

Northumbria Suite (Steve Marshall) was a super start and I for one would like to play it again! We then voted for what to play next and I thought the *Taiwanese Folk songs* (Tentaland) would be suitable as my daughter is currently residing there, although Steve reckoned that once you've played one, they're all the same. We finished the first half with a lovely arrangement of Anne Marshall's of Tomkins *I am the Redeemer*. Lovely tea and cakes sent me on my way, so Wendy took over with the scribing!

After tea: '*O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem*' - Arranged Ann Marshall. The original piece had no bar lines. The trebles start off the piece which has a 'fugue' feel to it and once we had got to grips with the key signature we made a good attempt at it then we played '*I know that my Redeemer Liveth*'. Written in the 16th century and scored for SATB. We had to watch out for the change in key signature from 2 flats to 2 sharps. This was a really lovely piece which we coped well with.

We then had a complete change of period, moving to the big band era of the 1940's, and also a change of mood with the Jazz piece '*Harlem Nocturne*' by Earle Hagen. This was also scored for SATB and it was essential for the feel of the piece to really swing the quavers. Having said this, there were one or two bars where it was indicated that the quavers should be played straight which did throw us a bit to begin with. We played along to Steve's backing track which is always great fun, and as the tempo was slow we managed to keep up fairly well.

Coming right up to the present, we finished with two pieces taken from Ann Marshall's '*Four walks around Town*' starting with '*Exploring the Formal Gardens*' which had an elegant Baroque feel to it. We then worked on the slower piece '*A stroll through the Glen*' which, as its name suggests, had a Scottish feel. We tried to play this as legato as possible and we coped well, on the whole, with the Db major section in the middle.

Thanks again Steve and everyone will be looking forward to your post Christmas visit.