



ROYAL HIGH SCHOOL  
BATH

G D S T  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

## Peripatetic teachers at Royal High School Bath

### Mark Bradbury



Originally from Manchester, professional percussionist and composer Mark Bradbury studied at the prestigious Chetham's School of Music for ten years from the age of eight, before continuing his studies at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama and The Royal Northern College of Music. As a percussionist, Mark has performed and collaborated with some of the most renowned musicians in the UK and abroad – The BBC Philharmonic, Liverpool Philharmonic and Western Australian Symphony Orchestras, Evelyn Glennie, James Woods and Toru Takemitsu. His work as a composer has led to much acclaim, having commissioned work for The Royal Albert Hall, The Edinburgh Festival, The Royal Exchange Theatre Company, The Theatre Royal, Bath and The Northern Dance Company. Currently Mark is working on Film and TV scores for Studios and in Los Angeles, California.

As Director of Music at The Royal High School Bath since January 2014, Mark has led the development and overseen the completion of the new Music School which has just become one of two hundred and fifty music establishments, globally recognised as a prestigious Steinway Music School. Alongside everything, Mark still manages to find time within his busy schedule to still perform and direct numerous choirs and ensembles.

### Harriet Riley

Originally from Devon, Harriet grew up in a musical household and went on to study Orchestral Percussion at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. She has experience in a range of genres from 8-piece jazz ensemble [Tezeta](#) to orchestral playing with [BBC National Orchestra of Wales](#), studying gamelan in Bali to folk duo with [Alex Garden](#). Harriet performs regularly with [Spindle Ensemble](#), a contemporary classical quartet. Their second album, *Inkling* was pressed to vinyl and released by [Hidden Notes Records](#) in 2021.

With a love of improvisation, collaboration and composition, Harriet has been freelancing in Bristol since she graduated in 2014.



### **Anna Bernard BA(hons), LTCL. Cert Arts.**

Anna teaches singing to pupils of all ages but has made a speciality of teaching teenagers. She has taught at the Royal High school since the amalgamation of Bath High school with the Royal School and taught at both those schools prior to that. Anna taught class music to A level for many years, as well as RE and PSHE, but she decided to concentrate on teaching singing only 12 years ago, as so many students wished to learn.

Anna teaches in various genres including classical, music theatre and folk. Many of her students have gone on to study singing at conservatories and some are now performing as solo artists in concert as well as in musical theatre and opera. As well as teaching solo singing, Anna also coaches the choristers at Bath Abbey and conducts several church choirs.

Prior to embarking on a teaching career, Anna sang as a soloist extensively in the southwest but she decided that a professional singing career did not blend well with raising a family and so made the decision to teach. It is a decision she has never regretted as she is passionate about enabling people to improve their voice and to enjoy the art of singing.

Apart from teaching Anna also spends time training her border collie, with whom she does agility, and she also enjoys cooking, knitting, crochet and reading - when there is the time!



### **Andy Cook**

Andy has been the guitar tutor at RHSB for 13 years and currently has a large roster of students receiving 1 on 1 tuition. He has also worked as an associate lecturer in guitar performance skills at Bath Spa University, delivering lectures on the course he used to study.

Andy has a BA(Hons) Degree in Commercial Music from Bath Spa University. Since leaving this course and alongside his teaching he has been an active musician - playing in several bands and running many successful gigs and open mic nights.

Andy is also a very in-demand live sound engineer and currently works in-house at one of Bristol's largest music venues.

Andy started teaching guitar so that he could pass on the love for the instrument that he has to younger people. Through fun, structured and individually tailored lessons, he provides a basis for a lifelong love of music. His students that wish to progress through the grade system can choose from either the Trinity Rock and Pop syllabus or the Rockschoool grades. He has a proud 100% pass rate record.



### **David Seymour**

Educated locally at Monkton Combe School, David took A levels at CCAT in Cambridge as they had an Electronic Music/Recording Studio he could spend all his time in. He was also lucky enough to have piano lessons there with Philip Mead. After that he couldn't wait to get down to London to become a rockstar!

David initially worked as keyboard player with the resident band at The Hammersmith Palais before touring with The Brotherhood of Man. After that he joined the band Imagination, going on several tours with them while at the same time working as a session keyboard player in London studios and working on Films/Adverts/Production Music and writing the music for a Channel 4 documentary series. His last work in that field was a UK tour supporting Aha.

By chance David was asked to take on a couple of young piano pupils and immediately knew that he had found the thing he felt most happy doing; he finds it fascinating how each child needs teaching in their own completely unique way and learns at different speeds and via different paths. To properly qualify David studied for and took the Royal College of Music teaching diploma as an external student.

While setting up his teaching practice and teaching at King's College, Wimbledon and St Mary's, Calne he taught myself computer programming and ended up designing the data systems for the national personnel department of British Gas, and a satellite tracking company - which was interesting (and rather well paid!) but nowhere near as rewarding as piano teaching.

David has now been very happily teaching piano for over 30 years, and is still learning new things every lesson.

### **Pam Wendzina**

Pam Wendzina studied at Newton Park Teachers Training College and her first appointment was to teach music and English in Hardenhuish School, Chippenham.

Choral singing had always been a passion, and she sang in church choirs, the Paragon singers and the Wessex Chamber Choir where she had the opportunity to be the accompanist as well.

Accompanying exams, being an official accompanist at the MidSomerset Festival and a rehearsal accompanist for vocal teachers and for many choral groups has been an important part of her musical life. S

he inaugurated the first chamber choir at the Bath Society of Young Musicians, ran 2 choirs at St Stephen's Primary school, as well as teaching piano privately at home. She was then invited to join the peripatetic and academic teams at Bath High School, which was the GDST school before the amalgamation with the Royal School. Not long after she was asked to join Kingswood school as a peripatetic and has had many years of being able to share her love for piano and singing. Teaching in schools also involve extracurricular activities and being the accompanist on school choir tours abroad was a highlight, as well as playing on the One Show with some of her colleagues and pupils.

Pam was music director/worship coordinator at Weston All Saints church in Bath, a post she held for 33 years, where her passion lay in developing youth choirs alongside the main choir as well as mentoring young musicians in leading worship. She directed various musicals there such as Godspell and Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat. Many choral songs were also composed for the church along with 2 musicals, one for children and one for all ages, which were performed at All Saints and at other local churches. She has had a couple of hymns published as part of a Bible Society competition and consequently performed around the country to introduce a new hymn book culminating with a performance in the Royal Albert Hall. She continues to conduct the Christmas choir at All Saints which gives her great joy.



## **Berry Diver**

Berry has been teaching saxophone and clarinet at the Royal High School Bath since 2012. She has a Licentiate Performance diploma from Trinity College London in Saxophone Performance and is a qualified instrumental teacher, being awarded a Certificate of Teaching from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) in 2003. She was a jazz specialist woodwind tutor on the Music degree course at Bath Spa University for six years from 2010.

Berry's played hundreds of gigs and concerts ranging from the 1st tenor seat in the GBH big band, a Latin band and fronting a jazz quartet, as well as playing in the theatre pit for numerous shows. She has enjoyed performing alongside the likes of Pee Wee Ellis, Dave O'Higgins, Mike Mower, Jason Rebello and Iain Ballamy. Berry has performed at venues such as Glastonbury festival, The Wiltshire Music Centre, Theatre Royal Bath, The Forum, Pavilion and Chapel Arts Centre in Bath, The Memorial Theatre in Frome, and the Victoria Rooms and St George's in Bristol.



### **David Kniveton**

David was born in the Isle of Man and studied flute and piano at Bath Spa University for a BA (hons) degree specialising in performing. David then went on to further flute studies with Robin Soldan at the Wells Cathedral School of Music.

For many years he was the Director of Music for the South Bristol Music Centre and conducted and coached a group of about 50 young musicians. Over 25 years he has taught the flute privately and in schools including The Royal High Senior and Prep School, Kingswood school, Monkton Combe Junior School, The Paragon and Dauntsey's.

David has enjoyed life as a freelance flute player and pianist. Highlights have included playing flute for The Armed Man in the Bath Abbey with a massed choir, musicals including Chess, The Mikado and Carousel at The Theatre Royal and operas including Carmen and Peter Grimes with the Bath Opera group.

He regularly provides music for weddings and functions in beautiful venues dotted around the Somerset area. David also works as an organist/choir master at St Luke's church, Wellsway, recently celebrating 20 years with a huge chocolate cake in the shape of a hymn book and champagne!

### **George Fradley**

Described by Julian Jacobson as "offering committed and personal playing", George is a prize winner of the Eric Hodges Beethoven Prize and at the subsequent Beethoven Intercollegiate Competition, receiving a special commendation for his performance of Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op. 109.

George has performed in numerous Music Festivals such as the Penarth Chamber Music Festival, Abergavenny Chamber Music Series, and the 'Russia17' festival with his piano trio and duo partner performing works including Rachmaninoff's first Piano Trio, 'Elegiaque' and the second Piano Suite for Two Pianos. At age 19, George gave his debut concerto performance, performing Grieg's Piano Concerto with conductor Tianyi Liu.

He has performed in many masterclasses given by eminent pianists including Jeremy Denk, Stephen Hough, and Yevgeny Sudbin.

George is also in demand as a song accompanist, regularly playing for lessons with Nuccia Focile. He has accompanied singers in the Kathleen Ferrier Competition, North London Competition, and the English Song Prize held at the Royal Academy of Music. He has accompanied masterclasses given by Angelika Kirchschrager, Toby Spence, and with Dame Sarah Connolly at Wigmore Hall.

George has recently completed his studies at the Royal Academy of Music having studied with pianists William Fong, Michael Dussek, Malcolm Martineau and Joseph Middleton, graduating with a recital diploma for an outstanding recital. Prior to his studies at the Royal Academy of Music, George was awarded the Mary Rees Scholarship to study at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama where he studied with Richard McMahon and also Benjamin Frith of the Gould Piano Trio.

### **Hannah Wilkins**

Hannah Wilkins studied the French horn at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama and at the Sibelius Academy, graduating with First Class Honours. She was subsequently awarded the Ann Driver Trust Scholarship to study for a Masters in solo performance at the Royal Northern College of Music where she won the RNCM Concerto Prize and graduated with Distinction.

Since graduating, Hannah has enjoyed a rich and varied performing career, working with a wide range of orchestras including Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Welsh National Opera, British Sinfonietta, Welsh Session Orchestra and Mozart Symphony Orchestra as well as appearing on ITV and BBC Radio 3. She has had the privilege to perform under the baton of Sir Karl Jenkins and Krzysztof Penerecki and has worked alongside Alfie Boe, CBBC's Andy Day and a number of West End stars including John Owen Jones, Connie Fisher and Kerry Ellis.

Hannah is passionate about teaching and performing and is always focused on expanding her musical career. She is currently on the teaching staff of Royal High School, Millfield School, UWE and South Gloucestershire Music Hub.

### **Emily Mullins**

Emily has played for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the BBC, the Royal Shakespeare Company, Bristol Ensemble, Orchestra of the Swan and many regional orchestras. She also plays with Bristol Ensemble's Stephanie Gilbert as part of GEMS flute and harp duo.

Emily has a BMus from Birmingham University and teaches the harp at schools including Millfield, Clifton College, Kingswood, RHSB and Downside. She has also developed story telling workshops for primary schools and outreach concerts for care homes.



## **Adrian Millard (Prep School only)**

Founder & Acting Director

Adrian studied Musical Theatre Performance at Bath Spa University. He currently teaches LAMDA Speech and Drama in schools and has been a Singing Teacher in Bath for over 15 years. He has written music and lyrics for two full length musicals: 'Frame by Frame', which became a finalist in the 1996 Vivian Ellis awards in London, and 'Houdini', about the life of the great escapologist, performed in 2002. Adrian has performed over twenty principal roles at the Theatre Royal in Bath. In 2012 he directed the hugely successful 'The Wizard of Oz' at the Theatre Royal alongside Holly Rose. Adrian has three daughters: Ava, who is currently an Assistant Producer in the West End, Sophia, who is teaching in a primary school and Ruby, who is currently studying Musical Theatre at Bird College in London.

## **Camilla Seymour**

Camilla Started the violin with Sheila Arnold and became a Junior Exhibitioner at the Royal College of Music. She continued there as an undergraduate studying with Frances Mason and Hugh Bean, graduating in Performance as well as Teaching.

She worked as a freelance violinist in London and played with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, London Contemporary Dance, as well as opera orchestras and other Chamber orchestras, and West End shows. She has done recordings for REM, Billy Bragg and a video for Rick Astley.

She has always loved teaching and has always taught alongside her freelance work. She considers it a real privilege to work with young people and loves watching the development of children not just musically but as individuals. She believes strongly that beginners should be started properly, as the violin is one of the most complex instruments to learn and poor posture and technique in the early years can have a disastrous long term effect on a player.

Camilla also teaches at Kingswood and Stonar and lives in Bath with her pianist husband and young labrador. They have three adult children and both daughters went to RHSB!

## **James Ladd (Prep School only)**

James is a professional musician and music educator with a passion for composition, improvisation and performance and likes to bring these aspects into all parts of his teaching.

He currently teaches electric and acoustic/classical guitar, bass guitar and ukulele but also plays the piano, drums and sings. James currently plays in eight different bands and composes material for four of them. He has a very eclectic music taste and currently performs in an equally eclectic group of bands; including a 12-piece Afrobeat band called 'No Go Stop' in which they are currently in the process of having their 2nd album mastered, a signed Neo Soul quintet under the name of the band leader 'Pete Josef', a 1920's Jazz band playing modern pop songs, a funk jazz quartet and a soul/blues trio in which he composes and sings all the material.

James has also done session work for 'Typesun' who is a Bristol Dance and Underground Soul music producer and DJ including performing at Maida Vale studios for the BBC, he feels this depth of experience helps him share the necessary skills for being a successful musician and it has given him a wealth of experience of playing and teaching in a vast range of styles. James has had great success



working with pupils of all ages, abilities and musical interests, SEN pupils and pupils with autism and Asperger's.

He likes to work from an approach of encouragement and inspiration, carrot rather than stick so to speak, his ultimate goal is to create a friendly relaxed atmosphere where he can facilitate a pupil's love and passion for music and their instrument, to provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary so their progress becomes self-governed and intuitive and ultimately help them to become the very best musician they can be.



### **Vanessa Hammond**

Vanessa Hammond studied oboe and piano at the Royal Academy of Music and then started her playing and teaching career. As a teacher, she has worked in schools in Bath, including The Royal School and Bath High School (before they combined) since 1990, with a break from 1997 while she taught at Berkshire schools and had her two sons, returning in 2007 to the Royal High School and five other Bath schools teaching oboe and piano and coaching ensembles.

Her other involvement with music education is with the relatively new exam board, MTB, where she is Head of Oboe, working as an examiner and syllabus writer. As a volunteer she runs a church band in her local church and often accompanies services and organises the school orchestra in her local primary school.

Her playing career has combined playing oboe and Baroque oboe ( the authentic 18th century instrument). On modern oboe she has appeared as the soloist in concertos in London at St Martin-in-the-Fields, The Purcell Room and the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and has played with chamber orchestras and ensembles. On Baroque oboe she has played with many of the Period Instrument ensembles specialising in authentic performances and this has led to taking part in concerts in The Festival Hall, London, Hong Kong, The Canary Islands, Spain, Sweden, Croatia, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Currently she mostly performs in choral concerts in the cathedrals and churches in Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester, Bath, Wales and South West England.





## **Katja Cross**

Katja graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in 2017, having studied as a scholar with cellist Nikki Thomas. During her studies, Katja was awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society Sir John Barbirolli Memorial Foundation Grant and later attained her ABRSM Teaching Diploma. Katja's studies were supported by the EMI Sound Foundation and the Finzi Trust and in her final year her piano trio won the Cardiff Violins Chamber Music Prize. Katja is now a freelance cellist based in the Southwest and teaches cello in and around Bath.

She currently works with the National Children's Orchestra, the National Schools Symphony Orchestra and has previously worked on the Benedetti Sessions. Katja has extensive performance experience as a chamber and orchestral musician, and performs with the Serenity String Duo, Rosea String Quartet, the Fradley Piano Trio and St Woolos Sinfonia. She has recorded at both Abbey Road and Real World Studios, and her ensembles have performed for a wide variety of exclusive functions and events including; the opening of the Weeping Window Poppies exhibition at the Senedd, Global networks annual Christmas function at Cardiff Museum, a high profile wedding at Lord and Lady Gallagher's manor, Sarsden House, and a feature on BBC 1's The One show.

