



Dorset Guitar
Society

Newsletter



Issue 42

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www.dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk

www.youtube.com/user/DorsetGuitarSociety

Society Performs at Hurst Castle



On the afternoon of Saturday 16th September 2017, a number of DGS members arrived at Keyhaven Yacht Club, which was the rendezvous for our ferry crossing to the Castle. Once all assembled, the ferry took us on the 10 minute ride across the back water to the castle. We then had a short walk through the castle grounds to the Garrison Theatre where we were to perform. The room, originally a converted Victorian gun emplacement was converted by the troops themselves to form a WWII performance space and was host to many performances aimed to boost morale. Among them was a performance by Betty Hockey and the Nonstops in 1944. The Nonstops performed over 1000 song, dance and comedy shows across the New Forest during the war years. After many years of neglect, the theatre has been renovated by the Friends of Hurst Castle and once again provides a useable performance space for events. There a small stage at the far end, which was a perfect fit for our ensemble. We were able to have a good run through of the programme and the acoustics were surprisingly good.

At around 6.30pm the ferry returned once again to the castle but this time with around 70 people to form our audience for the concert. We performed well, especially given the fact we were a few members down and there was a fair bit of last minute part swapping in order to cover parts. During the interval, the audience ate their picnic supper while we were provided with food and drink in another of the castle's rooms.

The concert concluded shortly before 9pm, giving us time to pack away guitars and stands and then head to the ferry along with the audience for the return crossing. It was a unique

opportunity for us to perform in such a space and one which I'm sure we would all like to repeat one day if given the opportunity.

Thanks to Nick Tredwell for filming the event— clips can be seen on our YouTube channel. Also very grateful thanks to Barry Fudge and the rest of the Friends of Hurst Castle team for inviting us and for adding a substantial amount to the Society's funds.

CD Review

Irina Kulikova CD—Reminiscences of Russia

Having enjoyed a superb recital by Irina Kulikova presented by Southampton Classical Guitar Society in October, the obligatory purchase of a CD followed. I chose this particular one because of my family connection to things Russian and also, for a change, its complete lack of Hispanic overtones. Nothing against Hispanic overtones of course! This CD has become my favourite guitar listening since then and the works performed are substantial—the longest at nine minutes-- and all by Russian composers who have strong connections to the guitar and write very idiomatically for it, but seemingly without using the sort of clichés that tie it to its regular repertoire. The 'Old Lime Tree', 'Swan Princess' and 'Dedication to the Russian Land' are amongst the strongest and are really fine pieces, superbly played with wonderful tone, phrasing and dynamics. Virtuosity is strongly in evidence too, and the penultimate track 'Flying Dutchman' towards its end catches ones breath, and really does fly! 'Dedication to the Russian Land' beautifully conjures up the endless landscapes of that country.

Within the Russian idiom there is a great variety of music here, and it is so refreshing to realize that the guitar does not have to be permanently tied its traditional image. I find this CD completely satisfying and recommend it to DGS members without any reservation.

John Edwards

Junior Member Bethany scoops top prize in West Sussex Guitar Festival

Congratulations to Bethany for coming 1st in the 3 classes she entered in the West Sussex Guitar Festival. The two day event was held in the Regis Recital Hall, Bognor (home to the WSGC) on Saturday 4th November 2017. Bethany performed in the Bach Class playing Bourree from lute suite in E minor, Technical perfection class playing Carcassi Study no7 and in the Junior Recital Class performing Sound of Bells— Pernambuco, Xoda de Baiana by Dilermando Reis & Lauro's Valse no.2 The Festival was this year adjudicated by Gary Ryan



AGM and Christmas Meeting Sunday 17th December

Grant would like to rehearse the 'Slovak Folk song' and 'Farandole' on Sunday. There will also be one or two other pieces but copies will be given out.



A small part of the meeting will also be given to our long overdue AGM and as it's our last meeting before Christmas please bring along a small food offering to make the break time tastier! (Musical offerings also very welcome- it would be great to hear more members playing solos, duos etc... at our meetings)

If you are unable to attend the meeting on Sunday- we hope you have a Merry Christmas and wishing you many hours of enjoyable playing with the society in 2018!



Congratulations to James Mascord

Back in October, James Mascord came and gave us a performance of his ATCL diploma repertoire as he was preparing for the exam which was last month. I am very pleased to report that he did very well achieving distinction for his recital. He wanted me to pass on his thanks to the Society for giving him the opportunity to perform and for the feedback that we gave him.

Society Performs at Chairman's Reception

On Friday 17th November 2017, a number of DGS members met at Colehill Parish Hall for our performance at the Chairman's Reception. Many thanks to Bob Foss for setting up this engagement for the society. There were around 100 invited guests at the event and DGS provided half an hour of music with most pieces being drawn from our current 2017 repertoire. We received some very positive comments about our playing and it was another valuable opportunity for us to spread the word of the society.

Following the concert, Grant and Bob met with the editor of the Wimborne Stour & Avon Magazine with a view to getting something published about the Society. Our efforts on the night were rewarded with £100 for the society's funds. Many thanks to all involved.



Future Diary Dates

Sunday 17th December 2017
AGM and Christmas Meeting
1.30pm-5.15pm

Sunday 21st January 2018
Monthly Meeting 1.30pm-5.15pm

Sunday 18th February 2018
Monthly Meeting 1.30pm-5.15pm

Sunday 18th March 2018
Monthly Meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Sunday 22nd April 2018
Monthly Meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Sunday 6th May 2018
Proposed 'Guitar Friendly' with members
of the West Sussex Guitar Club

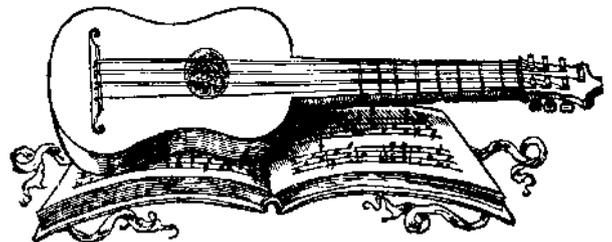
Sunday 20th May 2018
Monthly Meeting 5.00pm-8.30pm

Meeting Times October- March

Hall open from 1.30pm

Ensemble rehearsal begins 1.45pm

Conclusion of Meeting 5.15pm



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

Thanks

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

Thank you,
Paul

