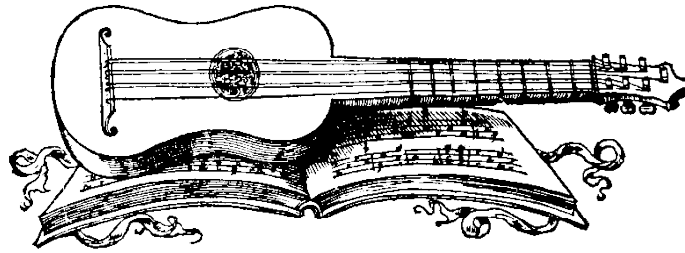


# Dorset Guitar Society

Newsletter



Oct 2007

## Dorset Guitar Orchestra - Concert

The largest audience for many years 'packed' the Kinson Community Hall on September 22 to hear the annual concert by the Guitar Orchestra, together with solos and duets from experienced performers. Directed by **Stephen Kenyon**, rehearsals had been going on for the best part of the past eight months, with sixteen members of the society making up the final orchestra on the night.

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With the four orchestra pieces book ending the two halves of the programme, the concert kicked off with a lively version on **Mozart's Serenade No 6 K. 239**. I can only comment on how it seemed from deep within the orchestra, but the rhythms and balance between the parts seemed nicely balanced, and there was a real feeling of 'nailing' all three movements. The quartet element of the Menuetto was particularly pleasing, and all credit to those players 'exposed' at the centre of this piece. The applause at the end seemed to suggest that the audience felt as positive about the outcome as those of us playing.

The second orchestra piece was **Debussy's Reverie**. Again, from

within the mix, the piece seemed to gel well, with some strong playing from within all parts.

After the break, **Rodrigo's Zarabanda Lejana** presented an interesting contrast, as the music presents echos of an older Spain. Rodrigo described the atmosphere that he sought to re-create- "The old sarabande is heard hidden amongst the dense lattice work cutting the Gordian knot, enveloped in a cloud of muted sounds". I'm not sure what it felt like from the audience's perspective, but those of us trying to create the 'muted sounds' hopefully produced the right impression.

The orchestra finished with **Edinburgh Quartet** by **Chris**

**Kilvington**. Stephen introduced the piece by noting that Chris' early death in 1999 had prompted him to want to present this piece in time for the 10th anniversary of Chris' passing. However, it seemed right to do it early, this year. A good call - an innovative (and challenging piece), which worked extremely well.

Between these pieces we had **Andrew Khan** presenting Brouwer's 'Un Dia de Noviembre and Perambuco's 'Rebolico'. **Matthew Rowe** performed 'Impromptus', an atonal piece by Richard Bennet, and Turina's 'Soleares' followed by **Maurice Albin** who featured another Turina piece - 'Fandanguillo'.

The second half featured **John Edwards** and **Chris Gillson** performing Bach (Prelude and Fugue II, and Echo), followed by a solo performance from John, featuring four pieces from Almeida, Ponce, de Falla and Villa -Lobos. Needless to say, all the solo and duet performances were excellent and contributed immensely to create the loud applause at the end of the evening.

Overall, a successful evening, enjoyed by the large audience and performers alike.

## OCTOBER MEETING

**Grant Bocking** has been invited to conduct the October meeting with a composition that he wrote for the DGS called '**Ashley Hall**'. Grant was the DGS conductor for several years until 2000. His experience in music is wide and varied and he has recently retired as Head of Music at Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne. He was also an adjudicator for The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and regularly travelled to Hong Kong to adjudicate. Grant is an experienced conductor of large orchestras, including brass and school orchestras.

Grant is always great fun to work with and I am very much looking forward to the meeting.

**Margaret**

### ASHLEY HALL

The Hall is approached by a long Carriageway much of which is shaded by noble trees, but the drive is designed to give occasional glimpses of the house as it winds its way across the park.

The West Front is mostly eighteenth century, with some more modern additions. The symmetrical façade is divided into three bays by four wide columns, sculptured in relief, the central two of which support the triangular pediment set above the main door.

The West Front was built under the supervision of the then owner - Adam Ashley - whose monogram liberally decorates the otherwise plain brickwork between the stately windows.

The formal gardens include several Fountains which feed the ponds, dappling the surface of the water and gently distorting the reflections they capture. Throughout the gardens are classical Statues, like antique dancers frozen in time.

The Long Gallery is set aside as a Picture Gallery. There are six noteworthy pictures:

**The Fourth Lord Ashley (1504-62)** is shown standing in front of the original Hall, which was later to become the South Wing of the redesigned building. Included in the painting is a lute, which presumably he played.

**The Three Elder Sons of the Eighth Lord Ashley (1632-79)** were home briefly from their boarding school in London when the portrait was begun in 1665, but they and seven of their

contemporaries at the school died of the plague a few weeks later. The portrait was never finished.

**The Eldest Son of Adam Ashley (1727-1803)** was painted on his return from the Grand Tour in 1780, after visiting Paris, Vienna and Prague.

**Henrietta**, the great-aunt of the current owner, was painted in 1897. Then just seventeen she is seen on a swing in the grounds of the Hall, in a long white dress with a wide-brimmed hat and holding an elegant parasol.

Henrietta's youngest brother, Tom, is shown here in a pencil sketch from 1917. Dressed in uniform he was just about to return from his week's leave (of which he had spent two days partying with friends in London.) He was killed in action three days after returning to his regiment.

### Federation of Guitar Societies website

If you would like to access the Federation of Guitar Societies discussion area, the website user name and password is available from Margaret. Please use the discussion area to inform others of anything you are doing, and any music you are using, saying whether you had pleasure from playing it, and what level of skill is needed to play it. Do have a look and make a contribution at [www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk](http://www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk)

## September Meeting

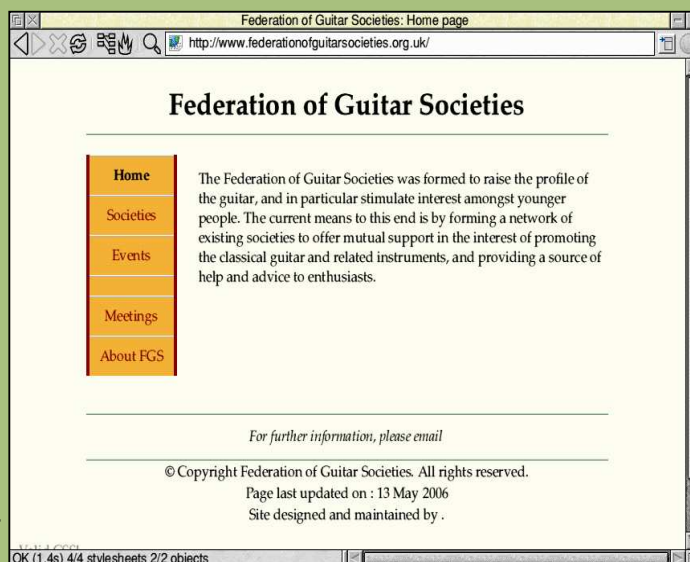
The September meeting was given over entirely to rehearsals for the Sept. 22 concert, with all four pieces being worked over in detail. By the end there was a feeling of confidence which would hopefully extend to the concert itself.

Solo performances in preparation for the Sept concert were given by **John** - Homenaje (Manuel de Falla) and Valsa-Choro (Villa-Lobos, **Andy** - Un Dia de Noviembre (Brouwevr) and Rebolico (Pernambuco), and **Matthew** - Impromptus No. 1 and 5 (Bennett)

NB: From the October meeting please note that we move to the afternoon timings - see back page.

Patrick Ashley, the present owner of the House, had considerable success as a musician in the 60's, working for some time with a pop-group in Liverpool. He later became a merchant banker in London.

It is worth noting how certain facial characteristics are discernible in all these members of the family, across four and a half centuries.



## Nicolas Papin Recital – Saturday 3 November



violin solo by J.S. Bach, Sonata for guitar by M. Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Sonata for guitar by A. Ourkouzounov, Kyparissos by N. Koshkin, Aquarelle (2nd and 3rd movements) by S. Assad

where he was unanimously chosen for first laureate. He was studying under Roland Dyens. He has taken part in “master classes” and training sessions throughout the world, working with internationally renowned performers such as Ricardo Gallen, Oscar Gighlia, Shin-Ichi Fukuda, Elena Papandreou, Sergio and Odair Assad, Tania Chagnot or Alvaro Pierri.

**T**ickets for the Nicolas Papin recital will be on sale at the October meeting. They will be just £8 (children free). Posters will also be available at the meeting and will be sent to you as a pdf. Please try to support the recital and bring as many people with you as you did for our members’ concert last month. Nicolas will be playing a varied and interesting programme as shown below.

### Programme

Fantasia by G. Huwet, Suite Valenciana by V. Asencio, Adagio and Fugue from 1st Sonata for

### Biography

Nicolas Papin began his musical studies at the Ecole Nationale de Musique d’Angoulême, with Pierre Masella, where he graduated at the age of 17. He studied at the Conservatoire National de Région de Bordeaux, where he was awarded the city’s Medal of Honor in 2002 in Olivier Chassain’s class (Olivier Chassain teaches at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris).

In February 2004 Nicolas entered the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris

He is very much involved in chamber music and has been for some years regularly performing in various groups including duos and trios etc, with flute, violin, voice, viols and percussion. In 2006 Nicolas won 1st prize at the Ivor Mairants International Guitar Award in London and also first prizes at the International Awards of Fontenay-sous-Bois and Bourg-Madame. Nicolas is currently living in Caceres, Spain to do a master’s in guitar and musical interpretation with Ricardo Gallen.

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## Gary Ryan Recital - Dorchester United Church, September 8th

**I**t seems to be the usual way of beginning a review of a guitar recital these days, to lament the size of the audience, which sadly was the case with this one—the latest of the Dorchester International Guitar Series— but those that were present were treated to an incredibly fine display of musical and technical virtuosity.

The programme covered a very wide range of repertoire beginning with **Mudarra and Dowland** - two very different Renaissance Fantasias, and continued with a most secure performance of the Prelude and Fugato from **Bach’s**

BWV 995, continuing —via Giuliani’s Grande Overture— almost to the present day with a rare and very fine interpretation of **Bruce MacCombies** “Nightshade Rounds”. Also in the programme were two sets of Gary’s own compositions, which were highly enjoyable, and exploited a very wide range of imaginatively used guitar colours and special effects— Junglescape was the piece that most people seemed to be talking about during the interval, but later, the Wildwest Suite, which concluded, was equally enjoyable and intriguing. An enthusiastic audience

clamoured for an encore, which was **Piazzola’s** Verano Porteno. Don’t miss hearing Gary Ryan if you get the chance, and for future concerts, Dorchester’s United Church seems to me to be an ideal space in which to hear our instrument to its best advantage.

**John Edwards**



**We meet at: Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson, BH10 7LH**  
**Registered Charity No. 1101122**

### Committee Members

<b>Terry Robinson - Chairman</b>	<b>01305 834 774</b>	<b>terrydgs@fsmail.net</b>
<b>Stephen Kenyon - Musical Director</b>	<b>01305 257 099</b>	<b>sbk@jacaranda-music.com</b>
<b>Margaret Tredwell - Secretary</b>	<b>01425 613 739</b>	<b>secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk</b>
<b>Bill Eggleston - Treasurer</b>	<b>01202 824 066</b>	
<b>Chris Gillson and Valerie Evans</b>		

Member of **The Federation of Guitar Societies** [www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk](http://www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk) &  
CADArts [www.cadarts.com](http://www.cadarts.com)

### Future Meetings and Diary Dates

21 October	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	17 February	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
18 November	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	16 March	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm
16 December	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	20 April	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm
20 January (08)	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	18 May	5.45 pm - 9.30 pm

#### **Sat. 20 October - Doors open 7.30 p.m. Music from 8.00 p.m Bluesnight at Dorchester Arts Centre**

Portugal-based guitarist, singer and songwriter John Pearson continues the tradition of the early country blues players who are his inspiration. [www.johnpearsonblues.com](http://www.johnpearsonblues.com)  
Box-Office: 01305 266926  
Price: £10.50 advance/£11.50 door; half-price children and students with NUS card

#### **3 November: 7.30 pm. Classical Guitar Recital at Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson, Bournemouth BH10 7LH. Nicolas Papin**

(winner of the 2006 Ivor Mairants award).  
Music by: G. Huwet, V. Asencio, J.S Bach, M Castelnuovo-Tedesco, N Koshkin and S Assad. Tickets from the Dorset Guitar Society 0145 613739 or on the door [www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk](http://www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk)

#### **30 November - 2 December - Classical Guitar Weekend (Urchfont Manor, Wiltshire)**

With **Raymond Burley** and **Max Croasdale**.  
A weekend designed for classical guitarists of all standards except absolute beginners. The course concentrates on all forms of emsemble playing - guitar orcehstra, quartets, trios and duos.  
01380 840495 or [urchfontmanor@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:urchfontmanor@wiltshire.gov.uk) for more details

#### **1 December: Dorset's first Community Music Conference, Chantmarle, Dorset.**

An opportunity to meet other music-makers from across the county, and to hear/learn/share more about community music from a wide range of leading local, regional and national figures. More information at:  
[www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=371588](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=371588)

#### **Second Sunday of the Month (usually)**

CODA Acoustic Night, CODA Music Trust  
An opportunity to build experience in public playing in an informal, friendly setting. All acoustic instruments welcome.

Call 01305 257099 to confirm

### A thought from Valerie

What an inspiring article in the last newsletter from Margaret about Guitarstrophe. Wish I'd been able to go! If we could only make some extra money for DGS perhaps we could afford to hire the hall twice a month with or without a conductor. Perhaps an aspiring person from our own to have a go? You never know what it may lead to.

At the moment if we miss a meeting that's two months without any input for some of us. It would be lovely if we could produce at least two members concerts a year. It always seems a long time to be practising individual parts (often not very interesting on their own) for just one performance.

**Valerie.**

(Any views on Valerie's suggestion welcome)

### Editors bit ....

Thanks to Margaret and John for sending in so much material for the Oct. newsletter - I appreciate it. So, a plea to one and all - **PLEASE** send me items for the Nov. newsletter as soon as possible after the next meeting - Ideally by e-mail to:  
**Stuart@nundy.fsworld.co.uk**

Many thanks, Stuart