



## Supporter's newsletter July 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.

Another fundraiser, our Trivia Night on 15 June was a fantastic evening. Five large tables of passionate trivia buffs fought it out, winning prizes along the way. Sincere thanks to the COM members who managed all aspects of the night, to Nick Aberle who donated his time and services as MC, to Armadale Cellars for their generous donation of prizes, and Michael Taylor and Melbourne Theatre Company for providing sound gear.

These events raised a combined total of nearly \$1400 for the orchestra.

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. There will be more details in coming newsletters.

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

With best wishes,  
Celia Welch

## 2007-2008 Memberships NOW OPEN

### Membership fees

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

If you still wish to be a member but have not yet completed payment, please note the fee remains at \$50.00 for a non-playing membership.

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? Contact Celia in the office on 9510 5257 or email [admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au)

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## Annual General Meeting

Following recommendations arising from our 05/06 audit, Stonnington Symphony's AGM will be held later in the year (it was formerly in early August). The date is still TBC but will be in October 2007.

The AGM is when the Committee of Management for the coming year is voted upon and appointed. We encourage non-playing members to consider standing for election to the COM.

Being a committee member involves being proactive and working behind the scenes to ensure the sustainability of the Stonnington Symphony in the future. Committee members can become office bearers (President, Secretary etc) or be Ordinary Members. The COM works closely with the General Manager on a wide variety of projects including strategic planning, fundraising and marketing.

Members bring their unique range of skills to the COM as well as a great enthusiasm for ensuring the success of the orchestra.

All the relevant notification will be made closer to the time. However, if you have any questions or concerns you wish to raise, please contact Celia on 9510 5257 or [admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au) in the first instance and Celia can refer you to a COM member.

### 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, Paul Boasman, Dorothy Connor,  
Rob Harry

## **NEXT PERFORMANCE:**

### **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

Long-time Stonnington Symphony collaborator, conductor Chris Martin returns to direct a program of some of his favourite music. Three very different works by English composer Edward Elgar – the well-known Cockaigne overture, Sea Pictures with Mezzo Soprano Jacqueline Dark and the short string work Sospiri – precede Brahms' much-loved 2<sup>nd</sup> Symphony. This beautiful selection of music will be performed in a Sunday afternoon concert at the Malvern Town Hall.

**Tickets** can be purchased at the door, or reserve your seat by booking with Celia in the office on 9510 5257, PO Box 476, Prahran 3181 or email [admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au)

\$25 adult, \$20 concession (pensioner, healthcare card, full-time student over 16), \$10 children under 16

**Group discounts available.**

### **Concert review – The Maestro at 80:**

#### **John Hopkins 80<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

## **Stonnington Symphony Brochures – can you help?**

Each year Stonnington Symphony produces Season Brochures which we send to all our members and distribute to interested places around Melbourne.

This year we still have some brochures left and we ask members to contact Celia in the office if they are able to distribute some to their local library or café or send to interested family and friends.

The office details once again are:

Phone 9510 5257, mail PO Box 476, Prahran, VIC 3181 or email [admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au)

Celia will post the brochures to you or you can collect them from the office – please arrange a time with Celia.

### **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](mailto:admin@stonningtonsymphony.org.au)

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

### **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 Celia in the office on 9510 5257 or complete and return the form below.

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.

### **Have you moved? Do you have an email address?**

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)

Where possible, Stonnington Symphony chooses to communicate via email to reduce paper wastage and postage costs. We hope you will assist us in this endeavour.

## Membership renewal 2007 – 2008 / Donations

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

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

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

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

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

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

- I have enclosed **\$50** (which includes GST) for my **non-playing membership** (make payable to Stonnington Symphony), which will expire on 30 June 2008.
- 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**

## Volunteer with Stonnington Symphony

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- I would like to be contacted about volunteering to assist with the concert on the day of performance.
- I would like to offer my services to assist with general administration tasks in the office or from home.
- I would like to offer my services for a particular project and I have expertise in the area of \_\_\_\_\_

(this may include fundraising and sponsorship, organising events, marketing, databases, or another area)

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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