

The Score

Issue 10. June 2011

Hello to all our members, subscribers, and supporters,

Melbourne Chamber Orchestra Concert and String workshops

In a short time, we will be part of the Autumn Victorian Regional Tour by the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra at our concert on Friday 24 June, at 7.30 pm at our regular venue McAuley Hall, Sacred Heart College, Newtown. Once again, as happened in May 2010, advanced string students from schools and colleges in Geelong, have been participating in Workshops conducted by core members of the Orchestra and will perform in two items at the concert, as part of the orchestra. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students and a special treat for family members and the Geelong community, hearing what our students can achieve, given this intensive mentoring and the inspiration of professional musicians who are not much older than themselves. We hope you will come to hear the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the students performing with them.

There is a small change to the program published earlier in the year. The concert will open with a *Prelude and Scherzo* for string octet by Shostakovich. This is an early work probably written while Shostakovich was still a student at the Leningrad Conservatorium. Then follows Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto* No 5 after which Helen Ayres will be soloist in the Mozart *Rondo for violin and orchestra*, K 373.

After Interval, the orchestra will be augmented by the Advanced String Students and will perform a Corelli *Concerto Grosso* and Grieg's *Holberg Suite*. Some more Bach, in the form of his *Air from Suite No 3 in D* and, finally, the Mozart *Violin Concerto No 5 in A*, K 219. Here, the soloist will be Rebecca Chan who is now well known to Geelong audiences. Rebecca has performed in Geelong as a member of the *Melbourne Chamber Orchestra* and the *Hamer Quartet* and has won numerous prestigious prizes both as a soloist and chamber musician. In 2010 she moved to Sydney and became a core member of the *Australian Chamber Orchestra*.

GCMS Annual General Meeting

The society's Annual General Meeting was held in May. As a number of our committee members had to resign to take on other commitments, we are delighted to welcome Wendy Galloway and Suzanne Alderson as new committee members. The positions of President, vice-President, and Secretary remain unchanged and we are optimistic that we will soon have a new Treasurer. So far, about 40 members have renewed or taken up membership. A society needs members and, although the benefits may seem illusory, members are entitled to attend the end-of-year soiree and to receive discounts from Paton Books and the Geelong Art Gallery Shop. If you would like to become a member, or renew your membership, please complete the form on the cover sheet and send it with your cheque to PO Box 988, Geelong, 3220.

The financial report showed that, at the end of 2010, we had a surplus of \$2,363.50 and Arts Victoria provided a "Guarantee Against Loss" for the October *Melbourne Chamber Orchestra* concert and the concert by the *Australian National Academy of Music* totalling \$4,132.00.

We are very grateful that, in 2011, the City of Greater Geelong increased its grant from \$5,000 to \$6,000, we have had a couple of very generous private donations, an increase in the number of subscribers, and each of our two concerts so far have resulted in a handy profit for the society. We have now repaid all of the start-up loan and have put aside \$10,000 in a term deposit. We would love to have this as a reserve, but it is likely we will need to use it before the end of the year. We still have some substantial expenses for the *Melbourne Chamber Orchestra* concerts, but we are in a rather better financial position than at this time last year.

We have applied to be included on the register of Cultural Organisations which carries with it Tax Deductibility for donors. We have been told that the process may take six months. Meanwhile, if you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the work of the society, please do this through the *Australia Cultural Fund* by completing the form on the back page and sending it to Australia Business Arts Foundation.

Streeton Trio Recital

The Streeton Trio is the only Australian group to have been selected for the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition to be held in July 2011. The trio comprises Benjamin Kopp, piano, Emma Jardine, violin and Martin Smith cello. The trio is giving a recital at 7pm on Thursday 23 June at Bellbrae Farm, 255 Vickerys Rd, Bellbrae. The program is Haydn, Smalley and Beethoven. Bookings are essential and tickets are available by phoning 0414 256 650 or email kalaparee@connexus.net.au. Adults \$30, concession \$25. Streeton Trio on Thursday and Melbourne Chamber Orchestra on Friday would be a delicious feast indeed.

Read in The Saturday Age

Did you read the beautiful offering by Kate Holden in The Saturday Age of 4 June titled "For those about to baroque, we salute you"? In case you missed it, some excerpts are printed here. We have all experienced her delight in listening to music with others but she expressed it so well.

She described a chamber music concert at the *Melbourne Recital Centre* – "the cosiest, snuggest, most indoorsey place to take shelter from the winter winds.... A place made lovely by the finest attentions, softly lit, gently heated, where people gather to enjoy some of the sweetest entertainment ever devised by humanity....a place where a thousand people will sit utterly still, scarcely breathing in wonder, (and) from which they leave buoyed and warmed, soothed and stirred." She paid tribute to the musicians who "have devoted their lives to this music, this bringing of loveliness to us...and...have worked for thousands of hours to give us this gift. All we have to do is hear." And further on, "One of life's great civilised pleasures is communal listening to music" whether it be at The Falls, Meredith, Wangaratta or the *Melbourne Recital Centre* or McAuley Hall for classical music, it is an uplifting shared experience after which "we sigh together, we applaud, dream and thrill together. The moment the music ends, we hear the silence so much more fully and clap for more."

We congratulate the students who were selected and were able to participate in the Advanced String Students Workshops. We look forward to welcoming you to the concert on Friday 24 June that you are sure to leave "buoyed and warmed, soothed and stirred." Winter is not so fearful on a night like that.

Best wishes.

The committee of Geelong Chamber Music Society.

President: Peter Horan, Vice-President: Kevin McAvaney, Secretary: Helen Jordan Committee members: Suzanne Alderson, Bev Dickie, Wendy Galloway and Jenny Horan.





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GEELONG CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY INC. APPLICATION FOR / RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Please return to the Secretary, GCMS, PO Box 988, Geelong 3220 with cheque or money order for \$20 single, \$40 couple or family. Membership will continue to May 2012.

I/We wish to become/remain a member(s)/ of the Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc. for the year 2011-12.

| Name(s): | Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr |
|------------|--------------|
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If undeliverable return to GCMS Inc Post Office Box 988 GEELONG Vic. 3220 PRINT POST PP31027900203

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