



Players' newsletter September 2005

2006 schedule

Please note the **revised** performance schedule for 2006:

Saturday 25 Feb 2006	Symphony Under the Stars, Malvern Gardens
Saturday 3 June 2006	<i>gala evening</i> performance at the Malvern Town Hall
Sunday 27 Aug 2006	afternoon performance at the Malvern Town Hall
Sunday 12 Nov 2006	afternoon performance at the Malvern Town Hall

Forthcoming concert

2.30pm Sunday 13 November, Malvern Town Hall
corner Glenferrie Rd and High St, Malvern

Conductor Vladimir Vais
Soloist Evgeny Sorkin, violin

Repertoire:

Mendelssohn *Ruy Blas op.95 Overture*
Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto in E minor op.64*
Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique op.14*

Vladimir Vais joins the orchestra once again to present a concert of orchestral favourites. The first half of the program is devoted to two of Mendelssohn's most popular works; and following interval, the splendid Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique* is a wonderful opportunity to perform an exciting work for large orchestra.

We are extremely fortunate to have the talented young violinist Evgeny Sorkin working with us for this performance. Evgeny studied at the VCA in the 90s and has just returned home to Melbourne from further study in Russia. It's fantastic that we have an exciting new soloist working with us for this concert.

Rehearsal schedule

Tuesday 11 October	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 18 October	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 25 October	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 3 November	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 8 November	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 10 November	Malvern Town Hall	7.30pm
Sunday 13 November	Malvern Town Hall	11am

IMPORTANT: if you wish to play in the November concert, you MUST contact your convenor by Tuesday 2 October.

Concert 2.30, Sunday 13 November, Malvern Town Hall. Dress All black

Practice before the first rehearsal

If you wish to practice your part prior to the first rehearsal, please speak to your section convenor.

Violins (A-K)	Dorothy Connor
Violins (L-Z)	Irene Jordan
Viola	David Choate Kate Walker
Cello	Michael Condon
Bass	Bronwyn Welch
Flute	Aydin Abdullah
Clarinet	David Laity
Oboe	Stephen Moschner
Bassoon	Libby McGrath
Horn	Alex Grieve
Brass	Matthew Ayres
Percussion	Christine Flood

Librarian Alan Miceli
Orchestra Mgr Irene Jordan

Concert review

2.30pm Sunday 28 August 2005, Malvern Town Hall
Conductor: Christopher Martin
Soloist: Benjamin Martin, piano

This was a wonderful concert with something on the program for everyone.

The orchestra played exceptionally well, and was skilfully conducted by Christopher Martin. The Academic Festival Overture by Brahms was a marvellous opening item showing the brass section off to the fore, whilst the strings shone in the Brandenburg Concerto No.5. Soloists Benjamin Martin, Gretchen Anderson, Annette Martin, and Aydin Abdullah (principal flute) showed fine ensemble work. After interval, the concert continued with the Lalo overture in which each section of the orchestra demonstrated beautiful lyricism. The final work on the program was the demanding Stravinsky Capriccio for piano and orchestra – Benjamin Martin displayed his astonishing talent as solo pianist and was well-supported by the orchestra throughout. Ben delighted the audience by playing an encore – one of his own compositions.

Members of the audience included City of Stonnington Mayor, Cr Sarah Davies; also Cr Melina Sehr; and conductors Vladimir Vais, Mark Shiell, and Peter Taplin.

The audience was most enthusiastic; Mayor Sarah Davies in a congratulatory letter after the concert wrote: We are very fortunate indeed to have such a successful and talented orchestra and I applaud Stonnington Symphony on their continued contribution to our City."

Thank you to those volunteers who helped sell tickets, programs and usher. It's great to have members of the community involved with the Stonnington Symphony.

Thank you to our supporters on 28 August 2005

Susan Bradley and Mary Clements – who helped with the program notes

John Wise – for providing percussion equipment.

3MBS – for providing publicity support and recording the concert.

Marshall White Real Estate Agents – for providing 5 feteboards advertising the concert

Stonnington Symphony congratulates...

**Alex Grieve, OAM, Principal French Horn,
2005 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award
from The Orchestras of Australia Network (TOAN)**

Alex has been principal French Horn of the Stonnington Symphony for many years, after thirty years with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with orchestras and chamber groups throughout Australia and overseas, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Alex has been awarded an O.A.M. for services to community music, and is the founder and director of the Melbourne Horn Club. He has sat on the Committee of Management and Program Planning Committee for most of his time with Stonnington Symphony. He has had a lifetime of music making and has always taken the time to encourage and teach at all levels from complete beginners to Masters students. At 82 he still plays with all manner of Orchestras around the place and still makes "that magic sound." He can make more music with one perfectly placed note than many people do in a lifetime. Alex is also an accomplished artist, and has exhibited paintings and drawings in Australia and overseas.

Current Fundraising initiatives

Musical Soirée

Jenny Johnson, Convenor of the Program Planning Committee, hosted a musical soirée on Saturday 20th August. Benjamin Martin, pianist, donated his time to help raise funds for the orchestra. Ben played several works exquisitely, including a number of Chopin nocturnes and one of his own compositions. He also discussed his time spent studying at the Julliard School with John Browning and meeting luminaries of the industry such as Leonard Bernstein, as well as a most interesting dialogue about the Stravinsky Capriccio with conductor Christopher Martin, his father. It was an insightful and wonderful evening's entertainment that was enjoyed by all. A total of \$625.00 was raised from this soirée for the Development Fund.

Many thanks to Ben, and Chris for donating their time and expertise to ensure the soirée was such wonderful event. Thanks and congratulations to Jenny and to Dorothy Connor for organizing such a fantastic event to raise much-needed funds for the orchestra.

Chocolates

The fundraising chocolate drive has been going really well, with \$461.95 already raised. There are still several boxes to be sold. For further information, please contact Diana Greenslade, ph 9531 7353

Volunteers

If you are able to offer any administrative support please contact the Stonnington Symphony office on 9510 5257. Periodically, and particularly around concert time, there is a tremendous amount to be done – any skills and time would be most gratefully received.

If you are not playing in the concert and are available on the day, please consider assisting with front of house. You can sell tickets; sell programs; be an usher; or serve tea and coffee. Please remember that our group of

concert volunteers needs to be organised well in advance, not on the day.

Fundraising help wanted!

Are you the kind of person who has great ideas about raising money for the orchestra? The committee of management needs to hear from you! This year has proven to be a difficult one financially for Stonnington Symphony, and the orchestra needs to undertake as much fundraising as possible. Please let our president, Jenny Kirsner know of your ideas and when you can help. She's at jkirsner@bigpond.com.

Membership and concert subscription fees

Thank you to all of those players who have already paid their yearly membership fees for 2005-2006.

If you still wish to be a member but have not yet completed payment, the rates are:

\$70.00 per Full Playing Member

\$60.00 Concession Playing Member (Healthcare card holder, Government pensioner or full-time student)

\$50.00 per non-playing member

The Concert Fee for the 05/06 financial year is:

\$30.00 Concert Fee per player per concert

You ALL need to help keep this wonderful symphony orchestra going, and now it's easier than ever. You can transfer your fees electronically, pay at rehearsals or send a cheque. Any problems – see your convenor right away.

Orchestra committees

Congratulations to the new (and returning) committee members who were elected at the AGM on 8 August.

If you have a *management issue or suggestion* that you would like raised at the next meeting, you can talk to:

Jenny Kirsner

President

Kevin Edwardes

Vice President

Diana Greenslade

Treasurer

Margaret Jenkinson

Secretary

Julia Cianci

Matt Gough

David Laity

Lindy Merry

If you have an *artistic matter or suggestion*, you can contact any one of the program-planning subcommittee: Jenny Johnson, Convenor; Rob Harry; Dorothy Connor; Michael Condon, Julia Cianci or Alex Grieve.

Thank you also to three people who are invaluable:

Brian Mee, our bookkeeper

Irene Jordan, our orchestra manager

Alan Miceli, music librarian

Personnel changes in the office

On 2 August 2005, Celia Welch commenced as Business Manager. Celia is a professional Arts Manager who focuses on work with orchestras and opera. After completing a degree at NIDA, she has worked in management for companies including Orchestra Victoria, Sydney and Melbourne Symphonies, Sydney Festival, and Melbourne Theatre Company. Recently, Celia was Classical Library Administrator for Hal Leonard Australia. She is very pleased to be working with everyone at Stonnington Symphony.

Membership renewal 2005-2006 / DONATION

September 2005

name: _____

instrument: _____

phone: _____

address: _____

suburb: _____

postcode: _____

email: _____

- I have enclosed \$70 (which includes GST) for my full membership, which will expire on 30 June 2006.
- I have enclosed \$60 (which includes GST) for my concession membership, which will expire on 30 June 2006. I am a healthcare card holder; a pensioner or a full time student (circle which is appropriate to you).
- I have enclosed a donation to the value of \$_____. (make cheques payable to Stonnington Symphony)
- I have electronically transferred my membership / donation (strike out where appropriate) to BSB 083 522, account number 51545 3615 **and I have annotated my payment**

Application to play in the concert on Sunday 13 November 2005

- I wish to play in the concert on Sunday 13 November_2005, including attending required rehearsals.
- I have included \$30 (which includes GST) concert fee payment with this application
- I have electronically transferred my \$30 concert subs to BSB 083 522, account number 51545 3615 **and I have annotated my payment**

Please forward completed form and payment to
The Business Manager
Stonnington Symphony
PO Box 476
Prahran VIC 3181 Thank you!

The City of Stonnington
is proud to sponsor
Stonnington Symphony

