



Music for March Meeting

- Please note that meetings from March to September take place in the evening rather than the afternoon. From this month, meetings now start at 5.00pm (hall open 4.45pm) and finish at 8.30pm
- Grant would like to rehearse the following items:

Slovak Folk Song

Boehm Concerto

Farandole

Moon River Capriol (complete except for Bransles)

Sway

Concert Dates Needed

It has been great to see a number of new members at the last couple of rehearsals—welcome to all! With a good number of us now and a new programme in preparation, we need some concerts as an outlet to our playing. We have our annual meeting with our friends at West Sussex Guitar Club to look forward to on 6th May 2018— please put this date in your diaries and a possible performance in October in Cerne Abbas in the pipeline but that's it so far. If any of you have any contacts or ideas for performances— please let us know

Future Dates

MARCH 18th 2018

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

MARCH 23rd 2018

DGS Social at the 'Curlew' 7pm

APRIL 22nd 2018

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

MAY 6th 2018

DGS travel to WSGC for guitar friendly 11am start

MAY 20th 2018

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

JUNE 17th 2018

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

JUNE 24th 2018

FGS DAY in Cambridge

DGS Social-Friday 23rd March

Various dates for a social evening have been suggested over the last few months but it has been difficult to try and find a date that everyone can attend. It has therefore been decided to pick a date and hope for the best! Friday 23rd March 2018 at the 'Curlew' pub near Hurn 7pm for drinks and a meal. Please confirm your attendance at the next meeting. We hope to see you there!

Federation of Guitar

Following the DGS hosting of the FGS day last year, it is now the turn of the Cambridge Society to host and run the day. For those of you who don't know, it's an annual gathering of members from Guitar Societies across the south to form a scratch orchestra of around 70 players. It is now time for DGS members to apply to attend the day (the deadline is the start of April). If anyone would like to attend, please let me know at the next meeting and if there are enough of us then we can perform some ensemble items.

Joyce Alsford and Joy Limmer

Both Joy and Joyce were members of the Guitar Society some years ago and on the following page Maurice has written some memories of them both as well as a review of the Will McNicol concert that he organised in memory of Joyce back in November 2017. Joyce had left some money in her will for Maurice to stage a concert involving DGS that could be attended by members and friends. Some members of DGS provided a short programme as a warm up before Will McNicol gave a great concert of contemporary classical guitar playing. An enjoyable evening was had by all and many thanks to Maurice for organising it. There was some money left after the concert and this has now been donated to the society with a view of possibly purchasing a second bass guitar.

Subscriptions

If you are yet to pay your 2017/2018 subs, please give payment to James at the next meeting- Thanks

Future Concerts

Our friends at West Sussex Guitar Club are hosting a recital by the Royal Welsh College Ensemble on Saturday 24th March 2018— click [here](#) for details. They are also hosting Eden-Stell duo on Saturday 21st April 2018— details [here](#) Guildford Guitar Day on Sat 17th March has a range of events from 2pm culminating in a performance by Zoran Dukić at 4.30pm. Details [here](#)

New Members

An official welcome to the following new members— we hope you enjoy being part of the society.

- Dominic
- Raymond
- Pauline
- Sandy
- Geoff
- Steve

Memories of Joy Limmer



I was first introduced to Joy, by Bob Foss, in the early 1990's when I took over a guitar evening class at Ferndown Upper School. Valerie Evans and Joyce Alsford were also in the group and as we moved to Poole High then eventually Pelhams we were joined by other familiar names, Sue Chick, Neville Shaw, Ann Plumb, Rosemary Jacobs and Joan Lucas.

Joy was always full of kindly mischief and a lot of fun to teach, as an ex-teacher herself, keeping me on my toes. In her early teaching career she taught the Reception class at Stanley Green and when my wife first met her again she immediately said – Whoa, Miss Limmer. Scarily Joy remembered both Julie and her

sister. One day, when I was teaching at Lockyer's in Corfe Mullen, Joy went passed the window, walking her poodle, the pupils jumped up & shouted Hey there's Miss Limmer, we love Miss Limmer. Says it all.

During her time with us at DGS she regularly performed in our orchestra and very often played her solo pieces at our evening class. She loved to play the melody parts. Even if she was unable to play at DGS concerts she was usually in the audience.

Joy had a busy and full retirement, sharing walks with her poodles and she was also an artist; her paintings were in muted shades, full of movement. She was still able to play piano when her fingers no longer allowed her play her guitar. During the last few years Joy and her sister Mary lived together in Blandford, sharing the poodle walking duties.

At Joy's funeral in the flower filled country setting of Langton Long, there were people of all ages and from many different walks of life. Talking with them it was a pleasure to share fond, happy memories of Joy.

Joyce Alsford Memorial Concert – DGS & Will McNicol



The long awaited concert finally took place on 3rd November. Joyce was a long-time member of DGS and left a legacy for her friends to enjoy an evening of music or a meal together. We decided we could do both, friends catching up with music and food. Joyce was a florist and at our concerts there were always beautiful flower arrangements. I'm sure she would have approved of the cheerful flowers, which Bob organised, and the collage of photos. There were a lot of memories shared of Joyce with her DGS friends.

The Society kicked off proceedings with a programme of popular tunes; Grant conducting us. We played Eleanor Rigby, Autumn Leaves, La Paloma, Bob Powers Waltz and Swing from his A Minor Suite and with appreciative applause we finished by playing Ain't Misbehaving.

Will took over the stage and played a short set before the interval. This included a piece called "Dragonflies, Frogs and Bumblebees" the title track from his new album. His natural style of introducing pieces and amazing musicianship created a relaxing ambience. After a chance to chat and have a few snacks we took our seats for the second half.

His first piece and the title of an album "The Wake Up" features the use of artificial harmonics and a loop pedal, which he makes seem effortless. The loop pedal helps Will to build layers of texture whilst keeping the harmonic sequence intact. It is a very effective way to add intensity to a performance. He also played a Clive Carroll arrangement of Robert Johnson's Mississippi Blues. I loved the solo and his dramatic use of dynamics and contrast, a lesson for us all! Will added an interesting riff to Bill Withers's "Ain't No Sunshine", again great use of dynamics in the middle section. I know Will loves his Latin music and he played his piece, Oscar's Philosophy, also another fabulous piece—Uma Prece, by Luiz Bonfá where he uses Martin Taylor like vamps which adds a lovely rhythmical touch to the piece.

Will has both African and Scottish roots through his Mum and Dad so the next two pieces reflect this heritage. Firstly "Harare" written whilst visiting Zimbabwe and to mimic the sound of the African stringed instrument, the Endongo, which is played like a harp. Other African instruments also include the Kalimba, the Mbira and the Kora. Will emulates this sound by using a small piece of a credit card (that'll do nicely!) under the strings near the bridge. This is my wife's favourite of all Will's compositions. She says that the way it builds, is so like the pre-dawn in Africa towns and the speed and cacophony of sounds brings back that exciting feeling of being there. Apparently we need to plan an adventure back to Africa! Then "Emma" an early composition he wrote for a school friend has Scottish influences within it. This has now been arranged for a string ensemble and he will be bringing it into schools for ensemble workshops. Will then gave us the choice of fast or slow – no hesitation from the audience – fast. So he played Red Dog Running – great speed and sound. He dedicated his encore Tango en Skai to Roland Dyens who had just passed away. A delightful French guitarist composer who I had the pleasure of meeting at West Dean Guitar Festival, many moons ago.

We ended the uplifting evening of music with sunflowers for Will which I feel summed up our memories of Joyce.