



Dorset Guitar Society

Newsletter

Issue 41

July 2017

www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk

www.youtube.com/user/DorsetGuitarSociety

Recent DGS Events

A lot has happened over the last few months and the society has been lucky enough to have had plenty of performance opportunities. Our recent run of performances started back in February where we performed in Blandford Methodist Church. Unfortunately audience numbers weren't too high but we received positive feedback from those in attendance. Photos from this event can be found in the previous DGS newsletter. Our next concert was at St Mary Magdalene Church in New Milton on 25th March 2017. This venue had a lovely acoustic and was enjoyable to play in but unfortunately we performed to another meagre audience, nevertheless I think we performed well and made the most of the lovely venue.

Our final concert took us to Boldre on the 1st April. This time we were pleased to play to a larger audience and I think our performance benefitted from the previous 2 concerts. As well as giving us all a welcome outlet for our playing, these concerts enabled us to raise a small sum towards our funds as well as the funds of linked Churches.

DGS at WSGC

On Sunday May 14th a number of us travelled to Bognor, for I think, our third meet-up at the Regis School of Music and as in previous years, Sasha Levtov was our very genial host and master of ceremonies.

Proceedings began with a read through by everybody of Peter Nuttall's Bizarre bazaar, conducted by the composer himself. This sounded pretty good the first time I thought, but as Peter gradually put us through our paces, it was clear that it could be even better, and soon it was really starting to come up to performance standard, and was much enjoyed by our small audience. During coffee Sasha asked me if I played studies? I was not entirely sure what he was getting at but it soon became clear that he thinks it very important that study pieces are an important ingredient in a guitarist's development, and who could disagree with this! Only thing was not many of us DGS people were prepared to perform at such short notice, nevertheless a representative



selection was forthcoming, composers represented being mainly Sor and Carcassi, but our secretary Paul, bravely contributed Villa-Lobos Etude 1—at a breath-taking pace!

Next it was the turn of guitar orchestras, and under Grant's conducting we played our Corelli concerto, Grant's lovely setting of Autumn Leaves and La Paloma, all went pretty well I thought.

WSGC set contained a selection of well executed pieces including Palladio by Karl Jenkins. I particularly enjoyed the Gaspar Sanz set of pieces expanded from their modest beginnings as short pieces for baroque guitar.



After a wonderful buffet lunch both societies alternated between contributions, which included a wide variety of items starting with larger ensembles and working down through quartets, through duos and finally solos. During a lengthy session we heard some good performances amongst which were Weiss' Tombeau, Albeniz' Granada—Maurice and myself, Paul and James Tico Tico, James soloed with Dyens and Maurice and Roger—Bach's Sheep May Safely Graze, and much more besides--- Sorry if I have left anyone out.

After a welcome tea break, it was Peter's turn again, this time to take us through his Farewell to Kentraugh, and since time was pressing there was only time for a couple of plays through, but we were all very warmed up at this stage and its performance sounded--- to my ears-- pretty secure. Wine and photos followed, and from them it looks pretty obvious that we had all had a great day full of inspiration and guitar camaraderie. Huge thanks are due to Sasha and WSGC for such wonderful hospitality, also thanks to Galina for being so diligent with photography during the whole day.



Here's to next year, when I hope we can reciprocate with a similar event in Bournemouth.

John Edwards



New Members

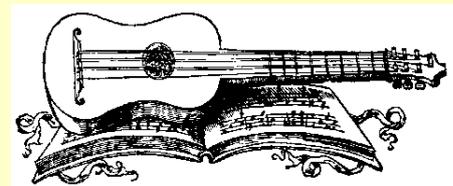
An official welcome to the following guitarists that have joined us over the last few months

- Junior Member **Bethany Cooper** from Lymington
- Pauline Wain** from Keyhaven
- Peter Cole** from Ringwood
- Geoff Roberts** from Seaton

We hope you have many enjoyable times with the society.

Extra meeting

Owing to the performance at Hurst Castle on the 16th September, we have added an extra rehearsal in on the 10th September 2017 at the usual summer times of 4.45pm-8.30pm



Society Invited to Perform at Castle

We have been approached by the organisers at Hurst Castle to provide a programme of music for a concert and meal on Saturday 16th September 2017. This is a unique opportunity for us and I think the first DGS concert involving a ferry!



Farewell to Peter Collinson



Last month we said farewell to member and treasurer Peter who as well as being a valued member of the orchestra has also looked after the Society's funds over the last few years. Peter has decided to move on to pastures new and we wish him well for the future and thank him for leaving the Society's funds in a healthy position.

We now welcome James O'Neil on to the committee and to the role of treasurer. James has been a very confident and important playing member for some years and we thank him for stepping up to this role and look forward to working with him to make the best of our limited funds.



Federation of Guitar Societies Playing Day and AGM 25th June 2017



In addition to all our other activities this year, above outlined by Paul, we were also hosts for this year's FGS day and enjoyed the company of seven other societies from as far afield as Cambridge, totalling more than 72 players of various levels. Our committee had decided on two set pieces for rehearsal and performance—Dvorak's Serenade op 44 in Andrew Forest's excellent arrangement and Nikita Koshkin's Moin Moin (Latvian dialect for Hello—I believe!?)

Much thought, a flurry of emails, and a pub get together were all required to work out how best to prepare for the event, and considering none of us, I think, had any experience of such a thing our preparations paid off well, as demonstrated by several nice emails received the day after. I think we

Lunch catering worked out well, with plenty of variety of good food from Waitrose and it certainly did not look like anyone was going hungry! During the lunch break we had the AGM with Ray leading the proceedings. My recollection is that everything remains in place for the following year and with Cambridge to host next years event.



In the afternoon each society played a short program , with a really good standard of preparation and performance evident, and after tea the Dvorak and Koshkin were played through and I think, much of the mornings detail was well-remembered, also well- received by a very small and select audience, now hugely outnumbered by the orchestra !

After photos, and goodbyes to new friends, it seemed as if the day had passed too quickly, and I had the crazy thought that with our newly -found organisational skills perhaps we should do it all again soon !!——but maybe not? Once again a huge thank you to all our members who contributed to the outstanding success of this day, but especially to Paul, who as our secretary shouldered so much of the burden of dealing with, and helping to resolve so many of the issues arising in the run up to the event. Video, comments and more photos can be found on the DGS website. **John**



Future Diary Dates

Sunday 20th August 2017

Monthly meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Sunday 10th September 2017

Monthly meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Saturday 16th September 2017

DGS performing at Hurst Castle
Arrive at Keyhaven for ferry 5pm

Sunday 17th September 2017

Monthly meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Sunday 15th October 2017

Monthly meeting 1.30pm-5.15pm

Sunday 19th November 2017

Monthly meeting 1.30pm-5.15pm

Sunday 17th December 2017

Monthly meeting 1.30pm-5.15pm

Meeting Times

October- March

Hall open from

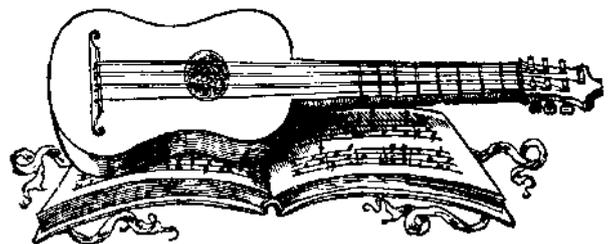
4.45pm

Ensemble
rehearsal begins

5.00pm

Conclusion of
Meeting

8.30pm



If you know you will not be at the next meeting please let Sue know in advance.

Thanks

Sue.chick@delta-plastics.com

John Edwards	Chairman	01202 293917	joved45@yahoo.co.uk
Grant Bocking-	Musical Director	kathy@grantbocking@gmail.com	
Paul Thomas-	Secretary	01425 511682	
James O'Neil	Treasurer	Jameso100@hotmail.com	

Please send any newsworthy items for next month's newsletter to me by email to secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk

Thank you,
Paul

