



Supporter's newsletter June 2006

From the Business Manager:

Congratulations to all involved in our recent concert, which was a marvellous success. The orchestra played beautifully under the baton of Barry Tuckwell, and Erica Kennedy's performance of the Beethoven Violin Concerto was a highlight. Our committed group of volunteers ensured that the evening ran smoothly.

We have also been busy raising funds by selling raffle tickets, and the raffle was drawn at the recent concert. This year we were fortunate in the high quality of the prizes, which were generously donated by local business and various Melbourne arts organizations.

Finally, as we reach the end of another financial year, the Committee of Management and I would like to acknowledge all those in the Stonnington Symphony family who have donated throughout the year. Both our Development Fund – to support artistic costs – and our general account – to support the orchestra's operations – have benefited from your generosity. Without your support, the Stonnington Symphony simply couldn't present the number of high quality concerts each year that we currently enjoy. Thank you.

I encourage you all to join the Stonnington Symphony as financial members in 2007, and ensure the sustainability of this fine community orchestra.

With best wishes,
Celia Welch, Business Manager

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please note that the AGM is scheduled for
Monday 7 August 2006.

Early bird memberships are available until that date, and entitle you to vote at the AGM, and to purchase discount concert tickets.

JOIN UP & HAVE YOUR SAY!

Suggestions

If you have a suggestion about the orchestra – a work you would like to hear, or a fundraising initiative you think would be great – please contact Celia in the office on 9510 5257, PO Box 476, Prahran 3181 or email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au

Celia will pass on your suggestion to the Committee of Management or the Program Planning Sub-committee.

Concert review – Gala Evening Concert 8pm Saturday 3 June 2006, Malvern Town Hall

This was one of Stonnington Symphony's finest performances in recent times, the high quality of performance commented upon by guests, audience and critics. Mendelssohn's popular Hebrides Overture was a lyrical start to the evening. Erica Kennedy, solo violin, gave a wonderful interpretation of the Beethoven Violin Concerto and received a standing ovation. The orchestra was inspired by the gracious direction of conductor Barry Tuckwell. After interval, the orchestra realised a marvellous presentation of Franck's Symphony in D minor, ensuring the concert was an immense success from an artistic perspective.

Following the cancellation of the Symphony under the Stars concert, this year's Stonnington Symphony Raffle had to be run in a slightly different way. Orchestra members and supporters sold tickets prior to the concert, and volunteers sold tickets on concert day. A stall was organized for the Prahran Market on the Saturday prior to the concert which was very successful. Many tickets were sold, and the Stonnington Symphony's profile was raised amongst the local community. The wonderful raffle prizes, generously donated by arts organizations and local businesses, and the enthusiastic sales by orchestra members ensured that this fundraising effort was successful.

This was a superb concert which was also a success at the box office. A large audience attended, as well as a number of guests including **Mayor Anne O'Shea**, **Councillor John Chandler** and **Mr Peter Redden**, Cultural Development Officer, all from the City of Stonnington, **Mr Peter Burch**, Victorian Manager of Musica Viva, and **Ms Penny Reiners**, Fundraising Manager of 3MBS Fine Music Radio. **Mr Clive O'Connell**, classical music critic with *The Age* newspaper was also in the audience, and his review appeared on Tuesday 6 June in the Arts section.

Compliments on the quality of the concert have been flooding in from audience members. *The Age* review noted the 'secure articulation' of the string sections, and the 'fine Cor Anglais solo [by Penny Dawe] for the middle *Allegretto*' of the Franck Symphony. Peter Burch's congratulatory email to all involved commented particularly on the 'terrific team of volunteers helping out behind the scenes, as well as front of house... They were really professional'.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who worked so hard to ensure the success of our first concert for 2006.

Thank you to our supporters on 3 June 2006

Sascha Jeske – front of house manager
Gabby Walters – stage manager
Mary Clements, Marion Simmonds, Heather Stephens – concert ticket sales
Margaret Jenkinson – raffle co-ordinator
Stewart Allen, Allie Gallant & Wenjun Lu – raffle sales
Kirsty Johns, Trish Reck & Prue Rees-Lee – ushers
Liz Ede & Linda Fung – program sales
John Wise & Peter Farmer – for percussion equipment
Peter Nicholls & 3MBS – recording the concert
Say it with flowers – soloist's beautiful bouquet
Marshall White Real Estate Agents – feteboards
Mary Clements & Lindy Merry – program notes

