

Saturday 21st June

Pete Willis.

Unbelievably, Mid Summers' Day! As someone commented at the end of the meeting (5 o'clock) it's nearly dark! But before that there was some lovely music to be played. Pete opened the afternoon with some lively but fairly straightforward Bransles and Canzonas from **Praetorius' *Terpsichore***. We followed this with a lesson in staccato and stopping abruptly (and correctly) at the end of the notes – **Britten's *Scherzo***. The time and mood indication prompted some discussion – look it up for yourself if you missed the gist of it! Prior to tea (lovely banana cake provided by Ann and Felicity) we played ***Canzon Quinta* by Rovigo**. This provided an astonishing amount of work, but we gave a credible performance at the end. After the aforementioned tea we played **Paul Clark's** version of **Mancini's *Moon River***. This is a lovely arrangement for 6 parts, including 2 bass parts, which both have plenty of exercise! We then split – with a certain amount of difficulty – into 2 choirs and played **Gabrielli's *Canzon 28*** (How many did he write?). This was rather lovely, even though the basses were now doing mental exercises – up an octave in the treble clef - so we turned over and played **Bramieri's *Canzon La Foccarà***. This was very interesting as it used the actual melody of a Gabrielli Canzon that we have played in the past. However, it was a super version (for 8) and a lovely end to a lovely afternoon. Thank you Pete – we really do enjoy your visits.