



# NEWSLETTER

Norfolk & Norwich Novi Sad Association

*Dedicated to Friendship*

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

## Editorial

Since reporting the retirement of Jack as Treasurer he has been quite frail and has been admitted to Hospital. We do hope he is well enough to leave Hospital soon.

The small number of members attending the AGM is of some concern. Is it because of the change of venue? The value of using City Hall is that there is no cost involved.

The annual visit to Novi Sad proved to be, again, a great success.

It is encouraging for all those involved to see the value of all the support given by the Association to institutes in Novi Sad.

The 'Events Section' contains information about things mainly musical. The Norfolk County Youth Orchestra is joined by choirs from the Norfolk Centre for Young Musicians.

## The Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Norwich.

The number of apologies for absence reflected the busy lives of members, all of whom would have been delighted to attend had they not other commitments.

The number of members attending was very small. The date of the AGM has not changed but the venue has.

The Committee was re-elected but there remains a vacancy for a committee member and a Treasurer.

Jack Brooksbank presented the accounts and said it was a difficult decision to retire after 23 years as treasurer. The Chairman, Doug Underwood said he couldn't understand why Jack had decided to retire at the 'young' age of 93!

The President of the Association, Cll. Judith Lubbock, the Lord Mayor spoke warmly of her visit to Novi Sad and praised the Association for all the work it does in supporting and

fostering the twinning link between the cities.

The Chairman, in thanking the Lord mayor for all her support during her term of office presented her with a framed print of the City Hall in Novi Sad.

After the formal part of the AGM Diana gave an interesting presentation about the February visit to Novi Sad and the items that have been purchased by the Association for the Milan Petrović School.

## Membership.

A warm welcome to new members. After a period when numbers were dropping it is pleasing to report that membership now stands at 131.

## Visit to Novi Sad.

A small group of eight visited Novi Sad on this annual trip which took place in the middle of May this year.

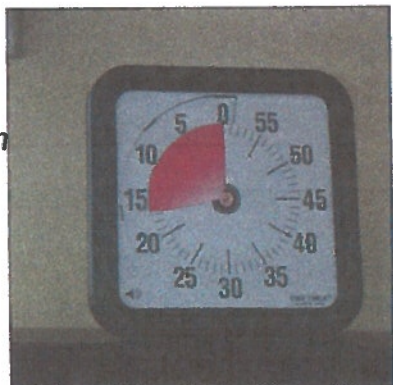
As well as our member from Wales two members from Belgrade were among the party.

The programme arranged by Sandra of Kompas was its usual mixture of interesting visits and fine dining.

There was also plenty of time for Members to pursue their 'own thing'

A visit to the Milan Petrović School to see the results of our support. After all the problems of getting them there it was good to see the 'timer clocks' in position and the 'swell paper' being used.

*The clocks are being a great success in helping children with Attention Deficiency Syndrome*



*A 'small snack' at the vineyard during the wine tasting.....*



*Snežana with some of her creations with 'swell paper'. This helps the blind and partially sighted children.*

*.....followed by lunch in the shade.*



Visitors are always made most welcome with an opportunity to see the 'workings' of the school and a chance for Diana to settle up with the various financial transactions relating to the support given to their projects.

As always the visit is never complete without coming away with a good idea of what the next project will be!

A long anticipated visit to Stari Slankamen proved to be one of the 'highlights' of the visit. An interesting topographical region on the edge of the Fruška Gora. Evidence of Roman and Ottoman occupation through dramatic remains proved to be of great interest while the visit to two vineyards and a local salaš for lunch proved to be a great gastronomic event.

This seemed to set a very satisfactory pattern to the visit!

### **Books and the Novi Sad Library**

The Association has in the past provided the Library in Novi Sad with books in English.

The English Section of the library has been able to expand into a spacious building of it's own.

It was no hardship for the Association to respond to a request from the British Council to help provide and deliver books that had been requested by the young people who use the library.

Asked by the librarian what books they would like they produced a 'short list' of 50 books and a 'long list' of about 200!

SO...

the girls asked the librarian  
"Could you get some books for the library?"  
the librarian asked Tony (of the British Council)  
and Tony asked Rod  
and the Association  
if they could *possibly* get some books  
for the li-bra-ry.

The both said 'certainly'  
And went to see the bookshops  
And they got some books for the li-bra-ry.  
The girls were delighted  
(As you'll see from the photographs)  
To read the new books in the Li-bra-ry  
(Diana says 'see A.A. Milne 'The King's Breakfast'..')



*Remains of a Turkish bath from the Ottoman period at Stari Slankamen*

The upshot that Rod Bolitho was able to get 'surplus' books from two Norwich Schools and the Association allocated £150 from the Paddy Goldring Fund for the purchase of new books which were duly delivered during the last day of the visit.



*The young ladies who compiled the list were delighted with the books and - '....please can we have some more?'*



*Happy donors and recipients*

## A journey of discovery?

When Nataša was very young some strange people came to stay in her house in Norwich. They had long conversations with her mother in a language that was very different and odd.

That was 1999 when Nataša's family kindly put up members of St. Georges Choir from Novi Sad on their first visit to perform at the Norfolk and Norwich Festival. (Nataša's mother is from Belgrade in Serbia).

Now Nataša is a grown up person and is making her way in the world with ambitions to make documentary films with her younger brother (an almost grown up person). Daniel is a very competent video photographer and Nataša a great organiser and producer.

They have some useful experience of documentary making based on a period of time they spent travelling round Australia.

With Maja, a German friend from Hamburg (whose antecedence is also Serbian), they will be travelling to Serbia to find out about a country they have only heard of from their parents.

They have heard many things that do not seem to be 'quite right' and wish to find out what the country is like but, mainly, what the young people there think and how they view the world.

Nataša sought the advice of the Association and a very useful meeting was held with the Chairman, Vice Chair, and Secretary. They were able to furnish Nataša with many contacts in both Novi Sad and Belgrade. The committee was pleased to confirm the allocation £200 from the Paddy Goldring Fund to help with their project.

Nataša and Daniel are looking forward to being in Novi Sad at the time of the EXIT Festival so there should be some colourful footage in the finished documentary.

## Alex Đermanović

Those who attended the Paul Cross Memorial Concert in February will remember the fantastic performance given by Alex.

Not only was this appreciated by members and the audience but it particularly impressed Roger Rowe who asked Alex to return to Norwich to perform again.

Consequently Alex will be performing, as part of a series of chamber concerts, organised by Roger at The Chapel, Park Lane, Norwich on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30. Tickets will be £12 at the door.

Alex will be performing works Beethoven, Medina and Schumann.



# 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

## Events

### The Paul Cross Memorial Concert

The Concert Sub Committee are already working on next year's Paul Cross Memorial Concert which will take place at the Assembly House on Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016 in the Noverre Room.

### Alex Đermanović

As already mentioned Alex will be playing at

The Chapel, Park Lane, Norwich on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30. Tickets will be £12 at the door.

This is one of a series of concerts arranged by Roger Rowe to encourage young talent.

### Majamisty TriO

Maja Alavanović, who teaches music at the Academy of Art in Novi Sad, has formed a talented jazz Trio which has been invited to play in Norwich.

They will perform at the Norwich Jazz Festival on 29<sup>th</sup> August and at the Norwich jazz Club on the 1<sup>st</sup> September

The Association is pleased to have been of assistance in advising and giving contact details.

### Norfolk County Youth Orchestra

4.30pm Sunday 19 July 2015

The Forum, Norwich

For this concert, the NCYO will be joined by choirs from the Norfolk Centre for Young Musicians. NCYM is a partnership between Norfolk Music Service, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London and a CNS school. Now in its second year, NCYM hosts 100 talented and enthusiastic local musicians each Saturday morning during term time under the baton of 15 full time tutors - all professional musicians - who run over 22 ensembles, choirs, musicianship performance skills and theory classes as well as individual instrumental lessons. The partnership with the Guildhall also means that local students have access to professional workshops and a composer in residence.

Come along to hear the wealth of musical talent in Norfolk and support our young musicians in an exciting and vibrant programme including Bernstein, Gershwin, Rutter, John Williams, Cuban rhythms from Robert Sheldon and the chance to sing along to the all-time family favourite 'Bare Necessities' from Jung Book!

The NCYO would be delighted if you are able to join them for this free concert.

### The Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association.

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

**Treasurer:**

**Secretary:** Sandra Underwood, 14, Herb Robert Glade, Wymondham, Norwich NR18 0XS

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**Committee Members:** Diana Beckley MBE (Vice Chair); 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)