

Maximo Diego Pujol Recital



For our last concert of 2018 we were very honoured and privileged to welcome the very much revered Argentinian guitarist, prolific composer and teacher Maximo Pujol to our stage. This was his first visit to our club and we were very grateful that he could fit us in to his very busy schedule. For the past month he had been touring Europe – Belgium, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. On his final Saturday evening he gave a concert in Cambridge. We had our concert on the Sunday evening and then he had to be up very early Monday morning to catch a flight from Gatwick to Madrid and then later that same day he flew to Buenos Aires. What a busy hectic life he leads!

Maximo studied the guitar from the age of eight and gave his first concert at the age of just

nine years. He later studied composition. He has strived for an ever-closer fusion of traditional Argentine Tango and formal academic concepts. Today Maximo's compositions are performed and recorded throughout the world. He is currently professor of guitar at the Conservatorio de Musica Manuel de Falla in Buenos Aires.

We were very pleased to welcome to this concert Phil Woodall, the Deputy Mayor of Bognor Regis and his consort Steve Hearn.

Maximo's concert was quite unique. He began his performance with three pieces by Argentine composers – Atahualpa Yupanqui (a folk musician), Astor Piazzolla and Luis Spinetta (a rock musician!). From the very first piece we were all mesmerised by the beautiful mellow tone that Maximo elicited from his wonderful guitar made by the Argentinian Luthier Fernando Rubin. Notes seemed to pour from the guitar like luscious thick creamy chocolate.

Maximo then apologised for the fact that the rest of the concert would feature all compositions that he has written. In fact there was no need to apologise since we were treated to an array of the most wonderful tangos, milongas and romantic music which were quite new to the majority of the audience. The applause showed how much the audience enjoyed his compositions. A romantic piece dedicated to his wife was a

New Members

We extend a very warm welcome to

Benjamin Ward *Heyshott;*

Trevor & Carol Senatore, *Sutton*

Steve, Rachel, Dennis & Lachlann Grimwood,
Clymping

Angus, Julia, Olivia & Jack McIntyre, *Rose Green*

Tatiana, Sofia & Lucy Carson, *Bognor Regis*

Laurence Pettit, *Hastings*

**We hope you enjoy many happy
events at the Club!**

particular favourite. We were treated to an encore which Maximo said he wrote when he was 19 years old. This was the well known and much loved *Preludio Triston* (the second of a set of *Five Preludes*). We were so fortunate to hear the pieces

played by the composer as he intended them to be played. We sincerely hope that this unassuming and brilliant musician will return to us in the not too distant future.

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Maximo with Richard Prior (left), Debbie, Conor & Diana



Maximo with Diana, Joanna & Club's Treasurer David Clarke



Maximo with Sasha



Maximo talking with Linda

Michael Matthews Concert



but there were some aggressive flamenco passages and enviable rasgueados when required. The first half of the concert finished with the *Nocturnal after John Dowland Op 70* which Benjamin Britten wrote for Julian Bream. This is based on Dowland's *Come Heavy Sleep* and consists of eight different passages of sleep each movement a variation progressing closer towards Dowland's song which finishes the piece.

The second half began with Brouwer's *Cuban Landscape with Bells*. This was played again with great precision and speed with the fingerboard being tapped by the right hand - a technique some rock guitarists have been seen to use. All the harmonics rang out loud and true. Michael certainly knows how to get the best from his Angel Benito Aguado guitar. We then heard all five of Villa Lobos's *Preludes*. This was surely a definitive performance of all five preludes from which the audience learnt much. The final piece of the formal concert was *Serenades of the Unicorn* by the Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara. This was a new piece to many of the audience. It sounded crazy music to start with, but with Michael's convincing performance it quite quickly became a firm favourite.

The enthusiastic applauding audience were rewarded with an encore of some more Dowland. Let us hope it will not be too long before Michael returns.

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Our first concert of the new season was given by a brilliant guitarist of the new generation of performers – **Michael Matthews**. Michael was born in the UK but was raised in France, South America and Africa. He had his first classical guitar lessons in France at the age of seven. Michael graduated from the University of Hull with First Class Honours Degree in 2016 and now lives in Lincoln

He began his recital with Dowland's *Lachrimae Pavan and Fantasia* which was played with great feeling and compassion. This was followed by a smoothly executed rendition of Turina's *Sonata*,



Michael meets the girls Debbie, Diana & Moyria



Michael with Editor Terry

News From the Library

New additions to library bought at West Dean:

Colours of Brazil
Heartstrings

Xuefei Yang
Xuefei Yang

Rondo Alla Turka
The Modern Guitar Trio
The Modern Guitar Trio at the Rococo Cafe

Bill Kanengiser

Pam Fereday

Bach Day Workshop



Stephen Gordon with the Club Orchestra

Back in January member George Robinson presented a Guitar Showcase concert given by students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama based in Cardiff. Their musical director was Stephen Gordon. Stephen returned on Sunday 14th October to give a long awaited workshop dedicated to the music of Bach. This was very well attended with an orchestra of thirteen players conducted by Stephen. The composition selected was all three movements of the *Brandenburg Concerto no. IV* which Stephen had arranged for eight voices. The piece was originally written for violins, recorders, viola, cello and bass. Stephen had brought along two requinto guitars for Linda and Jay to play and these cut through the other guitars. Together with Stephen's bass guitar these added extra dimensions to what was already a most beautiful sound.

The orchestra had the music in advance and everyone had certainly done their homework as there were no glitches in sight reading. Right from square one things sounded good, but with Stephen's

guidance many improvements were made. When it is considered that the majority of the orchestra were guitar hobbyists and not professionals, the standard of performance was very high indeed. The day ran from 10:00am – 6:00pm and was split into four hourly sessions working on the concerto punctuated with coffee breaks, lunch and two special treats. The first treat was George Robinson's mini recital where he played Mudarra's *Fantasia*, two Catalan folk tunes by Llobett and a Bach *Prelude*. Stephen provided the other treat when he gave a talk about baroque music. With the assistance of Baz, Jay and Vince we heard sounds from two theorbos and a ten string baroque guitar which Stephen had brought along.

The day finished with a full recital of the concerto which sounded magnificent. It was truly amazing what could be achieved in so short a time. Well done everyone who participated. We most certainly must have another workshop next year.

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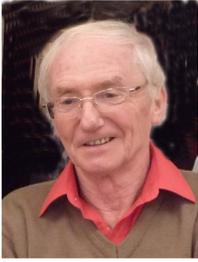


Jay, Baz & Vince Smith play Baroque instruments



Jay complains his arms are too short!

A Short History of the WSGC



In 1980, Sasha and Nina Levtov left St Petersburg in Russia, and after travelling in Europe, came to England and settled in Bognor Regis. Sasha then worked in a nursing home and taught the classical guitar privately, and also taught the guitar in adult education classes.

In 1984, having met a relation of Felix Mendelssohn at a birthday party - the Head of Music at the Japanese School near Horsham, who was looking for a guitar teacher invited Sasha to teach classical guitar. He accepted the invitation and still teaches there today.

In the late 1980s, there was a nucleus of students including Amanda Cook then aged 10 and Graham Downes together with 10 or 15 others including Debbie Burford, John Mason and Diana Green. All were taught at evening classes at Bognor Community College. Sasha was invited to take over the guitar section at the Chichester Music Festival. The future club members met at various venues, including at his house, and one day he invited Charles Ramirez to give a recital at The Dome, Chichester College (opposite Hotham Park).

In 1993, Robert Enticott, the father of one of his pupils, bought the Old School building in Bersted which, in a year or so, Sasha, Nina and their family turned this dilapidated building into a recital hall, where the members of the new Club had regular meetings, club nights concerts and parties. The Club was therefore formed in July 1993.

By way of family contacts, two American ladies in Maryland USA, had been to the Old School and saw the Club struggling in this rented place. They formed an educational Trust and generously bought the present premises at 46 Sudley Road, which had been a Christian Scientist church - (you can still smell the incense occasionally).

They appointed Sasha "Headmaster of the Regis School of Music" and the Club acquired its permanent base. This happened in 1996, and since then many concerts have been given by famous guitarists and ensembles including John Mills, Charles Ramirez, Fabio Zanon, the Eden-Stell guitar duo, Vida Guitar Quartet and many others. In September 1996, a better library was set up, and a website was developed by Steve Higgs and improved by Richard Prior, and now managed by Jez Rogers who lives in New Zealand. Website control knows no boundaries, luckily.

In 2000, the Club started its own festival - the West Sussex Guitar Festival held in November in

addition to continuing to support the guitar section of the Chichester Music Festival every February. A grant of some £2000 was received from West Sussex Arts.

Kit Crowhust, now deceased, was the club's first librarian and generously donated £4000 when he passed away. (He was a talented ceramic artist, clarinettist, member of the original Gala Guitar Quartet and an enthusiast of jazz and old cars).

Themed parties began and to date, the theme every year has been different (except strictly speaking there has twice been a "Wild West" theme) The club had a committee of 5 or 6, including at one stage even a Bulgarian lady Irina, as Hospitality Officer!

The main aim of the club is to encourage an interest in the art of the classical guitar, providing a platform for amateur and professional guitarists. This is achieved by attracting and educating new audiences and very importantly, encouraging the interest of a new generation of youngsters in the playing of the classical guitar. Some of them have even become professional musicians by going on to Junior Departments of London Music Colleges. Sasha is proud that former Club members, Amanda Cook, Lydia Hepworth, Mitch Callow, Paul Thomas, Chris Sweatman and Sam Brown have become well known performers and teachers.

Thanks to the work of Patrick Butcher, as from 2008, the club is now a registered charity and is in the hands of UK Trustees. The events of the club have stabilised including 5 or 6 professional concerts each year, club evenings, 2 Festivals, and an annual performance at Selsey. Also the club has its own ensemble and orchestra run by Robin Burgess and Linda Kelsall-Barnett respectively. There are quintets, quartets, trios and duos and of course solo playing.

If Sasha is the Father of the Club, then Nina is the Club's Mother, arranging so many things behind the scenes, as well as herself teaching piano.

Congratulations, therefore, to Sasha and Nina Levtov, having now completed their 25th year of the Club.

Julian Bobak (Chairman)

	WSGC Festival Junior Class Winners 4th November 2018	1st
1	<i>Initial Class age 9 & under</i>	Non-competitive
2	<i>Initial Class age 10 - 12</i>	Non-competitive
4	<i>Solo Age 12 & under, grade II & under</i>	Lachlann Grimwood
5	<i>Solo Age 12 & under Grade III+</i>	James Connolly
6	<i>Solo I, under 15 & Grade 5 & under</i>	Sam Keil
7	<i>Intermediate II under 15 Grade VI+</i>	Dennison Grimwood
8	<i>Technical Perfection age 12 & under</i>	Sam Keil
9	<i>Technical perfection over 13</i>	Rebecca Allday
9b	<i>Musical Diversity</i>	Rebecca Allday
10	<i>Bach Age 12 & under</i>	Evelina Kisliak
11	<i>Bach Class II Age 18 & under</i>	Rebecca Allday
13	<i>Advanced Open Class</i>	Vittoria Hambleton
14	<i>Junior recital I Age 13 & under</i>	Ben Ward/Evelina Kisliak
15	<i>Junior Recital II Age 18 & under</i>	Rebecca Allday
18	<i>Guitar Duet II age 15 & under</i>	Bethany Cooper & Annelie Davis
26	<i>Junior Guitar Ensemble</i>	West Sussex Junior Guitar Ensemble
28	<i>Family Ensemble</i>	The Vonk Duo
29	<i>Teacher & Student</i>	Non-competitive
30	<i>Composers Special Class</i>	Seth Swain

	WSGC Festival Adult Class Winners 4th November 2018	1st
51	<i>Solo Intermediate I</i>	Harri Goldsmith
52	<i>Solo Intermediate II</i>	Pam Fereday
53	<i>Renaissance Class</i>	Jay Huff
54	<i>Bach Class</i>	Peter Russell
55	<i>Music From Around the World</i>	Peter Russell
56	<i>Advanced Class</i>	Peter Russell
57a	<i>Plucked Instrument other than guitar</i>	Pam Fereday
59	<i>Guitar Trio or Quartet</i>	New Gala Quartet
60	<i>Guitar Ensemble</i>	Guitar Harmony
60a	<i>Guitar Orchestra</i>	WSGC Orchestra
61	<i>Guitar ensemble with other Instrument</i>	Quintessential Quintet
61a	<i>Any Plucked Instrument with Guitar</i>	Aldwick Duo
63	<i>Recital Class</i>	Linda Kelsall-Barnett
64	<i>Arrangement Class</i>	Debbie Burford/Conor Miles
65	<i>Teacher & Student Duet</i>	Mig Cutbush & Robin Burgess

The West Sussex Guitar Festival 2018

This was the 19th West Sussex Guitar Festival. Sadly entries were down on previous years. It is hard to believe that only a few years ago both the junior and senior entries took place over two full weekends. This year, somehow Sasha managed to squeeze the whole event into just one day. A true case of fitting a quart into a pint pot and we are very grateful to our adjudicator Vincent Lindsey-Clark who imparted his wisdom to us over such a long day. The under 18s had 42 entries in 19 classes and the adults had 21 entries in 15 classes.

Vincent Lindsey-Clark is a long standing friend of the club and apart from his wonderful solo guitar performances he is a much respected composer, teacher and ensemble player with the English Guitar Quartet. He was therefore ideally suited for the job of adjudicator. He told us that he had been playing the classical guitar now for fifty years.

Vincent was very encouraging of all the performances and many of his comments could be applied to both youngsters and adults. He said that the rhythm of a piece is the most important aspect and it is important to keep this steady pulse throughout. A metronome is most helpful in this respect since it will avoid the error of playing faster when the piece is easy and stumbling slowly when the piece gets more difficult. Initially set the metronome to a speed – no matter how slow - such that the whole piece can be played correctly.

It was good to listen to two of Vincent's compositions – *Esta Noche* and *Shadow of the Moon* being played on the day by the participants.

Vincent advised to keep the shoulders and

right hand relaxed. When relaxed, the right hand fingers should have a slight curve and they should pull the string sideways. Do not pluck the string upwards since this can result in a nasty slap as the vibrating string hits the frets. Having the shoulders relaxed will help to relax the hands.

He had lots of advice for duos and ensembles. Listen to the other players. Play out when you have the melody line, but, conversely, when you are accompanying, play quieter. A solo performer not only has the tune to play, but also has the accompaniment to play at the same time. An ensemble player with the tune can concentrate more on the dynamics and musicality of the melody line, being uncluttered with such problems as the accompaniment. Do not play the accompaniment all at the same volume. Emphasise the first beat of each bar.

The standard of performances from both juniors and seniors was very high indeed so well done to all who participated. In addition to thanking Vincent for his advice on improvements, we must thank Sasha and Nina. As usual Sasha does so much work multi-tasking on the day as MC, stage manager, still and movie photographer, guitar tuner and accompanist. He and Nina do so much work behind the scenes printing certificates, arranging timetables, collecting trophies etc. On that subject please get your trophies engraved and do return them a month before next year's Festival. This all helps to avoid any last minute panics. Thanks are also due to parents, teachers and helpers on the day - Julian Bobak, Debbie Burford, Conor Miles and Terry Woodgate.

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Conor conducts the West Sussex Junior Guitar Ensemble



Teacher & Student Class



Vincent with Junior Recital Class



Guitar Harmony with leader Robin Burgess



Linda with the WSGC Orchestra



Vincent with the New Gala Quartet & the Tatum Trio

The WSGC AGM & 25th Anniversary

Combining our AGM with a celebration of the club's Silver Jubilee, ensured that we had a record attendance for the AGM. The business side of the AGM was fairly quickly dispatched. Sasha pointed out that we now have the smallest committee ever with just four members – Julian Bobak Chairman, David Clarke Treasurer, Debbie Burford Secretary and Sasha as Artistic Director. More members are desperately needed to fill the posts of Membership Secretary, Publicity Officer and Librarian. Julian gave a brief potted history of the club since its formation (see p5) It was suggested that for some members a 7:30pm start for club evenings would be preferred to the present 7:00pm start. Sasha said the earlier start was to encourage children to come along to the club. It was also pointed out that in theory an early start should result in an early finish which is desirable for those tidying up after an event to ensure that they do not get home at too late a time. A show of hands favoured the original 7:30pm start and this will begin in January

Sasha had suggested that everyone should wear something silver to celebrate the club's Silver

Jubilee and many obliged. Shelly, Julian Bobak's patissiere wife, had made a huge celebratory cake which was iced with the club's logo. This was some three months in the making and was matured with rum. The proof of the pudding was in the eating and it really was delicious. Many thanks Shelly - that was greatly appreciated by all. There was lots of food which was just about all consumed by the end of the evening. We also had some splendid music to entertain us. Thanks to all concerned including Robin Burgess and his orchestra – the Tatum Trio, a new trio of Yvonne Scott, Jay Huff and Conor Miles, The New Gala Guitar Quartet (who played Pachelbel's Canon which the original Quartet played even before the WSGC was formed), Conor Miles, Stephen Frith and Linda Kelsall-Barnett. Thanks also to Debbie Burford who set a Quiz about the club. This was won by Linda. The quiz is repeated on p10, see how you fare!

It was a wonderful evening made possible by two people who have been concerned with the club since its inception – ie Sasha and Nina. Many thanks for all you do for us all.

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The well attended AGM & 25th Anniversary party



Shelly Bobak's delicious cake



Nina & Sasha

The Silver Anniversary Quiz for WSGC

So, how much do you really know about our club...

- 1) The guitar club started in 1993 but not in our current building - where did the first club evenings and concerts take place?
 - a) The Old School, Bersted Street
 - b) The Hub Community Centre, 73 Queensway
 - c) Bognor Regis Music Club, 2 Sudley Road
- 2) Who designed the West Sussex Guitar Club logo?
- 3) Which duo gave the very first concert recital for the new club in July 1993?
 - a) Mark Eden and Christopher Stell
 - b) John Mills and Cobie Smit
 - c) Debra Adamson and Arne Brattland
- 4) How much did a club member pay for a ticket to that first concert?
 - a) £5.00
 - b) £3.50
 - c) £4.00
- 5) The very first Summer Party (July 1994) had a Medieval theme but who dressed up in a suit of armour?
- 6) The guitar club moved to its current premises in September of which year?
 - a) 1995
 - b) 1996
 - c) 1997
- 7) Which guitarist gave the first professional concert in the new venue?
 - a) Gary Ryan
 - b) Charles Ramirez
 - c) Amanda Cook
- 8) This building used to be a Church run by Christian Scientists but when was the foundation stone laid?
- 9) What type of trees are planted just outside the entrance?
 - a) cherries
 - b) rowans
 - c) limes
- 10) In November of which year did the club set up its own West Sussex Guitar Festival?
 - a) 1999
 - b) 2000
 - c) 2001
- 11) How many Chairmen have there been in the club's 25 year history?
- 12) The club's orchestra has played at many outside venues/events over the years but which one of the following have they **NOT** played at?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Rox on the Prom, Bognor b) Hotham Park, Bognor c) St. Paul's Church, Chichester d) Oaklands Park, Chichester 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> e) Chichester Cathedral f) Oxmarket, Chichester g) Portsmouth Festival h) Selsey Festival
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- 13) Can you name the club's two patrons (*1 point total*)?
- 14) In which year did the club become a registered charity?
 - a) 2008
 - b) 2009
 - c) 2010
- 15) There are eight professional guitarists who have given six recitals or more during the history of the guitar club – please use their individual names (not the name of any group - as some might be part of more than one group) (*1/2 point for each name – total 4 points*)
- 16) How many storm-troopers were there at the 'Journey into Space' Summer Party (July 2018)?
- 17) Who is our one and only Artistic Director?!



Maximum Score 20 points (Answers p 12)

Compiled by Debbie Burford for AGM/Party 21/9/2018

The Amanda Cook Charity Recital



On 2nd November, one of the longest standing members, Amanda Cook gave a charity recital at the Oxmarket Gallery in Chichester. Amanda was originally a pupil of Sasha from the age of seven years old. She has given solo concerts in the USA, South America and throughout Europe and the

Independent dubbed her as 'The guitar Queen with a silken touch'. She is also well known as one quarter of the Vida Guitar Quartet. Amanda generously donated all the concert ticket sales to the Mayor of Chichester's two chosen charities – the Oxmarket Gallery and Stonepillow.

The hall was filled to capacity and there were at least ten club members in the audience. As usual Amanda was on top form with both her playing and imparting her knowledge of the pieces. We heard a wide range of music including Spanish music by Rodrigo, Tarrega and Torroba followed by South American music by Baden Powell, Cardoso and a traditional Peruvian piece. We heard Ananda - a mesmerising piece by Johannes Moller where the guitar was retuned to emulate a sitar.

The second half began with two pieces by William Lovelady and two superb arrangements by Roland Dyens of evergreen pieces *Over the Rainbow* and *All of Me*. The formal concert finished with three compositions by Ben Verdery, which finished with the exciting hoedown *Milkaukee*. By contrast, for an encore, the spellbound audience were treated to the very delicate *Chiming Clock* by Isaias Savio.

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Vincent Lindsey Clark at Selsey Folk Club

Vincent made a special guest appearance at his brother Julian's Selsey Folk Club in September. There were quite a few WSGC members amongst the audience. Vincent tailored his repertoire to meet the folk expectations of the club. We heard folk music from around the world with pieces from England, Ireland, Russia and South America. We heard Vincent's moving arrangement

of the *Mountains of Mourne* and his own excitable composition of *Laura* written for his daughter. We were given a special treat as Vincent unveiled a movement from his latest suite which is dedicated to the weird and wonderful birds of New Zealand. A most enjoyable and fun evening and some of our club members played as well!

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Concert in aid of Save the Children

Every year the junior pupils of the Regis School of Music put on a charity concert in aid of Save the Children. These are always very popular concerts of a very high standard and feature a range of instruments played by students from 7-18 years of age. This year we heard music played on the piano, cello and guitar. As would be expected the guitar featured very prominently with performances from some of our members. Well done new members Jack and Olivia McIntyre who played both solos and a duet. James Connolly played solo and was accompanied by Sasha in a

sparkling piece by Machado. Older performers - Evelina Kisliak and Rebecca Allday played more advanced pieces by Gary Ryan, Leo Brouwer and Tarrega.

Thanks to all the performers who participated in such a worthy cause. You should all feel very proud. Thanks also to their parents and teachers and above all thanks to Sasha and Nina for making it all happen. In total, an amazing £555.00 was collected in aid of Save the Children.

TW

Silver Anniversary Quiz Answers

- 1) a) The Old School, Bersted Street
- 2) Ian Burt
- 3) c) Debra Adamson and Arne Brattland
- 4) b) £3.50 *(it was £5.00 for non-members)*
- 5) John Mason
- 6) b) 1996
- 7) b) Charles Ramirez
- 8) 1956 *(see engraved stone at back of hall)*
- 9) c) limes
- 10) b) 2000
- 11) Five *(Ian Burt, Richard Prior, Terry Woodgate, Sasha Levtov, Julian Bobak)*
- 12) e) Chichester Cathedral
- 13) Gary Ryan & Fabio Zanon
- 14) a) 2008
- 15) *(approximate number of concerts including in groups)*

Fabio Zanon	10
Mark Eden	8
Christopher Stell	8
Mark Ashford	7
Amanda Cook	7
Xuefei Yang	6
Gary Ryan	6
Graham Devine	6
- 16) Three *(two inflatables and one model)*
- 17) Sasha Levtov

(Compiled by Debbie Burford for AGM/Party 21/9/2018)

Maximum Score 20 points

Editor's Piece

Many thanks to Debbie Burford and Julian Bobak for their valuable contributions to this edition. As usual, the start of our new season has been extremely busy. We have had two wonderful concerts from Maximo Pujol and Michael Matthews, we had a Bach workshop with Stephen Gordon and we have had our club festival. This year we were able to squeeze both junior and senior classes in to one very long day as we had fewer entries than last year. The standard of playing was very high and we thank adjudicator

Vincent Lindsey-Clark for his valuable comments. The diary for the rest of the season is given on p.16 where as you can see we will be very busy. Do not miss our forthcoming concerts given by **Xuefei Yang** and **Vincent Lindsey-Clark**. The committee, which is currently just four members, is quite insufficient to run a busy club such as ours. Please consider joining the friendly committee and helping out. In particular we need a membership secretary, publicity officer and no new acquisitions will be obtained until there is a librarian.

Are you receiving our emails? Every member of the guitar club (who has given permission to be contacted by email) should be receiving an invitation to concerts, club evenings, parties etc. by email a few days before each event. If you have not been getting these

reminders, and would like to, please check with Sasha that he has your up-to-date email address. You can contact him at recital@tiscali.co.uk Please do check your "Spam" folder regularly, as some of our emails automatically send to this folder. If so, please let us know.

WSGC Play at the Selsey Festival



Olivia & Jack McIntyre

Every year the Selsey Festival Committee invites us to share our music at the Selsey Festival. We are very grateful to them and Sally Paice for this opportunity to play away from home. We were able to demonstrate a wide range of music for our audience. The evening started with some very capable youngsters – new members Olivia and Jack McIntyre who played solo and as a duo. This was followed by Ben Ward another new member youngster who played an excellent solo. Then it was the turn of Sally’s ukulele group of a dozen or so

players who played some popular songs by Bob Dylan, Carol King and some traditional songs. Member Pam Fereday kept with the ukulele theme and played two uke solos and two duets. For the duets she was joined by our treasurer David Clarke who accompanied *St Ann’s Reel* on the uke and *Souvenir d’Alvito* on guitar. Both were arranged by David. The first half finished with two pieces from Conor Miles and two pieces from Alex Hart.

After a very substantial interval with much food and drink, the second half began with David Clarke playing a Vincent Lindsey-Clark solo. Zoe Barnett played both solos and a duet with mum Linda. Linda also played solo guitar. The evening finished with pieces from Terry Woodgate, George Robinson and Alex Hart.

We were able to demonstrate a versatile range of music from some very young to much older performers. The mostly new audience enjoyed the experience and Sasha’s enthusiasm even managed to net some new members!

TW



Sally Paice, Sasha & the Performers

A Memorable Day at West Dean



The New, New Gala Quartet with Gary Ryan

I felt very lucky to have been among the 50 students who took part in this year's International Classical Guitar Festival at West Dean in August. It was my third time on the course and I attended with fellow members of the New Gala Quartet - Diana Green and David Clarke. It was such a shame that John Mason had work commitments but he hopes to go next year.

Always preferring to play guitar as part of a group, the prospect of joining Helen Sanderson's ensemble or the 30-strong guitar orchestra conducted by Gerald Garcia did not daunt me, but the thought of having an individual lesson absolutely terrified me. The trepidation probably comes from the fact that I am a self-taught guitarist (with all the bad habits that implies), have only ever had three guitar lessons in my entire life and have almost no solo repertoire. Imagine my consternation then when I found out from my timetable that my private lesson would be with William Kanengiser, founder member of the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet! As the days went by and my lesson loomed, I watched William's inspirational master-classes for the advanced players as well as his own concert performance, and it did nothing to dispel my nerves.

Meanwhile, Diana, David and I had signed up for two repertoire classes, taking along our quartet music and

asking the tutor if they would mind making up the fourth person. It was a marvellous experience for us to play with Gary Ryan, two movements of the *Capriol Suite* (Warlock arranged by Susans) with Gary on 'guitar 1.' For the session with Gerald Garcia, we brought along one of my own arrangements - *Sandpaper Ballet* (by my favourite composer of light music, Leroy Anderson). Fortunately, the 'sandpapering' required in the piece made him smile, and he very kindly agreed to play it again with us at the student concert at the end of the course.

Finally, the day I had been dreading arrived. I decided it was pointless to try and play a solo in my lesson so instead I brought my folder containing some of the guitar arrangements I have made over the years. Well after all the worry, William (or Bill as he prefers to be known) could not have been nicer. The moment of truth came when Bill asked me what I was going to play and I got out my folder of arrangements and said I'd been in a quartet for 27 years. He turned the pages and found *The Syncopated Clock* (Leroy Anderson again). He got me to play one of the parts while he managed single-handedly to sight-read most of the rest. "I know this," he said smiling. We played two of my duets *The Bluebells of Scotland* and *Little Red Monkey* and he finished with a quartet of *The Waltzing Cat* where he played all four parts by himself while smiling and humming along! Bill thought that my arrangements would make 'ideal teaching material' as they were not too difficult but gave 'instant gratification.' He ended up by thanking me and saying the lesson had been fun!

After that, I thought the day could not possibly get any better but in fact that evening at the student concert, our New Gala Quartet, this time with the inimitable Gerald Garcia, played my arrangement of *Sandpaper Ballet*. There was a loud cheer and laughter at the end, and Andrew Gough said he must have the piece for his students in Birmingham (which I have done). Truly one of the most memorable days of my life. *Debbie Burford*



Gerald Garcia with Debbie, Diana & David



Debbie with Bill Kanengiser

West Dean International Guitar Festival



Xuefei with Terry, Pam & Moyria

The Summer guitar festival at West Dean is becoming ever popular with quite a few of our members. The event lasts for six days and boasts some top tutors and excellent concerts. The tutors for this year were Gary Ryan, Helen Sanderson, Jarl Stromdal, Alison Bendy, Gerald Garcia and Andrew Gough who is also the Festival director.

There is an open day on the Sunday where in addition to trying out guitars and browsing music and cds, there are a number of events. There was a Bursary Winner's Recital given by three up and coming young guitarists. This year two of our members – Zoe Barnett and George Robinson both gave excellent recitals. Zoe played pieces by Villa Lobos, Dowland and Brouwer while George played Lennox Berkeley's Sonatina Op. 51. In no time at all it seems, Zoe is already in her second year at the Royal College of Music. George has graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama with first class honours and has just started at the Royal College of Music on a Masters in Performance programme. Other events on the day included Gary

Ryan explaining and demonstrating composing and arranging for the guitar. There were guitar master classes with William Kanengiser and Helen Sanderson demonstrated a variety of newly-built guitars. There was a talk on Tarrega and his English patron Dr. Walter Leckie. The day finished with a recital by the Vickers Bovey Guitar Duo who were quite astounding. The slight raising of an eyebrow was sufficient to see them totally together in their playing. They played pieces by Rameau, Janacek, Nin-Cumell and Koshkin.

There were also concerts given each evening that the public can attend. William Kanengiser – founder member of the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet played a number of unfamiliar pieces by Turina, Oliver Hunt, Garcia de Leon, Bartok, Johanson, Bogdanovic and Brian Head, all played with great panache and understanding. Xuefei Yang gave a most wonderful concert of classical guitar favourites which featured pieces by Albeniz, Malats, Paco de Lucia, Ricardo, Granados, Debussy, de Falla, Rodrigo and Tarrega. What more could anyone want – superb compositions played by one of the top guitarists? The final concert was given by the Modern Guitar Trio – Vincent Lindsey Clark and the two Rolands – Roland Chadwick and Roland Gallery. They played pieces that they had written themselves. Without exception, all were most tuneful and cleverly written and were very popular with the audience.

Next year the Festival runs from 24th – 29th August 2019. Try to get along to the open day or a concert or even enrol for the six days of tuition.

TW

Christmas Party 2018



The Aldwick Duo

Although Christmas was just around the corner, it never seems that way until we have had our enjoyable Christmas Party. Then with the giant Christmas tree, the table groaning with food, the decorations, the delicious smell of warm punch, the exchange of Christmas cards, wonderful music and lots of chat, you know the countdown has begun. It was good to catch up on some members who we do not see that often like Chris Sweatman and Peter Watkins.

The fine music mostly had a Christmas theme, but that was not always the case. Conor Miles

(Continued on page 16)



Our New member Laurence Pettit



The WSGC Choir

explained that with his past experience of

and Linda. Debbie also played the piano and gave a wonderful rendition of the *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* with rich jazzy chords. She also gave piano accompaniment to the Carol singing at the end of the evening.

working in a Supermarket over the Christmas period where non-stop Seasonal music is repeated endlessly, one can soon become saturated with Festive music.

There was a grand raffle with some great prizes of Christmas cheer which were kindly donated by members. Thanks to Sasha, Nina, Debbie and David who decorated the hall for the party. Thanks to everyone who performed, brought food and helped tidy up afterwards. Above all thanks to Nina and Sasha who always go to such great lengths to make these parties so enjoyable.

Ensembles were well represented with Robin Burgess's Guitar Harmony, Linda's WSGC Orchestra, the New Gala Guitar Quartet and the Aldwick Duo (Pam Fereday on ukulele and David Clarke on guitar). We also heard solos from Conor, Robin Burgess, Patrick Sowden, Laurence

TW

Dates for your Diary

Jan 26th **Recital: Xuefei Yang**

Feb 2nd Chi Festival Juniors Adjudicator - **Amanda Cook**

Feb 10th Chi Fest Seniors Adjudicator - **Paul Gregory Sunday**

Feb 16th Club Evening**

Mar 2nd Club Evening**

Apr 6th **Recital: Vincent Lindsey-Clark**

May 12th Meeting with **Dorset Guitar Society Sunday**

May 25th **Recital: "Guitar Gala" - variety performance by several talented guitarists of a new generation**

June 15th Club Evening**

July 20th Summer Party: **"Tales from the Arabian Nights"**

Concerts usually take place on Saturdays at 7.30pm in the Regis School of Music, 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis PO21 1ER. ****NOTE that club evenings now begin at 7:30pm**
For details phone 01243 866462. To reserve 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 **15th March** 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:

