



NEWSLETTER

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

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The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Central Baptist Church, Duke Street, Norwich.

This proved to be a comfortable venue with everyone attending finding convenient parking spaces nearby.

This necessary administrative meeting is always interesting since the 'official' business is speedily and efficiently dispatched! This gives plenty of time for members to meet and chat. It also gives time for an interesting presentation and this year Peter Thorn from the R.C. Cathedral gave a very interesting talk about the history and variety of churches and religions associated with Novi Sad which also reflected the changes and development of former Yugoslavia and this region of the Western Balkans.

Some thirty members attended the meeting and eighteen sent their apologies. This is a good response to an Annual General Meeting and the Committee are looking to hold the next AGM at the same venue and are hoping that more members will be able to attend what is always an interesting evening.

The President of the Association, the Lord Mayor, Cll. Brenda Arthur, chaired the meeting and reflected the observations that Doug made in his introduction about the success of the work that the Association does. The Vice President, Mr. Rex Parkinson-Hare, Chairman of the County Council, was pleased to attend the meeting.

A small change to the Constitution was approved adding to the officers of the

Association the position of Honorary Vice Treasurer.

Several useful and interesting suggestions were made by members at the meeting which the Committee at their subsequent meetings will address.

Useful observations about the level of the Association's subscription were made. Doug was pleased to tell the meeting that the Association is blessed with members who always 'top up' their subscription with a generous donation which keeps the finances of the Association in an healthy state.

Membership

Presently there are one hundred and twenty seven members. This is very encouraging and somewhat unusual when so many organisations are experiencing difficulties in maintaining their membership numbers.

As has been noted before membership is not confined to Norfolk and Norwich but ranges from London, Bury St. Edmunds, Birmingham, Oxfordshire, Northumberland, Litchfield, Devon, Yorkshire, Kent, Northamptonshire, Heartfordshire, Wales and, of course, Belgrade and Novi Sad.

The Committee is not, however, complacent about this and constantly tries to increase membership.

Royal visit to Novi Sad



During day two of the Royal visit to Serbia TRH the Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall visited Novi Sad.

They were welcomed by the Mayor of Novi Sad, Mr Miloš Vučević. During the official events at the Katolicka porta which included the unveiling of a plaque commemorating three English ladies who lived in Novi Sad during the time of the First World War, they were entertained by a performance from members of the Triorca Orchestra, a Serbian, British and German project that encourages children to come together using the international language of music.

The Prince showed a great interest in the group and spoke knowledgeably to the young musicians about playing the cello.

He had the opportunity to talk to the Director of the Isidor Bajic Music School, Radmila Rakin-

Martinović. As joint Director of the Triorca Orchestra, she was able to tell him a little of the work the orchestra does. She presented to the Prince with a record of performances given by the orchestra in Norwich and at Snape during their visit to Norwich in 2013.

The Triorca Orchestra is made up of young, talented musicians from Norwich, Koblenz and Novi Sad. It involves some 25 youngsters from each country and, apart from the music making, one of the most important aspects of the cooperation is the development of international understanding.

The orchestra will be meeting in July near Koblenz for a week of rehearsals and performances. There will be 25 young musicians each from Koblenz and Norwich with seven youngsters from Novi Sad. Financial difficulties prevent the school in Novi Sad sending more. The present plan is for the orchestra to perform next in

Norwich and subsequently in Novi Sad. These events will be led and conducted by Andrew Morley and the musical director Nicholas Daniel.

The Triorca Trust has the administrative function of trying to maintain financial stability for the orchestra and is particularly supportive of those talented youngsters who are in need of financial support.

The Prince of Wales also spoke to Dr. Želimir Mikić about the life and work of Dr. Katherine MacPhail and her role in providing a hospital for children with T.B. at Sremska Kamenica. A copy of the book was subsequently presented to His Royal Highness

During their time in Novi Sad Their Royal Highnesses had the opportunity to walk round part of the city and visit an open air market. Here they met Director Slavica Marković with Sanja Kekić at a stall selling products of the Milan Petrović School.



Subsequently the Duchess of Cornwall, on a short visit to Sremski Karlovci, again met the staff and members of the school. The school had a small stall selling products grown at the school's garden in Čenej. The Duchess was presented with a bouquet of flowering herbs.





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 Katherine Macphail Memorial Fund

When reporting the conversation the Prince of Wales had with Dr. Želimir Mikić about Katherine MacPhail we were reminded of the plight of the 'English Hospital' at Sremska Kamenica.

The enclosed leaflet gives full details of the book that Želimir wrote which was translated by our former member Dr. Muriel Heppell.

When the book was first 'launched' many members were pleased to purchase a copy.

Since that time we have many new members who might like to take advantage of the fact that we have a quantity of the book that might be considered to be 'remaindered' and are priced at £5.

All proceeds from the sale of the book go to the Fund which the committee has agreed the Association could act as 'bankers' for.

If you would like a copy please send a cheque for £7 (£2 p&p) to Peter made out to : **P. Beckley orms**

Address; Glebelands, Star Lane, Rockland St. Mary, Norwich NR14 7BX.

Thank you.

Dates for your diary

The Association Annual Lunch has been arranged for Sunday 16th October at the usual venue of Park Farm Hotel Hethersett.

The price of the meal (two courses) will be £22.

Full details of the event will be announced nearer the date.

The holiday visit to Novi Sad and Vojvodina with a day trip to Belgrade is now arranged for September 10th. - 17th. Diana says there are still one or two places and the full itinerary is being 'mapped out'.

In 2017 the Annual Concert will be on 14th. January.

Full details of this and other events will appear in future editions of the Newsletter.

The Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association.

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Heather Ashmore (Minutes Secretary); Dr. Brenda Moffitt (Concert Sub Committee);

John Jennings (Sub Committees); Peter Beckley MBE (Newsletter)