

illuminating *notes*

PUBLICATION FOR THE SUBSCRIBERS, PATRONS & FRIENDS OF THE WEST AUSTRALIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Elgar The Dream of Gerontius

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Edward Elgar, the WASO will be performing a number of the composer's works throughout the year – none more magnificent than what is described as undoubtedly the most popular of all Elgar's choral works, *The Dream of Gerontius*.

The concert features an outstanding ensemble of guest artists led by one of Britain's most gifted and versatile conductors, Richard Hickox. Based in Europe and a regular guest of the world's great opera houses, Glenn Winslade (tenor) will sing the title role. He will be joined by Pamela Helen Stephen (mezzo soprano) as The Angel, and Joshua Bloom (bass baritone) will sing the roles of The Priest and The Angel of the Agony.

It is a passionate chronicle of one man's journey to the afterlife, of his fear,

his defiance, his faith, told in music of epic beauty. It is based on a poem by Cardinal John Newman, a copy of which was given to Elgar in 1889 as a wedding present. This has widely been regarded as Elgar's finest choral work, and by some to be his magnum opus.

The combined forces of the WASO Chorus and the Melbourne Chorale will contribute to the magic of this concert. Jonathan Grieves-Smith, Melbourne Chorale director and WASO Chorus director, Marilyn Phillips, will jointly oversee the direction of the combined chorus. The 180 members are participating in a bold 'choral exchange' between the WASO and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Following this performance the WASO Chorus will fly to Melbourne to participate in MSO's performance of *The Dream of Gerontius* with Richard Hickox.



WASO Chorus



Richard Hickox

The BHP Billiton Petroleum Gala Concert, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* is on 13 & 14 April at the Perth Concert Hall. Bookings on 9326 0000 or www.waso.com.au

SPECIAL OFFER!
Subscribers can purchase tickets at the concession price.

The WASO Chorus is partnered by the Alcoa Foundation. The Melbourne Chorale appear courtesy of the Patrons & Friends of WASO.

illuminating Notes is proudly supported by Mondoluce Lighting.



Emirates
Principal Partner

Message from the Chairman



Welcome to the first edition of *Illuminating Notes* for the 2007 season. This year, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra will be presenting wonderful music featuring many of the world's great soloists and conductors.

On 1 January 2007, the WASO entered a new era. In compliance with a Federal Government directive arising out of the Strong Report's recommendations, a newly formed company, WASO Holdings Limited, acquired the shares formerly owned by the ABC. WASO Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of WASO Holdings Ltd, will operate the Orchestra. While the changes are significant, I am confident they will not affect your enjoyment of our music.

In 2007, the Orchestra will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Edward Elgar. We will mark this occasion with a number of concerts featuring the composer's works, none more special than the Gala event, *The Dream of Gerontius*, on 13 and 14 April. This concert will feature an impressive cast of international soloists, and 180 singers from the combined WASO Chorus and Melbourne Chorale.

The year is also the 20th anniversary of the association between the Orchestra and our Conductor Laureate, Vladimir Verbitsky. Vladimir has been an integral part of Perth's musical life over these years and we will celebrate this milestone with two very

special concerts in June: *Poem of Ecstasy* and *Spanish Nights*. James Ledger is the WASO Composer in Residence for 2007 and I am looking forward to April when we will hear the World Premiere of his Trumpet Concerto, performed at Splendour of Brass. The piece has been written for our principal trumpet, Dave Elton, and many of the finest trumpeters from across the country will appear on the Concert Hall stage. The Tasmin Little Plays Elgar concert in June also promises to be an evening of glorious music with the violin virtuoso from England who will visit the WASO as part of the World Artist Program.

I hope you can join us for a season of wonderful music.

Janet Holmes à Court
Chairman

Perth Hosts Final

The final of the ABC Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards will be hosted by WASO and held at the Perth Concert Hall in October. This will be the first time the final stage has been held in Perth since 2000.

The Awards nurture the talent and ambitions of Australia's young musicians. They have provided opportunities for an extraordinary number of our finest classical performers, including Geoffrey Parsons, Roger Woodward, Vernon Hill, Glenys Fowles, Neil Warren-Smith, Nathan Waks, Rosamund Illing and Adele Anthony.

This year WASO will host Stage IV, the final of the event on Wednesday 17 October at 8pm in the Perth Concert Hall. The final will be recorded by the ABC for broadcast on ABC Television. All tickets are \$10.00 and will be available from the WASO Box Office from 2 April.

The winner of the Grand Final is named the ABC Symphony Australia Young Performer of the Year and receives a cash prize, multiple copies of a compact disc of the winning performance and recital program and at least three concert engagements with a Symphony Australia orchestra.

Tune in to ABC Radio



Hear Prue Ashurst on air with Eoin Cameron every Friday morning to learn more about upcoming WASO concerts.



97.7 Classic FM – Concerts by WASO are broadcast across Australia on ABC Classic FM. Full details are available in *Limelight Magazine* or online at www.abc.net.au/classic



Eoin Cameron

Generous Donation Helps WASO Library



Tasmin Little

The support of WASO's Patrons and Friends program is essential in maintaining a world-class orchestra here in Perth. The direct effect of the program can be seen in various ways with Patrons and Friends initiatives being introduced bringing everyone closer than ever to the Orchestra.

A generous donation made by WASO Patron Judy Sienkiewicz has been of fantastic assistance to the WASO Music Library. The WASO Music Library comprises approximately 550 full sets of orchestral music (scores and all the parts). However some are in very poor condition due to old age, or are suspect editions in need of being replaced.

When told of the impending donation, Yvette Southwood, WASO Library Manager worked on compiling a wish list of music to

be purchased. Several of the sets purchased with the donation have already featured in our concerts, and this year in June the Elgar Violin Concerto donated by Judy will be featured in the concert Tasmin Little Plays Elgar.

"Having our own music not only saves an enormous amount of time and effort preparing and marking up the music before each performance, but also saves the Orchestra on hire and freight costs," said Yvette Southwood. "I think the terrific thing about donating music is that it is both a lasting and living gift – lasting because the donation is remembered for many years each time the music is performed, and living because it reaches and gives pleasure to so many people."

Tasmin Little will perform the Elgar Violin Concert with the WASO on the 8 & 9 June as part of the Plan B Wealth Management Great Classics Series at the Perth Concert Hall. Book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

Tasmin Little appears courtesy of Broad Construction.



Judy and Yvette in the Library

You too can make a personal financial contribution to help us continue to provide our community with an inspiring orchestral season. For further information on becoming a Patron please contact Sarah Gallinagh, Donations Coordinator on 9326 0075 or email gallinaghs@waso.com.au

Subscriber Benefits 2007

Use your West Australian Symphony Orchestra subscriber card and take advantage of discounts and special privileges. All you need to do is show your 2007 WASO Subscriber Card to take advantage of these great deals.

ABC Shops – Receive 10% off any full price purchases in any of the ABC Shops in WA. Phone 9321 6852. (This discount only applies to in-store purchases.)

Black Swan Theatre Company – Receive concession price tickets to all main house Black Swan Theatre Company productions. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Gershwin's at the Hyatt – Enjoy a pre-concert two course meal at the special price of \$48 per person plus complimentary glass of Australian sparkling wine. Bookings on 9225 1257. Guests to be seated by 6.30pm.

Luna Cinemas – Purchase movie tickets at the discounted price of \$12.00. Phone 9444 4056.

Musica Viva – Receive a 10% discount off all full price adult tickets to Musica Viva performances. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Ogden IFC – Receive a 5% discount on food and coffee for pre-show dining at the Perth Concert Hall and His Majesty's Theatre. Phone 9231 9946.

Perth Theatre Company – Receive a 10% discount off standard price tickets to all Perth Theatre Company 2007 productions with the exception of the His Majesty's Theatre co-production. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Plan B Wealth Management – Plan B Wealth Management offer special discounted rates on its range of services. Phone 1300 362 082.

The Perth Mint – 2 for 1 entry to The Perth Mint's gold exhibitions as well as a 10% discount on jewellery and souvenirs.

West Australian Ballet – Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets for WA Ballet performances. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

West Australian Opera – Receive adult tickets to Rigoletto and La Boheme at the concession price. This offer is not valid on opening or Saturday nights. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

West Australian Youth Music Association – Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets (excluding children's concerts) to WA Youth Music Association performances. Bookings on 9421 1566.

Wesley Classics – Receive a 5% discount off full price CD purchases in store.

Grace Moves WASO

The Orchestra and Grace Removals have had a business partnership for over 35 years. Both companies have shared high customer service values. Hitting Perth roads recently is a Grace truck with WASO & Grace branding which will draw attention to the strong partnership between the two companies.

The Grace Removals team take special care to ensure that WASO receive the most professional and flexible solution to all their moves. With a busy schedule, WASO find themselves in a number of different venues which all need the Orchestra's plentiful equipment, such as Kings Park, Lake Karrinyup Country Club, Perth Concert Hall and the ABC studios.

Greg Cream, Grace Removals CEO said, "We have done hundreds of moves and take pride in never dropping a note. In terms of corporate hospitality WASO is the very best we can offer our clients who on every occasion appreciate a WASO experience."

"We have done hundreds of moves and take pride in never dropping a note."



Greg Cream, Grace Removals CEO and Nikola Babic

Stravinsky 'under the microscope' in *Keys to Music*



Graham Abbott



Popular ABC Classic FM presenter, Graham Abbott, returns to the WASO on Tuesday 19 June for a live recording of *Keys to Music* – heard on Classic FM every Saturday morning.

You're invited to be part of the audience for this exciting performance as Graham, WASO and the WASO Chorus explore Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*.

Keys to Music with Graham Abbott recorded for broadcast on ABC Classic FM on Tuesday 19 June at 7.30pm at the Perth Concert Hall.

Tickets are \$15.00. Book now on 9326 0000.

The WASO Chorus is partnered by the Alcoa Foundation.

Mother's Day Gift Vouchers

Looking for the perfect
Mother's Day present?

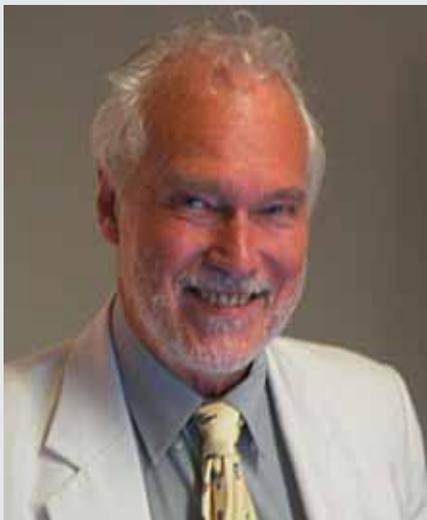
Why not give your mother the present of music – a West Australian Symphony Orchestra Gift Voucher. Valid for twelve months, the voucher can be used towards any West Australian Symphony Orchestra concert.

Our gift vouchers are attractively presented and do not come in set amounts, so they are flexible enough to suit any budget.

For more details, call our Customer Service staff on 9326 0000.



From the President:



Norman Etherington

2006 was a year of exceptional achievements for the Patrons and Friends of WASO. For the first time in many years, our combined membership approached 500. The financial contributions of the

Patrons of WASO leapt from \$75,000 in 2005 to over \$200,000 in 2006.

To put these milestones in perspective, our Friends' membership is only a little behind our Melbourne and Adelaide counterparts. With 85 Patrons, we are fast closing on the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, who have 100, and Sydney, who have 122. The next goal is obviously to be number one in both categories.

These achievements can be attributed to exceptional contributions from our Patrons and Friends Committee, volunteers, and WASO staff. We owe much of our success to the series of outstanding events that make people see the value in becoming a Patron or Friend of the Orchestra. Our commitment is to ensure our events are directly linked to music making.

I encourage you to frequent the Patrons and Friends Lounge on the Lower Gallery level of the Perth Concert Hall. It is a

wonderful place to meet fellow supporters of the Orchestra and to encourage your guests to also become Patrons or Friends. The Lounge is open for all Masters and Great Classics concerts, pre-concert and interval.

2007 promises to be another wonderful and exciting year for the Patrons and Friends of WASO with a fantastic calendar of events. If you are not already a Patron or Friend I strongly encourage you to become one. Not only will you share the symphonic experience with fellow music lovers, your personal support will contribute to the ongoing success of our Orchestra.

I look forward to seeing you throughout 2007!

Professor Norman Etherington
Patrons & Friends President

2007 Patrons and Friends Committee

Thank you to all Patrons and Friends of WASO who attended the 2007 Annual Meeting. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new committee members Sue Marshman and Stan Vicich, congratulate those who were re-elected and thank outgoing Honorary Treasurer Dusty Peck who has served on the committee for many years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those Patrons and Friends who generously donate their time as volunteers for the Orchestra. We always appreciate new volunteers! If you would like to register please contact the Patrons and Friends office on 9326 0016 or patronsandfriends@waso.com.au

2007 Committee

President

Norman Etherington

Vice President

Max Collins

Honorary Treasurer

Sue Marshman

Honorary Secretary

Margaret Lalchere

Committee Members

Fred Affleck

Vin Brennan

Charlotte Jennings

Dianne Martin

Stan Vicich

Diane Brennan

John Isherwood

Eric Lawson

Louis Moyser

Orchestra Representative

Louise Sandercock



From left to right:
Norman Etherington, Stan Vicich, Margaret Lalchere and Max Collins at *A Flourish of Trumpets*

Welcoming 2007 with a Flourish of Trumpets

2007 certainly started with a bang – or should we say a blast!

In February we were honoured to have English trumpet virtuoso Crispian Steele-Perkins perform for Patrons and Friends at the Perth Mint. Crispian Steele-Perkins is one of the world's great baroque trumpeters and is also well known for his collection and restoration of historic trumpets, with which he gives popular lecture recitals.

This event came about because committee member Louis Moysen heard an ABC interview with Crispian in which he mentioned that he was coming to Perth for a family wedding. President Norman Etherington extended an invitation to Crispian to perform, who replied that he and his accompanist Anne Page, would be delighted to oblige. The WASO Trumpet Section were only too pleased to join them for the occasion.

Crispian brought with him and played some of his collection of 'plumbing', including instruments fashioned from short and long sections of copper pipe. He even played a section of garden hose equal in length to the tubing of a trumpet. He proceeded to demonstrate the evolution of the trumpet, including the introduction of coils, slides, keys and valves. His love of the instrument,



Crispian Steele-Perkins, Evan Cromie, Peter Miller, Dave Elton at Flourish of Trumpets

combined with a talent for comedy, produced much amusement as he illustrated how the sound of the trumpet evolved over the centuries.

Accompanied by Anne, Crispian played a variety of pieces on instruments appropriate to their times, beginning with Purcell's Trumpet Tune and Air as played 300 years ago. He explained that the venue for the performance, the Perth Mint's Gold Pouring Room, was most appropriate because it was the size of performance rooms in Purcell's day. This was followed by other demonstrations on a range of trumpets,

including three short pieces by Handel played on a modern piccolo trumpet and three movements on a reconstructed 17th Century baroque instrument which produces a softer sound. Crispian and Anne also performed the world premiere of a medley of George Gershwin tunes adapted by Crispian.

Later, Crispian was joined by WASO trumpeters David Elton (Principal), Evan Cromie (Associate Principal) and Peter Miller to perform Britten's Fanfare for Saint Edmundbury and several other short fanfares contrasting the natural trumpet (without valves) with modern orchestral instruments.

New German Trumpets for WASO



Instrument Factory in Radolfzell in Germany

In 2006, David Elton received a Patrons and Friends Musician Grant to help fund travel to Germany to collect four new rotary valve trumpets made for the Orchestra by German trumpet maker Galileo in Radolfzell. He visited the instrument factory where he fine tuned the trumpets which had been specially made.

The practice of using German rotary trumpets has become standard amongst the world's finest orchestras and is becoming expected by many conductors.

Continued on next page



Orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic and Vienna Philharmonic use them exclusively for all repertoire, while orchestras such as the Chicago Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Danish Radio choose to use the German rotary valve trumpets for the works of composers such as Brahms, Beethoven, Wagner, Bruckner and Schumann while still using the piston trumpets for other works. The main advantage of using German trumpets for such repertoire is a quality of sound that blends well not only with the brass

section, but with the orchestra as a complete ensemble.

Whilst in Germany David also practised and took lessons with the Principal Trumpet from the Frankfurt and Luxembourg Radio Orchestras and the Associate Principal Trumpet in Berne, Switzerland. David said that the experience was a great opportunity to get new ideas and to play and practise with friends from European orchestras.

WASO's next instrument acquisition is likely to be four Wagner Tubas. If you would like to contribute to this purchase, contact Sarah Gallinagh on (08) 9326 0075.

Don't miss the Plan B Wealth Management Great Classics concert The Splendour of Brass in April featuring Janacek's Sinfonietta and the world premiere of WASO's Composer in Residence James Ledger's Trumpet Concerto, performed by David Elton. Book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

Coming Events

Tea and Symphony 1: Splendour of Brass

20 April – 10:00am
Perth Concert Hall

Tea and Symphony 2: Tasmin Little Plays Elgar

8 June – 10:00am
Perth Concert Hall

Tea and Symphony 3: The Americas

31 August – 10:00am
Perth Concert Hall

Tea and Symphony 4: Brahms & Mahler

23 November – 10:00am
Perth Concert Hall

Melbourne Chorale Welcome Reception

12 April – 9:30am
Mounts Bay Sailing Club

Additional exciting events will be announced throughout the year.

Bookings for Coming Events

If you would like to attend one or more Tea and Symphony and/or the Melbourne Chorale Welcome Reception please complete this form and mail or fax to:

Patrons and Friends of the WASO

PO Box 3041, Adelaide Terrace, Perth WA 6832 Telephone 9326 0016 Fax 9326 0080

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Postcode _____

Please indicate how many tickets you would like to purchase for the following events.

Welcome Reception, 12 April \$12 Patrons & Friends tickets and \$15 Guest tickets

Tea & Symphony, 20 April \$15 Patrons & Friends tickets and \$20 Guest tickets

Tea & Symphony, 8 June \$15 Patrons & Friends tickets and \$20 Guest tickets

Tea & Symphony, 31 August \$15 Patrons & Friends tickets and \$20 Guest tickets

Tea & Symphony, 23 November \$15 Patrons & Friends tickets and \$20 Guest tickets

I enclose a cheque for _____ (Total for Patrons & Friends and guests tickets)

Make cheque payable to West Australian Symphony Orchestra

I wish to pay by Mastercard Visa

Card number

Expiry Date

Cardholder's name _____

Signature _____

Please send me information on becoming a Patron of WASO or making a bequest in my will.

2006 Event Wrap Up



Sarah Bowman at the Heavenly Harp Function

Last year the four open rehearsals known as Tea and Symphony were a resounding success in bringing Patrons and Friends closer to the music, by giving a 'behind the scenes' insight into the Orchestra and a chance to mingle informally with players and guest artists over a cup of tea and refreshments dispensed by committee members John Isherwood ('Mr. Tea and Symphony') and Margaret Lalchere.

We kicked off 2006 in February with Horns on the Foreshore, a special event at the Mounts Bay Sailing Club which featured the Orchestra's Horn Section. As well as an insightful talk and recital we learnt the mysteries of 'the plumber's nightmare'. Thanks to committee members Dianne Martin, John Isherwood and Louise Sandercock for their assistance with the function.

Next came Heavenly Harp in June, featuring WASO's Principal Harp Sarah Bowman, who demonstrated that playing the orchestral harp is hardly a piece of

cake; plenty of muscle and endurance is required. Aspiring angels be warned! By the by, pieces of cake were provided by Leaf Restaurant in Mount Lawley.

We hosted Welcome Receptions on two occasions for WASO guest artists, the London Philharmonic Choir in June and Birgit Remmert and Alan Woodrow in November. Both events were held in the majestic surrounds of the original Bullion Receiving Room of Patrons and Friends of WASO Partner, The Perth Mint. The November reception featured the first performance by a new ensemble of WASO musicians, the Arundo Reed Quintet, led by Principal Bass Clarinet, Alex Millier.

The major event for the year was a road trip south to Fairbridge Farm Village at Pinjarra for an event conceived by our former Honorary Treasurer, Dusty Peck. Music and Empire began with a walking, talking tour of Fairbridge farm, revealing its little known links to British imperialism. This was followed by Professor David Dolan's riveting lecture on architect Herbert Baker's magnificent chapel, the wonderful acoustics of which were beautifully demonstrated by an octet of WASO players performing Elgar's *Serenade for Strings*. Thanks to WASO's Associate Concertmaster Margaret Blades for her splendid leadership of the ensemble.

To finish the year Patrons and Friends were invited to join WASO players past and present to share a cup of holiday cheer in December.



Music and Empire at Fairbridge Farm

New Artistic Appointment

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra has a new Executive Manager of Artistic Planning, Marshall McGuire, who began in October 2006 taking over the reins from Nick Bailey who had been with the WASO since 2002. Marshall was recently named by Limelight Magazine as one of the top 50 personalities in the arts industry and with his many achievements it is easy to see how.

Born in Melbourne, Marshall's earliest memories are of music being played on the farm where he grew up. There was always a piano in the house, and a particular favourite recording was 'Peter and the Wolf'. At the age of six he began piano lessons, and his first performance was a rather tragic affair, playing to an audience of fellow students at an end of term presentation, which ended in tears (his, not theirs!)

At the age of eight he joined the choir of St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne and spent the next three years as an angelic chorister. At twelve he took up the harp and has since pursued a career as one of Australia's leading young musicians. Two years spent studying in Paris introduced him not only to great music and musicians but also to the splendours of art and architecture and food and wine in this most artistic of cities. From 1988 –1993 he was Principal Harpist with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House, and since has been involved with a plethora of artistic projects, including six solo concerts at the 1996 Adelaide Festival, seven solo CDs (resulting in three ARIA nominations), curating the Sydney Festival Twilight Chamber Music Series at the Art

Gallery of NSW, and being Music Director of the Australian Youth Orchestra's National Music Camp in 2003, 2006 and again in 2008. Marshall is also the curator of a new chamber music series at the Sydney Opera House, the Utzon Room Music Series.

As a performer, he has given concerts all over the world – in chateaux in France, at the BBC Proms, the Aldeburgh Festival, on a beach at Orpheus Island QLD, in a 12th century church in Wales, on a sailing ship, at the Cherry Blossom festival in Tokyo, and at the Maritime Museum in Fremantle.

The opportunity to work with the WASO is one that Marshall relishes, and he looks forward to providing artistic advice and direction over the next few years, in collaboration with the musicians, conductors and audience that make up the WASO family. If asked to name a piece of music that could convince a Martian of the power of music to move the soul, he would probably nominate the whole of Wagner's Tristan and Isolde. The great joy about programming an orchestra, he says, is the inextinguishable greatness of the repertoire, and endless ways that can be found to create programs that will continue to move and amaze audiences.



Marshall McGuire

Special Limelight Offer



Australia's definitive monthly guide to the arts and entertainment scene has teamed up with the WASO to offer its members an exclusive money saving offer to subscribe to Limelight magazine.

**An Amazing Offer 12 issues for only \$54!!!
Save a massive 40% off the news-stand price.**

For interviews, features, previews, latest news and reviews, state by state events listings and all things cultural, Limelight is your one-stop cultural guide. Limelight is also the only comprehensive guide to what's on ABC Radio, as well as ABC TV and ABC2.

Don't miss out on this offer. Call now on (03) 8317 8121 and quote WASO Subs.

Discover the UK



Darren Tyrrell & John Meyer

In December the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and Emirates drew the 2007 subscription prize winner, where one lucky subscriber won the chance to 'Discover the UK with Emirates'.

The prize was drawn on Thursday 21 December 2006 and WASO are happy to announce Mr John Meyer, a long time WASO subscriber from Wembley, was the lucky recipient.

The prize included two business class return tickets to London flying Emirates. Mr Meyer will discover Emirates' award-winning in-flight service first hand en route to the United Kingdom, where he'll discover London – a city with a vibrant landscape of art, theatre, music, and architecture, reflecting its rich cultural history.

Mr Meyer gratefully accepted the prize presented to him by Darren Tyrrell, Emirates Sales Manager WA and Mr Keith Venning, WASO Chief Executive Officer at morning tea held at the WASO offices.



David Phillips Retires



David Phillips

Perth born David began violin at age nine taking lessons with former WASO musicians Jim Drummond, Vaughan Hanly and Graham Wood. David's first work in the music industry was as an apprentice piano tuner and technician. He first joined the Orchestra on a six month contract in 1966,

then taught violin at Christchurch Grammar School for two years before joining the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra in 1970. He returned to the WASO in 1975.

A long-standing member of the Second Violin section, David spent 17 years working as desk partner with Shirley Sonik (retired 2006) who appreciated working with him because "he cares so much about tone quality and working together". Of his time with the Orchestra, David says he will remember well the great experiences he enjoyed on stage and on tour.

David made important contributions to WASO committees, including serving as President of the Players Association, and Orchestra Representative of the Friends of WASO.

Well known conductor Guy Noble awarded him, as BBQ Maestro, a pair of 'Honorary Tongs' which his colleagues hope to see him wielding at future social functions!

After 30 years with the Orchestra we wish him the best in retirement.

Sisters, **Rachel Silver** (Tutti Horn), joined the WASO full time in April, and **Eve Silver** (Tutti Cello), joined the WASO in February.

David Elton (Principal Trumpet) and **Rachel Silver** (Tutti Horn) were married on 17 December 2006.

Marshall McGuire has joined the Artistic Planning team as Executive Manager Artistic Planning.

Elsa Beilharz, David Young and Sue Dunbar have joined the Marketing team. Elsa has taken up the position of Marketing Coordinator, David Young as Graphic Designer and Sue Dunbar will be taking up the role of Customer Service Manager while Alana Arnold is on maternity leave.

Paula McIndoe and Diane Wilson have joined the Business Services team. Paula McIndoe has taken up the position of Accountant while Angela Miller is on maternity leave and Diane Wilson has taken up the role of Business Services Assistant.



Anna Isabelle Bruster

Anna Isabelle Bruster, new daughter of **Mary-Anne Blades** (Associate Principal Flute), was born on 15 February, weighing 7lb 8oz.

Alec Peter Miller, new son of **Angela Miller** was born on 21 December, 9lb 4oz.



Chun-Ping Ryan

Chun-Ping Ryan, new son of **Xiao-le Wu** (Cello) was born on 29 November, weight 6lb 10oz.

Clarinetist Jack Harrison still holds the record as the longest serving member of the WASO, with 42 years to his credit. In 1989, the position of Principal Clarinet was taken over by Jack's star pupil **Allan Meyer**. Allan married Jack's daughter Jody and in November last year friends, family and clarinetists in many parts of the world were delighted to hear of the arrival of Maximilian Harrison Meyer.



Jack, Alan and Max

Ashkenazy Comes to Perth

Vladimir Ashkenazy is living one of the great musical lives of our time...

This one night only concert featuring Vladimir Ashkenazy and acclaimed pianist Lukás Vondráček, will be one of the most significant events in the musical life of this city for many years.

Vladimir Ashkenazy has often been quoted as saying that for him music is indivisible. This conviction is borne out by his passionate engagement with so many different aspects of music making, whether as conductor, piano recitalist or chamber musician or as the architect of large-scale projects encompassing the full range of musical activities.

This BHP Billiton Petroleum Gala event will sell out. There will be a priority booking period available for Patrons, Friends and Subscribers in June, so please get in quickly to avoid disappointment.

Evening with Ashkenazy

In partnership with The Ardross Group of Companies, WASO will celebrate this



momentous occasion with an exclusive dinner held at the Perth Concert Hall following the concert for 100 people. The dinner and concert package will include an opportunity to meet this legendary musician. WASO Patrons and Subscribers will be given a priority booking period.

Vladimir Ashkenazy performs with WASO at the Perth Concert Hall for one night only, Monday 29 October.

Day Out with Yacht Grot

The owner of Yacht Grot, Trevor Richards (WASO Corporate Partner) extended an invitation to a number of WASO players and staff who were lucky enough to enjoy a day out off Garden Island and Fremantle Harbour on the Amity.

Yacht Grot and the WASO have shared a fantastic relationship over 5 years and the day was a fantastic success providing a great opportunity for players and partners to get to know each other outside the formal concert environment.



From left to right:
Dave Evans, Jane Kircher, Rachel Silver,
Jane Serrangeli, Oliver McAslan

Farewell to Boguslaw Szczepaniak



Boguslaw Szczepaniak

Boguslaw was born in Poland, where he began his music studies aged ten with lessons on the violin. However four years later, after realising his 'true calling' for an instrument of a lower register, he switched to the double bass. Boguslaw began studying the bass in Bielsko Biala (South Poland). He continued his studies at the Academy of Music in Warsaw graduating in 1974, the same year he won first prize in the Polish double bass competition.

Boguslaw's first position was with the Warsaw National Philharmonic, where he worked for three years. He and his family then decided to move to Iran, where he worked with the Tehran Symphony Orchestra for 18 months. After a stint in Singapore he was appointed Principal Bass of WASO, remaining as Principal for 23 years before moving into a section position in 2006.

Boguslaw is now looking forward to having the time to pursue other interests. We wish him a happy retirement.

WASO Celebrates 20 Years with Vladimir Verbitsky



Vladimir Verbitsky

have looked forward to his lively and spirited performances.

“...a stunning performance. Vladimir Verbitsky must surely be one of the finest conductors to visit this country. He is a consummate technician, his sense of musical judgement is admirable and, in addition, the warm humanity which comes though is something very special indeed.”

The Australian, June 1987

“Vladimir is a conductor highly respected by all of us at WASO. His performances are a joy to our audiences. We congratulate him on his success over the 20 years of conducting outstanding concerts with WASO.”

Keith Venning, WASO CEO, 2007

Vladimir Verbitsky, WASO's Conductor Laureate has been part of Perth musical life for the past 20 years. In 2007 WASO will celebrate this magnificent milestone. It is very unusual for a conductor to share in such a long history with an orchestra however, over the years Perth audiences

On 27 June 1987, at a concert aptly named 'Russian Revelations', an exciting young conductor stepped onto the podium. At this time Vladimir was acknowledged as a leader among the new generation of Russian conductors. He first toured Australia as associate conductor of the USSR State Symphony Orchestra and his performance with the WASO received a glowing review. Neville Cohn wrote of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, it "was given the musical equivalent of an injection of elephant juice which seemed positively to rejuvenate it."

Over the next few years Vladimir, as Principal Guest Conductor, continued to create his Russian magic and at the beginning of 1998 was appointed as the orchestra's Conductor Laureate.

Over the last 20 years, Vladimir has developed a happy rapport with the WASO musicians, staff and audiences. His deep understanding and lively interpretation of Russian music has been undoubtedly invaluable. His position of Conductor Laureate is one of special recognition and a title he will be offered for life.

WASO will celebrate this magnificent milestone in two performances at the Perth Concert Hall, Poem of Ecstasy on 1 & 2 June and Spanish Nights on 22 & 23 June. Subscribers can purchase tickets at the concession price.

In addition, a lunch will take place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on 29 May, 12.30pm with Vladimir Verbitsky as the guest of honour. Tickets for the lunch will be \$110 per head. For bookings contact WASO on 9326 0000.

“An abiding impression of Vladimir Verbitsky's direction of the WASO over two decades is of a musician steeped in the Russian music tradition. This profound identification with the genre has, more often than not, provided listening experiences to cherish.”

Neville Cohn, 2007

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445 Hay Street, Perth WA 6000 | Postal: PO Box 3041, Perth Adelaide Tce, WA 6832
Telephone: 9326 0000 | Facsimile: 9326 0099 | www.waso.com.au