

Saturday 15th June 2013 Julia Mackinley

We always look forward to an afternoon of playing with Julia as she is always very kind to the branch, but also sneak in some important/interesting playing points. Today was no exception – we began the afternoon with a fairly straightforward piece, **La Mourisque**, by *Susato*, a raunchy mediaeval dance. This was well arraigned by mutual friend, John, and even included a great bass part. We moved forward in time very slightly to another excellent arrangement of *Morley's Now is the Month of Maying*. WE worked hard at some of the tricky sections – there were some interesting quaver runs in all parts, and finally performed it with 3 willing singers – Louise, Vivienne and Sheila. The vocal parts added something to the piece and made it come alive. Following this we attempted 2 pieces written by *Paul Clark* - firstly **Norfolk Notebooks**, written especially for Norfolk's 40th anniversary – (we have our own special piece in waiting for our 40th birthday in October). We had played the earlier movements on Julia's previous visit, and this time played the atmospheric – *Lost Lady Found* – which made us think of the Norfolk Fens shrouded in fog, followed by *Broom* – a much livelier movement, and finally *Foggy Foggy Dew* – again a superb arrangement by the expert, Paul. After this we looked at 29th May, written this time for Dorset Branch. We interrupted our performance of this for a superb tea hosted by Helen and Miriam (wonderful date cake!!!). After tea we resumed the 29th May (a few days late!), following this with a play through of **Feld Parthie** by *Joseph Haydn*, which seemed to be enjoyed by most of the group. Our final piece was a complete change of mood – another arrangement by John Kitcher – *Ain't misbehavin'* originally by **Fats' Waller**. This was fun to play and managed to utilize both the contra and the great bass. Antoehr lovely afternoon, thank you Julia, and hopefully you'll come again in 2014 with another lovely selection of music.