

Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 10:53 pm

Hi Tim, it's good to be here!



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 10:54 pm

People start joining in soon - and I know we've got some people who have questions. So it should be a fun hour.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 10:54 pm

Looking forward to it. It's threatening snow here - fire is burning away!



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 10:55 pm

We've heard it will be cold here over the weekend too. Batten down the hatches!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 10:55 pm

Welcome to our Tudor family home Jane.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 10:56 pm

Thank you!



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 10:57 pm

Just under 5 minutes before we start.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 10:57 pm

Ready to go - wondering what people will want to know.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 10:58 pm

I agree Tim, it is a little nippy out, even Katt didn't want to go out today, and she has a fur coat, well a double fur coat.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 10:59 pm

Yes, we're supposed to drop from daytime temperature highs of 21 to 11 and night-time from 9 to 0. A shock for us.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 10:59 pm

Hi Jane and welcome to the chatroom!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 10:59 pm

Jane we are a mixed bunch of scallywags and I'm sure you will have plenty of questions to keep you busy.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:00 pm

Wow! Brrrr. Now snowing here.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:01 pm

Well, it's the o'clock! Welcome Jane and thank you so much for your time here with us, and of course for your excellent talk! The chat is officially open - please ask your questions and have fun!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:02 pm

What were the typical types of instruments that would be played at a banquet or a masque Jane?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:02 pm

Instruments could be "loud" or "soft". Loud would be shawms, curtals and sackbuts. Soft would be viols, flutes and harps.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:03 pm

I was just wondering, as a musician playing Renaissance music what do you think of Henry VIII's compositions?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Shawms were early oboes, curtals or dulcians were early bassoons and sackbuts were the same as a trombone.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Shawms were early oboes, curtals or dulcians were early bassoons and sackbuts were the same as a trombone.



granny weather wax

November 20, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Hello everyone



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Hello Granny



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Hello!



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Henry VIII was undoubtedly a good musician - but not so good as a composer. He often added a harmony line to an existing melody - and you can always spot it. But he did write the well know tune "Pastime with Good Companye" - Thats a great tune to sing and play.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Hello! Great username!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:06 pm

I have to reluctantly admit that some of Henry's music was rather good



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:06 pm

Thanks, Jane, that's the only one of his I've actually properly listened to and I did enjoy it.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:06 pm

Must have read my mind Jane as I do rather like pastime with good company



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Hi to everyone from a very windy, could night in scotland



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Was Greensleeves written for Anne B or Jane S?



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Snowing here in Wales too.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

The manuscript known as "Henry VIII's Manuscript" was probably owned by him but did not contain all his music.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Wasn't Greensleeves Elizabethan?



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Here's a youtube video of Piva, Jane's group, to warm us all on this cold night...https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8vy1uiefng



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:08 pm

Sad to say - but Henry definitely DID NOT write Greensleeves. That's right Claire. It was written sometime after Henry's death. It's a popular myth.



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:08 pm

Great - I love recorders!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:08 pm

Thank you Jane,



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:09 pm

How many compositions can definitely be attributed to Henry?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:09 pm

Recorders are a fabulous instrument. I play on a model after those made by the Bassanos - a group of instrument makers and players that Henry brought to England from Venice.



olgah 💽

November 20, 2015 - 11:09 pm

Hi Jane, thanks for taking the time to chat with us. What sort of musical instruments would a lady be

taught to play in Tudor times?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:10 pm

For a wealthy lady, a keyboard instrument would be suitable. Such as a spinet or virginals. Wind instruments were considered bad as one has to distort the face to play them.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:11 pm

I believe Henry had 8 sets of bagpipes? did he ever play any of them



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:11 pm

Hello Boleyn. Well done for knowing Henry owned bagpipes. Sadly we don't know if he played them or not. They're my favourite instrument, so I like to think so.



granny weather wax

November 20, 2015 - 11:11 pm

Apart from the flute, what instrument would ordinary folk?



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:12 pm

Any idea what age a child would begin to learn an instrument, and what would the likely one they would begin with



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:12 pm

Hello Granny - the pipe and tabor would be a popular (and cheap instrument). Bagpipes were one of the most common instrument - most villagers and towns would have at least one bagpiper.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:13 pm

Am I right in thinking that some woman were also taught to play the lute and a harp



Bolevn

November 20, 2015 - 11:13 pm

I know Mary Queen of scots was taught to play the lute



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:14 pm

There's a lovely picture of an aging Henry as King David playing the harp. Would he ever have played this in real life? And did it have a place in court music?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:14 pm

Yes Boleyn - women would have played "soft" instruments such as the harp and lute.



Impish Impulse

November 20, 2015 - 11:14 pm

So, were bagpipes not seen as a Scots thing? I thought the Scots were "the enemy" and they wouldn't want to play an instrument associated with them.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:14 pm

Ceri - we believe that Henry did play the harp.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:15 pm

The Irish had bagpipers



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:15 pm

That's good to know, Jane. Thanks.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:15 pm

Bagpipes were not just a Scottish instrument. They were played across England, Wales and throughout Europe.



Impish_Impulse

November 20, 2015 - 11:15 pm

Thanks!



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:17 pm

I have just finished an article for January's Tudor Life and it features Elizabeth I. She was a very fine keyboard player.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:17 pm

Jane, how did you end up playing Renaissance instruments and music? How did Piva come into being?



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:18 pm

I believe Elizabeth's sister Mary Tulip was also very gifted musically



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:18 pm

Hello Claire! I have always loved history and when I started playing the recorder (self taught in my 20's, I became fascinated with their very long history - back to medieval times. I have never played a "modern" instrument.



lauried

November 20, 2015 - 11:19 pm

Do you feel that the only reason Mark Smeaton is "famous" is because of his ultimate fate, or was he considered a very strong musician at court?



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:19 pm

No to sure about Edward though he may have enjoyed listening to music rather than playing it



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:19 pm

Thank you!



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:20 pm

It was only at the end of the 16th century that we began to see "amateur" musicians. However, if you were wealthy and wanted to be considered a "gentleman" it would have been necessary to acquire the art of playing music.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:20 pm

Brass instruments must have been expensive. Who would have owned them?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:20 pm

Mark Smeaton was employed as a keyboard player at Henry's court. He must have been a very good musician. It was only because of his association with Anne Boleyn that we know of him today.



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:21 pm

I've heard that lutes were notoriously difficult to keep in tune. Is that still a problem with the instrument today?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:22 pm

Yes Tim! Brass instruments were very expensive. Also, there were very few makers. They would have been for professional musicians only.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:23 pm

Ceri! Definitely - the more strings the more problems! Gut strings are very susceptible to temperature change. When it's warm, the instrument goes flat and when it's cold, the instrument goes sharp. It's the opposite for woodwind instruments. In Piva we play both at the same time - it's always a problem.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:23 pm

I do feel that Henry would have only kept the best of musicians in his household



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:24 pm

Yes Boleyn. The court musicians would have been very skilled.



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:24 pm

I was interested to learn about Henry VIII's friendship with Dioniso Memo, the Venetian organist - what was it about Dioniso that made Henry become such good friends with him?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:26 pm

We are not really sure Claire - perhaps Henry appreciated Memo's skill as a musician? But there is good evidence that they spent time together - maybe Memo tutored Henry and helped him with composing and playing?



Claire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:26 pm

Thank you!



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:27 pm

Do you think, Jane that playing period instruments throws up many challenges that musicians don't face?



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:27 pm

sorry - musicians of modern instruments



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:27 pm

Great question Ceri. Yes ... for example, do you tune to the standard A440 or something older?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:28 pm

Playing period instruments definitely throws up challenges for the musician. For example the dulcian (early bassoon) only had two keys. A modern bassoon has many keys - the reason for that is to help play the instrument in tune. A renaissance musician has to use skill and technique to get the right note.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:29 pm

Renaissance pitch was generally around A466 (a semitone higher than today). Some period groups play at this high pitch, others (like Piva) play at modern pitch.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:30 pm

Did men in general play the virginal piano thing



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:30 pm

Yes, men played virginals as well. Mark Smeaton was a virginal player for example.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:31 pm



this era of music always sounds very festive to me, I play it alot around this time of year, whether it is the way they sing, or the distinctive sound of the instruments, I;m not sure, perhaps the

combination of both, made alot of mince pies listening to itClaire Ridgway

November 20, 2015 - 11:31 pm

Why did Edward VI have so many musicians?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:32 pm

The challenge for the musician in playing historical instrument (and the pleasure) is being able to recreate the music of the period on the right instrument. Sometimes, this is difficult - but the rewards are great.



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:32 pm

When did music transition from medieval modes to modern keys, Jane?



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:32 pm

How about a psaltery?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:32 pm

Good question Claire - perhaps he was trying to show how powerful he was. It is interesting that he had more full time musicians than his father.



ifmewborn

November 20, 2015 - 11:33 pm

Jane, what do you think of Thomas Tallis as a composer?



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:33 pm

what about the actual writing of the music, is there any difference to how music is written today

2

Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:34 pm

I love Thomas Tallis! He was immensely skilled and some of his choral works are sublime. Tallis was also granted the right to publish music by Elizabeth I - it must have made him quite rich and powerful.



granny weather wax

November 20, 2015 - 11:34 pm

Jane can you tell me what people known as the Waits do, I know they are involved in music



Cris

November 20, 2015 - 11:34 pm

Is there any compilation of Henry VIII ouevres?



LadyMichelle

November 20, 2015 - 11:35 pm

Thomas Tallis was a good composer. I recently heard some of his music at St Paul's Cathedral. Wonderful stuff.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:35 pm

Music notation developed during the Tudor period. Early 16th century music is difficult to read but by the end of the 1500's, today's musician would be able to understand it.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:35 pm

Yes I agree about Tallis's work, I believe that he was a modern day mozart if that makes sence



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:36 pm

thank you



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:36 pm

Granny - the Waits were the town or civic musicians. Each town or city would employ musicians to play for processions, banquets, entertainments. London had between 8 and 12 Waits.



LadyMichelle

November 20, 2015 - 11:36 pm

@Boleyn: makes sense because he was very talented.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:37 pm

We still have a similar thing here in Spain - musicians who come out and process around during festival days. They accompany the processions of our saints on saint days. I can imagine it in Tudor times too.



jfmewborn

November 20, 2015 - 11:37 pm

Thanks Jane! I enjoy Tallis as well.



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:37 pm

I love the wild brass music you hear in Spain at festivals.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:38 pm

Yes Tim! The tradition must go back to the 16th century. I am parading with my bagpipes next weekend!



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:38 pm

They're very raw here in our village. But it's all good fun.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:38 pm

Fun!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:38 pm

Jane you can play bagpipes?



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:39 pm

Where are you parading? I wonder if our members could come and see you?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:39 pm

Yes Boleyn! The bagpipes are my favourite instrument and my speciality!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Wow, fair play to you.



olgah

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Maybe someone can record it, I love bagpipes. They're my favourite instrument (not for playing though LOL)



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Wow, fair play to you.



dolgah 🕯

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Maybe someone can record it, I love bagpipes. They're my favourite instrument (not for playing though LOL)



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

I am parading through my home town with giants! Part of the Christmas celebrations. The poem Gawain and the Green Knight was written in Staffordshire and the story took place at Christmas.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

The pipes I play are not Highland bagpipes - they're English pipes!



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Oh, that's a wonderful story. How nice to celebrate it.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:41 pm

how do the scottish and english pipes differ



olgal

November 20, 2015 - 11:41 pm

I am not sure I know the difference between English and Highland pipes Jane



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:41 pm

My bagpipes are not as loud as Highland bagpipes and they can be played with other instruments.

They are modelled on carvings and depictions of bagpipes from the 16th century.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:42 pm

Are there any existing original tudor pipes?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:42 pm

All bagpipes are the same principle - they have a bag and a pipe (Chanter) There are still over 160 different types of bagpipes still being played today.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:43 pm

is it right the bag pipes were also played in Turkey, middle east and africa



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:43 pm

I suppose once the bag is fully inflated it doesn't take much to keep it going



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:43 pm

Sadly, there are no surviving bagpipes from the period - the earliest date from the late 17th century. Although Henry owned some made of ivory, generally they were a "lower class" instrument and so have not survived.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:44 pm

You have to keep blowing most of the time!



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:44 pm

in awe of anyone who can play the pipes its a complex instrument to master



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:45 pm

I wonder if Henry ever tried to play them..Mind you he was so full of hot air he could be his own bagpipe if somebody squeezed him hard enough LOL



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:46 pm

I think all instruments have their problems. I am in awe of Anne - who plays violin in Piva. I can play most wind instruments but I am useless with strings



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:46 pm

What other instruments do you play Jane?



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm

I play recorders, shawms, dulcians, crumhorns, rauschpfiefen, bagpipes and renaissance flutes



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm

I also try to play the concertina - but not in Piva!



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm

Can you tell us about the conference you were just at? Were you performing, teaching?



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm

What is a hurdy gurdy?



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm

That's quite a range!



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:47 pm



you must have a fine set of lungs Jane Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:49 pm

A hurdy gurdy is a stringed instrument - and is best described as a "wheeled violin". Instead of drawing a bow over the strings and stopping the strings with the fingers - the hurdy gurdy has a wheel and the strings are stopped with small wooden keys. It's a fantastic instrument - Tony plays one in Piva.



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:49 pm

Thank you Jane.



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:51 pm

I have just come back from the Greenwich Early Music Exhibition. It's the largest exhibition of its kind in the world. Many instrument makers are there to display their work. When I am not playing or writing about instruments - I am making them! My husband is a skilled maker - I am the apprentice!



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:52 pm

It's good that there are still people around who can make and play the instruments of days gone by



LadyMichelle

November 20, 2015 - 11:52 pm

What a great job you have Jane. Doing what you love



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:52 pm

Do you take your instruments to fairs and festivals, Jane? I've seen people with period instruments at castles and festivals at times.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:52 pm

I can remember having a metal hurdy gurdy toy as a child, though it took no great skill to play it though. a metal box and a handle ha



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:53 pm

some of them may look a little strange in shape, but the sounds they produce are pure and simple



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:53 pm

With my group I play across the UK and in Europe too. There are a number of groups playing period instruments at heritage venues and events.



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:54 pm

Less than 10 minutes to go with the chat ... keep the questions coming in!



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:54 pm

The Victorians called a music box a hurdy gurdy - because it had a handle, just like the string instrument.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:54 pm

and do you also play modern instruments too at times



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:55 pm



No - I only play renaissance instruments (other than the concertina). I love Tudor and Renaissance music - it makes my heart sing. **Jane Moulder**

November 20, 2015 - 11:56 pm

Mind you - I love jazz, blues and folk as well

Mind you - I love jazz, blues and folk as well



Ceri C

November 20, 2015 - 11:57 pm

Do you find it easy to discover new Tudor material to add to your repertoire?



Boleyn

November 20, 2015 - 11:58 pm

Renaissance music is simple and uncomplicated Renaissance music is simple and uncomplicated



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:58 pm

You have to be a bit of a detective to find the music. There are modern publications but music is still being published for the first time. The difficulty is finding music that suits your instrument. I play lots of dance music - and that was rarely written down.



dawnh

November 20, 2015 - 11:59 pm

I havent read your piece on the site as yet, so maybe I am asking what you have already said, but what would be a few of your all time favourite pieces Jane, tough choice no doubt



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:59 pm

Tonight's winner is Bettykitten - she was on at the beginning of the chat but seems to have left now. We will be contacting her to get her details. She is the winner of one of Jane's group Piva's "Heigh Ho Holiday" CDs. Congratulations to Betty! You can find out more about Jane's CD and books here:http://www.piva.org.uk/Books and CDs Folder/Albums and Books Page.htm



Admin Tim.

November 20, 2015 - 11:59 pm

BUT ... keep chatting!



Jane Moulder

November 20, 2015 - 11:59 pm

Boleyn - some renaissance music is very complex and intricate and would have required a very high skill level. They did not have big orchestras like they do today but their harmonies and arrangements could be quite complex.



LadyMichelle

November 21, 2015 - 12:00 am

Congratulations Bettykitten, enjoy!



Ceri C

November 21, 2015 - 12:00 am

Spem in Alium springs to mind!



Ceri C

November 21, 2015 - 12:00 am

Spem in Alium springs to mind!



Jane Moulder

November 21, 2015 - 12:01 am

Absolutely Ceri. 40 parts! Wow.



dawnh

November 21, 2015 - 12:01 am

I was going to say I bet alot of the music would be from memory back then as you said notation was only developing around tudor times, now that is amazing considering how complex some of the pieces sound



Boleyn

November 21, 2015 - 12:01 am

Well done Bettykitten happy reading



Admin Tim.

November 21, 2015 - 12:01 am

Thank you Jane for your time and talk. You're free to go and relax now. The chatroom is always open so please continue to chat if you want to. Thank you everyone for coming this evening!



Claire Ridgway

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thank you so much, Jane, for doing this live chat. It's been brilliant. Really informative.



LadyMichelle

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thanks to Jane Moulder, Claire and Tim for another wonderful chat. Good night from Canada!



Claire Ridgway

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thank you everyone, it's been fun!



November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thanks Jane this has been really fascinating.



Claire Ridgway

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Night night!



Ceri C

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thanks Jane. Very interesting.



Jane Moulder

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Musicians would have certainly played by ear - their apprenticeships could last 7 years.



Jane Moulder

November 21, 2015 - 12:02 am

Goodnight everyone - thanks a lot!



Boleyn

November 21, 2015 - 12:03 am

Thank you your visit Jane, Feel free to pop into our forum and post an opinion on any post that tickles your fancy Take care and Keep safe XxxX



dawnh

November 21, 2015 - 12:03 am

such an interesting subject, thank you very much, Good night.



Jane Moulder

November 21, 2015 - 12:04 am

Thanks all so much for some interesting questions and I've really enjoyed this last hour. It's gone so quickly. I hope I was able to answer everyone.