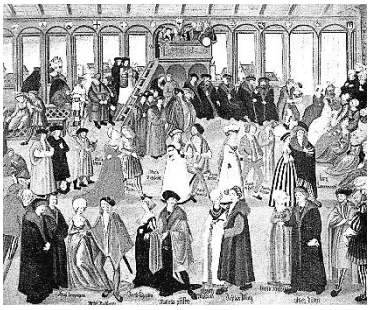
North East
Early Music Forum
Registered Charity No: 326282

Saturday 24th January 2026

A party in Augsburg
Music of the early C16th German Town and Dance bands
a workshop for instruments at A=440 pitch
led by Lizzie Gutteridge

Clements Hall, York, 10 for 10.30 am - 4.30 pm



In the German town of Augsburg, in the first few decades of the 16th century, a fascinating tradition took place. Each year, the town's dignitaries would dress up in historical costumes, representing their forbears from the 1200s through to their own time. They performed processions and dances, and even commissioned paintings of the occasion where the people are labeled by name along with the dates they represent. In one of these paintings, from 1522, we can see the Stadtpjeiferen (the town band, or Waits, as they were known in England), with their alta capella instruments, who are joined by a lutenist, a bagpiper and a drummer.

The steps for German dances of this period are not as well documented at those of Italy, Burgundy or even England, but we do have the tunes. In this workshop we will play Hoftanzen (related to the Burgundian basse danse) and triplas (salterelli), including some newly transcribed "Stadtpfeiffertanzen" from the Munich 1512 lute manuscript. Alongside the dances we'll also look at some song tunes from the same period, and even spend some time looking further back into German musical history. After all, if the Bergers of Augsburg were dressing up in historical costumes we can imagine that the musicians might also have tried their hand at playing some historical music...

This workshop is for players of all Medieval, Renaissance and modern instruments at A=440. Players of loud winds are encouraged to also bring a quieter alternative instrument with them for occasional calmer moments. There will be a few pieces in which percussion and drone instruments, such as bagpipes and hurdy-gurdies in G & D, can be used.

Lizzie took up playing shawm as a part of the historical re-enactment movement to re-form Waits bands, then decided to pursue it further and make it her main occupation. She plays a wide range of historical instruments, including bagpipes, recorders, curtals, fiddles and aulos.

COST: £18. Concessions (people aged ≤26 or on a very low income e.g. solely dependent on state benefits) £9. Full-time students FREE. Refreshments at breaks included. Bring a packed lunch or use local facilities.

Please complete the booking form below and send it to: **Joanna Rowling, 21A Manor Crescent, Pool-in-Wharfedale, Otley, LS21 1ND** (or book online www.neemf.org.uk). Cheques payable to North East Early Music Forum.
Closing date: 10th January 2026, If you cannot use your booked place, please inform us asap. For more info: please email joannarowling@btinternet.com

✂ ……

Lizzie Guttteridge, York (*closing date: 10th January 2026)* **Application Form**
Completed form and cheque to: Joanna Rowling, 21A Manor Crescent, Pool-in-Wharfedale, Otley, LS21 1ND

Name and address (with postcode please) .....

..... Postcode .....

Email _____Tel: _____

I wish to play:_____ (*indicate instrument(s*) approx level *(eg starter, pro, student)* .....

Please also tell us if you have any special requirements (eg large print, transpositions or clefs preferred, etc):

Do you belong to NEEMF? Yes / No
Is this your first workshop? If so, we will try to arrange a welcomer to meet you. Yes / No
For non-members of NEEMF: May we email you occasionally? Your email will not be shared with anyone. Yes / No

Signed _____ Date _____

Clements Hall, Nunthorpe Road, York, is easily reached by public transport or by car: SatNav use YO23 1BP or YO23 1BS. There is free parking in the school playground opposite and car access is via Scarcroft Rd and Upper Price St (or directly onto Nunthorpe Rd if coming from the east).

Park and Ride: White route from Askham Bar and Turquoise route from Poppleton Bar will drop you off at Blossom Street or the railway station, and Red route from the Designer Outlet on the A64 will deliver you to the railway station. Approx. 12 minutes' walk from York Railway Station via Nunnery Lane.
The building has disabled access.



Please note: The NEEMF half-price pensioner concession is only for pensioners whose SOLE source of income is the state pension. Pensioners who live on a combination of occupational and state pensions pay the full workshop rate.