

DORSET GUITAR SOCIETY  
REG CHARITY 1101122

FUTURE  
MEETINGS

Sunday 15th September 2024  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 22nd September 24  
CONCERT at Boldre, nr Lymington. Charity fundraiser for Oakhaven Hospice. Rehearsal 9:30am

Sunday 13th October 2024  
DGS visit WSGC in Bognor Regis for Social playing day

Sunday 20th October 2024  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 17th November 2024  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 15th December 2024  
2:00-5:30pm

Provisional Dates for 2025

Sunday 19th January 2025  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 16th February 2025  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 16th March 2025  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 27th April 2025  
2:00-5:30pm- DGS Friends & Family Concert 3:30pm

Sunday 18th May 2025  
2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 22nd June 2025  
2:00-5:30pm- avoiding Father's Day

Wednesday 25th June 2025-  
PURBECK GUITAR FESTIVAL 7:30pm

Sunday 20th July 2025 2:00-5:30pm

Sunday 17th August 2025  
2:00-5:30pm

# On The Beat



## Newsletter of the Dorset Guitar Society

ISSUE 55

AUGUST 2024

### DGS Spring Concert

The 21st April 2024 saw the first DGS Friends and Family concert for some years. We have performed in various venues over recent years, but always in collaboration with another organisation. This concert was the first of our own and very much a trial to see how we manage without Steve.

I'm pleased to report that Jim did a great job conducting and members did equally well persuading friends and family to attend. The hall was full to bursting. We also had 2 guest student performers and Peter Nuttall was on hand as chief photographer.

Our performance seemed to go

down well- as did the home-made cakes and biscuits and we raised £145 for Society funds.



Here's to a repeat next Spring!



### Dorset Guitar Orchestra at the



PURBECK GUITAR  
FESTIVAL

On Tuesday 28th May 2024, The DGS orchestra travelled to the Kingston Country Courtyard to perform our programme to around 60 guests who enjoyed a tapas meal along with our music. The 16th century barn at Kingston was a great venue despite it's location being the back of beyond! We

performed well again with Jim conducting and we received many positive comments from audience members and the organiser. This was the first year of a guitar festival in Purbeck and it featured other concerts by names such as Carlos Bonnell and Juan Martin. The festival was a success and planning for next year has already begun.

We have been invited back to perform again next year on 26th June 2025 which will give us great impetus for preparing a new programme. We also managed to raise a further £200 for Society funds.



# Concerts

## Farewell to Steve

After around a year of directing the Society, Steve Marsh has sadly had to leave us after accepting an offer on the sale of his house. Nadia and Steve are moving back up North. We wish them both all the best and thank Steve for his time directing and arranging music for the Society.



For both the concerts we are indebted to Steve Marsh for his arrangements and rehearsing over the last year. This music was the bulk of our 2024 programme and included pieces such as 'Homage to Queen', 'Deadwood Stage', 'Little Song' and Palladio. All these went down really well with the audiences.– thank you Steve. We are also incredibly grateful to Jim Kirk for stepping in to Steve's shoes at such short notice. Jim has done a great job at taking us through the concerts and will now continue to lead the Society at meetings and future events.

## Future Events for the Society

We are lucky enough to have two further performance opportunities in 2024 to showcase our 2024 repertoire and to hone our performance skills. The first event is a charity fundraising event for Oakhaven Hospice in Lymington. Our DGS hour long performance will be part of a much larger day of events aimed at showcasing music and the local community. There will be catering on site along with activities for children and competitions. All musical performances will take place on a stage with the anticipated audience being over 1000! Here's hoping for good weather and a successful performance. This event will take place on Sunday September 22nd and tickets can be booked via

[www.oakhavenhospice.co.uk/autumn-festival](http://www.oakhavenhospice.co.uk/autumn-festival)

### Autumn Equinox Country Festival

**at Rodlease Fields, Boldre SO41 5PB**

Sunday 22nd Sept. 2024 11am to 6pm

raising funds for

**Oakhaven Hospice**

Simon Parker, John Illsley,  
Steve Rickman and Dita Broster

would like to welcome you to a

**Fun Day celebrating Community and Music**

**Programme to include:**

'John Conway and the Band'

'Dorset Guitar Orchestra'

Choirs: 'One way Ticket' and 'Beaulieu Banknotes'

and 'Special Soloists'

Amazing Pianist 'Peter Roper-Curzon'

'The John Illsley Band'

**Throughout the Day**

'Tug of War', Children's activities  
'Wellyboot Wanging', and games,  
'Raffle' and 'Coconut Shy' farm animals & machines  
Wide range of food and drink available

**Tickets:**

[oakhavenhospice.co.uk/autumn-festival/](http://oakhavenhospice.co.uk/autumn-festival/)

Adults - £15 Under 18 - £2 Volunteers - Free

Our final event for 2024 is scheduled to be our annual meeting with our friends at the West Sussex Guitar Club. This year it is the turn of WSGC to host, so DGS will travel to Bognor to enjoy their fantastic Recital Hall and hospitality. This event always proves to be an enjoyable part of our calendar with lots of opportunity for guitar chat as well as plenty of playing!

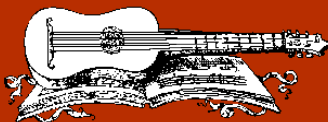
This event will take place on Sunday 13th October 2024 at 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis.



## Spring Concert

**2025**

Please put the 27th April 25 in your diaries as the date for our next Friends and Family concert.



# Beth Cooper and Asher Penny

On 18th August we were treated to a recital by past junior member Beth Cooper and her flautist duet partner Asher Penny. They are both going into their third year at the Royal Welsh College and it was great to get the chance to hear how Beth is progressing with her playing and for members to get the chance to have a chat and catch up with her. The pair provided a mix of duet and solo pieces for us including 6 Romanian Folk Dances– Bela Bartok, Homenaje a Debussy– Falla & Sonatina by Mervyn Burtch. Beth also gave a very capable rendition of El Decameron Negro by Brouwer and Asher gave us a chance to hear a solo flute piece Winter Spirits by Katherine Hoover which he explained was interesting as it had no time signature and was very improvisatory.

They both completed the recital with 'In Search of Folly' by Stephen Dodgson and after much applause gave us chance to enjoy their rendition of Piazzola's Libertango. It was a really enjoyable end to our August meeting and something which we hope can be repeated next year. Best of luck to both of them for their 3rd year at RWCMD.



*You may not know but Sue, Paul and Chris are also members of the Mosaic Guitar Ensemble. They performed for the Winchester Guitar Festival this year as well as fundraising concert in Chalton in July. Below is a little about the group.*



*Mosaic Guitar Ensemble was formed in 2012, when a group of like-minded classical guitar enthusiasts began looking for a more intensive and progressive guitar ensemble. Under the direction of Chris Stell they sought to expand on the musical achievements gained at various guitar festivals and workshops and the result, "Mosaic" came together with a shared passion for the guitar in ensemble. Amanda Cook took over the baton in January 2024 and they continue to perform repertoire to a high standard, and give concerts raising funds for charity. Their concert is in aid of Play2 Charity who organise a youth guitar festival in Armenia .*

## Donation to the DGS Library

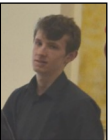
I was delighted to be contacted recently by ex DGS member, Bunty Stallion. I hope some of you may remember her. We enjoyed a lovely chat reminiscing – remembering past members and other fond memories of the Society.

In the past, Bunty was a very keen ensemble player and active member of DGS for more than 10 years (late 80's and through the 90's). She also found much enjoyment to play as part of small ensembles and met regularly with, sorely missed, Maurice Albin and other former DGS member Ann Plumb, to rehearse as a trio.

Although still following DGS from the sidelines and supporting our performances, sadly, Bunty is no longer able to play guitar. Over time she accumulated a significant collection of ensemble music and very kindly she has donated this to DGS, for members to make use of and enjoy.

On behalf of DGS, thank you so much Bunty for getting in contact and for the abundance of music, which we were delighted to receive. I hope you will continue to follow the progress of DGS and attend the occasional concert. Sue C

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Junior member Tom Wood for achieving the necessary GCSE grades to move to his next stage at college. We have all been so impressed with how Tom has become an Integral part of the society over the last year- attending regular rehearsals and taking part in concerts. Well done, Tom!



## Upcoming concerts

Our friends at WSGC are hosting two recitals in the Autumn. The first is on Friday 1st November with a recital by GARY RYAN. The second is on Saturday the 7th December by AMANDA COOK and MARK ASHFORD. Amanda and Mark have recently set up a duo and will perform a mix of solo and duet items. Both these events are at the WSGC Recital Hall 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis.

A Bit closer to home– Southampton Classical Guitar Society are hosting ADAM BROWN at the Turner Sims Concert Hall on Saturday 26th October and SEAN SHIBE on Saturday 3rd May 2025. Both start at 7:30pm and more information can be found on the Society's website.





## Dorset Guitar Society

St Andrew's Church

Millhams Road

Kinson

Bournemouth

Dorset

BH10 7LN

Secretary— Paul Thomas

secretary@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk

Treasurer— Sue Chick

Spchick2014@gmail.com

Chairman— John Edwards

Joved2013@gmail.com

Musical Director— Jim Kirk

**T**he Dorset Guitar Society (formerly known as the Dorset Guitar & Lute Circle) was formed in October 1984 by a number of Dorset guitarists to promote the music of their instrument via solo and ensemble performances, master classes, workshops and concerts given by the guitar society and visiting artists

In 1994 the society formed its own guitar orchestra and has premiered Stephen Kenyon's Concerto for Guitar Soloist and Guitar Orchestra and Grant Bocking's Spanish Suite for Guitar Orchestra. This society continues to rehearse as an orchestra under the direction of Steve Marsh. The society aims to perform twice a year, collaborating with local organisations and musical groups to raise funds for charity and to raise the profile of the classical guitar.

## A view from the Chair 23-24— John Edwards



I find it hard to believe that a year has just whizzed by—where did it go to? But this time last year we had a very enjoyable and successful Sunday at West Moors Memorial Hall hosting WSGC which this year looks like the return visit will have to wait until October.

Since then we have had some productive and well-attended meetings with a few new members to welcome. Chris Daly, one of our founder members has rejoined and we also welcome Martin Apergis who is a busy local teacher and his pupil Tom.---very nice to see some younger faces, Tom's as well!

Sadly, and just as we seemed to be

settling in with Steve Marsh he up sticks and moves a long way away. I think it had been on the cards for some time, but he has left us with some enjoyable new repertoire which we are making good use of. At this moment in time it looks as if our future director will be Valerie Hartzell who is a very fine American guitarist and seems very enthusiastic about taking us on from June. She lives quite a long way away but has assured me that will not be a problem for her attending our rehearsals. We are fortunate in having Jim Kirk as a deputy conductor and who has already produced some arrangements for us to try out. Thanks are due to him for taking over in our recent concert at St Andrew's which I think we can consider a great success all round, and made about £140 for us. It was very useful preparation for our forthcoming concert at Kingston

Country Courtyard for the Purbeck Festival.

In October DGS will be celebrating its fortieth year, so we must try to arrange something really special to commemorate the event?

Finally thanks are due to Sue for keeping track of our finances, James for auditing them, and as always to Paul who somehow manages to deal with all the various DGS matters that arise, as well as a full time teaching schedule. It makes me breathless just thinking about it. Also thanks to all our members for your enthusiastic support of the Society which would not exist were it not for you all.

John

May 24