



## Supporter's newsletter

### April 2005

#### News from the business manager

Symphony orchestras have certainly been in the limelight this month in Australia! The release of the *Orchestras Review*, a study commissioned by the Department of Communication, Information Technology and the Arts has prompted an unprecedented show of public support for our orchestras. Politicians, arts goers and arts managers have unanimously demonstrated their commitment to the continuation of full-scale orchestral music in each capital city. The next crucial step, of course, is to see what sorts of financial solutions will be implemented to help those orchestras faced with a precarious bottom line.

All the talk of money and budgets and funding has been very timely for Stonnington Symphony, as our funding applications to the City of Stonnington were lodged at the beginning of April. Like any orchestra, Stonnington Symphony needs help to stage its concerts and go about its daily operations.

Our members provide one source of support, whether it be via membership fees or by the provision of voluntary help at our concerts. Other income comes from our box office, and from the fees our musicians pay to belong to the orchestra. It's all very finely balanced, and we are constantly searching for innovative ways to meet our increasing costs.

Aside from budgeting, producing business plans and funding applications, we are now in the midst of organising our next concert at the Malvern Town Hall on Sunday 29 May 2005. It will be a wonderful afternoon, so make sure you and your friends come along to support the orchestra and enjoy its superb music.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Charlotte Cassidy  
Business Manager

#### **Forthcoming concert**

**2.30pm Sunday 29 May, Malvern Town Hall**

corner Glenferrie Rd and High St, Malvern

**Conductor** Ben Northey

**Soloist** Zoë Knighton, cello

#### **Repertoire:**

**David Chisholm** *The Illusion of the End*

**Elgar** *Cello Concerto*

**Sibelius** *Symphony no 1*

We are thrilled to be working with conductor Ben Northey again. In February, Ben had his debut concert with the Adelaide Symphony at their outdoor

performance. It was a great success, and the ASO has invited him back for a Masters Series concert in 2006. He says that he is very much looking forward to this program with Stonnington and seeing everyone again.

Zoë Knighton plays regularly with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Academy of Melbourne, Australia Pro Arte and Libra ensemble. This year, she is undertaking a Beethoven Project with Elyane Laussade in which they will perform all the works for cello and piano by Beethoven.

We also welcome back Lerida Dellbridge, who will be leading the orchestra. This will be the second time she has teamed up with Ben Northey and played with Stonnington – last time we saw them together was in August 2003.

#### **Concert review**

Symphony Under the Stars, Saturday 26 February 2005  
Malvern Gardens, High St, Malvern

Conductor: Joannes Roose

Soloist: John Schmidli, trumpet

Symphony Under the Stars was a truly wonderful night and a great success for the orchestra. A winning combination of great playing, great weather and a record number of people in the audience gave the night real buzz and excitement.

The City of Stonnington were very enthusiastic – the Mayor in particular said that the orchestra were wonderful and she was thrilled to be part of such a fantastic evening.

Thank you to all who helped with the raffle and chocolate sales– we ended up raising \$2,573 toward our costs for the event.

We received some lovely feedback from Joannes, who wrote:

“Just a brief note to say how much I enjoyed working with the orchestra, and particularly the concert, which went extremely well. I congratulate you and your team on a wonderful effort in organising and presenting the concert. Everything appeared to run very smoothly, and the level of professionalism at all levels was exemplary. The orchestra played with great vitality and character, as well as accuracy and stamina, all of which were tested by a very demanding program. I salute you all. Please pass on my thoughts to all concerned.”

And Peter Burch, our MC wrote:

“A quick note of warmest thanks to you, Jenny and everyone involved in last Saturday night's concert. It was SUCH a beautiful night, great to see such a big turn-out in that lovely park and an absolute privilege and pleasure for me to be able to MC the evening.”

#### **Thank you to our volunteers on 26 February 2005**

**Thank you to all our volunteers** – Lindsay, Sally, Heather, Margaret, Diana, David, Jenny, Sashini, Mary and Marion, for contributing so well and enthusiastically.

### How does my membership work?

In order for you to receive this newsletter, and to have voting rights at our AGMs, you need to be a member. Memberships to the orchestra are a crucial part of its income – plus of course the best way for you to be part of the orchestra's community.

If you have been receiving newsletters from 1 July 2004, but haven't yet paid your membership fee, now is a great opportunity to get up-to-date before the start of the next financial year. Just fill out the membership form at the bottom of this page. Please note that membership fees will have to increase from 1 July 2005, to \$50.00 per year.

### Orchestra committees

Our current committee of management is:

Jenny Kirsner	President
Katrine Keuneman	Vice President
Diana Greenslade	Treasurer
Marion Simmonds	Secretary
Kevin Edwardes	
Alex Grieve	
David Laity	

Our current Program Planning Committee is:

Jenny Johnson	Program Planning convenor
Rob Harry	
David Laity	
Dorothy Connor	
Alex Grieve	

### Volunteers

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

Also consider offering assistance with front of house. You can sell tickets; sell programmes; be an usher; or serve tea and coffee. Please remember that our group of concert volunteers needs to be organised well in advance – please call the office on 9510 5257 at least a week prior to the concert.

### Website

You can now access Stonnington Symphony online. We have a temporary website up and running – just something very simple at this stage and which we will be developing in 2005. Have a look at [www.stonningtonsymphony.org.au](http://www.stonningtonsymphony.org.au) and let us know what you think.

### We've changed our postal address

If you haven't amended your records, please do so now:  
Stonnington Symphony  
PO Box 476, Prahran VIC 3181

### Supporter's contact details

Please notify the office of any change of your contact details, either by phone 9510 5257 or via email [admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au).

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### **Membership renewal 2004-2005 / DONATION**

12 April 2005

name: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have enclosed \$20 (which includes GST) for my membership, which will expire on 30 June 2005.
- 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**

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



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**STONNINGTON**