

*SRP Meeting February 15 2014*

This meeting took place at the Nag's Head since our usual venue was unavailable. It's not the most satisfactory of meeting places but under the circumstances may well have been advantageous since Ruishton has had some flooding problems.

Despite the inclement weather over Friday night into Saturday there was a good attendance – 18 players and of course Joyce who was our conductor at short notice.

She never lets us down and provided some appropriately 'themed' music given everyone's pre-occupation with the current weather.

We began with the first part of Handel's Water Music suite no. 2 which proved quite challenging at the first sight reading but after a bit of practice of the trickier parts we made a better fist of it and it sounded much better.

One of our members, Riki Schnorr, has been composing some pieces of music which she based on Indian Rags; after some explanation about the differences between Indian music styles and our more familiar European we played 3 of them. They were technically not difficult but getting the timing and tempo presented a slight problem initially; but once we got the feel of the way it should sound we all enjoyed playing something different and so locally 'sourced' – thanks very much Riki!

Back to a more familiar feel we then played Elgar's Chanson de Matin which was well managed by the group and very enjoyable once we returned to it refreshed after tea and chat. Sadly this was not the 'scrummy cake-laden' event we usually enjoy, due to the restrictions imposed by the pub regulations about food service but nevertheless a welcome break.

We then gave JohnTaverner's Western Wynde an airing – another reference to our current weather predicament.

Finally, since we still had a little time left we returned to the Water Music suite no. 2 by Handel and played the Alla Hornpipe and Bouree.

An excellent meeting which I'm sure we all enjoyed; well worth turning out in such wet and windy conditions. Thanks Joyce

Sue Walker