

A beautiful day dawned, and Pete bought some beautiful music for us to play at Somerset SRP. An excellent number of members came to the afternoon's playing, unfortunately I was only there for the first half, so thanks to Wendy for writing the second half of the report.

We began with – inappropriately – **Phillip Evry's** arrangement of *Singing in the rain*. We have played this before, but it's always good fun, and is a super arrangement. Following this we played 2 movements of a piece written especially for Pete by his friend, **Raymond Dodd**. The 2 movements were taken from his *Suite for 4 recorders*. This is a really lovely piece, which I think would work just as well in a one-to-a-part group. Before the tea and lovely cakes served by Julia and Jill we played **Pepusch's** *Sonata á 6*. Again – a really good piece as Pepusch probably wrote the original for recorders or flutes, and this was expertly arranged by David Grosvenor. The only problem was that the top line kept changing from descant to alto – but some players had to sit and listen – but the bass line became two, and there were insufficient basses. Anyone for bass lessons???

Report – SRP Pete Willis after break

Gabrielli - *Canzon IX* In eight parts. Arranged by Dennis Bamforth. Taken at a fairly brisk pace. There was a tendency to overblow in places and it took a while to master the time changes from 3/4 to 4/4. The timing was quite difficult in the last 4 bars. We did not play the piece through at the end.

Bach – *Fugues 1 & 2* from “8 little preludes or Fugues” SATB. Arranged by David Grosvenor. As is always the case with Bach there were some tricky bits in both pieces. The second fugue had a little more to it and by this stage we were getting the hang of the fugue style. The emphasis was on keeping the pieces ‘light’ and again not overblowing especially on higher notes.

Vincent Youmans - *Tea for Two* SAATTBB. A complete change from the last three pieces. This was a ‘fun’ piece in which we aimed for a relaxed and jaunty feel. Care was needed with the triplets and with the timing in other places but we played this one well.

Boyce – *Symphony No. 4* 1st and 3rd Movements SATB. As it was getting towards the end of the session we only had time to play these through. Despite the fact we were sight reading we gave a good performance.

Many thanks to Pete for a lovely afternoon of playing, and I hope that he and Jane can return to Ruishton soon.