



# NEWSLETTER

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

*Dedicated to Friendship*

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## Editorial

This edition of the newsletter was originally planned to include a report on this year's trip to Novi Sad.

Instead, still incapable to take it in, we have our Chairman writing Diana's obituary. The simple fact that almost 6,000 people have reacted to the announcement on our Facebook page, confirms what a huge impact her life has had and will continue to have.

I think I can speak for all the members of the Association in expressing our determination to uphold Diana's legacy and to make sure that the friendship between the People of Norwich and those of Novi Sad will continue to be valued and supported.

## Diana

*Douglas Underwood, Chairman NNNSA*

We were all shocked to hear of the sudden death in Novi Sad of our Vice Chairperson, Diana Beckley M.B.E.

I am sure that the thoughts of everyone in the Association go to Peter and his family at this sad time.

It is in times of need that you realise what a loyal friend your twin City really is. We would like to thank Novi Sad for all the support, understanding, kindness and help that it has given to Peter in his time of need.

Diana was closely involved with the Association in many



**Diana Beckley, M.B.E.**

*Picture: BASS, J. (2017)*

ways since its formation in 1985. She was tireless in her efforts to promote and develop the friendship between Norwich and Novi Sad. Diana was instrumental with Peter, working through the Red Cross, in the provision of

humanitarian aid in the 1990's. Diana and Peter were both so proud to have been made honorary citizens of their beloved City of Novi Sad.

Diana played a big part in fundraising for the "Milan Petrović" School through the Annual Paul Cross Memorial Concerts.

Her love of, and interest in music, led to the partnership with the Isidor Bajić Music school, and the development of the Triorca International Youth Orchestra involving Norwich, Novi Sad and Koblenz.

Diana loved the City of Novi Sad and all the friends she made over the years.

There is so much more we could say as a tribute to Diana and she will be sadly missed by us all.

## **NNNSA guided walk and talk on Eaton Park**

*Wendy Quinn*

On Friday, 30th June, a small group met at the Bandstand in Eaton Park for a guided tour of the park by Christine Wilson. We were invited into the Friends of Eaton Park meeting room where Christine showed archive plans and photographs of the early development of the park and referred to the work of the Parks Superintendent Captain Arnold Sandys-Winsch who was a key figure in the creation of Norwich parks.

At a time of depression and unemployment, over 100 men were employed to create the gardens, bandstand, pavilions, lily pond and model boating lake, as well all the green areas for bowls, cricket and over 40 tennis courts. The park was officially opened in 1928 by the then Prince of Wales. Christine explained how the Friends worked with the City Council and User groups to enhance use of the park, with groups of volunteers planting bulbs,

litter-picking and raising funds for added amenities.

Local school children are encouraged to take part in environmental activities.

We were led on a gentle walk past the lily pond, down the avenue of hornbeams to the wild flower bed which was planted at the suggestion of the Friends of Eaton Park, admiring some of the many benches also provided by the Friends. In the formal garden we noted the introduction of decorative grasses around the more traditional lavender

It is with regret that the Association must announce the death of our Auditor and member, Derek Pardey.

Derek took on the role of Auditor two years ago and at a time when our accounts were "challenging" due to a delay with a change in Treasurer which resulted in additional work needed on our accounts. Derek meticulously worked through them to get them in a better shape. Derek was also a Norwich City Councillor for a brief time. Our thoughts are with his partner Simone.



## 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**

### News from Novi Sad

#### ***Radoslava Vorgić and Julija Bal***

Radoslava and Julija, who played for the Paul Cross Memorial Concert in January, in the summer won a music prize in Italy with the composition that Julija had arranged for the Norwich concert.

Radoslava wrote:

“I am glad to write that two days ago I won a prize in Italy. I won in World Music Competition ‘Handel/Bal Special Mention’ for a composition that I sang accompanied by Julija Bal. It is very special and I can say connected to Norwich because that composition, Julija's transcription for Soprano and piano, was first time in Norwich performed and she did the transcription special for the concert that we had in January.” She also wrote: “I would like to come again to Norwich and prepare some special program for you.”

#### **Events**

##### **Annual Lunch**

The Association Annual Lunch has been arranged for **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October** at the usual venue of Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett. The price of the meal will be £22.

Please remember to send your menu choices so that they arrive **by the 7<sup>th</sup> October.**

#### **We need some Raffle Prizes**

Over the years raffles have helped us raise funds. We are, at present, “low” on items to offer as prizes. Those of you who can kindly contribute can contact Wendy Quinn:

[dwendyquinn@googlemail.com](mailto:dwendyquinn@googlemail.com)

#### ***The Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association.***

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

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**Treasurer:** Gaetano Piccolo, 2, Thickthorn Hall, Norwich Road, Hethersett. NR9 3AT

**Dept. Treasurer:** Sue Prutton, 41, Waldermare Avenue, Norwich. NR6 6TB

**Committee Members:** 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)