

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016

Julia McKinley

We began a lovey afternoon of playing with a fairly straightforward but appropriate piece for the time of year, **Morley's** *Now is the Month of Maying*. This gave us a good chance to warm up and attempt to play in tune!

Staying on an English note, we then played **Gibbon's** *Fantasia 2*, a lovely and intricate piece of music. Julia encouraged us to count carefully and set a good tempo.

We then split into 2 choirs and moved to an Irish composer, Charles Villiers **Stanford**, and played his *Coelos ascendit hodie*. This had some very challenging sections but it was lovely to play a 2 choir piece written in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and Julia guided us through it with great expertise.

Before tea we returned to the usual format, and played a piece arranged by a friend of Julia's, **Mark Kenny**. This was an arrangement of *Scarborough Fair*, which worked very well on the recorders available.

Tea was served by Diana and Angela, and was, as usual, delicious! After tea it was a return to childhood with an arrangement of **Loesser's** *The Ugly Duckling*. This was fun to play and employed the larger instruments, and a bit of memory searching for the words. More 'memory lane' music followed with another arrangement by **Mark Kenny**, this time of Glen Miller favourites. Some very difficult rhythms and arrangements of notes, but we had a noble attempt. We also had to play 'guess the tune'!

We concluded the afternoon with an arrangement of *29<sup>th</sup> May* by **Paul Clark**, the tune being better known as *All things Bright and Beautiful*. This being a recorder work by Paul Clark was lovely to play - not too tricky to end the afternoon on, but at the same time, interesting. It had been written for a visit by Paul to the Dorset branch in 1999.

Many thanks again Julia for your patience, excellent choice of music and the usual 'hot tips', and we look forward to seeing you in 2017.