



BAROQUE CHAMBER MUSIC PLAYING DAY (A=415)

with Victoria Helby

The Whitehill Centre, White Hill, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1AG

Saturday 2nd May 2026 from 10.30am to 5pm

This will be the second of our one-to-a-part baroque chamber music days in our new venue in Chesham. The Whitehill Centre is a local community centre quite close to the Metropolitan line station, where we will have almost the whole building and at least seven playing spaces of various sizes. There is parking at the venue and reasonably priced paid parking nearby. Waitrose's and the town centre shops are a short walk away.

The day is for baroque wind and string players (including viols), and keyboard or plucked continuo. Pitch will be A=415 (one semitone below modern pitch). Modern strings are welcome, preferably with a baroque bow, but please tune down the day before if possible. Solo singers are also welcome. I have quite a lot of music for voice with obligato instruments but you are encouraged to bring your own, particularly if your voice is alto or bass. You do need to be a good sight-reader to enjoy this event, so please contact me if you are not sure if it is for you. If you haven't been to a baroque day before, please use a space on the booking form to provide as much information as possible about yourself and your playing standard.

Keyboard players are welcome even if they do not bring their own instrument, but please do if you can. Keyboards (plucked or electronic) at 415 are welcome even if you don't intend to play yourself, so please mention on the form if you can bring one for other people to play. If you do bring a plucked keyboard instrument, the cost of the day will be refunded provided that you arrive by 10.15 (to give you time to tune it).

We will be playing chamber music in various combinations, mainly trio sonatas and quartets or quintets with continuo, but I can also arrange larger orchestral sessions, Brandenburg concertos etc if enough string players come. A large collection of music will be available but it is very helpful if people bring their own as well, particularly pieces for larger groups. Do mention on the booking form if you are bringing anything with unusual instrumentation, and please make yourself a note of what you've said you'll bring! Requests for particular groups or music will be accommodated as far as possible.

The day will start with coffee at 10.30 followed by playing at 11am. Sessions will be organised in advance, with different combinations for each of the three sessions, so it is **ESSENTIAL** for you to let me know if you are not likely to arrive at the beginning or cannot stay all day, or if you find that you cannot come at all.

The cost will be £16 for members of TVEMF and other forums and £20 for non-members. Please book by 27th April if possible, using this link **[BOOK HERE](#)**. If you cannot book or pay online, you can book by post to Victoria Helby, 50 Sheepfold Lane, Amersham HP7 9EJ, with a cheque payable to Thames Valley Early Music Forum (not TVEMF). Late bookings may be possible up to 30th April but please email first to check if you can be fitted in. Don't just turn up on the day! **NO BOOKINGS OR CANCELLATIONS AFTER APRIL 30th PLEASE.**

Please send any questions about the day to chair@tvemf.org.uk, but enquiries about payments to membershipsecretary@tvemf.org.uk.

We are taking our usual covid precautions (see the booking form), and will refund anyone who has to cancel because of covid or any other illness. If anyone backs out at the last minute after I have done all the planning, it's a nightmare having to redo it all on the day, so if you think you won't be well enough to come please let me know as soon as possible.