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Newsletter No 159

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BGS News

Apologies for the shortness of this newsletter, but having suffered something of a computer disaster recently I find myself having to concentrate on the essentials.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday May 13th, 7.30 pm at South Hill Park. We continue to focus on preparation for the Spanish Circle on May 25th, so if you already have a copy of our orchestra pieces then a) please remember to give them some practice time, and b) don't leave them at home on Sunday! If you've got a solo (Spanish or Latin music please) you would like to play then bring it along as well.

Sundays meeting is also a Members Evening, so if you've just got something you want to play (not for the Spanish Circle), then why not give it a go?

Directions to Caversham for May 25th will be provided nearer the time.

A change affecting our web presence - the committee came to the view that it would be beneficial for the society to have its own domain name, and it was apparent also that we were getting poor service from our existing host. Thus we now have a new web address www.berkshireguitarsociety.org.uk which will hopefully help increase our web profile and all being well the new hosting service will also make our webmaster's life easier. Users going to the old web address are re-directed after a short interval. You may need to update your "favourites" in your browser.

Thanks to Steve Tucker for making the change.

Meeting 15th April

It may have been the 3rd Sunday of the month, but a good number of our members managed to re-programme themselves and turned out for our first session of Spanish Circle preparation proper. In addition it was good to welcome Arthur Sinclair, husband of Alison, and also Adam Bunting-Palmer. We hope to see much more of you in the future.

Gary Jordan being unable to make it owing to work commitments, Richard Butters stepped into the breach in very capable fashion and guided us through our orchestra pieces, Ay Ay Ay and La Bamba. We were able to make such progress that we were actually able (more or less!) to take the latter piece up to the advertised tempo of 120. Phew!

After the break we turned our attention to solos, again mostly with the Spanish Circle in mind. Richard Butters led the way with Manuel Ponce's Scherzino Mexicano, followed by myself with one of Maximo Diego Pujol's 3 Pieces RioPlatenses, a milonga called Septiembre. Chris Cook came next with a very nice rendition of a Nocturne by Kaspar Mertz, after which we very definitely went Spanish with a performance of Moreno Torroba's Madronos from Ruth Perfitt.

The proceedings were brought to a close in fine fashion by Steve Christmas with a performance of Barrios' La Cathedral. The 2nd and 3rd movements of this piece were written between 1925 -30 and were inspired by Barrios' liking for baroque music. The 1st movement was added some 20 years later.