

The Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

January—two successful events.

So much already achieved and so much more to come.

Two very successful events in January seem to have 'set the pace' for the rest of the year!

The Treasurer is very grateful to all those who have responded promptly in renewing subscriptions—and particularly to those who have made extra donations to support our 50th Anniversary Year.

The Association is blessed with a loyal and supportive membership which is world wide.

Twin City Photographic exhibition

The exhibition of photographs "Cities and Peoples" was on display at the Assembly House, Norwich throughout January.

This first event to mark the 50 years of contact between the two cities was a joint cooperation between the Norwich Photographers and the Foto Kino Klub of Vojvodina and proved to be an unqualified success.

The exhibition was opened by the Lord Mayor at a reception in the Assembly House which was attended by several members of the Norwich Photographers.

Dušan Živkić and Siniša Bubnjević of the Photo Kino Klub Novi Sad, guests of the Association were delighted to meet the Norwich Photographers and to be part of the joint exhibition.

The weather in January made their stay in Norwich and England an interesting one—enlivened by travel problems and an unexpected overnight stay in Heathrow Airport!

Paul Cross Memorial Concert

The Paul Cross Memorial Concert was being held this year at a new venue—the Playhouse, St. George's, Norwich. This proved to be a most successful move with a well received and exciting concert attracting a large audience.

Marina Milić-Apostolović and Milan Miladinović produced a concert of piano music that was both entertaining and informative. The informal presentation of the pieces by the artists was much appreciated by the audience. Both artists have performed at the Paul Cross Memorial Concert before and their combined efforts this time drew enthusiastic reviews from the local press.

Page 1. Photographic Exhibition.

Page 1 Paul Cross Memorial Concert

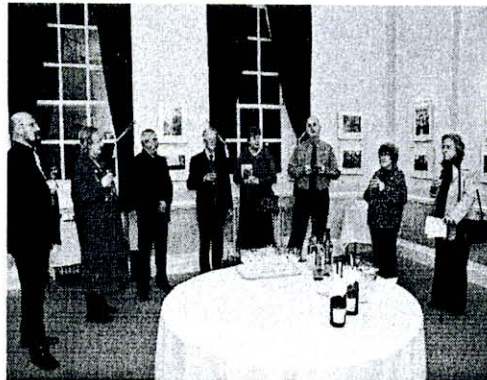
Page 2. Visit to Novi Sad Feb. 2010
EHO; Milan Petrović School;
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and Fund Raising

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Association details



The Lord Mayor, Cil. Eve Collishaw, the Chairman Doug Underwood, guests from Novi Sad and members of the Norwich Photographers and the Association.



Presentation to the Artists at the end of the concert by The Lord Mayor and the Chairman of the Association

Final accounting will take place but at the moment it looks as though £1,400 will have been raised for the Milan Petrović School in Novi Sad.

VISIT TO NOVI SAD FOR THE CELEBRATION of the DAY OF THE CITY—FEBRUARY 1ST.

Each year the Lord Mayor of Norwich is invited to attend the celebration of the Day of the City in Novi Sad on February 1st to represent the City of Norwich along with representatives of many of Novi Sad's other twin cities.

The Chairman of the Association is also invited as are Diana and Peter Beckley who are invited as Honorary Citizens of Novi Sad. This is fortunate since the Association ends up being represented by its President, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary !

Although 'official' programme is geared to developing and strengthening ties between cities an opportunity is taken to visit institutions and have meeting that further the activities of the Association.

The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation.

A visit to this organisation (now a recognised N.G.O.) gave the opportunity to catch up on many of the current projects and to meet the new Diector Vladislav Ivičiak.

Messages were conveyed from the Novi Sad Churches Support Group and plans for a forthcoming visit to Norwich were discussed.

The Milan Petrović School

During the visit to the School it was useful to visit the workshops that have benefited from the support of the Association through the proceeds from the Paul Cross Memorial Concert

During discussions it was determined how much support is needed for the 'Paper Making Project' and it was with great pleasure that the Chairman was able to present to the Director, Slavica Marković, €550 towards the purchase of a large blender. This was only part of the money raised at the concert and the school is looking forward to extending their capability to increase production.

schools with blind and partially sighted children.

The Association keeps them supplied with the special paper need for this which is funded from the sale of notelets and greetings cards made by the children. A fresh supply is now to hand and they will be available at the AGM and other Association events.

The Rotary Clubs of Norwich and Novi Sad

Some years ago the Association was instrumental in introducing a resurgent Rotary Club in Novi Sad to Norwich Rotarians.

A close bond between the Rotarians of both cities has been established and their cooperation has resulted in many charitable activities that have gone a long way in improving many aspects of life there.

It was with great pleasure, therefore, that the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Cll. Eve Collishaw, represented the Norwich Rotary at the commemoration of a ramp, sponsored jointly by both Rotaries, to provide an access facility into the Faculty of Mathematics and Science of the University of Novi Sad.



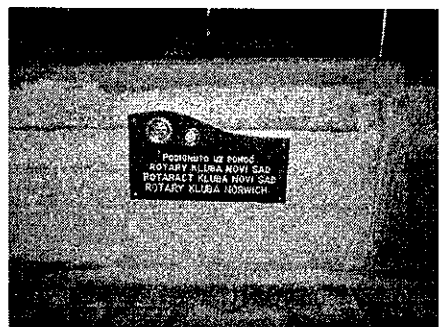
Slavica Marković receiving the gift of euros from a headless Chairman



A small gift presented to Slavica Marković by the Lord Mayor Cll. Eve Collishaw



The Lord Mayor. The Chairman and the Director and members of the E.H.O.



Equipment for the blind pupils supplied by the Association some years ago continues to be of significant importance to the school which is able to use it to produce material for other

Novi Sad (continued)

The Red Cross of Vojvodina

The second (larger) batch of hearing aids was delivered to the Red Cross. This adds up to about 3,000 in total. The majority of these are in good working order and many of the others are repaired. They are distributed free via the local Deaf Association throughout Vojvodina and beyond to (mainly elderly) people who are 'on benefit'.

During discussion it was learned that unemployment remains a serious problem. The Red Cross (funded by the local authorities) now run 20 soup kitchens and there is demand for more. The soup kitchens provide stew or a packed lunch for 9,000 people daily.

Isidor Bajić Music School

A visit was made to the school to meet the Director Radmila Rakin-Martinović and Dina Šuklar and Ksenija Milić who were guests of the Association last year with the music students.

The forthcoming visit by the Norfolk Youth Orchestra to Novi Sad later in the year was discussed and the idea of a small group of students visiting Norwich sometime this year was introduced.

Visit to Novi Sad (and beyond) May/June 2010

Association Holiday: May 29th – June 5th or longer

An Announcement by Diana

Another thing we did while in Novi Sad was to talk to Sandra about a possible Association visit to Novi Sad during the summer half term.

In case you have not come across this before, what we have done for several years now is to take a group of members to Novi Sad during this half-term for a week and then some of the group have stayed on for another few days to visit somewhere else – Hungary, Romania and southern Serbia so far. Sandra works for a local tourist agency (Kompas) and makes all the local arrangements for us.

The suggested programme at present is:

Saturday Arrive
Sunday Lunch with friends or other local families

During week: outings to Sombor and Sremska Mitrovica both of which are pleasant towns with interesting things to see and good to wander round. Sremska Mitrovica is on the site of a Roman regional capital and we understand now has more excavations and a very interesting visitors' centre. In both cases we would probably make one or two short visits as well. Of course we will

also be going to the Milan Petrović School.

Also: one or two short outings – such as another visit to Sandra's own village and free time

Saturday: return home or go on somewhere else.

The restoration of the Putnik hotel in the centre of town may be finished by May, in which case we could stay there, otherwise the hotel Sajam further out remains a possibility.

As always, I can't give you a sensible price at present. The airfare will be about £240 if we manage to book very quickly and the rest of the programme about £400. This will include transfers, bed and breakfast accommodation, one large meal a day, all outings (with our own mini-bus) and any entrance fees.

We talked about three possible destinations for any extension: Bulgaria, Ohrid in Macedonia, a tour of Bosnia/Republika Srpska. We have no details of these at present but would work out a programme for the most popular place. The additional cost would be similar to the Novi Sad cost.

Could you please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in coming, by email (diana.beckley@tiscali.co.uk), phone (01508 480262) or mail (our address is on the back of the newsletter).

50th Anniversary Events and Fund Raising Activities

Coffee Morning.

Wendy Quinn has very kindly offered to hold a Coffee Morning at her home: 6 College Road Norwich NR2 3JJ on the 12 March.

There will be a 'book and DVD exchange' and a chance to buy the notelets from the Milan Petrović School.

The last Coffee Morning Wendy held

was a great success—providing an opportunity to meet many fascinating people; enjoy good company, and raise funds for the Association's activities. (The coffee and biscuits are very good too!)

Lord Mayor's Reception

The Chairman is working very hard at organising this event. As you can

imagine getting a date to suit all those involved in both cities is not an easy task.

At the moment it looks as though the date is Friday 2nd. July but we will keep members informed through the newsletter.

Whatever—this will be the most important event in our 50th celebration calendar.



Dedicated to Friendship

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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.

Secretary: Peter L. Beckley MBE

Chairman: Doug Underwood,
14, Herb Robert Glade,
Wymondham,
Norwich, NR18 0XS

President : The Lord Mayor of Norwich

Treasurer: Jack Brooksbank,
8, Glenalmond,
Norwich, NR4 6AG

Committee members:

Diana Beckley MBE (Vice Chairman); Wendy Quinn (Social Secretary); John Jennings (Sub Committees)
Heather Ashmore (Minutes Secretary); Dr. Brenda Moffitt (Concert Sub Committee); Ken Lock (Sub Committees);
Caroline Lock (Sub Committees).

Events and Fund Raising Continued:

Things to be looking forward to:

Barbecue at the home of Peter & Diana sometime in the Summer at a time when younger (working) members and their children will be able to attend. There is room enough for everyone and it is hoped that some traditional Novi Sad B.B.Q. (Roštil) food will be available.

The A.G.M. on Friday 16th April at 7.30 at the United Reformed Church in Jessopp Road, Norwich. Laura Elliot—a young talented poet will give a talk on her visits to Novi Sad.

The Annual Luncheon at the Park Farm Hotel on Sunday 17th October

The Rotary Club of Novi Sad will be visiting Norwich early in May as guests of the Norwich Rotary Club.

Novi Sad Music Students to visit Norwich later in the year.

The Norfolk Youth Orchestra to Visit Novi Sad in September.

Possibility of art work from Novi Sad to be exhibited at the Norwich 20 Group of Artists Annual International Exhibition.

An Association outing to Great Walsingham with a Pub Lunch July—details in the next edition of the Newsletter

The Secretary says:

"Apologies for any mistakes in the Newsletter I am anxious to get it out a.s.a.p. and have not had time to 'proof read' it"

If you are not sure that you have renewed your subscription could you check? If you have any doubts the Treasurer can help.