

Obituary

Leslie 'Tom' Tucker 1929- 2007

It is with sadness that we report the death of Tom on 28th December. Tom had been the Musical Director of Warwick Branch of SRP for more than twenty years, injecting his enthusiasm and a wonderful sense of joy and spirit into our music making. In the year 2000 major surgery prevented him from being able to continue.

His experience with recorder groups started in the early 1950's when several Primary Schools would meet together to make music. Eventually the Coventry School of Music Recorder Section was formed.

Throughout his time as a member of this teaching group, hundreds of Coventry children enjoyed learning to play the recorder on an individual basis; as a member of a group or ensemble; and also had the opportunity to compete in festivals both near and far!

When he retired from teaching he joined our weekly Monday group, an offshoot of Warwick Branch. He encouraged us to perform occasional concerts in schools and homes for the elderly. We also played for The National Trust where he and his wife were stewards. He continued to play on Mondays and with Warwick Branch until 2004 when hearing loss and ill health again overtook him.

One of Tom's proudest days occurred when the Warwick Branch recorded Paul Loeb van Zuilenburg's 'Foursome' onto CD. This is a Suite of 4 pieces on South African Themes commissioned for us by our South African Chairman. The First Movement was played as 'Music for Reflection' at Tom's funeral.

Anne Childs