

Fabio Zanon Concert



Fabio, who is both a patron and long standing friend of our Club, is always welcome to our stage. Fabio said that he always enjoyed playing at the WSGC and first played as a student some 23 years ago. In fact Fabio gave the Club's first ever professional concert all those years ago. As well as giving highly polished performances, Fabio goes to some length to explain about the pieces he is playing and this draws the audience into the music as well as helping with understanding the pieces. The hall was filled to capacity. Among those present were the new mayor of Bognor Town Council councillor Pat Dillon and three members of the Dorset Guitar Society - John and Galina Edwards together with Chris - who made the long journey to Bognor Regis.

Of course Fabio is a very experienced performer having given his first concert at the age of 16 and then making his debut as an orchestral soloist just two years later. He has won many awards including the 30th Francisco Tarrega Prize

in Spain and the 14th Guitar Foundation of America competition as well as the Santista Prize in Brazil. His vast repertoire includes all the major pieces written for guitar and more than 20 concertos. He is an inspirational teacher and gives master classes throughout America, Europe and Brazil. He is visiting professor at the London Royal Academy of Music. Unusually our concert was on a Wednesday evening which Fabio managed to squeeze in just after his concert in Columbia and just before his recital in Moscow. We were very privileged indeed to have Fabio play for us.

The concert covered a wide variation of music both in its character and in era. The concert began with *Six Lessons* by Henry Purcell – early pieces which set the foundation of what was to follow. This was then followed by Julian Bream's transcription of the four movements of Robert Schumann's *Children's Sonata op 118a*. Fabio explained that Schumann had married the young talented pianist Clara and they had six children.

They were doting parents and Robert wrote many pieces about children and for children. Brahms was even their baby sitter. Sadly Robert was committed to an asylum where he died three years later. Coincidentally Clara Schumann was the Radio 3 composer of the week when Fabio visited so it was interesting to view things from her perspective. The first half finished with Benjamin Britten's *Nocturne After John Dowland op 70* which was written in 1963. This follows seven phases of sleep ranging from restless to peaceful as the piece finishes with the restful notes as originally written by Dowland. Fabio was clearly quite moved after playing this piece.

The second half began with an *Introduction and Caprice* by Regondi. Fabio explained that Regondi was born in Switzerland and that his mother died when he was born. He was raised an orphan, but soon became a child prodigy giving guitar concerts from the age of 8 years. When he was 14, his step-father disappeared with some £2000 of the young maestro's earnings. He continued to give concerts even sharing the stage with Clara Schumann. When times became difficult for him, a concertina maker sponsored him to play and write for the concertina which was a high class and expensive instrument at that time. (This was

where I first came across Regondi through a work colleague who was a fanatical concertina player and loved the works of Regondi). Later in life Regondi forgave his errant stepfather and financed him. There can be no doubt that Regondi was a very forgiving and generous man. Fabio puts the works of Regondi on a par with those of Mendelssohn.

We then heard *La Grande Polonaise op24* by Bobrowicz. Fabio explained that Bobrowicz went to Vienna at 11 years of age and studied with Giuliani. He later moved to Leipzig where he lived as a refugee for 17 years. Nevertheless, he wrote an extensive book of compositions, this Polonaise being one of the pieces. Chopin's famous Polonaise was written after this and reflects a number of similarities.

The formal concert finished with two Brazilian pieces – *Sunset in Copacabana* by Almeida, a very restful gentle piece and *Bate-Coxa* by Pereira a fast exciting piece on which to end. However, the enthusiastic audience encouraged Fabio to return for two encores – *A Paraguayan Dance* by Barrios and a *Prelude, Fugue and Allegro* by Bach. This is some piece on which to end after giving such a demanding concert of versatile pieces. We all eagerly await Fabio's return to our stage.

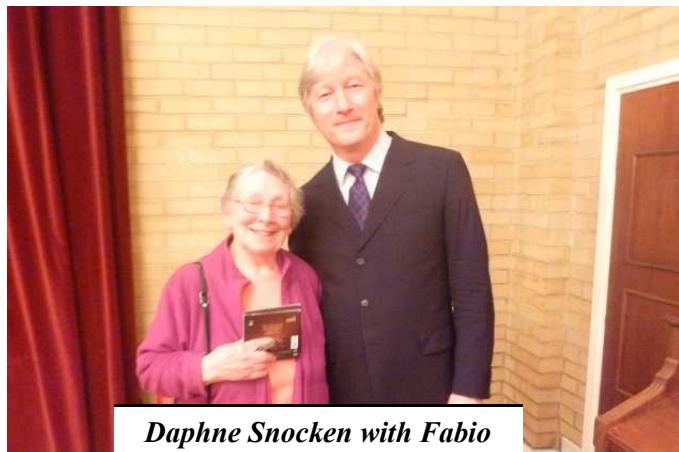
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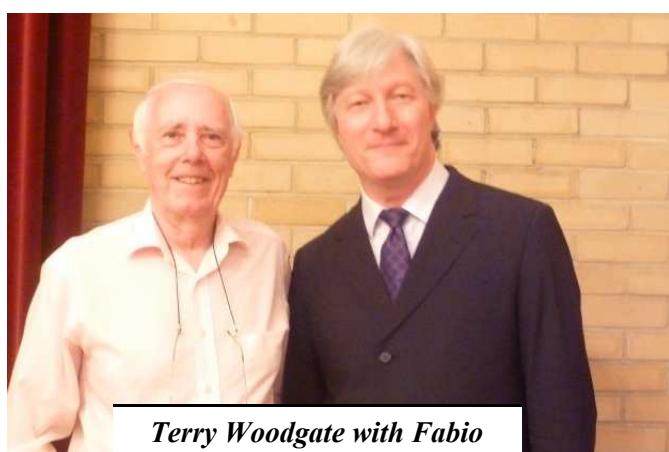
Fabio with members of the Dorset Guitar Society



Debbie Burford with Fabio



Daphne Snocken with Fabio



Terry Woodgate with Fabio

Away Day With The DGS

For the past two years some intrepid members of the Dorset Guitar Society (DGS) have traversed the wilds of Dorset, Hampshire and Sussex to join in and play guitar with our club. This year The DGS kindly invited us to play at the Kinson Community Centre near Bournemouth. Some DGS members who live the other side of Bournemouth could not undertake the very long drive to get to Bognor and so this was an opportunity for them to join in. I suppose that it is not surprising that our clubs are very similar in many respects. There are many parallels. The DGS have a resident composer – Peter Nuttall and the WSGC have a resident arranger – Debbie Burford. Both clubs have guitar/wind combinations. The DGS have the guitar and flute duo of Margaret and Maurice, and the WSGC have the Quintessentials - a guitar and recorder quintet. Above all, we both love and wish to promote the classical guitar and both clubs have a range of abilities and ages.

Thus it was that 13 WSGC members with 11 guitars hired a minibus and journeyed to darkest Bournemouth. Member David Clarke and his mother arrived separately. We were made very welcome and treated to a superb spread of food. Thanks very much to everyone concerned for your Dorset hospitality.

The afternoon began with Peter Nuttall conducting his *Samba* which he had written for guitar orchestra. This was a very exciting and enjoyable piece with percussive chords, taken at a cracking pace. We then heard alternately from members from each society in various combinations. We had solos, duos, trios, quartets, quintets and full orchestras.

Linda's WSGC ensemble played three pieces, beginning with Anders Levring arrangement of the *Prelude* by Charpentier, then the traditional Catalan Nightingale *El Rossinyol* and finally Charlton's *Partial Eclipse*. The DGS orchestra then replied with Dvorak's *Serenade Op44*, followed by Debbie Burford's excellent arrangement of Leroy Anderson's *Syncopated Clock* and finally Koshkin's

very amusing *Moin Moin*. No one (not even Sasha) could translate this, but the conductor thought it could be some crazy clowns tumbling around a circus ring.

Our New Gala Guitar Quartet started their set with *Russian Rag*, a piece written in 1918 based on a Rachmaninov Prelude. This was yet another splendid arrangement by Debbie Burford as were all the pieces in the set – *What shall I call My Dear Little Dormouse* and *Algy the Bear*. They finished with the 1936 classic *These Foolish Things*. The DGS trio of John Edwards, Bob Foss & Martin then responded with some wonderful pieces.

The DGS guitar and flute duo of Margaret and Maurice then entertained us with some pieces. This was followed with our Quintessential Quintet with the unusual combination of two recorders and three guitars. They began with David Clark's arrangement of the *Skye Boat Song* which was followed by three pieces arranged by Debbie – *The Carnival from Black Orpheus*, *Happy Trails* (Roy Rogers' theme complete with coconut accompaniment!) and *Don't Fence me in*.

WSGC member Julie Insull played *Time Past* written by the DGS resident composer Peter Nuttall. DGS member Roger Taylor gave us an exciting production of Albeniz's *Leyenda* after which Peter Nuttall played a moving rendition of *Cavatina*.

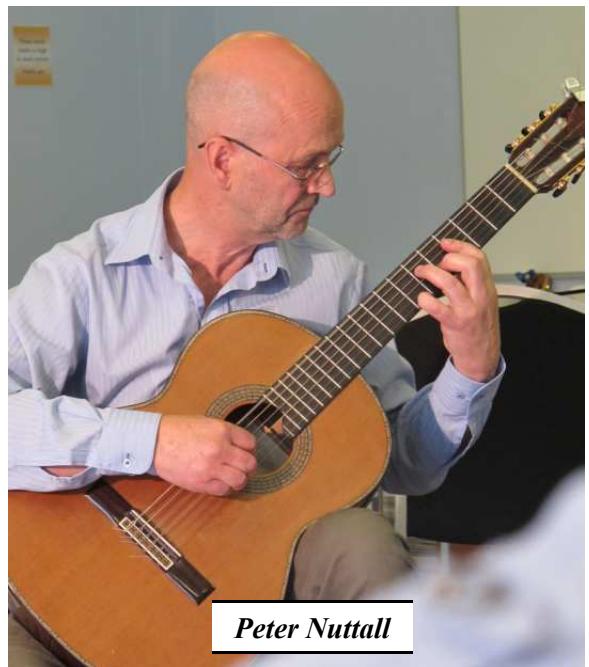
Linda Kelsall-Barnett played her replica of an 1864 small bodied Torres guitar. We heard Tarrega's arrangement of *La Paloma* and a truly memory taxing piece - Fantasie Hongroise - by Mertz. Both pieces were carried out with great aplomb. All too soon the afternoon finished with James O'Neil and Paul Thomas playing de Falla's *La Vie en Breve*. The hall then had to be quickly vacated and tidied ready for the next users.

We all had a wonderful day packed with some great music so many thanks again to the DGS for their wonderful hospitality and food. I hope we can meet again next year.

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Peter Nuttal conducts the combined orchestras



Peter Nuttal



Linda plays her 1864 Torres Replica



Quintessential Quintet



How many guitarists can fit into one minibus?

Festival of Chichester 2016

The Festival of Chichester is a month long festival of music and the arts. It is a fairly new festival, 2016 being its fourth year. The classical guitar was very well represented throughout the Festival. On the 18th of June, the opening day, the WSGC presented a *Classical Guitar Gala* given by talented members of the Club. The following Sunday at St John's Chapel, the Choroes, an ensemble from the Royal College of Music played traditional Brazilian *Choro* music on traditional instruments. John Mason and Mitch Callow

presented three afternoons of *Guitars In the Garden* – a relaxing mix of varying music in the garden of St Martins Coffee House. Linda Kelsall-Barnett gave a concert of 19th Century *Romantic Guitar* music played on her diminutive replica Torres Classical guitar. We also had *Mark Ashford*, one of our most popular guitarists and adjudicator give a concert at St Pancras Church in Chichester. Zoe Barnett also gave a concert at Portsmouth as part of the Portsmouth Festivities. It was certainly a very busy month for the guitar.

The Classical Guitar Gala



The New Gala Quartet



Zoe Barnett

This event was reasonably well attended and it was pleasing to see some new people among the audience who were attracted by the Festival advertising. All club members who performed were on top form – all had done much more than the required amount of homework! Well done everyone. We were able to demonstrate the guitar's versatility by covering a wide range of music spanning a considerable period of history and from all over the world. We heard solos, duets, trios, quartets, quintets and a guitar orchestra.

The evening began with Linda playing a Mertz *Romance* on her 19th Century replica guitar. Youngsters William Rumsey and Henry Wells then gave an exciting rendition of Pernambuco's *Sound of Bells*. The Orion Trio played two early favourites – Bach's *Air on a G string* and Handel's stirring *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*. The Chi Guitar Quartet of Linda, Zoe, Luca Biancardi and Henry Wells then played *Scarborough Fair*, *The Skye Boat Song* and *Let's Take the Flip Side*. And so the number of ensemble players increased as we heard the Quintessential Quintet (a treble and a tenor recorder together with three guitars) play *Manha de Carnaval*, *El Condor Pasa*, *Java Jive* and *Happy*

Trails. All pieces were arranged for the Quintet by Debbie Burford. The first half finished with Richard Charlton's *Partial Eclipse* played by the WSGC Orchestra and conducted by Linda.

After an enjoyable, chatty interval and refreshments, the WSGC Orchestra continued with a Charpentier *Prelude* and a traditional Catalan piece *El Rossinyol*. Zoe Barnett then played three solos – Torroba's *Alcaza de Segovia*, *Torija* and an absolutely cracking version of Tarrega's *Alborado (The Little Music Box)*. A further solo then followed from mum Linda, who gave a sterling interpretation of *Fantasie Hongroise* by Mertz. It was then the turn of the ensembles again as the New Gala Quartet played *O Waly Waly*, *Russian Rag* and *These Foolish Things*, finishing the set with the brief *Algy and the Bear*. Young William Rumsey (who has recently obtained his Grade 8 in Guitar with distinction) finished this excellent varied programme with Pernambuco's *Dengozo* and was finally accompanied by our MC Sasha in an *Argentinian Melody* by Anido.

Congratulations and thanks to all who played – Linda Kelsall-Barnett, William Rumsey and Henry Wells, Mike McCurrach, Yvonne Scott, Baz

Boxall, Terry Woodgate, Alison Stonestreet, Debbie Burford, Diana Green, David Clarke, Pam Fereday, John Mason and of course we must not forget our Master MC for the evening Sasha! Everyone contributed to a most professional concert. Debbie

Burford and David Clarke are worthy of particular mention since they both played in The Gala Quartet, The Quintessential Quintet and the WSGC Orchestra. They had eleven pieces to master that evening. Phew!!!



The Orion Trio



Sasha Accompanies William Rumsey

The Choroes



The Choroes are a Quartet from the Royal College of Music who specialise in traditional Brazilian music. They first appeared at the Festival last year and have gained an appreciative larger audience for this year. The ensemble is made up of Michael Hughes (guitar and cavaquino), Nicolas Lewis (cavaquino and guitar), Daniel Scott (flute) and Emma Arden (Percussion). The instruments and the music were explained to us throughout the programme. The cavaquino is a Portuguese instrument similar to the ukulele except it has guitar tuning and uses steel strings. The pandeiro is a Brazilian tambourine and we also heard small shakers made of baskets filled with beans with a gourd bottom and a tam-tam which provides bass percussion—effectively a Brazilian tom-tom. The guitar we were informed originally gave bass lines to the choro music but eventually became part of the

harmony.

Those who have been there before will know that the acoustics at St John's Chapel are superb and this allowed the instruments to come across loud and clear. We heard a range of Brazilian music, some well known while others evoked the foot tapping rhythms associated with South America. One thing for sure is that the group certainly evoke the atmosphere and rhythms of South America as if they had been brought up in the country. We heard pieces by Nazareth, Bandolim, Pernambuco, Pixiquina, some Bossa Nova by Jobim (*Corcovado* and *The Girl from Ipanema*), Villa Lobos (*Prelude no 1* on solo guitar and *Choros no 1* played by the Quartet which gave a different perspective on the piece, the ever popular Zequinha de Abreu's *Tico Tico* and Ary Barroso's *Aquarela do Brasil*. The fast pieces were very exciting hardly giving any time for the flautist to breathe. On the other hand the slower pieces were beautifully crafted. One very beautiful piece by Pixinguinha came from a Brazilian TV soap. One exciting piece was even written to celebrate Brazil beating Uruguay after a world cup football match.

It was a privilege to hear such a concert of unusual and exciting music. What a wonderful way to spend an afternoon – infinitely more pleasing than struggling to Glastonbury which was on at the same time! I hope we get to hear more of this highly talented ensemble.

Guitars in the Garden



John & Mitch prepare for the Garden Concert



Singer Anda joins John & Mitch

Q: What have guitarists John Mason and Mitch Callow got in common with June Whitfield and Rula Lenska?

A: They both held events in the Festival of Chichester and both were ‘sold out’ events well before they were held. Member John Mason and Mitch Callow held the Guitars in the Garden event in St Martin’s Coffee House on three consecutive Tuesday afternoons.

We went on the first Tuesday and sat in the splendid garden listening to the sweet bird song as an hors d’oeuvre before the main event. However, this was England on a sunny afternoon in June and sure enough before the concert could begin it poured

with rain and this continued throughout the afternoon – well it was during Wimbledon fortnight! However, with our spirits undampened (unlike the two guitars) we all retired to an upstairs room in the Coffee House where we were treated to a wide range of music from Bach to Big Bill Broonzy and from Pernambuco to Erik Satie. It was most enjoyable to have some songs interspersed throughout the programme and Lithuanian singer Anda did a sterling job in this respect. For some of the South American pieces Mitch played an Andean Charango – a small eight string Peruvian ukulele. It was a most enjoyable and versatile programme of music that was greatly enjoyed by everyone present.

Linda’s Romantic Guitar



Linda Kelsall Barnett gave a splendid concert of Romantic Guitar music from the 19th Century. Appropriate for the period, she played the replica of a 1864 Torres guitar that was made by James Westbrook. James was in the audience and heard the guitar at its best. The good acoustics in the Jubilee Hall complemented the fine

tone of the instrument which was surprisingly loud for such a diminutive guitar, but then of course, so much of that is down to the performer!

The music of Tarrega featured prominently in the programme. We heard some of his amazing arrangements – *La Paloma*, *Granada* and *Fantasia* from *La Traviata* in addition to his popular compositions – *Adelita*, *Mazurka* and *Gran Vals*. There were some pieces by Mertz - the *Romanze* and *Fantasie Hongroise* and Aguado’s *Introduction and Rondo op 2 no.2*. A most delightful programme of popular and likeable pieces which was executed with great precision and feeling. It was a challenging programme of music and all produced from memory! The full audience greatly enjoyed the recital and Linda played the ever popular *Romance* by Anon as an encore. With a very busy schedule teaching, where did she find the time to get such a challenging programme together? Well done Linda for a most enjoyable afternoon of some of the finest early guitar music!

Mark Ashford's Concert



Mark's concert at St Pancras Church in Chichester was one of the series of Amici Concerts which guitarist Amanda Cook organises. This was a well attended concert in yet another venue with marvellous acoustics.

Mark played a varied programme of guitar classics - every piece was superbly crafted and

enjoyable – no ‘squeaky gate’ pieces in this concert! In the first half we heard Villa Lobos’s *Choros no. 1*, Sor’s *Variations on the Magic Flute* (a truly virtuosic piece) and the dreamy Dyens *Songe Capricorne*. This was followed by three pieces by Albeniz – *Cadiz*, *Asturias* and *Sevilla*. In addition to being so well executed, these three pieces demonstrated the phenomenal stamina of the performer. Lesser guitarists would have needed a long rest after playing just one of those pieces!

The second half of the concert was mainly dedicated to Roland Dyens arrangements of French Songs. Mark explained that he originally learnt a few as encore pieces, but when he got to study their origins, he realised what amazing arrangements they were and now he incorporates them into his main programme. Thunderous applause echoed around the church as we were treated to an encore – the popular *Farewell to Stromness* by Peter Maxwell Davies.

We are used to seeing Mark as an ensemble player with the Vida Quartet or more recently with the Frontiers Trio, but he is also a phenomenal solo performer in his own right who really brings the audience into his music with his explanations and humour.

Obituaries

Members will be saddened to hear of the loss of two of our longstanding enthusiastic club members:

Jennifer Burt passed away in April. She was a keen singer and a key leader in the carol singing at our Christmas Parties. We extend our sympathies to Ian and the family.

Richenda Warriner passed away in June. Richenda

was a former GP and a keen artist. She could often be seen with a notebook making the most excellent sketches of our performers. Again we extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

These ladies will be greatly missed as they were both regular attendees of our events and concerts.

Editor's Piece

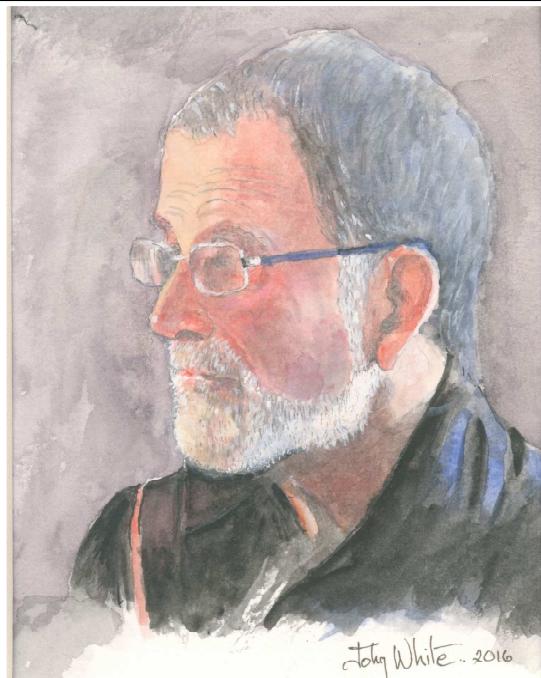
The summer party signifies the close of our current season. We have had a busy season with superb concerts given by Thibault Cauvin, Judicael Perroy, the Frontiers Trio and our patron Fabio Zanon. We have put on two guitar festivals in November and February, but after a number of years of buoyant entries, sadly numbers were down this season. The club visited the Dorset Guitar Society and a grand time was had by all. We also took an active part in the recent Festival of Chichester.

In no time at all it will be September and the start of our new season. Details are given on the back page. Our first event is the AGM combined with a club

evening. Please come along and have your say on what you like and dislike about the club. Please consider joining the committee who voluntarily do such a splendid job for us all. Remember many hands make light work! Do not miss the two concerts coming up on Oct 22nd (Richard Smith) and on 26th November (Edoardo Catemario). Although it is difficult to find time for the guitar in the summer, do keep practising so that it will not be such an ordeal when you enter our November guitar festival. Let us try to increase the number of entries next season .

Patrick Butcher Portrait

With each publication, we try to print a portrait of a club member that our resident artist John White has painted. This time it is the turn of Patrick Butcher who used to be our treasurer and was responsible for obtaining charitable status for the club.



News From The Library

Listed below are the additions to the library

CDs

Fabio Zanon	Spanish Music
Fabio Zanon	The Romantic Guitar

Sheet Music

Carlo Domeniconi	Koyunbaba
A list of new additions is by the library door.	

Pam Fereday Librarian



The Summer Party

The theme for this year's Summer party was The Circus. Sasha together with Julie Insull, Debbie Burford and family - Robin, Ellen and Alex all went to great pains to decorate the recital hall so that we really thought we were in a Big Top. Some forty members attended the extravaganza, including some members we had not seen for some time – Sally Paice and her sister Ann, The Sowdens and Peter Watkins. Welcome back!

The ringmaster in charge did not sport the usual top hat, red jacket and whip but on this occasion was in fact a comical clown with a shock of yellow hair. He kept us regally entertained throughout the evening with some marvellous acts and many courses of food. There was the WSGC Orchestra with *El Gato Montes* (*The Wild Cat*) and an *Elephant Tango*, Pam Fereday sang and played *Nellie the Elephant* on her Ukulele and Sally Paice

sang about Moons and Junes and Circus Crowds. Some animals however had escaped from the circus - a bear, a zebra, a tiger and an elephant. They were so well trained, they even formed a quartet (the New Gala Zoo Quartet) and played about a *Waltzing Cat*, *Algy the Bear* and the errant *Nellie the Elephant*. It was then the turn of the Quintessential Quintet who regaled us with *Three Comedies* by Pieter Van der Staak and *Manha de Circus (Carnival)*. The splendid clown duo of Julie Insull and Beryl Robinson then entertained us. Then we had some solos – Terry Woodgate played some sad clown music and *Tiger Rag* and Zoe Barnett played the *Danza del Altiplano* and Linda finished the performances with a *Mertz Romanze*.

Sadly Nina could not join us at the party since she was helping out at Inna's, because her son in law was in hospital. However, thanks to the

wonders of modern technology, Sasha was able to invite her to the party via Skype and his mobile telephone. She saw some performances and wished everyone well. What a futuristic age we live in!

However, the evening did not end there. Our ringmaster had prepared some videos of last year's summer party which were speeded up - Keystone Cops style. The fast music sounded like Django Reinhardt had made a guest appearance with the Quintet (or Quartet) du Hot Club de Bognor. Then we had a circus quiz prepared by Julie Insull. This was won by Ellen Burford. Who knew that the

Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze of 1867 was Jules Leotard? (he who created the item of clothing)?

As always thanks to everyone who performed and to those who came along and brought some food and those who helped to clear away afterwards. Thanks to Sasha and Nina, Julie Insull, Peggy Carrott and to Debbie and family who set up the big top. Thanks also to Julie for the quiz.. It will seem a long recess until we reconvene in September, but believe me, time will fly by so quickly. *TW*



The Groaning Food Table



The Conga Dance around the Food



Beryl and Julie with the Ringmaster

The Summer Party



The Summer Party



Dates for your Diary

Aug	26th	Selsey Festival Friday
Sep	10th	AGM & Club Evening 1
Sep	17th	Gifted RCM Students Concert 1
Oct	8th	Club Evening 2
Oct	22nd	Richard Smith Concert 2

Nov	5/6	WSGC Festival Juniors (1 or 2 days)
Nov	12th	WSGC Festival Seniors (1 or 2 days) West Dean competition
Nov	19th	Club Evening 3
Nov	26th	Edoardo Catemario Concert 3
Dec	17th	Christmas Party Club Evening 4

Most events take place on Saturdays at 7.30pm in the Regis School of Music, 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis PO21 1ER. For details phone 01243 866462. For concert tickets phone 01243 696762 or visit the **Ticket Hotline** at www.westsussexguitar.org

Please send contributions for the next edition of *Good Vibrations* by **23rd November** to Terry Woodgate, 3, East Ave., Middleton on Sea, West Sussex PO22 6EG tel: 01243 583355 or e-mail to:terry_woodgate@btinternet.com

The West Sussex Guitar Club is grateful for the continued support of:

