but if it looks dull and greyish, then the instrument urgently needs a coat of oil.

Which part needs to be oiled? Varnished wood does not have to be oiled. Otherwise, apart from the windway, oil can be applied to all parts. You should refrain from applying oil to the block as well as parts of the labium.

Which is the right type of oil? Use sweet almond oil which has a thick and odourless consistency. It is easily applied and doesn't leave sticky remains. It is a vegetable oil which is absorbed by the pores of the wood and forms a film that protects the recorder from moisture. You can obtain almond oil from any pharmacist. Sewing machine oil or special key oil is recommended for keys as these mineral oils do not harden and stop the mechanism from clogging.

Some professional recorder makers and players use refined linseed oil as it is thicker, hardens slightly and eventually seals the instrument. However, it has its disadvantages. It can be hard to remove and it has an unpleasant smell if it goes off which it can do rather quickly. Linseed oil is inflammable and therefore not very safe.

To oil the recorder you need recorder oil (almond), a fine paintbrush, a cotton cloth and an oil brush. The fluffy woollen cleaning rods are not recommended as bits of fluff can get stuck in the recorder bore.

Important rules when oiling:

- Never oil your recorder unless it is thoroughly dry. If you have just played it, the instrument will be damp and the moisture will remain in the wood.
- Hold the head joint vertically with the beak pointing up.

- Ensure no oil drips on to the block.
- Take care that no oil drips on to the surfaces of the windway.
- The wood needs some time to absorb the oil.

When you take your recorder apart, twist it at the joint to undo it and avoid pulling them apart. Gripper cloths help. The middle and foot joints are the easiest to oil. Twist a bit of cotton cloth round the tip of the cleaning rod. Apply a few drops of oil on to the inner edge of the foot hole and push the cleaning rod with a turning motion through the foot joint. Have a look at the inside of the foot to check the whole part is covered with a smooth coating of oil. If there are still some dry spots, repeat the process. Do the same procedure with the middle joint.

When oiling the head joint, you must be careful that no oil gets on to the block. Hold the head joint with the beak pointing up so that no oil can trickle into the windway. Using the cleaning rod with only a little oil on the cotton cloth, carefully push it slowly into the head joint until you can see the top at the window. Keep turning very carefully until the point of the rod barely touches the block. Now pull the rod out again, still turning very carefully, and check the inside of the head joint is covered with a coating of oil.

You can rub the exterior of the beak, avoiding the blowing end. Oil the surfaces of the labium with a fine paintbrush, taking special care not to allow oil into the windway. The joints should be allowed to stand vertically to dry for several hours or overnight so that the wood can absorb the oil. Then remove any excess oil with a clean cotton cloth.

INFORMATION ON THE WEB

Graham Ranft sent me this address <http://www.flauto-dolce.it/>. The site has original music and arrangements for recorders and other instruments. There is a small fee for access to lots of well set music for recorders.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

I am pleased to be able to write that of some 62 members of CREMS, there are only six members who are unfinancial which is a pretty good achievement. If you are unsure whether you have paid your dues, please contact me on 6254 4468 or wildia@grapevine.com.au and I will check the membership list. While we keep our expenses as low as we can, hiring of halls, photocopying, printing expenses and paying tutors take quite a bit of money. Diane, Editor
