




NEWSLETTER




Music for January Meeting

Grant would like to rehearse the following pieces at the next meeting:

- Flights of Fancy
- Sibelius Ballad and Alla Marcia
- Bach Suite Movements 5,6 7
- Rosemary
- Daydreams

DGS Social 2020

Many thanks to all for your replies regarding the social meal. Unfortunately not everyone was available on the same date, so a decision was made to go for the date with most members available. John has booked

SATURDAY 25th JANUARY 7pm.

Apologies to those that are not available for this date! If you find that you can now make the 25th, let us know and we can try to amend the booking.

Future Dates

JANUARY 19th 2020

MEETING 2.00pm-5.15pm

JANUARY 25th 2020

DGS SOCIAL 7pm

FEBRUARY 16th 2020

MEETING 2.00pm-5.15pm

MARCH 15th 2020

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

APRIL 19th 2020

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

MAY 10th 2020

DGS meeting with West Sussex Guitar Club at Bognor Regis. 11am-4.30pm

MAY 17th 2020

MEETING 5.00pm-8.30pm

Manus Noble 8th November 2019 – Canford School



There was a time, quite a few years ago, when following a guitar recital--- even one by a top player--- one was left with a slight feeling of dissatisfaction, maybe the instrument's lack of projection, small mistakes, memory lapses etc. and other seeming limitations of our instrument. In recent times all the recitals I have attended have been of an extraordinary high level, leaving one inspired to play better, and not left with the feeling that one could have made a better job of it than the recitalist!! Manus Noble's performance at Canford School was a very exciting event showing some of the huge, mostly untapped (by many of us) possibilities for expression and technique of our instrument.

The concert hall, part of the school's music department, is very suitable for the guitar, intimate, and with a very clear acoustic. Manus seemed to enjoy the occasion very much and each item of music was preceded by a short and often humorous introduction, delivered in a very relaxed style.

The program began in the 16th century with Robert Johnson's attractive short Almain linked to Villa-Lobos Prelude I. Personally I am not too sure whether this sort of connecting of unrelated pieces (it was a trend a few years ago) works, or not, but both items were very well played and were evident of things to come.

Manus used a conventional sitting position with footstool for these pieces, but thereafter a variety of cross-leg positions which seemed to depend on the requirements of each piece? But certainly always giving the sense of great ease of execution,

Stephan Schlemper guitar For Sale

Former member Sally-Anne McKenzie is selling her Stephan Schlemper guitar which was previously owned by Mark Eden. £1995 but open to offers. If you'd like further information-- please contact her direct on:

sallyanne.mckenzie@gmail.com



Recitals

Sean Shibe is performing a recital at Turner Sims Concert Hall, Southampton on Saturday 22nd February 2020. Details and tickets [here](#)



Alex Roche will be performing a lunchtime recital on Thursday 26th March 2020 1pm. at the Shirling Studio, Poole. Details and tickets (£7.85) available from Poole Lighthouse Theatre [here](#)



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and in everything that followed, a visual feast as well, and much for the eye to enjoy in the energy and physicality of the playing.

Two Japanese pieces followed, the artist's arrangement of Joe Hisaishi's film score for Castle in the Sky, followed by Yocoh's Sakura (Cherry Blossom) Variations, both beautifully played, and with an enviably fluent tremolo in the Yocoh.

This was (apart from the single encore) the end of conventional tuning, and from this point on the artist alternated between two guitars, one Stephen Hill and one his own build) changing the tuning for each, in readiness for the next item. The first of his own composition Mirage draws its inspiration from the Arabic Ud the tuning of the guitar's inner strings involving a Bb set alongside string two's B natural, if I have remembered correctly, to give a deliberately uncomfortable dissonance. Apparently we were not to feel too comfortable listening to this piece! which contained some pretty wild effects, but gradually resolved itself into a more conventionally Western style

Two Irish influenced pieces were next, Manus' Heal and Gary Ryan's Out of Clonmel. Open D tunings, I think, were used for both, giving a very warm resonance and with attractive Celtic style melodies. Both were much enjoyed by the audience as a contrast to the previous fireworks. As was 'Birds flew over the Spire', another Gary Ryan original, very melodic and atmospheric. Followed by Benga Beat, which I had not heard for a while, drawing on rhythms from Kenya and pulling out all the stops in the effects department, with all manner of percussion including a slap on the forehead, incredibly rapidly delivered, almost as a continuous wall of sound, and taking instrumental possibilities to their limit I should think?

A very enthusiastic audience response drew an encore which was Brouwer's melodic, Day in November. Following this, we were invited to take a look at Manus' two guitars and to ask any questions, to which, he was very generous with his time.

As usual, I have to say that it would have been wonderful to see a full house for this remarkable guitarist, composer and builder of guitars, and it was good to see some DGS members present, but I fear we are going to be left with a small financial loss. Unless we can rely on more support from our members, it may have to be some time before we can put on a similar recital, but I would be more than happy to hear Manus again, and since he appears to be an excellent teacher also, maybe a workshop at some point in the future?

John Edwards

Annual get-together with West Sussex Guitar Club 2020

This year it is the turn of WSGC to host the day and they are already looking forward to hearing us play.

Sunday 10th May 2020 has been booked with them with approximate start and finish times of
11am – 4.30pm

Those of you who were involved last year know that they now have a very competent and serious orchestra— Let's make sure that we show them our best!

As always, please confirm your availability as soon as possible— it's only 4 meetings away!

DGS will make a £20 contribution towards fuel costs for car share vehicles.



Please send any newsworthy items for the next newsletter to me by email to

secretary@dorsetguitarsoceity.org.uk

Thank you,

Paul

