

July 14th 2007

Joyce Rudall

Well, today was one of those days when I felt like chief cook and bottle washer! Our date had changed, due to the village having their 'day' in the hall the following week, and it was close to the summer recess, so there were a lot of absentees. Having collected the key I anticipated putting out all of the chairs, but luckily one of the visitors did that for me, leaving me only the tables and advertising. Then I thought I'd have to collect the money, but again, luckily, Ann volunteered for that one. I also thought that I would be conducting half of the afternoon, but it turned out that I was doing it all! So, on with the music. A select group turned up and we began with some easy *Bransles* by **Gervaise**. Having been lulled into a false sense of security we then tackled the beautiful *Lagrime di san Pietro* by **Lasso** –tricky with such small numbers, but a fairly successful rendition was reached. Following that we attempted – quite successfully – the arrangement of **Handel's** *Water Music* (allegro) by David Grosvenor which we had played at the srp national conference in York earlier in the year- this time with only 12 participants instead of the previous 300! A couple of quick *Bransles* and time for tea, provided by Mary as an emergency stop gap! After the tea break we played **Gaspar Sanz's** *Spanish Airs and Dances* – which were very well played by the group and very well received. We followed these with a *Choral* by **Caesar Franck**, in honour of it being Bastille Day, but Norman thought it was too sad, so we turned our copies over and played **Widor's** *Andante Cantabile*. 3 minutes left allowing us to play a couple of very quick *Bransles*, so finishing the afternoon on a happy note. Just the tidying up and returning the key to do!

No meeting next month (August), but the AGM will be held at the start of the meeting in September, and I look forward to a good number of people there on that occasion (with their cheque books, ready to rejoin/join the group).