



NEWSLETTER

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

Dedicated to Friendship

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

Editorial

Three important events are presented in this issue of the newsletter.

The need for a new Treasurer, the AGM and the possible Holiday visit to Novi Sad. Jack's service as our Treasurer for many years is something the Association has benefited from and, without which, would not be in the sound financial position it is today.

Throughout all that time Jack has never advised a rise in the subscription - quite the opposite. He maintains our financial strength lies in membership numbers.

The administrative importance of the AGM is one thing. It's importance as a social event for members is undoubted.

The annual 'holiday' trip to Novi Sad helps to maintain personal contacts in both cities. It can also be a relaxing and interesting event. One thing - it never is dull!

The Paul Cross Memorial Concert was, again, a resounding success. An interesting personal contact between the soloist and the Milan Petrović School was revealed.

The February visit to Novi Sad with the Lord Mayor representing the City and the Association continued the pattern of the regular, yearly, contact with Novi Sad helping to cement the meaningful relationship between the twin cities that has built up over the years.

Association Matters

Yes it does! It matters to the members; it matters to Novi Sad; it matters to all those we help in our twin city and it matters to Norwich. (Although Norwich is not always aware of this).

However, it is administrative matters that are presently important.

Treasurer.

For some 22 years Jack has been an extremely efficient and constructive Treasurer.

Time moves on and he is feeling that now he should hand over to someone else.

Marijana Pattinson is helping Jack put all the records into an up-to-date digital format but we need a treasurer!

Please, if you feel you have some expertise in this field and could spare some time (Jack says not an awful lot), the Chairman would love to hear from you.

The Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is never a 'stuffy' meeting concerned only with

administrative matters (important though they are).

After the business of the meeting has been completed Diana will be giving a talk about the progress the Milan Petrović School is making with the materials provided for the blind and partially sighted children funded by the Association.

The AGM is on Friday 10th April at 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. In the Council Chamber, City Hall, Norwich. Members will have already received papers for the meeting.

The Association is fortunate to be able to hold the AGM in the Council Chamber as this is provided at no cost.

St. Giles car park and the car park at the Forum are convenient for the venue.

The main entrance to City Hall is closed at the time of the meeting but the entrance to the Treasurers Department in Bethel Street is open and the way through to the Council Chamber is quite straightforward. Worthwhile refreshments are provided so do come.

From Diana:-

Association holiday

Well, it's that time of year again and we need to consider the possibility of an Association holiday in Novi Sad.

May 16th. – 23rd. have been identified as the most suitable dates.

All members are very welcome to join this holiday. The usual arrangement is that we stay in a central hotel in Novi Sad and have time during the week to spend with friends (or make some new ones) and also go on some outings to places in Novi Sad or the surrounding area. Ideas for outings so far include;

- A conducted tour of the Pavle Belanski Gallery which houses the art collection of Pavle Belanski, gather together in the first half of the 20th century and has some beautiful pictures
- An outing to Stari Slankaman and neighbouring villages on the Danube downstream from Novi Sad. It is a small but very historic village with a good restaurant!
- A Reception by the President of the City Council
- A visit to the Milan Petrović School

As always, it is impossible to give a price properly as it is dependent on so many variables, but we probably need to think of about £500-550 all found (i.e. hotel accommodation, restaurant meals, cost of minibus and driver when needed, any entrance fees) It does not include drinks.

At present the air fare (through Air Serbia) is very cheap and it would be good to take advantage of this.

Could you contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in coming.

Phone: 01508 480 262

Email: diana.beckley@btconnect.com

Thank you,

Diana

The Paul Cross Memorial Concert

The Association was very fortunate to have Aleksandar Đermanović to play the piano at a recital which was considered to be a fantastic musical success. Aleksandar is from Novi Sad and is presently expanding his musical studies and experience in London.

The concert was also a great success financially, raising some £1,000 for the Milan Petrović School.

During the later stages of organising the concert it was discovered that Aleksandar's grandmother was Principal of the school many years ago.

During their visit to the school in February Diana and Peter met Aleksandar's grandmother who had made a special effort to be there to meet them. She was delighted, through Aleksandar, to be part of what is happening. Although retired for many years she is still an active lady with a keen interest in the school and its progress.

The concert sub committee is already looking at next year's concert. (Aleksandar has been making several helpful suggestion regarding artists!)



At the Milan Petrović School.

Sanja (who organises things); Aleksandar's Grandma; Director Slavica (who is in charge of everything); Snežana (teacher of partially sighted and big ideas person) and Violeta (who does all sorts of things and usually has a long list of things she needs)

Visit to Novi Sad February 2015.

On February 1st each year the City of Novi Sad celebrates its status as a *royal free city* granted in 1748 when it also received its name.

To mark the occasion a Celebration of the Day of the City is held. Invitations to all the cities and communities which have a twinning or other contact status are sent.

The Lord Mayor of Norwich and the Chairman of the Association are invited to represent Norwich. Peter & Diana, as Honorary Citizens, are also invited.

Unfortunately Doug was unable to attend this year but the Association was well represented by P. & D. and the Lord Mayor Cll. Judith Lubbock as our President.

This event affords the opportunity to meet delegations from a wide area of Eastern Europe and Russia.

The Lord Mayor took advantage of the opportunity to represent and explain the City of Norwich to all the delegations she met and learned much in her conversations about cities and communities not usually topics in the Lord Mayor's Parlour.

THE NORFOLK & NORWICH NOVI SAD ASSOCIATION

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