

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2015

With Christmas and New Year firmly behind us we welcomed Julia McKinley to Ruishton. To play us in – we haven't met since our playing day in November – Julia gave us **Michael East's** *No Haste but Good*. An apt title – it was a fairly leisurely piece and we played it pretty well! Following this we had a hang-back to Christmas, playing **James Carey's** *Christmas Suite*. Again, this was fairly straightforward and the group gave a good rendition.

The Julia tempted us with some **William Byrd**, namely *Sing Joyfully*, so, smiling whilst we played, we played joyfully. Prior to tea we played one of **Steve Marshall's** 4 Seasons – *Spring* being the appropriate choice, in the hope that the weather would soon improve. Tea was splendidly prepared by Miriam and Mary (F), and as usual we were spoilt for choice with the cakes!

After the tea break we continued with a different **Steve Marshall** arrangement – this time the piece which was probably the first to appear in the magazine centre spread – *Pavan from Mr. Allerton's booke of Musicke*. We have mostly played it before, and some of the branch were very familiar with it as they have studied it in their smaller group, so it was successfully played. After this we played the current latest offering from the centre pages of the magazine - **Sue Handscombe's** version of *Blow the wind Southerly*. It was well arranged with interest for all parts. The penultimate piece was *Proceed sweet charmer of the* arranged by **Phillip Harkan**. It was rather low on the low instruments and the basses did get a bit fed up with the repetition! The final work took us to a jazzy ear with a great arrangement of **Coel Porter's** *Let's do it*, which concluded a lovely afternoon of playing under Julia's baton. Thank you for all your efforts and instructions (especially on how to reach the high notes!) Julia.