

Saturday 19th April 2014

Pete Willis

Pete always brings not only his wife, Jane, but also a lovely selection of music, and a good sense of humour. We began with **Telemann's** *4 Friday Pieces*, cleverly arranged by the late Paul Clark. Pete did apologise for being a day late, but we enjoyed the music despite this! The branch as a whole elected to bring the centrepiece from the magazine to the following rehearsal, which some duly did. This time it was *Dune Tune*, by **David Moses**. It had a very haunting feel to it, and worked very well on recorders – Pete said it sounded a lot better than he had anticipated, so we played it a couple more times to prove his point.

We followed this by playing and arrangement of **Handel's** *Concerto Grosso in F*, a piece which some of us remembered playing quite recently, but in a different arrangement. There were some tricky sections, but it was fun to play. Either side of tea we looked at *Summertime*, by **Gershwin** and arranged by Charles Cody. This was a really lovely arrangement, working very well on our instruments, so definitely worth looking for more of Charles' arrangements.

Tea was wonderfully provided by Diana and Felicity – Diana's date slice is worth a visit to Somerset for at any time!

After the Gershwin we played a piece written especially for recorders, **Andrew Charlton's** *Royal Flush*, although we weren't sure if this referred to plumbing or cards. A lovely piece, whatever the reference was, and we followed this with another Paul Clark arrangement: *Ode and symphony for Queen Mary's Birthday* by **Purcell**. Another beautiful piece, which incorporated the use of the big basses as well as Sopranino – perhaps a little too shrill for our hall.

We concluded the afternoon on a more mellow note, playing a madrigal by **Willbye**, the very beautiful *Stay Corydon*. A lovely afternoon of playing, and despite being Easter Saturday, a goodly number were present to enjoy Pete's selection of music. Thank you again Pete – and Jane – and we hope to see you again soon.