

Flutes at the Barns

Course Administrator, 30 Whitecroft, St Albans, Herts AL1 1UU UNITED KINGDOM

Tel: +44 (0) 1727 765511 Mob: + 44 (0) 7976 613750

E-mail: flutecourse@pipeblower.com Web: www.pipeblower.com

Diary of Autumn 2007

Written by Gordon, Lesley, Jill, Richard and Louise, abridged by Zoë

Thursday 22nd November

The beginning of the end... this is the last FATB at Somerset Court Barns (*sigh*). However, FATB lives on! I shall miss coming here playing flute. Thursday is when everyone descends on Wick St Lawrence - no international participants this time. At 19:30 on the dot Jacci turned up with tea, following which we had a quick blast on our flutes. Afterwards the wine ...

Friday 23rd November

Following breakfast full of choices all disperse before big meet at 10 am. Some of us go for quick brisk walk down Muddy Lane; beautiful morning though v. cold. Entertaining warmup session with Zoë, as always, who kept us going until coffee-break and those lovely 'goodies' appeared – no difficulty saying 'no.' Re-convene and some more fun until lunch and more delights (grabbed another little walk to ease conscience and stomach!

Evening: after the usual sumptuous spread hilarity reigned. A little calm followed enabling some suitable music to be played for an evening – Zoë's arrangement of the Moonlight Sonata (sharps after a glass of wine!) and Grandmama tells a Ghost Story. We then retired suitably exhausted after a superb day!

Saturday 24th November

It's now 10.30 pm on Saturday, so all the fantastic sessions of the past two days blur a bit. Notable moments remembered are class for "Freedom in your playing" improvising a note or two under the cover of everyone else doing the same – a first for me. Also stretching my sight reading skills to the limit in the duet and flute choir. A varied concert this evening – just maybe I'll volunteer for tomorrow – very sympathetic audience! [Yes I did, another first!]

Sunday 25th November

I just noticed the diary as I was leaving – what a good day we have had; the concert went well as usual! Goodbye Somerset!