

## **Branch Secretary's Report for the 2014-2015 Season**

The Branch had 42 members, 4 more than the previous season (9 new members one returned member and 6 non-renewals).

We met on 34 Monday evenings from September to June for combined playing. One-to-a-part groups met in each other's houses.

On 27 October we welcomed Neil Eckford, conductor of the Glasgow Branch, as a visiting conductor.

The Branch's annual playing day took place on 1 November at St Columba's by the Castle Church hall. This year's pastoral visitor was Andrew Melville, composer and assistant conductor of the London Recorder Orchestra. Twenty-nine players took part and we welcomed visitors from other SRP branches, the Scottish Recorder Orchestra, and the Edinburgh Adult Education Evening Class.

Our Christmas Evening was on Monday 15 December, when we played to an audience of family and friends. The conductors from the Branch were Michael Graham and Peter Wraith, and we were joined by members of the Edinburgh Adult Education Evening Class conducted by Marg Hall. The collection raised £192 which was divided equally between the Rock Trust and Médecins Sans Frontières.

On 19 January we hosted a joint meeting of the Edinburgh Branch and the Edinburgh Adult Education Evening Class conducted by Marg Hall and Michael Graham.

The Edinburgh Branch held its last meeting in Augustine United Church Studio on Monday 26 January, having met there since 1971, and held its first meeting in the Lower Hall of the Cluny Centre, on 2 February.

On Saturday 14 February the branch hosted an SRP Canzona workshop led by Philip Thorby in Augustine United Church Sanctuary. The event was a great success with fifty-one players attending from Scotland, the north of England and even as far south as Surrey.

The National Recorder Festival took place on 18/19 April at Wolverhampton Grammar School. Eileen Finlayson was the Edinburgh Branch delegate at the National Conference on 19 April. The full minutes, reports and accounts of the Conference can be found at <http://www.srp.org.uk/annual-conference/>

Members attended a Tudor workshop led by Moira Usher in Durham on 24 January and Playing Days in Eccles, Berwickshire on 7 February, Glasgow on 6 June and Newcastle on 20 June.

Our Summer Evening was on Monday 15 June when we played to an audience of family and friends in the Lower Hall of the Cluny Centre. The conductors from the Branch were Michael Graham and Peter Wraith, and we were joined by members of the Edinburgh Adult Education Evening Class conducted by Marg Hall. The collection raised £173 for St Columba's Hospice.

We are grateful to Michael and Peter, for all their hard work, patience and good humour in conducting the branch during the 2014-2015 season.

Eileen Finlayson  
January 2016