

## SRP Somerset Branch

Meeting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010

Twelve intrepid players met to participate in our session of Christmas Jollity for which three talented members had prepared music to conduct.

We started with Peter Foster who ably led us through two pieces from *Suite for Five Recorders* by Anthony Holborne; they were *Pavan* and *Honie Suckle*. Then we played *La bella donna* by Verdelot.

Sheila Clement then took over the conductor's baton. First we played *Sinfonia* by G F Handel, followed by *Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern* by J S Bach, during which Judy Juggins played a solo part splendidly. Our final piece with Sheila was *Aria Pastorella* by Valentin Rathgeber.

We then broke for refreshments provided by Riki Schnorr and Jane Burdock. They produced wonderful home made mince pies and chocolate Brownies with biscuits as well. Riki decorated the refreshments area with evergreen branches and Christmasy twinkling tea lights – it looked so festive and cheered up a rather dark winter's afternoon. We returned to our playing much fortified.

Mary Green was next to conduct. First with *In natali Domini*, then *Von Himmel hoch*, both by Praetorius. This was followed by *In dulci júbilo I* and *II*. We completed Mary's section with four carols from *Carols in Concert* arranged by Gordon Hitchcock: they were *The Infant King*; *Awake and Join*; *Silent Night*; *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*.

In good heart we rounded off our afternoon's playing with Peter. He conducted *O Magnum Mysterium (Prima Pars)* by Clement non Papa and finally Byrd's *In Nomine*.

We packed away our instruments at 4.30 and emerged to wend our way homewards amongst the merry throng of Christmas shoppers leaving Taunton.

Felicity Kimpton  
13.12.10