



Players' newsletter June 2007

From the General Manager:

Congratulations to all involved with our recent concert on 27 May – it was a great afternoon which has resulted in many compliments about Stonnington Symphony. More comments on this later in the newsletter.

We have been privileged to work with Professor John Hopkins over the last month in rehearsal and performance, which has been wonderful for players and audiences. John also generously agreed to participate in a fundraiser event with Benjamin Northey, and Peter Burch. A small but appreciative audience was present in Sacré Cœur's beautiful Parlour to hear some delightful anecdotes from John's fascinating career in music, and some interesting insights from Benjamin about building an international career as a conductor. As always, Peter Burch's questions and comments illuminated the discussion. Stonnington Symphony is certainly very lucky to have such distinguished and generous mentors who support the orchestra in vital fundraising activities.

Just ahead is another fundraiser, our Trivia Night on 15 June which is set to be a fantastic evening. General trivia with something for everyone is the aim of the night and we hope that many of our members and supporters will come along. Please contact me in the office to confirm your booking.

Rehearsals for our next concert with Chris Martin conducting commence in July. As seats are limited, please be sure to contact your Section Convenor ASAP to confirm you wish to play.

Finally, as the financial year draws to a close, a great deal of behind-the-scenes work is going on to ensure the orchestra's position for 2007/08. The programming committee is working on the artistic content for 2008, whilst the Committee of Management is working on budgets, grant applications, forward planning and a myriad of other projects.

This year, the AGM will take place in October. This is later than in previous years to allow more time for reporting and auditing to be completed prior to the meeting. More about this in coming newsletters.

Thanks again to everyone for their commitment to ensuring this fine orchestra continues to develop.

With best wishes,
Celia Welch

FUNDRAISER EVENT NEXT WEEK SSO Trivia Night

Date – Friday 15 June, 7.30pm

Venue – The Turf Club Hotel,
1 Flemington Rd, North Melbourne

*An entertaining evening of general trivia
in a relaxed environment*

Tickets – \$15 per head (tables 8 – 10)

All proceeds benefit Stonnington Symphony's Town Hall Series

To reserve your place, phone Celia on 9510 5257 or email admin@stonningtonssymphony.org.au

*Great door prizes to be won
including wine and concert tickets*

An update from Bows for Strings

We are proud to announce the introduction of the **Warchal range of strings**. Warchal are fast becoming widely acclaimed as the next string generation. Made by Bohdan Warchal – a string player and conductor who is passionate about sound. This space is too small to give a full report so please visit www.warchal.com and explore.

Our workshop is still in full swing. We have just received a new consignment of affordable **BAM cases** so please bring your violin and see how beautifully these cases protect your instrument.

Glen Nicholls has just returned from overseas and will be returning to the workshop. **Mathew Ingram** is at the workbench along with myself and we look forward to answering any enquiry you may have.

Vive La Musique

Nicolas Fyfield, Bows for Strings

2007-2008 Memberships NOW OPEN

Membership and concert subscription fees

Thank you to those players who have paid their yearly membership fees for 2007 – 2008.

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 per Early Bird Special – pay by 29 July 2007

\$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 07/08 financial year is:

\$30.00 Concert Fee per player per concert

You ALL need to help keep this great 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.

Concert review – The Maestro at 80:

John Hopkins 80th Birthday concert Sunday 27 May, 2.30pm, Malvern Town Hall

This very special concert celebrating John Hopkins' great contribution to music in Australia over many years was a wonderful success. John conducted the orchestra expertly, inspiring the strings to display a luscious tone throughout, brilliantly complemented by the wind, brass and percussion sections. The concert opened with Vaughan Williams Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis, one of John's favourite works. Following this, violin soloist Cameron Hill gave a spine-tingling performance of the virtuosic Saint-Saëns 3rd Violin Concerto despite his shoulder rest snapping in two requiring him to start again. After interval, Sarah Hopkins' Past Life Melodies which employs her patented 'whirlies' was atmospheric and showed a different side to the orchestra's performance skills. The final work was Elgar's Enigma Variations, complete with the Compton organ, the use of which was kindly donated by the Theatre Organ Society of Victoria, who also assisted us with it on the day.

There were many guests and friends in the audience including David Barmby from ANAM, Lin Bender from the new Melbourne Recital Centre, past and current members of the MSO, and Age reviewer Clive O'Connell who praised the concert and performance standard.

Congratulations to everyone on a fine performance.

Thank you to our supporters on 27 May 2007

Jo Jenkinson, Marion Simmonds, Heather Stephens & Marjorie Weir – ticket sales

Alison Rowlands & Miranda Welch – selling programs

Mary Clements, Garth Jenkinson & Trevor Jordan – ushering

Anna Welch – foyer management

John Wise – for percussion equipment hire

Michael Taylor – recording the concert

Martin Welch – production assistant

Theatre Organ Society of Victoria – use of the organ

2006-07 Orchestra committees

Committee of Management

President	Jen Kirsner
Vice President	Julia Cianci
Treasurer	Diana Greenslade
Secretary	Margaret Jenkinson
Ordinary Members	Kenny Cheung David Laity Catriona Russell

Program Planning Sub-Committee:

Benjamin Northey, Artistic Director	
Jenny Johnson, Convenor	
Aydin Abdullah	Paul Boasman
Dorothy Connor	Rob Harry

To contact any of the above committee members, please get in touch with Celia in the office via phone on 9510 5257, fax 9525 2611, email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au or post PO Box 476, Prahran VIC 3181

Upcoming Performance & Rehearsal Schedules

Pictures of the Sea, Sounds of Sunshine: Chris Martin conducts Elgar and Brahms

Sunday 26 August, 2.30pm, Malvern Town Hall

Conductor – Christopher Martin

Mezzo Soprano – Jacqueline Dark

Elgar – Cockaigne (in London Town)

Elgar – Sea Pictures for contralto & orchestra

Elgar – Sospiri

Brahms – Symphony No.2

Tues 24 July	7.30-10.30pm
Tues 31 July	7.30-10.30pm
Tues 7 August	7.30-10.30pm
Tues 14 August	7.30-10.30pm
Tues 21 August	7.30-10.30pm
Thur 23 August	7.30-10.30pm
Sun 26 August	11am balance, 2.30pm perf

Please note: all calls are at the Malvern Town Hall.

Also note: the provisional rehearsal schedule will be posted on the website when it is available. It will be subject to change as the rehearsals progress.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS: Section Convenors

Violins (A-K)	Dorothy Connor
Violins (L-Z)	Irene Jordan
Viola	Matt Gough
Cello	Michael Condon
Bass	Bronwyn Welch
Flute	Aydin Abdullah
Oboe	Penny Dawe
Clarinet	David Laity
Bassoon	Libby McGrath
Horn	Rob Harry
Brass	Matthew Ayres
Percussion	Christine Flood

Librarian Alan Miceli

IMPORTANT:

*If you wish to play in the next concert, you **MUST** contact your convenor no later than **2 weeks** before the first rehearsal.*

Practice before the first rehearsal

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

Donations

As the financial year draws to a close, it is the perfect time to support Stonnington Symphony with a cash donation. **All donations over \$2 donated for the purpose of supporting the artistic development of the Stonnington Symphony are tax-deductible.** Please complete the form below and send it in with your donation. Thank you.

Membership renewal 2007 – 2008 / DONATION

June 2007

name: _____

instrument: _____

phone: _____

address: _____

suburb: _____

postcode: _____

email: _____

- I have enclosed **\$60** (which includes GST) for my **EARLY BIRD** membership (make payable to Stonnington Symphony), which will expire on 30 June 2008. My payment will reach Stonnington Symphony by **Friday 29 July 2007**.
- I have enclosed **\$60** (which includes GST) for my concession membership (make payable to Stonnington Symphony), which will expire on 30 June 2008. I am a healthcare card holder / pensioner / full time student (circle appropriate category).
- I have enclosed a donation towards artistic costs to the value of \$_____. (make cheques payable to Stonnington Symphony) – tax-deductible donation
- I have enclosed a donation towards operating costs to the value of \$_____. (make cheques payable to Stonnington Symphony) – non-tax-deductible donation
- I have electronically transferred \$_____ (includes GST) to **BSB 033072, account number 266570 – I have annotated my payment**

Application to play in the concert on Sunday 26 August 2007

*Please contact your convenor **before** sending payment. If you send in payment to the office, the General Manager cannot guarantee you a seat, particularly in the wind, brass or percussion sections. Thank you for your co-operation.*

- I wish to play in the concert on Sunday 26 August 2007, including attending required rehearsals.
- I have included \$30 (which includes GST) concert fee payment with this application
- I have electronically transferred my \$30 concert fee to to **BSB 033072, account number 266570 – I have annotated my payment**

Please forward completed form and payment to
The General 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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