



NEWSLETTER

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

Editorial: Tel. 01508 480262 e-mail: orns@btconnect.com

Editorial

A very successful visit to Novi Sad was enhanced by an extended holiday for some of the group in Monenegro.

Visits to the Milan Petrović School and the Isidor Bajić furnish more information about the very successful events experienced by groups and individuals.

We are pleased to include a report of his participation in the International Piano Conference from Adam Possener.

The Association's Annual Lunch was much appreciated by all those who attended. £62 was raised by the raffle which will be added to monies raised at the January concert and go to the Milan Petrović school project.

2014 Visit to Novi Sad and Montenegro

The undoubted success of this visit and holiday was in no small way attributed to our Vice Chair Diana who spent many hours over a hot computer; maintaining an umbilical contact with Sandra of Kompas in Novi Sad; producing a varied and fascinating programme of events and visits; and keeping her head *'when all about...'*

As always the programme did not always go to plan but the different experiences, delays and extended timings all added up to an unforgettable visit.



Getting to know the pony

The Director, staff and pupils of the school are very grateful to the Association for its continued support for the various projects it has funded. The value of the 'Riding for the disabled' programme is experienced by many pupils with varying physical and mental disabilities.



A visit to a vineyard in the Fruška Gora followed by the obligatory wine tasting!

The visitors went to see the development of the 'Riding for the Disabled' programme established by the Milan Petrović School and supported by the Association with a grant to purchase equipment.



Some of the equipment

There may be a request in the future for equipment for larger pupils.



Iack for the pony.



the work of local and international artist using the industrial sized kilns of the nearby ceramics factory.

A half day visit to Belgrade gave the opportunity to visit the Vuk Karadžić Museum...



The equipment in use!



The group spent several days dashing around Vojvodina where there was so much to see that had not been seen already.

Many and varied were the delights of a subsequent visit to Montenegro.....



The guide at Kikinda explaining about long eared owls.....



Kotor and mountains



a Mammoth dug out of the local clay.....



During their time in Novi Sad Diana and Peter visited the Isidor Bajić Music School mainly on behalf of *Triorca*, the European Youth Orchestra, and also about the World Piano Conference at the end of June, and the invitation for young Piano players from Norfolk/Norwich, which was reported in our last Newsletter.

The Director, Radmila Rakin-Martinović, and the staff at the school were delighted with Adam who, at the age of thirteen, excelled in the company of older participants.

Adam himself took full advantage of the opportunity to benefit from the workshops and the company of the professors and their tuition. Looking at the events of the Piano Conference and the programme prepared by Adam there is an astonishing awareness of the high standard and level of musicianship.

The Association is delighted to have been able to help a little with making this happen and to give some support from the Paddy Goldring Fund.

As you can imagine Adam is a busy young man, particularly moving on to Secondary education. He wrote of his experience which, unfortunately missed the last Newsletter by a day or so but we are very pleased to reproduce his letter now:

Serbia Report by Adam Possener.

Performing at the International Piano Conference in Novi Sad was the chance of a lifetime. Whilst I was there I had the chance to perform in 5 masterclasses from teachers all over the world, to give an hours recital in an amazing performing space, as well as immerse myself in the diverse range of lectures, recitals, and masterclasses.

The Isidor Bajić Music School is home to an impressive array of practice rooms, rehearsal spaces, and a great concert hall.

Whenever you walked past the music school into the 'Liberty Square' you could always hear a huge variety of music floating out of the windows into the ears of the people in the street.

The quality of the teaching at the conference was second to none, and each teacher brought a degree of specialism and their own perspective on the interpretation and technique of the music I was playing.

The teachers also gave me great advice for not only the music I was playing at the conference, but for my playing in general and my musical development.

At the conference I had the chance to meet some very dedicated and inspirational musicians and I am sure I will keep in contact with them.

I found it very interesting to listen to the young musicians from Serbia and all over the world, and to hear how their lifestyle and culture affected their interpretation of the music.

Overall the World Piano Conference was an amazing experience and I would definitely love to go again.

The success of this cooperation with the Isidor Bajić school is a great pleasure to the Committee and members who have continued to work for and encourage the development of music exchanges between Novi Sad and Norwich over many years.

Much work goes into supporting the Milan Petrović school and the Red Cross of Vojvodina in their work with the disadvantaged and handicapped as a priority of the twinning support the Association gives willingly, so it is of pleasing that there is energy and commitment to support an activity that enables young people to interact and visit each other's homeland.

Music and sport are probably the two activities that allows this sharing experience to happen. For various reasons it has not been possible to arrange sporting activities but the Association has earned a reputation for encouraging interaction of youth through music.

It is interesting how these things 'overlap' where music has always been the medium through which the Association supports, financially, projects of the Milan Petrović School.

To this end the Paul Cross Memorial Concert Sub Committee (doesn't that sound GRAND - four people and a pot of coffee!) announce the next fund raising concert will be held at the Assembly House on January 17th 2015. This time the brilliant young pianist, Aleksandar Đermanović from Novi Sad, who is currently studying in London at the Royal College of Music, will perform works which will include Chopin as well as, possibly, a Slavic march by Tchaikovsky and some Serbian composers. He is very much looking forward to playing for the Association.

On October 31st the County Youth Orchestra are giving a concert in Cambridge at the West Road Concert Hall. Irena Josifoska from Novi Sad will be the soloist at the concert when she will perform the Elgar Cello Concerto.

Irena was one of the players from *Triorca* who played in the *Metamorphosen* concert at Norwich Cathedral in July. Irena's visit is being organised and funded by *Triorca*.



The Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

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.

President : The Lord Mayor of Norwich.

Vice-President: Chair Norfolk County Council

The Association's Annual Luncheon

Twenty eight members and guests attended the Lunch which was held at the usual venue of the Park Farm Hotel in Hethersett. There were fewer members than last year, probably due to the early date of the event.

Guests included the President The Lord Mayor of Norwich Cll. Judith Lubbock and her consort Mr. Nigel Lubbock. Also Vice President Chairman of the Norfolk County Council Mr. Brian Hannah and his wife Mrs Beverley Hannah

His Excellency the Serbian Ambassador, Dr Ognjen

Pribičević was unable to attend due to pressure of diplomatic work. He regretted this as attending the Association Lunch is always a pleasant experience giving the opportunity to express the value of the the twinning link to British-Serbian relations.

Both the Lord Mayor of Norwich and the Chairman of the County Council expanded on this sentiment reflecting upon the importance of international relationships - particularly in relation to the development of contacts and understanding between young people. Twinning affords the best vehicle for this to happen and is something that the City and the County are

anxious to support within their capability to so do.

As always the occasion afforded the opportunity for members to socialise and generally put the world to rights whilst imbibing and partaking of a pleasant meal in congenial surroundings.

Future Events

A performance by the Norfolk Youth Orchestra has already been mentioned and a 'flyer' accompanies this edition of the Newsletter.

Make a note of our Concert on January 17th 2015!

The Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association.

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

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Committee members: Diana Beckley MBE (Vice Chairman); Wendy Quinn (Social Secretary); Heather Ashmore (Minutes Secretary); Dr Brenda Moffitt (Concert Sub Committee); John Jennings (Sub Committees); Mike Poulton (Sub Committees); Peter Beckley MBE (Newsletter).