

22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2011

Sylvia Davies

We welcomed Sylvia to conduct Somerset SRP again after an absence of a couple of years, and had a lovely afternoon of varied music and patient leadership. WE began the afternoon with **William Byrd's** *Laudate Dominum*, Sylvia talking us through the tricky sections and the translation from Latin, so that we could 'perform' the work with a degree of accuracy. Following this we moved into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, and played some of the movements of **Staeps Sieben Flötentanze**, short movements based on different types of flute, including one made from the tibia bone. Interesting concept! We then broke for a lovely tea, provided by Elsa and Gabrielle – and what delicious cakes Gabrielle's Grandson had made. After the break we worked at an arrangement by Helen Hooker of one of **Dvorak's Slavonic Dances**, a well known piece in an interesting arrangement for recorders. This piece had been commissioned for the SRP festival of 2004 in Winchester. I hope that *Gorged on Cheddar* will be an equal success and played by SRPs many years after the 2011 festival. We concluded the afternoon with a run through of **Andrew Charlton's Bouquet of Fancies**, well known 16<sup>th</sup> century melodies in a modern arrangement. Thank you, Sylvia, for a very enjoyable afternoon and I hope that you return to Ruishton shortly.