

Society of Recorder Players - Edinburgh Branch

Annual Report - Year to 30th Sept. 1973.

As usual, our year started off with a visit to Kelso On the first Sunday in October, when some members of the Branch, joined in playing with members from Newcastle, Glasgow and Roxburghshire Branches. The weather, as usual kind to us, the beautiful surroundings of Ednam House and the excellent food combined to make the occasion an enjoyable one. This annual fixture gets the new season off to a good start.

After the Annual General Meeting, we got down to serious work in preparation for Christmas. This special Evening was slightly different in that it was a joint programme with the women's groups in the church. There was a good audience of members' friends and other church members.

The spring and summer terms were devoted to working at more Gervaise Dances from Book 3. and a Canzone for 8 recorders by Grossi da Viadana - a work introduced to us at Kelso, also more of Mr. Gillett's Bartok arrangements. These were included in the Summer Evening Programme on 19th June when we were also glad to welcome contributions from Miss Whitby's Further Education Class.

Membership has been down this year, but what the branch lacked in numbers, we hope was made up in quality.

Mention should also be made of our performance in St. Giles Cathedral. This has become almost an annual event. Unfortunately the date - usually August, means that many of our members are unable to take part because of holidays.

We continue to be indebted to our Musical Director whose infinite patience must often wear a bit thin. Elsewhere he has referred to our love-hate relationship with the work of Bartok, but we are always quite pleased to have his arrangements of that and many other composers. While we regret that we have to forego his leadership frequently, we do appreciate the opportunities he has for making these arrangements while travelling about the world by plane or by train about Her Majesty's business.