



[www.berkshireguitarsociety.org.uk](http://www.berkshireguitarsociety.org.uk)

[www.myspace.com/berkshireguitarsociety](http://www.myspace.com/berkshireguitarsociety)

Newsletter No 172

July 2008

***NEXT MEETING:***

**SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**SHP @ 7:30PM**

**SUMMER EVENT**

***UPCOMING EVENTS:***

**RAYMOND BURLEY**

**@ DUCKLINGTON**

**5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2008**

**7PM**



**BGS Meeting News**

I'm not sure how it was that the Suite for 6 guitars by Robert Ashfield, arranged by Stuart McGowan had lain untouched in the Society library for a long time, but as we assembled for our orchestra session we were about to find out what treasure (or otherwise) this set of 3 pieces represented.

We started off with the Air, a fairly straightforward piece but soon moved on to the main challenge of the evening, the Saltarello. According to Wikipedia, "The saltarello was a lively, merry dance first mentioned in Naples during the 13th century. The music survives, but no early instructions for the actual dance are known. It was played in a fast triple meter and is named for its peculiar leaping step, after the Italian verb saltare (to jump)."

I suspect that technically the 6/8 time signature of the music we played does not qualify as "triple time" and indeed how to count the changing rhythm proved to be one of the main points as we worked through the piece. I'm not sure either that leaping dancers would have been able to do their stuff even as we increased the tempo but we all had great fun in the playing. Well worth another go in the future.

We finished as an orchestra with what was actually the first piece in the set, a Gavotte and Musette which did not sound nearly as odd as some of the accidentals in the music might have suggested.

Thanks as always to Gary for his leadership on the evening but also to Richard Butters, Steve Tucker, Allan du Feu, Cheryl Slater, Michael Hickey and George Macdonald for their efforts on the night and advance preparation, the benefits of which were obvious.

The evening closed with Michael Hickey taking advantage of the opportunity to perform in front of an audience the 3 pieces he is due to play in his Grade 7 exam - Fantasia (Weiss), Moderato (Ferrer) and Prelude no 4 (Villa Lobos). By the time this is read the exam will have been taken, so here's hoping it went well, Michael.

### *Next Meeting*

Our next meeting will be an "informal recital" by the Rosewood Trio and also by Steve Christmas, who will each be taking a turn at entertaining us. The intention is however that this will also be a bit of a social event, so after the music there will be some drinks and nibbles for us to enjoy. The audience is not restricted to just Society members - please bring along partners / family / friends or anyone else who might be interested - they will all be welcome.

We are due to start at South Hill Park at 7.30 pm, so prompt arrival would be appreciated.

### *Upcoming Meetings*

- Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> - Rosewood Trio, Steve Christmas and social
- August - No meeting
- Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> - Members evening

### And Finally:

There is a Winchester guitar festival from 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July. Recitals are from Nocturne Guitar Quartet, Winy Kellner, Matthew Robinson and Johannes Moller. Please see website for more details (box office telephone 01926 860192):

[www.winchesterguitarfestival.co.uk](http://www.winchesterguitarfestival.co.uk)

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## Upcoming Events



St Bartholomew's  
Ducklington



**St Bartholomew's Church, Ducklington**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm**

A concert by

**Raymond Burley**

**Programme:**

**Scarlatti:** Sonata K.87, **Sor:** Morceau de Concert op.54

**Bach:** Sonata BWV 1001, **Llobet:** Five Catalan Folksongs

**Ponce:** Variations on 'Folia de España' and Fugue

**Dyens:** Saudade no.3

In aid of the Church Restoration Fund

**Tickets £6, concessions £3**

From Glyn Rees: 01993 778487 or Marian Pitman: 01993 703374

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