



**Recorders for all**

**ERC**

**Easter Recorder Course**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

at

**Moulton College**

**Moulton**

**Northampton**

**NN3 7RR**

**[www.recordersforall.org.uk](http://www.recordersforall.org.uk)**

# The Venue

Moulton College was established as the Northamptonshire Institute of Agriculture in 1921 and now covers a wide range of land-based subjects (with its own Animal Welfare Centre), sports and construction. It was used by the Women's Land Army during WW2 and even has its own song - The Song of Moulton - which you can find on the Women's Land Army & Timber Corps website! It is in a beautiful setting with over 660 hectares of commercially farmed estate with woodland, ponds and the river.

We will be using four rooms in the original stone building as playing rooms; everything else is located in the social centre which is adjacent:

- a large room for orchestra and massed playing on the ground floor
- the dining room on the first floor
- the bar and social space on the top floor

All the accommodation will be single occupancy with ensuite. There is a kitchen on each floor of the accommodation blocks where you will be able to make tea and coffee and a small sitting area. There is a large car park and all the areas we will be using are close together with disabled access. Currently there is no electric charging point for cars on site that we can use. Northampton is only one hour away by train from Birmingham or London, then buses run from the station to the college. The college is really looking forward to having us.

The shops will be located in a room adjacent to the four playing rooms. In 2024 the shops attending the course will be:

Anthony Barrett Recorder Repairs [www.barrettrecorders.co.uk](http://www.barrettrecorders.co.uk)

Early Music Shop [www.earlymusicshop.com](http://www.earlymusicshop.com)

Julie Dean [www.recordershoplondon.co.uk](http://www.recordershoplondon.co.uk)

Annabel Knight <https://ak-music.co.uk/>

David Moses <https://www.tinderboxmusic.co.uk/david.html>

Ruth Burbidge is not able to come in 2024.

# The Course

*Recorders-for-All* is a not-for-profit organisation with Pam Smith as musical director and Jan Epps as secretary and administrator and we have been running courses together since 2015.

The course will begin with afternoon tea on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and finish with lunch on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024. For non-residents the course will start on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 9:15 am. Course participants must be at least grade 3 standard on both C and F instruments, one of which must be tenor or bass; ideally, we would like all course members to play bass. If you need advice please contact Jan:

[jan.epps57@gmail.com](mailto:jan.epps57@gmail.com) or **01752 417093**.

Orchestral playing has always been an important element at ERC and we will be running a main orchestra and a chamber orchestra (one-to-a-part where possible) for the whole week. This gives the rare opportunity to work with the same conductor every day on a selection of repertoire to then present to the rest of the course on the final evening. If you wish to be considered for either of the orchestras you must give at least 3 choices of instrument for each. (N.B. They must be different instruments - not tenor 1 or 2!) One of the pieces for the main orchestra this year will be Steve Marshall's Serenade for Gemshorns and Recorder Orchestra. If you are a gemshorn player and would like to be included, please state which instruments you own. Sarah will be conducting the main orchestra and Annabel the chamber orchestra/ensemble.

Each day will start with a range of classes on a particular aspect of music or recorder technique. 2024 technique classes will include:

- Form and Function with Brian Blood - an exploration of various musical forms such as fugues, sonatas, in nomine etc.
- Early 16th C Franco-Flemish facsimile with Pam Smith
- A look at the challenges of playing with keyboard with Sarah Whomersley
- 21st C solo repertoire with Annabel Knight

In addition to these 'set' groups, each day there will be a varied selection of ensembles with a wide range of musical periods and styles, including gemshorns, world music and jazz.

There will be a tutti session each evening for those who relish the chance to play in a large ensemble, including an 8ft evening. For those

wanting a break from playing, there will be a selection of talks instead. On the last evening there will be an informal concert, showcasing the two orchestras. A music list and further details will be sent out shortly before the course.

# The Tutors

Our full-time tutors for 2024 are: Pam Smith, Annabel Knight and Sarah Whomersley. Janice Ormerod, Josef Manser, Julie Dean, David Moses and Brian Blood will be part time tutors.

**Pam Smith** studied piano, viola and clarinet at Chetham's School of Music, graduated in Music and French (2:1) from Oxford Polytechnic and later completed a music PGCE at Bath College. She studied conducting with George Hurst and has worked closely with many of the composers writing for recorder orchestras today and has conducted numerous first performances of their works. She has worked with many recorder orchestras and ensembles and now tutors on residential courses and her own pop-up days. She runs the Cotswold Recorder Consort, and plays with Quanto Dolce chamber group.

**Annabel Knight** is head of the recorder department at Birmingham Conservatoire. She performs and teaches as a recorder player and historical flautist, across the UK, Europe and America. She performs with Passacaglia, and with Fontanella; both ensembles work towards finding the perfect balance between historically accurate performance and live entertainment. This is of course largely driven by a genuine passion to uncover the history and stories behind the music we play but also by the excitement and freedom of live performance with wonderful professional colleagues and bringing 'old' music to life again. Annabel enjoys teaching at all levels and has been a syllabus consultant for both the ABRSM and Trinity Guildhall examinations boards. She is the founder and director of the popular Woodhouse Recorder Week. Annabel has a passion for teaching and has been teaching recorder and flute for over twenty years, from the state sector classroom and music service, through private and independent schools, to the aspiring young conservatoire graduate. The emphasis in all her teaching is on personal attainment, developing confidence and having fun.

## **Sarah Whomersley:**

Sarah studied recorder and cello at the Royal College of Music which was a great place to explore early music and historical performance. She then went on to Reading University, from which she graduated with a PGCE in secondary school music teaching. Since then Sarah has worked in London and Cornish secondary schools. She currently works in Cornwall as a peripatetic music teacher and teaches recorder to a wide variety of age groups and abilities. Sarah has various other music teaching roles including choirs, jazz band, recorder groups and a mixed Renaissance consort with cornamuse, loriman pipes,

cornetts, strings, brass and recorders. All of them regularly perform in concerts and music festivals. Sarah has been a very popular tutor at our Summer Recorder Festival.

**Josef Manser** - after a few years as a primary school teacher, began to study recorder in Switzerland in the 1980s. He now plays a range of instruments: recorders, bagpipes (including historic versions), gemshorns, crumhorns, shawms, as well as harpsichord and piano. He teaches recorder and bagpipes to children and adults in Switzerland. He performs both as a soloist and with a variety of groups and is co-conductor of Lake Zurich Recorder Orchestra.

Josef has tutored on a number of courses in the UK.

**Janice Ormerod** is a tutor at the Stockport Recorder College and chairman and conductor of Manchester SRP. She also runs an evening class for beginner adults. Janice has a wide experience of teaching all ages from 7 to 77+ years. She plays great bass in the Manchester Recorder Orchestra. As well as recorders, Janice is interested in renaissance reed instruments and gemshorns. Janice has tutored on many recorder courses and has inspired many players to learn the bass recorder.

**Brian Blood** is a recorder player, teacher and designer. He has played as a member of the Dolmetsch Consort since the late 1960s and continues to play as a member of the London Recorder Orchestra. His website [www.dolmetsch.com](http://www.dolmetsch.com) includes an award-winning music theory course, and scores of consorts arranged for recorders which can be downloaded free-of-charge.

**Julie Dean** gained her BMus degree in 1998 at Goldsmith College, London. In 2006, after a successful management career in retail and the licensed trade, she returned to music, attending Trinity College of Music. She spent four years as a postgraduate studying the recorder with Rebecca Miles and Philip Thorby as well as viola da gamba with Alison Crum. Julie has also had recorder tuition, courses and masterclasses with Piers Adams, Pamela Thorby, Tom Beets, Matthias Maute and Bart Spanhove. As a recorder player her performances have included five years at the Greenwich International Early Music Festival, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Handel House, Southbank Centre, The Exmoor Singers of London and historical dance group The Renaissance Footnotes. She won the Trinity College of Music early music competition in 2011 with *Ensemble Tramontana*. She performs regularly with the comedy and

jazz influenced BRLO 'British Recorder Light Orchestra', Belsize Baroque Orchestra as well as many solo and ensemble performances.

**David Moses** has had a very varied career in music. As a teenager, he sang and played guitar in a skiffle group, before joining the R.A.F. as a clarinetist.

At Teacher Training College he studied composition whilst qualifying as a teacher. Apart from adventures into 20th century music, David also discovered and fell in love music from the Mediaeval and Renaissance periods.

Double bass had emerged as David's main instrument. He was for many years part of a successful folk duo in addition to his session bass playing. He also began to build a reputation as an arranger on recording sessions with folk greats like Sandy Denny (Fairport Convention) and Ralph McTell. As a multi-instrumentalist David was involved in writing and producing music on BBC radio and TV programmes. David has enormous enthusiasm for so many different kinds of music and feels that all music is equally valid. He was a lecturer at Lewisham College South London on the popular music course. Jazz is the musical genre where David feels comfortable and at home. Throughout his career he has written music as and when it was needed. The different strands of his career are drawn together through his work as composer and author. His recorder music is published under the banner Tinderbox music. More recent works include EDGE which Philip Thorby conducted at the 2023 Recorder Summer School and The Fair written for Helen Hooker's 8 foot METRO orchestra.

# How to enroll on the Course

If you would like to enroll for ERC 2024, please complete all sections on the separate application form.

Payment can be by cheque to 'RECORDERS FOR ALL ' or by BACS with your name as the reference.

BACS details Bank: **HSBC** Account name: **Recorders for All**  
Sort code: **40-17-10** Account number: **02369214**

**The residential package will be £832 and non-resident including all meals except breakfast £510 plus £33 for the last morning including lunch.**

Moulton College is cheaper than The Hayes, so we have been able to keep the prices the same as 2023.

## **Cancellation Policy**

*Recorders for all* is not liable for any losses incurred if you have to cancel your booking for any reason. You are advised to take out insurance in case you are unable to attend. If Jan is able to fill your place you will receive a full refund less a £10 administration fee.

Application form and payment should be sent to:

**Jan Epps 35 Furzehatt Rd, Plymstock, Plymouth PL9 8QX**

Email: [jan.epps57@gmail.com](mailto:jan.epps57@gmail.com)

Tel: **01752 417093**

Shortly before the course you will be sent a detailed timetable, music list, travel directions and general information.

**CLOSING DATE for applications is 20 January 2024**

**Priority booking until 25<sup>th</sup> September for those who attended the course in 2023**

**Please note:** the information in this brochure is correct at the time of printing but may be subject to alteration if circumstances change.

**NB. The application form has been sent separately.**