



Farewell to Gesine Stegmann Gesine remembers the day 25 years ago when the then Director of Music at Wells Richard Hickman phoned his opposite number at Monkton Combe School where she was teaching to ask if they had a flute teacher who would be suitable to fill a gap that had unexpectedly arisen. Arriving with a warm recommendation, she has remained on the staff here ever since, under no fewer than five Directors of Music!

Gesine is a wonderful teacher who is able to inspire students at all levels. She says that one of the most rewarding aspects of her job has been to work with pupils who may have been at an elementary stage and sometimes quite shy when they started, and to help them gradually grow in musical and personal maturity until they finally blossom into confident and assured performers. She has always encouraged them to play with each other as well, and she remembers

the arrangement of Mozart's Magic Flute Overture for about 12 flutes as a particular highlight.

Born in Spain and brought up in Berlin, Gesine speaks some five languages and loves all areas of European culture (another reason why she has particularly appreciated Wells). She is excited to be returning to Berlin, which she remembers before the wall came down, and to be teaching at a music school there, as well as joining chamber orchestras with colleagues with whom she has kept in touch over many years. We will miss her greatly at Wells, but wish her every success as she returns to her musical roots in Germany.