



NEWSLETTER



The end of an era... and the start of another



December's meeting was our last meeting with Grant as musical director. After 11 years of conducting the society, Grant has decided to step aside. We are indebted to him for his hard work over the years, some 20 + concerts and countless bespoke arrangements he made for the orchestra. We very much hope that he will keep in touch and perhaps pop in from time to time. Huge thanks from all of us for years of superb direction, patience, high expectations and sense of humour! At the same meeting, we welcomed Steve Marsh to the Society as our new director going forward. Steve brings with him many years of guitar knowledge and experience with performing, arranging and composing as well as contributing to classical guitar magazine for many years. We look forward to many meetings and concerts with Steve in the future.



WSGC Friendly 2023

Our friends at West Sussex Guitar Club have suggested a date of **14th May 2023** for our next get together. It is our turn to host the event this year. Please keep this date free—more details to follow.

Choir & DGS concert

We have been approached by a choir in

Lymington to share a concert on **15th July 2023** with DGS provided a 45 minute concert.

More details to follow but again please keep this date available.

West Sussex Guitar Club playing day 2022

On Sunday 26th September DGS travelled over to Bognor Regis for our annual playing day with the West Sussex Guitar Club. As is now tradition, we started the day with a joint ensemble rehearsal of Peter Nuttall's 'Song For Polly'. Many thanks due to Peter for his time and expertise in directing the joint ensemble. We then continued with each Society performing their programme of pieces to each side. A generous spread of food and conversation then followed before we returned to the hall for a selection of solo and small ensemble performances. The day concluded with a performance of 'Song for Polly' and a joint photo to remember the day! Many thanks to WSGC for hosting this year.



A recording of 'Salut d'amour' from the day can be found [here](#)

Durweston Charity Concert 16th October 2022

The DGS orchestra travelled to Durweston to perform an hour of music as part of Chris Dowie's Sunday Sourees. The acoustics in the church were great and other than competing with the bells during the rehearsal we enjoyed our combined sound in the space. The weather was dreadful so unfortunately the audience turn out wasn't as high as hoped but those there seemed to have a good time.

Many thanks to Jim Kirk for making this connection with Chris Dowie— perhaps we can collaborate again in the future.



Maurice Albin

With great sadness, the Society mourned the loss of Maurice Albin who died peacefully on 21st September 2022 in Poole General Hospital, aged 70 years after his battle with cancer. He was a founding member of the Guitar Society and he will be sadly missed by the many who knew and loved him.

Maurice was a really dedicated member of the society and a very popular teacher in the area, both in schools and with adult groups where some of our current members gained their love of the guitar through him. Guitar and music was an absolute passion for Maurice throughout his life and it remained so right to the end with his playing with us only a few weeks before his death. On the next page are some photos and memories of Maurice from DGS members.



Future Dates 2023

January 15th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

February 19th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

March 19th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

April 16th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

May 14th 2023

MEETING WITH WSGC

May 21st 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

June 18th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

July 15th 2023

DGS CONCERT

July 16th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

August 20th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

September 17th 2023

MEETING 2:00pm-5:30pm

Repertoire for the January Meeting

Steve will be rehearsing:

- Crystal Spring
- The Deadwood Stage &
- Diabolo

There will also be plenty of time for solo and small ensemble performances so please consider what you may wish to perform.

DGS Memories of Maurice

From John Edwards

Over the fifteen years or so of DGS rehearsals that I sat alongside Maurice I was always well aware of what a fine guitarist he was and a very secure ensemble player. An effective and experienced teacher, he was also quite capable of giving an off the cuff rendition of a movement from a Bach suite, or pretty much anything else from the solo repertoire, or playing the chords to a song. During many Trio Sonata practices with Chris on bass, over coffee and chocolate biscuits, Maurice would frequently express his unbounded admiration for the music of Bach, so much so that sometimes the break seemed longer than the playing! In conversation, his energy and enthusiasm for a wide range of subjects sometimes got you sidetracked, and it was quite possible to end up on a completely different topic from where you started!

Maurice was a kind and generous person who gave of his time and energy freely and he will be greatly missed.

Also this from Bob Foss

It has been a pleasure to have known Maurice as a teacher and a friend for over 20 years.

He introduced me to the Classical Guitar and has been an inspiration throughout.

Always modest, yet his performance as a soloist was a motivation to us all.

Maurice will be sadly missed within the Dorset Guitar Society and the World of Classical Guitar.

Bob Foss



This from Roger Taylor

I first met Maurice in the early 1970s playing in various Pop Groups.

He wished to learn to read music and improve his natural ability, taking lessons with me he soon changed to Classical Guitar progressing with incredible enthusiasm to pass his Grade VIII exam by the mid 1970s.

Quite a Feat!

Surprisingly, during these times I would come across Maurice working on machines in various engineering companies whilst still pursuing his Exams on Classical Guitar.

So many achievements and such a rare talent!

An honour to have shared so many happy memories!

This from Grant Bocking

As a man Maurice was kind and courteous; as a musician expressive,

versatile and conscientious. The Society will miss his presence a very great deal.

