

THE NORFOLK & NORWICH NOVI SAD ASSOCIATION

Report to Twinning Committee. February 2009

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association.

It is pleasing to report that the invitation to go to Novi Sad to attend the 'Celebration of the Day of the City' on February 1st. was able to be accepted by the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Cll. Jeremy Hooke. Mr. Doug Underwood attended as Chairman of the Association and Diana and Peter Beckley attended as Honorary Citizens of Novi Sad.

During the visit to Novi Sad.

We had a meeting with the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation representing the Norwich Churches Novi Sad Group. It is hoped a volunteer member of EHO will visit Norwich (probably June this year) to look at Cancer Support Groups etc to help with setting up similar group/help line in Novi Sad.

Visit to Milan Petrović School to look at possible projects to be supported from proceeds of the Paul Cross Memorial Concert.

Discussions at the Isidor Bajić Music School about continuing and developing music student exchange (this in conjunction with the Norfolk Schools Music Service),

Social meeting with representatives of Novi Sad Fire Service. The cooperation and exchange being prompted and organised by Doug Underwood.(Chairman NNNSA)

Meeting with Kompass Travel Agency to determine and arrange programme for the Association's annual visit May/June.

Office of the Representative of Novi Sad

P & D Beckley had a useful and constructive meeting with The Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of the City of Novi Sad. They are arranging a visit for a team of (possibly) five people to come to Norwich in late June to look at the protection of listed buildings etc. Mr. Mike Loveday of HEART will be pleased to act as Technical host and, in cooperation with P & D Beckley, will prepare a programme for them.

Number 111

January 2009

The Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

MEMBERSHIP

The January edition of the newsletter always brings with it the little brown envelope for the annual subscription.

THE PAUL CROSS

MEMORIAL CONCERT

A very successful musical evening enhanced by three charismatic performers turning the evening into an event long to be remembered.

VISIT TO NOVI SAD.

Members will already have received a letter from Diana. R.S.V.P.

Membership

The committee is pleased that we are able to continue the subscription at £5. (family £8; Students £2)

It is many years since this was established and the Association, under the skilful management of the Treasurer, Jack Brooksbank, has been able to keep the subscription at this level.

The acquisition of new members is a sure way of keeping the subscription down and it is pleasing that this year we have been able to slightly increase our numbers.

Members help tremendously by prompt payment. This gives Jack the opportunity to budget for the year ahead.

It is not often appreciated how far flung our membership is and the list of people who are members that do not reside in Norfolk or Norwich is very impressive. Although many are not able to attend our events and participate in what the Association does they are all very interested in what happens and continue to give the Association

valuable support. The list is impressive:

London 13; Salisbury 1; Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1; Birmingham 2; Australia 1; Nottingham 1; Litchfield 2; Wales 1; Novi Sad 2; Oxfordshire 4; Devon 2; Eye 2; Austria 1; Northants 2; Scotland 2; Bishops Stortford 2. Forty in all, and all with some connection and interest in Novi Sad and/or former Yugoslavia.

The Committee is always hopeful that the local membership will increase and it is hoped that the membership at the time of our AGM in April will reflect this.

To new members that joined after 1st October 2008 the Committee is pleased to remind you that your subscription carries you through 2009. But please do not be discouraged from paying another £5 if you want to!

The Paul Cross Memorial Concert.

The Concert continues to be a 'highlight' of the Association calendar and this year many members of the audience considered it to be 'the best yet'.

The following extracts from the review by Michael Drake of the E.D.P. gives an unbiased impression of the whole evening:

".....Paul Cross left a ten year legacy of 'friendship, honour and respect' was how the charming international pianist and resident of the Serbian city, Marina Milić-Apostolović described Saturday's concert." She gave ".....she gave a performance of

great dimension and variation....Bora Dugić showed extraordinary dexterity on a variety of frula—Serbian flutes.....the plaintiveness of the folk tunes and dances...was haunting.....Accordionist Boban Prodanović also joined in the fun in some final instrumental trios and duets to end a happy evening of music and friendship"

Although the final accounting has not been made it is thought there will be some £200 will be available towards the Milan Petrović School's next project.

Are you a bird-watcher?

If numbers are right there may be an opportunity for a 'birding' holiday in Serbia.

Contact the Secretary.



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The Association exists to promote informal links between people and organisations in the City of Norwich and the County of Norfolk and those in the Municipality of Novi Sad.

The Association is a non-political, non-sectarian organisation dedicated to furthering friendship between the two cities.

Chairman:

Secretary: Peter L. Beckley MBE

**Treasurer: Jack Brooksbank,
8, Glenalmond,
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President : The Lord Mayor of Norwich

Committee members:

Doug Underwood (Vice Chairman); Diana Beckley (International Secretary); Wendy Quinn (Social Secretary); Heather Ashmore (Minutes Secretary); Brenda Moffitt (Concert Sub Committee); Ken Lock (Sub Committees); Caroline Lock (Sub Committees).



A formal presentation to the artists by the President of the Association The Lord Mayor of Norwich Cll. Jeremy Hooke



The Artists Boban Prodanović, Marina Milić-Apostolović and Bora Dugić sharing a great joke with The Lord Mayor.