

Registered Charity No. 1101122

Dorset Guitar
Society

Newsletter

Issue 17

November 2013

www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk

www.youtube.com/user/DorsetGuitarSociety

DGS at St Andrews-Kinson

Here's a few photos from our performance at St Andrews. If you haven't already—click [here](#) to see our Vivaldi performance and click [here](#) to see our performance of Grant's Spanish Suite.



The Orchestra in full swing



Sue, Bob and Margaret



John and Chris



Andy with his Milonga



Paul and James performing Polka



Maurice performing Usher Waltz

Views from the Arm Chair

Amanda Cook played for us back in September, and I think I can speak for all present that this was definitely an artistic success, and a highly enjoyable concert (as usual, it would have been nice if the audience could have been larger) Nick, Bill, Paul, James, Martin and myself—hope I haven't missed anyone—manhandled, with some difficulty, the dias from its cupboard at Pelhams, erected it, and decorated it with flowers, a nice touch as it helped with the creation of a more intimate occasion, completed by Amanda's warm stage personality.

The programme itself contained a good deal of music, much of which could have been claimed as 'first Bournemouth Performance'. Fortunately it was all in a tonal style, and although challenging at times, was given a very persuasive voice by the artist's impeccable playing, and excellent musicianship. Amongst these new items by Vincent Lindsey Clark, R Dyens, D Bogdanovic, Steven Goss and William Lovelady, were old favourites by Tarrega—Capricho Arabe and Gran Vals, the evening starting with three pieces by Dowland, played as stylishly as one could expect on the modern guitar.

Very effective was the inclusion of Courante Royale by Weiss, inserted amongst the contemporary works in the second half. Weiss seemed to grow even more in stature alongside the moderns.

Steven Goss' Marylebone Elegy—Elgarian in style—is a tribute to the late Richard Hand, who I knew personally, and was movingly performed.

Amanda finished the evening with an encore—a short Peruvian Danza—new to me—but played with great musicality and a good deal of verve.

I was glad to see a number of CDs being purchased in the interval and at the end of the evening. Apparently Amanda is playing in Southampton early next year—Catch her if you can!

Our own concert on Sunday 27th of October also went off very well, I think we can all agree that the new venue—St Andrews Community hall—pretty well ticked all the necessary boxes, and we got a warm reception from our smallish audience. I for one, felt that Laideronnette went better than I had dared to hope, and I look forward to rehearsing it again, and performing it—eventually maybe, with some of the other movements from Ravel's Mother Goose Suite?

One of the highlights was definitely James and Paul's Vivaldi Concerto with its lively outer movements and

moving middle one—really well done you two. I am sure we are all looking forward to playing and hearing it again soon.

I hope members found my MC efforts helpful and worth doing. I always prefer to speak to an audience off-the-cuff, even though it may be a bit ramshackle at times. The business of arranging chairs bothered me a bit, and I was glad Grant was on hand, but perhaps we shouldn't expect our Music-Director to do this?

Individually, we need also to work a bit on our audience etiquette—if that is what it is called? Although the orchestra acknowledged the applause in the manner required, I think that some of us, need to think a bit more about this. It doesn't need a grand manner, deep bowing or such, just taking a little more time, looking at the audience, preferably with a smile, and enjoying the well-deserved applause for your efforts. Although one's feeling can often be that one could have done better, it is important not to rush off too quickly. The chances are that if we have prepared well, and not chosen pieces that are too difficult, the audience will have enjoyed our efforts, so one should acknowledge that. I include this observation because it was commented on by at least one listener.

One other thing that I have observed that I think we are all getting better at is observing and damping of resonances at rests, and avoiding over-ringing, and strange harmonics at the end of pieces—I think we owe this to Grant's reminders, however something that always bothers me, and it is very apparent when listening back to recording, is the amount of finger scrapes and squeaks. I know these can be very difficult to stop, but if we have a choice how to finger a passage, there is often a low-squeak fingering available if one takes the trouble to find it. The best example I can think of is passages involving octaves, as in the last movement of the Vivaldi. If these are fingered consecutively on strings 4 and 1, it is very difficult to avoid extraneous noise. Octaves especially, often sound much cleaner on strings 3 and 1, or a combination of the two avoiding unnecessary changes of position.

Finally a note for the diary, we have Hago booked in for next March and possibly the Amadeus Duo for the following month. I am hoping we may be able to use the Shelley Theatre in Southbourne as a venue for the former. At present it is being renovated, but the theatre itself has a decent size stage, good acoustics, and, wait for it!—very comfortable seats.

John Edwards

When two societies become one...



meets



In response to my latest email I have had positive responses from lots of members- thank you. We so far have 10 members who are interested in making the trip to Bognor for the evening- if we could make it 12 then we would have 3 guitars to each part which is a reasonable number.

Obviously the more the merrier so if you haven't already, could you please let me know if you would be interested in meeting with West Sussex Guitar Club on either Sat 3rd May or Sat 24th May 2014.

Thanks

Paul

October Concert Pieces



Thanks go to the following for performing at the last meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pieces</u>	<u>Composer</u>
Andy	Yesterday Milonga	arr. Tackemitsu Cardoso
Sue, Bob & Margaret	O Waly Waly & Greensleeves	Trad
Paul & James	Polka	Gotz

Arrangements for the next concert

Our next performance will be at the **Church Hall in Wimborne on Sun 24th November at 3pm.** Timings will be the same as our St Andrews performance with a rehearsal at 1pm. The post code for the venue is BH21 1HT.

It would be good to have an up to date photo of us for the new website so the plan is to take a few before the concert starts on the 24th.

Forthcoming Concerts...



Dorset Guitar Society
Charity reg no. 1101122

16 guitars in concert
under their conductor Grant Bocking



music by
Vivaldi, Ravel, Grieg and more

Sunday 24 November
Concert starts at 3 pm

Arranged by WaterAid Dorset Support Group

In support of
WaterAid

WaterAid transforms lives by improving access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation in the world's poorest communities. We work with partners and influence decision-makers to maximise our impact.

WaterAid registered charity numbers 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland)

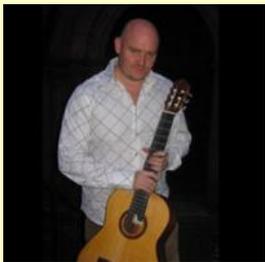
Church Hall
Wimborne
BH21 1HT

Tickets £10 [under 16: £5]
include tea, cake & biscuits

To book seats
ring 01202 884176
or visit wateraid-dorsetsupport.org



Graham Devine



Graham Devine has been a laureate of many international competitions, including the Mottola International Guitar Competition in Italy, the

Certamen Francisco Tárrega in Benicasim, Spain, and the Stotsenberg International Guitar Competition in the United States.

Graham is playing for West Sussex Guitar Club on **Saturday 23rd November at 7.30pm** For more details [click here](#) or call 01243 866462

To hear Graham playing [click here](#)

Amanda Cook & Claire Williams Guitar and Harpsichord

Amanda and Claire will be performing for Southampton Guitar Society on



Saturday 25th January 2014 at the Point in Eastleigh.

More details can be found [here](#)

To hear Amanda playing [click here](#)

Future Diary Dates

Meeting- Sunday 17th November 2pm-5.30pm

Sunday 24th November 2013 at 3pm
DGS 'on tour' concert for WaterAid in Wimborne



Christmas themed meeting- Sunday 15th December
2pm-5.30pm



Sunday 19th January 2014 at 3pm
DGS 'on tour' Concert at Melbury Osmond Village
hall.

Meeting Times October–March

Hall open from 2pm

Ensemble rehearsal begins **2.15pm**

Conclusion of Meeting 5.30pm

*All meetings are held at Kinson
Community Centre, Pelhams Park,
Bournemouth, BH10 7LH*

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		
Paul Thomas-	Secretary	01425 614277	
Bill Eggleston-	Treasurer	01425 650076	

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

Thank you,

Paul

