

Saturday 19th September 2009

It is difficult to write the report on the meeting if you are also the conductor, but after the excitement of the AGM I forgot to ask a disinterested party to do the onerous task, so here I am, slaving away at my computer at 10 o'clock at night! Briefly, then, we opened the meeting with 2 fairly straightforward dances by Praetorius – *La Volta* and *Ronde 4*. During these we worked on 3 key issues which affected the afternoon – lightness of quaver passages, dynamics, and spotting a common theme, later the canzon theme. We followed this with **Steve Marshall's** *Pavan from Mr. Allerton's book of musick*, as published in an earlier edition of the Recorder Magazine. Successful playing so far, only to improve with **Maschera's** quite challenging *Canzon Quarta*. This was followed by tea, amply provided by Ann. We continued in the 16th century with **Christopher Tye's** 2 *Quintets*. Again there were plenty of motifs to spot and opportunity to practice those quaver passages. Moving into the 20th century we attempted 3 pieces from **Alan Davis's** *Storybook*. These were great fun to play and in places challenged the players to play thoughtfully. Finally we played **Paul Clark's** arrangement of *Blow the wind Southerly*. This left us on a cheerful note and looking forward to our playing day with Caroline Jones next month.