



# Tune-In

[www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz](http://www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz)

Manawatu Youth Orchestra Inc

May 2008

## Family Concert Spectacular: what a wonderful world

The Sinfonia presents a family concert spectacular under well known local conductor Peter Ellery, fresh from the Feilding Brass 'Last Night at the Proms'.

This concert is ideal for bringing along the neighbours and relations who might not be into classical music – or so they think!

Ellery has programmed a concert of well known and exciting music that will appeal to a wide audience, while at the same time showing off the sounds and abilities of the orchestra.

The concert ranges from great swing numbers from "Satchmo" Louis Armstrong right through to some of the most popular movies and shows of all time. The

audience will be treated to a stunning array of music from Titanic, High School Musical, Independence Day, Indiana Jones, Chronicles of Narnia and a medley from the three most recent



*Timothée Ausseil practicing for the Family Concert Spectacular in Mum's orchestra*

## Youth Orchestra's accomplished performance

In the first part of the MYO concert on 17 May, Kirsten Clark directed the 25 strong Palmerston North Boys High School Barbershop Chorus and the smaller Manawatu Girls' Choir.

The second half was the Manawatu Youth Orchestra's turn to shine under John Schwabe. The orchestra has lost many experienced members to other centres, but the high standards set by previous year's orchestra have clearly been a stimulus to the younger members. Schwindel's Symphony in F was given an assured performance, with some rich

and secure string playing in the slow movement. The brass provided a bucolic humour in Dvorak's 6<sup>th</sup> Slavonic Dance, while the woodwinds gave assured performances throughout, particularly evident in Bizet's first L'Arlesienne Suite. Timpanist Matthew Dann gave rhythmically charged solos in Point 33 by Ensuku Hatu.

Cesar Franck's Panis Angelicus and the Skye Boat Song were performed by both choirs and orchestra, providing a rousing conclusion to satisfying evening. (From MES review 19 May.)

## Next Concerts

Manawatu Sinfonia

Peter Ellery

Family Concert

Sunday 8 June

4:00 pm

Speirs Centre

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Manawatu Sinfonia,  
Manawatu Youth  
Orchestra

John Schwabe

Sasha Routh – cello

Saturday 20 September  
7:30pm

Salvation Army Centre

Saint-Saëns: : First  
Cello Concerto

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Manawatu Sinfonia,  
Palmerston North  
Choral Society,

Renaissance  
Singers

Guy Donaldson

3:00pm Sunday 30  
November

Regent on Broadway  
Haydn: The Creation



*(Continued from page 1)*

Star Wars movies. In some ways this family concert will almost be a "night at the movies" and will surely allow many of the audience to

Family concert spectacular

enjoy some wonderful memories from these classics.

In typical tradition, Ellery is remaining tight lipped on other items in the programme. All he would say was that the audience will really enjoy them.

Younger members of the audience will get a great insight into how the music they hear during movies is created. True lovers of pure classical music will also be catered for with a couple of famous shorter overtures also being included. This event certainly looks like the concert not to be missed and should be a **wonderful afternoon's entertainment for everyone of all ages.**

## Parents get to vote: an important constitutional change

The AGM (15 April) and follow-up SGM (13 May) to ratify the AGM motions were held. As well as electing a new committee, several important constitutional changes were made that affect Youth Orchestra members. Parents may now exercise proxy votes on behalf of their children who are members of the Youth Orchestra.

Until now, only the children themselves could vote. The intention is to encourage parental support for and participation in the MYO.

## Wanted

Top Manawatu string quartet seeks 1st violin, 2nd violin, cello. Enquiries to MSQ, RD1, Kimbolton.

## MYO Committee and office holders

The committee manages both the Youth Orchestra and Sinfonia.

The new committee and executive were elected at the AGM and ratified at the SGM. We welcome the new members and thank those who have stood down for their support and involvement.

Patron: Morva Croxson

President: Allan Rae

Vice Presidents: Sir Brian Elwood, Ken Gregory, Isobel Mildon, Vonette Pearce

Secretary/Treasurer: Elizabeth Meers Committee: Lynette Quinn, David Pearce, Alison Kearney, Chris & Ann Pinkney, Jeff McNeill, Julie Palmer & Robyn Newland

Auditor: Vivienne Cotton

The committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month.

## Play along with the NZSO

Carina Holdaway (French horn) reflects: Having the chance to perform major symphonic works, which the Manawatu Sinfonia would struggle to perform on their own, is the best part of the NZSO Education programme.

April the 21st was no exception; **Shostakovich's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony**. It was fantastic to be one of eight players in the horn section; belting out our parts when indicated, and delicately placing chords to accompany others during the quieter sections.

As a member of the audience for many NZSO concerts, I've always been intrigued that the orchestra seems to lag behind the conductor's beat...constantly. It was even more off-

putting to actually be in the orchestra trying to follow, with the words of past and present conductors ringing in my ears, "Watch the beat!", "The first beat of the bar should be placed at exactly the same time as the baton reaches the bottom of the down stroke!" No one seemed at all concerned, so I followed along with my ears instead of my eyes, and buried by head in my part.

The members of the NZSO that travel up to Palmerston North and form the backbone of the massed orchestra are always incredibly supportive and encouraging. I always look forward to the Play with the Orchestra sessions each year and I wait with anticipation to discover what treasure we will be privileged to perform next year.

## New Zealand Secondary Schools Symphony Orchestra

The NSSSO is an institution. Several Sinfonia members are former members and the MYO has long been contributing members. Angela Yang (viola) writes: Around 80 chosen musicians across NZ travelled down to Christchurch during 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of April to attend NZSSSO, and I was lucky enough to participate in this year's course. Along with fellow MYO musicians, Anna Hoek-Sims (violin), Alex McNeill (oboe) and Vicky Huang (violin), it was a week long of intense practise, but also many funny moments to remember.

We were fortunate to have Owen Clarke as this year's guest conductor; for he taught us many jokes ("I for Tower" was his first and most remembered). The programme this year included Bernstein's "On The Town" dance episodes, New Zealand composer Michael Bell's new "Double Bass Concerto" in C and Dvorak's Sixth Symphony. My personal favourite was Bernstein, for it was



Anna, Angela, Alex and Vicky

an amusing piece, but very hard when it comes to counting! After the entire week of intense scrubbing for the strings, bright red lips on wind instrument players, the concert was a success.

Overall, it was an unforgettable week down in Christchurch. Themes days were hilarious, and the music jokes we heard were all amusing (yes, most of them were viola jokes...). Can't wait for next year!



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The Sinfonia welcomes  
new players!

## Concert Subscription Series - Concessions

A subscription ticket consists of four tickets which may be used at any concert by any number of people (one individual ticket per person per concert). If you are interested in supporting our Orchestras and wish to subscribe, please contact the Secretary, Elizabeth Meers.

### Concert Prices:

#### Single concert

Full Admission	\$20.00
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School Students	\$10.00
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Family (2 adults/2+children)	\$40.00
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Adult Students/Seniors/Unwaged	\$15.00
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#### Subscriptions (four concerts)

Full Concert Subscribers	\$60.00
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Adult Students/Seniors/Unwaged Subscribers	\$50.00
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Tickets may be used for any of the first 4 Concerts.

Note: Combined Concert Regent 30 November is not a Subscription Concert.

## Financial support and scholarships

The MYO administers the E & E Laing Trust. It provides grants up to a maximum of \$100 per annum to players from the Manawatu Sinfonia or Manawatu Youth Orchestra to attend music courses outside Palmerston North or to assist with advanced tuition which is unavailable locally.

The String Scholarship is established for an initial period of three years, to encourage string players from outside the MYO catchment area to become regular members of either orchestra of the Society. One Award may be made annually, to the value of \$500.

See [www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz/members.htm](http://www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz/members.htm)

## Successful concert starts subscription series

**The Sinfonia's first subscription concert,** under Peter van Drimmelin and featuring Chikako Sasaki playing the Saint-Saen's 3rd violin concerto, as well as his Danse Macabre, and Schumann's 4th Symphony was a success for everyone. Peter wrote afterwards:

"Last Sunday's concert was amazing! The

orchestra played very well indeed, and the last movement of the Symphony, I had the feeling they wanted to take off. I enjoy the players attitude, and the willingness to learn, and do well. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank everyone involved for this amazing experience I had on Sunday."