



Dorset Guitar  
Society

# Newsletter

Issue 32

June 2015

[www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk](http://www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk)

[www.youtube.com/user/DorsetGuitarSociety](http://www.youtube.com/user/DorsetGuitarSociety)

## Sad loss of loyal member and valued Treasurer



For those of you who don't yet know, Bill sadly passed away on Tuesday 19th May 2015. He had been suffering from flu, which had developed into pneumonia, causing added complications to an already present lung condition. He had requested that DGS perform at his funeral which was held on June 3rd in Fordingbridge. Thanks to those DGS members that put together an ensemble at short notice and performed at the celebration of life service. Special thanks to Bob for taking over the organisation in the absence of other committee members.

I certainly enjoyed getting to know Bill over the last 3 years and he certainly had a positive effect on the success of the society under his reign of treasurer, 2005-2015. He successfully managed to promote us with village halls and provide us with performance opportunities which in turn raised much needed funds for DGS. He is sure to be missed. The next page from his service is reprinted with permission.

Bill was born 5 August 1936 in Exmouth, Devon. His parents were currently living in India, however his mother returned to England pending his birth. His Parents returned to India November 1936 where Bill spent his first 11 years growing up.

In 1947, he moved with his parents and older sister (June) to live on a houseboat called 'Gillaroo', moored in the 'cut' which was based in Athlone on the River Shannon (Ireland) for 12 months and then taken up river where they were moored at Jamestown Key, during this time he completed his schooling at Portora, Enniskillen. On leaving school, he went to Sandhurst and then University, on completing his degree, he remained in the army serving in the Royal Engineers until retirement at aged 55.

Bill met Diana at a Dinner party in 1964 where he had got the wrong date, he was meant to attend a different dinner party given by the same couple a week later!

During one particular Regimental function a few months later, and after consuming a decent amount of alcohol, he found the courage to propose, and Diana, of course, accepted.

They were married on 29 May 1965 at St Paul's Church, Camberley, with the reception held in a Marquee in the gardens at Diana's family home Kincaig.

Sadly, Bill died 10 days short of their golden wedding anniversary. He would have been the 4th generation on his family side to have reached 50 years. The family however, plan to celebrate in style with a suitable celebration in the summer.

After university, he continued with his career in the army eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Engineers.

His early career saw him with postings to Washington Dc, and Singapore where Lisa was born in 1968. Wendy, Ally and Chris followed at regular intervals.

His mid career saw him move the family to Australia for 3 years for an attachment to the Diplomatic Corps in Canberra. He also served with distinction on a number of postings in the UK including several tours of Northern Ireland during the troubles in the early 1970's. Retired from the army aged 55, he set himself up in business as a Quality Consultant working for O&K in Germany for 5 years.

Bill was a keen skier, and during the latter part of his army career, he worked closely on extreme weather equipment designs with Sir Ranulph Fiennes. During his earlier years, he was a keen rugby, golf, hockey and cricket player and during his more recent years, moved over to become a keen supporter of rugby, cricket, golf and snooker (to name but a few!)

Bill has 6 grandchildren whom he adored spending time with. He also leaves behind his much loved sister, June, who lives in Florida.

In retirement, he enjoyed playing the guitar in the Dorset Guitar Society and was also a Trustee at the Hub community centre in Verwood, which is where we will meet after the celebration of life service for something to eat and drink and to remember a true gentleman who will be very much missed.

The following I have copied from an earlier newsletter ( Feb 2013) where we found out about different committee members- this was Bill's report

**T**here's a good chance that I can legitimately claim to have first picked up a guitar longer ago than anyone else in the society. 1952, I think it was, which is going on 61 years ago. I was at school in Enniskillen in the wild west of Northern Ireland, when an American boy from Virginia arrived for a term, complete with guitar and books of Hank Williams and Burl Ives songs. I enjoyed listening to him sing and joining in as well; and when it came to watching the accompaniments he played, well, they didn't seem that complicated. By the time he left the school, I could play the three chord trick in at least four basic keys, with occasional excursions into the relative minors. By the time skiffle became popular in the latter half of the fifties, I had joined the army and was ready to join others on washboard and tea-chest base, pounding out songs like 'Railroad Bill', 'My old man's a dustman' and other Lonnie Donnegan favourites.

It was at the military college at Schrivenham, reading for a degree in Civil Engineering, that I met up with a pianist, and a saxophone player both mad keen on traditional jazz, and was invited to bring my guitar along for a session. You will appreciate the icy chill that ran down my spine when the cry went up, 'take it away in 3 flats!' A year later, and after a close encounter with, what would nowadays be called repetitive strain injury, I had reasonably mastered the six string barre, and, with the help of a home built amplifier, could provide a decent accompaniment to a range of traditional jazz tunes. We even made a bit of pocket money at local hops.

And that's how it stayed until the late '60s when, now married and with a young daughter, I found myself on an unaccompanied tour in North East Thailand, on an engineering project building an airfield and a road. It was there that it finally dawned on me that I wasn't going to make any real progress unless I could learn to read music, and, with the help of Ivor Mairant's tutor, I took my first steps down that road. Through the '70s and '80s, when circumstances allowed, I used the Grade 3 and Grade 5 exams as a structure to make some progress, and joined the Berkshire Guitar Society for the chance to play with others and to be sociable.

Bill Eggleston

## New repertoire for the coming months

**W**ith various performances taking place over the last couple of months, I thought it would be useful to list what we will be working on at the next meeting.

Autumn Leaves( Grant has parts for this)

Syncopated clock

Spirit of Lough Foyle

Chanson de Chasseurs and Petites Litanies

Dvorak March -Serenade Op.44- downloadable from [here](#) Note code is G0026 op.44

## Lorenzo Micheli Recital

Here was yet another wonderful, world-class recitalist playing for our enjoyment in Bournemouth. I am sure we would all wish to share this enjoyment with a much wider audience, but alas, as usual attendees were pretty thin on the ground. Many thanks, however, to all those who did support this event and Lorenzo Micheli certainly deserves a much bigger audience for a program such as this, which contained much that was unfamiliar, even to those long in the tooth where the guitar is concerned.

Apart from three single movement Paganini Sonatas that were wisely substituted for a work by Jolivet, the program was mostly from the guitar's 20<sup>th</sup> century repertoire, with the music of Castelnuovo-Tedesco much in evidence, namely a selection from his Caprichos de Goya (inspired by paintings of the artist) and the Rondo op 129. C-T was a very prolific composer, and his music is always colourful and melodic, not at all difficult to assimilate on first hearing, but he was also very learned, and frequently used contrapuntal devices, such as counterpoint, fugue and often quodlibet, to great effect. His contribution to our repertoire is highly significant, and we are very fortunate to have it. Two other very fine works in the program were



the Suite Mistica by Victor Asencio, composed for Andres Segovia, and Tansman's Hommage to Chopin. I can't recall having heard either before, and neither can I imagine a better introduction to them.

Having jokingly apologised for his American accent, Lorenzo introduced each work with a few well-chosen words, and then proceeded to perform them with outstanding fluency. Certainly, there were plenty of technical fireworks where required, but also a wonderful singing legato—a particularly Italian quality?—plus a rich and well projected sound.

A single encore brought the playing side of the evening to a close, followed by our now customary glass of wine and nibbles, and an excellent opportunity to meet the artist.

John Edwards

## Notice of upcoming AGM

Please be advised that we will hold the 2015 AGM at the start of this month's meeting. Rather than using some of the rehearsal time, we will hold the AGM at

**5pm on the 21st June**

with the usual meeting commencing at the usual time of 5.30pm



### AGENDA

- 1. Apologies*
- 2. Matters Arising from Previous meeting*
- 3. Chairman's Report*
- 4. Appointment of new Treasurer*
- 6. Any Other Business*

## West Sussex Guitar Club Friendly

Saturday May 30th 2015

On Saturday 30th May 2015, 10 playing members plus Grant travelled over to Bognor Regis to enjoy an evening with the West Sussex Guitar Club. The evening began with Peter Nuttall leading players from both DGS and WSGC through his 'Curious Cat'- this piece went down well and served as a good ice breaker. We then continued by performing our short programme of Irish

Melody, Vivaldi for 2 mandolins, Grant's arrangement of the Pavane and finally Joropo. We had many positive comments about our playing and about the high standard that can be achieved with

so few rehearsals! We then adjourned for a fantastic array of food provided by the WSGC side. We



The tantalising trio??



The Quintessential Quartet??



DGS Duo performing La Vie Breve

had ample time to meet and chat with fellow players while enjoying a glass of wine with our food. The rest of the evening was then left for performances from both sides beginning with the WSGC ensemble, then various trios and duets until the evening drew to a close with some solo performances. Well done to Maurice, Martin, Peter N, Roger, Em, James, John, Bob, Sue and Paul for attending and supporting the society at this event. There is already talk of a repeat- Sasha is such a great host but perhaps it's our turn to organise and invite them to us for next year?



*"A big thank you to those who went to Bognor on Saturday – members who played (orchestra and solo-ists) did our image a great deal of good. Well done !"*

*Grant*

*Please send our regards and congratulations to all the "Dorsetians" who took part and contributed to such an enjoyable evening. ...do think of names for your small ensembles!*

*Sasha at WSGC*



Peter leading the joint ensemble through his piece



The DGS orchestra in full swing

## Provisional concert dates

**W**e have been asked to perform at 2 venues towards the end of 2015 and of course we have our annual DGS autumn concert in October.

Please put these dates in your diary

Sunday **18th October 2015**

DGS Autumn concert Kinson Community Centre 3pm

Note this is the usual monthly meeting date so we will likely have a rehearsal the week before on the 11th October in preparation

Sunday **22nd November 2015**

Wateraid charity concert Wimborne afternoon

Saturday **7th November 2015**

Red cross charity concert New Milton 7.30pm

## Name for our orchestra

The committee thinks that it would be good for the orchestra to have a separate identity from the society. Up until now I believe we have always been known as the Dorset Guitar Orchestra but we are after suggestions as to other names for our ensemble.

Grant has suggested *Concordia*- the orchestra of the Dorset Guitar Society

Any thoughts or other ideas Please do share them with us!

## DGS at Lantern Church Merley

On Sunday 26th April we performed in a fundraising concert at Lantern Church, Merley. We had a small but very appreciative audience who really enjoyed our programme. The acoustics of the church were excellent and added to both the quality of our sound and our confidence!

Clips from this concert can be seen [here](#) and [here](#)

Thanks to everyone who took part



Antigoni Goni

WEST DEAN  
COLLEGE



### The 23rd West Dean International Classical Guitar Festival

16-22nd August 2015

West Dean College, Nr Chichester, West  
Sussex, PO18 0QZ

[www.westdean.org.uk](http://www.westdean.org.uk) or 0844 4994408



Vincent Lindsey-Clark

### Concerts:

Los Angeles Guitar Quartet	Sat Aug 16th 8pm	£15
Antigoni Goni	Mon Aug 18th 8pm	£12
Craig Ogden	Tues Aug 19th	£12
Primavira Chamber Ensemble with guest- Cobie Smit	Wed 20th 8pm	£12
Guitar Open Day	Sunday Aug 17th 11.30am -7pm	£10

Special Offer- Season Ticket- all 4 concerts plus the open day £50

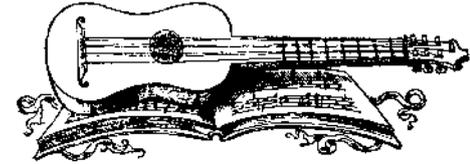


## Forthcoming events

Sunday 21st June 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting and AGM</b> 5.00pm-9.00pm
Sunday 19th July 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting</b> 5.30pm-9.00pm
Sunday 16th August 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting</b> 5.30pm-9.00pm
Sunday 20th September 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting</b> 5.30pm-9.00pm
Sunday 11th October 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting</b> 2pm-5.30pm
Sunday 18th October 2015	<b>DGS AUTUMN CONCERT</b>
Saturday 7th November 2015	DGS performing for Red Cross in New Milton 7.30pm
Sunday 15th November 2015	<b>DGS Monthly Meeting</b> 2pm-5.30pm



If you know you will not be at the next meeting please let Sue know in advance. Thanks  
[Sue.chick@delta-plastics.com](mailto:Sue.chick@delta-plastics.com)



### Meeting Times March- September

Hall open from 5.15pm

Ensemble rehearsal begins 5.30pm

Conclusion of Meeting 9.00pm

John Edwards	Chairman	01202 293917	joved45@yahoo.co.uk
Grant Bocking-	Musical Director		
Paul Thomas-	Secretary	01425 511682	
	Treasurer		

Please send any newsworthy items for next month's newsletter to me by email to [secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk)

Thank you,

Paul

