



Supporter's newsletter February 2007

From the Business Manager:

As we launch into 2007, let's take a moment to reflect on the many fine achievements of the orchestra in 2006.

First and foremost have been the concerts which have been outstanding. Each concert showed the orchestra to be of an increasingly high artistic and technical standard, reflected in increasing numbers of players and audience members. Congratulations to everyone who has worked so diligently to ensure this great success.

There were also exciting new developments – Benjamin Northey joining us as Artistic Director, our corporate partnership with Armadale Cellars which yielded a fantastic event – the Gourmet Wine & Cheese tasting – and new fundraising opportunities for the orchestra. The City of Stonnington initiated and produced 'Pops for Tots' with the orchestra which was received extremely well by council, players and audience alike.

The AGM in August saw the Committee of Management report on the orchestra's progress, and the new committee appointed. Following this a Planning Day was held for the new Committee of Management and Program Planning Sub-Committee in which roles were reviewed and goals for the future considered. At this forum we benefited from the involvement of two professionals – Associate Professor Ruth Rentschler speaking on governance in non-profit arts organisations, and Ruth Byrne who facilitated the discussion throughout the day.

While our financial position has improved since 2005, we must still be cautious in our approach to expenditure, and we are constantly preparing and submitting funding applications.

So to look at 2007: the Town Hall Series is in the final stages of planning, Pops for Tots will perform in late April, and Symphony under the Stars opens the year. There will be several events in 2007 which we hope you will support. These events are designed to be great fun for those who participate, and they are also vital fundraising activities for the orchestra.

On a personal note, a huge thanks to the members of both committees, and the many volunteers who regularly assist on concert day and in the office. It is because of your fantastic support that the orchestra continues to thrive. Thank you.

With best wishes,
Celia Welch

NEXT CONCERT Saturday 24 February 2007

Symphony Under the Stars

Presented by the City of Stonnington

7pm in the Malvern Gardens (Melways Map 59 D8)

Conductor – Pat Miller

MC – Peter Burch

Clarinet solo – David Laity

Smetana - From Bohemia's Woods and Fields
Weber - Concertino in E flat for Clarinet and orchestra
Milhaud – selections from Le Train Bleu Suite
Berlioz - Royal Hunt and Storm from The Trojans
Sculthorpe - Small town from Fifth Continent
Rimsky-Korsakov - Capriccio espagnol

We look forward to fantastic weather for this outdoor concert, and hope that you will join us for a wonderful program of music conducted by a rising star in the Australian classical music scene, Pat Miller.

Bring family, friends and a picnic to really enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of this summertime free concert.

Also please support our sponsor, Armadale Cellars by purchasing a glass of wine at their stall, and take advantage of the opportunity to win some fantastic prizes in Stonnington Symphony's Raffle.

CALLING VOLUNTEERS

Stonnington Symphony seeks volunteers to help with the presentation of Symphony under the Stars on 24 February.

This large-scale outdoor concert requires a big team of volunteers to hand out programs, sell raffle tickets and a range of other tasks. Help us ensure the event is a great success.

Please contact Celia in the office on 9510 5257 to register your interest and find out more. Or email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au

2006-07 Orchestra committees

Committee of Management

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

Program Planning Sub-Committee:

Benjamin Northey, Artistic Director
Jenny Johnson, Convenor
Aydin Abdullah, Julia Cianci, Dorothy Connor, Rob Harry

Contact any of the above committee members via the office phone on 9510 5257, fax 9525 2611, email admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au or post PO Box 476, Prahran VIC 3181

Concert review – *The Drama of the Romantics*

2.30pm Sunday 12 November 2006, Malvern Town Hall

This was the final concert for 2006 and the orchestra played extremely well. The program was demanding, both in terms of artistic interpretation and technical skill required, and conductor Mark Shiell led the orchestra in a fine performance. The high quality of the string sound was particularly noteworthy, as were the wind and brass solos from within the orchestra. The four French Horn soloists were virtuosic in their performance of the Schumann Konzertstück, resulting in rapturous applause from audience and orchestra. Their subsequent encore was an added bonus!

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Alex Grieve, a distinguished professional French Horn player who was Principal with Stonnington Symphony for over twenty years, after retiring from his position in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

The audience loved this concert. There were several aspects of interest – Tchaikovsky's 5th Symphony, Barry Tuckwell's performance, and the opportunity to remember Alex Grieve with the music he so loved. There was extremely generous applause at every opportunity and congratulatory comments at interval and post-performance.

Stonnington Symphony was delighted to welcome several guests to this fine concert including **Councillor Judy Hindle** from the City of Stonnington, conductor **Professor John Hopkins** from the University of Melbourne Faculty of Music, **Wilma Smith**, Concertmaster and other members of the Melbourne Symphony. We were also very privileged to have several members of Alex Grieve's family fly in from Adelaide to attend, including his brother and sister who expressed their joy and gratitude for the dedication of the concert to Alex.

Thank you to our supporters on 12 Nov 2006

Irene Jordan – foyer management

Marion Simmonds, Heather Stephens, Ailie Gallant & Jo Jenkinson – concert ticket sales

Richard Kirsner, Garth Jenkinson & Stewart Allen – ushers

Dave Newington and Angela Kirsner – program sales

John Wise – for percussion equipment hire

John Smyth and 3MBS – recording the concert

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

Mary Clements and Lindy Merry – program notes

Stonnington Symphony New Bank Account Details

Please note that as of 1 January 2007 Stonnington Symphony has changed bank accounts – see details below on membership form.

The Treasurer, Diana Greenslade, and Business Manager, Celia Welch, have secured a better banking arrangement with Westpac which sees the orchestra accruing interest on the Development Fund.

Help Stonnington Symphony present high quality performances every time

Now is the perfect time to support the Stonnington Symphony with a donation.

All donations over \$2 contributed for the purpose of supporting the artistic development of the Stonnington Symphony are tax-deductible.

Your donations assist Stonnington Symphony to engage the services of professional conductors, soloists and section principals who lead the orchestra and help develop players' artistic and technical skills. This method of integrating professional and community musicians was pioneered by the Stonnington Symphony and continues to ensure a high artistic standard.

General donations (unfortunately non tax-deductible) also assist with the hiring of music giving the orchestra the opportunity to play all the wonderful music you come to hear and see performed on concert day.

Please complete the form below and send it in with your donation. Thank you.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the life-blood of the Stonnington Symphony and we thank those who donate their time and expertise on a regular basis. If you are able to offer assistance at any time, please contact a committee member or Celia in the office on 9510 5257.

If you would like to be actively involved in the presentation of 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 assist with tea and coffee. Please remember that our group of concert volunteers needs to be organised well in advance, not just on the day.

Volunteering is fantastic opportunity to experience the excitement of the performance whilst gaining valuable skills and an insight into orchestral operations.

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.

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

Membership renewal 2006-2007 / DONATION

**applies only if you have not already renewed your membership*

name: _____

phone: _____

address: _____

suburb: _____

postcode: _____

email: _____

Membership

- I have enclosed **\$50** (which includes GST) for my membership (make payable to Stonnington Symphony), which will expire on 30 June 2007.
- I have electronically transferred membership fees of \$_____ (includes GST) to BSB **033072**, account number **266570** – **I have annotated my payment**

Donations: non-tax deductible

- I have enclosed a donation towards operating costs to the value of \$_____. (make cheques payable to Stonnington Symphony) – non-tax-deductible and I do / do not (strike out where appropriate) require a receipt
- I have electronically transferred a non-tax deductible donation of \$_____ (includes GST) to BSB **033072**, account number **266570** – **I have annotated my payment**

Donations: tax deductible

- I have enclosed a donation towards artistic costs to the value of \$_____. (make cheques payable to Stonnington Symphony) – tax deductible donation
- I have electronically transferred a tax deductible donation of \$_____ (includes GST) to BSB **033072**, account number **266589** – **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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