

Saturday 17th November

20 present + Joyce

We started with 2 pieces from Handel's Water Music which were pleasant and jolly pieces to play as a warm up.

These were followed by Guilio Bentivoglio's Ave Varum, edited by Skip Pearly, in 3 parts – treble, tenor and bass, to be played 'lento' and 'dolce'.

Next came Mendelssohn's Andante which was in 6/8 with lots of accidentals which tested our sight reading!! It was in 4 parts: descant/treble, tenors 1 and 2, and bass. His 'fuga finale 6th organ sonata' had some very high notes but we were instructed that 'lesser mortals' could play the lower notes!! (A blessing or an insult?!)

After our now-to-be-expected delicious tea, provided by Judy and Felicity (many thanks), we were given the Tyneside Suite-Northumberland folk song arranged by Paul Clark. Against Joyce's better judgement we elected to play no. 1 Bonny Tyneside and realised that, of course, she had been right so moved on to no. 3 The water of Tyne.

As it was our last meeting before Christmas we spent the last half hour playing some Carols and, after what had clearly been a successful morning's workshop on conducting led by Joyce, Judy was brave enough to conduct 2 of them very proficiently. Well done both!!